

HCLFoundation

Catalyst

CSR Newsletter by HCLFoundation
May 2024



From the Director's Desk

Dear Readers,

This issue is packed with stories of pride and progress!

We begin with a moment of immense pride –Preethi Pal, a powerhouse of athletic talent nurtured through our Sports for Change programme in partnership with ADP, who took over the world stage! Preethi bagged two Bronze medals at the World Para Athletics Championships, becoming the first Indian to achieve this feat!

Also in this issue, we highlight the comprehensive Capacity Building Training organized in collaboration with the Investment and Development Authority of Nagaland (IDAN). This event, which brought together 35 NGOs, emphasized the importance of effective CSR policies and project management, ensuring that our partners are well-equipped to drive impactful change in their communities.

And while we were busy empowering and uplifting communities, absorbing new learnings and taking notes – the larger HCLTech ecosystem took note – of us! Yes, HCLFoundation is the proud recipient of the HCLTech Athena Award in the Category: "Enabling the Future" for the Corporate Social Responsibility(CSR) function. This recognition reinforces our belief – that going forward must continue to be guided by the very motto we began with – that of transforming lives and spreading smiles!

Read all of this and more – in the May 2024 edition of our CSR Newsletter – Catalyst.

Happy Reading!

Best Regards,

Dr. Nidhi Pundhir

Vice President, Global CSR, HCLTech and
Director, HCLFoundation



In Pic: The HCLFoundation team were all smiles as they pose for a photograph with the HCLTech Athena Award 2024

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Key Highlights

Building Capacity for Effective CSR & Project Management: A two-day comprehensive Capacity Building Training by IDAN x HCLFoundation in Nagaland

The Investment and Development Authority of Nagaland (IDAN), in collaboration with HCLFoundation, successfully organized a comprehensive two-day Capacity Building Training on "CSR Compliances & Project Management." The event witnessed the participation of 35 NGOs from across Nagaland.

Day 1

The inaugural session featured esteemed guests, including Shri R. Ramakrishnan, IAS, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister & Development Commissioner, Govt. of Nagaland, who emphasized the importance of NGOs in fostering the empowerment of Naga society and expressed gratitude to HCLFoundation for its partnership with IDAN in spearheading initiatives for the betterment of Nagaland. Shri Reny Wilfred, IAS, Joint Secretary, IDAN, extended a warm welcome to the attendees, while Dr. Nidhi Punthir, Director, HCL Foundation, reiterated the foundation's commitment to supporting NGOs through collaborative efforts and capacity-building initiatives. Shri I. Changsang, NCS, Under Secretary, IDAN, delivered the closing remarks at the formal program, expressing appreciation to all participants and emphasizing the importance of implementing the knowledge gained during the training.

Throughout the two-day workshop, resource faculties from HCLFoundation delivered insightful presentations on various topics. Sessions on the overview and evolution of CSR, compliance with Section 135 of the Companies Act 2013, and CSR activities outlined in Project Schedule VII of the Companies Act 2013 were particularly enlightening. Additionally, participants gained valuable insights into project management processes, project planning, development, and implementation of change.

Day 2

The trainings delved into the fundamental aspects of CSR policy, guiding participants on how to prepare effective CSR policies, and strategies for development communication and resource mobilization. The interactive sessions fostered active engagement from participating NGOs, who eagerly sought clarification on CSR policies and laws.

A virtual presentation concluded the program, covering crucial topics such as accounting, taxation, latest amendments, and notifications relevant to CSR initiatives. Discussions on assessment and certification provided participants with the opportunity to share their key learnings and action points.



She's unstoppable! Indian Sprinter and 'Sports For Change' star Preethi Pal blazes trail, grabs double Bronze at World Para Athletics Championships!

In an absolute 'Moment Of Pride, Preethi Pal – the athletic talent powerhouse from our #SportsForChange initiative in partnership with ADP – put forth a remarkable display of her game on the world stage: Preethi secured two Bronze medals in both the 100m and 200m categories at World Para Athletics Championships at Kobe, Japan. This makes her the 1st ever Indian Athlete to win 2 medals in a single edition of World Para Athletics Championships!



Key Representations

HCLFoundation shares micro-grid expertise with NTPC, Ugandan officials

From May 13 to 17, NTPC School of Business (NSB) organized a 5-day training program on micro-grids under the Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, for Ugandan officials. Leveraging HCL Foundation's expertise in establishing and overseeing 32 solar micro-grids in Hardoi, Rupesh Kumar (Senior Sector Lead- Environment and Infrastructure sector) was invited to deliver a technical session on "Design, Operation & Management of Micro-grids: Some Practical Experiences" on May 16. Attended by 20 Ugandan officials, the session highlighted Samuday's solar mini-grid journey and key aspects of managing the solar micro-grid plant. The objective of the session was to enhance the capacity of Ugandan officials in implementing renewable energy solutions to tackle energy demand and climate change.





This month, we are thrilled to spotlight Akshay Ahuja as our Star Team Member of the Month. Akshay is the Group Manager at Samudayand My Clean City by HCLFoundation. His story is one of antifragility, an insatiable hunger to learn as well as a textbook example of the magic of mentorship towards nurturing innate passions...

Excerpts from an interview – edited and condensed for clarity.

Star Team Member of the Month

Early Life and Education

Akshay's journey began in Delhi, where he grew up with a profound love for sports. His initial foray into the world of athletics saw him excel in various sports, from athletics and swimming to gymnastics and cricket – right up till the level of Club cricket, representing Roshana club. As he puts it, "Sports taught me discipline, teamwork, and the importance of perseverance."

However, his athletic pursuits were curtailed by a severe lower back injury during a sports drill – a turning point that steered him towards academics (and as we will further see – eventually, a career dedicated to social impact.)

Akshay recalls how his father had a simple guidance for him as a schoolboy, "Beta, bas fail nahihona!" (Son, whatever you do, do not fail!). He adds, "Trust me when I say this, there was once a point while taking an exam wherein the moment I realized that I have written enough so as to fetch me my coveted 70% marks – I literally stopped attempting the exam further and left the exam center!"

