

# CSR TIMES

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INDIA'S NO. 1 CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY MAGAZINE

## ROLE OF CSR IN MISSION VIKSIT BHARAT BY 2047



NATIONAL  
CSR SUMMIT &  
**CSR TIMES** AWARDS

2025  
New Delhi

**CSR TIMES**

NEW CHANGES IN CSR  
POLICY

CABINET APPROVES  
NATIONAL SPORTS POLICY

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PRASHANT DAS  
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**CSR must evolve beyond compliance and embrace its full potential as a tool for nation-building. As India's development vision intensifies, so must our collective commitment to purpose-driven partnerships. Through transparency, innovation, and compassion, CSR can truly become the heartbeat of a Viksit Bharat.**

## CSR to play a big role in achieving 'Mission Viksit Bharat'

The 12th National CSR Summit 2025, held in New Delhi and graced by Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari, reaffirmed the central role of Corporate Social Responsibility in building a self-reliant and inclusive India. Hosted by CSR Times, the summit showcased a powerful convergence of policy makers, global envoys, corporates, NGOs, and thought leaders—each committed to driving meaningful change through strategic CSR interventions. As India charts its journey toward Viksit Bharat by 2047, CSR is no longer a peripheral obligation—it is an active catalyst for socio-economic transformation. From water conservation in suicide-affected agricultural belts to tech-enabled education for tribal youth, the projects honored at this summit reflect the depth and diversity of India's CSR landscape. Notably, the integration of CSR with national missions such as Skill India, Swachh Bharat, and Mission Viksit Bharat illustrates how CSR can be aligned with governance frameworks to multiply impact.

Equity, environment, and empowerment emerged as the summit's defining themes. Panel discussions underscored the need for co-designed initiatives with communities, greater convergence between private and public sectors, and the incorporation of ESG metrics for enhanced accountability. Shri Gadkari's call for community-driven rural development, as well as the advocacy for social audits and impact grading, offer a forward-looking roadmap for CSR governance.

Importantly, the CSR TIMES Awards highlighted excellence across sectors—from public sector undertakings to social enterprises—showcasing replicable models of change. Special recognition to grassroots innovations and marginalized communities reinforces CSR's inclusive ethos.

The editorial perspective is clear: CSR must evolve beyond compliance and embrace its full potential as a tool for nation-building. As India's development vision intensifies, so must our collective commitment to purpose-driven partnerships. Through transparency, innovation, and compassion, CSR can truly become the heartbeat of a Viksit Bharat.

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## PERSPECTIVE

### Nurturing Nature, Sustaining Our Future



India is progressing steadfastly towards its objective of becoming a fully developed nation by 2047 under the ambitious Mission Viksit Bharat. There is no denying the fact that the road ahead will be marked by challenges but what will give it the right impetus is Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), which can serve as a catalyst for accelerating inclusive growth. With a strong framework of government policies and infrastructure investments providing the foundation, CSR initiatives give the much-needed impetus by bringing agility, innovation, and targeted impact to areas where development gaps exist.

The fundamental holistic vision of Mission Viksit Bharat underscores a balanced approach where economic progress must go hand in hand with social equity, environmental sustainability and strong human capital. CSR is the supportive pillar that helps bridge critical divides, by funding educational programs, enhancing rural healthcare, supporting skill development, encouraging women empowerment and supporting green energy projects. By consciously aligning CSR agendas with national priorities, namely - digital inclusion, clean energy transitions and sustainable livelihoods – corporates can play a vital role in joining forces to realize this vision of a globally competitive and self-reliant India. At CSR Times, we have been emphasizing the transformative power of well-directed CSR. Our successfully concluded 12th National CSR Summit and Awards, held on 15th July at Le Meridien Hotel, New Delhi, reiterated this commitment. We were privileged to welcome Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, as the Chief Guest whose august presence reinforced the importance of private-public partnerships in nation building. This enriching well attended conference brought together, policy makers, corporate leaders and social innovators and other distinguished attendees to share best practices and explore collaborative frameworks to amplify developmental outcomes.

What emerges distinctly is that the path to Viksit Bharat by 2047 demands collective responsibility. Corporates must adopt CSR as an integral part of their business ethos that is strategic, scalable and measurable and not as a one-off philanthropy.

The next two decades offer a unique opportunity to India of integrating CSR efforts with Mission Viksit Bharat's goals, in order to create a stronger, more equitable, and, environmentally secure nation for future generations.

**Dr Shabnam Asthana**  
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# CABINET APPROVES NATIONAL SPORTS POLICY 2025: A NEW ERA FOR INDIAN SPORTS AND SOCIAL IMPACT

CSR TIMES BUREAU

The Union Cabinet has officially approved the **National Sports Policy 2025**, marking a major milestone in India's journey toward becoming a global sporting powerhouse. This new policy replaces the earlier framework from 2001 and introduces a fresh, inclusive, and forward-looking roadmap that integrates sports with national development, economic growth, and social transformation.

At its core, the policy is built on five key pillars: **Excellence on the Global Stage**, **Sports for Economic Development**, **Sports for Social Development**, **Sports as a People's Movement**, and **Integration with Education**. Together, these pillars aim to reshape India's sporting ecosystem from the grassroots to elite levels.

## Excellence on the Global Stage

The policy emphasizes early identification and nurturing of talent, especially in rural and tribal areas. It promotes the creation of competitive leagues, improved coaching systems, and world-class training infrastructure. Sports science, medicine, and



technology will be integrated to enhance athlete performance. The goal is to prepare India for major international events, including the **2036 Olympic Games**, and to build a strong pipeline of athletes who can compete at the highest level.

## Sports for Economic Development

Recognizing the economic potential of sports, the policy encourages **sports tourism, manufacturing of sports goods, and startups** in the sector. It also promotes **Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)** and **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** funding to support infrastructure, training, and innovation. By tapping into India's growing sports market, the policy aims to create jobs, attract investment, and boost entrepreneurship.

## Sports for Social Development

The policy takes a strong stand on **inclusion and equity**. It promotes participation among **women, persons with disabilities, tribal communities, and economically weaker sections**. Indigenous and traditional games will be revived and supported. Sports will also be positioned as a viable career option, with dual-career pathways and volunteering opportunities. This approach ensures that sports become a tool for empowerment and social change.

## Sports as a People's Movement

To make sports a part of everyday life, the policy proposes nationwide cam-



paigns and community events. Fitness indices for schools, colleges, and workplaces will be introduced. Access to sports facilities will be expanded, and underutilized spaces will be repurposed for public use. The aim is to build a culture of fitness and participation across all age groups and regions.

## Integration with Education

Aligned with the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, the new sports policy integrates sports into school curricula. Physical education teachers will receive specialized training, and institutional feeder systems will be created to identify talent early. This ensures that sports and academics go hand in hand, promoting holistic development.

## Strategic Implementation

The policy outlines a robust implementation framework, including:

- A **national monitoring system** with clear benchmarks and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Legal reforms for governance and athlete safety
- Use of **AI and data analytics** for performance tracking
- A **model policy for states and**

**union territories** to align local efforts with national goals

- A **whole-of-government approach**, integrating sports into the programs of all ministries and departments

## CSR and Private Sector Role

The National Sports Policy 2025 opens new avenues for CSR engagement. Companies can support athlete development, infrastructure, and community programs through initiatives like **"Adopt an Athlete"** or **"One Corporate-One Sport"**. This creates meaningful opportunities for businesses to contribute to nation-building through sports.

## Conclusion

The approval of the National Sports Policy 2025 is more than a policy update—it's a vision for a healthier, more inclusive, and globally competitive India. By linking sports with education, economy, and social development, the policy sets the stage for transformative change. For CSR stakeholders, it offers a powerful platform to invest in impact-driven initiatives that uplift communities and celebrate excellence.

### Sources:

- Press Information Bureau – Cabinet Approves National Sports Policy 2025
- Prime Minister of India – Official Announcement
- The Hindu – Union Cabinet Approval
- Economic Times – Policy Overview and Impact



# GLOBAL CSR ROUNDUP: KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM JULY'S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

PRADEEP KUMAR PANDEY

July 2025 witnessed a vibrant convergence of global minds committed to sustainability, innovation, and inclusive development. Three major international events—the **Sustainable Development Conference (SDC2025)** in Bangkok, the **PEOPLE 2025 International Conference** in Canada, and the **Caribbean Investment Forum (CIF2025)** in Jamaica—offered powerful insights and collaborative opportunities for CSR stakeholders

worldwide. Here's a detailed report for CSR TIMES readers.

