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@lg_ladakh
LBA Vice President Shri Kunzes Dolma called on Lt Governor Shri @KavinderGupta, requesting for formation of a UT-level Women Commission in #Ladakh.

AGREEMENT:
On this day in 1947; Trade Agreement signed between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

ECO-TOURISM:
The 'Ladakh STP Policy 2024' launched by the UT Admin directs mandatory installation of STPs for hotels and guesthouses with 10 or more rooms.

TRUCK PROHIBITED:
As sign itself speaks the area designated is a no entry zone for Trucks or HMV. These could be narrow lanes or congested areas where entry of heavy transport vehicle could obstruct smooth flow of traffic.

Tia village revives ancient craft as LEHO launches 'Community Stone Carving Workshop in Kargil



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: In a major boost to cultural preservation and rural livelihood development, the Ladakh Environment and Health Organisation (LEHO) has launched a community-based stone carving workshop in Tia village, Kargil, beginning 1 December 2025. The initiative, rooted in tradition and community empowerment, aims to revive the age-old art of mani-stone crafting—a practice deeply woven into Ladakh's spiritual and cultural heritage. The workshop has been organized simultaneously in two mohllas of Tia—Pharka and Sara-Changri Mohla—where an enthusiastic group of 13 women and 40 men are undergoing hands-on training. LEHO has equipped all participating groups with essential stone-carving tools and resources, ensuring that the skill-building sessions run smoothly and efficiently. Local residents describe the programme as a

much-needed platform that not only strengthens traditional craftsmanship but also opens fresh avenues for income generation. Trainers are helping participants experiment with new designs and techniques while maintaining the essence of traditional mani carvings, which hold deep religious significance in the region's Buddhist communities. Beyond skill enhancement, the workshop is fostering a sense of cultural pride among villagers—particularly women and youth—who now see stone carving as both an artistic expression and a viable livelihood option. Community leaders say the initiative is already sparking renewed interest in preserving local heritage while creating sustainable employment pathways. As the workshop progresses, Tia village is witnessing a quiet yet powerful revival of its artistic identity, with LEHO's support cementing the foundation for stronger community-led development rooted in Ladakh's rich cultural legacy.

Apex Body calls for 'healthy, transparent dialogue' on draft proposal; reiterates fairness in Sept 24 violence probe



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: Apex Body Leh, Co-Chairman, Chhering Dorje Lakruk today urged the people of Ladakh to engage in a "serious, healthy, and collective discussion" on the recently released draft proposal concerning Ladakh's constitutional safeguards, emphasising transparency, public participation, and democratic spirit. Lakruk addressed both appreciation and criticism

emerging on social media after the draft was made public. "Many comments are extremely positive and we deeply appreciate them," he said. "At the same time, some comments are made just for the sake of criticism. But we will accommodate every constructive view because public opinion helps us refine the proposal." He reminded that this was not the first document submitted to the Government of India. "We have

Ex-MP JTN urges LG to reserve tender works up to Rs 20 Cr for local contractors

Calls for protection of local economy, employment, infra devp

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: Former Member of Parliament (17th Lok Sabha) and former Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor of LAHDC Leh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal met the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, at the LG Secretariat in Leh, submitting an official representation requesting that all tender works up to Rs 20.00 Crore be reserved exclusively for contractors registered under the Administration of UT Ladakh. The representation, forwarded on behalf of the Ladakh Contractors Association, Leh and other stakeholders highlights the urgent need to safeguard local contractors, ensure fair competition, and strengthen the regional economy and employment ecosystem. The request emphasises the following issues: The Gazette Notification dated 18 September 2025, restrict-

ing contractor registration certificates to UT-Ladakh jurisdiction only, has left local contractors at a serious disadvantage while outside bidders increasingly capture major tenders. Growing inability of local contractors to compete the tender process is hurting livelihoods and weakening the local economy. Given Ladakh's unique geography, harsh climatic conditions and specialised logistical requirements, local contractors are best equipped to deliver quality, timely and cost-effective projects. Therefore, the Ladakh leader JTN's representation urges the UT Administration to reserve tender works up to Rs 20.00 Crore exclusively for Ladakh-registered contractors in order to support local entrepreneurship, stabilise employment, and retain public expenditure within the region. The demand is strongly backed by the recently