The holy trio/ तीनयाar

Akshay notes, "But as I moved to class XI, I selected Commerce with math. It was a no brainer – Sahib, Vinod and I – we always chose collectively, you see." (Sahib, Vinod and Akshay are the trio of friends with decades-long friendship). Akshay adds, this is also the time when I met some fantastic teachers. Sheetal Malik, Anu Tuli and Jaspal Singh sir – to name a few – they were more than just instructors; they were mentors who guided me through difficult times and encouraged me to look beyond immediate setbacks. They played a pivotal role in helping me transition from sports to academics, focusing more on learning by understanding than rote. It is no wonder then, that I scored brilliantly in Class XII. This paved my way to SGTB Khalsa – a premier Delhi University college at North Campus"

Higher Education & pursuit of 'that red Pulsar'

As he moves to higher education, Akshay continues to credit his educators with fostering a sense of curiosity and love for academics. He notes, "Pragya ma'am encouraged fantastic, practical conversations. And what to say of the likes of Dr. Vibhas Jha, Negi and Mittal sir? They're plain geniuses. And then, when Delhi School of Economics happened (for my Masters) – I was fortunate to learn subjects of Development Economics and Advanced Statistical Methods from the most celebrated names in the field. This meant one lecture each from Amartya Sen, Pranab Mukherjee, P Chidambaram, Kaushik Basu, Manmohan Singh and Jean Drèze as part of our Master series!" This was also the time when Akshay bought his first, dream vehicle – as Akshay calls it, "that red Pulsar" – all with his own well-earned money from internship and "a small 5000-rupee gift from dadima, to fill the gap!" he recalls.

Data-driven interventions that improve lives | Akshay's professional journey

"After DSE, I got placed – on campus – as an analyst; moved to Bengaluru and the three of us separated," he says, adding, "But 6 months in, I left."

Akshay has since went on to be associated with the likes of Accenture, PwC and more – working on projects for The World Bank, European Commission, and various state governments.



"Starting out as an analyst, I had the opportunity to delve into various datasets that revealed the stark realities of health, education, and income disparities. It was eye-opening. It also fueled my desire to create meaningful change," Akshay explains. He adds, "then HCL happened..."

Enter, Samuday!

Samuday was introduced to me as "a social sector startup with a dedicated annual funding from Mr. Nadar himself!" (Akshay adds with an amiable jest - "The person who gave this description was your March edition's star team member - Vaibhavi!") The transition to HCLFoundation has - in his words, "marked a significant chapter in my career." His recruitment process itself was unconventional yet insightful. Minus a formal interview setup, Akshay impressed the leadership with his vision for Samuday during an impromptu brainstorming session. "It was both daunting and exciting. But I believe in seizing opportunities," Akshay shares.

A day-in-the-(work)life-of Akshay at HCLFoundation - a 'data-based' breakup!

Almost a decade of association with the foundation, Akshay is today the Group Manager at Samuday and is also looking into the expansion of the flagship programme My Clean City in Noida and Greater Noida. He has been instrumental in leading projects that address critical issues of health, WASH and environment in rural communities - esp. those of Hardoi.

Akshay's working/leadership style, inspired by Mr. Nadar himself, involves fostering a collaborative environment where every team member is encouraged to lead and take ownership of their projects. "I don't wish to create managers; I want to create a team of leaders. Empowering my team and seeing them grow is one of the most rewarding aspects of my job. It is only when each member feels empowered to lead, can we collectively drive a sustained impact in the communities we serve," he says.

It was only natural then, that Akshay also turned to data when addressing this query! He said, "30% of my job/day goes into ensuring that funds get spent in the most judicious manner and within a stipulated timeline. Stakeholder management takes up 20%. 10% of it - I'm on the field. 20% is project management - which majorly entails making sure projects are happening on time and delivering the desired impact. And the remaining 20%, umm, well, that is conflict management!"

One fond memory

"Definitely not one!", says Akshay, adding, "I remember the sabbatical I took in 2019 (before the Covid-19 Pandemic) to pursue my second Masters in Public Policy in Vienna at the Central European University. Hearing global voices - from Kenya to Norway to Afghanistan - enhanced my foresight and brought about a shift in my perspective - reinforcing the realization: Development takes concerted effort. Change takes time. Be at it. Be patient.

I will also remember how we almost always started our days super early in the morning during the initial years of Samuday and finished around 5PM in the evening, followed by Alok's briefings and then followed by Cricket matches! I've made lifelong friends at the Foundation. It's more than just work; it's a community!

But if I must choose, two of them top the list: One, the Baisakhi of 2015 - the day we set foot in Hardoi. And two, the parties with Alok and Navpreet!", Akshay laughs.

Akshay is Noida-based where he stays with his family. In his free time, he loves to consume long-form reportage on economics, finance and geopolitics. His dream is to visit all the borders of India - on his bike! Having covered all Indo-Pak borders, and most in the east, he believes this dream will be fulfilled very soon. Akshay will also happily offer to help you with a list of remote, pristine and worth-seeing places complete with an itinerary to anyone willing! And oh yes, inspired by the film Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara - Akshay, Sahib and Vinod have made a pact of sorts - to meet at least once a year for a getaway, where it is just them - the *तीनयाar*.

Supporting environmental action

Greening young minds!

Let us all make some nests

HCLFoundation along with Eco Roots Foundation began their month-long campaign with 11 nest-making workshops in Rasta Gurukul School, Composite School Kulesera, and Upper Primary School Nagla Charan Das in Noida. During the workshops, the students learnt to build eco-friendly nests and gained awareness about bird conservation, the significance of birds in ecosystem, and importance of creating safe nesting spaces for birds, especially small birds in urban environments.

