# Catalyst CSR Newsletter by HCL Foundation



Dear Reader,

From participating in the Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2023 held in Lucknow, to announcing the recipients of HCL Grant Edition VIII across three categories–Environment, Health and Education, February was an action packed month at HCL Foundation!

Last month also saw various gatherings and events to mark the World Cancer Day, and to raise awareness on the disease.

Read the February edition, to find more about what's happening at HCL Foundation.

Regards,
Team HCL Foundation

## Highlights of the Month

HCL Foundation proudly participated in the Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2023 (UPGIS). UPGIS is the flagship investment summit of the Government of Uttar Pradesh which brings together policymakers, industry leaders, academia, think tanks and leaders from across the world to collectively explore business opportunities and forge partnerships.

Here are a few updates from the threeday summit held in Lucknow from February 10–12, 2023



## Panel on 'Affirmative Action for Inclusive Growth

The session was organized under the aegis of Department of Social Welfare, Government of UP with an aim to mainstream the marginalized section of society by ensuring inclusive & equal growth for all. Some of the key speakers on the panel included Dr. Virendra Kumar, Hon'ble Union Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India; Shri Asim Arun, Hon'ble Minister, Department of Social

Welfare, Government of Uttar Pradesh and Shri Pawan Kumar, Director, Department of Social Welfare, Government of UP amongst others.

Dr. Nidhi Pundhir, Vice President, Global CSR, HCL Foundation emphasized on technology being a big equalizer. HCLTech's CSR arm, HCL Foundation is committed towards inclusive growth of communities that live below or at poverty line, women and PwDs, in particular, in rural and urban geographies.

## Panel on 'Harnessing Opportunities in Sports Sector' & MoU Signing

Under the banner of its special initiative 'Sports for Change', HCL Foundation entered into a formal MoU with the Department of Sports, Government of Uttar Pradesh, extending support to another 5,000 children and youth from the underserved sections of society will be mainstreamed into sports such as football, kabaddi, volleyball & athletics. This is over and above 27,000 athletes, who are already a

part of this pan-India initiative, of which 14,000 come from Uttar Pradesh. Special focus will remain on girls and PwDs.

Present for occasion were Shri Anurag Thakur, Hon'ble Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India; Shri Girish Chandra Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of State, Sports, Youth Welfare Department, Govt. of UP; Shri Navneet Sehgal, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Sports, Govt. of UP; Shri Abhinav Bindra, Olympic Gold Medalist; Shri Suresh Raina, Indian cricketer, and Dr. Nidhi Pundhir, Vice President, Global CSR, HCL Foundation amongst others.





#### **HCL Foundation Stall**

Showcasing HCL Foundation's initiatives in Uttar Pradesh, a stall was set up which was also visited by Mr. Anurag Thakur, Union Sports Minster, Mr. Rahul Singh, COO, HCLTech, Mr. Rishi Kumar, Vice President, HCLTech and many more dignitaries. The stall is also a part of the G20 Exhibit.



## **HCL** Grant

#### HCL Grant Edition VIII recipients announced

The winning NGOs in each of the categories will receive a Grant of ₹5 Crore (~US\$0.65Mln) for a 3 years' project.



The remaining 6 finalists will receive ₹25 Lakhs (~US\$0.03Mln) each for a one-year project. Thus, the total committed fund for HCL Grant is ₹16.5 crores (~US\$2.24Mln).



HCL Grant is dedicated to strengthening The Fifth Estate – the NGOs, enabling them to play a decisive role in building an equitable, inclusive, future-ready India. A robust and year-long process of Application Shortlisting, Field Level Due Diligence, Sub Jury Proceedings and Detailed Field level Audit leads to shortlisting HCL Grant recipients in each category of Environment, Health & Education.



## **HCL** Harit

## Caring for Urban Wildlife – Creating enrichment materials for parakeets

Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Centre hosted a half-day craft session for HCL volunteers. They were shown some pictures for inspiration and then encouraged to use their creativity and make toys and enrichment materials for parakeets.

For animals in captivity, enrichment is the act of improving their quality of life by providing them the right type of habitat and different forms of activities and toys so as to simulate their natural environment and encourage them to use, develop, and engage in natural behavior. As captive animals don't face the same threats that their wild counter parts do, without the necessary stimulation their life in captivity can become extremely boring and lead to health issues, hormonal imbalance, self-destructive behavior's etc. Enrichment becomes crucial to keep them engaged mentally, physically active and happy.



