

March, 2023

HARIT KHABAR

Monthly Newsletter featuring Environment Action by HCL Foundation



Special coverage of World Wildlife Day-2023 on page 4-5



An initiative of HCL Foundation and World Comics India



Yaya Tso to be Ladakh's first Biodiversity Heritage Site



Yaya Tso lake was recently declared as the "Biodiversity Heritage Site" of Ladakh by The Biodiversity Management Committee, along with SECURE Himalaya Project. The Secure Himalaya project was launched by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change in association with the United Nations Development Program. The lake is at an altitude of 4,820 kilometres and is known as the bird's paradise. It is also a popular breeding site for black-necked cranes.

WMO report indicates alarming global sea levels rise



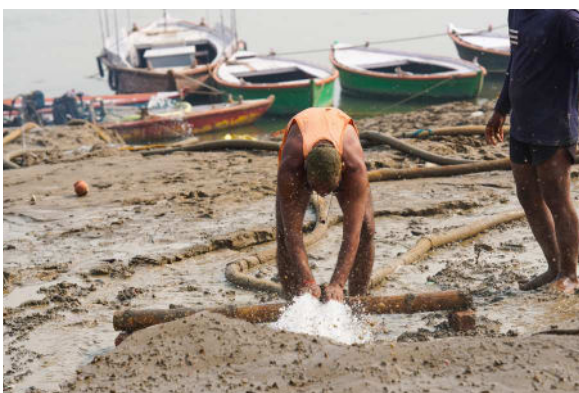
Between 2013 and 2022, sea levels rose by 4.5 millimetres on an average according to World Meteorological Organization (WMO, a body under the United Nations). The report titled "Global Sea-Level Rise & Implications: Key facts and figures" stated that the rising sea levels pose a serious threat to countries like India, Bangladesh, China, and the Netherlands.

Sea level rise is caused primarily by two factors related to global warming: the added water from melting ice sheets and glaciers, and the expansion of seawater as it warms. The effects of sea level rise are already being felt as water is increasingly invading coastal areas, causing soil erosion and threatening farmland, housing and recreation areas. Furthermore, a higher sea level causes heavy rains and strong winds, unleashes severe storms and floods.

According to the report, the threat from sea level rise is a "major economic, social and humanitarian challenge". "Several big cities on all continents are threatened," it

read. The cities the report lists here includes Mumbai, Shanghai, Bangkok, London and New York.

New initiatives to reduce pollution in the Ganga river



To reduce the pollution in the Ganges River, the Namami Gange Executive Committee recently approved nine projects to be implemented at a cost of Rs 1,200 crores. Of these, seven projects are related to reducing pollution and two of the projects will work on Ghat development. The National Mission for Clean Ganga will implement the project. Three

million litres of sewage are dumped into the holy Ganges every day and it is the fifth most polluted river in the world.

Over 1,200 pangolins poached, trafficked in India during 2018-22

On the eve of World Pangolin Day, celebrated on February 18 every year, the World Wildlife Fund reported that between 2018 and 2022, more than 1,203 pangolins were poached and trafficked in India. Of all the states, Odisha had the highest seizures (154), followed by Maharashtra (135). Indian Pangolins are hunted and exported to markets in South Asia and China for their medicinal properties.



Around the World

The Doomsday Glacier is proving its name



New research carried out by International Thwaites Glacier Collaboration in West Antarctica revealed that deeper cracks are beginning to form on the shelf of the Thwaites Glacier, otherwise known as Doomsday Glacier. The huge amount of ice has been destabilised and reduced by nearly 9 miles since the 1990s, and if it were to completely melt would raise sea levels by more than 2 feet around the globe. Scientists used a robot named 'Icefin' to bore 2000 ft down below the glacier's surface to get a better look at what is going on beneath it.