221+

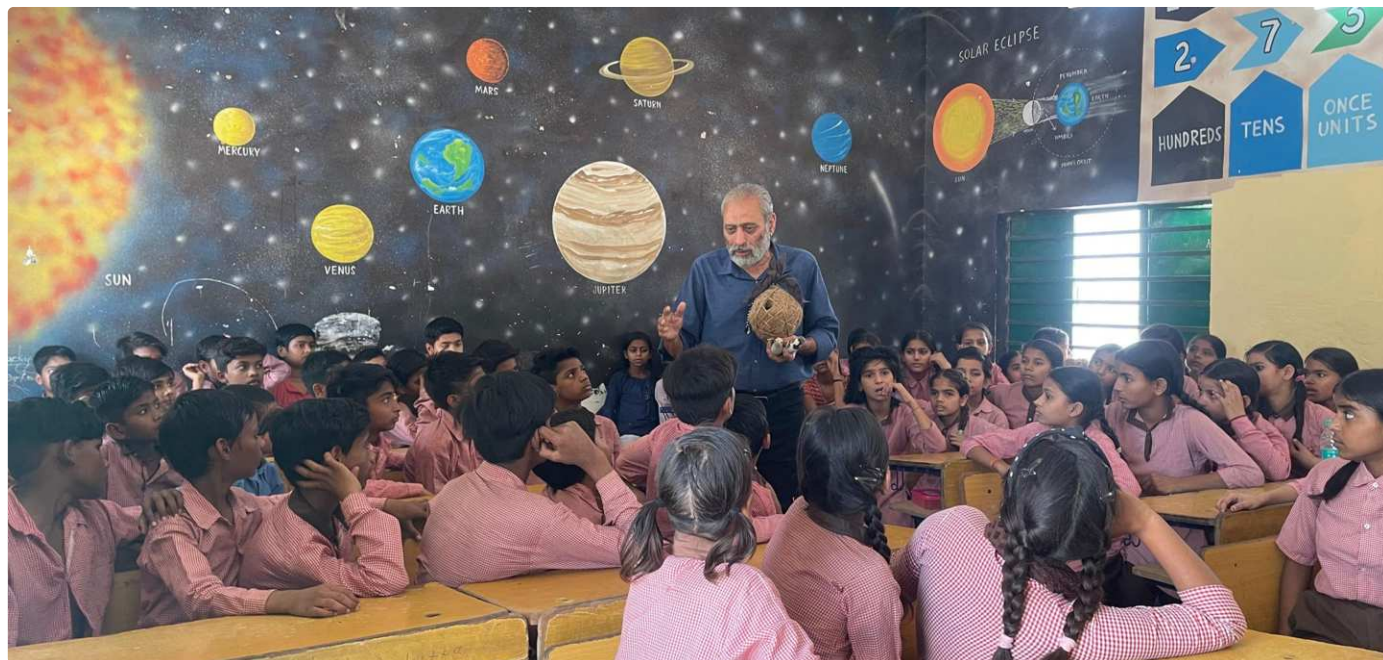
Nest made

525+

Students/teacher engaged

17+

hours engaged



Green comics

HCLFoundation along with World Comics India organized two environmental comic workshops in Composite School Khaipur Gujjar and Rasta Learning School, Noida. The students created insightful comic during workshops, which is an expression of their thought on environment issues and solution for it. The unique individual environment-concern comic and stories were created through this workshops.

50+

Comic strips made

90+

Students engaged

7+

hours engaged



All about flora and fauna

On the occasion of International Day of Biodiversity, HCLFoundation team took a sessions with the students of the Nanhe Parinde Center at Sector 62, Noida; and the students at Arumbakam Police Boys Girls Club, Chennai on "Understanding on Nature and Ecosystem". The session was focused on building a basic understanding of the ecosystem, especially in urban biodiversity, for bringing a positive attitude to nature and the environment through the interactive medium of games and videos.

50+

students engaged



Ghost nets get ghosted: Fishermen support conservation efforts in Ankola

As part of the "Karnataka Coastal Conservation project" a mass outreach and awareness program was organized for the fishermen communities in Ankola, a coastal village in the Uttara Kannada district. They were introduced to the Ghost Net Retrieval Project, highlighting the detrimental effects of ghost nets on marine life. The local fishermen have pledged their support and thanks to their cooperation, the team could successfully retrieve around 300 kilograms of ghost nets from the area. This significant effort will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the marine ecosystem.



Transforming rural communities

Health camp for handcraft artisans organised to promote health and wellness

Samuday by HCLFoundation serves a significant number of rural artisans and craftspeople – ones who often work in remote or underserved areas with limited access to healthcare facilities. Considering this, health camps were organized for handcraft artisans across Haridwar engaged in Wheat Grass basketry, Taat hand embroidery, block printing, Moonj craft making and tailoring centers, along with their family members from 7-27 May. These health camps were held on a cluster basis, targeting specific areas where the artisans reside. These camps provided general check-ups, basic medical consultations and medicines to the patients. Health camps also offered education on hygiene, nutrition, and preventive measures to avoid common work-related illness and injuries. 1,430 individuals benefitted from this initiative.



Construction of boundary wall at Som Health Centre – an example of collaborative 'efforts' with 'synergy at play'

To establish government ownership in the quality accreditation process through continuous liaison with Chief Development Officer, the PRI department, and the Gram Pradhan, this month a boundary wall has got constructed for the Som Health Center in Sandila. The boundary wall ensures clean premises and staff safety, contributing to both patient and health workers' satisfaction.



World Menstrual Hygiene Day celebrated in Hardoi

Samuday celebrated World Menstrual Hygiene Day in Hardoi to break stigma and taboos prevalent in the society around menstruation. Multiple activities including awareness sessions, rallies, group discussions, distribution of sanitary napkins, and counselling sessions were organized on 28th May around the theme 'Together for a #PeriodFriendlyWorld'. With the objective to create awareness, and empower women with correct and scientific knowledge, in close coordination with government department, 1300 individuals were reached out across the district.



Nikshay Day marked in Hardoi to spread awareness about Tuberculosis management

Ni-kshay Diwas was organized under TB Elimination project on 9th, 17th, and 18th May across 2 blocks of Hardoi district. During this event, 473 people with Tuberculosis were provided nutrition support and their anthropometry was done. In addition, the team provided counseling and spread awareness about Tuberculosis, importance of nutrition, and timely consumption of medication during treatment.



Training of Community Health Officers organised

Community Health Officers' training was organized under the TB Elimination project on 16th May at Community Health Centre Ahirori. 12 CHOs participated in this initiative which focused on enhancing the understanding of TB, outlining the critical role of TB Champions in the program, and strategies for effective community engagement. The training highlighted the importance of collaborative efforts between CHOs and TB Champions to achieve the goals of the TB Elimination project. Participants were provided with comprehensive knowledge and tools to effectively contribute to the project's success.



37 Non-Communicable Disease health camps organized

Samuday by HCLFoundation through its Mobile Health Clinics, in coordination with the District Health Society, organized 37 non-communicable disease health camp this month across two blocks in Hardoi. Various services like NCD screening, lab testing, counselling, and general OPD medicines were provided to the people. 3,092 people screened, identifying 315 with hypertension and 103 with diabetes. Identified patients were enrolled with Community Health Officer (CHO) for further treatment and follow-up. Participants were provided with comprehensive knowledge and tools to effectively contribute to the project's success.



Empowering NGOs that transform rural India

1000+ Discarded Flip-Flops Transformed into Powerful Message on Ocean Pollution

A giant fish sculpture is built using 1000+ discarded flip-flops collected from the ocean as part of the project DROP (Drive to Recover Plastic from the Ocean). These flip flops contributed to a significant portion of the plastic waste polluting our oceans and unfortunately cannot be recycled.

This eye-catching flip flop fish is installed on the beach, serving as a powerful reminder of the threats plastic pollution poses to our oceans, marine life and ultimately our planet. Courtesy: PlanatEarth, an organization working for the protection and conservation of marine life and the winner of HCLTech Grant Edition VIII in the Environment category for the project, "Recover and Recycle Plastic from Ocean and Protect Water Bodies from Water Hyacinth Infestation by Manufacturing Briquettes from water weeds.



This image features an art installation created from discarded flip flops. The message "Eat fish! Not flip flops!" promotes ocean conservation by highlighting marine debris. However, HCLFoundation does not promote nor is not affiliated with any specific dietary recommendations. We encourage responsible consumption practices and suggest consulting reliable resources for information on seafood safety.

