### Transport

Leh is connected by air with New Delhi. Invited speakers and participants are requested to send their travel plan in advance latest by 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 so the organizing committee may arrange their accommodation. Local transportation will be arranged by organizing committee.

# **Technical Session**

Interface meeting will include technical session, brain storming session on 'Improvement of yak husbandry and upliftment of socio-economic status of yak rearers in the country. An interaction and feedback session will also be organised for to formulate strategy for overall improvement of yak husbandry in the country. LCD projector will be made available at the venue during technical session. Delegates are requested to bring the soft copy of their power point presentation in pen drive or CD.

# Leh & its Weather

Leh, the district capital of Leh, situated at the cold desert of Ladakh with an altitude of 3500 meter above mean sea level enriched with scenic beaty of the Himalaya. The weather of Leh and its adjoining areas will be too cold during the last fornight of September with temperature ranging from 0° to 15° Celsius. Participants and invited speakers are requested to bring warm clothing accordingly.

## Correspondence

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# 3<sup>rd</sup> Interface Meeting

Improvement of Yak Husbandry and Upliftment of Socio-economic Status of Yak rearers in the Country

SEPTEMBER 22 - 24, 2014



AN ISO 9001: 2008 INSTITUTE National Research Centre on Yak Dirang, West Kameng District Arunachal Pradesh- 790101 www.nrcy.org.in

### Dear Colleagues,

Yak (*Poephagus gruninens* L.) is a unique bovine species of economical importance in high hill and snow bound areas in India, living on and above 3000 meter above mean sea level, where major agriculture is not rewarding due to non-availability of arable land.. Yak husbandry in India was in jeopardy during seventies due to dwindling population. Also, the yak rearers being a tribe of pastoral nomads needed due care and attention which are not addressed to them due to daunting hilly terrain. Considering all the aforesaid facts, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research established the National Research Centre on Yak at the end of VII plan (1989) at Dirang, Arunachal Pradesh with the aim to bring about improvement of yak husbandry in India and socio-economic condition of yak rearers.

Scientists of this institute has developed ETT calf (*Mismo*) and test tube yak (*Norgyal*) which has galvanised the yak husbandry in India. Technologies developed on nutritional intervention through complete feed block using locally available biomass, area specific mineral mixture and ensiling of maize fodder during winter season has made it possible for better production of lactating yak which has become popular among yak farmers and in coming year we expect demand from the commercial market.

Scientists of this institute has also developed value-added milk, meat and wool products which gets appreciation in all exhibitions organised in different parts of India for its uniqueness and innovative thinking. Besides applied research in recent years, scientists of this institute is also making in depth contribution in the field of basic research through molecular-biochemical-immunological mining to have better idea about yak genetic resources, male infertility, characterisation of yak pathogens, pathogens of zoonotic importance and drug read out system. Reflection of all research contributions has been recognised in high ranked peer reviewed journals and is displayed regularly in centralised repositories of public data base. . NRC on Yak has stepped into 25 years which is a matter of pride for the nation. During last 25 years this institute has contributed a lot towards improvement of yak husbandry and time has come to disseminate innovations of NRC on Yak to the yak rearing community for their sustainable development. Therefore, an Interface Meeting among the researchers - policy makers - filed veterinarians - extension workers - yak rearers/farmers with the objective to formulate strategy for overall improvement of yak husbandry in the country to be held at Leh, Jammu & Kashmir in collaboration with Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh during September 22-24, 2014.

Looking into your vast experience and knowledge in the area of animal science and high altitude agriculture, we deem it a privilege to invite you to participate in this very important Interface Meeting and kindly share your rich experience. We our part will do our best to make your stay comfortable, pleasant and a fruitful one.

## **Participants**

The Interface Meeting will be among the invited researchers-policy makers-filed veterinarians-extension workers- yak rearers/farmers engaged in yak husbandry and high altitude agriculture as well as livestock production system.

### Venue

Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh office complex, Leh, Jammu & Kashmir-194101.

## Accommodation

Accommodation would be arranged in various categories of hotels, tourist lodges, guest houses available at Leh.