EU formally bans gas, diesel carsales from 2035

The European Parliament has approved a law to ban the sale of new gas and diesel cars in the EU, starting in 2035. The decision was made to increase the use of Electric Vehicles. However, the manufacturers can still make the cars and sell them in other countries. EU had set a target of reaching "Climate Neutrality" by 2050.



Horn of Africa drought leads to food shortages

According to a climate monitoring group, three years of drought conditions in the Horn of Africa show no signs of letting up. In the most severely affected areas, drought conditions are worse than in 2010-2011 when hundreds of thousands of people died, according to IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Center (ICPAC). An estimated 23 million people are currently "highly food insecure" in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, and 11 million livestock in the region have died, it says.

The Horn of Africa takes its name from the horn-shaped land formation that forms the easternmost point of the African continent, projecting into the Indian Ocean south of the Arabian Peninsula.





It's time for wetlands restoration

On February 2, 2023 **World Wetland Day** was celebrated at all the Ramsar sites across the country. The World Wetlands Day is observed annually to commemorate the signing of Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance in 1971, to highlight the degrading health of our wetlands and the urgent need for their restoration. The theme this year was *'It's Time for Wetlands Restoration'*.

Wetlands are land areas that are saturated or flooded with water either permanently or seasonally. They are vital ecosystems providing habitat to 40% of the world's species including some of the most endangered species. They also help in water purification, flood control and provide livelihood opportunity to local communities. However, between 1970 and 2015 around 35% of the world's wetlands were lost. In fact, they are disappearing three times faster than forests.



What is a Ramsar site?

A Ramsar site is a wetland site designated to be of international importance under the Ramsar Convention. They are unique or rare wetlands sites or are designated such for their importance in conserving biological diversity. India has, so far, declared 75 wetlands as Ramsar sites covering 23 states, making it the largest network of this critical ecological network in Asia.

Major Wetland types

Inland wetlands: Marshes, lakes, rivers, floodplains, peatlands and swamps

Coastal wetlands: Saltwater marshes, estuaries, mangroves, lagoons and coral reefs

Human-made wetlands: Fish ponds, rice paddies and salt pans

Wetlands lost between 1970 and 2015

- Mumbai : 71%
- Ahmedabad: 57%
- Bengaluru: 56%
- Hyderabad: 55%
- Delhi: 38%

Amrit Dharohar, a special scheme to protect wetlands

In the Union budget 2023-24, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a special scheme, Amrit Darohar, to conserve wetlands by promoting their optimal use. It falls under 'Green Growth', one of the seven priorities of the budget. The scheme is to be implemented in the next three years. The scheme will increase eco-tourism, and carbon stock, and also will help the local communities in their income generations.



Participatory campaign to save wetlands

On 4th February 2023, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, launched the **'Save Wetlands Campaign'**, a campaign structured on a 'whole of society' approach for wetlands conservation during the national level celebration of World Wetlands Day at Nanda Lake in Goa. This one-year campaign will include creating awareness about the importance of wetlands among the people and increasing the coverage of wetlands mitras and establishing citizen partnership for wetland conservation.

Water bodies rejuvenation under Harit projects

HCL Foundation through HCL Harit programme has been rejuvenating urban wetlands Pan-India, enhancing in-land water storage capacity. It aims to deploy a sustainable model for waterbodies' rejuvenation through nature-based solutions. Below are a few of its initiatives in the month of February.

10 ponds came to life with collaborative efforts



ActionAid Association, with support from **HCL Foundation**, have rejuvenated 10 ponds in Gautam Buddha Nagar, Noida, since 2019, with work on 4 more underway. Here are some glimpses from the pond being revived in Village Talda.

After rejuvenating ponds, their maintenance is a critical step towards conserving them. As

part of collaborative effort with local communities, ActionAid Association regularly conducts cleaning drives at pond locations. Some images from work at Nangla Nainsukh village.

On the occasion of World Wetlands Day, HCL Foundation organised a programme comprising visits to the ponds rejuvenated under the HCL Harit-The Green Initiative, in Gautam Buddha



Nagar. ActionAid Association facilitated a visit to the pond revived in Khatana Dhirker where the Village Pradhan Mr. Susheel Kumar graced the visit, together with community members.

