

HCLFoundation

Catalyst

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Foreword

Dear Reader,

This time of year often carries the quiet wisdom of hindsight: a moment to look back at what has endured, what has grown, and what has quietly transformed lives over time. In that spirit, this edition's stories arrive not as closing notes, but as powerful reminders of a purpose sustained.

Case in point: At the heart of this edition sits a milestone that speaks to continuity and conviction— Celebrating a decade of the HCLTech Grant. What began in 2015 as a bold commitment to the Fifth Estate has evolved into a living ecosystem of partnerships across environment, health, and education.

That same belief in sustained impact runs through the other stories in this edition. From the signing of MoUs with the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation to equip youth with employability-linked skills, to strengthening India's para-sports ecosystem through meaningful support to elite para-athletes. Our partnership with the National Crafts Museum and Hastkala Academy further underscores this commitment.

As the year turns, these stories remind us that impact is rarely abrupt—it is built steadily, through partnerships, patience and people.

We hope this edition leaves you with that quiet assurance as you step into the weeks ahead.

Best Regards,
HCLFoundation Partners and team

Contents

Key Highlights	04
Key Representation	06
Harit	09
Samuday	13
HCLTech Grant	17
Uday	20
My Clean City	45
Power of One	47
Sports for Change	50
My E-Haat	59
Academy	61
Global Updates	63
HCLFoundation in the media	68



Key Highlights

HCLTech Grant India celebrates a decade of purpose, partnerships and progress

HCLTech Grant celebrated its 10 year long journey of empowering the Fifth Estate to create a lasting change in the rural hinterlands of the country. Launched on 16th January 2015, Mr. Shiv Nadar, Founder of HCL, announced a 100-crore commitment towards identifying, supporting and scaling the work of SPOs that are driving impactful change in the core areas of Environment, Health and Education. Graced by the jury member of the HCLTech Grant, Ms. Robin Ann Abrams, Jury HCLTech Grant, Ms. Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Chairperson – HCLTech, Trustee – Shiv Nadar Foundation, Founder & Trustee – The Habitats Trust, Chairperson -CSR; Mr. Suresh Narayanan, Former Chairman and MD, Nestle India Ltd.; Mr. B. S. Baswan, retired IAS Officer, the event was a celebration of a decade of partnership with these grassroots organizations. The event also witnessed the esteemed presence of Mr. Shiv Walia, CFO, HCLTech; Mr. Rahul Singh, COO, HCLTech; Dr. Nidhi Pundhir, SVP – Global CSR, HCLTech and Director, HCLFoundation, among other dignitaries, partners and changemakers. From unveiling the 10 Years Impact Book to honoring changemakers who have redefined the development landscape, every moment resonated with pride and gratitude. The evening shimmered with cultural performances, shared stories, and heartfelt reflections – a reminder that when communities, corporates, and compassion come together, progress follows.



MoU Signing with National Crafts Museum and Hastkala Academy

HCLFoundation and National Crafts Museum and Hastkala Academy signed an MoU to advance and visibility of artisans across India through skill development on product and design innovations, digital and financial literacy and enterprise development. The MoU was signed by Col. Manoj Rana, Senior Director, National Crafts Museum and Hastkala Academy and Dr. Nidhi Pundhir.



HCLFoundation signs MoU to drive youth skill development in Tamil Nadu

HCLFoundation and Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC) signed an MoU to launch a transformative skill development project on November 11. Held in the presence of the Honorable Deputy Chief Minister Mr. Udhayanidhi Stalin, TNSDC Managing Director, and senior officials from HCLFoundation - this partnership highlights a collective commitment to equip youth with industry-relevant skills and strong employability prospects.

The initiative aims to bridge the gap between training and livelihood placement, enabling youth to secure sustainable jobs-while uplifting their socio-economic status.



Para sports equipment handover to paralympic committee of India

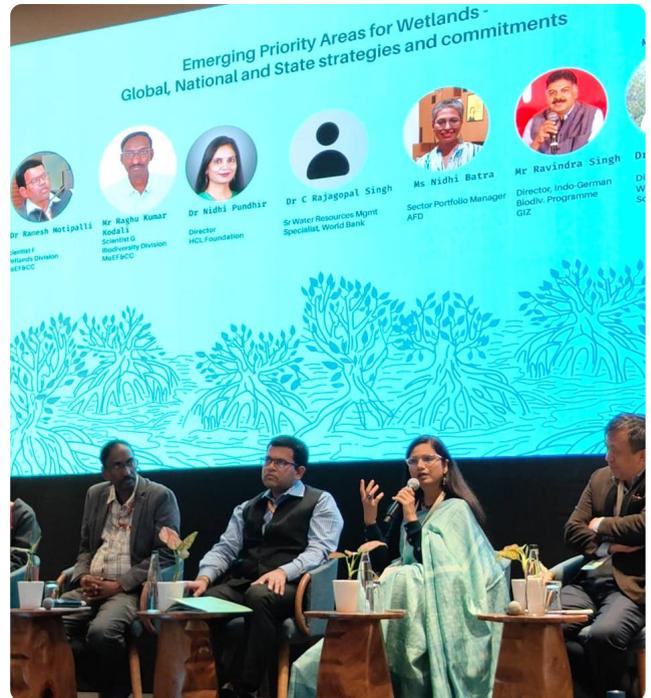
Deepening its commitment to nurturing para-athletes, the HCLFoundation under its special initiative Sports for Change collaborated with the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI). 14 elite para-athletes received high-performance sports gear worth ₹37 lakh. Scholarships were also awarded to 6 para-athletes under the Power of One initiative, ranging from ₹1 lakh to ₹5 lakh. The program has impacted 64,000+ athletes, with 25 para-athletes already representing the nation internationally.



Key Representations



Dr. Nidhi Pundhir, SVP – Global CSR , HCLTech and Director HCLFoundation, participated in the 10th edition of Coffee for Cause, joining leaders from corporate, government, academia, the armed forces, and civil society to explore new dimensions of sustainability and social responsibility. The dialogue focused on two key themes: “Sustainable Consumption: Reframing Value, Behaviour, and Responsibility in the Age of Excess” and “From Giving to Growing: CSR Projects that Scaled for Impact.” Discussions highlighted how conscious choices and collective action can redefine social impact.



Dr. Nidhi Pundhir participated as a distinguished panelist in a session on the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) approach to wetland conservation, organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in collaboration with GIZ. The discussion brought together leading scientists, ministry experts, and representatives from various institutions. In her address, Dr. Pundhir highlighted the importance of establishing clear regulatory frameworks for accurate wetland boundary demarcation, fostering collaborative ecosystems that bring together government, corporates, and local communities, and leveraging social media outreach to inspire youth and citizens to actively engage in wetland protection.



Sjoshua Livingstone, Senior Manager HCLFoundation, represented the organization at a roundtable hosted by Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU), Ahmedabad. The dialogue brought together representatives from 15 leading CSR entities, including ONGC, Adani, GMR, Tata Croma, and other prominent PSUs. The session was chaired by Abhishek, CEO of Adani Foundation, and Ashwini, CEO of GMR Varalakshmi Foundation, alongside Prof. Dr. Patel, Vice Chancellor of RRU. The discussion focused on collaborative strategies to strengthen social impact and foster partnerships for sustainable development.

Dr. Nidhi Pundhir participated in an envisioning workshop organized by ASPIRE at IIT-Delhi, which brought together policymakers, thought leaders, and government stakeholders to explore collaborative approaches for systemic impact through CSR, philanthropy, academia, and government. The discussions focused on building shared data infrastructure and dashboards, developing research and case studies to inform best practices, strengthening trust and partnerships across corporates, academia, civil society, and government, and activating changemaking networks to create a powerful network effect.

Star Team Member of the Month



Some journeys begin not in boardrooms or classrooms, but in fields – shaped by soil, seasons, and the quiet discipline of hard work. For Viswalingam Manickam, Group Operations Head of HCLFoundation's Samuday programme in Thoothukudi, this grounding has defined not just his career, but his philosophy of development. This, is Viswa's story.

Excerpts from an interview – edited and condensed for clarity.

From village roots to professional purpose

Born in Veeramangudi, a small agricultural village in Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu, Viswalingam grew up immersed in farming life. From sowing and weeding to harvesting and processing, agriculture was not a subject he studied later – “it was a way of life I lived from childhood – both my parents were farmers, you see,” Viswa notes.

Viswalingam's education journey reflects aspiration. And perseverance. After studying till Class 5 in his native village, he moved to Kumbakonam for schooling and later completed his higher secondary education at St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Trichy. He went on to earn a BSc in Agriculture from Annamalai University, followed by a postgraduate qualification in Environmental Management through distance learning – a conscious choice that aligned with his growing interest in sustainability. An only son with three sisters, Viswalingam credits his parents – for instilling in him resilience, humility and a deep respect for the land.

Learning by doing: A career built on the ground

Viswalingam's transition into the professional world was intentional and field-driven. Instead of moving directly into desk-based roles, he spent two years as a Junior Research Fellow at research stations under Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, gaining critical practical exposure.

This was followed by an entrepreneurial phase, where he ran an Agri-Clinic and Agri-Business Centre in Thanjavur, advising farmers directly. He later spent nearly eight years in the sugar industry and 13 years with a national-level agriculture service organisation, sharpening both technical expertise and operational leadership.

His first association with Project Samuday came in 2015, when he was deputed as an agriculture expert. The experience left a lasting impression. When the opportunity arose to formally join HCLFoundation in 2023, Viswalingam stepped into his current role in Thoothukudi – bringing with him decades of field wisdom and a rare calm authority.

Samuday in Thoothukudi: Adapting solutions to geography

As the conversation shifts to the realities on the ground, Viswa responds with a quiet smile. The otherwise concise Viswa surprises with a longer answer. “Leading Samuday in Thoothukudi has required deep contextual thinking. Unlike regions with abundant groundwater, Thoothukudi's coastal geography means saline groundwater, heavy dependence on rainfall, and prolonged water stress. Recognising this, me and my team reshaped Samuday's interventions to suit local realities.”

“How so?“, we asked. Viswa went on (and on!):

“You see, naturally, water stewardship became foundational – we did so through rainwater harvesting, rejuvenation of water bodies, restoration of supply channels, and drainage systems. Farm ponds were strategically constructed in farmers' fields, enabling water storage and encouraging second-season cultivation using drip irrigation. Climate-smart agriculture was introduced and controlled pilot plots that allowed farmers to compare outcomes directly. Also installed were automated Weather Stations across blocks like Vilathikulam and Pudur, providing farmers with hyper-local, real-time climate data. One particularly impactful intervention has been the removal of *Prosopis juliflora*, an invasive species that renders farmland unusable. Clearing these thorny growths has helped reclaim land and bring it back under cultivation – restoring both productivity and farmer confidence.

A day-in-the-worklife of Viswa @HCLFoundation

Viswalingam M.'s day begins early. He wakes around 4:30 am, spending time in prayer, meditation, and physical exercise before the field takes over. Once he reaches the office in Thoothukudi, his day is largely shaped by people, not screens — phone calls from community members, visits from farmers, and on-ground problem-solving.

"Once I reach the office, I am fully engaged with people from the community. Many times, I don't even get time to check my emails until late evening or the next day," Viswa says with a quiet laugh.

As Group Operations Head for the Samuday programme in Thoothukudi, Viswa oversees interventions across health, nutrition, and livelihoods, in addition to agriculture and water. Health interventions include mobile health services and Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) screenings, along with the provision of Otoacoustic Emission (OAE) machines to district health authorities to support early identification of hearing impairment among children. Anganwadi centres in project villages are being upgraded into smart Anganwadis, equipped with digital panels, learning materials, and child-friendly infrastructure.

On the livelihoods front, dairy farmers have been organised into producer groups, with milk collection centres established in collaboration with Aavin, ensuring assured pricing. The programme also works with palm tappers, supporting traditional livelihoods linked to palmyra-based products such as Neera and palm sugar.

Shaped by decades of field experience, Viswa's approach today is deliberately focused. Often described by his team as "strict," he is equally known for his respect for grassroots wisdom, openly crediting junior colleagues and community members for the insights they bring through trust, communication, and deep local knowledge.

"Earlier, I believed that if we gave farmers many technologies, they would follow them. But I learned that it doesn't work that way. It is better to focus on a few solutions that truly help them, and support those deeply."

A Memorable Moment

One moment that stands out for Viswa is the Tuticorin flood response during Cyclone Michaung in 2023, when the district received nearly 95 cm of rainfall, inundating homes and even breaching the district collectorate. Working closely with the district administration, the Samuday team assessed urgent needs on the ground and supported the distribution of clothing for 15,000 people and dry rations for 9,000 people, with packaging carried out by 400 SHG women. The swift coordination and timely support, later acknowledged by both affected communities and government officials, remains a deeply memorable experience for him.

Advice to the next generation

"Have a service mindset. Go deep, serve honestly and ensure the benefit reaches the last person."

Viswa is Thoothukudi-based and shares his life with his wife Sasikala, a Gold Appraiser with the State Bank of India, and their two daughters, Sornasri and Sreenika. He is a morning person at heart, who finds comfort in the humble idli and dosa, prefers books over films, beaches over mountains, and weekends spent with family over any adventure. If not in development, he says he would have stayed in research — still seeking answers, still learning. When asked playfully, "What if Dr. Nidhi & Alok allotted your project unlimited resources? A hypothetical blank cheque for Samuday Thoothukudi!?", his answer doesn't change: "Water first. Always."



Supporting environmental action



Small steps to big beginnings

As part of the GenCAN programme, Center for Environment Education (CEE) in partnership with HCL Foundation celebrated Global Handprint Day across six locations—Lucknow, Hardoi, Noida, Bangalore, Chennai, and Nagpur. Over 500 students and teachers participated in activities introducing key concepts of carbon footprint and simple handprint actions. The events featured quizzes, green games, poster-making, and hands-on projects such as creating kitchen gardens, conservation-themed signages, GenCAN bulletin boards, and initiating composting practices.



Pan-India water conservation awareness campaigns on Children's Day

On Children's Day, HCL Foundation partnered with Aroh Foundation, Tarun Bharat Sangh, Development Alternatives, Dhan Foundation and YUVA Rural Association to promote water conservation among young stewards in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. Activities included drawing competitions, slogan writing, and creative sessions where over 245 students expressed their vision of clean ponds, green villages, and sustainable practices through sketches, slogans, and essays – encouraging creativity, ownership, and awareness.



