

Centre, UT admn committed to inclusive, equitable dev, growth across Ladakh: LG

‘Dark Sky Reserve in Changthang can boost Ladakh tourism’

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: The Government of India and the UT Administration are committed to inclusive growth across Ladakh, ensuring that every region, whether remote border villages or central towns receives equal attention in terms of infrastructure, education, healthcare, and livelihood opportunities, Lt Governor Ladakh Kavinder Gupta said on Wednesday.

The focus of the UT Administration is not only on large-scale projects but also on grassroots-level initiatives that directly improve the quality of life of people in far-flung areas, he said while interacting with a delegation from Nyoma at the LG Secretariat in Leh.



The Lt Governor said that the UT Administration is determined to strengthen govern-

ance, generate employment for youth, and promote sustainable tourism, while also

addressing the specific developmental needs of border villages.

He emphasised that the announcement of five additional districts for Ladakh, including Changthang, will strengthen administration and governance by bringing it closer to the people.

He added that the creation of these districts would also generate employment opportunities for more than 5,000 youth, ensuring their financial stability.

Highlighting tourism potential, the Lt Governor said that the Dark Sky Reserve at Hanle in Changthang could significantly boost Ladakh's tourism sector. He stressed the importance of training local youth from border villages like Hanle to become "Astro-Ambassadors" who can guide visitors through the Hanle Dark Sky Reserve. ►P11

Planet Local Summit Ladakh'25 unites global voices for culture, environment



■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: Uniting global voices for culture, sustainability, and community resilience, the Planet Local Summit Ladakh 2025 began on Wednesday at the Lamdon School Auditorium, with participants from across India and several countries coming together to deliberate on culture, environment, and sustainable futures.

Deputy Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Tsering

Angchuk, attended the opening day as the Chief Guest.

Organised by Local Futures, the summit is a landmark international gathering running from September 3 to 7, bringing together participants from Ladakh, the rest of India, and around the world to advance a shared vision of change rooted in local economies, cultures, and community resilience.

This year's event also marks 50 years of pioneering work in Ladakh by Helena

Norberg-Hodge, founder of Local Futures, who is leading the programme alongside regional and global thought-leaders and activists.

The welcome session featured Helena Norberg-Hodge, a long-time friend of Ladakh; Stanzin Gya, a renowned filmmaker and environmentalist; Tsewang Chujung, an educationist and community leader; and Tsewang Namgail, a leading conservation biologist.

They shared their ►P11

Alleges neglect of Ladakhis in UoL Recruitment Kargili accuses UoL of Violating UGC Norms, urges LG to Implement 95% Domicile Quota

■ YASH KHAJURIA

LEH: Alleging that the University of Ladakh was systematically denying Ladakhi scholars their rightful share in faculty recruitment, political activist Sajjad Hussain Kargili on Tuesday urged the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, to intervene and ensure strict enforcement of reservation provisions in the University and its constituent colleges, citing growing frustration among local scholars and youth over stalled appointments. In a detailed memo-

randum submitted on September 3, Kargili said that since the creation of the Union Territory in 2019, no regular faculty recruitment has been carried out, leaving qualified scholars disheartened and without avenues for advancement. He underlined that despite the availability of Ph.D., MPhil, NET-JRF and SET-qualified Ladakhi candidates with years of teaching and research experience, recent academic appointments have overwhelmingly favored candidates from outside the region.

Kargili alleged that the

University's refusal to implement the newly introduced Recruitment Rule 2025, which provides for up to 95 percent reservation for Ladakh domiciles under Government Order M/1256/2024-S&TW SEC, amounts to a denial of rightful representation. He urged the administration to initiate corrective steps so that local aspirants do not continue to age out of opportunities.

The memorandum further criticized contractual appointments that, according to Kargili, disproportionately benefited non-local applicants despite the ►P11

AI transforms governance: LG Gupta; envisions smart, citizen-centric future

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: Artificial Intelligence (AI) holds immense potential to transform governance by automating routine tasks, personalising citizen services, and enabling data-driven decision-making for more effective policy planning and resource allocation.

Successful integration of AI, however, requires a balanced synergy between human oversight and technological innovation to ensure a governance system that is transparent, efficient, and citizen-centric.

