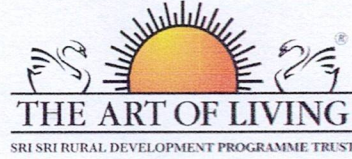


# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN



**SRI SRI RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (SSRDP) TRUST,  
BENGALURU**

AND



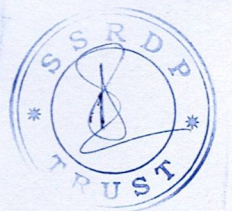
**UNIVERSITY OF LADAKH, UT-Ladakh**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is signed on **19<sup>th</sup> December 2023** between the: Sri Sri Rural Development Programme Trust (SSRDP Trust) under the aegis of the Art of Living Foundation, a trust registered on 05 May 2001 under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882 in Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, and having its registered office at Art of Living International Center, 21<sup>st</sup> Km, Kanakapura Road, Udayapura, Bengaluru, INDIA 560082, hereafter referred to as the “First Party”.

AND

The University of Ladakh (UoL), established in 2019 and is the only Trans-Himalayan University in the country for higher learning and research. The University has its headquarters in Leh, and Campuses in both Leh and Kargil districts, hereafter referred to as the “Second Party”

Sri Sri Rural Development Programme Trust and The University of Ladakh may be referred to individually as a “Party” and together as the “Parties”.



## **Whereas**

*Himalay Unnati Mission (HUM)* is a movement initiated by SSRDP Trust under the aegis of the Art of Living Foundation to Preserve, Foster & Resurrect the ecological, economic, cultural, and spiritual heritage of the Himalayas. The initiative blends policy level research with grassroots developmental projects in the Himalayan Region by working with Government, Quasi Government, Researchers, Individuals, Corporates & NGOs as knowledge partners, to create a cross exchange of best practices across the Himalayas.

## **WHEREAS:**

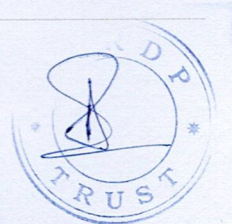
This Memorandum of Understanding has been entered on this 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023 by and between the Sri Sri Rural Development Programme Trust (SSRDP Trust) and The University of Ladakh (UoL). The purpose of this MoU is to capture the intent of the Parties to collaborate with each other for sharing knowledge for the joint activities that the Parties may undertake in future.

## **SCOPE AND TERMS OF INTERACTIONS**

### **Purpose**

The knowledge partnership between SSRDP Trust and UoL is of utmost importance to achieve common objectives of both the organizations, and goal of inclusive growth through skill development in Ladakh. This knowledge partnership aims to help in improving sustainable livelihood opportunities in Ladakh through awareness / demonstration / training on new techniques / technologies based on natural resources, and will work on improving preparedness against threats of climate change in the Trans Himalayan Region. The MoU will also facilitate cross exchange of volunteers for internship and fellowship opportunities. The Parties will endeavor to further scale up the program for wider adoption in Ladakh. The features of the knowledge partnership for the joint activities undertaken by the Parties are as under:

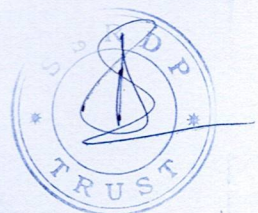
- UoL & SSRDP will collaborate and work together for creating, outlining & collating a comprehensive roadmap for Himalayan Natural Resource Management & Ecosystem Restoration to Knowledge Forums and Conferences.



- To provide internship and fellowship opportunities to students of UoL with HUM partner NGOs in other states, to facilitate cross exchange of knowledge & best practice.
- Under Lab to Land Movement, SSRDP Trust shall undertake various initiatives to disseminate rural appropriate technologies and trainings for providing a sustainable livelihood to the people of Ladakh including strengthening value chain for identified crops / products that are suitable for Ladakh and offer an economic opportunity.
- UoL & SSRDP Trust will also work on region specific research and development initiatives jointly, as per agreed terms.
- To collaborate on Yoga, Ayurveda, Herbal Wellness to position Ladakh as a wellness capital of India.
- To conduct online and offline events under Himalay Unnati Mission to create awareness on the issues concerning Himalayas amongst key stakeholders.
- To collaborate on running a comprehensive Drug De-Addiction (LSDs, Alcohol, Tobacco etc.) program across the state.
- UoL will facilitate in identification of village clusters and cluster crops for mutually identified activities to build long term capacity off armers / self - help groups on adoption of scientific practices suitable for Ladakh, value added product development as well as the product's packaging, branding, trademark and pricing.
- SSRDP will provide youth leadership and various behavioral training programs patented by Art of living Foundation to improve the capacity of SHGs working with UoL.
- The operational parameters for the activities under this MoU shall be mutually decided by the Parties.

