

In Social

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In Ladakh, food holds memory. Every dish reflects the history of the land it comes from and the people who carry the culinary tradition forward.
As rider-researchers travel through remote valleys and high passes, they share stories with locals over Gur Gur Cha,

In History

DIANA :
On this day in 1823, the first steamship built in India 'Diana' was unveiled in Calcutta (now Kolkata).

In Numbers

32
ACCOUNTS OFFICERS:
In Ladakh union territory, 32 is the number of Gazetted posts (Accounts Officers) in Finance Department to be recruited by the UPSC in the first phase recruitment process.

Traffic Signs

STOP:
This is one of the most important and prominent Road Sign. This sign indicates that Driver should immediately stop. Usually Police, traffic and toll authorities use this signs at check posts.

National Training Program held for Booth Level Officers of Sankoo

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

KARGIL: The National Training Programme for Booth Level Officers (BLOs) of the Sankoo zone was successfully held on Friday at the Conference Hall in Baroo. The programme saw the participation of the Naib Tehsildar Sankoo, several BLOs from different blocks, and key officials from the Election Office of District Kargil. During the session, the Election Officer addressed the attendees and emphasized the importance of the training. He shared that after nearly 20 years, an Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls is being conducted across India. He highlighted that BLOs must be fully aware of the updated procedures and rules laid down by the Election Commission of India (ECI), as their role is vital in ensuring accurate and fair electoral rolls. The training was conducted in four phases. In the first



phase, the focus was on the BLO App. Master Trainers explained the various features of the app, including adding new electors, deleting or shifting existing ones, conducting house-to-house surveys, tracking form statuses, and updating polling station facilities. BLOs were given step-by-step instructions on how to effectively use the app in their daily duties.

The second phase centered on the Voter Helpline App, with Master Trainer Sajjad Hussain guiding the session. He explained how the app is designed to simplify the voter registration process, enabling citizens to register themselves and access important election-related information easily. BLOs were trained on how to assist the public using this app and ensure that the registration

process becomes more accessible to all. The third and fourth phases were dedicated to the Special Intensive Revision process and were conducted by Master Trainer Mohd Amin. He provided an in-depth explanation of the critical responsibilities of BLOs during this revision. These include identifying eligible voters through proper surveys, ensuring accurate

entries in the draft rolls, standardizing addresses and contact details, and maintaining active coordination with Booth Level Agents (BLAs). Amin emphasized that the success of the revision depends heavily on the BLOs' commitment and field coordination. He also reminded participants that BLOs are accountable for their actions—

any deliberate error can result in disciplinary action, while sincere and efficient work is acknowledged and appreciated by the Election Commission of India. Additionally, Amin stressed the importance of politeness and humility while interacting with voters. Since people may have questions or show hesitation in providing information, BLOs were advised to carry their ID cards and kit bags during house visits. A respectful and approachable attitude helps in building trust and motivating citizens to take part in the electoral process and exercise their rights as voters. Overall, the training programme proved to be a meaningful and informative experience for all participants. It reinforced the crucial role BLOs play in strengthening democracy by helping ensure that every eligible citizen is registered and empowered to vote, thereby contributing to a stronger Constitution and electoral system.

CEC Gyalson thanks PM, HM, LG Ladakh for enabling Recruitment of Gazetted officers

LEH: Chief Executive Councillor (CEC), LAHDC Leh Tashi Gyalson expressed his sincere gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, the Ministry of Home Affairs, and the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh for their continued support in enabling the recruitment of Gazetted posts in Ladakh. The recent notification issued by the Government of India [S.O. 3047(E) dated

26th June 2025], empowering the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh to make appointments to all Group 'A' posts in the UT administration, is a welcome step that will help address the long-standing shortage of officers in Ladakh.

The HCEC also welcomes the decision of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) to treat Ladakh as a special case and initiate special recruitment to key Gazetted posts, even though the usual deadline for requisitions had passed. This reflects a deep understanding of Ladakh's administrative needs and the aspirations of its youth.

In the first phase, recruitment will be initiated for: 125 Medical Officers (Health Department); 75 Lecturers (School Education Department), and 32 Accounts Officers (Finance Department). The Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC Leh, also thanks Chief Secretary Dr Pawan Kotwal, UPSC Secretary Shashi Ranjan, Joint Secretary (J&K & Ladakh), MHA, Prashant Lokhande, and Administrative Secretary, GAD, Michael M. D'Souza for their instrumental role in facilitating this important step. LAHDC Leh appreciates the consultative and responsive approach adopted by the Ministry of Home Affairs and UPSC, and looks forward to continued cooperation to ensure timely and equitable recruitment.

Kacho Feroz calls for completion of Link Road, removal of bottlenecks



KARGIL: Acting Chairman and Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC Kargil, Kacho Mohd Feroz convened a meeting to discuss measures for traffic decongestion in Kargil Town on Friday. During the meeting, acting CEC primarily focused on removing the bottlenecks and early completion of the link road connecting the new Iqbal Bridge, and the construction of a new link road adjacent to Fatima Chowk.

He also deliberated on other possible alternatives to ease traffic congestion with the concerned officers and emphasized that traffic management is a matter of grave concern for the district. The meeting was also attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Kargil Imteeaz Kacho, Councillor Town, Haji Mohd Abass, Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) Kargil, Jahangeer Akhone, Executive Engineer R&B Kargil, Sadiq Ali, Executive Officer, MC Kargil, Arifa Iqbal and officials from the revenue department.