## Sustainable Development Conference (SDC2025)

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand **Dates:** July 11–13, 2025 **Organizer:** Tomorrow People Organization

SDC2025 brought together over 100 delegates from 40+ countries to explore actionable strategies for global sustainability. The conference emphasized **multidisciplinary collaboration**, with sessions covering:

- Climate change and renewable energy
- Waste management and circular economy
- Sustainable economic development
- Grassroots innovation and community engagement

A standout initiative was the partnership with **One Tree Planted**, where each participant contributed to reforestation efforts in Thailand. The conference's boutique format fostered deep networking, with attendees reporting meaningful connections and potential collaborations.

**CSR Implication:** SDC2025 reinforced the role of CSR in bridging academic research with community impact. The emphasis on practical implementation and inclusive dialogue aligns with India's CSR goals under Mission Viksit Bharat.

## PEOPLE 2025 International Conference

**Location:** St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada **Dates:** July 21–25, 2025 **Organizer:** PEOPLE Network & Canadian Association on Water Quality (CAWQ)

Under the theme "**Challenges and Opportunities in Environmental Sustainability under Climate Change**," PEOPLE 2025 served as a dynamic platform for cross-sectoral dialogue. Key highlights included:

- **Technical sessions** on climate resilience, biodiversity, and water quality
- **Workshops** on AI in environmental modeling and Indigenous-led sustainability

- **Student competitions** and field trips promoting experiential learning
- **Special journal issues** for selected research contributions

With over 600 members from 40 institutions, the PEOPLE Network showcased its commitment to training next-gen environmental leaders through NSERC CREATE funding.

**CSR Implication:** The conference spotlighted **community-driven research**, making a strong case for CSR programs that integrate local knowledge systems, especially in water and waste management. It also encouraged corporates to support environmental education and youth-led innovation.

## Caribbean Investment Forum (CIF2025)

**Location:** Montego Bay, Jamaica

**Dates:** July 29–31, 2025 **Organizer:** Caribbean Export Development Agency (CEDA) & Jampro

CIF2025 emerged as the Caribbean's premier investment platform, focusing on four strategic pillars:

- **Green Economy** Transition – Renewable energy and climate finance
- **Digital Transformation** – Fintech, e-commerce, and smart infrastructure
- **Sustainable Agriculture** – Climate-resilient crops and agri-tech
- **Logistics & Transportation** – Enhancing regional trade connectivity

With over 600 delegates, the forum featured **live pitches**, **B2B**



meetings, and an **investment catalogue** to match investors with viable projects. Jamaica's positioning as a logistics and innovation hub added momentum to the region's economic aspirations.

**CSR Implication:** CIF2025 showcased how CSR can catalyze **inclusive economic growth**. Indian corporates exploring global partnerships can draw inspiration from the Caribbean's model of aligning sustainability with entrepreneurship and infrastructure development.

## Conclusion

These three events underscored a shared global commitment to sustainability, innovation, and equity. For

CSR TIMES readers, the key takeaway is clear: **collaboration across borders and sectors is essential** to drive meaningful change. Whether through reforestation in Thailand, climate research in Canada, or green investments in Jamaica, CSR leaders have a growing role in shaping the future.

## Sources:

- SDC2025 Official Website
- PEOPLE 2025 – PEOPLE Network
- Caribbean Investment Forum 2025 – Caribbean Export
- Jamaica Observer – CIF Launch Coverage
- COLEAD News – CIF 2025 Overview

# LESSONS FOR INDIAN BUSINESSES FROM INTERNATIONAL BEST PRACTICES

RUDRANEEL DEY



In an increasingly interconnected world, Indian businesses are no longer operating in isolation. From sustainability to innovation, global best practices offer a rich repository of strategies that Indian enterprises can adapt to enhance competitiveness, social impact, and long-term resilience. This analysis explores key lessons drawn from international

models that can inform and elevate India's corporate social responsibility (CSR) landscape.

## Embracing Global Standards for Product and Process Excellence

One of the most significant lessons comes from the widespread adoption of **international standards** such

as ISO and GS1. These frameworks ensure consistency in quality, safety, and traceability across borders. For Indian manufacturers and exporters, aligning with such standards not only facilitates smoother market entry but also builds consumer trust.

For instance, **product digitization**—the process of converting product data into digital formats—is now a global norm. It enables real-time tracking, enhances supply chain transparency, and supports sustainability reporting. Indian businesses can leverage this trend to improve operational efficiency and meet global compliance benchmarks.

## Sustainability as a Strategic Imperative

Across Europe, North America, and parts of Asia, sustainability is no longer a peripheral concern—it's central to business strategy. Companies are integrating **environmental, social, and governance (ESG)** metrics into their core operations. In Germany, for example, SMEs benefit from state-funded programs that support green innovation and energy efficiency.

Indian firms can draw inspiration from such models by embedding

sustainability into product design, packaging, and logistics. The shift toward **circular economy principles**, including waste reduction and resource reuse, is gaining traction globally. Adopting these practices can help Indian companies reduce costs, enhance brand reputation, and contribute meaningfully to climate goals.

## Collaboration and Cluster Development

International best practices highlight the power of **industry clusters**—geographic concentrations of interconnected businesses, suppliers, and institutions. Canada and South Korea have successfully used cluster models to foster innovation, share infrastructure, and attract investment.

Indian MSMEs, often constrained by limited resources, can benefit from similar collaborative ecosystems. Shared facilities, joint marketing campaigns, and pooled R&D efforts can accelerate growth and improve competitiveness. Government-backed cluster initiatives, if scaled effectively,

could be transformative for sectors like textiles, electronics, and agro-processing.

## Data-Driven Decision Making and Risk Management

Global leaders are increasingly relying on **data analytics** to guide strategic decisions. From market expansion to customer engagement, data helps businesses anticipate trends, manage risks, and optimize performance. Indian companies, especially those venturing into international markets, must invest in robust analytics tools to stay agile and informed.

Moreover, risk assessment frameworks used in the U.S. and EU—covering legal, cultural, and economic factors—offer valuable templates for Indian firms navigating global operations. Proactive risk management can prevent costly missteps and ensure smoother cross-border integration.

## Workforce Development and Ethical Governance

International firms place strong emphasis on **employee upskilling**, diversity, and ethical governance. Germany's "WeGebAU" program, for example, finances continuing education for workers in MSMEs. Similarly, companies in Japan and the UK are incentivized to maintain high ethical standards and transparent reporting.

Indian businesses can adopt similar approaches by investing in **skill development**, promoting inclusive hiring, and strengthening internal governance. These measures not only improve productivity but also align with CSR objectives focused on human capital and ethical leadership.

## Innovation and Adaptability

Finally, the ability to **innovate and adapt** is a hallmark of successful global enterprises. Whether it's through crowd-funding in the UK or AI-driven sustainability modeling in Canada, businesses are constantly evolving. Indian firms must cultivate a culture of experimentation, invest in R&D, and remain open to new business models.

## Conclusion

The global business landscape offers a wealth of lessons for Indian enterprises. By adopting international best practices in sustainability, collaboration, governance, and innovation, Indian businesses can not only enhance their global competitiveness but also deepen their CSR impact. As India marches toward its development goals under Mission Viksit Bharat, these insights will be crucial in shaping a responsible and resilient corporate sector.





# INDIA TIGHTENS CSR NORMS: NEW POLICY CHANGES EFFECTIVE JULY 2025

VATIKA SINGH

In a landmark move to strengthen corporate accountability and streamline social impact initiatives, the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** has notified the **Companies**

**(Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Amendment Rules, 2025**, which came into effect on **July 14, 2025**. These changes mark a significant shift in India's CSR landscape, introducing

stricter compliance norms, enhanced transparency, and a renewed focus on credible implementation.

