

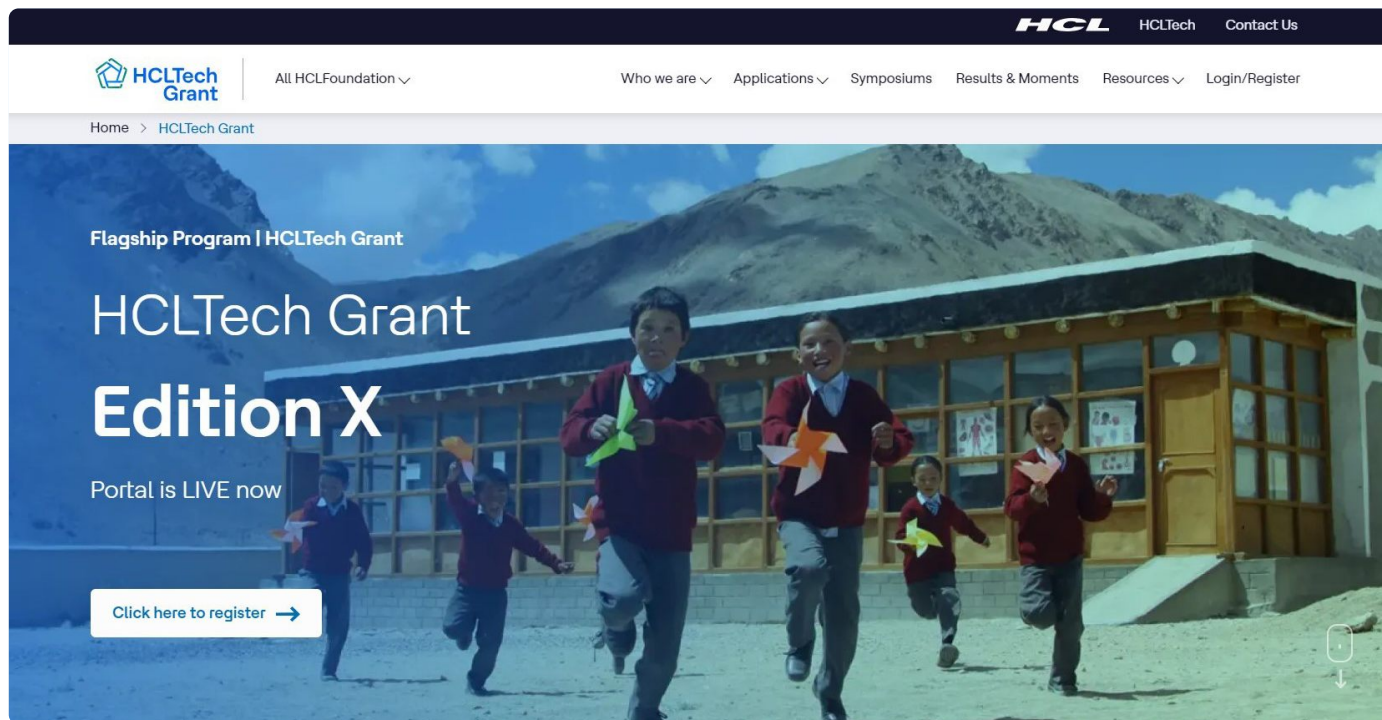
# A step towards Nation Building

## **HCLTech Grant Granule**

(April-May 2024)



# HCLTech Grant Edition X



## HCLTech Grant Edition X – Accepting Applications

HCLTech Grant completes a decade of empowering the Fifth Estate. As it reaches this milestone, the HCLTech Grant's Project Management Office has announced a significant change in the eligibility criteria, enabling more NGOs to become eligible for the Grant.

With this huge announcement, the application portal was made 'live' on 2nd May 2024, redesigned as per the new branding guidelines and with easier navigation for NGOs.

