

HARIT KHABAR

January, 2022

The idea of sustainable development and ecotourism is nurturing positive environmental change all across the globe. Know about how the erstwhile hunters - the Nyishi Community, is now determined to conserve the **Great Hornbill** in Arunachal Pradesh!



WORLD COMICS INDIA

An initiative of HCL Foundation and World Comics India





The Tale of Great Indian Bustard

The Great Indian Bustard is a large, spectacular bird found in the grasslands of India and parts of Pakistan. In 2008, the bustard population worldwide was estimated to be at around 300, however, presently the number of mature individuals is said to be placed between 60 to 250. It is a critically endangered bird and has suffered due to human activities, mainly mining and hunting.

It is commonly claimed that the bustard was once a contender for the title of the National Bird of India. After losing its spot for the title, the Great Indian Bustard has been facing constant threats due to poaching, habitat loss and unavailability of food.

How RIST is Protecting GIB

The Rural India Support Trust (RIST) was established in 2009 as a grant-making organization. Their project of Conservation of Great Indian Bustard began in 2020. RIST collaborated with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) to understand and assist in saving bustards in Rajasthan. The initiative is currently engaged in Desert National Park, Jaisalmer and Pokhran, which are two major spots for the GIB.

They value community participation and with the goal of saving the bustard from extinction, they have trained various local individuals and communities. The project is also assisted by various government authorities and other NGOs to prepare the local stakeholders in capacity-building exercises.

Reducing Grasslands : a major concern



Great Indian Bustards essentially belong to the grassland ecosystem and there has been serious neglect of grasslands all across the country. This grassland species is practically extinct from 95% of its range now. Grasslands are crucial to vegetation and various endangered animal and bird species. Grasslands have an important function in the livelihood of both humans and animals. While humans use grasslands as grazing

fields for domestic cattle, animals and birds use them as shelter and to be safe from predators. Bustards make their nests on the ground in the open in such an ecosystem. Since it's a large bird, it lays only an egg during one breeding season. The mother performs all parental roles, if the egg is destroyed by predators or is infertile only then does the mother Bustard lay another egg. The declining density of grasslands and lack of legal framework has contributed to driving the species to critically endangered status.

HCL Harit Talks, the environmental CSR initiative of the HCL Foundation began the monthly Harit Green Sessions from October 2021. They have conducted three informative and insightful lectures since then on reptiles, spiders and raptors.



The online talk on Raptors on 17th December 2021 was delivered by Dr Nishant Kumar, a Visiting Fellow at the University of Oxford. The talk titled, 'Raptor of cities – its importance, distribution and conservation' discussed the significance of raptors like kites, eagles, hawks and vultures in the urban ecosystem.

The study on Black-eared kites demonstrated that the birds choose to live with humans in urban areas, in a relationship that benefits both kites and humans. Their reliance on food has been linked to human-dominated activities.

Discarded food items like leftover meat are often tossed to them and they like to hunt rats and pigeons near slum localities and thereby assist in natural pest control. Dr Nishant Kumar also discussed the threat to their nests by humans and concluded with the idea that we need to develop careful, natural waste management techniques and design our infrastructure to accommodate raptors.



The first talk in the series began with Dr Abhijit Das, a scientist working at Wildlife Institute of India. His talk was titled 'Reptiles, their importance and associated myths', where he discussed various aspects of human-wildlife conflict due to human misunderstanding of reptiles such as snakes, etc.

Dr Das is currently engaged with a project that attempts to spread awareness on the significance of reptiles in the ecosystem and trains local communities to be sensitive towards various reptilian species.

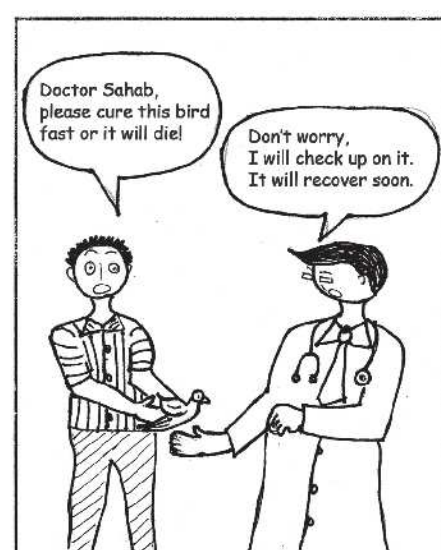


The second talk was held on 12th November 2021. HCL's Harit Talks invited Ashwin Warudkar, a doctoral student at IISER to deliver a lecture on 'Spiders, their uniqueness and importance'.

He described the biological nuances of spiders, the variety of spiders we find in our homes, toilets, farms and forests. Spiders rely upon bugs and insects for their food and are therefore viewed as favourable biological control agents in the agricultural ecosystem.

Right to Live

पुष्पा



In contemporary times, Ecotourism is viewed as ecologically sustainable tourism that allows one to travel and get a glimpse of nature's beauty along with its conservation and contribution to the empowerment of local communities. Ecotourism serves multiple purposes such as raising funds for ecological conservation, empowering local communities by providing them with employment, and creating awareness about sustainable development.

