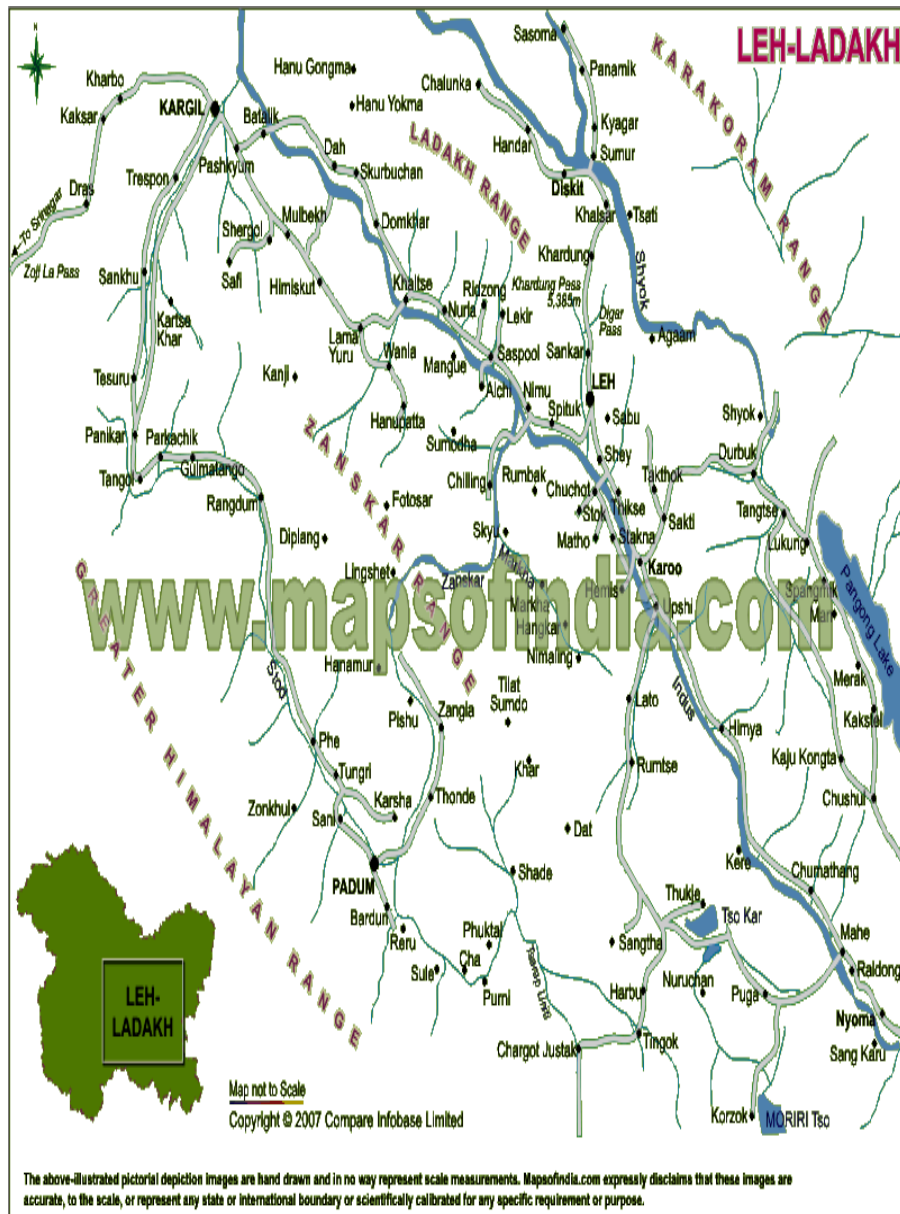


## **HISTORY**

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 Immigrants 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 Immigrants 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.

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 country since the middle of the 10<sup>th</sup> century.



King Singge Namgyal had consolidated the Ladakhi Empire into a strong kingdom. He was not only a 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.

In the ancient times the present Leh district was a part of Greater Ladakh spread over from Kailash Mansarover to Swaat (Dardistan). The Greater Ladakh was neither under the Domain of Tibet or its influence. Not much information is available about the ancient History of Ladakh. However, reference about the place and its neighbourhood in Arab, Chinese and Mongolian histories gives an idea that in the 7th Century A.D fierce wars were fought by Tibet and China in Baltistan area of the Greater Ladakh in which deserts and barren mountains of Ladakh was turned into battle fields for the warring armies.