## Exciting news!!

### Significant change in the eligibility criteria

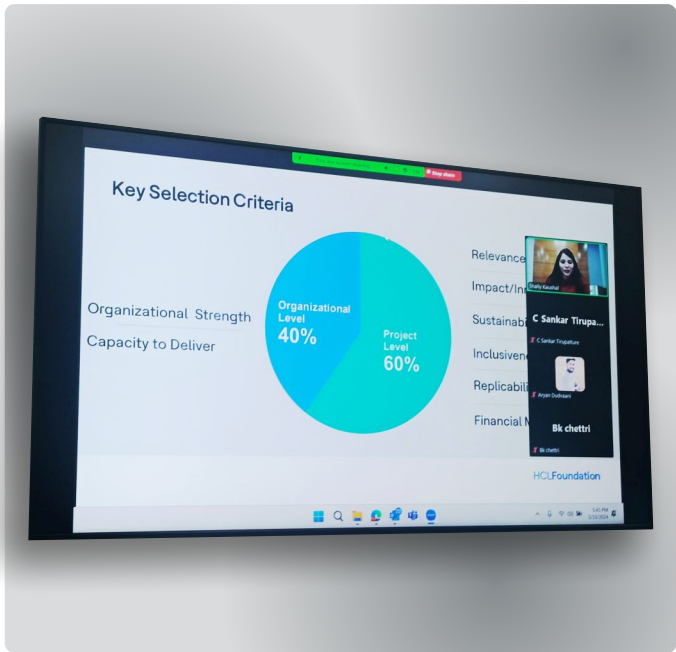
The average expenditure of last 3 financial years has been reduced from **1 Cr to 50 lakhs** for NGOs applying in Health and Education category. It remains same for the Environment category; minimum 50 lakhs or above.





# Webinar with Social India

HCLTech Grant was invited at the webinar organized by Social India on 10th May 2024 on the theme, 'Transforming Lives: Unlocking CSR Grant Opportunities'. Ms. Shally Kaushal, Deputy Manager, HCLTech Grant by HCLFoundation, represented HCLFoundation as the key speaker at the webinar. The webinar focused on supporting the NGOs, with the application process for CSR opportunities, with special focus on HCLTech Grant 2024.



Ms. Shally Kaushal, Deputy Manager, HCLTech Grant leading the session with Social India

# Webinar with Dhwani Foundation

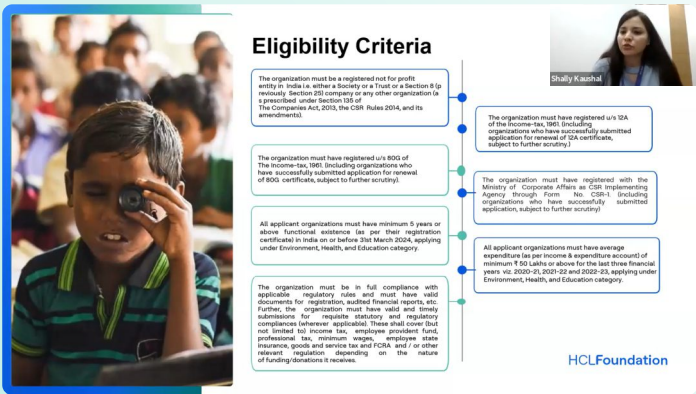
Dhwani Foundation led a webinar for its Niranthara partner NGOs in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Jharkhand, exclusively about HCLTech Grant. The webinar organized on 15th May 2024, was led by Ms. Shally Kaushal, Deputy Manager, HCLTech Grant by HCLFoundation. The aim of the webinar was to help the NGOs get a deeper understanding of the HCLTech Programme and its application process for the Xth Edition of the HCLTech Grant.



Ms. Shally Kaushal, Deputy Manager, HCLTech Grant, invited as guest speaker at Dhwani Foundation's exclusive webinar

# Online Helpdesk for HCLTech Grant Edition X rollout

An online helpdesk to answer the concerns and queries of the NGO applicants was organized by HCLTech Grant on 28th May 2024. The helpdesk is a platform for the NGO participants to clarify their doubts to successfully complete the registration and application process of HCLTech Grant. More than 200 NGOs participated in the online helpdesk with the participation of nearly 200 NGOs representatives.



HCLTech Grant conducts online helpdesk for NGOs

# Partnerships Bulletin

## Building Capacity in the North-East

A two-day Capacity Building Training on CSR Compliances and Project Management was organized by HCLFoundation in collaboration with the Investment and Development Authority of Nagaland on 20th and 21st May 2024. This initiative by HCLTech Grant and Academy by HCLFoundation, was organized at the Capital Convention Centre, Kohima, witnessed the participation of 35 NGOs from various regions of Nagaland. The inaugural session featured esteemed

guests, including Shri R. Ramakrishnan, IAS, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister & Development Commissioner, Govt. of Nagaland, Shri Reny Wilfred, IAS, Joint Secretary, IDAN, Dr. Nidhi Pundhir, Director, HCLFoundation, and Shri I. Changsang, NCS, Under Secretary, IDAN. The participants gained valuable insights into project management processes, project planning, development, implementation of change and fundamental aspects of CSR policy.