Breaking the cycle of urban poverty

Bengaluru

Cholera Campaign

Volunteers along with children from maya bazar participated in the cholera campaign. We ran this campaign for awareness in the community. Children explained the messages on their respective posters they made, to spread awareness further. After this awareness drive, gifts were distributed to the children as a token of appreciation for their effort. A fun day with kids and HCL volunteers.



Inauguration of ECO-Shop and MoU signing

Melagiri Farmer Producer Company (FPC) supported by HCLFoundation joined forces with the Forest Department to inaugurate an Eco-Shop. This marks a new chapter in tribal empowerment in Denkanikotta, Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu. This initiative empowers the community by providing a platform to sell their non-timber forest products (NTFPs) through the Eco-Shop, generously sponsored by the Forest Department. This collaboration exemplifies a successful Public-Private Partnership model, bringing together government, business, and community for a sustainable future.

The eco shop under the forest department can significantly enhance the marketing of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) by leveraging government backing to build trust and credibility, strategically placing shops in high-traffic route that connects to a tourist location to increase visibility. Further to this, HCLFoundation livelihood project is involved by providing training and support to tribal communities for sustainable harvesting and quality assurance.



Workshop on Towards Zero Waste

Organized a Workshop on Towards Zero waste to all Bangalore partners. The aim is to ensure no waste events and no waste centers (Yuvakendras/ eccd centers/ resource centers) under HCLF projects. India's leading waste management expert Mr. Ramprasad was the lead trainer. This was organized in collaboration with Center for Sustainable Development



World Hypertension Day

An awareness cum free health check-up camp event was held at Namma Clinic at Pillaganahalli, Gottigere, to mark World Hypertension Day. The program's objective was to spread awareness of Namma Clinic's services and to raise awareness of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). During the day-long event, one-to-one through flipchart's and group sessions were held to educate community members on importance of regular health check-ups and encourage them to adopt a healthy lifestyle and follow panchasutras for a healthier life. Five volunteers from HCL attended the event and supported community mobilization through door-to-door visits and managing the health camp. A total of 117 people benefited from the event.



AIFO Goonjan Software – Training to the project team

On May 29th, 2024, a training program was held at the head office for the project team, focusing on acquainting them with the intricacies of the Goonjan software. The session, meticulously crafted and facilitated, aimed to equip the team with a deep understanding of the software's functionalities and capabilities, hands-on demonstrations, interactive sessions. Participants were guided through various aspects of the software, including its features, navigation, and utilization for project management purposes.



AIFO Need Assessment and enrolment for ABHA Card

Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) worker engaged in carrying out ABHA registration. Need based assessment survey initiated through home visits of a person with disabilities (PWD) in Madapattana on May 27, 2024.



Celebration of Mother's Day

Bro. Siga Social Service Guild observed mother's day . Children and their mothers were engaged in gardening to connect with the nature. A total of 40 mothers with their children participated the event.



Sunshine Camp for children of HCLTechies

BSSSG took part in Sunshine Camp for the children of HCLTechies. The teachers of BSSG organized various activities including craft work by using color paper, telling rhymes, Train game, Identifying shapes etc., for 80 to100 children in the age group 6-12 years



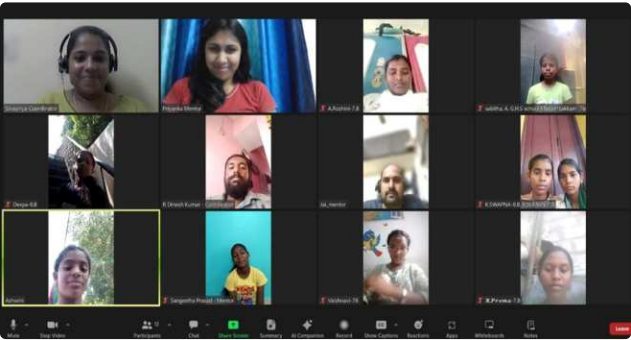
Educational Summer Camp

The Educational Summer Camp 2024 titled LEAP (Leadership, Education via Ambiguous Programme) aimed at refreshing young minds with creative ideas through sessions and activities (Learn While Play) was organized . It was a two day camp at three different locations for children from 6th to 10th Std., emphasizing the importance of early interventions in shaping confident, articulate, and empathetic individuals. A total of 146 students across three locations participated in this camp.



Toastmaster Activity

On the initiative taken by OfERR-HCLF with the help of [ShivNadar Foundation] Toastmaster online session has been conducted in the MMA. Govt. Hr. Sec. School (Pallavaram) and Govt. Hr. Sec. School (Madambakkam) and its an 8-week's programme and it has been conducted on weekends for 2 hours. As an outcome 29 students has been shortlisted to get the Toastmaster certificates and the learned English communication, and Presentation skills, etc



World No Tobacco Day

In view of the World No Tobacco Day- 2024, the Cancer Institute and HCLFoundation organized a 'Flashmob' in seven public places in Chennai, aimed at creating awareness on protecting children from tobacco on 31st May 2024. The places are Labour Statue, Marina Beach, Chennai Central Railway Station, Central Metro Station, Guindy Metro Station, Koyembedu Bus Terminus, Anna Tower Park, and Urban Square. More than 1200 public observed the flash mob.



Comprehensive eye screening camps for the community

Comprehensive eye screening was conducted for adults located in Kannagi Nagar, Perumbakkam Semmanchery and Gandhi Nagar. A total of 463 were screened during last month and 279 of them were refereed to Sankara Nethralaya hospital for further investigations and surgeries. Spectacles distribution was happened for those who were in need of it.



Hyderabad

Skill Development Training for Youth

Initiated new batch of BPO (Business Process Outsourcing) for youth through NGO partner Bright Light Society. Total 30 Youth main female have enrolled and joined the training. During the training youth were also taught Soft Skills & basic IT Skills.



Lucknow

Celebration of World Hypertension Day

World Hypertension Day was celebrated in Paltan Slum to raise awareness about hypertension, its risk factors, prevention, and management. The program had health education sessions, where HCLTech volunteers provided free blood pressure checks to participants. The education session offered guidance on maintaining healthy blood pressure levels and how to be fit. By providing accessible screenings and valuable information, the program aimed to promote early detection and encourage regular monitoring. Following the programme, volunteers distributed Tulsi plants to the attendees as a symbol of health and well-being. A total of 58 members participated in this impactful event.



Monthly elderly gathering

The elderly meeting took place in four slums of Purania, Madiyaon, Rahim Nagar, and Badi Jugauli featured engaging activities such as coloring, passing the ball, and inflating balloons. Participants were also provided with medicinal plants like Tulsi and Aloe Vera. The event aimed to promote social interaction, cognitive stimulation, and physical activity among the elderly residents of these slums. Overall, the meeting served as a platform for holistic well-being and social connection among the elderly population in the targeted areas. A total of 141 members participated in the program of all four slums.