In the 8th century A.D Arabs also jumped into these wars and changed their sides between China and Tibet. Around this period, the ruler of Kashmir, Lalitaditya conquered Ladakh. In the 8th Century A.D itself, The Arabs conquered Kashghar and established their control over Central Asia which embraced Islam in the 9th century A.D and thus a buffer state came into being between Tibet and China, terminating the hostilities between the two warring countries. The Greater Ladakh also fell into pieces.

A thousand years ago before the control of Tibet's rule, King Skitde Nemagon, ruled over Ladakh which was known as Muryul (Red Country), as most of the mountains and the soil in Ladakh wears a red tinge. In the 10th Century A.D Skitday Nemagon, along with a couple of hundred men, invaded Ladakh where there was no central authority. The Land was divided in small principalities, which were at war with each other. Nemagon defeated all of them and established a strong central authority. Those days Shey, was the capital of Ladakh became to be known as Narikorsom, a country of three provinces. The present Ladakh was divided into two provinces while the third comprised western Tibet. The area of western Tibet slipped away from the kingdom but was reunited in 16th Century A.D. by the famous Ladakhi ruler Sengge Namgyal. Ladakh was an independent country since the middle of 10th century.

In the post-partition scenario, Pakistan and China illegally occupied 78,114 sq. km and 37,555 sq.km of the state, respectively while the remaining part of the state acceded to India. Pakistan also illegally gifted 5180 sq.kms of this area to China. Ladakh, comprising the areas of present Leh and Kargil districts, became one of the seven districts of the State. In 1979 when the reorganization of the districts was carried out, the Ladakh district was divided into two full fledged district of Leh and Kargil

### **GEOGRAPHICAL:-**

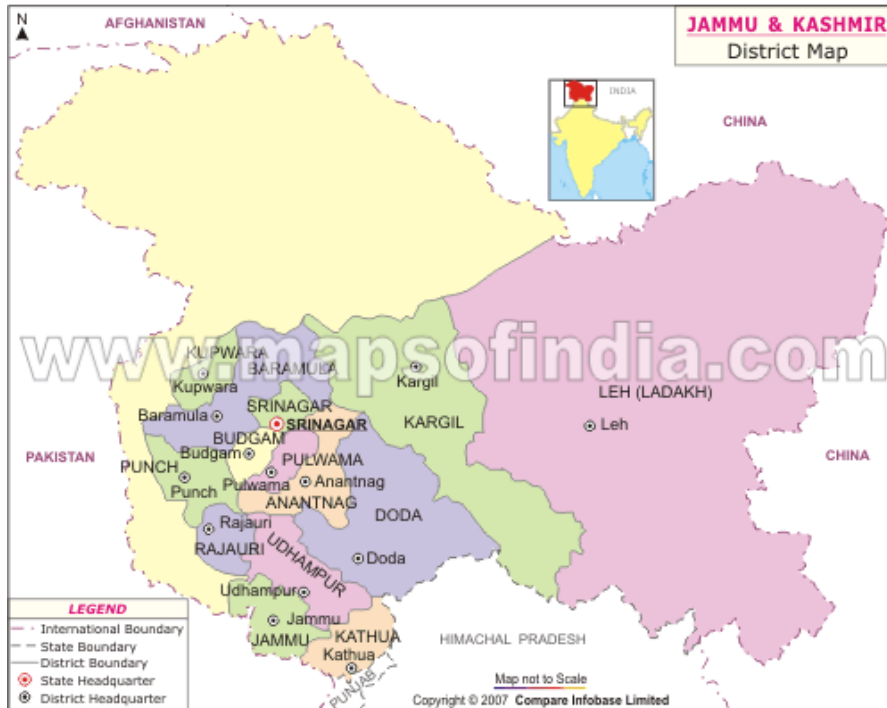
District Leh is situated roughly between 32 to 36 degree north latitude and 75 to 80 degree East longitude and altitude ranging from 2300 mtrs to 5000 mtrs above sea level. District Leh with an area of 45100 Sqs Kms makes it 2<sup>nd</sup> largest district in the country after Kutch (Gujrat) with an area 45652 Sqs Kms in terms of area. the district is bounded by Pakistan occupied Kashmir in the west and china in the north and eastern part and Lahul Spiti of Himachal Pardesh in the south east. It is at a distance of 434 Kms from State capital (Summer) Srinager and 474 Kms from Manali(HP).