Responsible kite flying awareness program

Harit, in collaboration with Animal Warriors Conservation Society, organized 'Responsible Kite Flying' awareness drives at schools, urban parks, and local shops in Hyderabad. The initiative focused on educating children, communities, and local vendors about the dangers of nylon manja to birds, humans, and the environment. Participants were encouraged to switch to eco-friendly cotton threads and support the enforcement of bans on synthetic manja. Over 1,700 people including children, youth, and urban park staff, were sensitized through the sessions. This collaboration aims to protect birds from severe injury and death caused by nylon manja, especially with the upcoming kite-flying season.



Inspiring young eco-champions by igniting nature curiosity

Interactive Butterfly Biodiversity Sessions were held across nine NMC schools in Nagpur by partner AROHA, engaging 328 students. The sessions introduced the world of butterflies, their life cycles, ecological roles, and the importance of protecting natural habitats. Students explored examples and gained a deeper appreciation for the urban biodiversity around them. To strengthen experiential learning, hands-on demonstrations were conducted at the Nutrition Gardens, reaching 121 students. Children observed composting techniques, soil health practices, seasonal planting, contributed to nutrition and sustainability.



Empowering communities for water security in Karauli

Under the campaign "Harit Jal Jan Jodo Abhiyan", with our partner Tarun Bharat Sangh (Karauli, Rajasthan) a community meeting was convened with over 30 local participants to foster water dialogue and collective action. This was followed by a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) session, enabling the community to map existing water resources and identify priority areas for intervention. The PRA approach ensures inclusive participation, integration of local knowledge, strengthening community-led water management, and promotion of sustainable water conservation practices for long-term water security.



Seed collection drive strengthens afforestation efforts in Madurai

In partnership with DHAN Foundation a seed collection drive was conducted in Yercaud and Kolli Hills, Madurai. The team—Dr. D. Stephen, V. Prakash, and Adavi gardeners Periyapalichi and Raku collected 1,600 planting material, including seeds, saplings and stem cuttings from 59 native plant species available in the season. This initiative supports afforestation and biodiversity restoration by conserving local genetic resources for future planting programs.



'Mere Sapno Ka Talab' with the water friend- Chintu

In the "Mere Sapno Ka Talab" campaign being carried out in GB Nagar, UP in partnership with Aroh Foundation, an interactive water conservation awareness program named Jal Jagran was conducted involving 56 students from primary and secondary govt. schools in Gulawati Khurd village. The initiative featured a Muppet show with "Chintu, the water-dost" to address challenges in preserving local water bodies, followed by a student-led skit emphasizing the importance of clean water resources – motivating students to adopt sustainable water management practices within their communities.



Training for safer snake interactions

A series of three workshops were conducted to strengthen frontline staff for safer human-snake interactions. Harit in collaboration with the Madras Crocodile Bank Trust, trained 133 participants, one workshop in Nagpur for NGO partners and two for the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve Forest Department. Under Project SAFE (Snake Awareness for Everyone), the sessions focused on snake ecology, safe rescue techniques using props, and basic first aid. Participants received resource materials, and selected members were provided with snake rescue kits to support field operations.



Drawing Change: Students use comics to champion the environment

In partnership with World Comics India, an Environment comics workshops was organized in Noida and Chennai. Students enthusiastically embraced the idea of learning through comics, using storytelling and illustrations to express their understanding of environmental issues. Students at KGBV Dadri, Upper Primary School Itehra, and Junior High School Jalpura created the classic four-panel comic on themes like Environment conservation, waste, and water, while a two-day workshop at Chennai Higher Secondary School, Lakshmpuram saw over 60 students create 50+ green comics on issues such as deforestation, water conservation, and habitat loss.



Cultivating a greener tomorrow

Harit partner Technology Informatics Design Endeavour (TIDE) conducted 8 activity-based sessions on energy conservation and waste management, amounting to 700+ hours of active learning and reaching 389 students. (The Green School initiative is designed to instill pro-environmental behavior among students while encouraging eco-friendly practices within schools.) A midline assessment across five newly onboarded schools revealed that 90% of students demonstrated moderate to high levels of improvement in environmental awareness—reflecting positive shifts in knowledge, attitudes and behaviors toward sustainability.



Academic visit @ Harit Upvan, Amarpura

Second-year MBA students from FORE School of Management, New Delhi, visited Harit Upvan, Amarpura, GB Nagar as part of their course "From Field to Framework: Designing Solutions for Social Problems." The group of 54 students engaged in interactive, activity-based sessions on themes such as Animal Welfare, Biodiversity, Water Management, and Plant Ecology. The visit offered practical insights into nature conservation and environmental sustainability, bridging classroom learning with real-world applications.



Building spaces for reptiles to thrive in Urban Mini Forests of Lucknow

A natural log-and-slab structure has been introduced at Atal Harit Upvan Lucknow by partner Give Me Trees Trust to create microhabitats for reptiles. These shelters provide shaded crevices, thermal regulation, and safe hiding spots, supporting species like lizards and non-venomous snakes. Such features enhance biodiversity in urban green spaces and afforestation sites by offering refuge and promoting ecological balance.



Promoting water conservation through awareness and action

Aroh Foundation, with support from HCLFoundation and HCLTech volunteers, organized a community awareness program at Beel Akbarpur village, GBN, UP to promote pond conservation and water management. The event included a poster-making competition for 40 students followed by a rally around the waterbodies.



Transforming rural communities



HCLFoundation strengthens digital skills in the classroom in Hardoi

The Digital Literacy, Coding, Computational Thinking & Artificial Intelligence (DLCC & AI) Program is transforming education for KGBV students, equipping them with essential digital skills for the 21st century.

A Student-Led Peer Learning Group - TechToli was introduced as a new concept to foster collaboration and improve hands-on practice in coding and AI.

From November 19 -21, training of 34 teachers was held in Hardoi across seven modules: Computer Fundamentals, Internet Usage, Microsoft Office, Logical Thinking, AI Basics, Scratch, and Python Programming. Educators explored the UP OER (Uttar Pradesh Open Educational Resources) portal and HCLFoundation's innovative LMS for structured digital learning.



HCLFoundation commences construction of advanced veterinary hospital in Sandila, Hardoi

Samuday by HCLFoundation is building Uttar Pradesh's first advanced veterinary hospital in Sandila, Hardoi. Being developed as a Centre for Artificial Insemination and Animal Husbandry Extension Services (CAAES), the facility will function as a Centre of Excellence in the field of Animal Husbandry aimed at strengthening animal health services in the region. The Centre will provide modern treatment facilities for livestock, pets, poultry as laboratory animals, ensuring easy access to high-quality veterinary care for livestock owners.

It will also serve as a training hub, offering capacity-building programs for livestock farmers on improved and scientific animal husbandry practices.



Samuday's TB elimination program trains 33 champions in Sandila

Samuday by HCLFoundation is driving its Tuberculosis (TB) Elimination Program across 11 blocks of HarDOI district by reaching thousands of patients through a peer-led, person-centric care model and protein-rich nutrition support.

Over the past two years, the program has impacted 6,000 TB patients - focusing on stigma, awareness on treatment adherence and community engagement. To strengthen this mission, 33 TB Champions were trained in Sandila on November 11-12. The workshop was graced by the District TB Officer (DTO), who addressed the participants and appreciated their commitment to supporting patients.



Samuday empowers leaders through skill development in Sandila

Samuday Crafts organized a day-long capacity-building workshop at the Samuday Crafts hub in Sandila on November 18.

A total of six Center Managers (from Moonj craft, wheatgrass, hand-block printing center, Taat hand embroidery, chikankari hand embroidery centers) and three Board Members participated with Directors Mr. Nitesh Vimal and Ms. Savitri Devi facilitating the workshop. The session focused on three critical areas - entrepreneurship, hard skills, and soft skills development to strengthen leadership, communication, and operational efficiency at the grassroots level.

Participants learned to think like entrepreneurs, calculate costs, set fair prices, and explore new market opportunities while adopting eco-friendly practices.



Samuday signs MoU with TNSRLM in Thoothukudi

This month, as part of its Animal Husbandry initiative, HCLFoundation signed an MoU with TNSRLM (Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission) to implement a Front-End Subsidy Model project for dairy-based livelihood promotion. The initiative aims to support 238 poor families, especially SHG women, to generate sustained income through dairy activities. Each beneficiary will receive ₹20,000 as an installment subsidy for the purchase of a high yield milch animal.

The project focuses on increasing livestock population and improving milk yield through quality animal induction. It will further strengthen the dairy value chain by linking SHGs, cooperatives, and AMCUs for efficient production and marketing. Ultimately, the project is designed to empower rural women through asset ownership, income control, and long-term economic independence.



Samuday leads training on climate smart agriculture in Thoothukudi

We organized a training on Climate Smart Agriculture on November 21 for Frontline Demonstration farmers at Nagalpuram Panchayat in Vilathikulam block of Thoothukudi. The session introduced dryland farming technologies to boost resilience and productivity in rainfed areas. 80 farmers actively participated, learning sustainable practices like soil moisture conservation, crop diversification, and integrated nutrient management to adapt to changing climates.



Strengthening the dairy ecosystem in Thoothukudi

Samuday is boosting sustainable dairy productivity and improving cattle health by enabling year-round cultivation of green fodder. To achieve the same, 10 beneficiaries were provided with water-plumbing materials to complement the borewells dug earlier, ensuring efficient irrigation. This leads to better milk yield and enhanced household income and livelihood.



Agricultural inputs distributed across 255 villages under Climate Smart Agriculture

Samuday by HCLFoundation distributed agricultural inputs to 731 Frontline Demonstration farmers this month across 255 villages in Vilathikulam and Pudur blocks of Thoothukudi. As part of its Climate Smart Agriculture initiative, farmers received neem cake, seeds, biopackages, pest traps, and other essentials to promote sustainable farming and crop resilience.



Night Chaupals promote sustainable farming in Sandi block of Hardoi

As part of the Nurturing Nature project, 5 Night Chaupals were organized across multiple Gram Panchayats in Sandi block in Hardoi district to raise awareness and build community capacity. Through open dialogue and practical learning, 176 villagers are being trained and empowered to adopt eco-friendly methods for a healthier environment and resilient livelihoods.



Cool season crops promoted for 60 farmers in Thoothukudi

Samuday team conducted a demonstration for farmers at Kandhasamy Puram on November 14 to introduce cool season crops in a region where they are rarely grown. 60 farmers were taught carrot cultivation on raised beds - promoting crop diversification, soil health, and resilience under the Climate Smart Agriculture initiative.



Engineering day celebrations unite 100 schools in Hardoi

This month, Samuday team celebrated Engineering Day across 11 blocks of Hardoi district in Uttar Pradesh. Students were engaged in activities like poster presentations, quiz competition, and debates on technology. The series of events inviting 100 schools were held at UPS (Upper Primary School) Jamu in Sandila block and UPS Pilkhana in Madhoganj block on November 6 and 7.

Winners were awarded by BEO (Block Education Officer) Madhoganj Shri Santosh Kumar. The programme also conducted a 3-day teacher training with HCLFoundation and Eklavya team to support better use of the science kit in classrooms.



Samuday celebrates Shaurya Diwas to promote waste management in schools

On November 12 and 13, four Urban Local Bodies—Nagar Palika Parishad Mallawan, Sandila, Nagar Panchayat Kachhauna Patseni and Beniganj—came together under Mission Shakti and the Plastic Bank Initiative to celebrate Shaurya Diwas with a vibrant poster competition organized by the Swachh Sarathi Clubs.

Centered on the theme “Women’s Contribution to Cleanliness,” the event honored the courage and pivotal role of women in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan while promoting environmental responsibility. A total of 86 children in 4 schools joined a ten-minute cleanliness drive on their school premises, reinforcing the message of individual responsibility for a cleaner environment.



Empowering NGOs that transform rural India



Exploring the work of PlanatEarth

Mr. Robin G Thomas, Associate General Manager, HCLTech Grant and Ms. Prakriti Khar, Deputy Manager, HCLFoundation visited PlanatEarth, the Edition VIII HCLTech Grant #Environment category award winner, on 25th and 26th November 2025. The team gave a detailed presentation on the progress of Project DROP (Drive to Recover Ocean Plastic) and Project VMF (Vembanad's Macro Fight), where they shared the waste collection and recovery achievements, upcycling and circular economy models, community engagement and operational developments. The team visited the Upcycling Unit, where they observed the waste art techniques and workforce training and empowerment initiatives; and the VMF Production Unit at Puliyanam where they witnessed the Water Hyacinth drying operations, sawdust processing and moisture management, briquette production workflow and material movement and daily output planning. They also interacted with the fishermen community at the collection point of Munnambam Harbour. In the past two years, the project has demonstrated a scientific approach to efficiently integrate waste-to-energy solutions.



The Partner Meet on day two carried this spirit forward with grassroots organizations sharing their journeys and the collective vision for the road ahead



Delegates from HCLTech and HCLFoundation visit The Corbett Foundation in Kutch, Gujarat

HCLFoundation delegates visited The Corbett Foundation, the #Environment category winner of HCLTech Grant Edition IX to witness the ongoing project, "Guardians of Grasslands: Empowering communities to safeguard pastures for the long-term conservation of critically endangered bustards and associated species in Kutch, Gujarat". Chair of the HCLTech Grant Jury, Ms. Robin Abrams and Dr. Nidhi Pundhir along with Ms. Simi Suri and members of the HCLTech Grant team, engaged closely with communities and conservation partners working to protect the fragile landscape of Naliya along with the Director of TCF, Mr. Kedar Gore, Mr. Jhala, Dr. Rather and Ms. Vidhi where they encountered one of India's rarest living treasures – the critically endangered Great Indian Bustard (GIB). Across every interaction, the spirit of Kutch – its communities, biodiversity, and conservation champions – shone through, demonstrating how meaningful change unfolds when leadership, grassroots action, and scientific commitment unite.



