

# A step towards Nation Building HCLTech Grant Granule

(February–March 2024)



# HCLTech Grant Edition IX Rollout

## HCLTech Grant Edition IX Results Announced



**Dr. Nidhi Pundhir**

Vice President, Global CSR,  
HCLTech & Director, HCLFoundation

## Congratulations to the winners



**Kedar Girish Gore**  
The Corbett Foundation



ENVIRONMENT



**Dr. Ravindra Agrawal**  
Sangath



HEALTH



**Sunayana Chatrapathy**  
Makkala Jagriti



EDUCATION

HCLTech Grant announced the results of its IXth edition after a yearlong process of deliberations, due diligence, field visits and sub-jury evaluation. The seventh and final round of Jury proceedings was held on 4th March 2024 with a high level panel of six eminent members.

The winners of HCLTech Grant 2024 will receive a grant of ₹5 crores for a 4 years' project and the runner-ups will receive ₹25 Lakhs for a one-year project.

Winner

Environment category



**The Corbett Foundation**

Project Title & Geography: Empowering communities to safeguard pastures for the long-term conservation of critically endangered bustards and associated species in Kutch, Gujarat.

Winner

Health category



**Sangath**

Project Title & Geography: Building India's Perinatal mental health workforce in Madhya Pradesh.

Winner

Health category




**Makkala Jagriti**


Project Title & Geography: Transforming Anganwadi ecosystem in vulnerable areas towards sustainably providing quality early childhood care and education to children in Rural Karnataka.

Runner-ups

Environment category



**Lokpanchayat** for Climate Action for community Forest Management.



**Mukti** for Mukti Green Defense in Sundarbans (MGDS).

Runner-ups

Health category



**Social Revival Group of Urban Rural & Tribal (SROUT)** for Empowering Menstrual Hygiene Management among Korba Tribal Women and Girls.



**ECHO** for Building Bridges of Healthcare Excellence: Empowering Primary Care Providers in the state of Nagaland using the ECHO Model.

Runner-ups

Education category



**Shishu Sarothi Centre for Rehabilitation & Training for Multiple Disability** for Project Udyamaan.



**Sri Aurobindo Society** for Auro Scholar.



# Partnerships Bulletin

## Capturing the impact through project 'Cot to Community' by The Association of People with Disability

The HCLTech Grant undertook Impact video documentation of project 'Cot to Community' in Karnataka. The project is a comprehensive rehabilitation approach for People with Spinal Cord Injury (PwSCI) and works in 29 districts of Karnataka. Over the last 2 years, this project resulted in mainstreaming, bringing back 864 (PwSCIs) people with

spinal cord injuries from 'Cot' to 'Community' along with providing financial independence through livelihood support to 257 PwSCIs. 59 trained para sports professionals have made India proud, by winning 75 medals nationally & internationally through the 'Wings of Wheel' initiative.





# Enhancing Natural Resource Management with PRADAN

A team from HCLTech Grant visited PRADAN, the environment category winner of HCLTech Grant Edition VII in the Environment category. The visit was made to Puralia district of West Bengal from 17th March to 19th March 2024. The visit aimed at conducting a meeting of the stakeholders, visiting the structures created as part of the project, and meet the regional team of the organization.

Affirming the efforts done under the project, Shri Soumalya Dutta, the Nirman Sahayak of Ajodha Gram Panchayat, Baghmundi Development Block in the Puralia District of West Bengal said, "Previously, under MNREGS we were working actively over Watershed Development Activities in the region, but post project RESPONSE, our orientation about the topography and structures to be made accordingly in highland, midland and lowland areas has increased which in turn increased the work quality manifold. Now clear and evident changes are visible under the work. Also the gap areas are saturated through PRADAN's support enabling an increase in the quality of work."

692 Haof area has been treated under the Natural Resource Management measures and 14 Bio Resource Centres (BRCs) have been identified through the project. 74,183 women have been trained under the project on regenerative agriculture.





# Transforming the Education System through the FLN module with LLF

Language and Learning Foundation (LLF), the Education category winner of HCLTech Grant Edition VII is working towards the implementation of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy module of the National Education Policy and introduction of the Multi-lingual education in Bastar district of Chattisgarh. With the aim to meet the stakeholders including students, SMC member, community, government officials and PRI members, to conduct a meeting with the regional team of the organization and to visit the school, the HCLTech Grant team reached the ground from 12th March to 15th March 2024. Nearly 49% of the teachers are now using children's home language and applying multilingual teaching learning process. Mr. Vijayanand Kashyap, Teacher, PS Bhasigaon says that being from Bastar, he enjoys teaching in 'Halbi' language using the teaching and learning materials provided under the project. Students too find it easy to connect in the Halbi language, which is spoken in their home and neighbourhood. They are no longer afraid of coming to school particularly the younger children. 76% of the classroom observations have been made by the Cluster Academic Coordinators (CACs) who spend more than 35 minutes in observing classroom activities.



