



Series 22

*Government of Jammu & Kashmir*  
**Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Leh**

# **Economic Review**

of  
**Leh District**  
**2014-15**



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## **PREFACE**

The District Statistics and Evaluation Agency Leh under the patronage of Directorate of Economic and Statistics (Planning and Development Department) is bringing out annual publication titled “Economic Review” of District Leh, for the year 2014-15.

The publication 22<sup>st</sup> in the series, presents the progress achieved in various socio-economic facts of the district economy. I hope that the publication will be a useful tool in the hands of planners, administrators, Policy makers, academicians and other users and will go a long way in helping them in their respective pursuit. Suggestions to improve the publication in terms of coverage, quality etc. in the future issue of the publication will be appreciated



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## **DISTRICT PROFILE.**

Although, Leh district is one of the largest districts of the country in terms of area, it has the lowest population density across the entire country. The district borders Pakistan occupied Kashmir and Chinese occupied Ladakh in the North and Northwest respectively, Tibet in the east and Lahoul-Spiti area of Himachal Pradesh in the South. The district of Leh forms the Northern tip of the Indian Sub Continent. According to the Geographical experts, the district has several other features, which make it unique when compared with other parts of the Indian sub-continent. The district is the coldest and most elevated inhabited region in the country with altitude ranging from 2300 meters to 5000 meters. As a result of its high altitude locations, annual rainfall is extremely low. This low status of precipitation has resulted in scanty vegetation, low organic content in the soil and loose structure in the cold desert. But large-scale plantation has been going in the district since 1955 and this state of affairs is likely to change.

The ancient inhabitants of Ladakh were Dards, an Indo- Aryan race. Immigrants of Tibet, Skardo and nearby parts like Purang, Guge settled in Ladakh, whose racial characters and cultures were in consonance with early settlers. Buddhism traveled from central India to Tibet via Ladakh leaving its imprint in Ladakh. Islamic missionaries also made a peaceful penetration of Islam in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. German Moravian Missionaries having cognizance of East India Company also made inroads towards conversion but with little success.

In the 10<sup>th</sup> century AD, Skit Lde Nemagon, the ruler of Tibet, invaded Ladakh where there was no central authority. The lands divided in small principalities were at war with each other. Nemagon defeated them one by one and established a strong kingdom at Shey, 15 kms from Leh, as its capital. Ladakh was an independent province since the middle of the 10<sup>th</sup> century.

The King Singgey Namgyal consolidated the Ladakhi Empire into a strong kingdom. He was not only as strong monarch but a statesman, a diplomat and a builder. He built the historic 9- storeyed Leh palace and made the other neighboring countries envy of such an elegant palace. He also promoted horse polo in Ladakh.

Leh (Ladakh) was known in the past by different names. It was called Maryul or low land by some, Kha- chumpa by others. Fa-Hein referred to it as Kia-Chha and Hiuen Tsang as Ma-Lo-Pho. It is said that the first emigrants to this land appears to have been the Brokpas from Dadarstan who inhabited the lower reaches of the Indus Valley popularly known as Sham. Another wave of emigrants who came from karja (Kulu) were the Mons an Aryan type who first settled in Gya and spread to Rong, Shayok, Sakti Tangtse and Durbuk, the area extending from Martselang to Khaltsi. Gia was the seat of government of the first Mon ruler having been elected by the whole tribe. His kingdom included the villages mentioned above, all of which was inhabited by the Mons people He was known by the title Gyapacho, derived from his being the master of Gia.

### **LOCATION AND PHYSICAL FEATURES**

Leh district is situated roughly between 32 to 36 degree North latitude and 75 to 80 degree East longitude.

The district covers approximately an area of 45100 Sq.kms on this side of line of control, which makes it the 2nd largest district in the country in terms of area. The district is one of the coldest and most elevated inhabited regions in the country. The high mountain peaks, reaching the blue sky ranging from 18000 ft. to 26000 ft. in the district are oriented in parallel ranges namely the Karakoram Range and the Zaskar ranges. The world highest motorable road viz **Khardongla** at an elevation of 18380 ft. links Nubra valley.

## **RIVERS**

The Indus, the Shayok and the Zaskar rivers flow between the three mountain ranges resulting in the concentration of the population in the valleys in these rivers.

## **CLIMATE AND RAINFALL**

District Leh experiences extremes type of climate where temperature ranges from 30 degree Celsius in the short summer to minus 35 degree Celsius at the height of the winter at some places. Precipitation is very low averaging around 9 cm to 10 cm annually. The winter is always severe and makes the region inaccessible as roads link from Srinagar as well as Himachal Pradesh remain closed due to closure of Zojila, Rohtang and other Passes due to heavy snowfall.

As per record maintained by the DIHAR the maximum temperature of Leh town is recorded 26.17 degree Celsius and minimum temperature is -13.53 degree Celsius and maximum precipitation is recorded as 45.4mm (rainfall) and minimum precipitation is 0.4cm (Snowfall) during the year 2014.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS**

For smooth functioning of the administrative machinery in the district, there are six sub divisions viz Nubra, Changthang, Khaltsi and newly created sub-division of Durbuk, Kharu and Liker are headed by the Sub Divisional Magistrate under the overall control of the Deputy commissioner/ Chief Executive Officer, LAHDC and it consist of eight Tehsils viz Leh, Khaltsi, Sumoor (Nubra) and the Tehsil of Khaltsi and Sumoor were created during 2005-06, and newly created Tehsils in 2014 are Nyoma, Durbuk, Kharu, Disket and Saspol. The district is governed by the Ladakh Autonomous Hill development Council, Leh having a strength of 30 Councilors (26 elected and 04 nominated) which is being headed by the Chairman /Chief Executive Councilor LAHDC, Leh (rank of State Cabinet Minister) within the Leh jurisdiction who is assisted by four Executive councilors since 1995 working within the frame work of the Constitution of India / Jammu and Kashmir

Under the guidance and supervision of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, the developmental works in the district is being carried out under various sectors of development for overall economic growth and prosperity of the district within available resources/funding provision provided by the central / State Govt.

For uniform development of the district, Sixteen CD blocks namely Leh, Khaltsi, Nyoma, Nubra, Durbuk, Kharu Chuchot, Saspol, Panamic, out of which the block namely Chuchot, Saspol and Panamic created in the year 2006-07 and newly created Blocks in 2014 are Rupshaw HQ at Puga, RongChugut HQ at Chumathang, Thiksay, Turtuk, Nimoo, Skurbuchan and Lingshed Singeylalok HQ at Wanla.

## **DEMOGRAPHIC FEATURES.**

### **POPULATION**

According to the population census of 2011, the District has a population of 1,33487 souls among male is 78971 and female is 54516 and the population of J&K State is 1,25,41302 souls, among 6640662 male and 5900640 female.

### **DENSITY**

The density of population is about 3 persons per sq.km against 124 persons per Sq km of the State as per 2011 census.

### **RURAL – URBAN COMPOSITION**

The district is predominantly rural with small segment of urbanites. As per 2011 census 87816 persons live in rural area and the rest 45671 are urbanites, which constitute 65.79 rural and 34.21 % urban.

**GROWTH RATE**

The Decadal growth rate of the district has been recorded 13.86% as compared to 23.64% of the State during the decade 2001-2011.