Menstrual Hygiene Management Day Celebration

Under the Aao Batein Karein programme, Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Day was celebrated on May 28, 2024, across six intervention slum communities in Lucknow to raise awareness about menstrual hygiene. The event featured rallies with placards displaying impactful slogans and interactive Gosthies (discussion sessions), engaging the community in meaningful conversations. HCLTechies played an active role in educating community members on maintaining hygiene during menstruation. The events successfully reached and benefitted a total of 169 participants.



Refresher Training Vruddh Sahyog Sarthi

The refresher training session for volunteers on the Geriatric Care Project focused on enhancing their skills in elderly care. Hands-on training in using medical equipment like blood pressure monitors and glucometers, ensuring accurate and safe usage. The training also covered understanding the physical and psychological needs of the elderly, effective communication, managing age-related issues, and promoting social engagement and emotional well-being. Practical demonstrations and interactive sessions ensured proficiency, equipping volunteers with the necessary skills to provide comprehensive care and support to the elderly community.



Orientation of Adolescent Boys on SRH, family life education, and responsible behavior

One-day orientation organized, for adolescent boys, focusing on Sexual and Reproductive Health, Family Life Education, and responsible sexual behavior. The primary goal was to provide comprehensive knowledge on SRH and family life education while introducing age-appropriate information on family planning. Ms. Rita Banerjee, former GM of SIFPSA, engaged the participants in interactive discussions on various critical topics, ensuring they received thorough and understandable information. The event successfully fostered an environment for open dialogue, equipping the adolescents with essential knowledge and encouraging responsible behavior. The workshop saw participation from 59 adolescent boys across 12 intervention slum communities.



Community campaign on Nutrition & Gender sensitization

MAMTA HINC supported by the HCLFoundation organizes community awareness activities on nutrition and gender using the innovative Snack and Ladder tool. This engaging method effectively communicated the importance of balanced nutrition and gender equality. Participants, including community members and students, played the interactive game, which illustrated key messages about healthy eating habits and breaking gender stereotypes. The activity fostered discussions and enhanced understanding of the impact of nutrition on health and the significance of gender equality. This initiative aimed to empower individuals with knowledge to make informed choices, promoting healthier lifestyles and a more equitable society.



World Menstrual Hygiene Day

On World Menstrual Hygiene Day, the Family Planning Association of India (FPAi) organized an SRH (Sexual and Reproductive Health) awareness session for our HCL core volunteers, centered around the theme of creating a period-friendly society. FPAi's presentation provided a valuable platform for our volunteers to engage with and spread awareness about this sensitive issue. Volunteers of all genders participated, earning high praise from our partner NGO. After the session, volunteers expressed their eagerness to dismantle the societal stigma surrounding menstruation, recognizing the harm it causes to women and girls. They shared their perspectives on menstruation and reproductive health both before and after the session, highlighting the positive impact of the discussion. This initiative aimed to normalize menstruation, debunk myths, and encourage good hygiene practices to promote health and well-being.



National Technology Day

For National Technology Day, HCLTechies engaged with 20 students, on the importance of technology and its everyday uses. They shared insights on cloud computing, various types of information technology, and the significance of AI, students also contributed by discussing the impact of technology in their lives. The volunteers demonstrated how chat gpt works, providing an interactive and informative session for the students.



Blood donation drive at HCL Campus

The blood donation campaign took place at the HCLTech campus in a total of 231 HCL employees registered for donation, with 178 eligible individuals stepping forward to donate, potentially saving lives. We collected a total of 178 units of blood. The event received recognition from the Zonal Medical Officer, Government Rajaji Medical College and Prakash, general manager of the HR department, accepted the appreciation certificate on behalf of the HCLFoundation.



Science Club for enabling rigor and temperament

Students from Bharathidasanar School's science club recently participated in a two-day science training workshop organized by the "Breakthrough Science Society". Held at the MC School campus, the event aimed to cultivate curiosity and a passion for scientific exploration among young learners. Through hands-on experiments and interactive sessions, participants explored various scientific concepts, improving their understanding and practical skills. The workshop offered a platform for students to collaborate, exchange ideas, and spark their interest in STEM fields. Overall, it was an engaging experience that promoted active learning and scientific inquiry.



Sunshine Summer Camp

Sunshine Summer Camp was organized at our HCLTech campus, where 120 students participated. The camp was facilitated by 25 HCLTech employees, alongside the HR, admin team, and interns from various enabling teams.

Activities conducted included:

Pot painting (creating bird food feeders).

Collective painting aimed at spreading awareness through the artwork.

A snake and ladder game by WASHi, themed around personal hygiene.

A Zumba session, Telescope viewing, storytelling.

It was all not just an activity but was also focused on engaging and involving the kids in ways that taught them moral values, personal hygiene, and the importance of physical activities while ensuring they had fun. The last day of the camp had the senior leadership sharing inspiration stories with kids while encouraging kids with certificates, smiley batch and saplings.



World No Tobacco Day

Every year, on 31st May we observe World No Tobacco Day. This year we plan to conduct the Launch of Free Helpline for Tobacco users.

The Cancer Institute has been involved in tobacco control and cancer prevention initiatives in Madurai Corporation Schools. In order to address this, we intend to introduce the Free Helpline Number "86676 47802" to tobacco users who wish to give up their smoking habits.

On the 31st of May, 2024, World No Tobacco Day, Tmt. M.S. Sangeetha I.A.S., Madurai district collector, would launch the free hotline.



Mother's Day Celebration

On the occasion of Mother's day celebration, Kids from ECCD engaged both children and parents in a special gardening activity. Kids were Engaged in gardening tasks such as planting and watering not only educates them about the significance of plants; but also instills in them the value of nurturing and caring, mirroring & the nurturing role of mothers in their lives.

As part of our Mother's Day celebration, the children lovingly crafted heartfelt greeting cards for their parents at our Balwadi. Each card was a love, filled with colorful drawings and heartfelt messages expressing gratitude and appreciation for the mothers who play such a vital role in their lives.



Visit of NMC officials to HCLFoundation Skill Training Center

Mrs. Ranjana Lade, Deputy Commissioner, Social Welfare Department, NMC, Nagpur; Mr. Vinay Trikolwar, City Mission Manager, NMC Nagpur visited the skill training center at Mahal supported by to study the model of the stitching cluster. They interacted with the project participants of the newly formed Hirkani cluster and proposed to link the cluster with Urban Livelihood Mission.



Sunshine summer camp at HCLT campus

HCLF partners supported conducting sessions on Children safety, Lifeskills and environment conservation. Over 35 children and 10 volunteers were involved in the activity.