On the occasion of World Spay Day on February 28, 2023, Humane Animal Society (HAS) with support from HCL Foundation organized a free spay/neuter camp for owners of Indie pets in Coimbatore to help promote the many health benefits of neutering/spaying. The event proved to be highly successful as 8 pets were spayed/neutered at no cost to their owners – each of whom can truly be labeled as responsible pet parents!





#### World Wetland Day Celebration

This year, HCL Foundation celebrated World Wetlands Day in a unique way by inviting all water conservation-based partners working in Gautam Buddh Nagar to the rejuvenated waterbodies. It was a mini-convergence and cross-learning for all. The importance of wetlands and Ramsar Sites indepth were discussed, followed by 20-minute bird-watching session.

All the 3 waterbodies visited were full of birds, actively feeding, resting, and chirping.









#### Experiential learning of environment for school students

With a focus on learning by experiencing, 15 school students from Rasta School were taken to Okhla Bird Sanctuary, Noida to learn the importance of the wetlands in the ecosystem. The session started with a nature walk around the wetland along with a bird watching session.

The aim of the event was to help students inculcate environment conscious behavior. The session was followed by Harit Buddy Programme where the students were given education materials kits which helped them understand environment aspects clearly and practice them back in their home and school.

#### Kundrathur Forest maintenance drive

HCL Foundation with the support of Thuvakkam Welfare Association are continuously maintaining their recently created Urban forest of 1.5 Acres with 14,000 saplings at Patel park, Kundrathur.

A periodic maintenance drive was conducted in the urban forest on February 25, 2023 with the support of seven HCLTech employees.

During the orientation session, Mr. Naveen from Thuvakkam team shared information about native tree species and how to plant and maintain trees sustainably. Volunteers actively participated in maintenance work.

Such maintenance drives are planned on a monthly basis.





## **HCL** Samuday



World Pulse day 2023 was celebrated on February 10, 2023 at Centre for Agriculture Technology Transfer, Sandila with attendance of more than 300 farmers from across Hardoi. The event was a great learning opportunity in understanding the importance of an indispensable and integral component of our daily food habit – Pulses.



HCL Samuday promoted livelihood handicraft intervention – Samuday Crafts at the UP Bird and Nature Festival 2023 on receiving an invitation from the Forest Department, GoUP to exhibit its hand crafted products. Along with displaying the regular products, the team developed customized taat lunch bags for the event. Samuday Craft's artisans had a great experience showcasing products in front of Indian Government and foreign delegates.



On World Cancer Day, HCL Foundation raised awareness in Hardoi about risk factors, prevention, early detection and treatment modalities of cancer. At 13 Health & Wellness Centres and 8 Mobile Health Clinics, people with risky behavior were subsequently counselled and screening was done for 'Physical' markers in individuals with higher risk.



A two-day exposure visit to Banas Dairy plant in Lucknow was conducted for 89 dairy association secretaries for better understanding of milk segregation, product development, packaging and marketing aspects of milk production.





At the Mahindra Sanatkada Lucknow festival artisans displayed Samuday Crafts' products. The five day festival is an excellent platform to showcase the city's heritage and strengthen its sociocultural fabric. The team got great customer response; jute fabric products like table runner and Basketry made of Wheat grass and Mooni was the top selling product. Customers appreciated how Lucknow's traditional Chikankari art work was used on jute fabric to developed modern home décor.



HCL Samuday promoted livelihood handicraft intervention – Samuday Crafts at the UP investment Submit Exhibition on receiving an invitation from the UP qovernment to showcase products in Hardoi District.



Living Looms of India organized 'Spring Fest 2023' to provide first of a kind platform to weavers and artisans associated with the handloom sector across the country. The platform is designed for the exhibition and sale of best-in-class handloom products curated by skilled weavers and artisans.



## Decentralized Waste Management in rural Uttar Pradesh

Kaamini, aged 42, is a farmer of Hadha village of Sursa block in Hardoi district, UP. Under HCL Samuday's Clean Village Initiative, she has benefitted from reduction in the cost of cultivation and improvement in soil health. In February, she converted her 5 tons of cattle waste dump into a composting bed and sprayed liquid waste decomposer to produce 1600 kgs of usable compost. She has recovered ₹8,000 from household and cattle waste and she is planning to sell produced compost in the market.



# Progressive Lead Farmers Empowering Community

Ramkishore Maurya's dedication to farming and his willingness to share his knowledge and experience with other farmers with the help of HCL Samuday's team have made him a valuable asset in the farming community of Kanaura Ant Gram Panchayat of Uttar Pradesh.