Topographically, the whole of the district is mountainous with three parallel ranges of the Himalayas, the Zanskar, the Ladakh and the Karakoram. Between these ranges, the Shayok, Indus and Zanskar rivers flow and most of the population lives in valleys of these rivers.

According to the provisional geographical area figures supplied by Surveyor General of India, the total area of Leh district is 82,665sq. Kms. Out of the total area of 37,555 sq.kms is under the illegal occupation of China leaving 45110 sq. kms with India. As per the village Papers, the area under the occupation of India is 44,000 sq. Kms only

The district is divided into 9 CD Blocks namely Leh, Khaltsi, Nyoma, Durbuk, Kharu, Nubra, Saspol, Panamic and Chuchot and divided into 03 tehsil namely Leh, Sumoor and Khaltsi. Leh is the district headquarter and the only township in the district. There are 93 panchayat halqa in the district. Whole district has

been declared as a tribal district. The district administration is headed by Deputy Commissioner. Who is assisted by three S D M of Nubra, Khaltsi and Nyoma.



### **POLITICAL SET-UP:-**

Politically, the district is governed by the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh having a strength of 30 councillors ( 26 elected and 04 nominated) which is being headed by the chairman/Chief Executive councillor (rank of State Cabinet Minister) who is assisted by four Executive councillors since 1995 working within the frame work of the constitution of India/Jammu and Kashmir. District has two seats (Leh and Nubra) in J&K assembly and one Member of Parliament who is also the representative of Kargil district.

**CULTURE:-**

The District is famous for its rich cultural heritage and Honesty. It is popularly known as land of monks and monasteries. People of all the communities live here with complete harmony, free from any prejudice. Buddhist is the dominant religion in the district followed by Muslim. District has also thin population of Christian and Hindus.

Ladakhi language is spoken by the majority of the inhabitants of the district, except the minor tribal community of Aryan race living in the valley of Dha- Hanu.

Jabro, Shondol, Marriage Dance and Kampa Sumsak are some of the well known traditional dance and Zunglu, Tallu, Marriage songs and Alley Yato are well known folk songs of Ladakh.

**DEMOGRAPHIC FEATURES:-**

Leh with an area of 45110 Sq. Km; which probably makes it largest district in the country in terms of area is one of the coldest and most elevated inhabited region of the world having 112 inhabited and 1 uninhabited villages. As per census 1991 population of the district is estimated as 0.895 lacs. which is risen to 1.17 lacs during census 2001. Population growth rate of 29.97% has been recorded during the decade 1991-2001 in the district. As per 2001 census 75.57% population is residing in the rural area. The biggest ethnic group is Buddhist having 77.30% of population followed by Muslims with 13.78% and Hindus with 8.16%. The main working force account for 33.07% to the total population where as marginal workers account for 16.50 % and non-workers 49.58%. The main occupation engaging the working force is cultivation (37.92%), agriculture labour (4.28%), household industry (1.24%) and other works (56.56%). Details of population by tehsils, blocks, rural and urban areas, etc are given in the chapter.

**Total population of the district**

Census year	Rural/urban	Total population		
		Persons	Male	females
1961	Total	43587	21686	21901
	Rural	39867	19837	20030
	Urban	3720	1849	1871
1971	Total	51891	25919	25972
	Rural	46372	23054	23318
	Urban	5519	2865	2654
1981	Total	68380	36248	32132
	Rural	59662	31216	28446
	Urban	8718	5032	3686
1991 (Estimated)	Total	89474	47421	42053
	Rural	79577	41982	37595
	Urban	9897	5239	4658
2001	Total	117232	64306	52926
	Rural	88593	46534	42059
	Urban	28639	17772	10867

**Growth of Population.**

Decade	Decennial Growth of Population Percentage	
	District	J & K State
1901-11	+212.45	+7.16
1911-21	+1.31	+5.75
1921-31	+4.78	+10.14
1931-41	+5.33	+10.36
1941-51	+8.30	+10.42
1951-61	+7.66	+9.44
1961-71	+18.65	+29.65
1971-81	+31.96	+29.69
1981-91	+31.91	+30.34
1991-2001	+29.97	+29.98