formed Ladakh Infra Developer Alliance (LIDA), launched in May 2025, comprising 14 associations including civil and electrical contractors, transport unions and specialised plant-operator groups. LIDA maintains that despite substantial contributions by local contractors to infrastructure building and employment generation, they are often sidelined after the introduction of on-

line tendering that allows unrestricted entry of external contractors. The alliance has proposed reservations for projects valued between Rs 10-Rs20 Crore for contractors holding the Ladakh Resident Certificate (LRC). The appeal comes at a time when Ladakh is witnessing wider demands for protection of local rights, including the recently implemented 85% job reservation for

Ladakh residents and provisions reserving one-third seats in Hill Development Councils for women. Jamyang Tsering Namgyal argue that applying similar protections to infrastructure contracting is essential to prevent external monopolisation, sustain local economic balance and empower Ladakhi youth. Statement by Former MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal reads, "Ladakh's entrepreneurs and skilled workforce have the capability, experience and commitment to deliver world-class infrastructure. Yet systemic disadvantages prevent them from competing equally. Reserving tender works up to Rs 20 Crore is not merely a demand – it is a necessity for fair opportunity, local empowerment and sustainable development of Ladakh. He added that the reservation policy is critical at a time when Ladakh is undergoing major infrastructure expansion across roads, bridges, power and

public works, while employment opportunities for locals remain limited. Demands Presented to the Lt. Governor Kavinder Gupta by Ladakh leader Jamyang Tsering Namgyal Reservation of tender works up to Rs 20.00 Crore exclusively for UT-Ladakh registered contractors. Mandatory inclusion of LRC (Ladakh Resident Certificate) in all tender eligibility criteria for works within the financial limit. Assurance that public works planning prioritises local employment, livelihood, and capacity-building in alignment with the "Local First" principle. The representations are currently under consideration with the LG Secretariat. Local contractors and stakeholders are optimistic that the Administration of Union Territories of Ladakh will take prompt action in the interest of Ladakh's regional economy, infrastructure stability and youth employment.

Director Social Welfare tours Anganwadi Centres in Shargole

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

KARGIL: Director Social and Tribal Welfare, UT Ladakh, Kunzes Angmo, conducted a visit to several Anganwadi Centers today under the ICDS Project Shargole. The centers she visited included Gongma Rgyalkhang, Youkma Rgyalkhang Wakha, Karamba Khar, and Lotsum ist. Upon arrival, the Director was warmly welcomed by the CDPO Shargole and staff members. Her visit began at AWC Gongma Rgyalkhang, where she interacted with Anganwadi Workers (AWW) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWH), as well as beneficiaries. She stressed the importance of smooth service delivery to the AWW. Next, she visited AWC Youkma Rgyalkhang, engaging with AWW, AWH,

and beneficiaries, and inquired about their satisfaction with the services provided. At Karamba Khar she visited the AWC which was shifted in a newly constructed building. She inspected the center and interacting with AWWs, AWHs, and beneficiaries. Later, she convened a meeting with CDPO and staff members of ICDS Project Shargole at the CDPO Office Shargole. During the meeting, she emphasized key priorities, including: children's self-Aadhar enrollment, APAAR ID creation, ABHA Card creation for beneficiaries, and exploring co-location of Anganwadi Centers in schools. Finally, she visited AWC Lotsum ist, where she interacted with AWW and AWH, and thoroughly reviewed registers and records.