The Great Hornbill



Hornbills are large birds, which is spectacular and is known for their awe-inspiring beak. The most prominent feature of the hornbill is the bright yellow and black casque on top of its massive bill. The casque appears U-shaped when viewed from the front, and the top is concave, with two ridges along the sides that form points in the front. They are essential in preserving the forest ecosystems, as they help in seed dispersal of forest plants.

In India, nine Hornbill species are found, namely Indian Grey Hornbill (endemic to India), the Malabar Grey Hornbill (endemic to the Western Ghats), Malabar Pied Hornbill (endemic to India and Sri Lanka) and the endangered Great Hornbill which is widely distributed.

Hornbills are monogamous, females lay their eggs into tree cavities and rest there for two to three months until the eggs are hatched. In the meantime, food is collected and supplied by the male hornbill. Large trees and dense forests are central to their breeding and biological requirements and therefore, they have become especially vulnerable to threats from deforestation and hunting. Out of the 62 species of Hornbills found worldwide, 26 are globally threatened.

However, the indigenous communities in Arunachal Pradesh have come up with new strategies to conserve the endangered Great Hornbill.

From Tribal Identity to Conservation: Nyishi Community now a savior



The Nyishi tribal community have lived in the forests of Arunachal Pradesh for centuries. They live in the dense forests that share the border with the Pakke Tiger Reserve and have had a history of hunting exotic birds in large numbers, including the Great Hornbill.

The Great Hornbill is a magnificent bird that is easily identified by its large and bright yellow beak. It gets its name from the presence of a horn-like projection on top of its beaks known as a casque.

The casque has cultural relevance for the Nyishi community who use it as a headgear. It is mandatory for Nyishi men as a symbol of their tribal identity and manhood, therefore historically Great Hornbills have been hunted in massive numbers. Once hunters, the Nyishi community now participates in the protection and conservation of the beautiful hornbill species initiated by local NGOs and Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF).



**nature
conservation
foundation**

The idea of ecotourism and sustainable development led to a drastic change in the landscape. NCF along with certain local organizations assisted in the training of the Nyishi community for conservation purposes. Conservation has now become a part of their livelihood. To keep their culture and tribal identity intact, Nyishi men now wear headgear made of wooden or fibre beaks.

The tale of the Great Hornbill and the Nyishi community is an example of how eco-tourism caters to environmental needs and also empower local communities in the process.

NCF's program ensures community participation and by 2020 they monitored about 40 hornbill nests and assisted in fledging 152 hornbill chicks successfully.

No forests, no fun!

SUMIT JATSWAL
CHETNA NGO

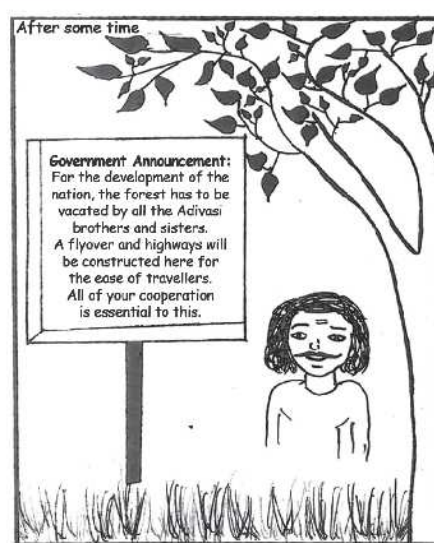
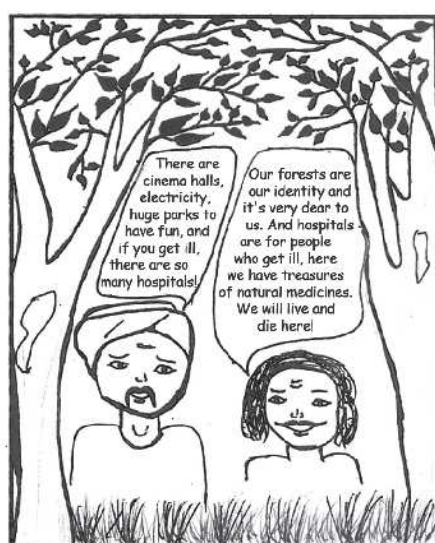




Photo: Latin Times

This action plan will make Yamuna clean again?

Since the 1990's numerous unsuccessful attempts have been made by the governments, businesses and civil society to restore the cleanliness of the Yamuna. The Delhi government has recently proposed a six-point action plan to bring the Yamuna back to bathing standards by February 2025, and the renewed focus is on solid waste and sewage treatment.

Recently, images from the Yamuna's toxic foam went viral. The toxic floating foam in the river indicates the presence of phosphates and surfactants in the untreated sewage from Delhi, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh. Short-term exposure to this polluted water leads to skin irritation and allergies, whereas long-term exposure leads to neurological issues and hormonal imbalances.

The Chief Minister of Delhi announced the proposal while focusing on upgrading the existing facilities at the four major drains. These drainages are located at Najafgarh, Ghazipur, Badshahpur and Supplementary (Wazirabad), whereas new localized drain facilities will also be constructed. The agenda is to increase the sewage treatment capacity of waste water from 600 million gallons a day to 750-800 million gallons.

