



GLOBAL HIMALAYAN EXPEDITION 2018

09 Sept - 22 Sept

WEBINAR



Expedition to Electrify - Village Ralakang

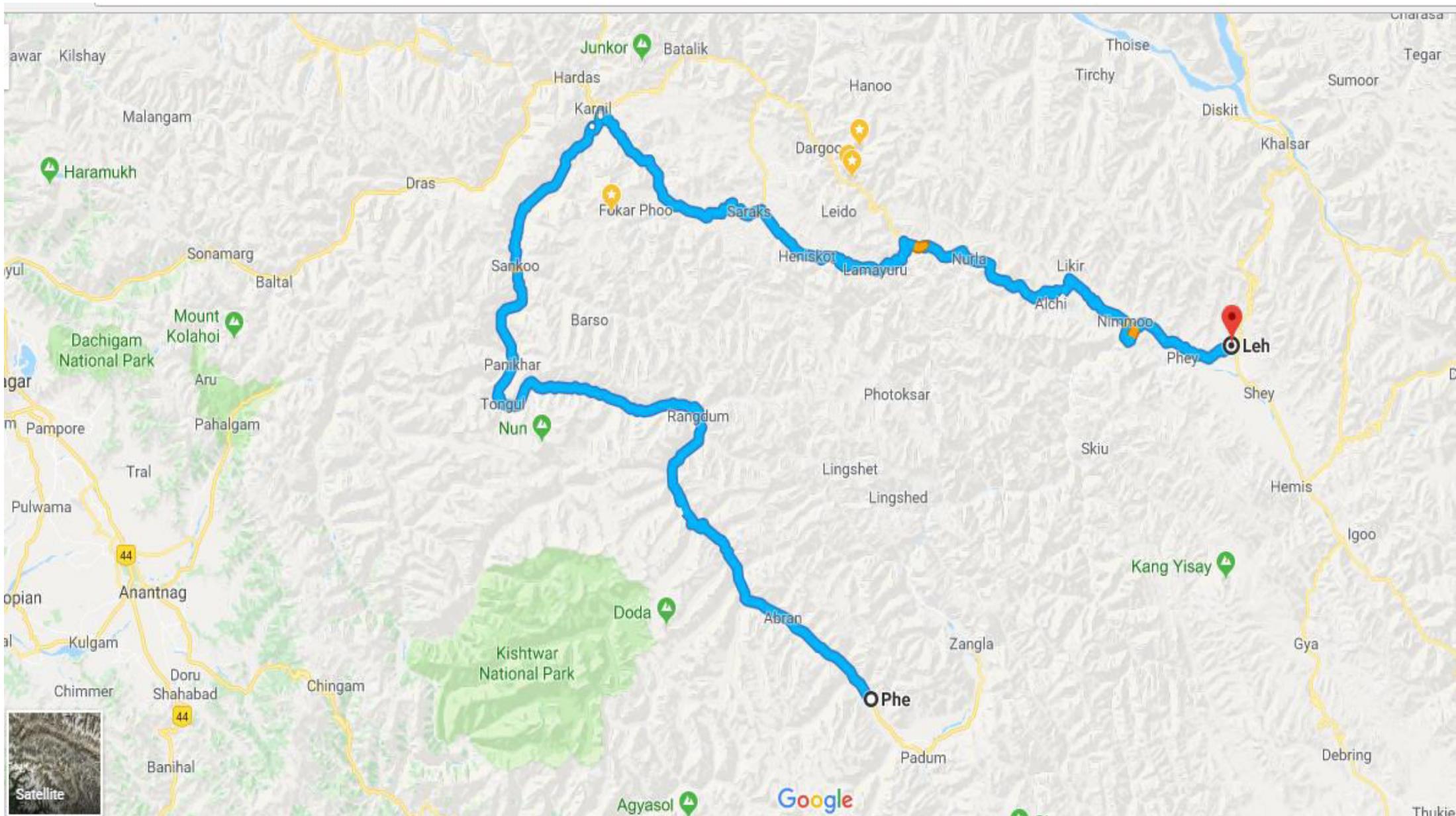


Geographic Location



Zaskar

Expedition Route Map



Facts – Village Ralakung

- **1200 Year Old Village** nestled in the Phe block of Zaskar (Himalayas)
- **The most remotest & backward village** of the region
- **Village home to 110 people and 11 Households**
- **Village Divided into two Parts – Phema and Nagma**
- **Village remains cut off for 7 months** due to snowfall blocking passes
- **Accessed by helicopters** for purpose of medical evacuation and voting
- **Known for rich minerals and natural resources**
- **The Region is also known for Unique Volcanic Igneous rock formation**
- **There is one primary school** in the village with 8 students
- **Only one Satellite Phone** in the village to connect with outside world
- **The Village doesn't have a single person** who is a graduate