Through his participation in training on scientific agriculture at Centre for Agriculture Technology Transfer, Sandila, Ramkishore as a lead farmer was able to further educate and train 189 registered farmers of his village through the Shivaji Farmer Club. His commitment to farming is reflected in the way he maintains the agriculture training register to keep track of farmers' meetings. His dedication has had a positive impact on the farming community in the Gram panchayat.





## **HCL** Uday

#### Noida Updates

Ear health camp was conducted at Rasta Gurukul, Sadarpur. 67 children were screened of which 8 were diagnosed with problems like ear ache, fluid discharge and were provided follow-up and treatment and medications for the same.



300+ stakeholders were involved in School Management Committees and 430+ parents attended PTMs. The output of these meetings led to the active engagement in addressing and challenges like irregularity of students, hygiene and sanitation issues in schools.



On National Science Day, 40 students and 4 teachers in Discovery Science Centre at Primary School, Challera, Noida conducted a story telling session based on science concepts encouraging students to draw painting related to scientific observation, exploring the science centre and hands-on experience to build certain models.





45 SHG and Cluster federation leaders learned about Panch Sutras, SHG proceedings, rules and regulations and history of Madhubani art.



A complete health checkup organized for self-help group women in Noida. 55 members from 14 SHGs got their tests and checkup done by the medical professionals.



Udayan Care IT Yuvakendra hosted it's second campus placement drive in NOIDA. 42 students were successfully placed as data entry operators, customer support executives, and back support executives. Two HCLTech Volunteers supported the Yuvakendra team in this drive.





#### Lucknow Updates

Interactive activities with students to help them recognize the pictures and words for different Hindi letters and understand the correct words in Hindi.



Introducing the concept of fractions to students in grade 3rd and 4th in the Primary Schools supported by HCL Foundation in Lucknow.



Awareness camps on deworming held in Lucknow. ASHAs and Anganwadi Didis supported in providing deworming medicines to 419 children.



Creative workshops on Life skills were organized between 7 to 10 February'23 in all 12 intervention communities. 223 participants were taught about the importance of interpersonal communication in life.





2 HCLTech volunteers took a session on digital literacy to upgrade the skills of 20 depot holders.



Five days Aspiring Entrepreneurship Workshop (AEW) conducted with 45 Army Veterans. The workshop is designed to promote entrepreneurship and help them in establishing business through a five years continuous process of one to one support and mentoring.





SHG women in Lucknow formed a Jute Producer group. Members made beautiful Jute products and displayed them in various exhibitions conducted by Government and other organizations across Lucknow and have successfully grabbed business of more than ₹ 2 Lakhs.



#### Kolkata Updates

45 students of Ram Krishna Vivekananda Mission had an excursion to Kolkata International Book Fair where they visited the house of Subhash Chandra Bose and the museum established in the house. It was the student's first ever experience of any such book fair and museum.



#### Nagpur Updates

Annual Stakeholder consultation meeting was conducted at Nagpur. The students from Day and Night Schools shared their experiences with Education Officer, NMC, Principals of NMC schools and Night schools, HCL Nagpur leadership and volunteers.



#### Hyderabad Updates

80 Science Models were exhibited by the students from 10 Government High Schools at Hyderabad on the occasion of National Science Day.



100+ weavers participated in Capacity Building Programme at Pochampalli Silk Cluster, Telangana.





#### Bengaluru Updates

A training session was conducted for 72 ASHA workers and Anganwadi teachers on Disability.



Development Delay Screening Camp conducted for children in Mayabazar slum community. 25 children were assessed for delay in physical, mental and social development. All parents underwent counselling on nutrition and child care.



14 Community Awareness Sessions on Sexual and reproductive health, Family planning and nutrition conducted in Mayabazar and Anandapuram with over 300 community members.





#### Madurai Updates

58 Yuvekendra students were taken to an Automobile Industry for an exposure visit.



212 students exhibited their experiments on National Science  $\mbox{\sc Day}.$ 



752 Students were sensitized on Menstrual hygiene and cup usage



175 children and parents from ECCD centres were sensitized on National Deworming day.



26 Children under 5 years received immunization.





#### Vijayawada Updates

56 units of blood donated by employees in the Blood Donation Drive conducted on the occasion of 3rd Anniversary celebrations at Vijayawada HCLTech campus in association with Indian Red Cross Society.



Valedictory Ceremony for the first two batches of Hand Embroidery & Tailoring training was conducted for 90 women. The trainees successfully completed their 3 months training and received their course completion certificates.