**SEX RATIO**

The sex ratio in the district is 690 females per 1000 males which is very contradictory, against 889 females per 1000 males in the State as per 2011 census. The sex ratio of population in the age group of 0-6 of the district is 946 females per 1000 males which is good and it reflects that the sex ratio of Leh District is normal. The sex ratio of population in the age group of 0-6 of State is 862 female per 1000 males as per 2011 census.

**LITERACY RATE**

The total literacy rate in the District is 77% and among males literacy rate is 86% and among females it is 64%, against the total Literacy rate of the State is 67% and among male literacy rate is 77% and female literacy rate is 56% as per 2011 census.

**SCHEDULE TRIBE**

Schedule Tribe population in the district was 95857 persons as per 2011 census which constitutes 72% of the district population.

**OCCUPIED RESIDENTIAL HOUSE**

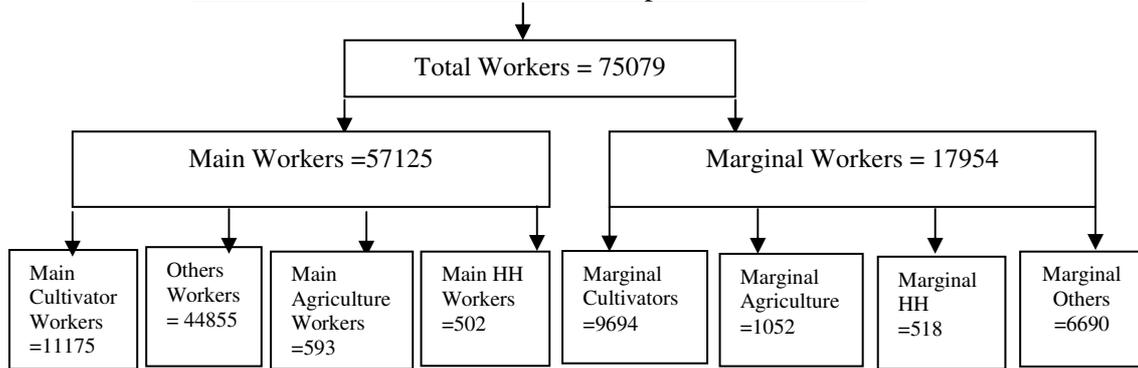
According to 2011 census the total number of occupied residential house in the district was 21909. The average number of persons per household is 6 person.

## LAND HOLDING

As per agricultural census of 2005-06 the number of holdings in the district was 24921 and the area there under 17904.47 hectares. Average holding size is about 718 hectares.

## OCCUPATIONAL PATTERN.

The total workers in the District as per 2011 Census.



The Non- Workers in the District is 58408 as per 2011 Census.

## **ECONOMIC REVIEW – 2014-15**

Irrespective of the peculiar geographical location, Arctic and cold desert climate and very low status of precipitation, the Economy of the District Leh is agro base and rural oriented and is the main stay of the local population. Most of the working population of the district is engaged in agriculture and livestock activities. While publishing the Economic Review of the district for the year 2014-15, efforts have been made to unfold the economic background of the district and the strategy evolved for overall economic development. Here is a resume of the vital sectors of the district.

### **AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED ACTIVITIES**

#### **1.1 AGRICULTURE**

Agriculture is the backbone of the district economy as it engage over 70% of the working force mostly as cultivators, agricultural laborers and livestock rearer, yet this sector has been now affected by the service sector especially Tourism as it attracts the people constantly.

According to Village papers, the district has reporting area of 45167 hectares out of which 10614 hectares has been brought under cultivation of various crops during 2014-15. Whole of the cultivated area is irrigated and mono cropped with main source of irrigation is canal/ khuls. Double cropping is undertaken in some parts of Khaltsi and Nubra blocks.

Crop wise area brought under cultivation during the year 2014-15 is tabulated below:-

**AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS. (2014-15)**

| <b>S.No</b> | <b>Crop</b>    | <b>Unit</b> | <b>Area in Hect.</b> |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------|
| 1.          | Wheat          | Hect.       | 2776                 |
| 2.          | Grim           | Hect.       | 4288                 |
| 3.          | Pulses         | Hect.       | 258                  |
| 4.          | Vegetable      | Hect.       | 388                  |
| 5.          | Fruits         | Hect.       | 104                  |
| 6.          | Other Millets  | Hect.       | 564                  |
|             | Non-Food Crops |             |                      |
| 7.          | Fodder         | Hect.       | 2161                 |
| 8.          | Oil Seeds      | Hect.       | 89                   |

Source:-Financial Commissioner (Rev.) J&K

There are vast stretches of land available yet irrigation facilities being not available and scanty rainfall, these cannot be brought under cultivation and keeping in view the reclamation of these desert areas, creation of sources of irrigation becomes uneconomical.

The department of agriculture is working with the main objective to improve the overall production per hectare of cereals, fodder, pulses, and vegetable and oil seeds. In addition distribution of improved agriculture implements, thresher machines, lift irrigation pump sets, trench cultivation and vegetable cellars have been made.

To undertake various agricultural activities in the field, the department of Agriculture has been divided into seven zones and has established seven farms to benefit the beneficiaries at block level.

The department has achieved tremendous progress in increasing the production of cash crops viz. vegetables including potato. The introduction of Polly Green Houses has also benefited the people to produce leafy vegetables during winter months Oct-Nov and from Feb – March onwards-resulting improvement in the economy of the people/ district. Due to the efforts of the department, timely distribution of vegetable seedlings are being made available which

makes it possible timely production and supply of vegetables worth crores of rupees.

The department has distributed 1434.71 tones of improved seeds during 2014-15 as per following break up.

**Distribution of improved seeds.**

| <b>Seeds</b>               | <b>Distributed (in Tones)</b> |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Vegetable including Potato | 781.42                        |
| Pulses                     | 7.30                          |
| Fodder                     | 566.49                        |
| Oil seeds                  | 79.50                         |
| Wheat                      | 0                             |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>1434.71</b>                |

Source:- Agriculture Department Leh.

For propagation of vegetable production in the district the department has distributed 3.88 6 lacs seedlings of various varieties of vegetables during the year 2014-15 as per following break up.

| <b>S. No</b> | <b>Variety</b> | <b>Quantity(lac Nos)</b> |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1            | Cauliflower    | 0.629                    |
| 2            | Cabbage        | 0.632                    |
| 3            | Onion          | 0.840                    |
| 4            | Tomato         | 0.747                    |
| 5            | Bringal        | 0.342                    |
| 6            | Capsicum       | 0.343                    |
| 7            | Saag           | 0.076                    |
| 8            | Knol khol      | 0.277                    |
|              | <b>Total:-</b> | <b>3.886</b>             |

Source:- Agriculture Department Leh

For storage of surplus vegetables to be used in the winter months, the department has taken up construction of vegetables cellar in a big way and during the year 2014-15, 27 Nos. of vegetables sellers sanctioned and constructed by the farmers. 50% subsidy is provided to the

farmers up to maximum Rs. 8000/-. Cultivation of vegetables in trenches during winter months has been very successful. The department had provided 425 Vegetable Trenches in the District on 50% subsidy upto maximum of Rs 2000/=per unit during 2014-15.