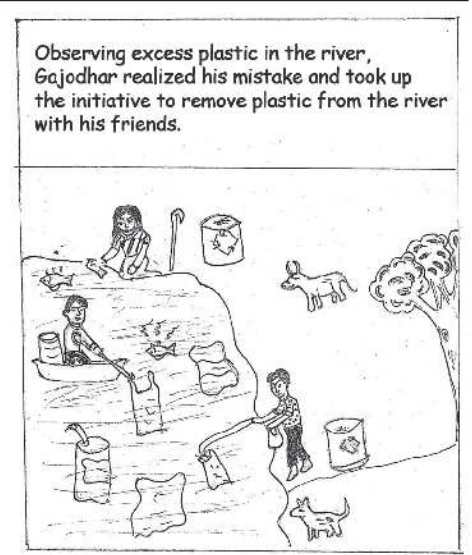
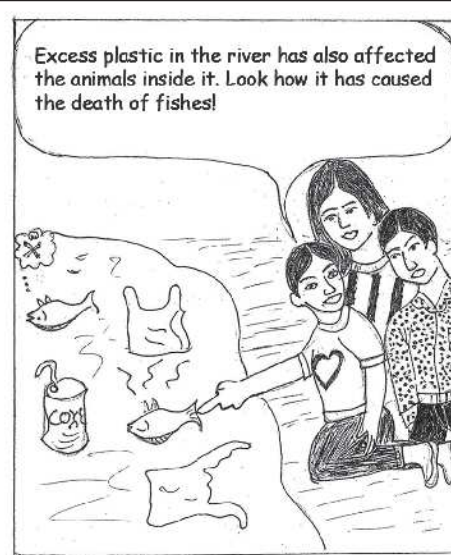
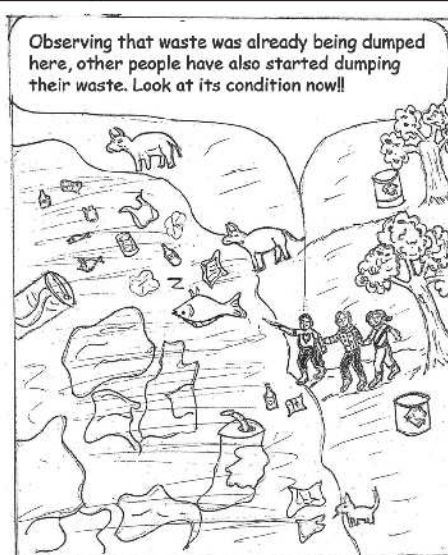
The trajectory of the Yamuna River

The Yamuna River, referred locally as 'Jamna' is a major north Indian river originating in the Great Himalayas in Uttarakhand, flowing through Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. Jamna flows for 1,376 kilometers and merges into the Sangam in Prayagraj (U.P.) and is the longest tributary of the River Ganga. Presently, due to rapid urbanization, the Yamuna River has become one of the most polluted rivers in north India.

The most astonishing fact about the Yamuna river is that only 2% of the length flows through Delhi, yet Delhi and its adjoining region contribute a major portion of the total pollution of Yamuna. All of the city's sewage and toxic industrial liquid waste gets discharged into Delhi's drainage system which leads to the Yamuna. The liquid waste contains dyes, which include heavy metals like mercury, lead, tin and they prove to be fatal for aquatic creatures.

The Yamuna River has immense economic importance as it contributes to irrigation and agricultural activities. Popular as a holy river, it is used by fishermen, washermen and farmers. The river supports a rich aquatic habitat. Industrial wastage and the presence of environmental hazards has proven to be challenging for all stakeholders. More than 50 million people depend on the Yamuna and it accounts for over 70% of Delhi's water supply.

My Mistake?



Mr. TEA CHESDA

DHAN and HCLF collaborate on project 'REVIVAL'

Local communities in Tamil Nadu have used the tank system since the ancient period. Previously, the presence of tanks has helped in regulating the hydrological cycles in cities, but urban expansion has drastically reversed the situation. The city of Madurai in Tamil Nadu consists of more than 100 tanks and channels, which have largely dried up or are converted into dumping sites.



To tackle the problem of diminishing traditional water bodies, DHAN Foundation's water collective the Centre for Urban Water Resources (CURE) collaborated with the HCL Foundation for its project REVIVAL. In this initiative, the idea is to focus on restoring the tank system, securing water resources and redefine its purposes through collective planning and action. The project aims to restore the 640 acres of Vandiyur Lake.

The main objectives of REVIVAL is to protect urban aquatic environments, enhance the living and sanitary conditions of residents and improve livelihood by securing water resources. The project also aims to fulfill the objectives of Jal Shakti Ministry's securing and protecting the water commons.

One can 'fly' in this River of Meghalaya

Can a boat fly? Well, if you look at this image, you might think so!



The image is of River Umngot (Dawki) in Meghalaya. The water in the river is so clean and transparent that it seems like the boat is in the air! In contrast with being home to one of the most polluted rivers like the Yamuna, India is also home to one of the cleanest rivers in the world.

Almost 100 km from Shillong, the Umngot river flows into Bangladesh and is a natural divide between Khasi and Jaintia Hills of the state. The river also received special appreciation in PM's Mann ki Baat program.