Mr. Robin G Thomas visits Pallium India Trust

Mr. Robin G Thomas, Associate General Manager, HCLTech Grant visited Pallium India Trust - the #Health category recipient of the Edition X HCLTech Grant. The aim of the visit was to meet the leadership and team of the organization including Dr. M. R. Rajagopal, Chairman Emeritus and Founder, Binod Hariharan, Chairman & CEO and Shriya Singh COO; discuss the possibilities of collaboration and volunteering; and engage with the community to better understand the work executed by Pallium India Trust under the project - " Palliative care service delivery through home visits in Rural Trivandrum". He also visited homes in the area Vilappilsala, under the City 2 Homecare team along with Sr. Falin Jothi, Deepak C Zachariah and Palliative care assistant – Abhilash. The project focuses on delivering accessible, compassionate palliative care to individuals in their homes and thus enhance the quality of life for patients and families while addressing healthcare disparities.



The story of Shashikala: From reluctance to leadership

Shashikala, a 30-year-old tribal woman from Penjalli tribal hamlet, reluctantly became an Anganwadi helper and faced immense challenges when the teacher retired. Managing both cooking and preschool education alone, she struggled, especially with irregular support from the in-charge teacher.

Makkala Jagriti intervened with training, mentorship, and regular coordinator visits, equipping her with effective preschool techniques and boosting her confidence. Despite the absence of a permanent teacher, Shashikala took full responsibility, ensuring child attendance and conducting activities. Recognized as a top helper in her circle, she became a community role model, proving that targeted support can empower individuals to create lasting change.



Breaking the cycle of urban poverty

Bengaluru

World Toilet Day: Volunteer engagement for sanitation awareness

SOCHARA organized a Volunteer Engagement Programme at BBMP Boys School, Austin Town, with active participation from sanitation workers. The event began with introductions and interactive sessions that fostered awareness and understanding of the challenges faced by sanitation workers. Volunteers from Maya Bazaar performed a powerful street play on waste segregation and management, delivering impactful messages through creativity. As part of a support initiative, 100 pairs of protective boots were distributed to sanitation workers, reinforcing safety and acknowledging their vital role in maintaining community hygiene. The programme successfully blended awareness, creative expression, and practical support, inspiring collective responsibility for sustainability and community well-being.



Children's Day Celebration: Spreading joy across anganwadi centres

United Way Bengaluru celebrated Children's Day across 24 Anganwadi Centres, bringing together 327 children, 88 mothers, 23 workers, and 16 helpers for a day full of fun and bonding. The celebration featured creative activities like handprint art and coloring portraits of Nehru and roses, followed by energetic performances and engaging games that kept spirits high. The festivities concluded on a sweet note with a cake-cutting ceremony sponsored by parents, making the day truly memorable.



Children's Day Celebration with IIHMR: A day of joy and learning

On 14th November, Pillaganahalli came alive with vibrant celebrations as the community marked Children's Day with enthusiasm and warmth. The event featured fun games, creative sessions, and interactive learning activities that sparked curiosity and encouraged self-expression among children. Adding a special touch, two dedicated volunteers ensured smooth execution and brought energy to every moment, making the celebration lively and engaging. The day concluded with a heartwarming gesture of gift distribution, leaving children with smiles and cherished memories.



School Health Awareness Drive: KHPT & CUPA Foundation educate students on rabies and snakebite safety

On 29th November 2025, KHPT, in collaboration with the CUPA Foundation, organized an impactful School Health Awareness Programme at Gottigere and Jambusavari Dinne Government Higher Primary Schools. The initiative focused on rabies and snakebite prevention, addressing growing concerns over dog-bite cases in Bangalore. The session, led by Ms. Harshita, featured an engaging and child-friendly discussion on topics such as rabies, safe interaction with animals, prevention of animal bites, and essential first aid measures. Students learned about the causes and symptoms of rabies, the importance of timely medical care, and practical safety tips for dealing with urban wildlife. Additionally, the program covered first aid responses for snakebite incidents, emphasizing common mistakes to avoid. Visual aids and live demonstrations made the learning interactive and easy to understand, equipping children with confidence to handle emergencies.



Bridging Gaps in healthcare access through Ayushman Bharat Card generation camp

On 22nd November 2025, KHPT organized an Ayushman Bharat Health Card Generation Camp at Jambusavari Dinne to help community members access healthcare benefits under the scheme. The initiative aimed to bridge documentation gaps and improve access to essential health services, receiving strong community participation with 95 members registered, 29 new health cards created, and 34 individuals assisted in downloading existing cards. By supporting smooth service delivery, the camp played a crucial role in empowering the community to move closer to affordable and quality healthcare.



World Diabetes Day: KHPT leads community awareness through interactive sessions

In November 2025, KHPT organized a series of diabetes awareness sessions across Gottigere UPHC communities, reaching People with Non-Communicable Diseases (PWNCD), ANC women, mothers of children under five, Mahila Arogya Samithi (MAS) and Self-Help Group (SHG) members, as well as workplace groups. The initiative aimed to deepen understanding of diabetes prevention and management through practical, engaging activities. Sessions began with a recap of previous discussions and moved into interactive demonstrations. One activity used three glasses of water mixed with turmeric to illustrate blood sugar fluctuations—low during fasting, higher after meals, and persistently elevated when uncontrolled. Another creative exercise explained insulin resistance using a cloth (blood vessel), stones (sugar), and a spoon (insulin), showing how excess sugar makes insulin's job harder. Facilitators emphasized that while diabetes is increasingly common, it can be managed with early diagnosis, regular blood sugar and BP checks (especially for those above 30), and healthy habits like exercise, yoga, meditation, and a balanced diet. Participants appreciated the practical approach and clear guidance, leaving with strong messages about early screening and lifestyle changes.



Nurture Your Plant: Promoting self-care and well-being

On 24th November 2025, KHPT conducted the first targeted intervention activity for women and elderly groups at Yarabnagar Slum, Yarabnagar UPHC. Each of the nine participants received a jasmine plant and was encouraged to observe its needs, reflecting on how nurturing the plant parallels caring for their own well-being through healthy eating, exercise, social interaction, and mindfulness. The activity aimed to promote self-love and holistic health, creating a symbolic connection between plant care and personal care. A follow-up will be conducted to understand how this experience influences participants' daily habits and mindset.



Diya Painting Activity: Creative engagement for elderly well-being

On 25th November 2025, a Diya painting activity was conducted at Gundamma Compound, Madiwala UPHC as part of an induction program for elderly community members. The session saw active participation from seven beneficiaries, who engaged in painting as a way to relax and express creativity. The objective was to mobilize the elderly and introduce the concept of mental well-being in a simple, engaging manner. Participants shared that the activity helped them forget their worries and feel calm, highlighting the positive impact of creative engagement on mental health.



ISB-DLabs and HCLFoundation empower women entrepreneurs through skill-building bootcamps

On November 20–21, 2025, ISB-DLabs Incubator, with strategic support from HCLFoundation, conducted Bootcamp 2 in Bengaluru, training 37 women micro-entrepreneurs in Kannada. The sessions covered MSME schemes for women, business planning using the Business Model Canvas, and practical guidance on digital tools like WhatsApp Business, Instagram Business, and Canva. Participants also received training in financial literacy and Detailed Project Report (DPR) preparation aligned with banking requirements. To ensure continued learning, two virtual sessions on DPR preparation were held on November 14, 2025, for participants from the September Bengaluru cohort and October Madurai cohort. Delivered in Hindi and Tamil, these sessions provided deeper insights into financial concepts and DPR templates, strengthening financial readiness for women-led businesses.



Social Security Schemes Camp: Driving awareness and enrollment in Anekal

A Social Security Schemes Camp was organized near Marsur Gate, Anekal, by Yuvakendra in collaboration with Head Held High Foundation, Bengaluru, to promote awareness and facilitate enrollment in Government of India's social security programs. During the drive, the team introduced various schemes and explained the benefits of E-Shram Card, PMSBY, and PMJAY, while educating beneficiaries on their features and advantages. The camp supported 36 community members, enabling enrollments for 8 ABHA IDs and 28 E-Shram cards. Additionally, local residents were mobilized to participate, ensuring greater outreach and understanding of these schemes aimed at improving social and financial security.

Empowering tribal women through value addition training on millets and amla

The Rural Development Council, committed to uplifting tribal communities in the hills of Denkanikottai, conducted a two-day value addition training program for women from the tribal community. The sessions focused on strengthening traditional food processing skills and promoting livelihood opportunities. On Day 1, participants learned to prepare Kollu Podi and Uluntham Kanji Mix, while Day 2 covered Dry Amla Processing. The training included hands-on practice in cleaning, roasting, grinding, slicing, boiling, and drying, along with guidance on the safe operation and maintenance of grinding machines. Additionally, a workshop on Shikakai powder production was conducted to diversify product development. A total of 14 women benefited from the program, which not only enhanced technical competencies but also promoted traditional healthy foods and supported income generation within the community.





I Create India and HCLFoundation Empower Indian Army Veterans through entrepreneurship training

HCLFoundation, through its sponsored Business Incubation Centers (BICs) in Bengaluru, Lucknow, and Nagpur, is enabling retiring Indian Army personnel to explore entrepreneurship as a viable career option and become job creators. In November 2025, three workshops were conducted—one in Bengaluru with 39 participants, one in Lucknow with 34 participants, and one in Nagpur with 31 participants—providing comprehensive training on business planning, financial literacy, and digital tools.

Success story:

Naik Abdul Malek Malitya from Murshidabad, West Bengal, attended the HCLFoundation-sponsored Aspiring Entrepreneurs Workshop at AMC Centre, Lucknow. Equipped with skills in market research, planning, negotiation, and cost-effective promotion, he invested ₹5 lakhs post-retirement to start a B2C medical store. His shop now earns a 15–25% profit margin and enjoys strong customer trust.

Abdul plans to expand into medical equipment, baby care, and wellness products, introduce online ordering and home delivery, and build partnerships with nearby clinics. His venture has significantly benefited the local community by ensuring reliable access to essential medicines and healthcare products, especially for the elderly and chronically ill.

Chennai

Vibrant children's day celebration with cultural performances

OfERR team organized a vibrant Children's Day celebration at Govt. ADW Girls Higher Secondary School, Kannigapuram. The programme began with an insightful explanation of the significance of Children's Day, followed by a short motivational talk to inspire students. The event featured engaging activities such as the Voice Wall, slogan writing, fun games, and interactive sessions on child rights awareness, ensuring meaningful participation from students. The celebration concluded with captivating cultural performances by program students, adding color and energy to the day. A major highlight was the Folk Arts (Parai) training students' performance, which showcased their skills and confidence gained through dedicated training sessions. Their energetic presentation received enthusiastic applause from both teachers and students, making the event truly memorable.



Students explore environmental issues through comics

The OfERR team, in collaboration with World Comics India, organized an exciting Comics Workshop at Chennai Higher Secondary School, Lakshmipuram. The sessions were facilitated by expert trainers Mr. Jagjith and Ms. Charu, bringing comic storytelling to life for students. A total of 62 students participated enthusiastically, and many successfully created their first comic during the workshop. Through this hands-on training, students learned how to identify and illustrate basic environmental issues in their school and surrounding community using creative comic techniques. The workshop not only enhanced artistic skills but also encouraged critical thinking and social awareness, making learning both fun and impactful.



Volunteering sessions by Mr. Naveen at Asha Deep Foundation Yuvakendra

On 12 November 2025, Mr. Naveen (AGM, HCLTech) visited the Asha Deep Foundation Yuvakendra Centre and conducted an insightful session on time management, understanding work progress, and maintaining work ethics. He returned on 20 November 2025 for another impactful session focused on skill development and entrepreneurial thinking, inspiring trainees to explore ways to become self-reliant and future-ready. These sessions provided valuable guidance to the youth, helping them build confidence and prepare for professional success.



Diabetes awareness programme at yuvakendra centre

On 14 November 2025, Asha Deep Foundation, in collaboration with HCLFoundation, organized a Diabetes Awareness Program at the Yuvakendra Centre. The event featured Dr. Rahul, Diabetologist from Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialties Center, and Ms. Thilothama, Coordinator at Thozhi Shelter, as chief guests. Dr. Rahul delivered an informative presentation covering the purpose of Diabetes Awareness Day, the effects and types of diabetes, common symptoms, and essential lifestyle practices to prevent diabetes. His session emphasized the importance of early detection and healthy habits for long-term well-being. As part of the program, all 42 participants received a free random blood sugar check-up, ensuring practical engagement alongside awareness. The trainees actively participated, asked questions, and benefited greatly from the session, leaving with a deeper understanding of diabetes management and prevention.



Recreational exposure visit to Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary

On 26 November 2025, trainees from the Yuvakendra Skill Training Centre, including PWD, non-PWD, and transwomen, along with staff, embarked on an exciting exposure visit to the Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary. Traveling in two vans, the group enjoyed observing a variety of migratory birds from across the globe, creating a memorable learning and leisure experience. The day included a shared lunch, fostering camaraderie among trainees and staff. Post-lunch, participants engaged in fun activities like singing and dancing, adding joy and energy to the outing. This visit provided a refreshing break from routine training, promoting team bonding, relaxation, and a sense of celebration after a productive month of skill-building activities.



Micronutrient support for children and mothers in Chennai

Nutrition support initiatives were carried out across multiple locations to improve health outcomes for vulnerable groups. At Stanley Hospital, 15 children benefited from micronutrient support, while at the Institute of Child Health, 35 children received assistance. Through SIP Memorial Trust and community outreach, 50 children were supported, with 25 from SIP Memorial Trust and 25 from the community. Additionally, targeted nutrition support was provided to 50 TB-infected children, 10 HIV-infected antenatal mothers, and 10 TB-infected antenatal mothers at Kilpauk Urban Primary Health Centre in Central Chennai. These efforts aim to strengthen immunity, improve maternal and child health, and reduce the risk of complications among high-risk groups.



Community cleaning drive transforms kannagi's 8th cross street

On 8 November, the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) organized a community cleaning drive at 8th Cross Street, Kannagi, with active participation from residents and volunteers from HCLFoundation and IIHS. Residents took collective responsibility for cleaning areas around their homes, removing garbage, household waste, and construction debris from recent renovation works. Notably, the collected construction material was repurposed to level a damaged lane between blocks that had been affected by water stagnation. In total, approximately 80 kilograms of garbage and 45 discarded bottles were collected. The initiative aimed to promote community participation, raise hygiene awareness, and encourage environmental responsibility. The drive concluded successfully, leaving the street visibly cleaner and strengthening community ownership in maintaining a healthy, sustainable neighborhood.