HCLFoundation team with IDAN at the capacity building training





# HCLTech Grant partner joins hands with Sports for Change Programme

## SFC Union Territory Championship in Leh

Bal Raksha Bharat, #Education category winner in the Vth Edition of the HCLTech Grant joined hands with Sports for Change by HCLFoundation to conduct the Union Territory Championship in Leh on 27th and 28th May 2024. 170 athletes from 5 zones of Leh, Kharu. Changthang, Nubra and

Khatse participated in the championship in the categories of Football, Athletics (including 60m and 600m), Long Jump, Shot put and Archery. Ms. Simi Suri, General Manager, HCLFoundation and Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Manager, HCLTech Grant, graced the event.



Ms. Simi Suri, General Manager, and Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Manager, HCLFoundation posing with the Bal Raksha Bharat Sports Championship team in Leh



Archery competition at Sports for Change Championship, Leh, Bal Raksha Bharat



## SFC State Qualifiers in Madhya Pradesh

India Health Action Trust (IHAT), #Health category winner and Child Rights and You (CRY), #Education category winner in the Vth Edition of the HCLTech Grant, organized the Madhya Pradesh State Qualifiers of Sports for Change by HCLFoundation in Vidisha district on 24th and 25th May 2024. 350 athletes who qualified the district level championship, from the government schools and villages of 6 districts participated in the event.



Winners at the SFC State Qualifiers conducted in collaboration with HCLTech (India) Grant partners working in Madhya Pradesh.



Glimpses from a kabaddi match at MP State SFC Qualifiers

# Stories of Transformation

## Environment

### Sustainable agriculture

'Beekeeping has increased my livelihood opportunities and income from sale of honey, wax as well as sale of bee-colonies', mentions the 27 year old beekeeper, Nitesh Kokani a programme participant of Under the Mango Tree Society. He mentions, 'I re-invest the income from beekeeping in agriculture for buying seeds and to meet some household expenses'. Figure Mr. Nitesh Kokani, with his agricultural produce, UTMT

Nitesh wants to install more beehives on his agricultural land in future for which he has already enquired with the local carpentry unit. He says, 'beekeeping is one activity that supports farmers economically, promotes sustainable agriculture and creates harmony in environment by promoting local pollinators'. He adds, 'Bees are a farmer's best friend!'



Mr. Nitesh Kokani with his agricultural produce, Under the Mango Tree Society

## Education

### Bridging the Digital Divide: Empowering children through Digital Learning Center

In the heart of Sagar district, Fatehpur village saw the dawn of a new era on October 1st, 2022, with the inauguration of the Digital Learning Center (DLC) by CRY HCL project. For many children, the term "computer" was once a distant concept, but with the advent of the DLC, children got introduced to the digital world for the first time. DLC commenced its operations with a palpable enthusiasm among the students. A comprehensive survey was conducted to understand the need of the children in digital education space. The initiation of courses in Computer Concepts and Application Basics (CCAB) and Computer Concepts and Microsoft Office (CCMO) marked the beginning of a transformative journey. The students embarked on a voyage of discovery, learning essential skills such as online booking, MS Office proficiency, and internet navigation. Reflections during stakeholder meetings echoed the profound impact of the DLC, as children realized the significance of computers in shaping their future. Dreams of establishing online businesses and securing employment through digital literacy began to take root in their aspirations. Despite the promising start, the journey was not without its challenges. Deep-rooted societal issues, particularly caste-based discrimination, posed formidable obstacles. The reluctance of students to study together due to societal divisions threatened to impede the progress of the DLC. Furthermore, the language barrier presented a significant challenge, as students accustomed to Hindi-medium, education grappled with digital courses primarily delivered in English. However, with our relentless effort, all

these challenges were addressed with success. After two years, Fatehpur village was saturated with all the eligible children completing basic computer course from DLC. This encouraged us to reach out to newer places where we could bring this opportunity to children in need. Recognizing the need for adaptability and inclusivity, the decision was made to relocate the DLC from Fatehpur to Pathariya village where there is a lot of need for this intervention. The shift symbolized not just a change in physical location but a recommitment to the core values of accessibility and equity. In Pathariya, the DLC would continue its mission of empowering students with digital literacy, transcending barriers of caste and language.

The story of the DLC's journey from Fatehpur to Pathariya village is one of resilience, empowerment, and hope. Despite facing myriad of challenges, the transformative power of education prevailed, illuminating the path towards a brighter future for the students of Sagar district.



Students learning computer courses at the Digital Learning Centre

# HCLFoundation

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