School children supported by Language and Learning Foundation, Bastar, Chattisgarh



## Witnessing the transformation at PlanatEarth

PlanatEarth, #Environment category winner of HCLTech Grant Edition VIII, is working towards finding solutions to manmade environment problems through a unique initiative aiming at recovering plastic that reaches the ocean in 4 districts of Kerala. This project ropes in the support and participation of the fishing boats of harbors like Munambam and gets them to bring back the plastic packaging of the supplies that they take with them on a fishing expedition as well as plastic that

gets caught in their nets including abandoned fishing gear. A team from HCLFoundation visited PlanatEarth in Cochin Kerala, to witness the positive outcomes of Project DROP – Drive to Recover Ocean Plastic. With a direct impact on over 1,70,000 fishermen across 45 villages in Kerala, this initiative promises to save water bodies from plastic pollution along with improving quality of life of fisherfolk and biodiversity.



Plastic waste collected and artwork created by PlanatEarth, Cochin, Kerala

## Reaching the extra mile with Meghshala's E-connect programme

HCLTech Grant, in partnership with the Meghshala Trust, launched Meghshala's E-connect program on 18th March 2024, in Dzongu block, North Sikkim. The event brought together 36 schools from the region, where teachers received technical training. The e-connect program focuses on delivering customized lessons in local languages like Bhutia, Lepcha, Limboo, and Nepali. After review and approval by the Sikkim Language Department, these lessons will be uploaded in the application. The program's inauguration ceremony was graced by Mr. Sonam Lepcha, Director of Textbooks and Languages – Sikkim, Mrs. Jyoti Thyagarajan, Founder of Meghshala Trust, and representatives from the HCLFoundation – Mr. Prijo Tharuk, Group Manager, HCLFoundation and Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Manager, HCLTech Grant.



Inauguration of E-connect program, Meghshala Trust, Sikkim

## HCLTech Grant at Social Impact Summit: 'Sustainable Synergies – Shaping the Future Together'



Mr. Anuj Srivastava – Manager, HCLTech Grant – represented HCLFoundation at the Corporate CSR Heads Panel Discussion on 'Sustainable Synergies: Navigating CSR in the Era of Global Challenges', at the prestigious Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore on February 18, 2024. The Social Impact Summit, 'Sustainable Synergies – Shaping the Future Together', was hosted by Prayaas as part of Prayaas Day 2024. At the Summit, HCLFoundation was also honoured with the Excellence in Community Impact award in recognition of its contribution and dedication to making a difference in the communities it serves.

**50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE**  
1973 - 2023  
IIM BANGALORE

# SOCIAL IMPACT SUMMIT

*Sustainable Synergies - Shaping the Future Together*

**Corporate Heads Panel Discussion**  
on  
*Navigating CSR in the Era of Global Challenges*

**Moderator**

 <b>ANUJ SRIVASTAVA</b> MANAGER, HCLTECH GRANT PMO, HCL FOUNDATION	 <b>ABHISHEK RANJAN</b> SR. DIRECTOR & GLOBAL HEAD, SUSTAINABILITY & ADMIN/FACILITIES, BRILLIO	 <b>SAKINA BAKER</b> HEAD- CSR OF BOSCH LIMITED & BOSCH INDIA FOUNDATION	 <b>ARJUN M RANGA</b> CMD. N. RANGA & SONS PRIVATE LIMITED, CYCLE PURE, AGARBAATH AND TRUSTEE, NR FOUNDATION	 <b>PROF. PADMINI SRINIVASAN</b> CHAIRPERSON, EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMMES CHAIRPERSON, CENTRE FOR CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & SUSTAINABILITY  IIMB BANGALORE
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Communication Partner

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Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Manager, HCLTech Grant at Social Impact Summit



## HCLTech Grant at CHAI & RUPCHA Networking Event

Shally Kaushal, Deputy Manager, HCLTech Grant along with Neha Malik, Program Officer, Health, represented HCLFoundation at the one-day networking event jointly organized by CHAI & RUPCHA on 13th March 2024 at Nav Jivan Renewal Centre, New Delhi. The event aimed at facilitating networking between RUPCHA and its member institutions with National Disease Control Programmes, CSR organizations and other prominent NGOs & INGOs working in the region. Resource persons from HCLFoundation were invited to conduct a session on the basic criteria of CSR support of HCLFoundation and the programs that could be effectively implemented through community-based organizations and hospitals for the betterment of the poor in the urban and rural areas. The meeting was a great opportunity to represent and make aware the work of HCLFoundation and explore the synergies with NGOs working on similar projects.