World toilet day celebration promotes sanitation awareness in Kannagi Nagar

On World Toilet Day, IIHS, with support from HCLFoundation, organized a series of community events at Asha Nivas Hall, Kannagi Nagar to reinforce the theme "Sanitation in a Changing World." The highlight was a Clean Toilet Contest, tracking behavior change among families. Initial checks were conducted by HCLTech volunteers, while TNUHDB officers and an external expert carried out the final assessment. All 20 finalists received awards, with the top five winning special prizes. Over 100 residents attended an awareness session addressed by TNUHDB officials, followed by a vibrant rangoli competition and a folk performance that brought the sanitation message to life. The program concluded with a community pledge to maintain clean toilets, fostering ownership and commitment to hygiene.



Tsunami awareness through creative engagement

To raise awareness about tsunami preparedness, a poster-making activity was organized for college students. Tsunamis are powerful sea waves triggered by underwater earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, or landslides. Though rare, they can cause massive destruction within minutes, making awareness and preparedness critical—especially for those living in coastal regions. The session emphasized that while tsunamis cannot be prevented, their impact can be significantly reduced through knowledge, awareness, and quick action. Students learned the importance of staying informed and prepared, as they play a vital role in creating safe, resilient communities. By using creative expression, the activity encouraged open dialogue and reinforced the message that preparedness saves lives.



World premature day awareness at Perumbakkam PHC

On November 19, 2025, Ekam organized an interactive awareness session at Perumbakkam PHC to educate antenatal mothers on caring for premature babies. Using a creative butterfly-themed activity, participants learned key practices such as temperature maintenance, safe sleep, KMC, hygiene, and feeding. Mothers actively engaged by reading messages aloud and adding them to the butterfly chart, reinforcing learning through participation. The session saw involvement from 20 antenatal women, along with VHN, SHN, and PHC staff, making it an impactful and memorable event.



Bridging the Digital Divide: ICT labs inaugurated across five schools

We inaugurated five ICT Labs and distributed Science Kits across five government schools with support from HCLFoundation at Nehru Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Nanganallur. The event was graced by Mrs. Sri Rajarajaswari Duraisamy (HR Manager, HCLTech), Mr. C. Newton (Senior Manager, HCLFoundation), and Mr. A. L. Rangarajan (Country Manager, ILP), along with teams from HCLFoundation and ILP. Students showcased ICT tools and science experiments learned through these initiatives. The ICT program will benefit Grades 7–9, reaching 1,000+ students, while Science Kits will support Grades 6–9.



Igniting Curiosity: Students showcase creative science models

We hosted Science Fairs across government schools in November, where 139 students from Grades 9–12 showcased innovative models on topics like Global Warming, Climate Change, Electricity, Water Cycle, Waste to Wealth, Renewable & Non-renewable Resources, and Environment. Four HCLTech volunteers joined as jury members alongside Science teachers. Students presented their projects with guidance from teachers, ILP facilitators, and parents. Prizes were awarded to top projects, and all participants received certificates and medals for their efforts.



Connecting communities: Spreading awareness on shelter services

An outreach programme was conducted at Koyambedu Bus Stand to raise awareness about free shelter services available in Chennai. Working with Chennai Corporation coordinators, the team distributed leaflets detailing services such as safe accommodation, food, healthcare, counseling, and other essentials across different city zones. Staff engaged directly with passengers, workers, and vulnerable individuals, explaining how shelters operate and who can access them. Many were unaware of these services and appreciated the information. The team also identified individuals in immediate need and guided them to the nearest shelter.



Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 3.0 – Adyar

The Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 3.0 was held at the Cancer Institute (WIA), Adyar, empowering students to advocate for a tobacco-free generation. Experts from public health and psycho-oncology engaged participants on the harmful effects of tobacco and the importance of prevention. Key speakers included Dr. R. Swaminathan, Associate Director, Cancer Institute (WIA), and officials from the State Tobacco Control Programme, who emphasized collaboration for effective tobacco control. Interactive sessions highlighted mental health, prevention strategies, and the role of healthcare professionals. The programme benefited 27 students, equipping them with knowledge and motivation to lead and promote a tobacco-free lifestyle.



National Cancer Awareness Day 2025: Building Community Champions for Health

The Cancer Institute (WIA), Adyar, with support from HCLFoundation, observed National Cancer Awareness Day through an initiative titled “Empowering Women SHG Leaders on Cancer Prevention and Early Detection.” The program aimed to equip women self-help group leaders as community ambassadors for cancer awareness and healthy living. Key sessions covered women-related cancers, early detection, lifestyle diseases, and the role of SHG leaders in cancer control, delivered by experts from oncology and public health. Participants also underwent cancer screening. The event engaged 84 women leaders, making it an impactful step toward promoting health literacy and early detection in communities.



Children’s Day Celebration – Gandhi Nagar ECCD Center

The center was filled with joy as little ones celebrated Children’s Day in vibrant costumes, paper hats, and balloons. The day featured storytelling, rhymes, dance, games, good manners lessons, and a lively fancy dress competition, showcasing the talents of every child. Parents joined the festivities, sharing cake and chocolates, while children received gifts of coloring books and crayons, making the celebration truly memorable.



Child Rights Day – Gandhi Nagar ECCD Center

On 20 November 2025, Gandhi Nagar ECCD Center, Chennai, observed Child Rights Day to raise awareness among children, parents, and the community about child rights and their importance. Ms. Malini from Childline shared insights from her experience handling child abuse cases, while Ms. Uma, ICDS Supervisor, spoke about ICDS and government schemes. The program, organized collaboratively by BSSSG and ICDS Tamil Nadu, emphasized creating opportunities for children to participate in decision-making and promoting inclusive, child-friendly practices. The event engaged 40 parents and 10 ECCD teachers, making it a meaningful step toward strengthening child rights awareness.



Celebrating Halloween at ECCD Center

The day was all about creativity, imagination, and social-emotional learning at Gandhi Nagar ECCD Center. Children enjoyed mask crafting and playful chants, fostering sharing, teamwork, and empathy.



Enhancing Digital Literacy

Weekly ICT classes at Police Boys' & Girls' Clubs are equipping 1,211 students (Grades 8–12) across multiple centers with essential digital skills. Students learn Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint through hands-on training, creating documents like letters and mark sheets. This initiative boosts academic performance and builds job-ready computer skills, ensuring students gain practical expertise for future educational and career opportunities.



Empowering Youth: Scouts and Guides Advance Through Training Camps

On 1 November, a Test Camp was held at HOPE Foundation School for Scouts and Guides from T7 Tank Factory PBGC and Ezhil Nagar PBGC, successfully meeting all scheduled requirements. The Second Zone Test Camp followed on 22–23 November at T7 Tank Factory PBGC, with participants from Avadi, Korattur, and Villivakkam PBGCs. Additionally, the Rajyapuraskar (Governor Award) Test Camp was conducted from 14–16 November at Our Lady School of Excellence, Thiruvottiyur.



Equipping Young Minds: Disaster & Safety Awareness Sessions Conducted

Two important safety programs were held at Police Boys & Girls Clubs: Disaster Management at Arumbakkam PBGC, led by the Disaster Rescue Team, covering emergency preparedness, response techniques, and practical demonstrations. LPG Safety at Pallikarnai PBGC, teaching safe handling, leakage prevention, and emergency steps for gas-related hazards. Both sessions strengthened students' understanding of safety measures and equipped them with essential life-saving skills.



Hyderabad

STEM & Digital learning sessions for students

To spark curiosity and deepen understanding of Science and Technology, Nirmaan NGO organized practical sessions on science experiments and digital skills. These interactive workshops provided students with hands-on experience, enabling them to grasp scientific concepts more effectively while building essential digital competencies. A total of 243 students actively participated, making the initiative a significant step toward experiential learning and skill development.



Children's Day Celebrations

On Children's Day, MARI NGO organized Drawing and Essay Writing competitions for students on the theme of WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene). The objective was to encourage sustainable WASH practices in daily life. These activities not only supported learning but also aimed to improve students' quality of life. Over 50 students from Government High School, Majeedia, Hyderabad participated enthusiastically, showcasing creativity and commitment to hygiene and sustainability.



World Toilet Day: Spreading Awareness on Sanitation and Hygiene

World Toilet Day was observed on 19th November at Government High School, NBT Nagar, Hyderabad. Students actively participated by creating awareness posters on the theme "Sanitation in a Changing World" and organized a rally in nearby areas to educate the community about the importance of proper sanitation and hygiene. The event witnessed the participation of over 250 students, teachers, NGO teams, and volunteers. This impactful initiative was organized by MARI NGO.



DiscoverShe–Women Empowerment Programme Launch

The DiscoverShe – Women Entrepreneur Empowerment Programme was launched in association with the Indian School of Business (ISB), bringing together over 40 women participants. The initiative aims to empower women micro-entrepreneurs by equipping them with digital tools, business knowledge, and access to microfinance, enabling them to build sustainable enterprises.



Yuvakendra Training Graduation

30 youth successfully completed the “Make India Capable” employability enhancement training programme, designed to build essential competencies such as soft skills, digital literacy, life skills, and overall employability. As a result of this initiative, 24 participants have already secured employment opportunities. The training was delivered by Head Held High Foundation, empowering young individuals to step confidently into the workforce.



Kolkata

Ramakrishna Vivekananda Mission Marks Children's Day

Ramakrishna Vivekananda Mission marked Children's Day on 14th November with vibrant celebrations. The event featured engaging activities such as fun games and cultural performances, creating an atmosphere filled with joy and excitement. A delightful surprise awaited the students with the distribution of chocolates and snacks, adding to their happiness. The celebration not only spread cheer but also strengthened the bond between students and teachers, making it a truly memorable occasion. Alongside these festivities, the Annual Examinations were conducted during this period..



Child Rights Day at Mukti Rehabilitation Centre

On 26th November 2025, Mukti Rehabilitation Centre commemorated Child Rights Day with an engaging and educational program aimed at helping children understand their rights. A Child Rights expert led an interactive session, simplifying complex concepts and making learning enjoyable. Children enthusiastically participated by asking questions and creating colorful placards illustrating various rights. The event concluded with snacks, making the day both informative and delightful.



Lucknow

Inauguration Ceremony at Yuvakendra

The batch inauguration at Yuvakendra was successfully conducted, enrolling 30 enthusiastic youth participants. This event marks the beginning of their transformative journey toward skill development and self-reliance.



Occupational Safety Training by PSI India

PSI India organized a two-day training program on Occupational Safety for sanitation workers on 21st and 22nd November 2025, in collaboration with Lucknow Nagar Nigam under the Swachh Uday Program funded by HCLFoundation. The training was inaugurated by Shri Lalit Kumar, PCS, Additional Municipal Commissioner, Lucknow Nagar Nigam; Dr. P.K. Shrivastava, Nagar Swachhatya Adhikari, Lucknow Nagar Nigam; and Shri Kuldeep Singh, General Manager, Jalkal Vibhag, Lucknow Nagar Nigam. A total of 105 sanitation workers engaged in sewer maintenance-related work benefited from this initiative, gaining essential knowledge and skills to ensure their safety and well-being.



Empowering ASHAs for Better Maternal Health: Uday Initiative Training

MAMTA-HIMC, with support from HCLFoundation, conducted a one-day ASHA training in two batches on 17-18 November 2025 under the UDAY initiative. The sessions focused on early registration, timely antenatal care (ANC), identification of high-risk pregnancies (HRPs), and mental health during pregnancy and postpartum. A total of 54 ASHAs actively participated in the training. The program was graced by ACMO Dr. Gopi Lal, Urban Coordinator Sanjay Mishra, and area MOICs.

Number of activities: 2
Total participants: 54



Building Inclusive Classrooms: Teachers' Training under NEP 2020

Mamta HIMC, with support from HCLFoundation, organized a two-day teachers' training on 19–20 November. The sessions focused on practical approaches to integrating life skills in teaching, fostering gender-inclusive classrooms, and applying child psychology to create safe and supportive learning environments. This initiative aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which emphasizes holistic, skills-based, and inclusive education for all children.

Number of activities: 1
Total participants: 24



"Think, Collect, and Make-2"

In collaboration with Mantra Social Services, we hosted an exciting STEAM Workshop at the HCLTech Lucknow office under the theme "Think, Collect, and Make-2." 22 passionate volunteers came together to design and build 25 functional STEM models using simple materials and a whole lot of creativity! The session saw an incredible 88 volunteer hours contributed, and these models will soon reach schools as part of our outreach initiative. The energy was electric, with teams showcasing enthusiasm, innovation, and teamwork—a perfect blend of learning and fun!



Creating Joyful Learning Experiences: Exposure Visit for Nanhe Parinde Beneficiaries

CHETNA, with support from HCLFoundation, organized an enriching exposure visit for beneficiaries of the Nanhe Parinde project at Janeshwar Mishra Park. Nearly 50 children participated, accompanied by our dedicated field team and joined by Ms. Anjali Mishra from HCLFoundation. The day began with a brief orientation on safety and discipline, followed by a series of recreational and team-based activities. Our team ensured continuous supervision, making the experience smooth, safe, and enjoyable for every child. The visit was well-coordinated, engaging, and successfully executed, reflecting the power of teamwork and thoughtful planning.



Spreading Smiles: Children's Day Celebration at Shishuvan Day Care

On 14 November 2025, CLR and HCLFoundation hosted a vibrant Children's Day celebration at Shishuvan Day Care Center, Vikas Nagar, Lucknow. The day was filled with joy as children participated in sports, creative activities, and music sessions. Five enthusiastic volunteers actively engaged with caregivers, assisted in tasks, and co-facilitated interactive sessions—ensuring an inclusive, fun, and memorable experience for every child.



FPAI Leads Nutrition and Anemia Awareness Drive in Schools

FPAI organized Anemia and Nutrition Awareness sessions for newly enrolled students across 28 Corporation and Government Middle Schools. The sessions highlighted the causes, symptoms, and preventive measures for anemia, while emphasizing the importance of consuming nutrient-rich foods. Students also learned about the role of a balanced diet in maintaining overall health. This initiative aims to curb anemia among schoolchildren and promote healthier lifestyles.



Happy Schooling Training

As part of the Happy Schooling initiative, Batch-IV training on Conversational Intelligence for Teachers is being conducted today. The session is facilitated by Dr. Kumanan, Former Professor & Head, Institute of Psychiatric Medicine, Madurai Medical College, who is delivering an insightful talk on "Role of Teachers in Mental Health Promotion." A total of 27 teachers are actively participating in this program.



