



**Department of Geology**  
**University of Ladakh, Leh Campus, Taru Thang**  
**Leh-194 101; UT of Ladakh, India**

**Dr. Rakesh Chandra**  
Coordinator, Department of Geology

Mobile: (+91) 9419420928  
Email: rakeshchandra69@gmail.com  
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**Press Release**

**Subject: Cleanliness drive from Leh Campus to Pathar Sahib Gurudwara to Phyang on the occasion of Earth Day on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 organized by Department of Geology Leh Campus, University of Ladakh, Taru Thang**

Under the motivation and support of Prof. S. K. Mehta, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Ladakh, Department of Geology, Leh Campus Taru Thang organized “**Cleanliness drive from Leh Campus to Pathar Sahib Gurudwara to Phyang on the occasion of Earth Day**” on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023. This cleanliness drive with the theme of “**Invest in our Planet**” highlights dedicating our time, resources, and energy to work towards solutions to environmental issues. Staff members including Teaching and Non-Teaching have participated in garbage collection from the University Campus, Phyang area, and the vicinity of Pathar Sahib Gurudwara. Through this activity, the participants of UOL Leh Campus have created awareness among the residents of the importance of cleanliness towards the thriving Earth. Being the Earth Science department of the University, the Department of Geology bears the responsibility to educate the students about earth system sciences and create awareness about the sustainability and preservation of the planet. Being a cold desert with a fragile environment this nascent region needs more attention from the natives, authorities, and tourists to keep it clean. Keeping this in view the participants interacted with the tourists and local people to spread awareness and urged them to keep the environment clean and refrained them from using such materials which are harmful to our environment. Along with the staff of the Department of Geology, faculties from other departments of the Campus, and non-teaching staff actively participated in the event and vowed towards keeping their surroundings clean. The Department of Geology desires to organize more such events to create consciousness about saving Mother Earth.

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