Central Silk Board holds Sericulture Consultative workshop in Kargil; Collaborative plan outlined for commercial sericulture development

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

KARGIL: The Central Sericultural Research & Training Institute (CSR&TI), Central Silk Board (CSB), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, Pampore, in collaboration with the University of Ladakh, organized a Consultative Workshop on 'Sericulture Development in Ladakh' at the Baroo Conference Hall in Kargil Tuesday. The workshop drew participation from nearly 100 stakeholders, including heads and representatives of all major line departments of the district. The event was chaired by Shri Mohd. Jaffer Akhoo, Chairman and Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC Kargil, who lauded the efforts of the Central Silk Board for introducing sericulture to Ladakh. While presenting certificates to the trainees of the 45-day Intensive Bivoltine Sericulture Training, he expressed confidence that the sector would soon evolve into a sustainable livelihood opportunity for the people of Kargil. He extended gratitude to Shri P. Sivakumar, IFS, Member Secretary, Central Silk Board, and Smt. Padmini Singla, IAS, Joint Secretary (Fibre), Ministry of Textiles, for advancing the commitments made during the "Ekta Event" held in Leh



in June 2025. He assured that steps will be taken to establish a sericulture wing within an appropriate line department until a full-fledged sericulture department is set up under LAHDC. Aga Syyed Mujtaba Musavi, Executive Councillor, (Social Welfare/Agriculture/Animal & Sheep Husbandry/ICDS), LAHDC Kargil, reiterated the district's commitment to popularizing sericulture and assured full cooperation to CSB in its development programmes. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Sardar Singh, Director, CSB-CSR&TI, Pampore, noted that the Central Silk Board remains dedicated to promoting sericulture in Ladakh. He informed that CSB has been conducting training programmes in Kargil since 2016 and that the region is now well-positioned to adopt sericulture as a viable income-generat-

ing activity. He underlined that the climatic conditions of Kargil and adjoining areas are highly suitable for silkworm rearing. The workshop also featured discussions on an agrobased sericulture model, the potential of sericulture, and integrated farming systems. Dr. Singh also provided a detailed account of beneficiaries oriented schemes of Silk Samagra-2, a flagship programme of MoT for promotion of Sericulture. Spotlight of the event was the participation of trained farmers who displayed the cocoons harvested during their training period. Their enthusiasm and willingness to take up sericulture commercially underscored the sector's growing acceptance. Farmers also requested continued support from CSB and the Government of Ladakh to sustain the mo-

mentum. Sharing the resource outlook, Shri Gulzar Ahmad Khan, Scientist-D, CSB, highlighted that more than 6,000 wild mulberry plants are naturally available in and around Kargil. He announced CSB's plan to plant an additional 5,000 mulberry saplings in farmers' fields during the upcoming plantation season to strengthen the mulberry base essential for sericulture expansion. The local coordinator of NRLM clusters assured that sericulture would soon be integrated as a primary livelihood activity under NRLM. Officials from KVK Kargil, faculty members of the University of Ladakh, and representatives of all major line departments of the district also assured full support for scaling up sericulture initiatives. Executive Councillors of LAHDC Kargil, senior CSB scientists, entrepreneurs, NGOs, SHGs, and trained farmers were among the active participants. The workshop concluded with key recommendations and a comprehensive roadmap for expanding sericulture on a commercial scale in Ladakh, marking a significant step toward rural livelihood generation and economic development in the region.

Various delegations call on LG Ladakh



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, met several delegations at the LG Secretariat to discuss key local issues concerning women's empowerment, healthcare, sports infrastructure, and youth development. Kunzes Dolma, Vice President of the Ladakh Buddhist Association, sought the Lt Governor's intervention for the establishment of a UT-level Commission for Women—on the lines of similar bodies in other States and Union Territories—to effectively address challenges faced by women in Ladakh. A delegation led

by Nambardar Skurbuchan, Paldan, also called on the Lt Governor and submitted a memorandum highlighting various public demands from the region. Another delegation from Khatse, headed by Ven. Padma Thinles, requested the Lt Governor to consider the relocation of an ongoing cricket field construction in their village. The Lt Governor assured all delegations that the UT Administration would examine their concerns with priority and take necessary steps to ensure inclusive and community-focused development across Ladakh.