### **1.2 – HORTICULTURE:**

Horticulture produce is concentrated to three blocks of the district viz Khaltsi, Leh and Nubra but the major producer of Horticulture is the Khaltsi block. The main productions are Apricot, Apple and others and in part of Khaltsi block other varieties i-e Almond, grapes etc are also grown. The fruits produced are either marketed in Leh town and other places or supplied to the defense forces stationed in the region. Apricot fruits are highly perishable and substantial losses occur during transportation and marketing. The only avenue for preservation is to sulphure and dry.

The department of Horticulture has demonstrated the technology for Osmotic Dehydration of apricot and is popular among the growers, which enables them to dry their left over produce hygienically and fetch a handsome price of Rs. 150/- to 200/- per Kg., which helps in improving the economic condition of the growers.

With the introduction of fruit residue of seabuckthorn which is quite rich in protein, amino acids, Vit. C etc. as a product for making juice, the department of Horticulture trains the growers for its processing and further disposal which proves very beneficial in terms of economic growth of the grower/ district.

Plant protection, post harvest management, fruit preservation and public canning / processing are source of the important measures being undertaken for development of this sector besides organizing training to the growers.

According to departmental survey of horticulture department the total area under fruit, number of fruit trees and estimated production for the year 2014-15 is tabulated below:

| S.No | Kind of Fruit | Tree Population | Area (Ha)      | Estimated Production (MT) |               |
|------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------|
|      |               |                 |                | Fresh                     | Dry           |
| 1    | Apricot       | 197640          | 790.56         | 3185.17                   | 254.81        |
| 2    | Apple         | 199060          | 796.24         | 4298.0                    | 0             |
| 3    | Others        | 18197           | 60.84          | 27.32                     | 109.92        |
|      | <b>Total</b>  | <b>414897</b>   | <b>1647.64</b> | <b>7510.49</b>            | <b>364.73</b> |

Source:-Horticulture Department, Leh.

During the year 2014-15 the department has issued 385 (Nos.) of tool kit set and 941 (Nos.) of Plastic crates.

### 1.3 ANIMAL HUSBANDRY:

Animal Husbandry is an important sector among the allied sector of agriculture. Animal Husbandry plays a pivotal role in the rural economy of the district and generates substantial income to rural population.

The live stock population in the district as per 19<sup>th</sup> Live stock census 2012 is tabulated below.

| S.No | Type of Live Stock  | Unit (in Nos ) |
|------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1.   | Cattle /Dzo - Dzomo | 47151          |
| b.   | Horses              | 5534           |
| 2.   | Yak- Demo           | 18877          |
| 3.   | Donkey              | 5296           |
| 4.   | Poultry             | 20829          |
| 5.   | Camel               | 189            |
| 6.   | Mules               | 247            |
| 7.   | Dog                 | 2949           |
| 8    | Rabbits             | 80             |
|      | <b>Total</b>        | <b>101152</b>  |

Source:- Animal Husbandry Department, Leh.

The department of Animal Husbandry is engaged in the development of livestock (other than Sheep and Goats) for which 1 Vety.Hospital, 4 Sub-Units, 32 livestock Development Centres and 07 Vety. Assistant, Surgeon, 7 Intensive developments Centre, 4 Extention Centre & a First Aid Centre have been established. The district is deficient in animal by-products viz; milk, meat, eggs etc.To bridge the gap between production / supply and demand, the department has launched

various development programmes for the overall improvement of the livestock in the district with the major objectives which envisages enhancing magnitude of production, improve quality of produce and reduce the cost of production. The key to success of preserving and improving the production potential of the existing livestock lies in the accomplishment of the objective “Improvement in the quality of animals by improving their genetic traits.”

The department has introduced the artificial insemination through frozen semen technology at all the farms.

For development of fodder, to make the department self sufficient, a chunk of land measuring 1100 kanals has been acquired under the Igoo- Phey command area success of which depends on the said canal. Presently, fodder is being purchased /procured from the private sector which involves a huge amount.

For betterment and taking care of the livestock 41 Farms & Centre of various categories are functioning in the district. The various activities carried out at these centers during 2014-15 is tabulated below: -

| S.No | Type of activity              | Unit (In Nos.) |
|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
|      | <b>Breeding Programme</b>     |                |
| 1.   | Natural coverings             | 1104           |
| 2.   | Artificial Insemination       | 1353           |
|      | <b>Birth recorded</b>         |                |
| 3    | Natural coverings             | 1305           |
| 4.   | Artificial Insemination       | 526            |
|      | <b>Health Care Activities</b> |                |
| 5.   | Vaccination                   | 72366          |
| 6.   | Dosing                        | 14941          |
| 7.   | Other treatment               | 7433           |
|      | <b>Operation performed</b>    |                |
| 8    | Major                         | 473            |
| 9    | Minor                         | 242            |
| 9.   | No.of Animals treated         | 6768           |
| 10.  | Cured                         | 6767           |

Source:- Animal Husbandry Department, Leh.

**Milk Production**

During the year 2014-15, 0.264 lac litres of milk produced at departmental farms and in private sectors 72.723 lac litres of milk produced. During the year 2014-15, 131 number single cow dairy units were distributed amongst the beneficiaries including the entire scheme. This programme has been further strengthened by providing 3000 quintals of cattle feed purchased and distributed amongst the farmer on 30% subsidy of superior quality to such dairy units on subsidized rates. And in the same year, 17 community veterinary workers are working under Rehbar Pashu Palan in the remote and far-flung areas of the district.

**Poultry Production**

Due to dessert and extreme cold climatic conditions in the district, there is not much scope of poultry development in the district. Despite the Animal Husbandry department is trying hard to make poultry rearing as an economic activity in the district. In order to meet the food requirement of chicken and eggs especially during the winter season, this department has developed capacity to rear 7000 eggs in the departmental farms located at Leh, Khaltsi, Nyoma and Nubra. The Defense Research and Development organization has already fabricated an incubator for hatching of eggs at high altitude. At present the chicks are procured from departmental hatchery, Srinagar and central breeding poultry farm, Hariparbad.

During the year 2014-15, 714 Nos. of egg produced in Govt. Sector and no survey conducted on production of eggs in Private sector. 6000 birds were procured from Srinagar/Jammu out of which 5410 were distributed among the beneficiaries for establishment of poultry unit @ 10 birds each. 1,79,970 eggs (857 boxes) were procured from Jammu and sold @ Rs. 125/- per tray during the eve of Losar at all the block.

#### **1.4 SHEEPHUSBANDRY:**

Sheep and goat rearing is mostly concentrated in two blocks of the district viz Nyoma and Durbuk. According to Village paper, the District has 1058 hectares of Permanent Pasture and other grazing land and 27474 hectares of Barren and uncultivable land which shows the scope and potential available for development of sheep and goat.

Number of pasture development scheme in Changthang area has been taken up under district plan and BADP.

As per census report of 2014-15, the population of sheep and goat in the district is given below: -

| <b>S.No</b> | <b>Species</b>     | <b>Unit (In Nos.)</b> |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1           | Pashmina Goats     | 235687                |
| 2           | Non Pashmina Goats | 2685                  |
| 3           | Sheep              | 108937                |
| 4           | Others             | 0                     |
|             | <b>Total</b>       | <b>347309</b>         |

Source:-Sheep Husbandry Department, Leh.