National Cancer Awareness Day: Spreading Knowledge and Action

On National Cancer Awareness Day, we organized awareness sessions, a signature campaign, and officially launched COPTA Act awareness stickers. This initiative targeted sanitary workers and the public at the Mofussil Bus Stand, reaching over 500 beneficiaries. We are delighted to share that officials from the Government Civil Corporation Health Department, including the City Health Officer, actively participated in the event. They formally launched the stickers, which were placed in all shops with the support of HCLTech volunteers.



Empowering Youth: Value Camp on Drug Awareness and Life Skills

As part of the mHealth Project, a Value Camp was organized at DHAN Foundation, Madurai, with 90 boys actively participating. The camp focused on key topics such as "Say No to Drugs" and Nutrition, while also promoting skill development, behavioral change, and self-confidence. Activities were designed to help participants overcome stage fear and included engaging games and competitions that encouraged teamwork, leadership, and positive interaction. The sessions aimed to instill discipline, motivation, and healthy habits in daily life. The participants showed great enthusiasm and appreciated the initiative for strengthening their values, confidence, and life skills in an enjoyable and inspiring way.



Celebrating Childhood: Children's Day at Keerathurai

BSSSG–ECCD Madurai Project celebrated Children's Day in the Keerathurai area with great enthusiasm and joy. The event aimed to honor children, showcase their talents, and create a space filled with happiness, participation, and togetherness. It also focused on boosting confidence, strengthening parent–child bonding, and encouraging free expression through cultural and recreational activities. Children participated in lively events such as dance performances, rhymes recitation, and fun games. A special highlight was the ramp walk featuring children, parents, and volunteers, promoting unity and social interaction.



Science Centre Workshop

Science Center Workshop was organized at the Young Kalam Discovery Science Center for Corporation school students and teachers where they explored fascinating STEM concepts such as the Star Wheel, Sound, Persistence of Vision, Concave and Convex Mirrors, Light, and the Gyroscope. Students learned to identify constellations using the star wheel and understood how Earth's rotation affects the night sky. Through engaging demonstrations, they discovered how sound is produced by vibrations and how it travels through different media. The principle of persistence of vision was illustrated with optical toys like the thaumatrope, showing how motion pictures work. Experiments with concave and convex mirrors helped them understand real-life applications in telescopes and vehicles, while light experiments demonstrated reflection, refraction, and dispersion beautifully through prisms. The gyroscope activity fascinated students as they observed how spinning motion helps maintain balance and direction, just like in drones and spacecraft. The workshop was highly interactive, deepening students' curiosity, creativity, and scientific understanding through real-world, hands-on learning experiences.



World Toilet Day: Promoting Sanitation Through Community Engagement

The World Toilet Day event was celebrated in Susaiappuram with a creative rangoli competition designed to raise awareness about sanitation and hygiene. This activity served as an engaging platform to highlight the importance of proper toilet use and the urgent need to eliminate open defecation. During the event, WATSAN committee members conducted informative sessions for community members, emphasizing the health, environmental, and social benefits of maintaining good sanitation practices. They reinforced the message of consistently using household and community toilets and avoiding open defecation under all circumstances.



Empowering Women Entrepreneurs through Digital Marketing

On 18th November 2025, NGO Aroha, with support from HCLFoundation, conducted a Digital Marketing Workshop at Wadi, Nagpur. Workshop led by industry expert, the hands-on session taught smartphone-based strategies to help women artisans to grow their businesses online. The interactive workshop equipped participants with practical digital tools, fostering confidence and skills for a stronger entrepreneurial journey.



Strengthening SSC Exam Readiness

With the support of HCLFoundation, NGO Masoom engaged nearly 900 students in November 2025 through structured learning worksheets across 28 Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) schools and 4-night schools. These worksheets reinforced classroom lessons, enhanced conceptual clarity, and boosted student confidence. Teachers observed increased participation as students practiced and mastered key concepts. This initiative underscores a strong commitment to academic excellence, with plans to scale further and empower more students to succeed in the upcoming SSC exams.



Empowering Students for Future Careers

Under the ongoing Financial Literacy project, NGO MeJol, with support from HCLFoundation, conducted aptitude tests for 300 students across 7 NMC schools in Nagpur using the Dermatoglyphics Multiple Intelligence Test (DMIT). Personalized reports revealed strengths and learning styles, while career experts guided students on opportunities after 10th and 12th. The initiative boosted confidence and future readiness, earning praise from teachers for its transformative impact.



Fostering Innovation through STEM Education

NGO SEDT, with support from HCLFoundation, is engaging NMC school students through science workshops and Young Kalam Science Centre (STEM lab) exposure. The team also promoted the Inspire Award-MANAK program, leading to five idea submissions from Surendragadh NMC School in 2023. Two students, Divyansh Gupta (Smart Basket) and Ansh Dwivedi (Touchscreen Pen), were selected and awarded ₹10,000 each. With guidance from the Young Kalam Science Centre (STEM lab) team, they showcased their models at the Nagpur District Level Exhibition.



Empowering Adolescents: Family Planning & Sexual Health Awareness

Aragami India, with support from HCLFoundation under the Uday Project, conducted an interactive session on Family Planning and Sexual & Reproductive Health in collaboration with skill partners—Noida Deaf Society, Doctors for You, Access Development Services, EFRAH, and Udayan Care. The session focused on biological and psychological changes, human reproduction, menstruation hygiene, contraceptive methods, and myth-busting. A total of 143 participants (78 females, 65 males) from five organizations benefited from this initiative, gaining essential knowledge for informed and healthy choices.



National Cancer Awareness Day : Spreading Knowledge, Saving Lives

On 7 November 2025, FPA India and HCLFoundation organized an awareness drive on breast and cervical cancer for the Sector-45 community. The event featured a rally by peer educators, informative videos, posters, and speeches highlighting causes, symptoms, and prevention. The session focused on breast self-examination, HPV vaccination, and regular screening, while a quiz engaged female participants for better retention. The programme saw active participation from 141 adolescents and women, reinforcing the importance of early detection and preventive care.



Celebrated World Immunization Day : Promoting Healthy Beginnings

On 10 November 2025, HCLFoundation and FPA India Noida organized awareness sessions for ANC and PNC mothers at Anganwadi centers in Sector-22 and Sector-102. The sessions emphasized timely immunization for children under five, vaccinations for pregnant women, and the importance of breastfeeding, nutrition, and routine health check-ups. ASHAs and Anganwadi workers joined to share information and improve access to maternal and child health services. A total of 86 mothers were sensitized on the significance of on-time immunization.



Celebrated World Diabetes Day : Driving Awareness & Early Detection

On 14 November, Doctors For You (DFY), with support from HCLFoundation, organized a Diabetes Awareness and Screening Camp under the 1000 Days MCH Project. The initiative offered free blood sugar tests, BMI checks, medical consultations, nutrition guidance, and lifestyle counseling. A total of 111 beneficiaries (50 men and 61 women) participated, gaining insights on early detection and effective diabetes management. Through accessible healthcare and community engagement, the camp empowered individuals to adopt healthier, informed lifestyles.



Celebrated World Toilet Day : Inspiring Hygiene Champions

On World Toilet Day, Rasta HCLF Gurukul Centres celebrated with engaging activities to promote sanitation and hygiene awareness. Children performed informative role plays on the importance of proper toilet use, avoiding open defecation, and contributing to an Open Defecation Free (ODF) India. These activities reinforced essential hygiene practices and encouraged children to become community ambassadors for cleanliness.



Educational Exposure Visit : Inspiring Young Minds at National Bal Bhawan

Children from Rasta HCLF Gurukul visited National Bal Bhawan for an enriching educational experience. They explored the fish aquarium, played interactive games, enjoyed swings, and received a guided tour explaining the center's purpose and learning opportunities. Officials from the Traffic Police Department engaged children on road safety rules, while an exhibit of Indian Air Force air weapons sparked curiosity and learning. The visit combined fun and knowledge, making it a truly memorable experience for young learners.



Health Checkup Activity : Promoting Wellness Among Children

Children from Nanhe Parinde underwent health checkups at the Community Health Centre, Birsakh-1, and Government Dispensary, Harola. The sessions included comprehensive medical examinations, personalized consultations, and hygiene awareness, helping children understand the importance of good health. Educators and medical professionals assessed physical development, identified health concerns, and guided children toward healthy daily habits. The initiative successfully promoted preventive care, long-term wellness, and self-care practices.



Cyber Safety Awareness Week : Building Responsible Digital Citizens

In the first week of November, children across all contact points participated in Cyber Safety Awareness Week, learning about safe online behavior and digital responsibility. Guided by a video from the Noida Police Commissionerate, sessions included interactive discussions, poster-making, and practical demonstrations on identifying cyber risks and navigating the digital world safely. These activities strengthened awareness and encouraged children to adopt safe, mindful digital practices in everyday life.



Balaknama Editorial Meeting : Fostering Leadership & Awareness

On 13 November 2025, an Editorial Meeting was held at the Noida NP Office, led by Kishan, Balaknama Editor, with 20 Batuni Reporters (9 males, 11 females) from all contact points. The session featured discussions on leadership qualities, responsibilities of effective leaders, cybercrime prevention, community challenges, and selection of new reporters. It encouraged participants to think critically, build confidence, and develop responsible leadership skills.



Taare Zameen Par: Celebrating Early Learning

Anganwadi children from Bsrakh block, GB Nagar, took the stage with confidence and joy at the Annual Day celebration, organised with ECCD partner Cohesion Foundation Trust under Uday by HCLFoundation. Their dances, role plays, and fun activities like hoopla added excitement to the day – bringing big smiles to families, Anganwadi teams, and the dignitaries who joined the celebration.



2nd State Chess Championship – Empowering Visually Impaired Students

From 18–20 November, HCLFoundation, in collaboration with Saksham, hosted the 2nd State Chess Tournament for Persons with Visual Impairment at the HCLTech campus, Noida, in association with AICFB and DCAB. Out of 76 registrations, 49 visually impaired students from Delhi–NCR competed on tactile chess boards, showcasing incredible skill and enthusiasm. The valedictory ceremony honored winners with cash prizes (INR 3100, 2100, 1100) and special recognition for the best female player and youngest participant (11 years). With support from 15 HCLTech volunteers, the event promoted inclusion, empowerment, and the transformative spirit of chess.



District-Level Career Guidance Fair – Showcasing Innovation & Opportunities

The District Education Department organized a Career Guidance Fair at Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Inter College, Chiti, Noida, where students supported under Katha's STEM Stars program showcased their innovative robotics models. In the presence of DIOS, Nodal Officer, and educators, one highlight was a Pollution Clean Robot by a student from GHS Salempur, designed to detect highway air pollution and activate a cleaning system. Students were also introduced to the Pankh Portal, developed by the Uttar Pradesh Government and UNICEF, offering information on 550+ career options, empowering them with knowledge for future pathways.



Celebrating Inclusion Through Sports: Saksham's Annual Sports Day

Saksham's Annual Inclusive Sports Day was a vibrant celebration of ability and togetherness. The event kicked off with an energetic March Past, followed by synchronized drill performances and a series of races tailored to different ages and abilities. Each activity was thoughtfully designed to strengthen children's gait, grip, and balance while fostering a healthy spirit of competition and motivation. The day was made even more special by the enthusiastic support of mothers, HCLTech volunteers, and students from the hosting school. Their collaboration created an atmosphere of joy and inclusion, making the event a truly memorable experience for everyone involved.



Explore. Experiment. Eco-Innovate! Inspiring Young Minds at Challera

The Young Kalam Discovery Science Center at Primary School, Challera, Noida buzzed with excitement as 69 students from five schools came together for an engaging Science Quiz and Art Competition themed around the environment. Guided by five dedicated mentors and supported by four enthusiastic HCLTech volunteers, the event offered a joyful and enriching experience for all. The top three students were honored with special science-themed gifts, celebrating their curiosity and creativity. Educators praised this meaningful initiative and emphasized the importance of continuing such programs to nurture young talent and empower students for future success.



Robotics Fair & Children's Day: Igniting Young Minds with Innovation

A dynamic celebration of creativity, technology, and youthful enthusiasm marked the Children's Day festivities with a Robotics Fair held across 18 government intervention schools from November 12 to 15. The event brought together over 3,000 teachers, students, and parents for an unforgettable experience filled with learning, laughter, and fun. Students proudly showcased their robotics models, reflecting their curiosity, innovation, and problem-solving skills. The fair also featured engaging activities and lively performances, creating an atmosphere of excitement and joy. This event was the grand finale of the Young Innovators STEM Fest, a two-phase initiative that began on Engineers' Day in September and concluded with resounding success during the Robotics Fair. Certificates and gifts were awarded to encourage every participant, leaving schools and students glowing with pride as their ideas took flight. At Primary School Baraula, volunteer Sanchit played a pivotal role in ensuring the smooth execution of the programme, exemplifying the spirit of collaboration and commitment.



Snake Awareness Session: Busting Myths and Promoting Safety

An engaging online session on snake conservation and snakebite prevention was organized for students from five HCLFoundation-supported government schools in Noida. Conducted by Raj Yadav, Project Assistant at the Madras Crocodile Bank Trust, the session drew participation from around 500 students and 15 teachers. The children's curiosity shone through as they asked intriguing questions like, "Do snakes drink milk?", "Can a snakebite really turn the body blue?", and "Do some snakes actually have two heads?". Beyond myth-busting, the session equipped students with practical knowledge on staying safe around snakes and highlighted their vital role in maintaining ecological balance.



Regional Katha Utsav 2025: Nurturing Young Storytellers

Katha Utsav, a national-level initiative by implementing partner Katha, celebrates child-led creativity and empowers budding storytellers. This year, 79 students from HCLFoundation-supported government schools in Gautam Budh Nagar participated enthusiastically. In Phase 1, students explored fiction, non-fiction, and poetry under the guidance of mentors and submitted their entries for the North Region qualifying round. Out of these, 35 students advanced to the Regional Level, and 28 attended an interactive workshop hosted at Summer Fields School, Gurugram. The excitement soared as five talented students earned their spot in the Grand Finale, which will be held in Chennai marking a proud moment for the schools and participants alike.