## What's New in the CSR Policy?

At the heart of the amendment is the **revised e-Form CSR-1**, which entities must file to register as eligible CSR implementing agencies under **Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013**. The updated form introduces several key changes:

- Expanded Eligibility Criteria:** Entities eligible to undertake CSR activities now include:
  - Section 8 companies
  - Registered public trusts and societies
  - Entities set up by central or state governments
  - Organizations established under Acts of Parliament or State Legislatures
  - Institutions approved under **Section 80G, Section 12A**, or exempted under **Section 10(23C)** of the Income Tax Act
- Mandatory Experience Requirement:** Entities not established by companies must now demonstrate a **minimum three-year track record** in CSR or similar social impact activities.
- Professional Certification:** The CSR-1 form must be certified by a **practicing Chartered Accountant (CA)**, **Company Secretary (CS)**, or **Cost Accountant (CMA)**, ensuring the authenticity of submitted documents.
- Digital Verification:** PAN, OTP-

verified email addresses, and **Digital Signature Certificates (DSCs)** are now compulsory for authorized signatories such as directors, trustees, or CEOs.

## Why These Changes Matter

The revised rules aim to **curb misuse of CSR funds** and ensure that only **credible, tax-compliant entities** are entrusted with executing CSR projects. Over the years, concerns have emerged about shell organizations and fraudulent NGOs exploiting CSR mandates for financial irregularities. By aligning CSR registration with tax verification and professional oversight, the government seeks to build a **more transparent and accountable CSR ecosystem**.

False declarations or suppression of material facts in the CSR-1 form will now attract penalties under **Sections 448 and 449** of the Companies Act, which deal with false statements and evidence.

## Implications for Corporates

For companies, the new rules mean **greater due diligence** in selecting CSR partners. Corporates must ensure that their implementing agencies are registered under the revised CSR-1 framework and maintain updated records. This shift is expected to enhance stakeholder confidence and ensure that CSR investments are directed toward **genuine, impactful causes**.

Additionally, companies may need to revisit existing partnerships and verify whether their current CSR collaborators meet the new eligibility and compliance standards.



## Challenges for NGOs and Social Enterprises

While the policy changes promote transparency, they also pose challenges for **smaller or newly established NGOs**. The requirement for tax registrations, professional certification, and a proven track record may create barriers for grassroots organizations still navigating the regulatory landscape.

However, experts believe this will ultimately **strengthen the sector**, encouraging non-profits to adopt robust governance practices and align more closely with national development goals.

## A Step Toward Mission Viksit Bharat

The 2025 CSR policy changes align with India's broader vision of **Mission Viksit Bharat by 2047**, which emphasizes

inclusive growth, sustainability, and social equity. By tightening norms and encouraging responsible corporate behavior, the government is paving the way for **more effective public-private collaboration** in addressing pressing social challenges.

## Conclusion

The Companies (CSR Policy) Amendment Rules, 2025, represent a pivotal moment in India's CSR journey. With stricter norms, enhanced verification, and a renewed emphasis on credibility, the policy sets the stage for a **more transparent, impactful, and accountable CSR framework**. As companies and NGOs adapt to the new regime, the hope is that CSR in India will evolve into a powerful tool for nation-building and sustainable development.



# GLOBAL CSR & ESG REGULATORY TRENDS (2025): A NEW ERA OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND IMPACT

MANISH BHARTIYA

The year 2025 has emerged as a watershed moment for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) regulations worldwide. With climate risks intensifying, investor expectations rising, and public scrutiny sharpening, governments across continents are moving from voluntary frameworks to mandatory compliance regimes.

This global shift is redefining how businesses operate, disclose, and engage with sustainability.

## Worldwide Regulatory Surge

According to policy trackers, over 40 major ESG and CSR regulations have been introduced globally in 2025 alone. These reforms span developed and emerging economies, signaling a collective urgency to align corporate behavior with climate

and social goals.

- **European Union:** The EU expanded its Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) to include SMEs in high-impact sectors like energy and agriculture. Companies must now disclose **Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions**, with **third-party verification**. Non-compliance penalties have risen to **€10 million**.<sup>2</sup>

- **United States:** The SEC's **climate disclosure rule** mandates large firms to report climate risks and scenario analyses aligned with 1.5°C and 2°C pathways. Pension funds must now follow **fiduciary ESG guidelines**, and the EPA is reconsidering several climate-related rules<sup>3</sup>.
- **India:** SEBI has made **ESG risk scoring mandatory** for the top 1,000 listed entities. Mutual funds and insurance firms must disclose ESG scores under the **BRSR Core framework**. CSR spending is now linked to **measurable SDG outcomes**, enhancing impact tracking.
- **China:** A national **carbon disclosure registry** has been launched, covering over 5,000 companies. This supports China's goal of **carbon neutrality by 2060**, with mandatory reporting for manufacturing and logistics sectors.

## Key Trends Shaping 2025

- **Unified ESG Reporting Standards** The International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) introduced IFRS S1 and S2, creating a global baseline for sustainability and climate disclosures. Countries are adopting these standards to reduce fragmentation and improve comparability.
- **Supply Chain Due Diligence** The EU's Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CS3D) requires companies to assess human rights and environmental risks across their supply chains.



This is influencing procurement policies worldwide.

- **Greenwashing Crackdown** Regulators like ESMA have tightened rules on ESG fund naming. Funds must allocate at least **80% to genuine ESG objectives**, avoiding exposure to fossil fuels and arms manufacturing.
- **Digital ESG Tagging** The CSRD now mandates **XBRL digital tagging** of ESG data, making disclosures machine-readable and comparable. This is pushing companies to invest in **AI-powered ESG platforms**.
- **Social Metrics in Focus** The UK is consulting on **mandatory ethnicity and disability pay gap reporting**, expanding the scope of social accountability beyond gender.

## Implications for Indian Businesses

For Indian corporates, especially those with global operations or aspirations, these trends are not just informative—

they're imperative. Key action points include:

- **Aligning with global ESG frameworks** like IFRS and CSRD to remain competitive
- **Strengthening supply chain transparency** to meet due diligence norms
- **Investing in ESG data systems** for real-time tracking and reporting
- **Integrating social metrics** into CSR and HR strategies
- **Avoiding greenwashing** by ensuring all sustainability claims are verifiable

## Conclusion

2025 marks a decisive shift from ESG as a "nice-to-have" to a compliance-driven necessity. For Indian businesses, this is an opportunity to lead with integrity, innovate with purpose, and collaborate across borders. As global frameworks converge, those who act early will not only meet regulatory expectations but also build lasting stakeholder trust.

# 12<sup>th</sup> National CSR summit

# **ROLE OF CSR IN MISSION VIKSIT BHARAT BY 2047**

**Shri Nitin Gatkari Ji urges community engagement**



Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport and Highway Shri Nitin Gadkari Ji receiving a memento from Mr. Harish Chandra, Publisher and Managing Editor of CSR Times

**The 12th National CSR Summit and CSR TIMES Awards 2025 were held in Le Méridien, New Delhi, on 15th July. Organised by CSR Times, a leading periodical on corporate social responsibility, the summit facilitated critical discussions around the theme “*Role of CSR in Mission Viksit Bharat by 2047.*”**

**T**he chief guest of the event was Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport and Highway Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari .The Guests of Honour were Smt .Rekha Sharma,Member of Parliament) Rajya Sabha ,(Smt .Smita Wagh ,Hon'ble Member of Parliament) Lok Sabha,( Government of India) also recipient of Sansad Bharati Samman ,(H.E .Mr. Mariano Agustin Caucino ,

Ambassador of Argentina to India, H.E Ms .Jacqueline Mukangira ,High Commissioner ,High Commission of the Republic of Rwanda ,Mr .Bui Trung Thuong ,Trade Counsellor- Head of Trade Office Embassy of Vietnam ,and Eva Kopecká ,Head of Commercial & Economic Section, Embassy of the Czech Republic .The summit was further graced by the presence of eminent dignitaries

including Shri Surendra Nath Tripathi, Retd .IAS ,Director General - Indian Institute of Public Administration,Dr. Rashmi Singh ,IAS ,Secretary Department of Women and Child Development) WCD (Government of NCT of Delhi ,among other distinguished guests.

The Summit, powered by State Bank of India, brought together over 400 delegates including business leaders, CSR



From left, Shri Ravi Shankar (Jury Member-CSR TIMES Awards 2025), Mr. Harish Chandra (Publisher & Managing Editor of CSR Times), Smt. Rekha Sharma (Member of Parliament - Rajya Sabha), Shri Nitin Gadkari (Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India), Smt. Smita Wagh (Member of Parliament - Lok Sabha), Shri Rajendra Singh (Member of National Disaster Management Authority, Former Director General of Indian Coast Guard), H.E. Mr. Mariano Agustin Caucino (Ambassador of Argentina to India), and Air Marshal Shri V.P.S. Rana (PVSM, VSM (Retd), Jury Member of CSR TIMES Awards 2025).

professionals, and numerous award winners from across India, while over 2,000 participants joined via live streaming. This event is set in accordance with the goals of Viksit Bharat by 2047 set by our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi as the nation positions itself as a voice for the Global South and a key partner to developing countries worldwide.