## Population by Blocks

Block	Rural/ Urban	Number Enumerated					
		2001 Census			2010 (Projected)		
		Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Leh	(i Rural /urban	18101 28639	9737 17772	8364 10867	22920 35324	12329 21921	10591 13403
Chuchot		13819	7486	6333	17498	9479	8019
Kharu		7063	3531	3532	8943	4471	4472
Nyoma		8769	4544	4225	11103	5754	5349
Durbuk		4675	2418	2257	5920	3062	2858
Nobra (Diskit)		11951	6194	5757	15132	7843	7289
Panamic		5416	2800	2616	6857	3545	3312
Khaltsi		14066	7339	6727	17810	9292	8518
Saspol		4733	2485	2248	5992	3146	2846
Total		117232	64306	52926	148437	81424	67013

Leh District as per <b>census 2001</b>			
	<b>Persons</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
ST Population	96174	49608	46566
SC Population	618	566	52
Literacy rate	65.30	75.60	52.70
Sex Ratio	823		
Main Occupation	Agriculture		
Per capita Income	17555		
Household	24147		
Population density	3 person		
Buddhist Population	90618		
Muslim Population	16156		
Hindu Population	9573		
Other Population	885		

Leh District Rank Last (22th) in Population size among the all district of J&K as per census 2001 and Rank (4<sup>th</sup>) in literacy rate after the Jammu, Samba and Srinagar as per the estimated(2008).



**CLIMATE:-**

Ladakh lies on the rain shadow side of the Himalayan, where dry monsoon winds reaches Leh after being robbed of its moisture in plains and the Himalayas mountain the district combines the condition of both arctic and desert climate. Therefore Ladakh is often called “COLD DESERT”.

The main features of cold desert are:-

1. Wide diurnal and seasonal fluctuation in temperature with  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  in winter and  $+35^{\circ}\text{C}$  in summer
2. Precipitation is very low with annual precipitation of 10cm mainly in form of snow.
3. Air is very dry and relative humidity range from 6-24%
4. Irrigation is mainly through channels from the glacier-melted.

Precipitation  
(mm/cm)

Month	Year				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Jan	58mm (S)	29 mm (S)	-----	21.1cm(S)	6.6 cm(S)
Feb	135.5mm (S)	115 mm (S)	4.1mm (S)	2.5 cm (S)	2 cm (S)
March	16.5mm (S)	-	0.4mm(S)	NIL	0.5 cm(S)
April	87mm (S)	24 mm (R)	-----	6.6 mm (R)	NIL
May	0.4mm (R)	-	-----	8.7mm(R)	NIL
June	2.7mm (R)	-	5.2mm(R)	0.9mm(R)	4.4mm(R)
July	28mm (R)	-	11.4mm(R)	10.3mm(R)	3 mm(R)
August	----	78 mm (R)	-----	23.9mm(R)	5.5 mm(R)
September	----	50 mm (R)	-----	23.5mm(R)	10 mm(R)
October	----	-	-----	Nil	4 mm(R)
November	----	3 mm (S)	-----	Nil	19 cm (S)
December	----	61.5 mm (S)	-----	1.0 cm (S)	3 cm (S)

Source:- Defence institute of High Altitude Research, C/o 56 APO

## WILDLIFE

The **flora and fauna of Ladakh** was first studied by [Ferdinand Stoliczka](#), an [Austrian/Czech palaeontologist](#), who carried out a massive expedition in the region in the 1870s. The fauna of Ladakh have much in common with that of [Central Asia](#) generally, and especially those of the [Tibetan](#) Plateau. An exception to this are the birds, many of which migrate from the warmer parts of India to spend the summer in Ladakh. For such an arid area, Ladakh has a great diversity of birds — a total of 225 species have been recorded. Many of these birds reside or breed at high-altitude wetlands such as [Tso Moriri](#).

