

In Social

@firefurycorps

Empowering Youth with New-Age Skills
#FireAndFuryCorps organised a Drone Training Cadre for cadets of 01 and 02 Ladakh NCC Bns at the Dhanurdhari Drone Training Node. Through hands-on training in indoor, outdoor and night flying, along with drone components and basic aerodynamics, the cadre introduced young cadets to emerging drone technology and new-age skills. #IndianArmy #FireAndFuryCorps #NCC #Youth #DroneTraining #Ladakh #Innovation #Technology

In History

TEENAGER INVENTS PURPLE:

On this day in 1856, 18-year-old chemist William Henry Perkin patented the world's first synthetic dye. He had discovered the brilliant purple substance accidentally while trying to make quinine, a malaria treatment.

In Numbers

CLEAN ENERGY:

At an altitude of 14,000 feet, India has commissioned its first 02 geo-thermal wells in Ladakh, marking a major step towards harnessing clean renewable energy, strengthening regional energy security and advancing sustainable, self-reliant development in the high Himalayas.

Traffic Signs

TONGAS PROHIBITED:

Tongas or Horse cart were extensively used as a popular means of transport in recent past. With the advent of new and faster means of transport this vehicle becomes hurdle in the smooth traffic flow. So many of the areas/roads have become prohibited for Tongas.

EJM College hosts Int'l Academic Interaction on Himalayan Geology and Earth Sciences



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: Eliezer Joldan Memorial (EJM) College, Leh, hosted an international academic interaction on Himalayan geology, geophysics and Earth history on Tuesday, bringing researchers from Poland and India together with students and faculty to discuss geological evolution, seismic activity and contemporary Earth sciences research. Organised by the Department of Geography at the college's New Conference Hall, the programme featured experts from AGH University of Krakow, Poland, and the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bengaluru. The visiting experts included Dr Michał Krobicki, Geologist and Paleontologist; Dr Krzysztof Starzec, Geologist; and Dr Anna Kwietniak, Applied Geophysicist, all from AGH University of Krakow, along with Dr Jaishri Sanwal Bhatt, Geologist, JNCASR, Bengaluru.

The academic sessions covered a range of subjects linked to the geological history and present-day dynamics of the Himalayan region. These included the "Welcome to Poland" project, Quaternary seismic deposits and paleoseismology in the Indian and Nepal Himalaya, applied geophysics and subsurface exploration, and the palaeobiogeographical significance of Early Jurassic Lithotia-type bivalves. The discussions also examined how such fossil evidence can contribute to understanding the geological evolution of the Himalayan-Karakoram-Tibet region and the opening of the Neotethys. The interaction enabled students of Geography and Geology to engage directly with specialists in geology, paleontology, paleoseismology and geophysics, providing exposure to research methodologies and areas extending beyond conventional classroom learning.

High-Level Panel reviews proposal for Nat'l Seabuckthorn Research Centre in Nubra

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

NUBRA: The proposed establishment of a National Seabuckthorn Research Centre in Nubra came under detailed review on Tuesday, with a High-Level Committee assessing the valley's suitability for advancing research, conservation, cultivation, processing and sustainable utilisation of the high-altitude crop. The review included a field assessment of the proposed site, where the Committee examined its suitability and associated requirements as part of the process to recommend an institutional and operational framework for the proposed centre.



A meeting of the Committee was held at the DC Office, Nubra, under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Nubra Mukul Beniwal, IAS. The meeting was convened following the constitution of the High-Level

Committee by the competent authority to examine the proposal. The Committee's mandate extends beyond assessing the proposed site and includes a review of seabuckthorn genetic resources,

its natural distribution, cultivation, production, utilisation and ongoing research. It is also required to identify research and development gaps relating to conservation, propagation, climate resilience, harvest-

ing, post-harvest management, processing and quality assurance. The Committee is headed by Dr V.B. Patel, ADG (F&PC), ICAR, and comprises Dr Rakesh Kumar, ADG (AAF&CC), NRM Division, ICAR; Dr M.K. Verma, Director, ICAR-CITH, Srinagar; Dr H.S. Jat, Director, ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur; Dr Maheshwar Singh, Dean (Agriculture), University of Ladakh, Leh; Dr Tsering Stobdan, Scientist (F), DRDO, Leh; and Tsewang Panchok, Director (Horticulture), Administration of UT Ladakh. During the field assessment, Dr Javed Iqbal, Principal Scientist, CITH; Dr Disket,

District Horticulture Officer; Dr Stanzin Khenrab; and Stanzin Stobden, associated with the ongoing Seabuckthorn Baseline Survey for area mapping and nutritional profiling, were present. The team, accompanied by the Tehsildar, Diskit, visited the proposed site and assessed field requirements in connection with the proposed institutional facility. The discussions also examined Nubra's potential to serve as a centre for seabuckthorn research and conservation, while supporting value addition and sustainable utilisation in accordance with the objectives envisaged for the proposed National Research Centre.