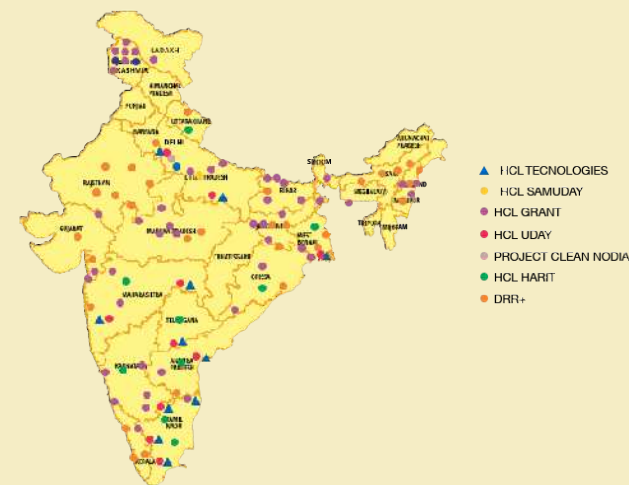
The Ministry of Jal Shakti appreciated the efforts of the local communities in Meghalaya in making this river one of the cleanest in the world. The river is a perfect eco-tourism spot and is believed to be the major reason why people visit Dawki.



Community participation and Public-Private Partnerships is the mantra for HCL-Harit program

HCL Foundation officially launched HCL Harit – The Green CSR Initiative as a distinct flagship program in June 2021 for Environmental Action. HCL Harit aims to engage with NGOs and governments and promote eco-friendly practices and Ecosystem Restoration. The vision is “to conserve, restore and enhance indigenous environmental systems and respond to climate change in a sustainable manner through community engagement”.

HCL Harit follows ‘Participatory and Convergent Approaches’ and the program works on enhancing green cover, conserving native biodiversity, rejuvenation of water bodies, improving coastal and marine habitats and creating environmental awareness. The idea is to align the program with National Indicator Framework and Sustainable Development Goals. The Harit program is being implemented in 9 states of the country.



The engagement has already begun using the participatory approach in the states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Odisha and West Bengal. Public-private partnership will strengthen accountability and involve district administration. Apart from this, through the HCL Foundation’s Grant, various NGOs working in the spheres of environment, waste management, environmental education, sustainable solutions, etc. have become a part of the HCL Harit program.

Bringing about Positive Change

In December 2021, HCL Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Karnataka Forest Department. The MOU aims to contribute to the plantation of native species and play a critical role in engaging local stakeholders toward community-based forest conservation. In November 2021, the Swach Sarvekshan Award for India’s Cleanest Medium City (Cities with a population of 3-10 lakhs) was bagged by Noida.

This became possible due to the collaboration between the district administration and HCL Foundation’s Clean Noida campaign.

HCL Foundation also took the responsibility for mass afforestation and water conservation in Lucknow in collaboration with the Lucknow Municipal Corporation (LMC) and Give Me Trees Trust in 2019.

The program is called Atal Upavan, named after former Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. So far, 60,000 trees have been planted and 10 water holes for water harvesting have been prepared and are functional along with two compost pits.

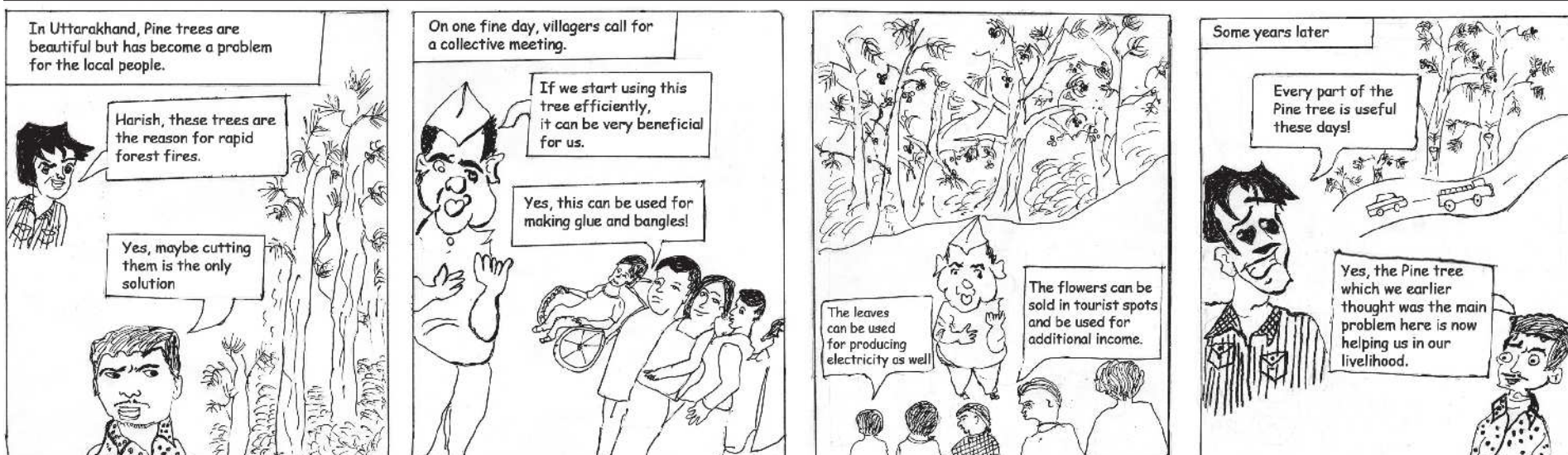


Straight from the Impact Dashboard

- 363,722** saplings planted
- 155.8** acres area under afforestation
- ~340,000** kgs carbon sequestered
- 62** water bodies rejuvenated
- ~5,200** million litres water holding capacity increased
- 32,654** animal lives impacted
- 32** environment education modules developed
- ~8,000** kgs ghost nets collected
- 67** compost pits constructed
- 200,000** kgs biomass stopped from being burnt