Mr. Harish Chandra, Publisher and Managing Editor CSR Times, in his opening address cited the importance of CSR in Viksit Bharat, *“From commitment of enterprises to inclusive education and skill development, CSR stakeholders are essential architects of the future.”*

Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport and Highway Shri Nitin Gadkari, in his address to the vast gathering said: *“What we take from our society, we must give it back to them. With our positive efforts we are able to change the backward sections of our society.”* He highlighted his work in rural and agriculture sectors on

how CSR funds build our society a better place to live in and its impact in rural and agricultural development in India. *“Gaon ka pani gaon mei, khet ka pani khet mei, ghar ka pani ghar mei,”* he concluded.

Mr. Gadkari congratulated the winners of CSR awards and applauded their projects towards building a better India. Shri Nitin Gadkari also unveiled Shiksha Bharati survey, a new initiative of CSR

Times, focused on survey of educational institutions on different key parameters.

CSR projects were honoured at the ceremony, having passed a rigorous selection process led by a respected jury comprising Dr. Bhaskar Chatterjee, Air Marshal Sh. VPS Rana, Sh. Ravi Shankar, Sh. K C Sreenath, and Prof. Pushpanjali Jha. Some of the prominent winners were Late Shri Subhash Gupta (Lifetime Achievement





Shri Nitin Gadkari Ji addressing the summit about the impact of CSR funds on rural and agricultural development in India.

Award (Posthumous)), SBI Foundation, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bisleri International Pvt Ltd, Maruti Suzuki India, Krushi Vikas Pratishthan, Nagpur, Grasim Industries among others.

The summit also featured two engaging panel discussions. The first, titled “Role of Social Organisations/Entrepreneurs in Nation Building,” explored grassroots innovation and social entrepreneurship as key to inclusive progress. The discussion featured Shri Manoranjan Nayak, ED-Reach to Teach Foundation, Shri Chirag Bhandari, CEO-Ennoble Social Innovation Foundation, Shri Ajai Garg, Head Digital Tech & Law - Anand

and Anand, and Shri Shamsher Singh, President (Founder Member), Prabh Aasra, moderated by Shri Sreenath K.C., Development Communication Consultant.

The second panel discussion, “Role of CSR in Mission Viksit Bharat by 2047,” highlighted the essentiality of collective effort in realising Mission Viksit Bharat and stressed upon protection of natural resources, participating in sustainable practices and education-based upliftment and empowerment of vulnerable communities. The discussion featured Mr Amod K Kanth, Founder & Mentor - Prayas JAC Society and Allied Organizations, Mr Vaibhav Raut, CSR Lead- Regional CSR Projects,

Bridgestone, Mr. K. Ganesh, Director Corporate Affairs and Sustainability, Bisleri International Pvt Ltd, Mr. Ajay Kumar, Administration Head- South Asia, Avery Dennison, Ms Devina Kamal, Lead CSR, Jubilant Ingrevia Limited, moderated by Dr. Somnath Singh, Deputy Director, UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI).

In the vote of thanks, Mr. Prashant Das, Editor of CSR Times, expressed deep gratitude to all participants, guests, speakers, and awardees. He acknowledged the invaluable support of sponsors, including JSW Energy, NTPC Ltd., Tata Sons Pvt. Ltd., SJVN Ltd., THDC India Ltd., Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., ONGC, GAIL India Ltd., NLC India Ltd., Power Finance Corporation Ltd., NHPC, and Coal India Ltd and the contributions of Strategic Partner- UNGCNI, and Knowledge Partner- Singhania University, for making this event a grand show. The event concluded on an optimistic note, reaffirming a shared commitment to advance the journey towards a Viksit Bharat by 2047.



# Panel Discussion

## ROLE OF SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS AND ORGANISATIONS IN NATION BUILDING



**A**s India ascends the ranks to become the third-largest economy in the world, it faces a paradox: impressive GDP growth coexists with underwhelming performance in key social development areas. During the recently concluded 12<sup>th</sup> National CSR Summit, the panel discussion on the “Role of Social Entrepreneurs and Organisations in Nation Building,” moderated by **Mr. K C Sreenath - Development Communication Consultant** - had the experts deliberating on this disconnect, highlighting the role of grass-

roots efforts, CSR initiatives, and policy-level interventions in bridging this gap.

According to the SDG Report 2025, India ranks 99th globally in social development, despite climbing nine places since the previous year. This reflects progress, but also reveals how much work lies ahead — particularly in sectors like healthcare, education, clean energy, and climate action. With international development aid shrinking due to global conflicts and instability, there is an urgent need for Indian corporates, civil society, and social

enterprises to take the lead.

### Education: A Cornerstone for a Developed India

Education emerged as a central theme in the discussion. **Mr. Manoranjan Nayak - ED, Reach to Teach Foundation** - an education sector expert, pointed out the declining enrollment in government schools — from 72.9% in 2022 to 66.8% in 2024. This shift to private institutions reflects parental aspirations for better quality education but raises concerns about inclusivity and continuity, especially

for low-income families.

Nayak emphasized that 53% of Indian students — about 124 million — study in government schools. These children represent the country's future workforce and social capital. However, learning outcomes remain dismal. For instance, only 55% of Grade 3 students can arrange numbers up to 299, and just 53% of Grade 6 students can perform basic multiplication. "These are not isolated figures but systemic issues affecting students from Grade 1 to 12," he warned. Nayak stressed the need for contextualized curricula, competent teachers, and systemic reform to improve foundational literacy and numeracy — critical for achieving the *Viksit Bharat* vision.

### **Beyond Syllabus: Competency-Based Learning**

Mr. Chirag Bandhari — CEO, Ennoble Social Innovation Foundation — who champions Competency-Based Education (CBE), argued that rote learning has stifled creativity and critical thinking in both private and public schools. He explained that CBE encourages students to apply knowledge in real-life situations — fostering skills such as problem-solving, collaboration, and adaptability.

"While enrollment has increased, the real challenge is whether students can use their learning meaningfully," he said. Bandhari also highlighted a critical point: most school assessments still focus on memorization rather than comprehension or application. "We must transition to systems that assess and reward real competencies, not just grades."

On the issue of school dropout rates, he noted a sharp decline in retention after primary school. While 98% of children enroll at the primary level, only 67.6% continue to upper primary and beyond. The reasons range from disengaging content and language barriers to poor infrastructure and lack of community awareness.

**On the issue of school dropout rates, he noted a sharp decline in retention after primary school. While 98% of children enroll at the primary level, only 67.6% continue to upper primary and beyond.**

Bandhari called on social organisations to lead by example. Citing a successful project in rural Pune where a local teacher transformed his school into a model institution, he demonstrated how such local success stories can ripple across communities, inspiring both students and teachers to aim higher.

### **Geriatric Care and Mental Health: The Neglected Frontiers**

Shifting from education, Mr. Shamsher Singh — President (Founder Member), Prabh Aasra — addressed

the rapidly growing elderly population. According to UN projections, by 2050, over 20% of India's population will be above 60. Currently, 11% of Indians are seniors, and a staggering 70% of them are dependent on others. Nearly 78% suffer from chronic conditions, and many lack pensions or health insurance.

"The government is still grappling with basic services like education and primary healthcare," Singh observed. "Geriatric care and mental health have largely been left to the private sector."

He emphasized the need for targeted CSR projects and public-private partnerships to address elderly care, health infrastructure, and mental wellness. With 10.6% of adults reportedly suffering from mental health disorders — and a 90% treatment gap — mental health remains a deeply neglected issue.

### **Conclusion: A Shared Responsibility**

The panel concluded with a call to action: Nation-building cannot rest solely on the government's shoulders. Social entrepreneurs, corporate CSR arms, and non-profits must collaborate to fill the widening gaps in health, education, and social welfare.

Whether it's revamping the education system, supporting the elderly, or tackling mental health stigma, the responsibility is collective. India's development story must be inclusive — not just in economic terms, but in how it uplifts every section of society.