Inspire awards

Two members of the Science Club formed under the STEM project at NMC schools named Divyansh Gupta (class 9) and Ansh Dwivedi (class 9) have been selected for Inspire Manak Award competition. Both students have received a scholarship of 10 thousand each for this competition.



Summer Camps at NMC Schools

Aflatoun summer camp at the 5 NMC and Pandharabodi community, engaging a total of 875 children. This enriching experience was supported by 29 dedicated teachers, who actively contributed to the camp's success. The camp featured various activities to enhance the children's cognitive and social skills.



Volunteer activity

12 volunteers spent quality time with the children to engage them in Origami workshop and enhance their art and craft skills. The children learnt to make 'paper fishes' and the top performing 5 children were awarded with art & craft kits. Snack packets were also given to the children by the team.



Introduction and orientation of Anganwadi workers

On 16th May 2024, an introduction and orientation meeting with both new and existing anganwadi workers was conducted as part of ECCD scaling up efforts in Gautam Budh Nagar. The session was skillfully led by the ECCD partner NalandaWay foundation, incorporating various activities. Also, the District Program Officer (DPO) and anganwadi supervisors of GB Nagar attended the meeting, offering motivation and addressing challenges. A robust rewards and recognition (RnR) program for the anganwadi workers is being devised by the ECCD team to foster a supportive ecosystem for them.



Eid Celebration

ECCD partner Cohesion Foundation Trust celebrated the spirit of togetherness and festivities with children at AWCs of its project area in GB Nagar district of UP. Children enjoyed fun-filled activities like dancing, arts and crafts, and through heartfelt hugs they tried to spread best wishes and the message of brotherhood.



Congratulations to all achievers for passing board exams with flying colours

Exceptional performance of 5 students with visual disabilities from SAKSHAM supported by HCLFoundation passed their board exams with praiseworthy scores. 4 students from class X scored an average of 71% and 1 student from class XII scored 72%.

These students despite many challenges have been able to achieve meritorious result through their hard work, dedication and perseverance. Technology through assistive devices has been playing an important role in achieving this result and aiding to promote inclusive education.



Doing good returns to hundredfold smiles

12 employees from DFS COE business team visited Primary School Asgarpur to share some joyful moments with children. The business team procured and distributed stationery items, sketch books, steel bottles and cookies among students. They also conducted some colouring activities, games, storytelling session and stretching exercises. Children cherished the fun moments with volunteers.



HCLFoundation Partner FPAI Empowers Young Lives

In the bustling city of Noida, lives 17-year-old Shivam, a young man brimming with potential. Shivam's journey, however, wasn't always smooth sailing. He, like many adolescents, found himself navigating the complexities of growing up, a time filled with both excitement and uncertainty.

Fortunately, Shivam wasn't alone on this path. HCLFoundation, through its partnership with FPAI, a leading health-focused NGO, stepped in to provide him with the knowledge and support he needed.

Through interactive workshops and sessions led by FPAI experts, Shivam gained valuable information on critical life skills, including sexual and reproductive health. These sessions fostered a safe space for open discussions, empowering Shivam to make informed choices about his well-being.

Shivam's story is a testament to the transformative power of knowledge. Equipped with the right tools and guidance, he is now better prepared to navigate the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.



**Promoting Health Through Community Engagement -
'World Health Day Camp in Noida Slum Sector 63'**

On World Health Day, a health camp was organized in collaboration with Agargami India and FPAI, supported by HCLFoundation, in the Noida Slum Sector 63, aimed to provide medical services and to raise awareness about health and hygiene, particularly among pregnant women. Services included general, Non-communicable disease screening and Antenatal examinations by specialist, distribution of essential medications and hygiene products, and the distribution of nutrition kits to pregnant women. A dedicated area with privacy curtains was arranged for Antenatal mothers, and patients requiring further medical attention were referred to the District Hospital. Care was given to 100 beneficiaries during the camp. In addition to physical examination urine tests, and blood tests were offered to pregnant women to ensure the health of both mother and child. Alongside medical consultations, community awareness activities were held. The Doctors For You team conducted an awareness session on hand hygiene, stressing the importance of hygiene practices.



Ram Navami Pooja Uplifts Spirits for the elderly

SHEOWS, brought joy and spiritual solace to the residents of their Okhla Elderly Care Centre with a special Ram Navami Pooja. Recognizing the importance of holistic well-being for seniors, the pooja aimed to uplift their spirits and promote a sense of peace.

The day unfolded with reverence and warmth, showcasing HCLFoundation's commitment to resident well-being.



**Earth Day Celebration at SHEOWS Encourages
Environmental Awareness and Resident Engagement**

SHEOWS, celebrated Earth Day at their Okhla Elderly Care Centre with a day filled with engaging activities. The initiative aimed to promote a healthy and green environment while fostering resident well-being. Through activities like tree planting, residents actively participated in creating a greener space.

This Earth Day celebration embodied the core values of HCLFoundation and SHEOWS. Residents not only contributed to a healthier living environment but also built a stronger sense of environmental awareness and community engagement within the care facility.



Immunization drive empowers parents and protects children

UdaybyHCLFoundation supports , Agragami India Family Planning Educators are making a significant impact in Noida. They reach out to parents with eligible children and pregnant women in their intervention areas to create awareness about the benefits of timely and complete immunization. They also motivate them to take all scheduled immunizations and coordinate with the Health Authority of Noida to hold outreach camps for immunization.

Agragami India supported the vaccination of 611 children and pregnant women in 22 sessions. This impactful achievement ensures these children get the vital protection they need to stay healthy and thrive.



Health camp promotes healthy pregnancies and safe deliveries

HCLFoundation partner Agragami India, along with Doctors For You and Family Planning Association of India, organized a health camp on April 8th, 2024, in Chijarsi, Noida. Agragami India Family Planning Educators played a key role in motivating people in their intervention areas to attend the camp.

At the camp, educators explained to visitors the importance of do's and don'ts related to a healthy pregnancy and safe delivery.



New Batch Inception

New batch of trainees incepted in the Yuvakendra in 21st century employability skills trade. Total 20 unemployed youth joined in the course.



Tally and GST Course

Tally and GST new course started in the location. The first batch of trainees incepted in to the course. The unemployed youth will be trained on Tally and GST and supported in employment and placement opportunities.



Blood Donation Drive

We have successfully organized 3rd Blood Donation Drive organized at HCLTech, Vijayawada campus in association with HCL Healthcare. Total 116 on spot registrations and 96 units of blood collected from enthusiastic employee volunteers. This is the highest number of blood units donated so far in the campus. Certificate of appreciation provided to the blood donors. HR and Admin teams supported enormously organizing this drive.



Fostering cleanliness, seeding sustainability



Menstrual Hygiene Day promoting #PeriodFriendlyWorld celebrated with citizens of Noida

A My Clean City by HCLFoundation marked the Menstrual Hygiene Day on May 28 at the Composite Government School Chhalera, Harijan basti and Naya Bans village, Noida.