Salempur pond restored



A sneak peek into the wetland ecosystem of Salempur pond, Noida, restored by **Green Yatra's** effort, supported by HCL Foundation.

HCL team visited Chauganpur Pond

On the occasion of World Wetlands Day, top officials from HCL visited the rejuvenated Chauganpur pond in Dadri Tehsil, UP. The pond was restored to its former glory by **Green Yatra** with support from HCL Foundation.





Partnerships for wildlife conservation

World Wildlife Day (WWD), observed annually on 3 March, commemorates the day of the adoption of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The day celebrates the world of wild animals and plants and raise awareness about the importance of protecting them. It draws attention towards the conservation of the most critically endangered species, to support the restoration of their habitats, and ecosystems.

Theme: The theme for World Wildlife Day (WWD) 2023 is 'Partnerships for wildlife conservation' that recognises CITES successes. This year the day also coincides with the 50th anniversary of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which has been playing a dynamic role in wildlife conservation.

Reviving the Garo Green spine in Meghalaya



In the last 20 plus years of work, Wildlife Trust India (WTI), with support from local communities, Garo Hills Autonomous District Council (GHADC), State Forest Department and charities like WLT and HCL Foundation, has encouraged communities to set aside crucial wildlife habitats. Today, villages have voluntarily come forward to notify Village Reserve Forests (VRFs), amounting to more than 4200 hectares as on date.

Further, between Further, 500-600 locals are now engaged in the habitat restoration through plantation across the Baghmara – Balpakram Corridor supported by HCL Foundation. The project aims at securing the corridor by notifying about 1000 hectares of land as VRF and restoring 150 hectares of degraded habitats in the corridor forests with a target of ensuring 1,50,000 standing trees.

VRF's are now home to a large number of wild animals including the Hoolock gibbons, capped langurs, slow lorises, barking deers, Clouded leopards and great hornbills to name a few. Elephants

now have a safe passage to pass through. Over the past few decades, 'Jhum' or 'slash and burn' cultivation led to erosion and loss of soil fertility and the whole landscape was impacted and human-wildlife conflict too increased. In 2003, WTI intervened to connect the fragmented forest patches located between the West Garo Hills and Nokrek National Park and establishing an unbroken wilderness link with Balpakram National Park, collectively designated as the Garo Green Spine.

Wildlife in India

According to Indira Gandhi Conservation Monitoring Centre and the United Nations Environmental Programme, India is home to approximately 7.6% of all mammal species, 14.7% of all amphibian species, 6% of all bird species, 6.2% of all reptilian species, and 6.0% of all flowering plant species. The illicit demand, globally, for wildlife and its products has seen the rise of wildlife crimes across the Indian subcontinent. Major wildlife crime in India includes poaching of tigers and rhinos and the sale of Star tortoises. Tigers are poached for their skin, bones and body parts, while rhinos are poached for their horns. Star tortoises from South India are illegally traded in huge numbers due to their popularity in Feng Shui (an ancient Chinese belief of arranging buildings, objects, and space in an environment to achieve harmony and balance).

Among the various laws for the conservation of wildlife in India, Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 is the most important. This Act provides for the protection of the country's wild animals, birds, and plant species, in order to ensure environmental and ecological security.



Why do we celebrate?

On **World Wildlife Day**, we reflect on our responsibility to protect the magnificent diversity of life on our planet. One million species teeter on the brink of extinction, due to *habitat destruction, fossil fuel pollution and the worsening climate crisis*. Today and every day, let us all do our part to preserve natural habitats and build a thriving future for all living beings. -Antonio Guterres, United Nations General Secretary

Planet Earth is home to over 13,000 known species of mammals and birds, tens of thousands of reptiles, amphibians and fish, some 250,000 flowering plants, and millions of insects and other invertebrates. Together these wild animals and plants constitute a natural ecosystem of wildlife on Earth.