PINE TREES ARE NOT THE PROBLEM

HIMANSHU PANT
RASTA (NGO)



Climate Resilient infrastructure is the answer to Rapid Urbanisation

India's urban areas and cities are rapidly expanding. The World Bank suggests that India's urban population grows at a rate of two percent annually, and by 2030, more than 60 crore people in India will be residing in urban areas. This is encouraging from the perspective of economic growth, however, we need to keep in mind the environmental challenges that will emerge from rapid urbanisation. Further, climate change appears to be an emerging threat to global ecosystems and has escalated the challenges in planning cities and urban areas of the future. The growth in urban population also implies increased reliance on water resources, transportation and electricity. Another challenge is the lack of proper housing settlements for the poor residents of the city, who are forced to live in slums due to rising housing prices. Air and water pollution can be expected to increase if cities grow in an unplanned manner. To address these issues, climate-resilient infrastructure and the use of renewable energy proves to be an effective way forward.

Nizamuddin Basti Urban Renewal project wins UNESCO award for conservation



The Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Project has been given two awards for conservation by UNESCO in 2021 and the jury lauded its "outstanding achievement in placing heritage at the heart of the sustainable development agenda". The Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) undertook the conservation effort of the Nizamuddin Basti in 2007 in partnership with the South Delhi Municipal Corporation and Archaeological Survey of India.

One of the main approaches by AKTC which led the project to win UNESCO conservation awards are, to involve the community opinion and discussions in the development of environmental, social, economic, physical, and cultural aspects of the Basti area. This community dialogue involved the opinions of all stakeholders.

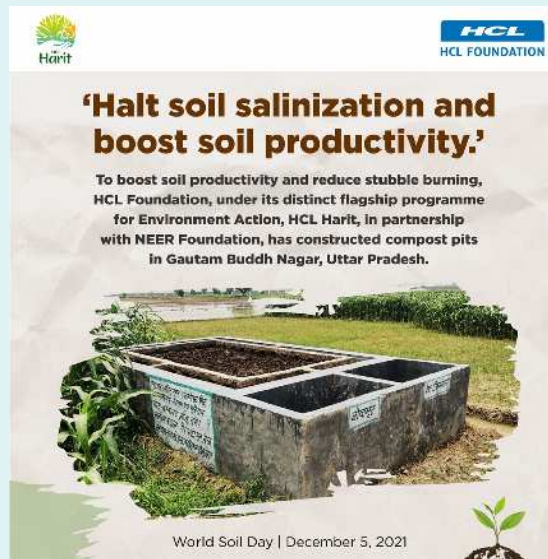
Nizamuddin is one of the historical and famous spots in Delhi known popularly for the world heritage site of Mughal king Humayun's Tomb and the shrine of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya, a revered Sufi saint. It attracts a great number of tourists and even greater numbers of pilgrims daily but it struggles for basic infrastructure, proper sanitation, etc.

HCL Foundation Celebrates 'World Soil Day'

Soil health is one of the pillars of a healthy ecosystem. Weakened soil health has adverse effects on water resources, which then harms the food resources and leads to massive biodiversity loss.

Soil is also a habitat for various organisms which reside underneath and regulate the nutrient cycle. Further, plants too help in absorbing CO₂ into the soil and studies indicate that soil health impacts carbon sequestering.

The quality of soil has declined all over the world due to increased agricultural activities. In order to spread awareness and appropriate techniques for soil conservation, HCL Foundation has partnered with NGOs to spread awareness on soil and the



issues of soil salinization. Under HCL Foundation's environmental initiative 'HCL Harit', the organisation has started the 'Halt salt salinization and boost soil productivity campaign'.

This campaign aims to create awareness on challenges for soil conservation and management and the significance of soil health for a better ecosystem.

HCL Foundation has partnered with The Neer Foundation to create compost pits in Gautam Buddha Nagar, U.P. They have also partnered with Say Trees in Kotgaon, U.P to explore multiple ways and techniques for soil rejuvenation using organic materials.

On an individual level, the HCL Foundation stressed the need for composts in kitchen gardens.

Bird Singing Competitions - an emerging threat to conservation

A recent paper published on human-bird relationship in the journal 'Global Ecology and Conservation' suggests that there has been a rise in the demands of songbirds across the world. The bird singing contests which are held all over the world are judged by the humans for their plumages,



singing contests take place in at least 22 countries using at least 36 species of birds.

songs, and movement while the birds are kept inside decorated cages. The champion bird brings glory and a considerable prize, money in most cases to the owner.