Only then can the vision of *Viksit Bharat* become a lived reality.

# Panel Discussion

## ROLE OF CSR IN MISSION VIKSIT BHARAT BY 2047



The panel discussion on “*Role of CSR in Mission Viksit Bharat by 2047*” convened eminent leaders from industry and social sectors to deliberate on how Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) can be a transformative force in realizing India’s vision of becoming a developed nation by 2047. The session, moderated by **Dr. Somnath Singh**, provided critical insights into leveraging CSR beyond compliance to create large-scale, sustainable, and inclusive development impacts.

Dr. Singh opened the discussion

by emphasizing that Mission Viksit Bharat 2047 is not merely a government aspiration but a collective national mission requiring active participation from businesses, civil society, and communities. CSR, he stressed, must evolve into a strategic enabler of social change, environmental resilience, and economic empowerment.

He said “Mission Viksit Bharat is a shared national aspiration that demands transformative partnerships among corporates, civil society, and government. CSR must evolve from compliance to innovation, driving

measurable change aligned with the SDGs and national priorities.”

### Key Highlights from the Discussion:

- Grassroots-NGO Partnerships for Inclusive Growth:** Mr. Amod K. Kanth, Founder & Mentor of Prayas JAC Society, underscored the indispensable role of grassroots organizations in shaping CSR agendas that are community-centric. He called for stronger policy frameworks and long-term partnerships between corporates and NGOs to ensure

measurable social impact.

- **Sustainability and Data-Driven CSR:**

Mr. Vaibhav Raut of Bridgestone India shared how their regional CSR projects integrate sustainability with education and environmental stewardship. He highlighted the importance of data analytics in designing scalable and outcome-oriented interventions, ensuring alignment with the broader goals of Viksit Bharat.

- **Industry Leadership in Sustainability:**

Mr. K. Ganesh from Bisleri International showcased pioneering initiatives such as India's first zero-liquid discharge plant and advocated for the private sector's proactive role in influencing policy, technology adoption, and behavioral change for environmental sustainability.

- **Technology and Employee Engagement:**

Mr. Ajay Kumar of Avery Dennison reflected on how a strong internal culture and values drive impactful CSR. He provided examples of leveraging technology to amplify program efficiency and outreach, thereby creating shared value for both communities and businesses.

- **Inclusive and Gender-Responsive CSR:**

Ms. Devina Kamal of Jubilant Ingrevia highlighted the necessity of multi-sector collaboration for systemic change. She emphasized embedding gender equity and

intersectionality in CSR programs, particularly focusing on women empowerment as a cornerstone for inclusive development.

## Outcomes and Impact

- **Consensus on Collaboration:**

Panelists agreed that multi-sectoral partnerships are essential

**Mr. Amod K. Kanth,  
Founder & Mentor  
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centric.

to scale CSR impact, especially in health, education, climate action, and livelihoods.

- **Innovation as a Driver:**

Businesses need to adopt technology-driven solutions and data analytics for evidence-based decision-making.

- **Inclusivity and Equity:**

Strong emphasis was laid on integrating gender equality, skilling, and social entrepreneurship into CSR agendas for holistic development.

## Way Forward

- **Shift from Compliance to Strategic CSR:** Move beyond statutory 2% spending towards long-term social investments aligned with national missions.

- **Institutionalize CSR-NGO Partnerships:** Develop structured frameworks for collaborative governance, ensuring accountability and transparency.

- **Embed ESG and Sustainability:** Position CSR within the larger ESG and sustainability narrative to achieve climate resilience and green growth.

- **Policy Advocacy and Knowledge Sharing:** Strengthen corporate engagement in public policy dialogues for systemic reforms.

- **Measurement and Impact Assessment:** Adopt global standards and technology for monitoring, reporting, and scaling successful models.

## Conclusion:

The discussion converged on a unanimous call for **collaborative, transparent, and innovation-driven CSR strategies** aligned with national priorities. As India approaches its centenary of independence, CSR must transcend transactional philanthropy and become a catalyst for sustainable growth, equity, and resilience under the Mission Viksit Bharat framework.

**By: Dr. Somnath Singh**

Session Moderator & Deputy Director  
UN Global Compact Network India

# हम दे रहे हैं सपनों को उड़ान...



सतत कोयला खनन



उत्कृष्ट पर्यावरण प्रबंधन



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# The CSR TIMES Awards 2025

## A JURY'S PERSPECTIVE

AIR MARSHAL VPS RANA PVSM VSM (RETD), JURY MEMBER-CSR TIMES AWARDS 2025



The jury members assessing the nominations for the CSR Times awards.

Over the past decade, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in India has evolved remarkably—from sporadic acts of corporate goodwill to a legally mandated mechanism, and now towards becoming a powerful force in nation-building. It's no surprise, then, that the theme of the CSR Times Awards 2025, "The Role of CSR in Mission Viksit Bharat by 2047", sparked vibrant discussion among policymakers, corporate leaders, and development practitioners. This is not a nominal figure. In FY 2023–24 alone, according to the National CSR Portal, approximately ₹34,908.75 crore was spent by nearly 27,200 companies. These investments spanned critical sectors such as education, healthcare, rural development, social welfare, sports, and the environment sectors, essential for India's leap from a developing nation to a developed one by 2047.

Despite these efforts, the ground reality of many development indica-

tors reveals a sobering truth: progress is uneven and often insufficient. This is where CSR holds transformative potential, not just as funding, but as a strategic tool with a clear developmental vision. But to truly catalyse change, CSR must move beyond compliance and become a purposeful, well-integrated force, aligned with national priorities.

### A Landscape of Promise and Challenge

India's CSR ecosystem today is among the most dynamic globally, with steadily growing investments and participation from a wide spectrum of companies, including unlisted and small enterprises. Yet, the distribution of CSR funds remains skewed.

### What Makes CSR Meaningful?

Having served as a jury member for the CSR Times Awards for three consecutive years, I've had the privilege of review-

ing a diverse array of projects. The most impactful ones, across geographies and sectors, had a few common threads:

**Prioritising Environment-Centric Projects:** Climate change and environmental degradation are no longer abstract threats—they are real, measurable, and already affecting millions. CSR investments in environmental sustainability are therefore not just meaningful, but essential. Yet, they remain a fraction of total CSR spending.

Across the Himalayan states, for instance, only around ₹52 crore was spent on environmental CSR projects in recent years, just 0.15% of the national CSR pool. Even within states like Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, funding is skewed toward the plains, leaving fragile hill regions behind. Projects like afforestation, river and spring rejuvenation, water conservation, and solid waste management must be scaled and prioritised urgently. Since I work in this field, I am aware of the inadequacies and criticality of such projects finding priority amongst the CSR funding.

**Alignment with Core Competencies:** CSR efforts resonate more when they leverage a company's inherent strengths. A technology firm supporting digital literacy, or a pharma company investing in rural healthcare delivery, ensures both impact and authenticity. It also fosters innovation, efficiency, and continuous learning through feedback from the

ground.

**Opportunity-Driven Action:** Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari, the chief guest at the CSR Times 2025 event, aptly illustrated the power of identifying latent opportunities. He cited the example of desilting old ponds and repurposing the excavated material for road construction, a solution that simultaneously tackled water scarcity and infrastructure development. Such integrative thinking should guide CSR planning.

**Community-Centric Design:** The most sustainable CSR initiatives are those rooted in community needs. They co-create solutions with local stakeholders, ensure ownership, and build social capital. CSR must shift from charity to capacity-building, empowering communities to sustain initiatives long after the funding ends.

**Impact over Optics:** While events and branding have their place, CSR should be driven by measurable, long-term outcomes—whether that's literacy rates, health metrics, or ecological restoration. Rigorous impact assessment and transparent reporting are critical to ensure that every rupee delivers real, lasting change.

**Equitable Distribution:** The current CSR landscape is disproportionately tilted. Around 75% of total CSR spending goes to three sectors: education, healthcare, and rural development. Moreover, over 60% of the funds are contributed by companies in Maharashtra and Delhi-NCR. Remote and underdeveloped regions—such as the North-East and hill districts—receive barely 3–4% of total CSR resources. This imbalance must be addressed if CSR is to serve as a truly national engine of progress. It also needs to be appreciated that

## The Panel Of Judges



### Jury Chairman



**Dr. Bhaskar Chatterjee**  
Former Director General & CEO  
Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs

### Jury Members



**Sh. Vijay Pal Rana**  
Air Marshal (Retd.)



**Smt. Pushpanjali Jha**  
Assistant Professor  
Dept. of Social Work  
Delhi University



**Sh. Ravi Shankar**  
CEO – YesWeCan Academy  
& Secretary – Indian Achievers' Forum



**Sh. K C Sreenath**  
Development  
Communication  
Consultant

the projects for the betterment of hilly regions, which provide the most forest cover and water, need better attention for the good of the environment in particular and humanity in general.