The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, made these remarks



while chairing a meeting on 'Exploring the Potential Implementation of AI-driven Technologies to Enhance Good Governance in UT

Ladakh' at the LG Secretariat on Wednesday.

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Principal Sec-

retary Sanjeev Khirwar, Administrative Secretaries, and Heads of Departments.

During the meeting, Ankush Sabharwal, ►P11

‘Won’t rest until Naxals wiped out’

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said the Modi government will not rest until all Naxals either surrender, are caught, or are eliminated.

Felicitating the CRPF, Chhattisgarh Police, District Reserve Guard (DRG), and CoBRA jawans who successfully carried out 'Operation Black Forest' on Karregutta hill in Chhattisgarh, Shah said the government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is committed ►P11

Ladakh sees 930% rain surge in Aug



■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: Ladakh has experienced an extraordinary rainfall event in 2025, recording a surge of nearly 930% above normal and marking the re-

gion's wettest August in history. According to figures from the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Ladakh's total rainfall reached 49.5 mm for August, a dramatic rise from the typical 4.8 ►P11

High Court order transfers, postings in Ladakh judiciary

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: The High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has issued a fresh administrative order effecting transfers and postings of newly promoted as well as existing staff members across the District Judiciary in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

The directive, issued from the Chief Justice's Secretariat, follows the recent promotions notified vide High Court Order No. 1201 of 2025/Psy dated August 21, 2025. The new arrangement has been made in the interest of administration and will cover staff in the courts at Leh, Kargil, Zaskar, Sankoo, Nobra, Khaltsi and Drass.



Under the order, Tsering Tsomo, Section Officer at the Court of Principal District and Sessions Judge Leh, has been posted as Chief Administrative Officer in the same court against an available vacancy. Mohammad Hassan

and Mohammad Anwar, both previously serving as Head Assistants, have been appointed as Section Officers (Readers) at the District and Sessions Courts of Kargil and Leh respectively. Yasmeeen Batool has been ►P11

Punjab's resilience stronger than floods, Chugh; slams AAP regime

BJP rolls out relief in flood-hit Punjab, rebukes AAP

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR: The BJP today launched a massive relief operation in the flood-hit areas of Punjab, providing essential material to the affected families.

Undertaking an extensive tour, BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh, who led the operations, said BJP volunteers would cover all blocks in the state.

Carrying the message of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chugh visited the flood-ravaged pockets of Ajnala and Tarn Taran, extending sup-



port to marooned people. He announced that Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan would tour Punjab tomorrow to assess the damage suffered by farmers.

He met affected families, listened to their pain, and distributed relief material including life-saving medicines, ORS, tarpaulins, mosquito nets, dry milk powder, and essential supplies for children. For urgent cases, he arranged ambulances and doctors to ensure no victim was left without medical care.

Earlier, Chugh dispatched relief trucks from Lahori Gate carrying fodder, tarpaulins, mosquito nets, chips for children, and bottles of clean drinking water.

Chugh said this devastation was not merely a ►P11

Donk spearheads solns for 66KV TL

LEH: To discuss Right of Way (ROW) issues, remove bottlenecks coming forth and spearhead solutions, Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Romil Singh Donk, Wednesday convened a meeting regarding the Construction of 66KV D/C Kharu-Tangtse, 66KV D/C Tangtse-Pho Brang, 66KV D/C Kiya-Chumathang, and 66KV D/C Chumathang-Korzok Transmission Line under the RDSS Scheme at VC Room of the DC's Office, Leh.

During the meeting, the DC Leh directed officers to share the challenges they are facing regarding the project.

Officers highlighted issues such as land alignment, forest clearances, Wildlife and other operational con-

cerns. The DC Leh assured that the SDMs and Tehsildars would assisted in resolving these issues and instructed the concerned officers to submit necessary guidelines.

He further emphasized that all officers must share updated information regularly to ensure smooth progress of the project.

Later, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Leh, Shabir Hussain took over the meeting. He reiterated that the priority is to expedite the project for the benefit of the public.

He also instructed SDMs and concerned officers to submit the final land alignment details and directed them to provide information about private landholdings to the respective ►P11

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