Rescuing and rehabilitating



In January 2023, 16 Alexandrine chicks, about 3-4 weeks old were seized by the CID forest cell from illegal pet traders in Bengaluru. They are currently been taken care at Wildlife Rescue

and Rehabilitation Centre's (WRRC) rehabilitation centre, and it will be a long and arduous process to have them released back into the wild. If everything goes well, the batch of birds will be ready to be released back into the wild in 1-2 years, during which time, they will learn vital flight skills, overcome their imprinting on people, develop parakeet social skills, etiquette and language, learn alarm calls and how to watch out for predators, courtship behaviour etc.

Alexandrine parakeets are very popular in the pet trade as they are considered to be talking parakeets. The poachers snatch the chicks from the nests when they are just a few days old, depriving them of any chance to adapt or learn basic survival techniques. WRRC, in collaboration with the HCL foundation, has been conducting monthly outreach programs at schools and villages around Bannerghatta to raise awareness surrounding wildlife, illegal pet trade and rescue and rehabilitation.

What is CITES?



CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between governments to protect endangered plants and animals from the threats of international trade.

Drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of IUCN (The World Conservation Union), its aim is to ensure that international

trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species. Today, it grants varying degrees of protection to more than 37,000 species of animals and plants.

A workshop in nature on nature



We learn from books as well as our surroundings and this is what children and adolescents from around the Harit Upvan Sorkha proved in a recent Grassroots Comics workshop held on the occasion of World Wildlife Day. Right from the beginning, the participants exhibited a commendable display of their learnings and observations at the Harit Upvan urban forest, and Sharad Sharma, from **World Comics India**, kept doodling them. The end result was a magnificent tree on a white board with its branches and roots laden with their ideas and reflections.



Participants, who had witnessed the transition of Harit Upvan from a wasteland to an urban forest, were quick to tell the changes they had seen with their own eyes. Very soon, they took the discussion beyond the expectations and added many interesting dimensions to the topic like the role soil and insects play in maintaining biodiversity, human-animal conflict, peaceful coexistence, endangered species, disappearance of animals and birds sounds.

The workshop concluded with participants creating their own comics for the first time on the themes of environment and wildlife. Both the participants and their parents were excited to see their final comics at the end of day two. The final outcome will soon be exhibited at the Sorkha Harit Upvan.



Jasveer Sakia Give Me Trees Trust Project- 'Harit Upwan Sorkha'

As a member of Give Me Trees Trust (GMTT) Ground Force, Jasveer Sakia has been the strength behind the success of Harit Upwan, Sorkha. He joined GMT in 2017 and was among the very first field staff members that started working on Harit Upwan, Sorkha, converting the barren land into a biodiversity spot. Jasveer also undertakes training for the staff and provides technical assistance to the team.

If you take a walk with him around the Harit Upwan site, you'll be pleasantly surprised to realize that Jasveer knows all the plants and trees and can name them instantly. He also keeps a close look on the wildlife that stays or visits the Harit Upwan site.



Jasveer is an expert in plantation, plant maintenance, bio fencing, mulching, manuring, etc. His wife Veerwati also helps him in maintaining the green health of the Harit Upwan site. He is a team player and one always finds him with a smiling face. According to GMT, 'The presence of Jasveer's family in the team gives immense strength to the Ground Force.'

Mr. Rais Ahmad, ActionAid Association Project- 'Rejuvenating ponds in Gautam Buddha Nagar'



Mr. Rais Ahmad who loves to address himself as 'Rais bhai' and is fondly addressed so, is a cool, social person who works in **ActionAid India** since 2019. In the past, Mr. Rais has been involved in projects on Environment – more specifically on Environment education.