On the occasion, importance of menstrual hygiene as well as associated waste management was discussed with over 200 participants, including school children and village residents. They were engaged through interactive sessions to raise awareness and promote a #PeriodFriendlyWorld. The discussions revolved around the stigma and taboos surrounding menstruation.

Ajara Akhtar from My Clean City took the sessions explaining the best practices to handle and manage period waste – how to discard, dispose used soiled period aid and its ecofriendly alternatives available to sustain a greener, cleaner & hygienic –‘Swachh’ period.



Enabling our people to give back to society



1,217

Volunteers engaged



3,110

Hours clocked



9,078

Programme participants

Become A Blood Donor, Save Lives Campaign-

HCLTechies across Noida, Nagpur, Chennai, Bengaluru, Madurai, Hyderabad and Vijayawada took up the onus of donating blood to save lives and contributed 1,379 units of blood. In keeping with the upcoming World Blood Donors Day (June 14), many more HCLTechies will be volunteering next month to donate more units.

Sunshine Summer Camp- 800+ children of HCLTech employees had the opportunity to participate in wonderful, innovative, and engaging sessions organized by various HCLFoundation NGO partners across Noida, Chennai, Bengaluru, Vijayawada, Nagpur, Lucknow and Madurai for the Sunshine Summer Camps held on campus. Through these sessions, the children were involved in story-telling with moral values, understanding good touch-bad touch, learning new craft methods, gaining awareness about environmental conservation and much more! 50+ HCLTechies also volunteered across the locations towards smooth execution of the event.

HCLFoundation induction for HCL Software Team-

Nearly 30 new joiners under HCL Software were part of a three-days CSR induction program in NOIDA wherein they were oriented about HCLFoundation and had the opportunity to start their volunteering journey. These new joiners volunteered to serve the elderly at SHEOWS Welfare Home for the elderly, create bird nests at Harit Sorkha afforestation project site and played friendly matches with our budding sports champs at SFC ITEDA complex.





Power of One Volunteer of the month

Viswajit Dey

Apps & SI, Noida (52128445)

Every occasion that Viswajit volunteers his time at HCLFoundation projects sites in Noida, all participants – young and old, feel greatly energized and joyful. Despite being a fresher at HCLTech, 'Viswa' as all like to call him, has become an old timer for HCLFoundation. It is unlikely of him to miss any volunteering opportunity! In a short span of six months, he has supported HCLFoundation and NGO partners across 30+ volunteering initiatives. He is always bubbling with new ideas. He equally loves spending time tutoring children at the Nanhe Parinde van as well as conversing about 'life' with the elderly residents at SHEOWS Ashram. A true GenZ leader, his prompt nominations for Power of One activities, always encourage many others to follow suit!



Transforming outcomes through sport

Amplifying reach and access – via sport

- Who:** Children from Government and Corporation schools of Madurai from the HCLFoundation x Kalvi Trust Partnership
- What:** Participated in the Summer Camp at 4 locations 1. Pandiyan Nedunjeliyal Corporation School 2. Alam Kotharam Corporation School 3. Arulmigu Kallagar Government Higher Secondary school 4. St Britto Higher Secondary school, from 1st to 10th May 2024,
- And:** In the camp key focus was on sports specific skill development, Fitness aspect, emphasizing social skills, confidence building abilities also Goal setting to achieve medals in various levels of competition was also reinforced. For the concluding ceremony invaluable contributions of HCLTech's Power of One volunteers and their active involvement in organizing sports Q&A sessions, interacting with the children through play, and aiding in documentation underscores their commitment to the camp's success.

Location: Madurai



- Who:** Who: Mothers of Sports For Change Program Participants from the HCLFoundation x Sports Village Foundation Partnership
- What:** Mothers of Kabaddi, Athletics, and Volleyball players were brought together by conducting fun activities in a beautiful way to celebrate Mother's Day. The participation of over 35 parents in each location added to the joy of the occasion!

Location: Noida & Lucknow



Who: Who: Basketball players of Gheja Village from the HCLFoundation x Dribble Academy Foundation Partnership

What: Underwent a 2-hour English test towards assessing language proficiency, evaluating comprehension skills, measuring grasp on grammar and vocabulary knowledge, and determining writing ability.

Location: Gheja Village, Noida



Who: 105 Nagpur Municipal Corporation School Girls from the HCL Foundation x Krida Vikas Sanstha Partnership

What: Collectively marked the Menstrual Hygiene Day with Sports for development activities as part of a series to spread awareness about menstruation. Football matches, an art session, and a session by experts to educate participants about best practices were also carried out.

Location: Nagpur



On a winning streak!

Who: Two Basketball Players from the HCLFoundation x HEAL partnership.

What: Participated in the State Youth Basketball Championship representing Andhra Pradesh Team.

And?: Emerged as winners!

Location: Vijayawada



Who: Basketball players from the HCLFoundation x Dribble Academy Foundation partnership.

What: Participated in Under-16 age category INSPIRE Basketball Tournament at Gurgaon on 4th May 2024

And?: Both Boys & Girls teams emerged Runners Up position in the Tournament

Location: Noida



Who: M Mari Selvi (Athlete) & K Santhiya (Athlete) from the HCLFoundation x Kalvi Trust partnership

What: Took part in 5th Tamil Nadu Youth Athletics Championship 2024.

And?: M Mari Selvi Secured Gold and K Santhiya secured a Bronze Medal

And?: Emerged as winners!

Location: Madurai



Who: S Abdulla (Badminton Player) from the HCLFoundation x Kalvi Trust partnership

What: Took part in Temple City Badminton Academy-Madurai District Ranking Championship 2024.

And?: Emerged as Winners in Under-13 Singles and Doubles event, as well as U-15 Singles.

Location: Madurai



Who: Football team of Under-15 age category from the HCLFoundation x SC STEDS partnership

What: Participated in 7A side soccer tournament at Desiya Nagar Football Club, Kasimedu.

And?: Emerged as Winners! Best players awarded to Mr. Yugeswaran and Best Goalkeeper awarded to Mr. Akash, Winning Team was awarded 25,000 Rs Cash Price.

Location: Chennai



Who: 23 Girls Cricket players from the HCLF X Sports Village Foundation Partnership

And?: Selected for HILTON CUP T-20 WOMEN'S CRICKET TOURNAMENT organized by Lucknow Cricket Association Lucknow at KD Singh Babu Stadium

Location: Lucknow



Who: Girls and Boys Football players from the HCLFoundation x Sports Village Foundation partnership.