Katha Utsav 2025 (North Regionals, Delhi)

On 28th and 29th November 2025, a two-day creative workshop on "How to Write a Story and Poem" was organized at Summer Field School, Gurugram, with six enthusiastic college students participating. This year marked the first time that Katha welcomed college students to the Katha Utsav—an esteemed platform designed to help young writers learn, grow, and showcase their literary talent. Guided by experienced mentors and renowned authors, the students developed their final stories—both fiction and non-fiction along with original poems, all of which will be submitted for the Katha Utsav finale in Chennai. Throughout the workshop, participants learned essential writing skills such as building strong plots, creating compelling characters, writing with emotion and imagery, and shaping narratives that resonate with readers. For many, it was their first hands-on experience with creative writing, and the sessions helped them overcome hesitation while discovering their storytelling potential. Students shared that the workshop was inspiring, enjoyable, and deeply motivating. By the end, they felt confident and proud of their work, and excited for the possibility of being selected for the Chennai finale.



Exposure Visit to the International Trade Fair

On 26th November, a group of 42 students from Noida Deaf Society participated in an exposure visit to the International Trade Fair in Delhi. For many especially those who had travelled from various parts of the country it was their first experience attending an event of such scale. The visit offered the students valuable insights into diverse industries, innovative products, and emerging technologies showcased at the fair.



Observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

On 25 November 2025, Yuvakendra marked the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women by organizing an awareness programme at its Noida center with 56 students (25 girls and 31 boys). The event featured a poster-making activity where students used art to convey powerful messages on women's rights, gender equality, and the need to end violence. Following the activity, participants held a rally from the NCUI Building to Boodha Kakrala, raising slogans including "महिला सम्मान हमारा अभिमान — हिंसा मुक्त हो देश महान"—to spread awareness across the community. Both girls and boys participated enthusiastically, demonstrating a shared commitment to promoting respect and safety for women. The programme helped students gain a deeper understanding of gender-based violence and encouraged them to speak up, advocate for women's rights, and actively engage in building a violence-free society.



Family Planning and Youth Awareness Session

On 18 November 2025, Katha conducted a community awareness session under the FPA India project "My Child, My Right" at Yuvakendra, NCUI Building, Sector 80. A total of 64 students participated (30 girls and 34 boys). The session was facilitated by Ms. Jasbeer Kaur and Ms. Pooja from the Family Planning Association of India. Students learned about family planning, sexual and menstrual hygiene, STI prevention, and key protections under the POCSO Act. Separate sessions for boys and girls created a comfortable environment for open discussions, enabling participants to ask questions freely and clarify personal doubts. Many students shared that this was their first time receiving structured information on these topics particularly safe hygiene practices and their rights under POCSO. By the end of the session, students reported increased confidence in identifying unsafe situations, understanding reproductive health, and making informed choices. Overall, the session significantly boosted awareness, corrected misconceptions, and empowered young people to take charge of their health and safety.



Vijayawada

Empowering Artisans: 237 Kalamkari Artists Complete Udyam Registration

A total of 237 Kalamkari artisans successfully completed their Udyam registrations. To facilitate this, we organized a sensitization session on the benefits of the Udyam card and conducted on-the-spot registrations in collaboration with the district MSME department. This initiative enables artisans to access financial assistance, subsidies, tax exemptions, official identity, and growth opportunities, paving the way for their economic empowerment and sustainability.



Enhancing Skills: Kalamkari Artisans Attend Contemporary Design Workshop

We organized a capacity-building workshop for Kalamkari artisans, focusing on contemporary designs for product development. The session aimed to help artisans adapt to modern trends while preserving the essence of traditional art. A total of 60 women artisans participated, gaining valuable insights and practical skills to enhance their craft and expand market opportunities.



Handwash Hygiene Sensitization at AKTP MC High School

We conducted an interactive session on personal hygiene, good habits, and handwashing at AKTP MC High School, Vijayawada. Students learned the correct steps of handwashing and its importance in preventing infections, especially before meals, after using the toilet, and after play. The team also emphasized clean surroundings, good manners, and personal health, making the session engaging and impactful.



Empowering Girls Through Menstrual Hygiene Awareness

A Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Awareness Fest was organized at Gannavaram Girls High School, engaging nearly 200 girl students in an interactive and informative session. The event aimed to break taboos, promote healthy practices, and encourage open dialogue around menstruation. Students actively participated by presenting educational charts and discussions that covered understanding menstruation as a natural process, proper use and disposal of sanitary pads, the importance of personal hygiene during menstruation, and clearing myths and misconceptions. The session also focused on building confidence and fostering open communication among students. The fest created a safe space for questions and experience-sharing, helping participants gain knowledge, confidence, and awareness. By the end of the event, students were empowered to adopt hygienic practices and advocate for menstrual health within their communities.



Yuvakendra Trainees Gain Corporate Exposure at HCLTech Campus

Our Yuvakendra trainees visited the HCLTech Vijayawada campus for an inspiring exposure session. As part of the visit, we organized an employee-led voluntary session focused on communication skills and interview preparation, equipping trainees with practical tips to boost their confidence and job readiness. The experience not only enhanced their knowledge but also strengthened their aspirations to secure their first job. A total of 30 unemployed youth participated in this impactful initiative.



Fostering cleanliness, seeding sustainability



Volunteers celebrate Sports Fun Day with Baholpur community

This month, to mark Children's Day, 10 volunteers from HCLTech and HCLFoundation organized a vibrant Sports Fun Day for children from Baholpur—a community primarily engaged in waste-sorting. The event featured engaging games such as the lemon-and-spoon race, sack race, sprints, and musical chairs, creating an atmosphere of excitement and joy.



Health camp held for Green Friends in Noida

On November 15, the My Clean City team organized a health check-up camp for 17 Green Friends in Noida. Dr. Huzaifa, MD Medicine from Max Super Specialty Hospital, Vaishali, conducted the camp and facilitated major tests such as lipid profile, LFT, RBS, cholesterol, and CBC. Additional screenings like ultrasound and prostate screening were also suggested for few patients, and basic guidance on diet, hydration, and hygiene was provided.



My Clean City hosts SWM awareness activity in Rabupura

On Children's Day, My Clean City by HCLFoundation organized a Solid Waste Management (SWM) awareness program at Shanti Devi Kanya Vidyalaya in Rabupura under the Zero Waste Urban Village project. A total of 98 students participated in the Lofu and Kofu awareness game and were given a presentation on waste segregation. At the event, cloth bags were also distributed to promote eco-friendly practices.



My Clean City volunteers explore IPCA Plastic recycling plant in Greater Noida

To support My Clean City by HCLFoundation across Noida and Greater Noida, 30 volunteers from My Clean City volunteers club toured to explore the IPCA Recycling Unit on November 29 and learn about how Multi-layered Plastic (MLP) is transformed into durable products like benches and planters through collection, washing, shredding, and processing. They gained knowledge about IPCA's large-scale operations, its non-monetary collection model, and the critical role of source segregation in efficient recycling.



Social experiment on plastic use and its alternatives held in Noida marketplaces

My Clean City team organized a social experiment in Noida markets to assess public awareness and behavior regarding single-use plastics versus eco-friendly alternatives. Held in Kanchunjunga market, Sector 53 and Ganga market, Sector 29 – the team engaged participants via interactive booths, encouraging individuals to choose between plastic and sustainable items, with choices recorded via QR-based responses. The initiative also aimed to promote environmental consciousness, encourage adoption of alternatives, and reward participants with eco-friendly tokens.





Power of One

by HCLFoundation

Enabling our people to give back to society

- 70+ HCLTechies pan India reminisce their childhood as they volunteered to celebrate Children’s Day at HCLFoundation project sites and spread joy amongst the programme participants.
- More than 50 HCLTechies volunteered their time towards empowering HCLFoundation Yuvakendra trainees through mock interviews, soft skills training, and workplace etiquette sessions.
- 43 volunteers championed environmental causes through Manja safety awareness, carbon footprint sessions, beach cleanups, and pond rejuvenation efforts across Hyderabad, Chennai, and Noida.
- 32 HCLTechies supported health related activities, including diabetes screening and cancer awareness camps in Lucknow and Madurai- helping create stronger and healthier communities.
- This month, we had focused integrative induction sessions in collaboration with the ERS HR with teams in Noida, Uttar Pradesh and Kochi, Kerala:
 - In Noida, a unique platform was created at the OND AHM of the Silicon Roots / SPE team (Semi-Conductors) where our team not only oriented the employees about Power of One (Po1) but also provided an opportunity to participate in Madhubani and Block-painting workshop along with our artisan didis.
 - In Kochi, a new chapter was added to our volunteering journey as employees learnt about not only Po1 but also had the opportunity to learn about two key partnerships under HCLTech India Grant flagship programme – Plan@Earth (Environment) and Pallium India Trust (Health) through informative presentations and immersive activities.



3,874

Volunteers engaged



16,633

Hours clocked



42,184

Lives impacted





Power of One

Volunteer of the month

Shobit Kumar

DFS | 52131868 | Noida

Shobit's volunteering journey is a story of compassion and purpose. It began in mid-2023: Distributing blankets to those in need, joining cleanliness and plantation drives, visiting health camps, and participating in awareness sessions. Each experience left a profound mark on his heart—strengthening the belief that even small steps lead to everlasting positive change, a sentiment echoed by programme participants who deeply valued his presence and commitment.

Among all his moments as a volunteer, one stands out vividly— the visit to Kasna Jail during the Cricket and Football Finals organized for the inmates. Witnessing the joy and hope that sports brought to individuals living in challenging circumstances, was a life-changing experience for him.

Volunteering has taught him invaluable lessons about empathy, resilience, and humanity. For Shobit, volunteering is not just an activity—it is a way to connect with lives and create hope. Overwhelmed and thankful, he believes this experience has made him a better person.





Power of One

Special Mention

Mr. Sivakumar Gopalakrishnan

Capability Unit Head, DFS

Strengthening the Spirit of Volunteering @ DFS, HCLTech

Employee experience at HCLTech is about collaboration, belonging, and purpose: Values deeply embedded in DFS under the aegis of Sivakumar Gopalakrishnan- a leader who beautifully blends empathy into action.

Sivakumar strongly believes that great employee experiences are a result of shared ownership. Guided by this belief, he established the Employee Experience Collaboration Group (EXCG) - a collective of passionate volunteers and EX champions who ensure seamless execution of volunteering initiatives across the entire DFS landscape, regardless of geography.

With this robust combination of strong internal collaboration through EXCG and sustained community involvement with HCLFoundation, DFS continuously amplifies purpose-led engagements such as disaster relief drives, education programmes for children, environmental action, social empowerment campaigns and much more.

With leaders like Sivakumar and teams like DFS, our collective impact continues to reach further and shine brighter.



Transforming outcomes through sport



Amplifying reach and access – via sport

Who: Sports for Change Cricket Tournament Season 2 by HCLFoundation

What: Successfully conducted the SFC Cricket Tournament Season 2 from November 14 –19 at Gautam Buddha University.

And?: The five–day, 40–over ODI series featured student–athletes from Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh, with Uttar Pradesh winning the league. The initiative provided valuable match exposure and competitive experience to young athletes. We express our gratitude to Gautam Buddha University for extended infrastructure support.

Location: Noida



Who: Abhinav Bindra Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation (Sports for Change)

What: Sportshala Capacity Building Workshop Conducted on November 27 –28

And?: The two–day workshop focused on The Winning Mindset and Power Plates: Sports Nutrition Unleashed, led by Dr. Nishtha Kavita Grover and Ms. Aradhana Sharma. Seventy–seven coaches, coordinators, and programme managers participated. Pre– and post–assessments recognised Ajay Sahu (Nagpur) and Payal Prajapati (Ajmer) as top performers.

Location: Noida



Who: In partnership with NGOs supported by HCLFoundation

What: Celebrated Children's Day on November 14

And?: The day featured a vibrant mix of sports, cultural activities, and fun games. It featured engaging activities such as basketball tournaments, Tug of War, singing and dance competitions, and interactive games like Burst the Balloon and Balance the Balloon. Students also enjoyed role-play sessions, recreational games, and creative stalls, fostering confidence, teamwork, and festive cheer.

Location: Multiple locations



Win

Who: Athletic students supported by GNES and Hope, in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the ASMITA Athletics League 2025-26 on November 28 organised by the Thiruvallur District Athletics Association under the Tamil Nadu Athletics Association.

And?: Conducted under Khelo India and the Athletics Federation of India, the event aimed to identify emerging talent among Under-14 and Under-16 girls. Twenty-six students competed across track and field events. Kavya P (GNES) won Gold and Nithya Shri S (Hope) won Silver in the Under-16 Girls Javelin Throw, advancing to the next level.

Location: Chennai



Who: Athletic students supported by HEAL, in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: On November 11, participated in the Athletics Meet during the Silver Jubilee Celebrations at Siddhartha School, Mogalrajapuram

And?: The students delivered strong performances across track and field events. Hemant Kumar secured First place in the 100m and Third in Long Jump (Boys). Sanjana won First in the 200m and 800m (Girls). Multiple podium finishes were also recorded in javelin, shot put, discus, and middle-distance races—reflecting consistent athletic excellence.

Location: Vijayawada



Who: Athletic students supported by SportzVillage Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation.

What: Participated in the Gautam Buddha Nagar District Athletics Trials on November 11.

And?: The students delivered an exceptional performance, winning multiple medals across track and field events. Shivam Khari secured First in the 1500m and Second in the 200m, while Arjun placed Second in the 3000m. Anees topped both Long Jump and Triple Jump, and Aditya finished Third in the 3000m. Their discipline, determination, and sportsmanship continue to inspire peers to pursue sporting excellence.

Location: Noida



Who: Kabaddi Girls Team supported by HOPE in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the RDG Kabaddi District Tournament held this month at St. George's Anglo-Indian Higher Secondary School, Chennai.

And?: A total of 23 teams competed in the tournament. Team delivered an outstanding performance, securing First place and qualifying for the State-level competition, which will be held in Trichy.

Location: Chennai



Who: Kabaddi Girls Team supported by HOPE in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the 35th Sub-Junior Girls National Championship from November 27-30

And?: Tamil Nadu secured the Runner-Up position, marking the First podium finish in this category after eight years.

Special mention to standout players: Sheiyna Sofia (GHSS, Kovalam) & Lithisha (GMHSS, Ashok Nagar) for their exceptional performances were key to this success.

We also appreciate Mr. Tamilazhagan for his dedicated role as Team Manager.

Location: Chennai



Who: Kabaddi Girls and Boys Team supported by SportzVillage Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the Sansad Khel Mahotsav U-15 Kabaddi Tournament held on November 4 at Mihir Bhoj Balika Inter College, Dadri.