Ms. Shally Kaushal and Ms. Neha Malik at the networking event

# Stories of Transformation

## Environment

### From Vulnerable to Self-sustainable – The story of Mahibala Majhi

Kaniyar is a forest fringe village with no proper roads joining it to the main block and its lack of water retention throughout the year makes livelihood exceptionally challenging for the vulnerable families in the area.

One such story is of Mahibala Majhi, a 55-year-old widow who is the sole breadwinner of the family and caregiver of her two sons. Being a part of self-help group, she has received trainings from PRADAN where she realized that being solely dependent on one form of livelihood for income was not a

sustainable solution. Through these trainings, she learnt the importance of tri-color food in her family's platter and started her own organic nutri-garden in homestead land which sustains her for at least 6 months and sells the extra produce locally. With support from the project, she built a low-cost shed for her goats and BYP shed for 2 mother hens and a cock. Mahibala has become a self-sustaining role model, providing a good life for herself and her children.



Mahibala Majhi with her nutri-garden and goat shed, PRADAN

## Health

### Udan Pari

Lakshmi (Name changed), a 6th class student from Ghazipur near Guria centre is an asset to her village. Born in a household with her mother being a homemaker and father being a laborer, she has very limited opportunities to spread out her wings and exhibit her talents. She lives with her maternal grandmother to complete her studies. For the past

few years, Lakshmi's father has been working in Dubai and does overtime to meet the family's needs. Not only is Lakshmi good in studies, she is also a great athlete. In the district championship of Sports for Change by HCL Foundation, held in Lucknow, Lakshmi bagged second prize in the 60 meter event and has been named as Mau's 'Udan Pari' (Flying angel).



# Education

## Mental Health support – Coping with emotions

As the financial year has come to an end, so has the project SRIJAN by the HCLTech Grant recipient Sri Sri Rural Development Programme Society. The project aimed at supporting prison inmates and juvenile delinquents in coping with the emotions of regret, guilt, aggression and trauma and their healthy reintegration to the society. 197 inmates from 2 observation homes and 2 women prison cells were observed throughout the Sudarshan Kriya Yoga workshop followed by clay therapy and skill development programme. After a detailed study carried out over a period of 3 months, a significant improvement was observed in the parameters of loneliness, hope, life satisfaction, positive affect, negative affect, resilience and self-esteem of the women inmates. Among the juvenile delinquents, a significant improvement was observed in depression, physical aggression and hostility, life satisfaction, well-being, positive and negative affect, trauma and empowerment factor impact.

An inmate of Dumardaga Observation Home (Boys) shares,

“Before getting introduced to yoga, I used to be very irritable and would get angry on small things. I did not feel like studying. My mind refused to stay calm. Even when I used to sit down to study, all kinds of negative thoughts clouded my mind. Sleeping at night became difficult. I used to get offended very easily. This program (SRIJAN) calmed my mind and made me less irritable and angry. Meditation has brought a smile on my face and has made me feel that I am not alone any more. I now wish to become a teacher and bring a change in the lives of others like me.”

Behavioral Training through Medically-Proven Breathing Techniques (SKY), Meditation & powerful interactive processes (8-days programme & 40 days followup sessions)

Location: Bedi Khanjarpur OH, Bihar



2 Weeks Clay Art Therapy to kindle innate creativity to let go of pent up emotions, pain and trauma



Vocational Training and certification to skill inmates, increase sense of self-worth and empower them to lead a dignified life post release (30-45 days Theory & Hands-on Training)

Locations: Beautician & Bridal Makeup Training, Birsa Munda Prison, Jharkhand



Sports was introduced as a means to improve social skills, reduce aggression and encourage productive thoughts



# HCLFoundation

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For any query contact:  
Anisha B Chacko: [anisha.bchacko@hcl.com](mailto:anisha.bchacko@hcl.com)

Website : [www.hclfoundation.org](http://www.hclfoundation.org)