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Press Release

Department of Environmental Science in collaboration with DST-Technology Enabling Centre Organised "World Environment Day"-2024 at Kargil Campus University of Ladakh

5th of June, 2024, Department of Environmental Science in collaboration with DST-Technology Enabling Centre, University of Ladakh, Organized **“World Environment Day-2024”** under the theme "Technological Intervention for Land Restoration, Desertification and Drought Resilience under the aegis of Worthy Rector, Kargil Campus, University of Ladakh Madam Kaneez Fatima.

Dr. Mohd Salim Coordinator Environmental Science delivered welcome speech following which the Rector Madam Kaneez Fatima welcomed the key note speaker Dr. Iftikhar Ali with traditional. Dr. Jaffer Ali Khan (Coordinator, department of sociology) welcomed the chief guest worthy Rector, Kargil Campus-UOL, Madam Kaneez Fatima, whereas Dr. Stanzin Shakya (Coordinator, department of English) welcomed Mr. Sajad and his team Stringmo.

Dr. Sonam, Assistant Professor, Environmental Science gave an in-depth and detailed presentation on World Environment Day. Dr. Sonam in her presentation emphasised in making Kargil Campus a green, clean and eco-friendly campus. Giving an example of Indonesia University for framing such a policy for sustainable development. She went on talking and stressing on carbon neutral Ladakh and a mass movement initiative for re-use, recycle and reduce policy. Dr. Sonam highlighted the issues of solid sustainability, resources stress and emphasised individual awareness in plantation drive, to save solar energy and maintain the eco-club to make the campus an ever green one. She opined green campus can be made by participating in events on national and global level, with awareness and consciousness programs.

Dr. Iftikhar Ali, key note speaker in the event and PhD holder from Manchester U.K and Director HEAL Ladakh and member The Royal Society of Biology U.K, presented his talk on the theme" The Role of Technology in Environmental Conservation and Preservation: In Line with World Environment Day" with the introduction of Desertification, it's causes, process and impact. Dr. Iftikhar Ali wonderfully talked on Ladakh on Vegetation in Ladakh Region. The region's soil erosion, draught conditions leading to desertification and lack of water resources. Dr. Iftikhar Ali also explained about the approaches, afforestation and Land Restoration benefits. He went on depth in elucidating and explaining about conservation of biodiversity, water resources and its challenges. Dr. Iftikhar Ali gave meticulous Statistics on land degradation mentioning 4.7 approx. land has been degraded and one-fourth land is impacted. Dr. Iftikhar Ali specifically talked about the Environment Technology which has a big role to play in Technological Intervention for Land Restoration such as GIS and Remote Sensing, ArcGIS, etc. He further elaborated how the Environment Technology has impacted positively on the lives of human



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being and how useful the resources of this technology is. In the end, Dr. Iftikhar Ali mentioned the productive use of Artificial Intelligence in identifying particular species which is not confined to technology but the human resources as well.

Dr. Mehboob Ali Coordinator of TEC, University of Ladakh gave an insightful presentation on Technology Enabling Centre and DST, the ongoing projects and it's offices in both the campuses. Dr. Mehboob Ali wholeheartedly invited all the interested and desired researchers to work under the TEC and take the benefit for the betterment of students and researchers. The objectives of TEC is to enable eco-system process and support system which has spread all over India and also the purpose of the TEC is to create technology, spread awareness amongst researchers and be a part of the tech-hub, remarked. Dr. Mehboob Ali the Coordinator of the TEC also talked about the importance of Mining of Technology for it's identification and modification with other technologies, like Need and Resource Identification, Resource Utilization of the Needs. Such resources will be benefited for marketable and commercialization in the betterment of the society, explained. Dr. Mehboob Ali gave a wonderful example of Car Washing which does not work in winters but how the industries come forward and does the job for car owners.

Worthy Rector Madam, Kaneez Fatima facilitated the awards as a token of appreciation to the participants of Painting Competition. Among the awardees, Ms. Nazra won First Prize, Second Prize got by BCA team and third prize won by Spalzes Angmo. A special award received by a young artist team led by Mr. Sajad as a token of appreciation from Worthy Rector.

Worthy Rector Madam Kaneez Fatima delivered the keynote address with some encouraging words. Madam, took the podium congratulating all for the successful event. She appreciated the key note speaker Dr.Iftikhar Ali, Staff Members and all who were present to celebrate the day. Madam emphasized the importance of technology in todays world, and told all to be techy hub. Rector Madam talked about the preservation and protection of the environment which is the need of the hour. Worthy Rector emphasized that while celebrating World Environment Day, we should try to bring outcome from each programs and implement the same at ground level. She further stresses upon the need of individual contribution to safeguard the ecosystem and environment. The whole world is suffering because of the negligence she added.

The programme was concluded with Mr. Shujat manager TEC offering the formal vote of thanks.

Convener
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