

## **First-Ever District-Level Livestock Show Under National Livestock Mission**

Leh, December 6, 2025: The first-ever District Level Livestock Show/Mela, organized by the Sheep Husbandry Department, Leh under the National Livestock Mission (NLM) 2025–26 at Panchayat centre, Chuchot Yokma . The event brought together livestock rearers from across the district to showcase superior breeds of sheep and goats, marking a milestone for the region’s pastoral community.

The mela was graced by Shri Rudra Goud (PT), IAS, Secretary, Animal, Sheep Husbandry & Fisheries / Industries, as the Chief Guest. He was accompanied by Dr. Iftikhar Hussain, Director, Sheep Husbandry UT Ladakh; Dr. Mohammad Ismail, Director, Animal Husbandry Department UT Ladakh; Dr. Tsewang Morup, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Leh; Dr. Tundup Namgail, Deputy Director, Pashmina Goat Farm, Upshi; Dr. Shakil Ahmed, Livestock Development Officer, Chuchot; along with other senior officers of the department.

The programme began with a welcome address by Dr. Tsewang Morup, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Leh, who extended warm greetings to the Secretary, dignitaries, officers, and villagers. The Nambardars of Chuchot Yokma, Gongma, and Shamma welcomed the Chief Guest with traditional khataks, expressing gratitude for the first-time organisation of a livestock show/mela in Chuchot.

During the event Dr. Mohammad Ismail, Director, Animal Husbandry UT Ladakh, explained various departmental schemes, livestock benefits, subsidy components, and application procedures. Dr. Iftikhar Hussain, Director, Sheep Husbandry UT Ladakh, thanked participants and the Chief Guest for their support and highlighted current schemes, upcoming initiatives, and challenges faced by livestock rearers during harsh winters.

Chief Guest Shri Rudra Goud interacted extensively with villagers and stressed the importance of fodder cultivation ,Livestock development and fisheries development. He encouraged farmers to learn from the successful practices implemented at the Kargil Fisheries Farm.

Villagers raised several concerns, including: Shortage of feed due to irregular rainfall, Increasing stray dog attacks on sheep and goats, Need for financial support for building animal sheds, Reduction in feed subsidies, A request for an exposure tour for Chuchot Ama Tsogspa to learn best practices in livestock rearing and promote local products.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from livestock rearers showcasing high-quality sheep and goat breeds nurtured under Ladakh’s traditional pastoral systems. A dedicated Judgment Committee evaluated the livestock based on breed characteristics, health condition, conformation, and overall management.

Awards were presented to the best three sheep and best three goats. Additionally, ten consolation prizes and participation mementos were distributed in each category to encourage broader community involvement and motivate farmers to adopt improved livestock-rearing practices.

Throughout the mela, the Secretary and departmental officers visited livestock stalls, interacted with farmers, and reviewed entries from across the district.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Tundup Namgail, Deputy Director, Pashmina Goat Farm, Upshi, who expressed appreciation for the collective efforts of participants, organisers, and field staff in making the first-ever livestock show in Chuchot a grand success.