The rise in these trends is proving a threat to the wild bird population, which are traded across the world for their singing ability. This threat is especially in Southeast Asia in Singapore and Thailand. The paper also suggests that presently, bird-



Kenya's fight against Plastic Pollution

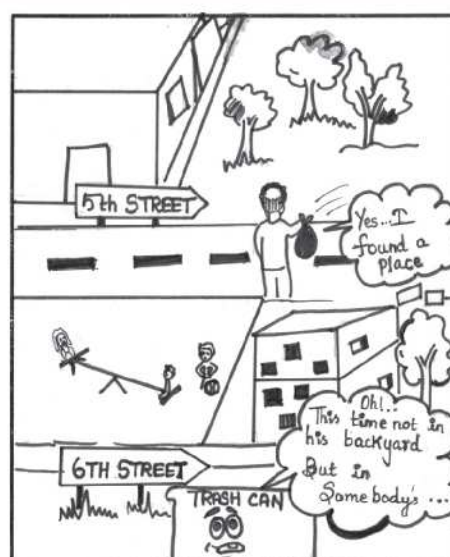
Kenya has emerged as a leader in fighting against plastic pollution among African countries. It became the first country in East Africa to adhere to the limit of using single-use plastics and has even signed initiatives like 'Clean Seas' to prevent plastic litter from being dumped into marine and freshwater bodies.

Kenya's efforts were reflected in their policy-making as they banned the use of plastic bottles, cups, and other plastic cutlery from its national parks and biosphere reserve.

Such efforts are really needed when plastic menace is becoming one of the major problem for the earth. Not only limited use but control over the production of plastic is also required.



TRASH CAN VS BACK YARD



Mercy



Jane Goodall honoured with ‘Wildlife Legend Award’

The Sanctuary Nature Foundation awarded its most prestigious ‘Wildlife Legend Award’ to the world’s leading expert on primatology, Dr Jane Goodall. Primatology is the scientific study of evolution, the behaviour of non-human primates (monkeys, chimpanzees, gorillas, etc). She is globally known for her contributions to conservation, and social and behavioural studies of chimpanzees in Tanzania, Africa. In 2002, she was named a UN Messenger of Peace. Breaking all gender stereotypes, Goodall pursued this field when biology and science were viewed as men’s only discipline. The findings of her studies demonstrated that there are great similarities between humans and chimpanzees in the spheres of emotion, intelligence, family and social relationships. She discovered that chimpanzees also build tools for extracting ants and termites from mounds and are just as complex creatures as humans.

Books and Movies

‘An Inconvenient Truth’ revisited

The documentary, An Inconvenient Truth was released in 2006. Based on lectures by Al Gore, former Vice President of the United States of America, and directed by David Guggenheim. It is hailed as the most powerful documentary on global warming and rapid climate change.

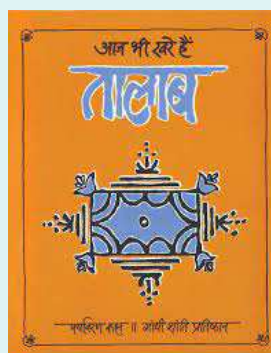


The docu-movie is critically acclaimed and has also won Oscars, however, its major contribution lies in spreading international awareness on the effects of global warming and reenergizing the environmental movement in the US. It is part of the curriculum in many universities of the world. The

specific issues that the documentary focuses on are the melting of ice sheets, falling biodiversity, wildfires, deforestation, etc. These themes are scientifically analysed and the film argues for community engagement for tackling the rising threat of global warming.

The documentary can be found on YouTube and other streaming platforms.

‘Aaj Bhi Khare Hain Talaab’



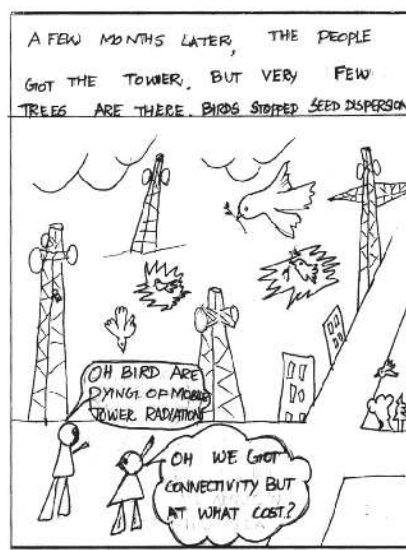
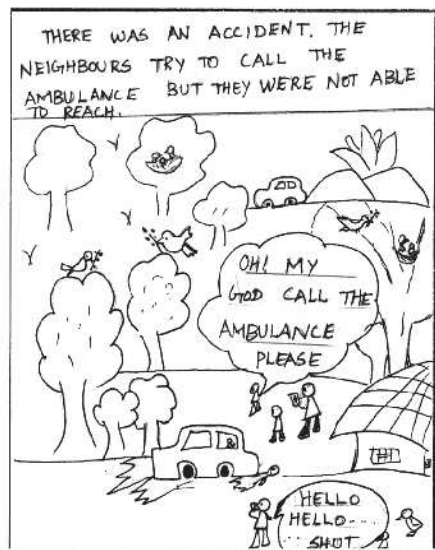
Aaj Bhi Khare Hain Talaab (The Ponds are Still Worthy) by Anupam Mishra is considered a landmark book due to its fascinating account of the traditional water bodies in India, specifically in western India. Anupam Mishra was a renowned Hindi author and environmentalist, previously associated with the Gandhi Peace Foundation.

In the sensitive and enlightening tale about traditional water conservation, Mishra takes his readers to numerous villages in Rajasthan. Water conservation and making ponds is not just a resource management scheme but also a part of the culture, heritage, folklore and technological innovation in Rajasthan.

