

## **CEC attends post-World Heritage Day celebration at Khankah Goma Kargil**

Kargil, April 29, 2025: Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Kargil, Dr. Mohd Jaffer Akhoon today attended the Post World Heritage Day celebration organized by the Himalayan Cultural Heritage Foundation (HCHF) at historic Khankah Goma in Kargil. The event was held under the theme “Apricots: The Essence of Cultural and Natural Heritage of Ladakh.”

Executive Councillor for Tourism, Kacho Mohammad Feroz; Deputy Commissioner/CEO LAHDC, Kargil, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse; Councillor Town Haji Abass; Founder of HCHF, Dr. Sonam Wangchuk; Editor of Stawa Magazine, Sonetro Goshal; members of Village Education Committees; students of Council Model High School Goma Kargil and other schools were present.

In his address, the CEC appreciated the efforts of HCHF for organizing the event and promoting the preservation of Ladakh’s rich cultural heritage. He announced a token grant of Rs 5 lakh for heritage preservation initiatives and highlighted various efforts undertaken by the Hill Council Kargil in this regard. He also assured that to consider the concerns raised through a memorandum submitted by the Village Education Committee. Speaking on the occasion, Executive Councillor, Kacho Mohammad Feroz emphasised the need to preserve the local language and cultural identity. He encouraged the youth to take pride in their heritage.

Deputy Commissioner, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse appreciated the theme and proposed leveraging the Panchayat System to help restore and preserve heritage sites through designated restoration funds. He also assured to look into school-related issues with the Councillor.

Dr. Sonam Wangchuk, founder of HCHF, elaborated on the cultural, historical, educational, and economic benefits of preserving culture and shared the various initiatives being undertaken by the foundation to safeguard Ladakh’s heritage. Prizes were distributed for students who excelled in essay writing and painting competitions. The program concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Anayat Ali Shotopa, Convener of HCHF Kargil Chapter.