And?: The event featured 8 teams competing. The team delivered an outstanding performance: SVF Iteda Team secured First place in the tournament.

Location: Noida



Who: Volleyball boys team supported by SportzVillage Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the Inspirus Volleyball Tournament 2025-26 on November 10-11 at Eram Convent College Volleyball Court.

And?: The team delivered an outstanding performance throughout the tournament. In a thrilling final match against UP Sainik, the team fought hard and finished as Runners-up, earning the Silver Medal.

Location: Lucknow



Who: Volleyball Girls team supported by KridaVikasSanstha in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the Lokmat Maha-Game Volleyball Tournament on November 19 at Samarth Vyayam Shala Ground

And?: U-16 Girls Volleyball Team from Pratap Nagar School team secured 2nd place in the tournament. They showcased an outstanding performance in the final match against Montfort School.

Location: Nagpur



Who: Kabaddi Girls' teams supported by SportzVillage Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the Amar Ujala Bhule Bishre Khel Mahatva 2025-26 on November 15 at KD Singh Babu Stadium, Lucknow.

And?: Two teams - GGIC Vikas Nagar and Janta Girls Inter College represented in the tournament featuring 13 teams. In a closely contested final match against Lala Ram Swarup, GGIC Vikas Nagar finished as Runners-up, earning the Silver Medal.

Location: Lucknow



Who: Athletes Students supported by KridaVikas Sanstha in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the U-19 Maharashtra School Games Athletics from November 11-15 at Chiplun, Ratnagiri.

And?: Our athletes delivered an outstanding performance at the state-level event. Kashish Bhagat won Gold in the 400m, while Prayan Upase secured Gold in the 800m and Silver in the 1500m. Shravani Khobragade finished 5th in the 4 km Cross Country, and Shivaji Wankhede placed 5th in the 1500m and 800m. All qualified for the School National Games, reflecting their dedication and competitive excellence.

Location: Nagpur



Who: Athletes Students supported by KridaVikas Sanstha in partnership with HCLFoundation.

What: Participated in the DSO Athletics Division-Level Tournament

And?: The athletes delivered an outstanding performance, with multiple podium finishes and qualifications for the State-level tournament. Gold medals were secured across sprint, middle-distance, jumps, hurdles, and cross-country events, alongside silver and bronze finishes. Notably, Kashish Bhagat, Tushar Pachore, Tulsi Mehsram, Pranay Upase, Shrawani Khobragade, and Harsh Dhubde earned Gold medals, while Janmesh Shrivastav secured Silver and Bronze.

Location: Nagpur



Who: Athletes Students supported by HEAL in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the District Level Athletics Meet

Our students delivered an outstanding performance. K. Karthik secured First place in the U-14 100m and Second in the 200m, earning selection for the State Meet. Y. Supriya won First in the 3km walk and also qualified for the State Meet. V. Naga Rani placed Third in the 3km run, while R. Rishitha secured Third in Shot Put.

Location: Vijayawada



Who: Athletes Students supported by SportzVillage Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the Sansad Khel Mahotsav Dadri Vidhan Sabha 2025 on November 4

And?: 18 young athletes showcased remarkable talent. Four athletes delivered standout performances:

Shivam Khari – First place (400m) Nitin– First place (100m), Arjun– Second place(800m), and Anees– Second place (Long Jump).

Location: Noida



Who: Girls Kabaddi team supported by Maatru Pratishtana in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the SGFI Division-Level Kabaddi Competition, held at Government High School, Dasarahalli campus from November 2-4.

And?: The Excellence Kabaddi team from KPS delivered a stellar performance, emerging as Champions. As per SGFI norms, six players have been selected to represent Karnataka at the upcoming State-Level Championship. Adding to the milestone, Coach Sunil has been appointed as coach of the Karnataka State Team.

Location: Bengaluru



Soaring higher, higher, higher!

Who: Boys and Girls team supported by Heal in Partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated at the Closing Ceremony of the 69th AP SGF Handball (U-17 Girls) and Netball (U-17 Boys & Girls) tournaments on November 10.

And?: Krishna District Handball Team (U-17 Girls) clinched the Gold Medal. Adding to the glory, four students have been selected for the Nationals.

Nationally Selected Players are Ch. Sravani, P. Safiya, G. Lakshmi and N. Lepakshi

Location: Vijayawada



Who: Kabaddi Girls team supported by Hope Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participate in 35th Sub-Junior Girls National Level Kabaddi Championship held in Haryana from November 27-30.

And?: Two of our excellence players, Ms. Sheiyna Sofia from Government Higher Secondary School, Kovalam, and Ms. Lithisha from Government Model Higher Secondary School, Ashok Nagar, represented Tamil Nadu in this championship.

Location: Chennai



Who: Kho-kho Boys team supported by Hope Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the Chennai Revenue District Level Kho-Kho Competition held on November 5 at St. George Anglo-Indian Higher Secondary School

And?: In the Under-17 category, the finals were held at Nungambakkam PBGC. Notably, Nungambakkam PBGC students emerged as winners and have been consistently qualifying for the district-level competitions.

Location: Chennai



Who: Athletic students supported by Hope Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the SGFI U-14 and U-17 Selection Trials

And?: We are thrilled to announce that 15 players have been selected and 4 players are on standby for the upcoming SGFI competitions.

Location: Chennai



Who: Girls Cricket team supported by GNES in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the SGFI U-17 State Cricket Selection Trials held on November 1 at Virudhunagar VHNSN College.

And?: From Avadi School, 7 players took part in the trials. P. Kavya has been selected for the State Cricket Team.

Location: Chennai



Who: Football Girls Team supported by Sportz Village Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated at Maharashtra Senior Women's State League 2025, organized by WIFA, which serves as a qualifying stage for the Indian Women's League – Division 2.

And?: Mariyam Khatoon has been selected to represent Brawlers Women's FC for upcoming matches. Her journey to this achievement is a testament to her hard work, dedication, and passion for football. This milestone brings her closer to the national stage and inspires many young athletes in our program.

Location: Lucknow



Who: Football Girls Team supported by Sportz Village Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the Lucknow Team Trials for Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay State Level Senior Women Football Competition 2025-26, held on November 17 organized by the District Football Association Lucknow.

And?: 7 of our football beneficiaries Daraksha, Astha Sungh, Mariyam Khatoon, Arpita, Soni Rawat, Aditi Verma, and Sargam Chauhan have been selected for the Lucknow Senior Women's Football Team. Additionally, two players Arpita Tiwari and Saloni Kashyap have been placed on standby.

Location: Lucknow



Who: Football student supported by SportzVillage Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the Reliance Foundation Under-17 Youth League on November 14

And?: Sumit, one of our SVF SDC students, was selected to play in this league. He represented Ghaziabad Bad City FC as a striker throughout the tournament.

Location: Noida



Who: Volleyball girls supported by SportzVillage Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the Volleyball North Zone University Tournament Trials on November 3 at Gautam Buddha University.

And?: We are proud to share that two of our students—Gunjan (SVF Noida) and Vasudha (SVF Lucknow) gave trials for the prestigious tournament and both have been selected for the Gautam Buddha University Volleyball North Zone Girls Team.

Location: Noida and Lucknow



Who: Kabaddi girls supported by SportzVillage Foundation in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the Senior Women's State Kabaddi Trials 2025-26 on November 7 at Chowk Stadium, Lucknow.

And?: Nine players qualified for the Senior Women State Level Trials - Anushka Rawat, Saumya Jaiswal, Unnati Bansal, Rupam, Janvi, Janvi Sharma, Saniya, Tamanna, and Vartika. Out of 40 participants, their exceptional performance and determination stood out, marking a proud moment for all of us.

Location: Lucknow



Who: Girls Kabaddi team supported by Maatru Pratishtana in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the SGFI Division-Level Kabaddi Competition.

And?: Deekshitha R, one of our Excellence program athletes, has been selected to compete in the Mini Olympics (Kabaddi), organized by the Department of Youth Empowerment & Sports and the Karnataka Olympic Association

Location: Bengaluru



Who: U-14 Football Girls team supported by KridaVikasSanstha in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Participated in the School State Tournament from November 13-15 at Amravati.

And?: We are proud to share that four players have been selected for the National Trials.

Selected Players: Sheruya Ukey , Jyoti Shahu, Lawannya Chaudhri & Aliya Khan.

Location: Nagpur



Who: Football Boys team supported by KridaVikasSanstha in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Selected for the U-14 SGFI Maharashtra State Boys Team on November 16 at Amravati.

And?: Muysib Jamal and Mohammad Faizan have been selected for the U-14 SGFI Maharashtra State Boys Team. Additionally, Aman Aathar has been chosen as a standby player. They will represent Maharashtra in the upcoming tournament in Madhya Pradesh, showcasing their talent and dedication.

Location: Nagpur



Who: Kabaddi Girls team supported by HEAL in partnership with HCLFoundation

What: Represented Krishna District in the 69th SGF U-14 Kabaddi Boys and Girls Championship.

And?: V. Veda Durga Sai Harshitha from KBC ZP(B) High School won the Gold Medal at the State Kabaddi Meet, bringing immense pride.

Location: Vijayawada



Crafting quality, providing livelihoods



Paper Selection in ACCESS Livelihoods India Case Study Competition 2025

My E-Haat's paper titled "Scaling Dreams, Building Enterprises: Women-led Urban Livelihoods through ZingnZest," authored by Satabdi Roy and Gaurav Majumdar was selected among the Top 10 at the ACCESS Livelihoods India Case Study Competition 2025 in Delhi. The competition celebrates innovative urban livelihood models driving inclusive growth across India.



DiscoverShe bootcamp in Hyderabad

My E-Haat through its Dlabs IA partnership, launched The DiscoverShe program at ISB Hyderabad, empowering 35+ women aspirant entrepreneurs through a 2-day boot camp. The bootcamp covered entrepreneurship basics, digital and financial literacy, mentoring, and DPR preparation.

The program was inaugurated by Professor Bhagwan Chaudhary- Faculty Director, ISB, Vignesh Kodavalla- SVP, HCLTech, Arunab Mitra- SVP, HCLTech and Representatives from the Urban Skills Program, Government of Telangana.



Udyam registration for Kalamkari artisans

My E-Haat with Vasavya Mahila Mandal (VMM), organized an awareness and registration drive for Kalamkari entrepreneurs on Udyam Registration at Krishna District Industries Center, Machilipatnam. The program was addressed by Krishna District industrial Center General Manager R Venkatarao, which highlighted benefits like easy bank loans, subsidies, and MSME support. A total of 53 artisans registered successfully, gaining access to schemes such as PMEGP and PM Vishwakarma, empowering traditional artisans to expand their enterprises and leverage government assistance.



At the Craft Katha 3.0 exhibition

The My E-Haat initiative participated at Craft Katha 3.0 held at Graphic Era University, Dehradun, showcasing tribal crafts with 40+ artisans and 20+ stalls. The inauguration was done by Smt. Rekha Arya, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister for Women Empowerment and Child Development, Government of Uttarakhnad, where Shri M. Rajamurugan, Managing Director, TRIFED, also visited the event, interacted with tribal artisans, and encouraged them with insights about TRIFED's initiatives and benefits. Major highlights included a dedicated My E-Haat Stall, Craft Haat, Shilp Samvad, Uttaragam Fashion Show, B2B Meet, Kala Class, and several interactive sessions.



Enhancing market linkages with digital marketing sessions and onboarding on marketplaces

My E-Haat through its partner- Foundation for MSME Clusters (FMC), supported the Business Management Organisations (BMOs) for all four clusters- Kotpad (Orissa), Pochampally (Telangana), Maheshwar (MP) and Dheemaji (Assam) with market linkages on various social media platforms. Professional Instagram accounts along with onboarding on various E-Commerce like ONDC, Indiahandmade, Amazon Karigar were done. Additionally, Digital Marketing Sessions were conducted in Assam cluster physically, where around 15 participants attended.



Enrich. Enable. Engage.

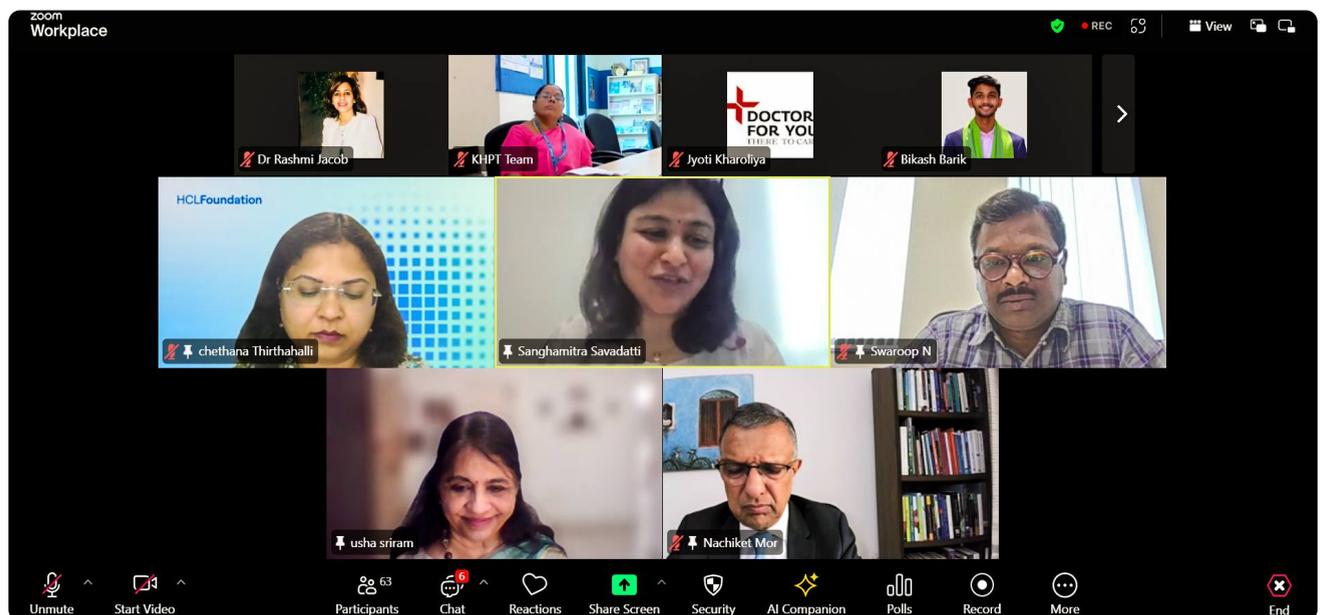
Diabetes Unseen – Bridging care across life and work

In partnership with KHPT, Academy hosted the webinar “Diabetes Unseen: What we are missing in integrating care across life and work” The discussion highlighted gaps in awareness, early detection, and coordinated care across homes, workplaces, and communities.