Where: Subroto Mukharji Cup District Level Football Tournament, hosted at DAV Inter College Lucknow

And?: Both Boys & Girls teams emerged Runners Up position in the Tournament and qualified for Mandal Level

Location: Lucknow



Crafting quality, providing livelihoods

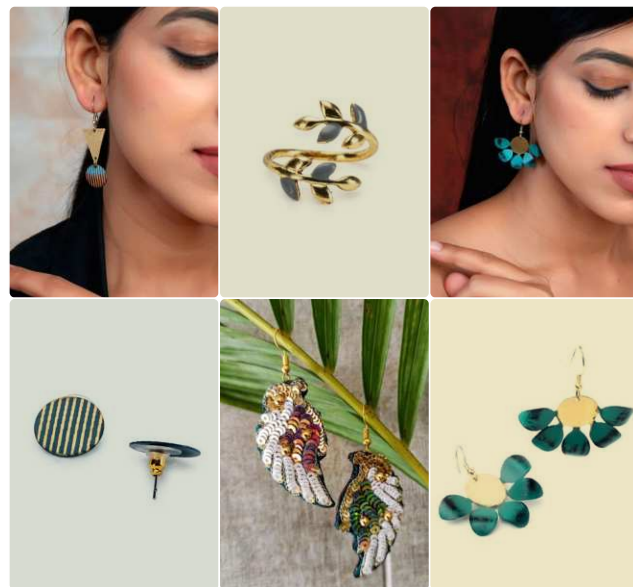
New Designs Shine: Sambhal Brass & Barabanki Zardozi Captivate Customers

Intricately crafted new product designs of My E-Haat artisans – features exquisite brass jewelry from Sambhal and stunning zardozi work from Barabanki. These pieces have been generating a buzz at the Craft Council Delhi Boutique store and My E-Haat Display Centre, attracting high customer attention. The artisans' talent has also garnered recognition beyond retail stores, with Okhai.org placing a significant advance order for bulk procurement.



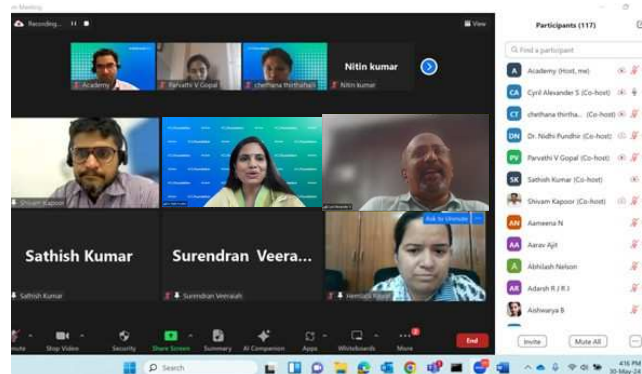
Convocation success! My E-Haat Artisans and Zing 'n' Zest women shine!

My E-Haat Artisans showcased their crochet, macramé, jewelry, and home décor products at a two-day convocation event held on May 25th and 26th at Shiv Nadar University. Alongside them, ZingZest women entrepreneurs offered their delicious millet-based cookies and snacks, which were a hit with both students and guests.

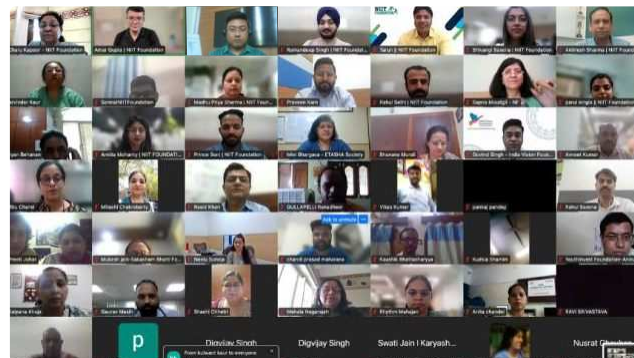


Enrich. Enable. Engage.

To mark the World No Tobacco Day, Academy by HCLFoundation conducted a webinar on the topic, 'Preventing Children from Tobacco Industry Interference', in collaboration with Cancer Institute Chennai (WIA). The session focused the issues of safeguarding children and youth from the pervasive influence of the tobacco industry. Although significant work is being done to control Tobacco consumption and abuse, children and youth have always been vulnerable, esp through the attractive marketing employed by the industry. The session imparted knowledge and awareness to the participants on how to prevent and guide children and youth to not fall for gimmicks and deceptive lifestyle. The session was conducted by the oncology experts from the Cancer Institute Chennai(WIA) and social groups involved in eradicating tobacco from young lives. The session also saw Dr. Nidhi Pundhir deliver the opening address, emphasizing the importance of 'health for the young' in the country – today and for tomorrows to come. The session saw participation from over 150+ virtual attendees.



Academy by HCLFoundation collaborated with the NIIT Foundation towards delivery of the knowledge on the subject of decoding financial aspects and financial implications of CSR in India. The session 'CSR in India – The Financial Aspects and Implications' was held on May 28, with participation from CSR professionals and development sector organizations.





HCLFoundation in the Media

HCLTech Grant India 10th edition is here

HCLFoundation, which drives the corporate social responsibility agenda of global technology company HCLTech in India, has launched the 10th edition of HCLTech Grant India to provide a platform for NGOs to unleash their potential and create sustainable change in communities.

May 16, 2024 | Print | The New Indian Express Hyderabad, Bureau

HCLTech Grant Insights with Nidhi Pundhir:

Empowering Education, Health, and Environmental Projects | The CSR Universe YouTube interview

[Click here to play](#)

Clearing SSC Exam With Flying Colours Just A Beginning Dropped out of madarsa, night school toppers aim big in life

Sarfaraz Ahmed
@sarfarazahmed

Nagpur: Salim Laskar (80) has emerged the probable topper among the night scholars in Nagpur by scoring 79% in the SSC exam.

Laskar, a student of Tajuddin Night School, had given up school education after enrolling for the Alim Farsi (Islamic scholar) course in Bhatnagar-based Amjadiya madar.



with the fast-changing world, Nagpur Night School's Kirmania Hedao (36), who

chairs supported me, and the principal motivated me. Madarisa Masooma, Shariff, has guided

vision. Mohammad Zaid (73%) and Sarfaraz Ahmed (71.25%) were its other toppers. Zaid said he would now like to score well in SSC exam and complete graduation.

Nagpur Night School achieved 75.86% result found up second in the city among night schools. Out of its 47 students, 27 appeared while 28 passed, including one in first division and 10 in second division.

Class 10th Board Exam Results

HCLFoundation has partnered with Masoom to enhance the quality of education in 6 night schools and 28 municipal corporation schools in Nagpur. The primary aim of this initiative is to provide bridge education to improve the 10th-grade results of the program participants. A total of 1,241 students appeared in the board exams under this initiative, achieving an average score of 73.5%. Three Night Schools and eight NMC schools achieved 100% result.

HCLFoundation

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