The department of Sheep Husbandry is working for the development of these livestock with the objectives of:

To improve the production of Pashmina, wool, meat etc. by genetic up gradation of animals,

To find out ideal management technique suited to increase the production traits, reproductive traits and to reduce mortality, improve pasture and increase fodder production.

In Changthang region, keeping in view the sturdiness of the sheep with high percentage of meat and wool produce, breeding policy of these animals has been adopted within the breed and in rest of the area cross breeding with Marino sheep are being undertaken so as to increase the production of wool.

Leh district is one of the major producer of the world renowned Pashmina. The product is considered as the best because of its fineness

and length and is the most income generating source which Changthang region contributes in the economic upliftment / development of the district. Keeping in view its exotic breed, selective breeding policy has been adopted by the department in the Changthang region and rest with Angora and Pashmina breeds.

Due to its contribution in the economic development of the district, the department of Sheep Husbandry has established two Pashmina Goat Farms to produce quality pashmina in public sector at Khuril and

Upshi with the target of increasing the quality and quantity to 800-gms/goats. For boosting up the development of this product, at the behest of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh a Pashmina Dehairing Project was established in the district for value addition of the Pashmina at a cost of Rs. 825.00 lacs with the assistance of Ministry of Textiles and UNDP.

The value addition is done only up to dehairing level after which the industry has to take off by using the readily available dehaired Pashmina at the plant.

The plant/dehairing facility functions under the ambit of all Changthang Pashmina growers cooperative society Leh which is the beneficiary of the scheme as a system was envisaged to function under cooperative system (and not under govt. department) when the project was formulated by the GOI.

The price of raw Pashmina has remained very stable during the last three seasons (After the project started functioning at Leh.) and the poor nomads have already realized the benefits coming to them directly or indirectly. This programme has removed the most difficult stage in the processing of Pashmina for value addition and the local industry has been given a good boost by the project. The lives and economy of about 13000 nomads are directly benefited by this project. For betterment and health care, there are 52 sheep Centre, 5 departmental farms and 12 First Aid Centre are functioning in the district during 2014-15.

The various health care and other activities carried out at these centers are tabulated below:-

| <b>S.No</b> | <b>Activities</b> | <b>Unit</b> | <b>Quantity</b> |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1.          | Natural Coverings | Nos.        | 55387           |
| 2.          | Birth Recorded.   | Nos         | 38286           |
| 3.          | Vaccination       | Nos         | 115198          |
| 4.          | Dosing            | Nos         | 533421          |
| 5.          | Dipping.          | Nos         | 415495          |

Source:-Sheep Husbandry Department, Leh

### **1.5-FOREST:**

Out of total geographical area of 45,100 Sq.Kms. forest occupies an estimated area of 29.00 Sq.Kms. in the district .The Forest Division is functioning in the district with the objectives of:

- To augment the production of wood and non-wood forest produce especially fuel wood, small timber, medicinal plants etc. in the forest area.
- To bring about massive plantations/ afforestation in the waste and degraded community and private lands.
- To meet the local requirement of small timber, fodder, fuel wood etc.
- To conserve the high altitude pasture on sustainable basis to augment the production of fodder for the domesticated forage as well as for the wild animals.
- To reduce the pasture on the natural plantations of the area with active involvement of the communities especially by encouraging natural regeneration of Juniper, Seabuckthorn species etc.

Though most of the area of the district lies above tree line but there are many natural trees, shrubs and herbs. The species of Juniper trees, Myricaria Caragana, medicinal and aromatic plants needs special attention to be paid to protect and promote them. To keep watch, promote and propagate the activities the forest division has been divided into four ranges.

During the year 2014-15, the forest department has planted departmental Nurseries by planting 200 Nos. of Poplar and 650 Nos.

of other plants, 3.38 hect. of land under departmental plantation by planting 17100 Nos. of Willow and 100 Nos. Poplars, 4.51 hect. Under community plantation by planting 13450 Nos. of willow, 750 Poplar and 450 Other, 0.70 hect.of land under Institutional Platanation by planting 2000 Nos.of Willow and 0.70 hect. of land under Chief Minister participate Programme by planting 3450 Nos.of plants planted in the district during 2014-15.

### **1.6- SOIL CONSERVATION;**

Soil and water are two important natural resources, which sustain life on this planet of universe. Therefore their conservation is imperative in large interest for survival of the living being. The cataclysmic phenomenons of crippling drought followed by devastating floods have ruined many well-established civilizations.

The department of Soil Conservation came into existence in the district in the year 1990 with the main objective of soil and moisture conservation and research for development. Since its inception, the department is working to develop the in- situ technology for the rehabilitation of erosion prone areas .The variability of the problem in the field at Micro watershed level has been formed as the basic parameter to overcome the soil erosion problem in the area.

During the year 2014-15, 2295.9 hectares of land has been treated through different Soil Conservation measures by integrated micro watershed development, erosion control & protection works, project formulation and on subsidy/incentive at establishment of silvi pastoral closures.

### **1.7 - COOPERATIVE.**

The Cooperative movement was introduced during the 2nd five year plan in Leh District. .However it was only in the 4<sup>th</sup> five year plan the impact of the Cooperatives started to show results. Today the Cooperative occupies a very important place in the economy of the District. This is as a result of active voluntary participation of the people, liberal financial assistance, and positive role of the District administration & relentless dedicated service of the departmental

officials. The main objectives of the Cooperatives in the District are emphasized below:-

1. To ensure availability of essential commodities through a network of District, Block & Village Level Cooperative Societies.
2. To market farmers produce through Cooperative Marketing Societies.
3. To ensure availability of chemical & Bio fertilizer to the farmers.
4. To promote sale of local handicrafts.
5. To procure, process and Marketing of Sea buckthorn.
6. To generate income to local transporters.
7. To procure, dehair & marketing of local Pashmina.
8. To encourage group of entrepreneurs to take up any
9. Commercial activity by registration of Cooperatives under J&K Self Reliant Cooperative Act 1999.

To carry out the above activities there are 99 various types of Cooperative registered under J&K State Cooperative Societies Act 1960/1989 with liberal financial assistance and many Cooperatives registered under J&K Self Reliant Cooperative Societies Act 1999 without any Government financial assistance out of which some of such Cooperatives are doing excellent business & providing services to its members.

The Cooperative Department has made available chemical fertilizer off-take viz Nitrogen 3721.00 qtls. and Phosphorus 2818.50 qtls. during the year 2014-15 and also arranged Bio Fertilizer for trials during the crop season that farmers are motivated to grow organic produce thereby taking a first small step for producing only organic producers per the desire & aspirations of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Leh and also the sale of consumer goods to the public at reasonable rate in urban and rural areas.

## **1.8 - IRRIGATION.**

Irrigation is the most important input for agriculture and an important parameter determining the course of our country. The net area irrigated under various crops in the district in was 9982 hectares during the year 2014-15. Leh district being a mountainous region with arctic desert conditions, experts feel that agriculture without irrigation is not possible, therefore, the barren land under cultivation, where irrigation potential exists. The entire area under cultivation is irrigated.

Being mountainous with arctic desert condition and scanty rainfall in the district, irrigation depends on the eternal glaciers, which give birth to number of rivulets. However, efforts are being made to bring more barren lands under cultivation by constructing irrigation canals on Indus, Shayok and other tributaries.

