

## **CEC Kargil, Dr. Mohd Jaffer Akhoon calls upon Minister of State for Minority Affairs and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Shri George Kurian**

Kargil, May 02, 2026: Hon'ble Chairman and Chief Executive Councillor (CEC) of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Kargil, Dr. Mohd Jaffer Akhoon, today called upon the Hon'ble Minister of State for Minority Affairs and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India, Shri George Kurian, during his visit to Kargil.

At the outset, CEC Dr. Akhoon warmly welcomed the Hon'ble Minister of State to the Kargil region and expressed gratitude for his visit.

During the meeting, Dr. Akhoon apprised the Minister of State of the largely untapped potential of the fisheries sector in Kargil, highlighting the region's rivers, streams, and high-altitude water bodies as ideally suited for trout farming and cold-water fisheries development. He informed that around 80 fish pond units have already been established in Kargil and stressed the need to further strengthen and expand these units to enhance fish production and create greater livelihood opportunities for the local population.

On animal husbandry and dairying, CEC Dr. Akhoon discussed the scope for enhancing livestock productivity through improved veterinary services, breed development, and fodder availability. He also underscored the importance of the sheep and pashmina sector and called for targeted interventions to strengthen the pashmina value chain from rearing to marketing.

CEC Dr. Akhoon stressed on the early sanctioning of minority hostels in Kargil under relevant central schemes and urged the Ministry to expedite the approvals at the earliest. The Hon'ble Minister of State assured the CEC of his full support in this regard.

The MoS, Shri George Kurian, gave a patient hearing to all the issues raised by the CEC Kargil and assured that they would be given due consideration.

The Hon'ble Minister of State, Shri George Kurian, laid special emphasis on sectors such as fisheries, animal husbandry, and dairy farming to enhance the income of local farmers in Kargil.

Post the formation of the Union Territory, the Administration has made significant investments in trout fish production in Kargil. Several initiatives have been undertaken, including the establishment of four government trout fish farms, completion of 100 trout raceway units in the private sector, and setting up of five fish kiosks/retail outlets. As a result, fish production has increased from less than 10 metric tonnes in 2019 to over 50 metric tonnes in 2025. Additionally, fish seed production has also been initiated locally in Kargil.