DGP Anand Jain inaugurates new infra projects at District Jail Leh



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: Director General of Police, Ladakh, Anand Jain, on Tuesday called for a greater focus on correctional and reformative measures in the management of inmates, while directing prison authorities to conduct vocational training programmes regularly to help them acquire skills and reintegrate into society after release. Jain issued the directions during his visit to District Jail Leh, where he inaugurated a new dining hall and store and dedicated upgraded facilities in the kitchen and inmate barracks. The DGP, accompanied by senior Ladakh Police officers, directed SSP Prisons to ensure that correctional measures form an integral part of the day-to-day management of inmates. He also stressed the need for regular vocational training, with the aim of equipping inmates with skills that could support their livelihood after release and assist their return to society.

During the programme, SSP Jain said that a conducive and dignified environment within correctional institutions was essential for the overall reformation and well-being of inmates. Jain congratulated SSP Prisons, jail staff and the Public Works Department for completing the infrastructure works at a fast pace. The newly inaugurated and upgraded facilities comprise a dining hall for inmates, a store, and improvements to the kitchen and inmate barracks. The works are intended to improve living conditions and welfare facilities inside the jail. The DGP reiterated that reformation and rehabilitation of inmates remain a priority for Ladakh Police, and said the department would continue to strengthen correctional infrastructure and welfare measures towards a more humane and rehabilitative correctional system.

Buddhist delegation calls on Karnataka CM Shivakumar, seeks Rs 105.39 Cr for community development Projects

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

BENGALURU: A Buddhist delegation led by Karnataka State Minorities Commission member Jikmet Wangdus Jyothi on Tuesday placed proposals worth Rs 105.39 crore before Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar, including a demand for Rs 100 crore for a proposed Buddhist Development Authority and funds for infrastructure projects at Buddhist institutions across the state. The delegation, comprising monks from Sera Jey Monastery, Bylakuppe, and Buddhist representatives from various districts of Karnataka, met Shivakumar at Vidhana Soudha and sought government support for community welfare, institutional development and infrastructure. Of the proposals submitted, Rs 100 crore was sought for the Buddhist Development Authority for the development and welfare of Buddhist communities and institutions across Karnataka. The delegation also sought the immediate release of Rs 2.42 crore for the Sera Jey Monastery Kitchen Project at Bylakuppe. The Detailed Project Report has already been submitted and the proposal is under consideration with the Minority Welfare Department.



A further Rs 1.94 crore was proposed for a Community Hall and Monks' Residence at Mahabodhi Dhammadutta Vihara, Alur, Bengaluru, aimed at supporting religious, cultural, educational and community activities. The delegation also proposed Rs 1.43 crore for a Buddha Samudaya Sahayaka Saulabhya Kattada at Buddha Dhamma Prathishtana, Tumakuru, intended to provide facilities for the Buddhist community and support community-oriented activities. According to the delegation, the Chief Minister received the proposals positively and assured the members of his support and consideration for the development and welfare of the Buddhist community in Karnataka. During the interaction, Shivakumar also requested the Buddhist community to organ-

ise a special traditional Buddhist programme as part of the Yuva Dasara celebrations in Mysuru. The delegation welcomed the proposal and expressed appreciation for the Chief Minister's interest in including Buddhist cultural and spiritual traditions in the festival. The delegation subsequently met Minority Welfare Minister U. T. Khader and invited him to attend the forthcoming graduation ceremony at Sera Jey Monastery, Bylakuppe. It also met several Members of the Legislative Assembly and senior government officers during its visit. Jikmet Wangdus Jyothi thanked the Chief Minister and the Karnataka Government for their support and said continued cooperation would help strengthen Buddhist institutions and community initiatives across the state.