89 students in Vijayawada participated in a Cancer awareness session. They were sensitized on types of cancers, potential habits to cause cancer and behavior modification to prevent cancer.



#### Chennai Updates

First Aid Training session conducted at Thuraipakkam and M.K.B Nagar PGBC with 90 children. After the training, the children received user manuals and certificates.



Assessment test was conducted to prepare them for competitive exams. Based on the marks scored by children in Assessment test we planned to give training to prepare for upcoming government exams.





## Clean Noida

#### Training of domestic helps

With an idea of emphasizing waste segregation at home with special focus on sanitary waste, trainings were scheduled with domestic helps across Noida city as they are one of the most important stakeholders under Clean NOIDA programme and have contributed greatly in making this city cleaner. As part of training, they also went through an assessment aimed at clearing doubts about waste segregation. 3,500+ domestic helps participated across 63 RWAs and High rises in the city.





#### Unity starts from YOU

A community event to engage villagers to stand for their village's cleanliness was carried out on 24th February in Ambedkar Nagar village of Noida. It was done through an interactive self-drawn and painted wall art on the entrance of the urban village.

The event also applauded and appreciated the first Sawchhta Nigrani Samiti made here and strengthened under Chachaka village 2.0 intervention of Clean NOIDA programme.





## Power of One



**4,639**Volunteers



**10,745** Hours



**36,807**Programme Participants

DFS COE – DWP Team Engagement with 25 volunteers at HCL Foundation supported School- Bhaktawarpur, Noida. 100+ students participated in multiple activities like math quiz, story-telling, drawing competition on the topic of 'Prakriti/Nature' organized by volunteers.



Eco Walk for students of Police Boys & Girls Club led by volunteers in partnership with NGO Thuvakkam in Chennai to promote environmental conservation.



HCLTech volunteers spent a whole day feeding and bathing the geriatric animals at the CUPA Kengeri centre.



Six volunteers from HCLTech helped students prepare for mock interviews for their placements while sharing 21st century life skills.





## **HCL Foundation Academy**

VIth Batch of Corporate Social Responsibility & Its Applied Aspects going on with 323 enrolled members.



Two webinars with more than 400 participants conducted on HCL Foundation Academy platform.







## Sports for Change

HCLTech employees Siddhesh Satyawan Murkar & Katamreddy Manikantha visited Anekal Stadium to motivate players to continue with their regular practice.



HCL Foundation supported Kutumb Foundation under 17 boys won the Freeky Football Tournament at TNM Indirapuram.



3 Girls selected to participate in Khelo India Youth Games 2023 (Under 19) held at Bhopal Madhya Pradesh.



Bharathy was awarded as best Batswomen of the tournament and Dharshini got best bowler award at the district level CM Trophy leather ball cricket tournament.





Bharathy

Darshini

MJAS Ajmer girls football team participated in Khelo India under 17 girls' league Rajasthan and finished in 3rd position receiving the "Best Team Fairplay Award".



HCL Foundation supported DBAI sports programme participant – Yuvaneshwaran, took part in state level Bharadhiyar sports day boxing championship and won the gold medal in 46kg category.



HCL Foundation supported Gurunanak College under 19 women's cricket team participated in inter-college T20 tournament organized by Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA). The team finished in 2nd position.



3 players selected for Karnataka State Football Team camp



V G Lekhashi



Janani Devanath



Manasa Mani



## My E-Haat

Artisans participated in the famous Kala Ghoda festival at Mumbai from February 4–12, 2023. Handicraft products from 5 My E-Haat clusters were on display and for sale.



My E-Haat Partners, VWAS & Samuday Crafts participated in Sanatkada Mahindra Festival, organized from February 3–7, 2023. The event provided good visibility and decent sales to the artisans.



## Global CSR

Employees of HCLTech Romania visited 23 kids living in really hard conditions and provided them with food, clothes, toys, and sweets that were donated by HCL Lasi colleagues.



A blood donation campaign in partnership with United Business Center was organized. During this event 120 people from lasi donated blood to help the people in critical need from Lasi and Romania.



HCLTech France extended support to the children hospitalized at the Pediatric Hematology and Oncology Institute of Lyon IHOPe-Hospital.



# **HCL Foundation**

Follow us on f 🛛 🗗 🛂 in

For any query contact:
Mili Agarwal: mili.agarwal@hcl.com
Arunima Bhattacharya: arunima.bhattacharya@hcl.com

Website: www.hclfoundation.org