

Ladakh Buddhists leaders meet LG Ladakh, demand withdrawal of advertisement for CIBS Vice Chancellor post

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
LEH: President Ladakh Buddhist Association (LBA) Thupstan Chhewang and President Ladakh Gonpa Association (LGA) Gelong Shatup Chamba along with representatives from different monasteries called on the Lt. Governor of the Union Territory of Ladakh RK Mathur on Monday and demanded that the advertisement notified for the post of Vice Chancellor, Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (CIBS), be withdrawn immediately and fresh advertisement with original essential qualifications having expertise in Nalanda tradition of Buddhism be issued.

Meditation can ensure social well-being, good health: Kavinder

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JAMMU: Meditation brings a sense of calm, peace and balance that can benefit both emotional well-being and overall health. This was said by senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta during the concluding day of two days Maha Dhayan Shivir held here at Durga Mandir Gandhi Nagar. The camp was organized by Gourav Vij of Power of Meditation Society. Over 100 people attended the meditation camp from across the country. During the two days activity the participants were introduced with various techniques used for meditation and were given lessons on using the Dhayan Prakriya for stress free life. Kavinder lauded the efforts made by Gourav in providing training to the people especially youngsters to relieve stress through meditation. He said that medi-

Speaking to media Thupstan Chhewang said that LBA members and representatives from different monasteries had a joint meeting to discuss problems being faced by students of CIBS, and later they met the Lt. Governor of Ladakh and apprised him of several issues related to the Institute including the advertisement notified for the post of Vice Chancellor. "We want the advertisement to be withdrawn and original essential qualifications be retained in a fresh advertisement for the post of the Vice Chancellor. It is an order of the Supreme Court that the head of this unique institution,



Thupstan Chhewang addressing media after meeting LG R K Mathur in Leh.

Central Institute of Buddhists Studies (CIBS) needs to be an expert in Nalanda Tradition. In case the advertisement is not withdrawn in the next 15 days, we will take to the streets," Chhewang said. It is pertinent to mention here that despite being a

'Deemed to be University' for 6 years, students of CIBS have been facing several problems including issues with recognition of their certificates, not having a regular Vice Chancellor and other officials. Students were on strike for more than two months. Some of the students called off their strike after a Vice Chancellor was posted on deputation and the certificate issue was also resolved. However, with the notification of the advertisement for a post of a regular Vice Chancellor, Buddhists

leaders think that the criteria for becoming a vice chancellor have been diluted. "It is important to have an expert with Nalanda tradition of Buddhism to fulfil the objective of the institution," Chhewang said, asserting that CIBS was founded to promote Nalanda tradition of Buddhism. Recently, the Ministry of Culture, Government of India issued an advertisement for the post of Vice-Chancellor for Central Institute of Buddhist Studies. The essential Qualifications that

have been kept are: Person of the highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment shall be appointed as Vice-Chancellor. The Vice-Chancellor to be appointed shall be a distinguished academician with a minimum of ten years of experience as Professor in a University system or ten years of experience in an equivalent position in reputed research and/or academic administrative organization. Desirable Qualification: i. Doctorate Degree in Buddhist

Studies/ Buddhist Philosophy from a recognized University. ii. Knowledge and fluency in written and spoken Hindi and English languages. Evidence of outstanding research and published works in national/international journals of repute or as well acknowledged books in the field of Buddhist Studies. However, any expertise in Nalanda tradition was missing either in the essential qualification or in the desired qualification.

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