Igoo-Phey, the most prestigious irrigation canal is spread over 43 kms area in length having 12000 acres of land. The Ist phase up to 25 kms has been completed and about 4000 acres of land can be brought under cultivation. Similarly, Lakjungthang canal has been commissioned and an area of 826 acres is being brought under cultivation.

Further, the Desert Development Agency through the Watershed Development Program is working with the basic objective of land and water resources management for sustainable development of natural resources and community empowerment.

For tapping of sufficient water for irrigation purposes, the village Zamidari canals/Khuls is being strengthened under various schemes of Rural Development Department and water shed development programmes.

## **2.INDUSTRIES/EMPLOYMENT;**

### **2.1 INDUSTRIES**

The District Industries Center, Leh was established in the year 1978 with a view to motivate the educated youths to set up independent units for self-employment. The District Industries Center, Leh gives incentives to the entrepreneurs like interest, subsidy, bank loans, land for industrial sheds and raw materials etc.

The district has not taken her place on the industrial map of the state due to non-availability of raw materials and constant power supply.

The Industries department has registered 20 small-scale units during the year 2014-15 by generating employment opportunities to 94 persons.

### **2.2 EMPLOYMENT AND COUNSELING CENTRE:**

Employment and Counseling centre makes registration of job seekers and also provides coaching for Competitive exams for aspirant and make placement in different Government Department according to their qualifications and skill through District Service Selection Recruiting Board DSSRB Leh.

At the end of the year 2014-15, 2008 Nos. of job seekers were registered by the Employment and Counseling Centre Leh, as break up given below :-

| <b>S. No</b> | <b>Qualifications</b>             | <b>Unit (In Nos.)</b> |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1            | Below Matriculation               | 176                   |
| 2            | Matriculation to 12 <sup>th</sup> | 1032                  |
| 3            | Graduate                          | 406                   |
| 4            | Post graduate                     | 120                   |
| 5            | Engineers Diploma/Degree holders  | 62                    |
| 6            | ITI trained                       | 21                    |
| 7            | Skilled Laborers other than ITI   | 191                   |
|              | <b>Total</b>                      | <b>2008</b>           |

Source:- Dy. Director Employment Leh.

### **Self-Employment Scheme.**

Under Self-Employment Scheme, the Employment & Counseling Leh has sponsored 103 cases to various financial institutions during 2014-15, out of which 85 cases sanctioning loan amount of Rs. 85 lacs was sanctioned under JKSES & 87.69 lacs under PMRY.

Rural Development Department is also executing various poverty alleviation programmes under two broad categories of self Employment Scheme and Wage Employment Schemes sponsored by the central government like Indira Awas Yojna (IAY) and MGNREGA. Under Indira Awas Yojna (IAY) 218 Nos. of below

Poverty Line (BPL) families have been benefited by this Scheme since inception. Under MGNREGA 3.907 lacs mandays were generated during 2014-15.

### **2.3 HANDICRAFT / HANDLOOM.**

The department of Handicraft is functioning in the district with the main objective of imparting training to the youth males and females in various crafts enabling them to establish their unit to minimize burden of employment and to manufacture of end products for revenue realization.

The handicraft departments is running 32 training centers of various crafts and trained 255 candidates during the year 2014-15.

#### **Handloom:-**

The Handloom department is functioning in the district with the main objective of imparting skilled up gradation Training under various handloom activities to utilized locally available raw materials with main stress on pashmina based handloom production.

In view of above objectives, the department has established 31 Training Centers and trained 403 candidates during 2014-15 under various programme.

## **3-ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **3.1 POWER**

Having electrified all the 112 inhabited census villages of the district either by hydro / diesel generation and solar power as tabulated below:-

| S.No | Source of Power | No. of villages electrified<br>During 2014-15 |
|------|-----------------|---|
| 1    | Hydro           | 54  |
| 2    | Diesel          | 42  |
| 3    | Solar           | 6   |
|      | <b>Total</b>    | <b>102</b>                                    |

Source:- Power Development Department, Leh

Yet generation and distribution of power continues to be one of the problematic area due to freezing temperature and other geo- climatic factors causes hindrance in the developmental activities. However, efforts are on to minimize the obstacles by increasing power generation and supply by constructing Power Station (Hydel). 3 MW Igoo- Martselang hydal project HEP is completed during 2005-06. The Nimmo-Alchi project (45 MW) has been completed and commissioned in year 2012. 220 KV transmission line shall be laid from Srinagar to Leh by the Power Grid Cooperation of India, which will provide 160 MW of electricity to the district at a cost of Rs. 300 corers already approved by the government of India.

67 power stations of which (5 hydel and 62 diesel) with an installed capacity of 66.86 MW's has generated 75.53 million units during 2014-15.

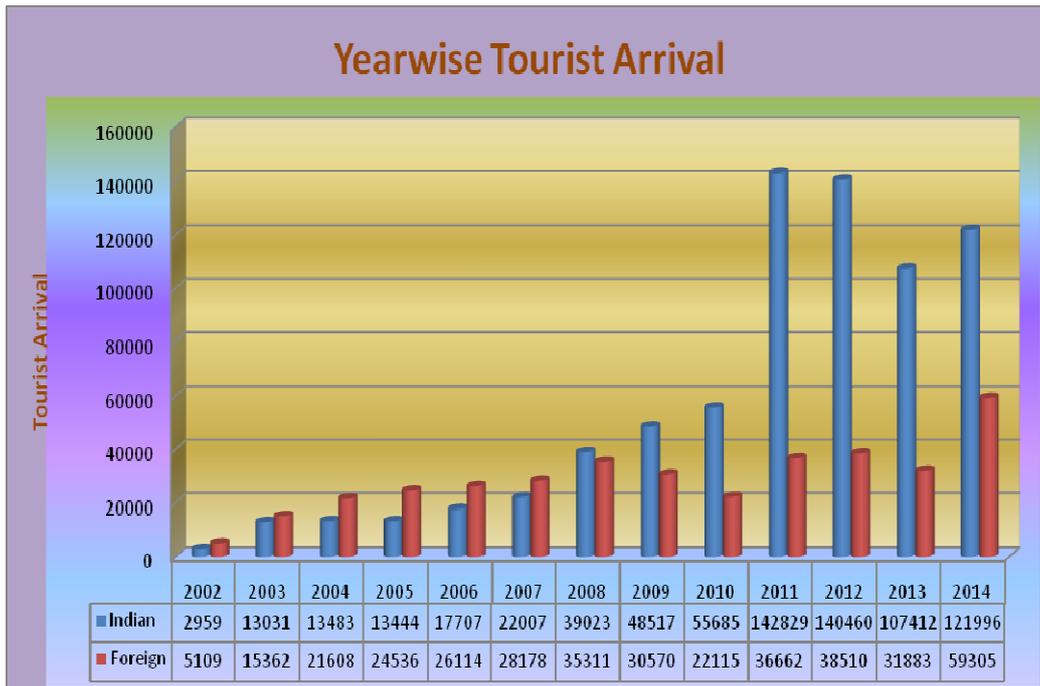
### **3.2 TOURISM.**

Tourism has won a wide recognition as an important industry in the district in view of its potential for creation of employment opportunities and generation of income on a large scale. This industry has a direct bearing on the Socio-economic scene of the district. Tourist industry provides employment to a large number of people engaged in the related sectors like transport, hotels, and catering service, cottage industries etc. Tourism promotes economic activities in remote areas.