Rais is the Liasoning officer for our project 'Rejuvenating Ponds In Gautam Buddha Nagar' supported by HCL Foundation since 2019 and helps in smooth implementation of activities for rejuvenation of ponds by continuously following up with relevant stakeholders such as with team involved in rejuvenation of ponds, stakeholders at village level and community facilitators.

Since the beginning of the project, Mr. Rais is deeply involved with all relevant stakeholders and is seen in action – from the time to finalizing ponds to rejuvenate, meeting Village Pradhans of the concerned villages where we work to the team members as well on the field and keeps the project going.

As an ActionAider, he is mostly on the field and is interacting with one or the other stakeholder to keep the work going but also assists in office work as well. Mr. Rais is a problem solver as he has been seen taking active charge in case of issues that have arrived during the project by meeting relevant stakeholders for solving the issues that have arrived.

This year too, Mr. Rais has been tirelessly involved to rejuvenate 4 new ponds with HCL Foundation. Until now, we have completed rejuvenation of 10 ponds as part of this project and he has helped in achieving all project activities in coordination with stakeholders for successful completion of the projects.



Mukesh Kumar, Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group Project- 'Rejuvenation and Conservation of Water Bodies'

In district **Gautam Buddha Nagar**, rapid urbanization and industrial development has resulted in over-exploitation of groundwater and excessive concretization has left little room for groundwater recharge. The ground water level in the district is continuously falling.

Mukesh Kumar is an environmental expert with more than four years of experience in the field of environmental management. He had completed a bachelor's degree in Environment and Water Management and a master's degree in Environmental Science and is very passionate about environmental protection and conservation. He has joined **GEAG- HCLF** supported project "Rejuvenation and Conservation of Water Bodies" at GB Nagar in 2019 as Project Officer.

Mukesh Kumar and his team held regular meeting with the villagers to make them aware about importance of groundwater, water pollution, rain water harvesting and motivated them to get involved in pond restoration work.

Since 2019, Mukesh Kumar and his team have rejuvenated seven water bodies with the help of GEAG-HCLF in GB Nagar for groundwater conservation.





Bird numbers on a global decline

Bird populations are declining around the world. While many factors contribute to this decline, there is no denying that climate change caused by humans is the most important driver behind this worrying trend.

When climatic conditions of their living environment change, birds may have difficulty adapting quick enough to survive within their natural range. Warming temperatures are changing where birds live, the timing of their migration patterns and egg laying, and even the sizes and shapes of their bodies.

Out of the approximately 11,154 known bird species, 159 (1.4%) have become extinct, 226 (2%) are critically endangered, 461 (4.1%) are endangered, 800 (7.2%) are vulnerable and 1,018 (9.1%) are near threatened.

The effects of climate change on birds

- 1) **Migratory:** The habitats migratory birds depend on are in danger due to increasing temperatures, flooding or desertification. During their migration, birds rely on these areas to provide food and resting places.
- 2) **Habitats:** Climate change is widely believed to have shifted the distribution of various species towards mountain tops and poles. In Europe and North America, researchers have observed significant northward shifts in the distribution of avian communities across the northern hemisphere.
- 3) **Breeding:** Most birds time their breeding to match the most favorable times of the year in terms of weather and food supply. Some birds are now adapting their breeding times in response to earlier warming in the spring but there is a limit to how much any bird species can change.
- 4) **Food availability:** Climate change has caused the decline in birds' food abundance, which leads to potential threats for birds' life stages, including reproduction and body growth.

Critically endangered vultures released in West Bengal



In the third phase of the reintroduction programme of the critically endangered oriental white-backed vultures, 20 vultures were released at the Rajabhat Khawa Vulture Conservation Breeding Centre in West Bengal's Buxa Tiger Reserve. Of the 20 gyps vultures released, 13 were oriental white-backed vultures, and 7 were rescued Himalayan griffon

vultures. So far, 31 critically endangered captive-bred oriental white-backed vultures have been released from VCBC at Rajabhat Khawa.