The building of ponds in these landscapes was done to commemorate an event, or to honour legends, etc. He uses various colloquial and idiosyncratic terms for ponds and the associated rituals. The book offers a glimpse into the centuries-old culture and environmental practices. The book is available in 19 languages, including all major Indian languages.

TOWER OF DESTRUCTION

M. ADHILAKSHMI



Environmental Impact Assessment

Environmental Impact Assessment known as EIA is a scientific and legal process to evaluate the environmental impacts after the successful implementation of any proposed infrastructure project. Ministry of Environmental, Forests and Climate Change had proposed changes in EIA laws in 2020 which replaces several significant elements of the EIA from 2006. EIA makes it necessary for projects, which have a high chance of degrading the environment such as mining, power plants, highways, and industries, to get environment clearance by the state.

In India, EIA is backed by the Environmental Protection Act, 1986 which directs on EIA's methodology. The new 2020 legal draft allows clearances of projects without thorough follow up and has diluted scientific enquiry after the project is completed.

Myth Busters

Overpopulation is a problem leading to the climate crisis?

Recently, Prince William of the UK blamed growth in the human population for declining wildlife in Africa. The ‘overpopulation’ argument is often heard on T.V. shows and various personalities are known to have endorsed this. However ‘overpopulation’ is not scientifically responsible for climate change or even a decline in biodiversity. Such arguments that blame certain populations for our environmental problems are called ‘eco-fascist’.



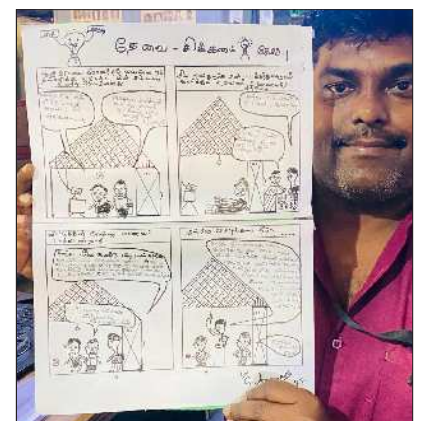
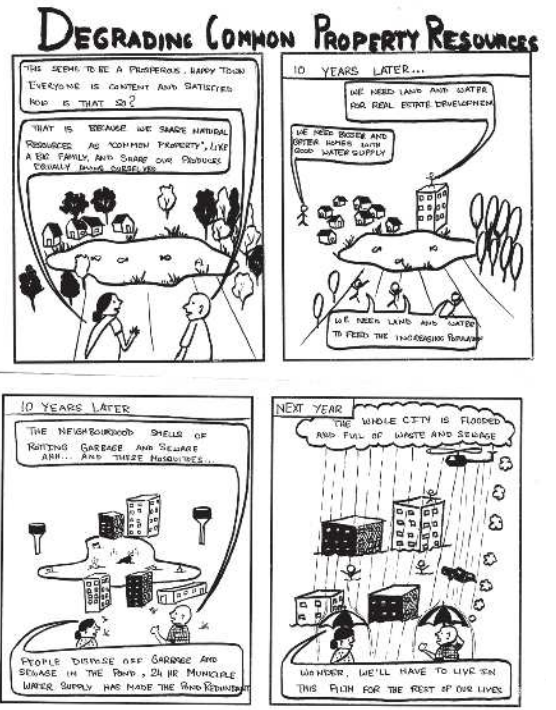
Population growth can indeed affect natural resources unevenly, but the reasons for the loss in biodiversity are rather economic. Let's face some economic facts now, the global population rise is 1% per year whereas consumption rises at 3%. High consumption, a prime factor for the climate crisis, is more prominent in rich & developed countries with lower populations. A study conducted by Oxfam in 2020 demonstrated that individual carbon emissions in the U.K. are as high as 8.3 tonnes per year, as compared to only 1.68 tonnes in India. The global per capita carbon emission average is 4.7 tonnes per year. This implies that there is no correlation between population growth and carbon emissions or even in the loss of biodiversity, as rich countries with lower populations tend to have contributed more to carbon emissions.

Going Grassroots with Visual Expression: Update from Tamil Nadu

Civil society activists, NGO workers and school teachers from Tamil Nadu now have a new medium of self-expression and teaching in the form of Grassroots comics. A Grassroots comics workshop was organised by the HCL Foundation and World Comics India between 15th to 24th December 2022. It was attended by over 30 participants based in different parts of Tamil Nadu consisting of school teachers, civil society coordinators and NGO employees.

The virtual workshop was conducted bilingually in English and Tamil. The theme of the workshop was Environmental Education and the participants were introduced to broad themes of Water, Clean Nature, Family and Neighbourhood, Food, Plants and Animals. The participants came forward with their personal experiences, ideas and perspectives on these themes. Adhilakshmi of the Hope Foundation created her first comics on birds and seed dispersal whereas Patmanathan from Oferr India made his comics on community-led conservation action in a village. The methodical use of Grassroots Comic ranges from comic journalism and bringing neglected issues to the fore in an interactive form. Comics function as a visual communication tool and through their use, everyone has the potential to become a storyteller.

As the session concluded on 24th December, the participants shared feedback on their understanding and perspective of Comics as a medium. In their response, participants felt this experience was encouraging and innovative. Certain participants emphasised that comics can be used as a tool for addressing various issues and raising awareness, accessibility and sensitization.