Since its opening for the tourism in 1974, Leh has registered an increasing number of tourists attracted towards it because of its landscape, culture, tradition environment etc. and still has much potential for Adventure tourism. The local conditions of the district, is suited to the visitors are also responsible for their attraction. Due to boom in this sector, which constantly attracts the people towards it, helped in the economic development, needs more attention to be paid to create more infrastructures.

During 2014, the department has registered 181301 tourists, of which 121996 are Indian and 59305 are foreigners, which is expected to

increase in the coming years. In the District 190 and 397 Nos. of Hotels and Guest House and 426 travel agencies of various classes are registered with tourism department as on ends March 2014.

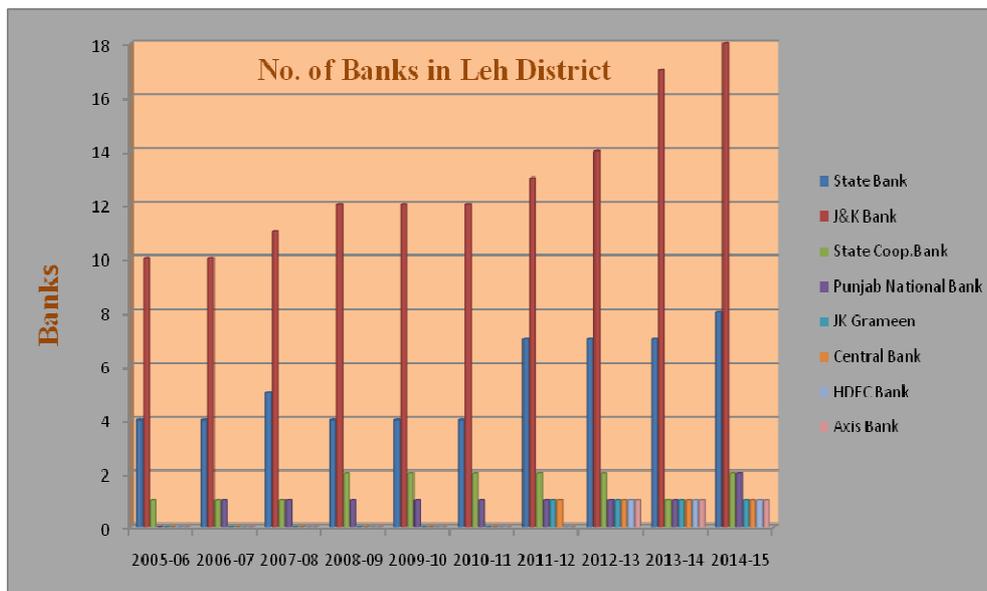


Source:-Tourism Department, Leh.

### **3.3 FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (BANKING)**

Banking system is of strategic importance for the economic development /developing economy. The RBI has introduced the concept of service area approach in consultation with other financial institution w.e.f. April 1989. The necessity of adopting this approach was felt for the dispensation of rural credit in the rural areas with a view to forging an improved link between Bank credit in the rural sector and keeping in view increase in production, productivity and income level of rural people. The main feature of this approach is the emphasis placed on credit planning by the bank branches at grass root level.

During 2014-15, the bank has a deposit of 1794.96 crore and advances/Loans of 451.16 crore.



Source:- Lead Bank

### **3.4 TRANSPORTS AND COMMUNICATION.**

#### **Transport**

The transport service comprises of roads, motor vehicles, civil aviation, railways, and water transport. . All this constituents form the base of economic infrastructure. The adequate availability of this infrastructure leads to rapid economic development, though the railways and water transport does not exist in the district.

The road transport is the major and principle mode of mobility of men and material in the district. Roads are thus considered as arteries of our economy, which plays crucial role in sustain economic growth and is vital for the development of all segments of the society. Due to difficult terrain of the district, it is very difficult to provide road

facilities, however Public Works Department has constructed and maintained substantial road network in the district. During the year 2014-15, a total road length of 106.27 kms has been constructed

/maintained by PWD, the category wise road length is tabulated below:-

**ROADS COUNSTRUCTED AND MAINTAINED BY PWD  
During the Year 2014-15**

| <b>Particular.</b> | <b>Length (Kms.)</b> |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Black topped       | 48.63                |
| Mettled            | 23.64                |
| Shingled.          | 7.60                 |
| Fair weather.      | 26.40                |
| Jeep able.         | 0                    |
| <b>Total.</b>      | <b>106.27</b>        |

Source:- PWD, Leh.

Out of 112 villages of the district, 109 stands connected with the motorable road by ending March 2015.

The Border Road Organization (Project Himank) also contributing a lot in the economic development of the district by constructing /maintaining a huge chunk of road network, connecting the border areas. During the year 2013-14, a total road length of 1554.21 Kms has been constructed/ maintained by the Project Himank in Leh district, but this year the department has not provide the data even after repeated reminder.

**Motor Vehicle**

The number of registered Motor Vehicle has shown a persistent increase over the years. At the end of 31-3-2015 the A.R.T.O Department has registered 6651 Commercial and 6588 Non-Commercial motor vehicles. The breakup of the vehicles registered during the year 2014-15 is as under:

**Number of vehicles registered during the year 2014-15**

| <b>Particular.</b>  | <b>No.of Vehicle Registered</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Tipper/truck        | 82                              |
| Mini Bus            | 18                              |
| Bus                 | 1                               |
| Scooter/Motor Cycle | 272                             |
| Car/Gypsy (Private) | 649                             |
| Gypsy/Jeep (Govt.)  | 38                              |
| Taxi.               | 519                             |
| Tractor (govt./Pvt) | 3                               |
| Ambulance           | 3                               |
| Pickup.             | 265                             |
| Tanker.             | 0                               |
| Others              | 0                               |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>1850</b>                     |

Source:- Motor Vehicle Department, Leh.

The Government Transport Undertaking known as the State Road Transport Corporation is one of the public undertaking and transport agency in the district employing 38 persons in different capacities. The undertaking owns buses operating on 20 routes in the district. During the year under report, the Corporation has carried 74579 passengers earning revenue of Rs.93.72 lacs.

**Civil Aviation**

There are three Airports in the District namely K.G Bakula Airport at Leh and one Army Airport i.e Transit Halt of Indian Soldiers Enroute (THOISE) at Nubra and one Air Field namely DaulatBeg Oldie in Changthang. Leh Airport is connecting the National capital of Delhi and State capital of Srinagar and Jammu. There is service of Jet Airways and Go Air between Leh and Delhi and Air India Service from Delhi, Jammu, and Srinagar.

**Communications.**

Communication is an allied system of transport. The system comprises of post offices and telecommunications. During 2014-15, there is 01 Head post office, 7 sub post offices, 47 branch post offices are functioning in the district for rendering postal services.

Telecommunication facility is one of the most important need of the day, plays a vital role in the development of the area. In the district, there were 5058 telephone connections covering almost all the area of the district. In addition 130160 mobile telephones connections (post paid and pre-paid) working in the district.

**3.5 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**National Informatics Center (NIC)** of IT Ministry setup its district center in Leh in 1990 to promote IT in the district. Since then NIC has provided hardware infrastructure to the district administration and rendered services in IT tools. Email and Internet facilities was first introduce in this remote district by installing Vsats of different series since 1990. Local Area Network and dialup connectivity was established by NIC in DC Office and Hill Council Secretariat.