### Birds



The [Black-necked Crane](#), one of the most charismatic birds of Ladakh

Many species of finches, robins, redstarts (like the [Black Redstart](#)) and the [Hoopoe](#) are common in summer. The [Brown-headed Gull](#) is seen in summer on the river Indus, and on some

lakes of the [Changthang](#). Resident water-birds include the [Brahminy duck](#) also known as the [Ruddy Sheldrake](#), and the [Bar-headed Goose](#) (Ladakhi: *ngangpa*). The [Black-necked Crane](#) (*trhung-trhung*) is a rare species found scattered in the Tibetan plateau, and is also found nesting in summer in parts of Ladakh. Other birds include the [Raven](#), [Red-billed Chough](#) (*chungka*), [Tibetan Snowcock](#) and [Chukar](#) (a partridge, *srakpa*)<sup>[1]</sup>. The [Lammergeier](#) and the [Golden Eagle](#) are common raptors here.

### **Mammals**



The [ibex](#) (Ladakhi: *skin*) is found in high craggy terrain of Europe, North Africa and Asia, and numbers several thousand in Ladakh: trekkers often spot them. The [Bharal](#) or "blue sheep" (*napo*) is even more common, ranging in the Himalayas from Ladakh east as far as [Sikkim](#). The Tibetan Urial sheep (*shapo*) is a rare goat found at lower elevations, mostly in river valleys, and therefore is often directly in competition with domesticated animals. They are now rare, numbering about one thousand. The Tibetan Argali sheep (*nyan*) is a relative of the Marco Polo sheep of the Pamirs. Impressive animals with huge horizontal curving horns, they are extremely rare in Ladakh, numbering only a couple hundred, but they do have a wide range throughout mountainous areas of the Chinese Provinces of [Xinjiang](#), [Qinghai](#), and [Gansu](#). The habitat of the extremely rare Tibetan Gazelle (*gowo*) is near the Tibetan border in southeastern Ladakh. The musk deer (*lhawa*) has not been seen in Ladakh for decades if not generations.

The [Tibetan Antelope](#), (Ladakhi: *tsos*, Indian English *chiru*) is also endangered. Early in the 20th century the *chiru* was seen in herds of thousands, surviving on remarkably sparse vegetation, but they are vanishingly rare now. It has been hunted for its fine under-wool (Urdu: *shahtoosh*, Ladakhi: *tsoskul*), which must be pulled out by hand, a process done after the animal is killed. This *shahtoosh* is valued in South Asia for its light weight and warmth, but more than anything else, as a status symbol. Owning or trading in *shahtoosh* is now illegal in most countries.

The Tibetan Wild Ass ([Ladakhi](#): *kyang*) is one animal that visitors can expect to see from the comfort of a vehicle, if they take a jeep tour on the Changthang. Favouring the rolling grasslands of this area, their natural curiosity makes them fairly easy to spot, despite the relatively low numbers, about 1500 individuals.



About 200 [Snow leopards](#), an [endangered species](#), are believed to live in Ladakh

The [Snow Leopard](#) ([Ladakhi](#): *shan*) once ranged throughout the Himalaya, Tibet, and as far as the Sayan mountains on the Mongolian-Russian border; and in elevation from 1800 m to 5400 m. They are extremely shy and hard to spot, and as such not well known. It is believed there are about 200 in Ladakh. While tourists are unlikely to see leopards themselves, during winter the footprints and other marks are not uncommon. Other cats in Ladakh are even rarer than the snow leopard: the [Lynx](#) (*ee*), numbering only a few individuals, and the Pallas's cat, which looks somewhat like a house cat. The Tibetan Wolf

(*shangku*) is the greatest threat to the livestock of the Ladakhis and as such is the most persecuted. There are only about 300 wolves left in Ladakh. There are also a very few *brown bears* (*drenmo / tret*) in the Suru valley and the area around Dras. The red fox is common, and [Tibetan Sand Fox](#) has recently been discovered in this region (both: *watse*).

Among smaller animals, marmots ([Ladakhi](#): *pheya*) are common; you can even sometimes see them from the road, although they do not look very different from the marmots common to other mountainous areas of the world. There are also plenty of hares (*ribong*), and several types of voles and pika (both: *rdzabra / zabra*).