DC Kacho reviews JJM progress in Drass, directs officials to ensure water supply to every village

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

DRASS: Deputy Commissioner Drass Inteeaz Kacho on Tuesday directed officials to ensure reliable drinking water supply to every village, while reviewing the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission and the status of household tap connections across the district. Kacho chaired a review meeting attended by senior officials from the Public Health Engineering (Jal Shakti) Department, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Vishal Atri, Tehsildar (Headquarters), Junior Engineers from Drass and Bhimbat blocks and other concerned officials. According to the review, 32 water supply schemes are currently being implemented across Drass District, with

2,539 households provided water connections. The administration also reviewed water connections in government institutions. Against a target of 44 connections, 43 government schools have received water connections, while all 66 Anganwadi Centres have been provided with drinking water connections. Kacho examined the progress of schemes through the online monitoring system and sought village-wise updates from officials. Projects and water supply arrangements at Manman, Tesar, Tololing, Pandrass Colony and other localities were reviewed, along with schemes involving rock dams at Khunda, Jasingund and Dandalthang. Water supply concerns affecting Throngos, Pandrass, Shimsha, Matayeen and Holiyal and Lamar were also discussed, with officials reporting challenges related to new household connections, seasonal water availability and pumping-based supply. At Matayeen, officials in-



formed the meeting that water supply through pumping arrangements is currently available mainly during the summer months. The growing demand for connections among newly established households, along with population growth, was also taken up during the review.

Kacho stressed that Drass has considerable natural water resources and directed the Jal Shakti authorities to make better use of available sources while ensuring a sustainable and reliable drinking water supply.

He further instructed officials to address individual and village-level complaints promptly and take immediate corrective measures wherever supply-related problems arise. With winter posing additional challenges to water availability and distribution, the administration also reviewed contingency arrangements, including the requirement for water tankers in areas where regular supply could be disrupted. The Deputy Commissioner directed officials to prepare winter contingency measures well in advance, while the Sub-Divisional Magistrate stressed the need to keep adequate tanker arrangements ready to meet any disruption in regular water supply.

Ladakh University hosts One-Day INFLIBNET training to strengthen digital research access

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: The University of Ladakh on Tuesday organised a one-day awareness programme on INFLIBNET services, providing around 100 faculty members, research scholars, students and other academic users with practical exposure to digital library resources and research-support platforms. The programme was organised by the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Ladakh, Leh Campus, in collaboration with the Information and Library Network Centre (INFLIBNET), Gandhinagar. The sessions focused on dig-

ital resources available for scholarly research, academic communication, literature review and maintaining academic integrity, with participants introduced to platforms including Shodhganga, ShodhGangotri, ShodhShudhi, e-ShodhSindhu, One Nation One Subscription (ONOS), VIDWAN, ShodhChakra, IndCat, SOUL, N-LIST, e-PG Pathshala, SWAYAM and IRINS. The keynote address was delivered by Manoj Kumar K., Scientist-F (CS), INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, who outlined the role of INFLIBNET in supporting higher education institutions, faculty members, research scholars



and students through digital library services, scholarly databases, institutional repositories and research platforms. During the technical sessions, participants received practical exposure to IndCat, the online union catalogue providing bibliographic information from university libraries across India. The sessions also covered research-oriented platforms such as Shodhganga and ShodhChakra, besides plagiarism detection tools and resources related to academic integrity.

Emphasis was laid on originality, proper citation and referencing, and the ethical use of academic information. Participants were also guided on using doctoral theses available through Shodhganga for literature reviews and scholarly research. In his Presidential Address, University of Ladakh Vice Chancellor Professor Saket Kushwaha stressed the growing role of digital library networks, information-sharing platforms and technology-enabled academic services in higher education. He urged faculty members, research scholars and students to make effective use of

available digital resources to strengthen the University's academic and research ecosystem. The inaugural session was addressed by Dean, Research Studies, University of Ladakh, Dr Sonam Joldan, while the keynote session was moderated by Dr Rinchen Dolma, Assistant Professor, Department of History. The programme concluded with a valedictory session moderated by Dr Stanzin Dolkar, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics. Prof Devika P. Madalli, Director, INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, and Manoj Kumar K. were felicitated. During the valedictory pro-

ceedings, the Registrar, University of Ladakh, underlined the need for effective utilisation of digital resources. Prof Madalli spoke on ONOS, Shodhganga, ShodhChakra and other research resources, while the Vice Chancellor highlighted ONOS as a means of improving access to scholarly resources at the University. Certificates were distributed among participants. Archo Sara, Programme Coordinator, proposed the Vote of Thanks, acknowledging the support of the University administration, INFLIBNET resource persons, faculty members and participants. The programme concluded with the National Anthem.

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