



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**BETWEEN**  
**University of Ladakh (UoL)**  
**AND**  
**Protoplanet Pvt Ltd. (PP)**

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MoU") made on this ~~12~~<sup>10<sup>th</sup></sup>  
----- day of November 2024

between

University of Ladakh (UoL), established on 03 Feb 2019 and registered under section 22 of UGC Act 1956 –situated at University of Ladakh, Taru Thang, UT Ladakh - 194104 (hereinafter referred to as "UoL")

and

Protoplanet Pvt Ltd (PP), incorporated on 13 June 2024 under the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013) situated at HD-2019 WeWork Prestige Cube, Site No. 26, Laskar Hosur Road, Adugodi, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560030 (hereinafter referred to as "PP")

witnesseth as follows:

RECOGNISING the mutual interest in the fields of space science research, particularly astrobiology, planetary sciences, space environment studies, space robotics and instrumentation and the development, education, training, transfer of technology and dissemination of knowledge on long term non-commercial basis, and also

RECOGNISING the importance of institutes of higher education's role in promoting international collaboration and increased contribution of social development.

HEREBY agree to establish collaboration according to the Broad Objectives and Scope and Action Plan following hereunder.

**For PROTOPLANET PVT LTD**

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The words “the two institutions” in the MoU refer to the University of Ladakh and Protoplanet Pvt Ltd.

### **Article 1: Broad Objectives and Scope:**

Union Territory of Ladakh has significant potential to support space science and engineering research and training activities, given its proximity to various natural scientific terrestrial analogues to support Moon, Mars and Outer Space Exploration. The purpose of this MoU, between UoL and PP is to jointly carry out research and student, faculty training activities in the areas of (not limited to) Astrobiology, Planetary Sciences, Space Environment, Space instrumentation and Space Robotics.

Co-operation between the two institutions may be established within any field related to science and technology of mutual interest and in particular –

1. Developing Curriculum on Space Science related subjects.
2. Formulating joint research projects and strengthening of research activities related to space sciences.
3. Exchange of scientific information, academic publications, and reports.
4. Organization of joint symposia, field workshops, lectures, and conferences.

Extension to other areas will be made through further amendments to the present MoU.

### **Article 2: Action Plan:**

To achieve the above, UoL and PP mutually agree to take the following actions:

1. Identify and define areas of work of mutual interest between faculty members at UoL and expert researchers within PP in the areas defined above.
2. Planning for conducting field workshops and guest lectures in areas described above.
3. Installation of Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) at relevant Astrobiology locations through the resources generated for this purpose.
4. Planning extended projects to carry forward work started during field workshop at UoL campus or in field site locations.
5. Identify and connect UoL faculty and students with PP’s network of international and national experts for collaboration, mentorship, and training purposes.
6. Identify and place required portable and hand-held field instrumentation and training material at UoL campus for the benefit of students and faculty.

### **Article 3: Roles and Responsibilities:**

1. University of Ladakh
  - a) UoL upon availability and discussing requirements with PP will provide space for conducting joint collaborative events without any financial involvement from University Resources.
  - b) Work with PP on joint proposals to secure financial support from sponsoring agencies to implement the aforesaid Action Plan.



**For PROTOPLANET PVT LTD**



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- c) Media promotion of activities under this MoU.
  - d) Facilitate collaborations and discussions with faculty and staff of departments within UoL with PP subject matter experts.
  - e) Appointment of Nodal Officer for Administrative Decision making and support for the MoU activities.
2. Protoplanet Private Limited
- a) Submit Action Plan and Roadmap in consultation with UoL to the UT Administration of Ladakh.
  - b) Implement activities as per the MoU and the aforesaid Action Plan.
  - c) Deploy experts in UT of Ladakh to implement activities related to the above MoU and the aforesaid action plan.
  - d) Support in forging collaborations with national and international members affiliated with PP.
  - e) Create knowledge products and project profiles.
  - f) Media promotion of activities under this MoU.
  - g) Provide periodic reports.
  - h) Appointment of Nodal Officer for Administrative Decision making and support for the MoU activities.

#### **Article 4 – Confidentiality:**

Under this MoU, it may be necessary for one institution to receive information that may be proprietary and confidential in nature for the other institution. The institutions agree and undertake to keep confidential for a period of three (3) years following the date of expiration or termination of this MoU any information or data that may be exchanged, acquired, disclosed, or shared in connection with any activity conducted pursuant to this MoU save where such information is already in the public domain or later becomes part of the public domain through no fault of the receiving institution or is required to be disclosed by any applicable law or regulations, or where the extent of such disclosure is authorized in writing by the other. Neither institution shall use the information of the other institution except to the extent required to enable the performance of this MoU.

#### **Article 5 - Intellectual Property Rights (IPR):**

Information on research results and scientific materials (reports, articles, books) will be exchanged freely keeping in mind the mutually agreed provision of Intellectual Property Rights. All intellectual property solely conceived and/or developed UoL during the course of this MoU shall be owned by UoL. All intellectual property solely conceived and/or developed by PP during the course of this MoU shall be owned by PP. Intellectual property jointly conceived and/or developed by UoL and PP will be jointly owned by UoL and PP. Each institution may use such property for research, scholarly, and non-commercial purposes. UoL and PP agree to collaborate towards the protection, if appropriate and application of such intellectual property for commercial or other purposes on mutually acceptable terms to be negotiated in good faith between the institutions. All publications resulting from the collaboration between the two institutions will be mentioned in the scientific reports of the institutions. Likewise, this MoU must



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also be mentioned in all formal presentations which result from the collaboration under the terms of this MoU. The results of the collaboration generated jointly under this MoU will be jointly published however, authorship of results of the research project will be determined in accordance with academic standards and custom.

**Article 6 – Termination Clause:**

The agreement can be terminated with mutual consent without liability to either party. This AGREEMENT is hereby accepted and agreed to by authorized representatives.

**Article 7 - Duration:**

This MoU will remain in force initially for five years and will be further continued as may be mutually agreed upon between UoL and PP.


**Authorised Signatories:**

On behalf of the University of Ladakh



Dean Research Studies,  
University of Ladakh

On behalf of Protoplanet Private Limited



DR SIDDHARTH PANDEY

Director, Protoplanet Private Limited

In the presence of:



Name:

Designation: Vice Chancellor

Signature with Date: 19. 11. 2024

Seal:

Dean Research  
University of Ladakh  
Leh 194101 Ladakh UT

In the presence of:

Name: MEHNAZ JABEEN

Designation: SCIENTIFIC OPERATIONS COORDINATOR  
(PROTOPLANET)

Signature with Date: Mehnaaz

Seal:

19/11/24

**For PROTOPLANET PVT LTD**

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