

A step towards Nation Building

HCLTech Grant Granule

(August-September 2025)



HCLTech Grant Edition XI Rollout

Abstract Review Completed: 300 Innovative Projects Advance to the Third Stage

The HCLTech Grant Edition XI is moving forward with momentum completing the second stage of Abstract Review. From August 25 to 27, 2025, the team reviewed 1866 abstracts to shortlist 92 projects under the theme of Education, 89 in Health, 62 in Water and 57 in Biodiversity.

Following the intensive three-day discussion on these abstracts, the Subject Matter Experts, governance partner, and the HCLFoundation team have come up with a list of 300 innovative projects that exemplify a commitment to sustainable rural development. Congratulations to all the organizations who have successfully navigated their way through this stage and have submitted their detailed proposals for the Third stage, marking their progress in the journey towards becoming a recipient of HCLTech Grant of Edition XI.



Abstract Review Meetings at HCLTech campus with subject matter experts and governance partner

Partnerships Bulletin

Bridging the Social Divide through Sports

HCLTech Grant partners ran the extra mile beyond their funded projects to support and bring out the hidden talents in children through sports, in their respective regions. In the Sports for Change (SFC) National Championship 2025 organized by HCLFoundation, HCLTech Grant partners across 6 states brought together aspiring "Under 16" athletes from government schools and gurukuls breaking through the barriers of social inequality. This event not only provided exposure and platform to these children but also the opportunity to identify and nurture their skills. Special thanks to Eleutheros Christian Society (ECS) - Nagaland, The Corbett Foundation (TCF) - Assam, Meghshala Trust - Sikkim, Social Revival Group of Urban Rural and Tribal (SROUT) - Chhattisgarh, Child Right and You (CRY) - Madhya Pradesh and PlanatEarth - Kerala, for their support in organizing the District, State & Zonal Championships and supporting the children to leverage this platform.



Torch Relay at SFC National Championship by State representatives



Reflecting the Environmental Commitment

The HCLTech Grant partners actively participated in HCLTech's celebration of the 49th HCL Day with a mega plantation drive, showcasing HCLTech's commitment to environmental sustainability. Over 49,000 indigenous tree saplings were planted across India during this drive. Lokmata Rani Rashmoni Mission, the winner of HCLTech Grant Edition X in the #Environment category for the project "Conservation of biodiversity for life and livelihood" planted 37,208 saplings in the North and South 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Government officials including Mojabbel Haq, Sub-inspector of School Education, Kultali Block and Dr. Santanu Bera from West Bengal University of Animal and Fisheries Sciences; special guests including the members and Pradhan of the respective Gram Panchayats; school teachers, 150+ school students, 36 women groups, and 1602 community members participated in the drive. Gram Gourav Pratisthan, the #Environment category recipient of the HCLTech Grant Edition X, conducted the plantation drive in Udachiwadi, Pune, Maharashtra involving 54 volunteers from HCLTech and 7 community members to plant 111 saplings of indigenous plants including Morus (Mulberry), Vitex negundo (Nirgundi), Commiphora wightii (Guggul), Justicia adhatoda (adulsa), etc.



Plantation drive at North 24 Parganas with Lokmata Rani Roshmoni Mission, West Bengal



Plantation drive at Udachiwadi, Pune with Gram Gourav Pratisthan & HCLTech volunteers in Maharashtra

Vision on Wheels – Bringing Light to Little Eyes

Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation, the #Health Category winner of HCLTech Grant Edition X, is creating a remarkable impact through its project titled: Vision on Wheels. Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Senior Manager, HCLTech Grant with the Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation team, Tamil Nadu.

This initiative focuses on eradicating childhood blindness due to Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP), across over 10,000 villages in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh reaching some of the most underserved communities with advanced eye-care interventions. Through mobile eye-care units and community outreach, Vision on Wheels not only brings medical expertise to the doorsteps of families but also spreads awareness about preventive healthcare.

On 5th August 2025, Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Senior Manager, HCLFoundation, visited the project sites in Tamil Nadu. During this visit, he interacted with the beneficiaries and witnessed firsthand life changing difference, the initiative is making – restoring hope, vision and a brighter future for countless children.



Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Senior Manager, HCLTech Grant with the Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation team, Tamil Nadu

ESG and Sustainable Development: Driving the future of responsible business – A lecture at FORE School of Management

Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Senior Manager at HCLFoundation, delivered an insightful guest lecture at the FORE School of Management, New Delhi on 28th August 2025. The session focused on the crucial theme of 'ESG Framework and Sustainable Development', offering students valuable perspectives on integrating environmental, social, and governance principles into sustainable growth strategies. He shared deep insights on how ESG principles are shaping the future of responsible business practices and sustainable growth. The session not only enriched academic learning but also inspired young minds to view development through the lens of sustainability and ethical responsibility.



Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Senior Manager, HCLTech Grant at the FORE School of Management

Cleaning the Cochin Coast with PlanatEarth

PlanatEarth, the HCLTech Grant Edition VIII winner in the category of #Environment celebrated International Coastal Cleanup Day 2025 on September 19 and 20, 2025 across various beaches at Kochi, mobilizing an impressive workforce of over 1500 volunteers including coast guards, NSS, NCC cadets, volunteers from various colleges and 25 HCLTech volunteers. During the cleanup drive, a staggering 6798 kgs of waste was collected with a total of 10010 kgs of waste subsequently moved toward waste segregation areas. The collected debris, including plastic waste, fishing gear, rubber, metal etc, was then used to recreate Vincent Van Gogh's iconic artwork, "Starry Night", directly on the sand. Measuring 20*17 feet, this massive image is the largest recreation of the masterpiece to date. The artwork was inaugurated by Mrs. Ramani Ajayan, President of the Pallipuram Panchayat. Dr. Ushas George, Program Officer, HCLTech Grant and Ms. Shikha Katwal, Manager, Harit, HCLFoundation, visited the coastal sites.



Awareness campaign by NCC students on International Coastal Cleanup Day



PlanatEarth team and volunteers cleaning the Chappa beach

Extending Compassion: Home-based palliative care in Rural Trivandrum

Pallium India Trust, the recipient of HCLTech Grant Edition X in the category of #Health is actively advancing Palliative care service delivery through home visits in Rural Trivandrum. From September 15 to 17, 2025, Dr. Ushas George, Program Officer, HCLTech Grant visited the organization. Beyond the brief conversation with Chairman Emeritus Dr. Rajagopal, and Chairman Mr. Binod Hariharan, the visit offered a powerful look at the impact on ground. Dr. Ushas interacted directly with the patients, community volunteers, and nurses during the home visits in Bharatanoor Panchayat and a visit to the Pain and Palliative care OPD at Trivandrum Medical College. This partnership is ensuring enhanced quality of life for patients and families, by bridging the gap in healthcare access and creating a sustainable and compassionate care model.



Dr. Ushas George, Program Officer, HCLTech Grant with the Pallium India team

At the North-East CSR Connect 2025

With the aim to drive impactful CSR Programmes, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) hosted the 2nd Edition of North-East CSR Connect 2025 on September 17, 2025. HCLTech Grant having its presence in the North-East since 2018, across six states, represented HCLFoundation in the panel discussions. Dr. Nidhi Pundhir, SVP Global CSR, HCLTech and Director, HCLFoundation joined a panel on Corporate Best Practices: Driving scalable CSR in the Northeast. The discussion emphasized the power of partnerships, shared key lessons and explored ways to make CSR in the region more impactful and sustainable.

Mr. Rahul Kumar, Manager, HCLTech Grant, was part of the panel "NGO Capacity Building: Compliance, Accessing CSR Funding & Strengthening Partnerships." He spoke on Proposal Building and Storytelling, covering components of an organization profile, project proposal, and M&E framework while highlighting the role of strong narratives in building sustainable partnerships.

Alongside the discussions, the HCLFoundation stall showcased products from My E-Haat, giving visitors a glimpse into the power of artisan-led livelihoods and sustainable community development.