## How to Make CSR Engaging?

Even the best-designed initiatives can falter without stakeholder engagement. Making CSR engaging is not just about visibility—it's about building connection, commitment, and collaboration. Some of the steps below could help make the engagement better.

**Storytelling with Substance:** People connect with people, not pie charts. Sharing powerful stories of transformation, backed by robust data, can inspire employees, attract partners, and earn public trust.

**Collaborative Ecosystems for Convergence:** CSR cannot operate in silos. Partnerships with NGOs, governments, and peer companies allow the pooling of resources and expertise for greater collective impact.

**Technology as an Enabler:** From real-time monitoring to interactive dashboards and

AI-driven impact analytics, technology can help track progress, optimise interventions, and communicate outcomes in meaningful ways.

**Employee Engagement:** Involving employees in CSR through volunteering, ideation, and project monitoring cultivates a culture of empathy and ownership within organisations. It also sparks innovation and strengthens alignment between corporate purpose and personal values.

## From Compliance to Catalysis

CSR in India stands at a crossroads. We can continue treating it as a statutory obligation, a box to be ticked. Or we can reimagine it as a strategic lever for inclusive, sustainable growth. When infused with vision, aligned with national missions like **Viksit Bharat@2047**, and implemented with accountability, CSR becomes far more than corporate duty. It becomes a tool of transformation, one that touches lives, rebuilds ecosystems, and helps shape the India we aspire to become.

Let us all rise to that vision.

# “GAON KA PANI GAON MEI, KHET KA PANI KHET MEI, AUR GHAR KA PANI GHAR MEI”

SPEECH BY SHRI NITIN GADKARI AT THE 12TH NATIONAL CSR SUMMIT 2025

First of all, I would like to congratulate everyone on this 12th National Corporate Social Responsibility Summit. This is a law that has been very helpful in changing the socio-economic picture of our country for the past many years. It is a part and parcel of society; what we earn from our society, we should return to it, which was the basic principle of this law. We have a song called “*Chalo jalaye deep waha abhi abhi andhera hai*.” There are many sectors in our society where people are socially, economically, and educationally backwards. We can change their lives with our positive efforts. I have been working in the social sector for the past 35-40 years. Positive constructive work does not get the same amount of recognition and publicity as political activities. I remember that this work has changed the lives of many people. Even though I am the road transport minister, 80% of my work is dedicated to the rural agricultural sector. I am not a great scholar, but I have received 13 doctorates, out of which 6 are in agriculture. The region I come from in Nagpur has a different history; 10,000 farmers have committed suicide in the past few years, and the reason for the suicides is a lack of water. States like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, and Himachal Pradesh do not face this problem because the rivers have sufficient water. But the problem of insufficient water in our



Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India

region is serious. The CSR funds for water conservation have been helpful, and I have an NGO that has been working for the past 10 years. The concept is very simple: “*daudne wale pani ko chalne ke liye lagao, chalne wale pani ko rukne ke liye lagao, aur ruke hue pani ko jameen ko peene ke liye lagao*.” “*Gaon ka pani gaon mei, khet ka pani khet mei, aur ghar ka pani ghar mei*.” When I became the minister of the road ministry, we needed aggregate for building roads. We used the aggregate from ponds and irrigation dams to make roads, and we did this free of charge. I made 36 ponds at the University of Agriculture in Akola. The work through Corporate Social Responsibility holds importance in the social sector. The car,

which I use, is a Toyota Innova. It is the first car in the world that runs on 100% bio-ethanol, which is made by our farmers. I urge social-economic audit of the projects under CSR. The people who work on these projects should be graded. Grading will help in building success stories on a bigger level. The CSR holds great importance, but rural agriculture and tribal based work, especially in the field of water, land, forest and animal-based work, is more important. We need to reach the last man in society and work on his skill development, and make him independent. The CSR activities not only contribute to the socio-economic transformation in the present but also help the future.

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## WORDS FROM LEADERS

As we know, the Viksit Bharat 2047 project is not only a government project, but a national resolve. Each one of us has a role to play in making India a developed nation by 2047. This journey was started by our Hon'ble Prime Minister, and we all joined in, who showed us the path. Before 2014, we never dreamed that India would be the 3rd largest economy in the world. Today, that dream is within reach, and CSR has a pivotal role to play in achieving it. Development must be inclusive. We must focus on self-reliance and support local businesses to thrive. Our Prime Minister also emphasizes Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Women's entrepreneurship is rising, especially through initiatives like Start-up India. CSR funds can significantly empower women by supporting small businesses, which leads to both financial and social empowerment. Without the active participation of 50% of our population, we cannot realise our nation's full potential. CSR is not just a statutory responsibility but embraced voluntarily to go beyond 2%. Only through collective action can we achieve our shared dream of a Viksit Bharat.



—Smt. Rekha Sharma

Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)



I arrived one year ago and had the opportunity to witness the great success you are having and how you are thriving in this country. India is currently the fourth largest economy in the world, and is going to be the third largest economy by 2030. We are truly honoured to witness and be part of India's inspiring journey towards becoming a developed nation by 2047. India and Latin American countries, especially Argentina, have great complementarity in terms of economy. In the case of Argentina, we have 5 billion trade relationships. We are the number one provider of soybean oil here in this country, and third in terms of sunflower oil. Argentina holds vast reserves of lithium, an essential component for energy storage and electric mobility. Indian companies are already making significant investments in northern Argentina, particularly in a province called Kamara. Argentina has cooperated with India in terms of nuclear technology, and we had the opportunity to cooperate in terms of energy. The synergy between our nations offers immense potential for shared prosperity in the years ahead.

—H.E. Mr. Mariano Agustín Caucino

Ambassador of Argentina to India

Today, Rwanda is a fast-developing, transformed, stable and stronger nation. Over the past decade, Rwanda has implemented a robust and effective reform agenda aimed at improving the ease of doing business to create a favourable and competitive business environment. Rwanda has been ranked highly in a number of areas by different international entities like the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Economic Forum, Transparency International and so forth. These include, but are not limited to, Rwanda being Number 1 safest country in Africa and the sixth safest globally. It also holds the top spot in Africa for ease of doing business, according to the World Bank's 2024 Business Ready Report. Rwanda's business climate remains favourable to investments and offers stability and transparency. Indeed, we have built an environment that is very conducive. We have set the laws, the tax structures and the incentives that allow for meaningful financial centres to operate. So, dear friends, if you want to invest on the African continent, go through Rwanda.

—H.E. Ms. Jacqueline Mukangira

High Commissioner, High Commission of the Republic of Rwanda



I represent two sectors: Women and Child Development, and Art, Culture and Languages, and I am often asked, "What is the connection between the two?" I feel the real connection is the value which they bring to the human resources and the value which they bring to people's lives. The value which they bring in our minds, attitudes, beliefs, and cultural notions. In terms of art culture, I feel that it is something new. I have already brought the connection with human development, the story of human development from the 'Womb to tomb' approach. Using that life cycle approach, we realise the significance of embedding cultural values and awareness at every stage of human growth. It is not just culture restricted to the four walls of museums or auditoriums, which are meant to be preserved for only the elite; we need to draw it out of the drawing room boards.

—Dr. Rashmi Singh, IAS

Secretary Department of Women and Child Development (WCD), Government of NCT of Delhi

We in the armed forces are significantly impacted by climate change, and therefore, all proposals and projects related to climate action or reversing its effects must take center stage. My request to everyone in this field is to please prioritize your efforts toward climate resilience. So much is changing—be it erratic weather patterns, climate-induced disasters, rising seas threatening our coastal areas, or glacial lake outbursts devastating mountainous regions. We must address these challenges with urgency. For instance, one of our major ongoing initiatives is a mulberry plantation project involving nearly one lakh trees. It's focused on agroforestry, spring rejuvenation, livelihood training, and water conservation in the hilly regions of Uttarakhand. I was supposed to be on site today for its launch, but I'm here speaking instead. Projects like these reflect the kind of environmental commitment we need moving forward.