Since the inception of Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) many steps had been taken in promoting IT culture in Leh district to overcome the poor communication facilities and inaccessibility. Wide Area network through DAMA based Vsat with high-speed data, Video Conferencing and Voice was installed at Hill Council secretariat, DC Office and SDM Office Nyoma (Block). Local

Area network at DC Office and Hill Council secretariat is connected to this high-speed bandwidth connectivity Vsat's.

NIC is helping in procuring and maintaining the ICT hardware's for NIC, District Administration and Ladakh Hill Development council. The software applications developed by NIC J&K State is being implemented in the district. During the year main and important computerization, task taken by the NIC for LAHDC's are: Electoral Roll Computerization, Transport computerization (License and Registration), GPF Computerization besides small Applications) is also being implemented for Police department in the district.

The National e-Governance Action Plan (NEGAP) has identified 22 Mission Mode projects, which are to be implemented in a phased manner over the next two years by the Line Ministers/ Departments concerned at the Central and State level, as applicable, in addition to the various other e-Governance initiatives being taken by the respective states and Central Ministries. State Wide Area Network (SWAN) has been identified as an element of the core infrastructure for supporting these e-Governance initiatives and the Department of Information and Technology (DIT) has earmarked a significant outlay for supporting this activity. Under NEGAP, it is proposed to extend connectivity to the block level through NICNET/ state Wide Area Networks (Swans). The Department of Information Technology through NIC will provide Govt. of India support for the establishment of such infrastructure up to block level.

NIC has established six Community Information Center (CIC) in all the Block Hqs viz **Leh, Kharu , Nubra, Nyoma, Durbuk and khaltsi** as a means to use the benefits of Information technology (IT) to raise the socio-economic conditions of the people of Leh district . These CICs will help the region avail the benefits of global connectivity through Internet and will also help the concerned state government to plan for IT based citizen-centric applications making govt. services available through CICs. Under this project, computers, peripherals along with VSATs for satellite communications are placed at designated locations in each block.

## **SOCIAL SECTORS**

### **4.1 HOUSING**

After food and clothing, shelter is the third pre-requisite for survival of human beings. Housing is basic need of every citizen as it provides economic status and security in the society. A homeless person has neither economic status nor security. Every person is, therefore, desirous to possess the dwelling unit to meet this prime need. Housing is an important parameter to measure the economic well being of the people and has direct bearing in knowing the economic growth of the state. There is number of schemes for making houses for all those who do not have proper housing facility. The Center Govt. providing assistance under centrally sponsored schemes for constructing houses especially for weaker sections of the society. Indra Awaz Yojna (IAY) is one of the most important schemes in this direction. The basic objective of IAY is to help in construction of dwelling units for the members of weaker sections living below poverty line. During the year 2014-15 218 Nos. of such dwelling units were constructed in the district.

### **4.2- EDUCATON.**

It is universally accepted that the education is the important input, which contributes to the national and individual development. Education has a multiplier effect on other Social sectors like Health, Employment, Labour force etc. It improves the quality life of the people and provides opportunities for progress. Keeping in view the enormous values of education, the access to education is a human right in the context of present social and cultural environment. Therefore, the human resources development needs sufficient investment in education, as it is the education that enhances the knowledge, skills of the people and enables them to participate fully in the development process. In this way education can have a good amount of help in the poverty alleviation and society as well.

Aiming at to impart education to all the school going age children of the district with teaching learning facilities, the Education Department has created infrastructure of schools in every corner so that no one be

left without the basic need of the era and at the behest of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill development Council, the Education has accorded the priority sector of the development. The literacy rate of the district records as 77% as per 2011 census.

By the end of 2014-15, a network of 401 institutions of various categories are functioning which has an enrolment of **21776** students as per following details: -

| S.No | Type of Institution        | Unit in Nos. | Enrolment    |              |
|------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|      |                            |              | Total        | Female       |
| 1    | Govt.College               | 2            | 569          | 457          |
| 2    | High School                | 32           | 1697         | 893          |
| 3    | Higher secondary           | 14           | 2311         | 1465         |
| 4    | Middle Schools             | 127          | 3336         | 1771         |
| 5    | Primary schools            | 186          | 1682         | 875          |
|      | <b>Total</b>               | <b>361</b>   | <b>9595</b>  | <b>5461</b>  |
|      | <b>Private Institution</b> |              |              |              |
| 1    | High School                | 1            | 6606         | 3399         |
| 2    | Higher Sec. School         | 14           | 2113         | 1094         |
| 3    | Middle                     | 15           | 1562         | 767          |
| 4    | Primary                    | 6            | 787          | 418          |
|      | <b>Total</b>               | <b>36</b>    | <b>11068</b> | <b>5678</b>  |
|      | <b>Central Institution</b> |              |              |              |
| 1.   | Higher School              | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| 2.   | Hr.Sec. School             | 3            | 785          | 415          |
| 3    | Middle                     | 1            | 328          | 170          |
|      | Primary                    | 0            | 0            | 0            |
|      | <b>Total</b>               | <b>4</b>     | <b>1113</b>  | <b>585</b>   |
|      | <b>Grand Total</b>         | <b>401</b>   | <b>21776</b> | <b>11724</b> |

Source:- Chief Education Office Leh.

During the year 2014-15, there was 1903 teaching staff engaged in Govt. School for imparting education in the district.

Besides, 36 private institutions (schools) are also busy in imparting education to the student's enrolment of which is stood at 11068 during the year 2014-15.

Further, for higher education a Degree College Leh is functioning with an enrolment of 533 students, of which the female role was 426 and Degree College Nubra is functioning with an enrolment of 36 students, of which the female role was 31. To attract the children of under privileged and weaker section of the society towards education free schooling facility, scholarships, free uniform and other incentives have been provided spending a handsome amount.

Since for the last six years, at the behest of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh, schools of the remotest and educationally backward areas like Durbuk, Lingshet Nyoma and Korzok etc. has been centralized with free boarding, lodging and teaching learning facilities which really is an honest and dedicated step towards education and will prove to produce educated youths from the remotest corners of the district. At the end of March 2008, there are six Centralized Residential Schools in the district.

During 2014-15, 614 students were appeared in Matriculation Examination, out of which only 450 students were declared passed. Thus, the pass percentage was recorded as 73.29 % as compared to 60% during the year 2013-14

#### **4.3- HEALTH.**

Since 1940, when the first Medical center with indoor facility was established at Leh, achievements in respect of providing comprehensive health care facilities in all the three major health component viz Preventive, Promotive and Curative through a network of 218 institutions with minimum required basic infrastructure facilities, 90 % of which are located in government buildings are tremendous. The department is working with the main program to reduce morbidity of different diseases prevailing in the district, to provide better treatment facilities, control and prevention of communicable diseases, imparting health education etc.