GDC Zanskar's New Principal meets Tashi to discuss education initiatives



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

ZANSKAR: The newly appointed Principal of Government Degree College (GDC) Zanskar, Dr. Amjad Abbassi met with Er. Punchok Tashi, Executive Councillor for Zanskar Development Authority, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Kargil, at the Council Secretariat in Kargil today. During the meeting, they discussed several ongoing and upcoming developmental initiatives aimed at improving the quality of higher education in Zanskar subdivision. Dr. Abbassi shared his vision for institutional development and requested continued support from LAHDC Kargil, particularly from Er. Punchok Tashi, who is one of the three councillors representing

the Zanskar area. A key point of discussion was the introduction of skill-oriented courses designed to enhance the employability of students upon graduation. The proposal also included exploring academic exchange programmes with reputed institutions across India to broaden students' exposure and learning opportunities. Welcoming Dr. Abbassi to his new role, Er. Punchok Tashi assured full support for the development of the institution, in line with the assistance provided to previous principals. He highlighted that Model GDC Zanskar is being established on 200 kanals of land in Nerok Junkhor, Zanskar, underscoring the administration's commitment to educational infrastructure growth in the region.

DC Romil Singh Donk reviews ongoing preparations at Jivetsal Choglamsar Leh

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: The Deputy Commissioner Leh, Romil Singh Donk (IAS), along with Additional Deputy Commissioner Ghulam Mohd (JKAS), Senior Superintendent of Police Shruti Aroa (IPS) visited Jivetsal at Choglamsar on July 10, to review the ongoing preparations ahead of His Holiness Dalai Lama visit to Leh. DC Leh reviewed and inspected all the preparations at the residence of His Holiness Dalai Lama and the teaching area. He also inspected and discuss the installation of public wash-room facilities and CCTV cameras in different area for public safety and security. He further examined the different parking sites in the area, checking for space



availability and ways to make the areas more organized for devotees/visitors. He also discussed ways to improve traffic flow in the area during the teachings. DC Leh also spoke about Administration's commitment

to creating safe and hygienic spaces for the public. He encouraged close coordination between departments to ensure that all works are carried out efficiently and on time to have a smooth management of

essentials during the period of His Holiness visit. During the inspection, Head of all concerned Departments and other officials were present along with President, LBA Youth Wing Leh.

Program held for BLOs in Leh

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LEH: The second day of the National Level Training Program for Booth Level Officers (BLOs) was held at the Conference Hall, DC Office Leh. The session focused on house-to-house verification, addressing the concerns of voters residing abroad, and resolving various field-level challenges faced by BLOs. ERO Ghulam Mohammad (ADC Leh), in his address, urged BLOs to ensure that no eligible voter is left out, especially those currently living outside the country. Trainers Chozin Palmo, Kunzang Dolma, and Kunzes Angmo conducted engaging and practical sessions to guide BLOs in carrying out their duties effectively. Assistant CEO Deleks Namgyal delivered the vote of thanks, acknowledged the crucial role of BLOs in strengthening the electoral process, encouraged



them to carry out their duties with sincerity and dedication, and also distributed certificates to all participants in recognition of their involvement in the training program. Around 50 BLOs from Leh Tehsil Part

A attended the training with enthusiasm and active participation. The training will continue in daily batches to ensure focused learning, open discussions, and better understanding among field-level staff.

GDC Kargil holds Orientation Programme for fresh students

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

KARGIL: The IQAC and Career Counselling Committee of Government Degree College Kargil jointly organised an orientation program for fresh students who are enrolled in Semester 1st for the new academic session. The program was aimed at orienting the students regarding courses and credits according to NEP 2020 and various facilities being provided by the college during the Four-Year Undergraduate Course. The program started with the Key Note cum welcome address by College Principal Disket Angmo. The Principal welcomed the newly enrolled students to GDC Kargil for pursuing the different undergraduate courses in the college. She said that the orientation program has been thoughtfully



organised to ensure smooth and seamless transition from school life to the world of higher education. While sharing the legacy of GDC Kargil, Disket Angmo said that the institution has played a pivotal role in shaping the educational landscape of this region since its establishment in 1995.

She affirmed that GDC Kargil has been a beacon of knowledge for the past many years in Ladakh building characters and empowering minds since its inception. Moreover, the Principal expressed her commitment and belief regarding holistic education. In this direction, a range of student-led clubs and societies are

being introduced in the college. Besides student council election would also be held well in time to ensure equal participation and witness democratic process in first hand, she said. Further, she asked the students for active cooperation, discipline and involvement during their college time and sought pledge to uphold values of respect, inclusivity and academic excellence. Mohammed Raza, Assistant Professor of Bio-Technology gave a detailed presentation regarding the NEP courses, pattern, credit system, Academic Bank of Credits, APAAR and multiple entry-exit system. The course structures of NEP 2020 introduced and implemented by University of Ladakh also came in discussion during this presentation. Besides, this orientation also highlighted the course structures of Center Sectoral Skills and other Skill Courses being offered by the col-

lege. The students were informed about various facilities including Girls' Hostel, Library, Sports, Transport provided by the college. Assistant Professor of Physics Mumtaz Ahmed threw light on the course credit, credit hours, examination evaluation, attendance and marks distribution in detail during which he highlighted the comprehensive time table of the current academic session which the students need to follow strictly. About 90 students participated in the program. They were immensely benefited and motivated by this orientation program. Assistant Professor of Commerce Stanzin Lhadol conducted the proceedings of the orientation program and Dr. Mohammad Mustafa (Assistant professor Psychology) presented the vote of thanks.