Experts Dr. Usha Sriram, Dr. Nachiket Mor, and Ms. Usha Rani shared insights from clinical practice, systems research, and grassroots engagement. Opening remarks were delivered by Dr. Chethana Thirthahalli(Technical Lead – Health at HCLFoundation), with technical support from Dr. Swaroop N., and moderation by Dr. Sanghamitra Savadatti.

Speakers stressed the need for people-centered, integrated diabetes care that connects medical expertise with community action—underscoring collaboration as key to tackling non-communicable diseases.

Key Takeaways: Early detection is critical | Care must extend beyond clinics to homes and workplaces | Empower individuals through awareness and education | Multi-sector partnerships drive sustainable impact





Keeping Children Safe: Reflections from the Webinar on Combating Child Marriage

Academy, in collaboration with HCLFoundation's Child Protection Team, hosted a webinar under its Keeping Children Safe series: "Combating Child Marriages and its Effects on Children."

The session brought together child rights experts from Child Rights and You: Ms. Jaya Singh, Programme Head for North India and Mr. Jitender Kumar Singh, a child protection specialist.

Key Takeaways: Child marriage is a systemic issue rooted in social norms | It robs children of education, health, and safety | Families and communities must lead prevention efforts | Strong inter-agency coordination is essential for impact | Awareness and empowerment of adolescents are critical.

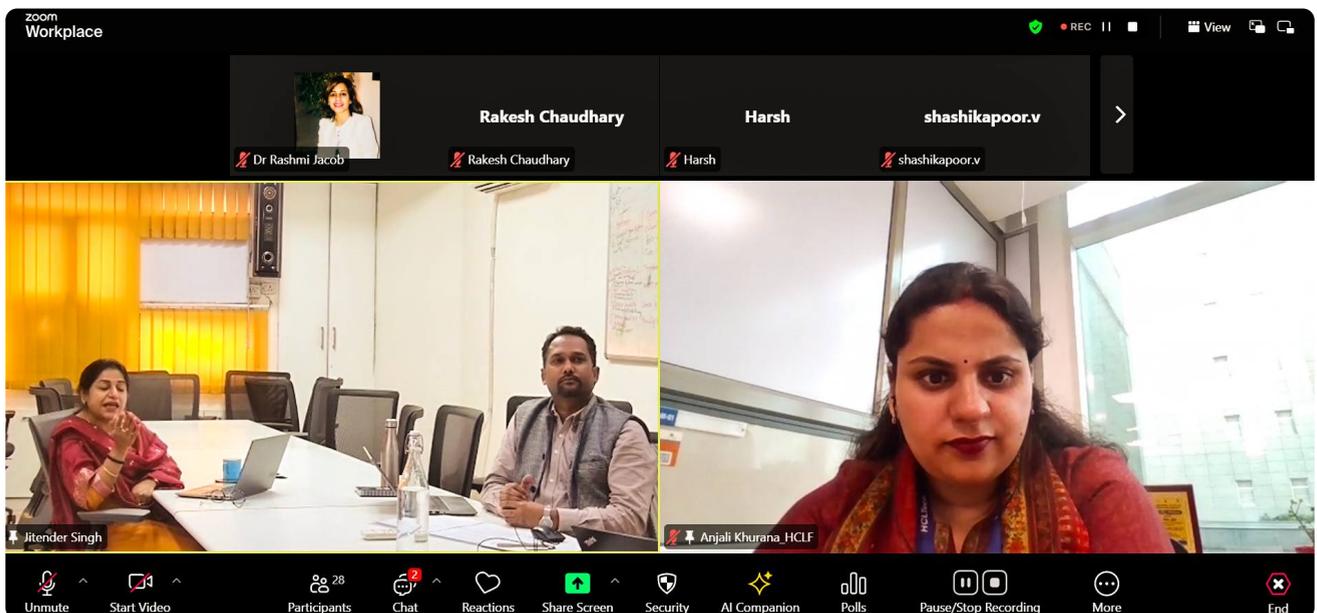
ARSH for You – Batch VIII: Orientation highlights

Academy welcomed the Batch VIII of "ARSH for You", a Training of Trainers (ToT) program focused on Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health (ARSH). Over 60 participants joined virtually, united by a shared mission—to support adolescents with knowledge, sensitivity, and intent.

The session opened with Dr. Chethana Thirthahalli's address – who emphasized that ARSH for You is more than a course: "it's about shaping conversations that transform how young people experience guidance and care", she noted, reminding participants of the 'Unlearn to Relearn' principle, urging them towards "challenging old mindsets to embrace new, empathetic approaches."

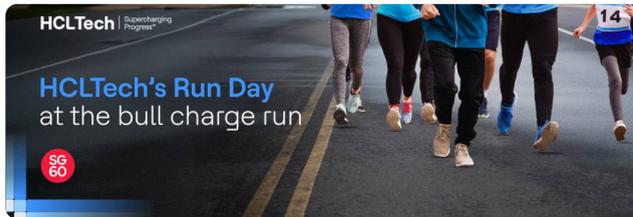
The Population Foundation of India (PFI) team introduced themselves as learning partners, reinforcing collaboration. The orientation concluded with a strong message: this is not just training, it's the start of redefining how adolescents are seen, supported, and spoken to.

Key Takeaways: ARSH for You focuses on informed, empathetic engagement with adolescents | "Unlearn to Relearn" is central to changing perspectives.



Global Updates

Singapore



HCLTech Run Day 2025 in Partnership with SGX Cares Bull Charge Charity Run

HCLTech participated in the SGX Cares Bull Charge Charity Run 2025. Despite the scorching heat, 108 employees and 8 Volunteers turned up, showcasing our team spirit, energy, and commitment to giving back to the community. This year, the Charity Run brought together over 5,000 participants, raising more than \$2.5 million to support underprivileged children, families, people with disabilities, and the elderly.

By joining as a Platinum Bull Sponsor, HCLTech reaffirms its dedication to:

- Creating social impact in communities HCLTech serves
- Strengthening partnerships with key stakeholders in Singapore
- Fostering employee engagement through purpose-driven activities

About SGX Cares Bull Charge

It is the annual flagship charity initiative by Singapore exchange. This year HCLTech, as part of the SGX X HCLTech Run Day, extended participation beyond HCLTech employees, to make a meaningful difference in the community. It brings together corporates, partners, and individuals to run for a cause. The funds raised support diverse local charities and beneficiaries.

The charities supported officially by SGX include Autism Association (Singapore), AWWA Limited, Fei Yue Community Services, HCSA Community Services, Shared Services for Charities.



Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries are individuals supported through SGX's CSR partners, including underprivileged youth, people with special needs, and vulnerable groups, who benefit from programs in education, employment, and empowerment.

Engagement opportunities

- To create joyful engagement opportunities – such as bracelet-making, candy distribution, and a fun photo booth allowing beneficiaries to be active participants, not just spectators.

HCLTech's Sponsorship Efforts

It reflects our commitment to giving back to the community while building employee engagement. The efforts reinforce HCLTech's ASEAN brand visibility, social impact and partnership with SGX.

This sponsorship matters because:

- It shows HCLTech's culture of care and community commitment
- Builds team spirit and employee engagement across ASEAN
- Strengthens partnership with SGX through a high-visibility national platform



Understanding Volunteer Duties and Responsibilities

On-Ground Support:

- Assist with runner registrations & check-in
- Guide participants to race pack collection points
- Support at water stations and refreshment counters

Event Coordination:

- Help manage photo booth & engagement activities (bracelet-making, candy distribution, etc.)
- Coordinate movement for team engagement groups (Fastest, Biggest, Most Diverse)
- Assist in medal & wrist band distribution for winning teams

Crowd & Safety Management:

- Provide directions to runners and visitors
- Ensure smooth flow of participants at start and finish zones
- Report any safety or emergency issues to event leads promptly



New Zealand

She Sharp comes to New Zealand's South Island

HCLTech, She Sharp, and the Dunedin City Council, were able to bring to life She Sharp's very first event in the South Island at the University of Otago on November 21. The event created a platform for powerful conversations on AI, ethics, creativity, inclusion, and new career opportunities. This partnership plays a key role in opening pathways across the region.



Brazil

Celebrating Digital Inclusion and Access to New Technology through Projeto Eu-Cidadão (I-Citizen Project) – Digital Inclusion

The graduation ceremony for the "I-Citizen" project for the year of 2025 took place in November. The project aims to combine efforts and resources to promote digital inclusion and access to new information technologies through computer and mobile learning workshops for the community of São Leopoldo, primarily for people in situations of social vulnerability, many of whom are considered digitally excluded.



USA

Post Diwali Potluck and Food collection

On November 7th HCLTech employees held a post Diwali potluck party in the East Brunswick NJ office. They collected 76 pounds of canned and packaged foods which was donated to Feeding Americas location in Franklin Township. NJ



France

Accessibility Initiative

The CSR France Team translated a book from English to French and made it available in Braille, reinforcing our commitment to accessibility and inclusion.

The initiative was marked by a handover event in Delhi, where the book was presented to cricket players from India, the USA, Australia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. The CSR France Lead supported the event and interacted with all participating teams.

This initiative reflects HCLTech's continued focus on inclusivity and meaningful community engagement.



Romania

Tree Planting in com. Talpa, Teleorman

On November 1, more than 30 HCLTechies, along with their families and friends, came together in Talpa, Teleorman County, to plant 15,000 saplings as part of the "Gift a Tree" campaign organized by MaiMultVerde. The campaign efforts were graced by His Excellency Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra, Ambassador of India to Romania and Ambassador-Designate to the Republic of Moldova, who shared inspiring words about sustainability and the power of collective action. This event marked HCLTech Romania's third year supporting this initiative, serving as a reminder that together we can grow a healthier planet – one tree at a time.



"Dimitrie Brândză" Scientific Session Participation to Strengthen Partnership

HCLTech Romania employees Iulia and Mihaela attended the scientific session organized by the "Dimitrie Brândză" Botanical Garden from Bucharest, our partner NGO that also celebrated 165 years since the Botanical Garden was established in the capital of Romania. This event has also offered the chance for networking and strengthen the partnership with the director of the botanical garden, Prof. Dr. Paulina Anastasiu.



Ronald McDonald Houses – Workshops with and for families Iași and Timișoara

Employees from HCLTech Romania recently visited the Ronald McDonald Houses in Iași and Timișoara, spending time with families, sharing moments of care, and engaging in meaningful conversations. The visits created space for warmth, connection, and small but powerful gestures of support.

HCLTech extends sincere gratitude to Fundația pentru Copii Ronald McDonald for their generous welcome. A special acknowledgment goes to Renata-Raisa Fechita, whose idea and thoughtful coordination shaped the workshops, and to all HCLTech colleagues whose enthusiasm brought each activity to life. The experience served as a reminder that even the simplest acts, when rooted in empathy, can brighten someone's day and make a genuine difference.

HCLTech | Supercharging Progress™

Homes away from home
Ronald McDonald Houses
Iași & Timișoara

November 28



Iași

Thanksgiving Brunch for Parents – A cozy, seasonal gathering that offered parents a moment of peace and a comforting taste of home.

Gratitude Wall – “The Healing Leaf” – A collective space filled with heartfelt messages of encouragement and hope written for the families.

Timișoara

St. Nicholas Workshop – Felt Booties for Babies– Volunteers crafted tiny felt booties and filled them with essentials for newborns—diapers, a hat, socks, a onesie, and a small toy. A simple gesture that carried deep care and warmth.

UrbanLab for Green Cities 2025 – Shape the Future of Our Cities!

HCLTech Romania’s NGO partner, UrbanizeHub, invited them to take part in UrbanLab for Green Cities 2025, a national ideathon series focused on creating greener, smarter cities in Romania. UrbanLab is a collaborative innovation program where citizens, professionals, and changemakers come together to develop solutions for climate-neutral urban development. It’s part of the M100 Mirror Mission Cities Hub Romania, inspired by the EU’s “100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030” initiative.

UrbanLab took place in four cities, each hosting a 3-day ideathon: Bucharest: Nov 7–9, Cluj-Napoca: Nov 14–16, Timișoara: Nov 21–23 and Iași: Nov 28–30 The winning teams will join the UrbanLab Incubator in 2026 for 3 months of mentorship and support, besides winning prizes in money to develop their solution.



HCLFoundation in the media



Business

HCLFoundation celebrates 10 years of transformative impact across rural India through HCLTech Grant



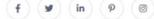
HCLFoundation, which drives the corporate social responsibility agenda of HCLTech in India, today marked the 10th anniversary of its flagship initiative, HCLTech Grant, that supports innovative rural development projects by Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) in India.

Since its launch in 2015, HCLTech Grant has invested over ₹169 crore in projects to positively impact 2.3 million lives. The program's credibility is reflected in 87,000+ registrations and 13,000+ proposals



Accountability, Field Orientation Key To Real CSR Impact: HCL Foundation's Pundhir

Navneet Singh / 1 month November 7, 2025 0 0 3 min read



As the HCLTech Grant turns 10, its director reflects on lessons from a decade of social investment and the need to move beyond



Dainik Jagran spotlighted the remarkable journey of Savitri Devi, Director of Samuday Crafts Private Limited, and her transformative work in empowering rural women through sustainable craft-based livelihoods. In the feature published on November 24 - Savitri Devi shared how Samuday Crafts began as a small collective of skilled women artisans who lacked market access and confidence. Under her visionary leadership, the initiative has grown into multiple centers, providing structured training, design support and consistent income opportunities.



HCLFoundation celebrates success of para athletes, provides equipment and scholarship

The HCLFoundation additionally announced an initiative to support elite and budding Indian para-athletes as part of its 'Sports for Change' initiative.

Updated : Nov 18, 2025 22:12 IST , NEW DELHI - 3 MINS READ

TEAM SPORTSTAR



HCLFoundation empowers India's para athletes with ₹37 lakh in sports gear and scholarships up to ₹5 lakh at Delhi. | Photo Credit: Special Arrangement

HCLFoundation

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