Injured by manjha, 120 birds saved

HCL Foundation in partnership with **Animal Warriors Conservation Society (AWCS)** is working on a Responsible Kite Flying campaign in Hyderabad. AWCS in January alone have saved over 120 birds that were injured by manjha.

In addition, community awareness programmes were held in residential societies to educate parents and children about the impacts of nylon manjha on environment. Street vendors were also educated on the ill-effects of nylon manjha and why they are banned from selling the same.



ARRC hosted craft session for HCL volunteers



Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Centre recently hosted a half-day craft session for HCL volunteers tasking them with making enrichment materials for parakeets that are in long-term care at their centre. The volunteers were shown some pictures for inspiration and then encouraged to use their creativity and make toys accordingly.

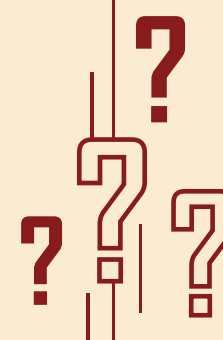
Care Earth Trust's new book to encourage bird-watching

Care Earth Trust announced their new publication- Birds of Tamil Nadu: A Synopsis by R J Ranjit Daniels and Vinoth Balasubramanian. The book is intended to bring greater awareness and encourage bird-watching in Tamil Nadu, which has designated 17 wetlands as bird sanctuaries, 14 wetlands as Ramsar Sites, 34 localities as Important Bird Areas, and the most important bird-ringing destination in the country (Point Calimere).

Quiz

- 1) Which bird lays the largest egg?
a) Humming bird b) Ostrich c) Song Thrush d) Emu
- 2) Which type of bird catches fish in its throat pouch?
a) Pelican b) Heron c) Flamingo d) Kingfisher
- 3) What is the name for the journey made by many birds between their summer and winter homes?
a) Molting b) Nesting c) Migration d) Predation
- 4) Which of these birds is not a bird of prey?
a) Vulture b) Parrot c) Eagle d) Osprey
- 5) Which of these is not a flightless bird?
a) Kiwi b) Owl c) Penguin d) Rhea
- 6) Which of these parts do birds not have?
a) Spines b) Teeth c) Brains d) Toes
- 7) What is the largest breed of penguins?
a) Queen b) Jack c) Emperor d) King
- 8) What's the only type of bird that can fly backwards?
a) Ostrich b) Hummingbird c) Eagle d) Chicken

Answer 1) Ostrich 2) Pelican 3) Migration 4) parrot 5) parrot 6) teeth 7) Emperor 8) Hummingbird





Thuvakkam and HCL Foundation awarded with MCCI-TAFE CSR Awards 2022

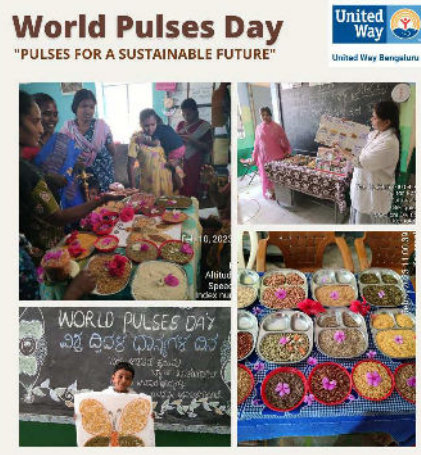
Thuvakkam and HCL foundation, under the HCL Harit- The Green Initiative have been awarded with the prestigious MCCI-TAFE CSR AWARDS 2022 by the esteemed The Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry on 31 January 2023.

The award was handed over to the Thuvakkam and HCL Foundation by Mr. C. K. Ranganathan, Chairman and Managing Director, CavinKare Pvt. Ltd. The cash prize of INR 1,00,000 was also awarded to Thuvakkam. The award was given in recognition of the innovation, collaboration and social impact created in the field of Environmental Sustainability & Ecological Balance through the "Greenery- Urban" Forest project.