Accessibility in Winters

- Ralakung is cut off from the rest of the world for 7 months.
- Can only be accessed by walking on the Frozen River for 8 days



Accessibility in Winters



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2 teams begin 45-km trek through snow to wrap up Elections □09

Two polling teams of 12 trained trekkers are walking 45 km through snow at an altitude of 13,700 feet to ensure that the 2009 Lok Sabha elections.

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Overall Expedition Journey- 900 KMS

- **2 Days by Vehicular Journey**
 - ✓ **Leh To Kargil**
 - ✓ **Kargil to Phe**
- **Total Vehicular Distance – 860 Kms (To and Fro)**
- **2 Days of Trekking in the Valley**
 - ✓ **One side trekking distance – 45 Kms (To and Fro)**
- **6 Nights of Camping/Homestays in Villages**
- **Horses carrying Solar Micro- grid material**

Average Altitude of Journey – 13400 ft

Highest Mountain Pass During journey- 15400 Ft

Trekking-40 Kms



3 days of Continuous trekking.

Camping at 13000 ft.

Crossing a mountain pass at 5300m

Ralakung Village

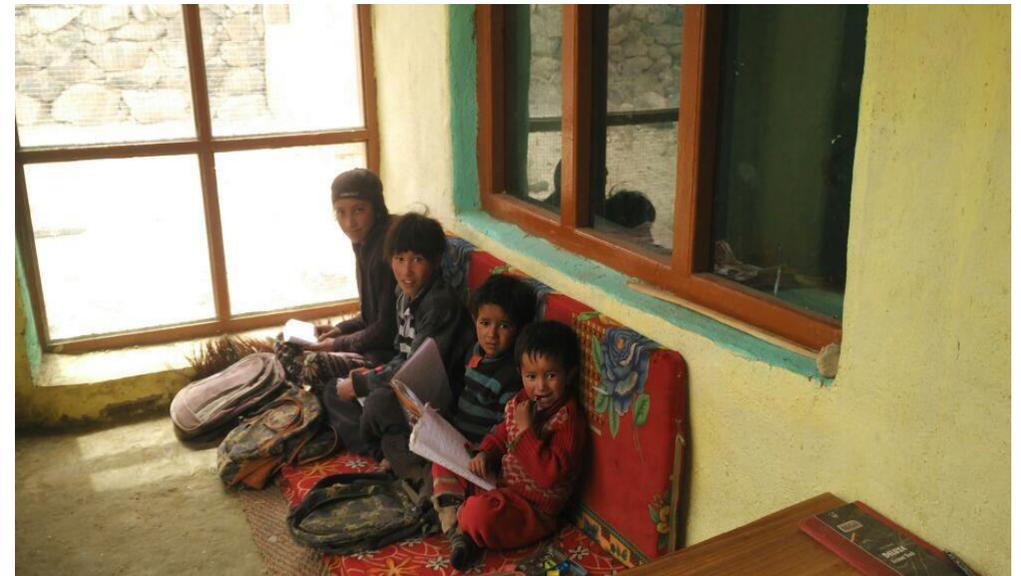


The remotest village of the region
Of Zaskar

- Hardly 40 -50 tourists have come here
 - Not even .01% of Ladakh has reached this village



People and Houses of Ralakang



11 Households and more than 130 People

Solar Micro Grid Installation





Day One:
Arrive in
Leh
9th September

You will fly into Leh from New Delhi. Bounded by two of the world's mightiest mountain ranges, the Himalayas and the Karakoram, Leh lies at an altitude of 12000 ft. You will be received at the airport by the GHE team leaders and welcomed with the traditional Ladakhi silk scarf "Khatak". You will then be transferred to your hotel where you will be stationed for the next two days. The remainder of the arrival day is for you to relax or explore the local market and the Leh city.



Day Two :
*Leh City and
Heritage Tour*
10th Sept

Today begins with a visit to the Leh City and a learning experience on the background of the ancient heritage. We will take a tour of the Leh Fort and the Old City, followed by a visit to the Monastery, where we shall get in touch with the ancient religion of Buddhism and its ideologies. Towards the evening, you will get a chance to visit the market to buy any essential items that you would like for the journey.