### **APPROACH ROADS**

Ladakh is called the Hermit Kingdom due to its remoteness and inaccessibility. Ladakh is connected to the main land through two roads namely Leh-Srinagar national highway and Leh-Manali road. These two roads remain open only during summer months and during the winter it remains closed for more than 7 months due to closure of the passes (Zojila, Rotang Pass, Baralacha, Changla) . Leh District is connected to the Block Headquarter by roads, through a network of roads. The average distance of the block headquarter from Leh is 180 Kms. Bus services and other means of communication is very poor. Border roads organization maintains most of the highway connecting the block head quarter and PWD maintains a road length of 1060 Kms. As some of the roads to the block head quarter pass through the world highest motorable roads, it is frequently closed due to the avalanches and snowfall in the passes. Durbuk block and Nubra Block remains closed in winter months due to closure of Khardongla and the Changla Pass.

The transport service comprises of roads, motor vehicles, civil aviation, railways, and water transport. . All these 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 sustaining 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. Out of 113 villages of the district, 97 stands connected with the motorable road by ending March 2009.

The Border Road Organization (Project Himank) is also contributing a lot in the economic development of the district by constructing /maintaining a huge chunk of road network, connecting the border areas.

JKSRTC provides services from Srinagar to Leh (434Kms) which takes two days and HRTC provides services from Manali to Leh (474Kms) which takes about 20hours or two days if you halt in between. Private taxies also operates between Leh-Srinagar and Leh-Manali everyday.

### **AIR SERVICES**

Then the only route accessible to Ladakh during the winter is air, Indian Air Lines operates daily flight services form Leh to Delhi and return besides Jet airway and airgo. Moreover in winter months the air services is not frequent as there are too many cancellations of flights due to fog in Delhi and snowfalls in Leh. Life in Ladakh comes to a stand still in winter months and remains cut off from the rest of the world.

There are two Airports in the district namely K.G Bakula Airport at Leh and army Airport at Thoise Nubra. Leh airport connects the national capital of Delhi and state capital of Srinagar and Jammu.

**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. Tourism industry provides employment to a large number of people engaged in the related sectors like transport, Hotels and catering service, cottage industry etc. Tourism promotes economic activities in the remote areas.

Since its opening for the tourist (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.

Leh figures on the international tourist map and attracts a large inflow of tourists both from home and abroad. The economy of the region is therefore, based on tourism. That is why Leh is abounds in Hotels, guest houses and taxis. There are 250 hotels, guest house of different classes in Leh..

Hemis, Alchi, Lamayuru, Shey and Thiksay are some of the most popular monasteries of Ladakh which attract both domestic as well as foreign tourist. Pangong lake (Half in China) and world highest motorable road Khardongla (18350 fts) is main attraction for domestic tourist. and monasteries and mountains are for foreign tourist.

The district has 49 and 28, A class and B Class Hotel respectively and 366 Nos. of Guest House and 240 Travel agent. also the district has 7704 beds in Guest house and Hotels as on ending 2008

## Nationality-wise Tourist Arrival

S. No	Nationality	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1	Canadian	655	636	823	785	409
2	American	2123	2313	290	1909	1654
3	French	3798	3777	3920	3677	2974
4	German	1924	1813	2585	1872	1380
5	Swiss	960	1017	1279	867	770
6	Australian	621	763	848	818	398
7	English	2160	2000	3095	2605	1272
8	Italian	1657	1987	2204	1980	720
9	Others	12216	13872	20267	16057	12538
10	Indian	17707	22007	39023	48517	55685
	Total	43821	50185	74334	79087	77800

**CROPPING PATTERN AND IRRIGATION:-**

Agriculture is the main occupation of the rural people of the district. Grim (Barley) is major food grain crop in the district. Wheat, pulses, oil seeds and other Millets are also grown. The other major crop is fodder, particularly Alfa-Alfa. Vegetable cultivation has also gained importance of late. Under Horticulture, Apple and Apricot are major fruit crops.

**FOREST:-**

Due to its altitude above tree line, Ladakh presents a look of a cold desert. In spite of such a great natural constraint Forest Department Leh is trying its best to bring more and more areas under green coverage. The main objective is to bridge the gap between demand and supply of timber and firewood in the region, protect forest resources in river valleys, to check soil erosion and above all to arrest deserted situation of the district.



Out of total geographical area of 45,100 Sq.Kms. forest occupies an estimated area of 29.00 Sq.Km. in the district. Now a days, people of district planting more and more trees.