A bowl of pulses a day will undoubtedly keep the doctor away

In honour of World Pulses Day, United Way Bengaluru, supported by HCL Foundation, held interactive workshops at Anganwadi centres in Raichur, Jigani, Srirampura, Kadugodi, and Sarjapura to raise awareness about the inclusion of pulses in their daily meals. ASHA and ANMs from each region demonstrated various indigenous pulses available locally, highlighting the nutritional value critical to combating anaemia in children, pregnant and lactating women, and the elderly.

Meanwhile, Anganwadi workers artistically engaged our children in learning about different pulses such as red yellow lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas, moong beans through colour games and rangolis.



Restoration of the Alakhnanda



HCL Foundation under HCL Harit has partnered with National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and INTACH for the restoration of the Alakhnanda catchment through plantation of Rudraksha and associated species. The foundation has planted more than 10,000 saplings across 45+ acres in the mid-Himalayas of Uttarakhand.

HCLFoundation

HCL GRANT
THE GREEN INITIATIVE
ESTATE

Congratulations
to the Winner
of HCL Grant Editions VIII

Environment Category

Planatearth

HCL Grant Edition VIII announced

HCL Foundation, on February 24, announced the results of HCL Grant Edition VIII across three categories of environment, health and education. Planeteartb bagged the environmental grant, while Innovators in Health (India) and Meghshala Trust won in health and education categories respectively.

Started in 2015, the HCL Grant is a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) commitment by HCL, through HCL Foundation, to strengthen and empower NGOs, engage with them, as well as recognize them for their path-breaking work.

The winning NGOs in each of the categories will receive ₹5 Crore for a 3 years' project. The remaining 6 finalists will receive ₹25 Lakhs each for a one-year project. Thus, the total committed fund for HCL Grant is ₹16.5 crores.

Ghost Nets to Sports Net



Recently, they successfully made a badminton net out of a Ghost Net that the youth in the community can use while playing. The initiative benefits both the fisher community and biodiversity.

Animal Conservation Warriors Society, supported by HCL Foundation, has taken up the initiative to mitigate the problem of Ghost Nets by collecting ghost nets and upcycling them to something useful that communities can use.

Ghost nets are fishing nets that have been abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded in the ocean.

Climate Smart Panchayat Action Plan

To advance the global discourse on building a sustainable and inclusive future, GoUP's Climate Smart and Resilient Gram Panchayat Initiative is targeted to strengthen local participation, and collectively mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change at the grassroots level by developing a Climate Smart Panchayat Action Plan.

Supporting the initiative and aligning multiple stakeholders, on 25 February, HCL Foundation hosted a workshop in the Purwa Gram Panchayat of Hardoi.

A team of panellists addressed a range of interventions that reinforce equity, inclusivity, sustainability and proactive resilience planning in climate action. Several major verticals of development were discussed, including Plantation, Agriculture, Green energy, Solid-liquid Waste Management, and Water Conservation.



About the publication

HCL Foundation and World Comics India's collaborative initiative 'Harit Khabar' is a monthly newspaper that aims to educate people on environmental issues and challenges and raise community participation towards the cause of the environment. This publication has been launched to provide a platform to various partner organizations working in collaboration with the HCL Foundation's distinct flagship programme HCL Harit - The Green Initiative to showcase their work and accomplishments and also to create a network between them. Through Harit Khabar we aim to stir meaningful debates on critical issues concerning our environment and ecosystem, accessibility to environmental education and public participation in decision-making processes in the country.

About HCL Foundation

HCL Technologies implements its Corporate Social Responsibility agenda through its CSR arm, the HCL Foundation. Various flagship programs and special initiatives of the Foundation endeavor to contribute toward national and international development goals, bringing about lasting positive impact on people and the planet through long-term sustainable programs.

About World Comics India

Advancing Grassroots Comics as an alternate tool of communication to local communities, World Comics India has been continuously working for the past 20 years. Many successful mass campaigns have also been organized using this medium of communication.

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