Former DG-Indian Coast Guard and Member-National Disaster Management Authority



—Shri Rajendra Singh

# 12<sup>th</sup> National CSR TIMES Awardees 2025

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (POSTHUMUS)

### Late Shri Subhash Gupta

**DIRECTOR AND CHAIRMAN- BHARAT PET LTD**

**PRESIDENT - MAHARAJAAGRASEN HOSPITAL CHARITABLE  
TRUST**

Late Shri Subhash Gupta was a distinguished industrialist, visionary philanthropist, and a revered figure in the field of social service and community leadership. Born on 5 January 1958 in Haryana, he rose from humble beginnings to become a respected entrepreneur

and humanitarian. As Chairman of Maharaja Agrasen Hospital Charitable Trust, his leadership was instrumental in establishing landmark initiatives, including a 250-bed hospital in Bahadurgarh and the groundbreaking of a state-of-the-art Cancer Wing in Punjabi Bagh. His tireless efforts mobilized over ₹100 crores in donations, reflecting his deep trust and credibility within the community. Her wife Dr Meena Subhash Gupta is here to receive the award on his behalf.

## SANSAD BHARATI SAMMAN

### Smt. Smita Wagh

**Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)**

**Government of India**

It is with great honor that we present the Sansad Bharati Samman to a truly inspiring leader — Smt. Smita Uday Wagh, Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Jalgaon. Before entering the Lok Sabha, she served as a Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Council, where she contributed significantly to public welfare and grassroots development. Today, as a first-term MP in the 17th Lok Sabha, she continues to leave a strong mark.

In her current term, she has:

- Raised over 130 parliamentary questions,
- Participated in 26 debates, and
- Introduced 2 Private Member Bills.

These achievements reflect her deep commitment to the people she represents and the causes she champions. Among first-term women MPs, she stands tall as one of the most active, impactful, and respected voices in Parliament.

We are proud to confer the Sansad Bharati Samman upon Smt. Smita Wagh, in recognition of her outstanding service to democracy, public welfare, and nation-building.



## WINNERS IN GOLD CATEGORY

**SECTOR - PSU - Central Coalfields Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Livelihoods**

**PROJECT TITLE - Integrated Community Development Project**

**PROJECT REGION - 9 panchayats in Hazaribag District, Jharkhand**

The Project aims to transform potential villages into water-positive ecosystems, promote livestock as a reliable source of livelihood, set up infrastructure using renewable energy and strengthen the resilience of farmers in times of crop failure.

**SECTOR - PSU - Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - Kashmir Super-50 Medical**

**PROJECT REGION - Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh**

The Project aims to provide a platform for underprivileged yet talented students of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh UTs by offering a 100% free residential coaching programme for NEET to enable entry into medical colleges, instilling much needed optimism and development of 'Naya' Kashmir.

**SECTOR - PSU - Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - MIDHANI Primary Health Care Center (MPHCC) Establishment**

**PROJECT REGION - Telangana**

The establishment of a state-of-the-art facility aims to provide all basic and primary health care that is nominal, accessible health services that encompass preventive,

promotive, curative, and rehabilitative care through sustained outreach, diagnostics, and chronic care.

**SECTOR - NGO - Krushi Vikas Pratishthan, Nagpur**

**CATEGORY - Rural Development & Infrastructure**

**PROJECT TITLE - Training and Empowerment of Rural Citizens Including Farmers, Youth, Women, etc.**

**PROJECT REGION - Nagpur, Amravati, Wardha, Chandrapur, Wardha, Bhandara, Akola districts of Maharashtra**

The Project aims to empower rural populations (Farmers, Youth, Women etc) and make them self-reliant and independent through training and motivation. This initiative sparks grassroots transformation by building resilience, and fostering a spirit of independence that drives long-term rural progress.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Avery Dennison (India) Pvt. Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Skill Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Skills for All: Building Inclusive Futures**

**PROJECT REGION - Ranjangaon in Pune, Maharashtra and Muradgarhi and Rabupura in Gr Noida, Uttar Pradesh**

The Project aims to foster the holistic development of adolescents, broaden opportunities for children, youth and women through Community Library and Resource Centers, and empower transgender individuals, pushing them into mainstream employment. The Jury conferred GOLD + COMMENDATION for this project owing to its systematic approach along with their implementing agencies throughout the project journey.



**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Bridgestone India Pvt. Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Environment Stewardship**

**PROJECT TITLE - Green Goal**

**PROJECT REGION - Kheda in Dhar district (Madhya Pradesh) and Chakan (Maharashtra)**

The Project aims to conserve the native species of butter-

flies and create an ecosystem for the different species like butterflies, birds, insects, etc. by creating thriving ecosystems that even within industrial zones. The Jury conferred GOLD + COMMENDATION for this remarkable initiative for its innovative approach to showcase the co-existence of rich biodiversity.

**(Second Award - SILVER)**

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Bridgestone India Pvt. Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Skill Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Sarthi**

**PROJECT REGION - Maharashtra, Haryana, Rajasthan, including others**

The project intends to create a pool of trained Commercial Vehicle drivers (HMV) across India and promote road safety. The Project Saarthi also enhances the employability of youth from marginalized sections in India and improves their quality of life.

**PROJECT REGION - Multiple cities Pan India**

Bottle For Change (BFC) is aimed at promoting responsible plastic disposal and recycling across India. This initiative raises awareness about the value of used plastic and its potential for recycling, diverting it from landfills. Bisleri has served as the official waste collection partner for the Cold Play Event at Narendra Modi Stadium, Gujarat and Maha Kumbh, Prayagraj.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Bisleri International Pvt. Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Water Conservation & Management**

**PROJECT TITLE - NAVI UMEED**

**PROJECT REGION - Arid regions of Maharashtra and Gujarat**

The Project aims to provide water security through water replenishment in the arid regions of Maharashtra and Gujarat through check dams, reservoirs, lake and rooftop harvesting, enabling farmers in the vicinity to grow multiple crops. The project simultaneously builds climate resilience and agricultural prosperity.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Aadhar Housing Finance Limited**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - AHFL CLINIC ON WHEELS**

**PROJECT REGION - 120+ Panchayats across 6 blocks of Jodhpur (Rajasthan)**

The Project aims to strengthen the public health system to provide comprehensive treatment and care to the people, especially women of the underserved population of India. The primary focus is on the early identification of diseases and timely medical intervention among women, equally helpful in reducing urogenital infections among women and improving health outcomes for women in need.

**(Second Award - SILVER)**

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Bisleri International Pvt. Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Waste Management**

**PROJECT TITLE - Bottle For Change (BFC)**

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - EPAM Systems India Pvt. Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - EPAM e-KIDS Program**

**PROJECT REGION - Telangana, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, NCR**



The Project aims to provide access to high quality technology education for children from government schools across India. The e-KIDS Program nurtures interest in technology and encourages future careers in the field, implementing and promoting India's New Education Policy

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Grasim Industries Limited, Staple Fibre Division**

**CATEGORY - Livelihoods**

**PROJECT TITLE - Sustainable Livelihoods through Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Capacity-Building**

**PROJECT REGION - Nagda Jn, Block of Khachrod in Ujjain District (M.P.)**

This 360-degree project's components include capacity building, development of community organisations, improving soil health, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), seed treatment, development of nutritional gardens, adoption of improved agricultural practices to bring about a sustainable improvement in the livelihood and socio-economic status of the beneficiaries.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE FOUNDATION - Jubilant Bhartia Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - Jubicare Healthcare Programs**

**PROJECT REGION - Multiple states Pan India**

The Project aims to extend immediate support and delivery of healthcare services to the society deprived of healthcare facilities and amplified by Pandemic COVID-19. The initiative strengthened health systems, improved maternal and child health, promoted disease prevention, and ensured long-term healthcare access.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Maruti Suzuki India Limited**

**CATEGORY - Skill Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Initiatives taken in the field of Skill Development**

**PROJECT REGION - Pan India**

The project aims to strengthen India's manufacturing sector by creating a skilled workforce through JIMs, ITI support, apprenticeships, and internship programs, fostering employability, industrial competitiveness, and long-term economic growth.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Aster DM Healthcare Limited**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - Aster Volunteers Aid**