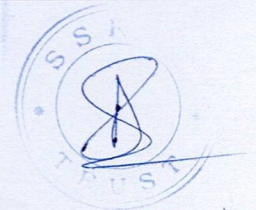
### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- This MoU does not obligate either party to work exclusively with the other on any project.
- No amendments to the MoU shall be valid unless executed in writing and signed by both parties.
- This is a non - financial collaboration and neither Party under this MoU gives monetary support / commitment of funds transfer to any entity / person. The Parties confirm that neither Party shall in connection with this MoU, make any payment or be involved in



transfers of value, directly or indirectly to anyone, except for any support extended to the beneficiaries for activities under the scope of this MoU. Both Parties confirm that the beneficiaries will not be charged for any of the support extended under this MoU.

- This MoU is on at - will basis and may be modified by mutual consent of the Parties. This MoU shall become effective upon signature by the Parties and will remain in effect until terminated by either Party by giving the other Party notice in this regard;
- The branding or products for the joint activities undertaken by the Parties shall be mutually decided;
- Each Party shall seek prior written approval of the other Party for using such other Party's name, logo and other intellectual property;
- The collaboration under this MoU shall be subject to the laws of India and the Parties shall strive to amicably resolve any dispute arising under this MoU;
- The Parties agree that neither of them will not be bound by any obligation other than those either specified as a part of this MoU or subsequently mutually agreed in writing. Each Party will be solely liable for performance of its obligations and activities assigned to it under this MoU, including any third - party claims arising from the respective Party's actions or omissions under this MoU;
- Each Party shall ensure that any mention of this collaboration / MoU, internally or externally shall be restricted to factual information and shall not include any exaggerations or shall not attempt to impose any obligation on the other Party beyond the roles and responsibilities documented in this MoU;
- The Parties shall maintain confidentiality with respect to any data, information or documents that is shared under this MoU and is the confidential information of the disclosing Party; and
- This MoU constitutes the final and entire understanding between the Parties with respect to this collaboration and supersedes any previous agreement or understanding between the Parties and any amendments or waiver to this MoU shall be in writing and signed by both the Parties
- This agreement will come into force from the date of signing for a period of five years, and further extended if both parties agree.



### MATTERS NOT PROVIDED IN THE MoU

If any doubt arises as to the interpretation of the provisions of this MoU or as to matters not provided therein, the Parties to this MoU shall consult each other for each instance and resolve such doubts in good faith. Liability of the schemes of the respective parties under this MoU shall be of the parties in respect of their schemes.

### DATE OF EFFECT

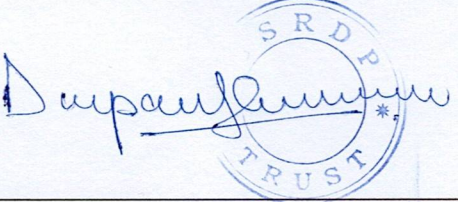
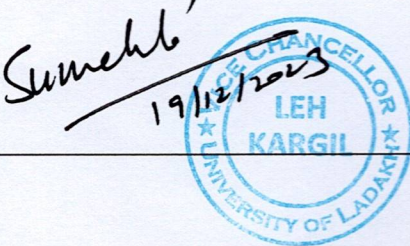
This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will come into effect on **19<sup>th</sup> December 2023** and will remain in force for five years till **18<sup>th</sup> December 2028**.

### TERMINATION

The Parties are entitled to terminate the MoU by giving 6 months' notice prior to the termination. However, the termination of the MoU will not absolve the Parties of their obligations to perform in respect of ongoing assignments/ projects or projects awarded earlier and under implementation on the date of such notice, and if the MoU is terminated for whatsoever reason, the responsibility of each party shall continue to exist till the completion of the programme/s taken up under the MoU.

### NOTICES

All notices, requests or other communication hereunder shall be sent in writing and addressed to the parties as follows:

	
<b>For First Party:</b> Trustee, SSRDP Bengaluru, Karnataka (India) Email-id: <a href="mailto:info@savehimalayas.org">info@savehimalayas.org</a>	<b>For Second Party:</b> Vice-Chancellor University of Ladakh, UT-Ladakh Email-id: <a href="mailto:vc.ladakhuniversity@gmail.com">vc.ladakhuniversity@gmail.com</a>

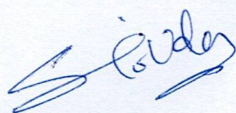


It is agreed and clarified that any communication sent to notified email-id shall be deemed to be served on the addressee on next working day.

**IN WITNESS WHERE OF** the Parties in full cognizance and understanding of the foregoing contents have executed this MoU as on the date first written above in duplicate with each PARTY receiving one original signed document.

**Signature of witnesses: -**

1. Program Director, Himalay Unnati Mission  
SSRDP Trust, Art of Living International Center, Bengaluru (India)

Mr. Kiran Pujari



2. Dean Academic Affairs,  
University of Ladakh  
UT-Ladakh