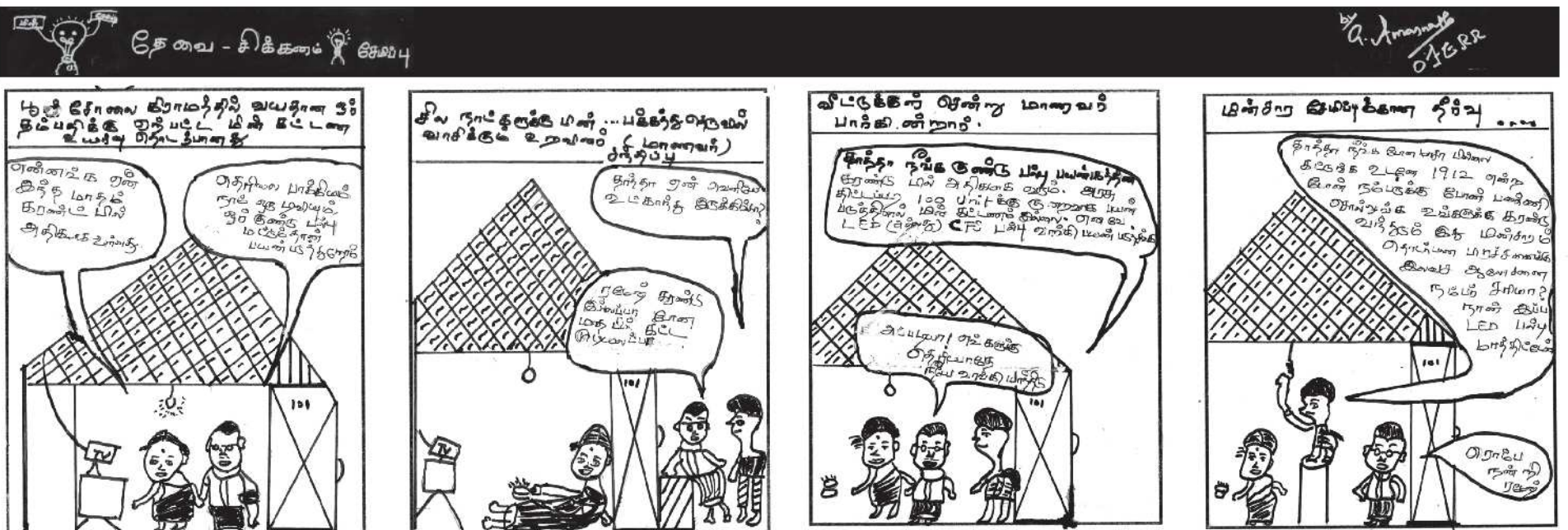
Issue Covered

- Participants covered a variety of issues and themes under the broad category of environmental education. Some of the broad issues that were covered are
- Water Body Rejuvenation and Community Participation
 - Treatment of Commons
 - Birds and Seed dispersal
 - Waste Management and Garbage Disposal
 - Importance of Native Seeds
 - Saving electricity and using clean energy
 - Importance of balanced diet for children
 - Deforestation
 - Community action against drought-like situations
 - Need for empathy for animals
 - Recycling waste

Participants added local contexts to the issues and came up with excellent comics. For example, the issue of removing invasive species like Prosopis Juliflora was discussed at length. Such invasive species has encroached on water bodies and have deteriorated their condition. Participants also got the chance to showcase their work while discussing these issues which helped in knowledge dissemination.

-It was a very interesting workshop and thank you World Comics India for giving us such a great opportunity. – Thenmozhi
 -Easy communication helped us to clear our doubts then and there.
 -The workshop increased our creativity and drawing skills. . – Sumathi
 -I learnt a different methodology to teach. The workshop was excellent

and the feedback and suggestions received were very useful to deliver my final sketch frame. – Adhilakshmi
 -The workshop has filled us with confidence to create our own comics. – Sheela Grace
 -It was an amazing session and we learnt to address any issue and express our thoughts and ideas through the art of comics. – Usha



In the above comics, an elderly couple used to receive a high amount of electricity bill, later they were helped by a neighbour who replaces CFL with LED bulbs and also educates them about the free units available to consume. Comics by Amarnath.

About the publication

HCL Foundation and World Comics India's collaborative initiative 'Harit Khabar' is a monthly newspaper that aims to educate people on environmental issues and challenges and raise community participation towards the cause of the environment. This publication has been launched to provide a platform to various partner organizations working in collaboration with the HCL Foundation's distinct flagship programme HCL Harit - The Green Initiative to showcase their work and accomplishments and also to create a network between them. Through Harit Khabar we aim to stir meaningful debates on critical issues concerning our environment and ecosystem, accessibility to environmental education and public participation in decision-making processes in the country.

About HCL Foundation

HCL Technologies implements its Corporate Social Responsibility agenda through its CSR arm, the HCL Foundation. Various flagship programs and special initiatives of the Foundation endeavor to contribute toward national and international development goals, bringing about lasting positive impact on people and the planet through long-term sustainable programs.

About World Comics India

Advancing Grassroots Comics as an alternate tool of communication to local communities, World Comics India has been continuously working for the past 20 years. Many successful mass campaigns have also been organized using this medium of communication.

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