The SNM Hospital having bed strength of 300 is the only peripheral institution, fully equipped with modern sophisticated machineries and equipments and centrally heated. The SNMHospital is well known at the National level for the sincere / dedicated team of specialists/ doctors, nursing and other Para medical staff. The hospital is linked with the AIIMS and other reputed health institutions of the country through the Tele- medicine system, which enables the doctors to consult the super specialists for treatment of patients. During the year 2007-08, C.T Scan machine has been purchased/installed in SNM Hospital Leh at a cost of Rs 2.50 crore under the grant provided by the TATA Trust and Dorabji TATA Trust has made the Leh district hospital one of the best district hospital among the other district hospital in the state. The purchase of the machine has not only provided the people of Ladakh a new hope for early detection of the disease and for which the patient has to travel outside the district and cost them a huge amount, which have great advantage specially for the poor who are not in position to get them to Delhi or any other places. Besides providing this facility the cost involved in carrying out various scan has been very subsidized.

With the commissioning of the Sub- District Hospital building at Diskit (Nubra) during 2002-03, which is centrally heated, constructed at a cost of Rs.12.75 corers, has bed strength of 50 with X-ray, Ultra sound, Dental unit and Laboratory facilities available.

It is the health department, Leh who first introduced immunization system in the State during 1980's when first dose of measles vaccination has been introduced resulting in controlling rather eradicating measles from the district due to which mass mortality of children happen to occur. Since then, now the time has come when all sorts of vaccination are being carried out throughout the district by trained para medical staff. During the year under report 2210 children of below 5 years were vaccinated against BCG and 6226 children were brought under pulse polio immunization programme.

Other activities carried out by the health department during 2014-15 are tabulated below: -

| <b>S.No</b> | <b>Activities</b>         | <b>Unit (In Nos.)</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.          | Indoor Patient Treated    | 13824                 |
| 2.          | Outdoor Patient Treated   | 365997                |
| 3.          | Major Operation Performed | 1513                  |
| 4.          | Minor Operation Performed | 8504                  |
|             | Sterilization             | 41                    |

Source: - Chief Medical Officer, Leh.

#### **4.4-WATER SUPPLY (PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING)**

Availability of safe drinking water is the basic minimum requirement for healthy living. For Human health and well-being, the importance of safe drinking water supply can be described next to air. The Public health engineering department is making strenuous efforts for providing this facility to the population though in the rough & uneven trend and extremely low temperature is a daunting and formidable task. All the 112 inhabited census villages were covered fully/partially under portable water supply. In Leh town the drinking water is provided by tapping the Indus water by constructing tube wells and from other sources of Gylung and samkar tube well. Drinking water is also provided by using tanker service at many localities of the town.

#### **4.5 RURAL SANITATION**

Provision of sanitation facilities is another basic requirement for the healthy living. Sanitation problem is posing threat and is a health related problem. Many communicable diseases prevail because majority of rural population live in un-hygienic and in poor sanitation conditions using un-safe drinking water. To prevent these communicable diseases and to save the population from spread of epidemics adoption of improved sanitation becomes all the more necessary measure. With this view rural sanitation programme has been launched in the district since 1995.

## **WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT.**

### **4.6 SOCIAL WELFARE.**

The department of Social Welfare plays a vital role in the upliftment and welfare of women, children, under privileged, down trodden and vulnerable sections of the society with the main objective of providing social security and welfare services .The social castes, economically weaker section, deserted women, physically handicapped are the target groups.

Monetary assistances are being given to the students of poor, ST/ other backward classes by way of pre matric scholarship to boost their morale towards education which is the basic need for development. Similarly, prosthetic aid and other financial assistance are being provided to the physically handicapped persons and other persons for specialized treatment besides financial assistance to widows, divorcees, old aged etc.

The department has established one Bal Ashram and a Nari Niketan with an intake capacity of 50 and 25 respectively to facilitate the orphan and neglected children with free boarding/ lodging, schooling facilities besides having a Ladies Vocational Center to train the poor and un employed women in various trades to establish their own income generating units for livelihood.

During the year 2014-15 an amount of Rs.65.54 lacs has been disbursed among 1889 eligible beneficiaries as Integrated Social Security (old age pension) scheme, an amount of Rs. 53.86 lacs has been disbursed among 1166 beneficiaries as Indira Gandhi National Old age Pension (IGNOAPS), an amount of Rs. 9.08 lacs was disbursed among 152 widows under Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), an amount of Rs. 7.36 lacs has been disbursed among 125 beneficiaries as Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) and amount of Rs. 1.20 lacs has been disbursed among 6 beneficiaries. In addition, an amount of Rs. 17.00 lacs was disbursed among 1835 students under pre-metric scholarship.

#### **4.7 CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

In order to take special care to the children especially belonging to the poor and down trodden families as those children do not enjoy the basic minimum needs of life like food, education, and to minimize the incidence of morbidity, mortality and school drop outs, the Govt. of India has formulated a scheme as Integrated Child Development service (ICDS). Under this scheme a package of child development service such as supplementary nutrition, immunization, pre-school education, health care and referred services are provided in an integrated manner to these children both before and after their birth in their villages. The scheme was first introduced/evolved in the year 1975 with following aims and objectives: -

To improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age group of 0-6 years.

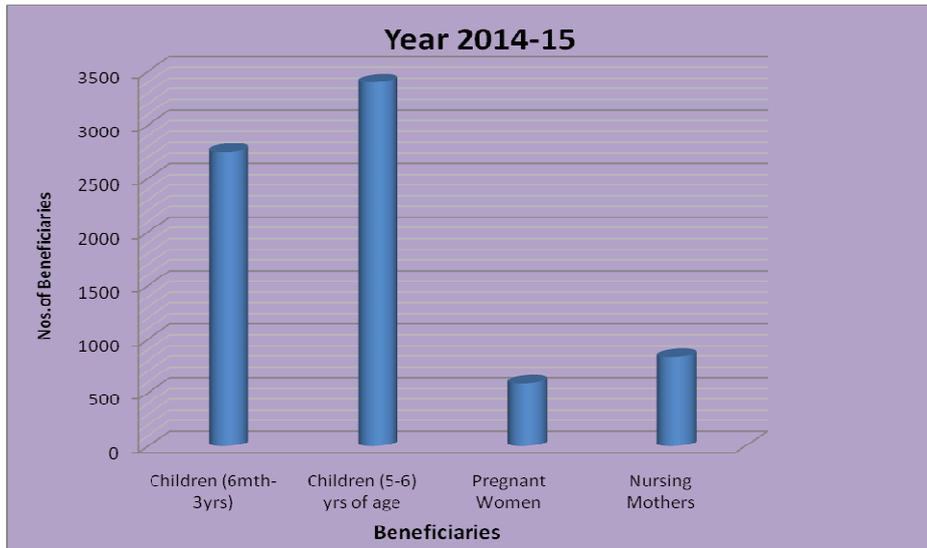
To lay foundation for proper physical, psychological and social development of the child.

To reduce the incidence of malnutrition, morbidity, mortality and school drop outs.

To enhance the capability of women folk to take proper care of normal health and nutritional needs of the children.

In Leh district, the ICDS was first introduced in the year 1980. Since its inception to the date, the ICDS programme in Leh district also got momentum. At the end of March 2015, there were 484 Anganwari centers functioning in the district. Six Child Development Officers, one at each block with supporting staff is functioning to look after these centers. Each Anganwari center is provided an Anganwari worker and a helper.

112 villages were covered under the ambit of ICDS by ending March 2015 in the district. The coverage of beneficiaries during 2014-15 is given below: -



Source:- ICDS Leh.