Dr. Nidhi Pundhir, SVP Global CSR, HCLTech and Director, HCLFoundation speaks at the North-East CSR Connect panel



Mr. Rahul Kumar, Manager, HCLTech Grant, speaks at the panel discussion at North East CSR Connect

Celebrating Innovation at the National Robotex India Championship 2025

Mr. Robin G Thomas, Associate General Manager, HCLTech Grant and Ms. Satabdi Roy, Senior Program Officer, Uday served on the jury panel at the National Robotex India Championship 2025, hosted at MIT, ADT University, Pune. The event celebrated innovation, determination and the power of ideas, featuring over 5000 participants from schools, colleges and innovation labs across the country.



Mr. Robin G Thomas, Associate General Manager, speaks at the National Robotex India Championship 2025

Stories of Transformation

From Climate Change to Community Growth

Life Education And Development Support (LEADS), is working towards Response to Climate Change by Alternative Model of Development in the Hazaribagh district of Jharkhand. Under the project, 42 women farmers were provided comprehensive training in Organic farming and horticulture as part of the HCLTech Grant project. This initiative is not just about planting, but about adopting sustainable, eco-friendly practices. These women planted saplings of mango, papaya, litchi, banana, mahogany, guava, etc. in 3 selected villages, applying the methods and processes of organic farming including preparation and use of organic manure, organic fungicides and insecticides. These women have not only developed an orchard with intercropping farming, but have also started selling the short duration produce including coriander, radish and spinach. Saraswati Devi, a resident of Harhad village, is one among them. This initiative has been transformative for her family, enabling them to adopt sustainable farming practices and increase their household income. With the newfound knowledge and support, she is now better equipped to manage her farm efficiently.



Smt. Saraswati Devi tending to her organic farm

First-Time Footballers Shine in Summer Tournament

Yuwa India Trust is working towards empowering girls through education, sports and life-skills training in rural Jharkhand. By providing safe spaces, quality education at Yuwa School, and leadership development, the project seeks to reduce gender inequality and poverty.

Through this project, 700 girls are being trained in Football and life-skills. 100 of these Yuwa girls experienced their first-ever 11-a-side football tournament this year. For 80% of them, it was their first time playing on a full-sized pitch. The Yuwa Summer Tournament introduced these young players to a new level of teamwork and competition. The championship games, held amid monsoon rains and cheered on by 200 spectators, created unforgettable memories and confidence-building moments. For many, this event marked a powerful milestone in their football journey.

A Mother's Journey to Mental Wellness

Sonam, already a mother of three daughters, discovered she was pregnant for the fourth time just three days after her husband's death. This profound tragedy immediately plunged her into severe mental distress. Her grief was compounded by mounting responsibilities, intense family pressure, strained relationships and an existing heart condition. Sonam experienced anxiety, loneliness, and emotional instability. The lack of emotional support following her husband's death worsened her condition, leading to a mental state that severely affected her daily life. Conversation with Anganwadi workers and ASHA workers

An ASHA worker identified Sonam's condition and conducted a PHQ-9 screening, where she scored 17, indicating moderate to severe depression. The worker explained the importance of mental health during pregnancy and introduced Sonam to counseling, which she had never heard of before. She was encouraged to prioritize both mental and physical well-being following which she participated in eight counseling sessions. She learned how to manage stress, adopt positive thinking, and find emotional balance. Gradually, she began to open up, expressing her fears about having another daughter and concerns about her children's future. She admitted to feeling isolated, frequently scolding her children, and avoiding interaction with others. The sessions gave her a sense of relief and emotional support. She also received guidance on healthy habits like proper nutrition, rest, and exercise, which improved her overall well-being.

The ASHA worker continued her support even after the delivery of the child by emphasizing the importance of breastfeeding, nutrition, timely doctor visits, and using the helpline when needed. With regular counseling and support, Sonam became emotionally stronger, more confident, better prepared for motherhood and even started encouraging others to seek help.

Sonam's story shows that mental health during pregnancy is crucial and can significantly impact both mother and child. With timely intervention from community health workers like Anita Shrivastava, maternal stress can be managed effectively. Today, Sonam is more self-aware, confident, and supported by her family, who now recognize the power of counseling in bringing peace and happiness into their home.



Conversation with Anganwadi workers and ASHA workers

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