Day Three:
*Mountain
Biking*
11th Sep

**Biking on the dirt trails of Ladakh, surrounded by beautiful landscapes and powered by the will to keep paddling forward, you will indulge in an experience which cannot be matched in any way. It will be perfect opportunity to prepare yourself physically for the challenging trek you would be encountering in a few days time. Biking Distance – 40 Kms
We will reach the town of Kargil where we will be staying for the night.**



Day Four:
Kargil to
Phe
12th Sept

From Kargil, we will move onwards and leave behind the tar roads to travel on dirt road for more than 250 Kilometers. The going will be slow, but the conditions of the road will be overcome by the beautiful sights of snow capped mountains and glacier river streams. We will also be crossing a few villages that GHE has electrified.



Day Five :
*HIC Setup in
Phe*
13th Sept

Relax and soak in the vibe of the the Phe village and watch the villagers carry on with their daily tasks. After breakfast, we will move towards the school of Phe and work with the students to setup the Himalayan Innovation Centre. As part of the setup, you will be working hand in hand with the students, installing the computers, solar panels and the wiring. One the setup is done, watch how the students who have never accessed computers before take a go.



Day Six :
Phe to
Basecamp
14th Sept

From Phe, we will begin our trek towards the base camp of the mountain pass. The trek route will be into the valley surrounded by mountains all around us, a treat for the photography and nature lovers. We continue to walk along the valley crossing glacial river stream and arrive at our destination, the basecamp.



Day Seven:
*Welcome to
Ralakung
15th Sept*

A challenging trek lays ahead of us today. We will begin early and march toward the mountain pass at 5200m. The climb will be tough and gradual, but as they say, when the going gets tough, the tough gets going. Once you reach the top of the mountain pass, its a short trek down to the village that will finally bring us to our destination, the village of Ralakung. The villagers will be greeting us with Chang and Khataks and thank us for our efforts to electrify their villages.



Day Eight:
*Solar Grids
Setup*
16th Sept

Once you settle down in the village, we will form teams and begin our survey work of electrification. The day is going to be long, but you will be supported by the villagers, be prepared for an overwhelming experience, as you enter the rooms of the villagers and discuss with them on where they want the light bulbs to be put up. Carry the solar panels to the roof top and set the panels while understanding the practicalities of where the sun rises and sets in different seasons.



Day Nine:
*Ralakung
Electrified*
17th Sept

Today is going to be a very special day. Our team will bring light to this centuries old remotest village, ending eons of darkness that it was immersed in for ages. After breakfast, the Team shall get started to set up the solar panels and do the final touches. The installed grid will then be inaugurated by the villagers in the evening which we shall have a celebratory dinner with the villagers, and not to forget, the tasting of the famous local Chang!



Day Ten:
*Ralakung to
Phe*
18th Sept

After celebrating with the villagers, it is time to pack our bags and begin our trek back up to the mountain pass and then down the valley, moving towards the village of Phe. The trek route will be long but mostly downhill, making it easier for us to cover a long distance. We continue to walk along the valley and reach our destination.



Day Eleven:
*Phe to
Rangdum
19th Sept*

Today will be a long day on dirt road as we move from the small town of Padum to the monastery of Rangdum. The Monastery was electrified by GHE in 2016. We will be staying in camps near the monastery. We will be crossing the famous Drang Drung Glacier along the route and will be stopping multiple times along the way for you to take pictures, since this part of the journey is the most scenic as well.



Day Twelve:
Randgum to
Kargil
20th Sept

We begin our day by offering a special prayer at the Rangdum Monastery with the head monk offering his blessings to the team and for the work we are doing. We will be shown around the monastery and its old heritage. After the prayers, we will get on the road and head towards the town of Kargil.



Day Thirteen:
*Kargil to
Leh
21st Sept*

We will take a trip down the memory lane and visit the Kargil war Memorial in Drass to pay tribute to the brave soldiers who laid down their life to safeguard our borders. Following that, we will proceed towards Leh on the NH1, the lifeline of Leh. The view is beautiful and the road conditions are really good providing for a very smooth ride back to Leh.



Day Fourteen:
Departures
22nd Sept

“The mighty mountains beckoned and we answered the call. “

It's time to say our farewell all around and make our way back to the airport with the GHE Team Leaders who will assure your safe departure!

Team Leaders



Paras Loomba
Founder



Gaganpreet Singh
GHE 2015



Jaideep Bansal
GHE 2013



Stephanie
GHE 2017