Procurement of Timbers and Firewood during the year 2010 is depicted in the table below:-

Firewood (Quintals)	Timber(Cubic feet)				
	Kail	Fir	Silver kail	Supriou s	Total
4576.40	4780.15	13892.40	61558.14	31551.72	111782.31

### **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. Shayok and Zaskar river which are tributaries of Indus river, which is originated from Mount Kailash in Tibet. A considerable portion of this river flows through our neighboring nations.

### **PRESENCE OF ARMY UNIT:-**

The presence of Army units in Leh district is a boon for the local population. The Army is virtually bringing about a socio-economic revolution in the region. It has provided a ready market for vegetables, fruit and meat. The army is also extending necessary exposure and training to rural youth and women folk to help them to take up income generating activities. The ministry of defense, DRDO has set up a field Research Lab (FRL) now renamed as DIHAR in Leh to research new techniques in agriculture and allied activities and to propagate the same amongst local farmers so as to satisfy maximum needs of army from local supply in Ladakh itself.

**EDUCATION AND LITERACY:-**

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 65.30% as per 2001 census.

By the end of 2009-10, a network of 351 institutions of various categories are functioning which has an enrolment of 10029 students as per following details: -

S. No	Type of Govt. Institution	No. of institution	Enrolment	
			Total	Female
1	Degree college Leh	01	329	263
2	High/Higher secondary	38	3684	2058
3	Middle Schools	129	4312	2309
4	Primary schools	183	1704	876
	<b>Total</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>10029</b>	<b>5506</b>
	<b>Type of Pvt. Institution</b>			
1	High/Higher secondary	11	6352	3174
2	Middle Schools	13	2582	1230
3	Primary schools	10	528	249
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9462</b>	<b>4653</b>

To attract the children of under privileged and weaker sections 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.

### **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 net work of 189 institutions with minimum required basic infrastructure facilities, 90 % of which are located in government building 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.

Number of Medical Institutions

District Hospitals	Sub-distt. Hospitals	PHC	Dispensaries		Family Welfare Centres/ Sub-Centres	Centres. Medical Aid	others	Total
			Allopathic	Ayurvedic				
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>189</b>

The SNM Hospital having a bed strength of 150 is the only peripheral institution, fully equipped with modern sophisticated machineries and equipment's, centrally heated 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.

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.

Other activities carried out by the health department during 2009-10 are tabulated below:

S.No	Activities	Magnitude (In Nos.)
1.	Indoor Patient Treated	7987
2.	Outdoor Patient Treated	315229
3.	Major Operation Performed	970
4.	Minor Operation Performed	3720
5.	Sterilization	17

Further to Allopathic system of treatment/ medicine, the department provides traditional Amchi system of medicine for which 40 Amchies have been engaged.

#### **AGRICULTURE:-**

Agriculture is the backbone of the district economy as it engaged over 70% of the working force mostly as cultivators, agricultural labourers and livestock rearers, yet this sector has been now affected by the service sector especially Tourism as it attracts the people constantly. According to 2001 census, the work participation has reduced by 0.3%. Only 37.92% of the working force constitutes Cultivator whereas 4.85% (1981 census) are engaged in Livestock, hunting and forestry.

### **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.

19 branches comprising the 4 branches of State Bank of India, 12 branches of J&K bank , 02 state Cooperative Bank and 01 branch of Punjab National Bank has been established in the district by the year 2009-10 he district has been divided into 13 service areas.

During 2009-10, the banks have a deposit of Rs. 82850 lacs and advances of Rs.13448 lacs with C.D. ratio at 16.23 %.

### **Communications (Postal Service).**

Communication is an allied system of transport. The system comprises of post offices, telegraph office and telecommunications. At the end of March 2009, there were one Head post office, 7 sub post offices, 47 branch post offices and one-telegraph offices 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 15375 telephone connections covering more than 40 villages in the district. In addition 29237 mobile telephones connections (post paid and pre-paid) working in the district.

## 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 Vsat's 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 applicants 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.

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. And recently Ministry for new and renewable energy GOI has sanctioned 6 solar power plant of 10 Kwp each.

**http://leh.nic.in.** is the official website of the Ladakh Autonomous hill development council and is being maintain by the NIC district centre. Keeping in view of the popular of this site complete facelift is being undertaken and information's are being collected from different departments these days. Separate link created for festivals, Tenders, Elections & Recruitments for general Public.

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