**PROJECT REGION - 19 countries globally including 34 cities in India**

The project bridged critical healthcare gaps for underserved communities across India and the GCC by delivering medical aid, mobile services, and disaster relief, positively impacting lives through accessible, compassionate, and timely healthcare interventions.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - V A Tech Wabag Limited**

**CATEGORY - Skill Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Industry Partnership Model in Skill Development**

**PROJECT REGION - Pan India**

This Project has a unique take to building a skilled workforce in the water sector by training and employing Water Professionals while integrating young trainees into government apprenticeship programs such as NATS and NAPS, contributing to the expansion of India's engineering talent pipeline.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Karam Chand Thapar & Bros. (Coal Sales) Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Women Empowerment**

**PROJECT TITLE - Kashvi Programme**



**PROJECT REGION - Jharkhand**

Kashvi is a transformative initiative dedicated to empowering girls and women who have previously dropped out of formal education by enabling them to achieve basic literacy and complete their Grade 10 and Grade 12 through the NIOS, alongside meaningfully connecting them to vocational and livelihood pathways. Implemented by the KCT Group Trust and supported by KCT Coal Sales.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Aditya Cement Works, UltraTech Cement Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Rural & Infrastructure Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Enriching the lives of 30,000 people living in the surrounding of Plant and Mines**

**PROJECT REGION - 35 villages near Chittorgarh the South-Eastern area of Rajasthan**

The Project aims to facilitate inclusive and sustainable growth in rural areas by developing essential infrastructure under the Model Village Development Program, thereby improving the quality of life, enabling economic opportunities, and fostering holistic community well-being.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Hindalco Industries Limited, Gare Palma**

**CATEGORY - Sustainable Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Sustainable development Initiatives**

**PROJECT REGION - 9 Projects Villages of Raigarh District's Tamnar Block**

The project fosters holistic and inclusive community development by improving education, healthcare, infrastructure, sustainable livelihoods and digital access. It empowers marginalized groups through skill development and social equity initiatives, leading to enhanced quality of life, economic resilience, and greater opportunities for underserved populations.



**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Colgate Palmolive (India) Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Waste Management**

**PROJECT TITLE - Rural Waste Management Program**

**PROJECT REGION - Goa and Gujarat**

The purpose of this program has been an endeavor to foster sustainable waste management in rural India. This initiative sought to establish a robust dry waste value chain by promoting awareness of proper waste management practices, empowering Safai-karamcharis (workers at the bottom of the economic pyramid), and ensuring the segregation and environmentally sustainable disposal of dry waste, with a focus on plastic waste in particular.

**(Second Award - SILVER)**

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Colgate Palmolive (India) Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Livelihoods**

**PROJECT TITLE - Livelihoods Strengthening (Women & PwD)**

**PROJECT REGION - Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat**

This project is designed to empower women and Persons with Disabilities (PwD) by providing education and training to develop essential skill sets. The initiative aims to foster financial independence, enabling beneficiaries to better meet their daily family needs and build increased confidence.

**(Third Award - SILVER)**

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Colgate Palmolive (India) Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Water Conservation & Management**

**PROJECT TITLE - Water Access and Augmentation**

**PROJECT REGION - Amravati, Maharashtra, and Udaipur, Rajasthan**

To provide access to safe drinking water, water for sanitation, and agriculture, supporting healthier communities and sustainable water usage in rural areas of Maharashtra and Rajasthan.



**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Jindal Steel and Power (JSP)**

**CATEGORY - Sports Promotion**

**PROJECT TITLE - NOURISHING SPORTS TALENT OF RURAL & TRIBAL YOUTH**

**PROJECT REGION - Angul, Barbil, Kasia, Tensa, (Odisha), Raigarh (Chhattisgarh), and Patratu (Jharkhand)**

The project aims to empower rural and tribal youth through world-class infrastructure, inclusive training, and mentorship, enabling national and global achievements, nurturing future champions, promoting gender inclusion, and fostering social transformation through the spirit of sports.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE FOUNDATION - DLF Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Environment Stewardship**

**PROJECT TITLE - Greening Cities**

**PROJECT REGION - Haryana, Delhi, Hyderabad**

The Project aims to promote environmental stewardship and urban sustainability through the development and maintenance of eco-friendly public initiatives. The Jury conferred GOLD + COMMENDATION for its unique Eco-friendly Crematorium (Shanti Sthaan) setting a benchmark for sustainable cremation civic amenity.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE FOUNDATION - SRF Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - Rural Education Program Mewat**

**PROJECT REGION - Mewat**

The Project aims to transform education in the aspirational district of Mewat by developing model schools focused on holistic child development. Through the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) program promoting activity-based learning,

the project paves the way for a brighter future for children and the community.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE FOUNDATION - Rajanna Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Rural Development & Infrastructure**

**PROJECT TITLE - Rural Development & Infrastructure Initiatives**

**PROJECT REGION - Villages of Tirupati and Chittoor Districts**

The Project aims to enhance rural livelihoods through improved infrastructure and basic amenities, fostering sustainable community development. A pioneer in CSR long before it became a mandate, working on multiple verticals like operating CBSE schools, Primary Health Centre, Skill Development Centres, and setting up check-dams, water purifier plants, rice mills, etc.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE FOUNDATION - SBI FOUNDATION**

**CATEGORY - Other (Rural Development)**

**PROJECT TITLE - GRAM SEVA PROGRAM**

**PROJECT REGION - Nuh district of Haryana (20 villages)**

The project aims to empower rural communities through integrated development in health, education, infrastructure, and environment, fostering self-sufficiency, improved living standards, and enabling individuals to actively participate in and lead their own socio-economic transformation.

**SECTOR - NGO - Reach to Teach Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - Comprehensive Learning Transformation Program (CLTP)**

**PROJECT REGION - All 28 Districts of Arunachal Pradesh**

The core objective of CLTP is to bridge the learning gap and bring children up to grade-level learning with minimal disruption of the existing systems. The design focusses on creation of



collaterals, tools and frameworks in close consultation with all players in the system starting from the Education Department to teachers.

**SECTOR - NGO - Population Services International India**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - Diarrhoea Se Darr Nahi**

**PROJECT REGION - 7 districts in UP & 3 districts in Bihar**

The project strengthened diarrhea prevention and treatment by ensuring early detection of diarrheal cases, increasing ORS and Zinc usage, building capacity of caregivers and health workers, mobilizing communities, and fostering multi-stakeholder and private sector engagement for sustained health outcomes in children.

**SECTOR - NGO - Deep-Development Efforts For Rural Economy And People**

**CATEGORY - Women Empowerment**

**PROJECT TITLE - Women Empowerment Initiatives**

**PROJECT REGION - 29 Villages in Surat and Bharuch districts, Gujarat**

The Project aims to bring the village women together on a common platform, generate a sense of unity within village women through SHGs, skill training, and income generation, improve nutrition via kitchen gardens, enhance sanitation and hygiene, and ensure access to specialist medical care advancing holistic rural development for women.

**SECTOR - NGO - Akhil Bhartiya Gramin Uthan Samiti (ABGUS)**

**CATEGORY - Rural and Infrastructure Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - ABGUS-SBI Gram Seva Project, Haryana**

**PROJECT REGION - Nuh district of Haryana (20 villages)**

The project aims to transform target villages into thriving, self-

sufficient communities where every individual has access to essential services and opportunities for growth, by integrating various aspects of socio-economic development, educational advancement, healthcare improvement, infrastructure development and environment sustainability.

**SECTOR - NGO - Mpower - An Initiative by Aditya Birla Education Trust**

**CATEGORY - Special Categories (Armed Forces)**

**PROJECT TITLE - Project MANN**

**PROJECT REGION - Pan India 73 Airports and 235 non-airport locations**

Project Mann is a pioneering mental health initiative designed to strengthen the emotional and psychological resilience of India's frontline security forces, with a focused implementation for the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF). Recognizing the immense stress and responsibility borne by personnel deployed at critical national infrastructure sites, this project aims to proactively address their mental well-being. The Jury conferred GOLD + COMMENDATION for its innovative and empathetic approach to unique mental health needs of CISF personnel.

**SECTOR - NGO - Universal Disabled Care Taker Social Welfare Society {Regd.}; (Prabh Asara)**

**CATEGORY - Special Categories (Old Age & Specially-abled)**

**PROJECT TITLE - Rehabilitation, Education and Health care of the needy, orphan, elder, destitute and disabled citizens**

**PROJECT REGION - 22 states of India, Nigeria and Nepal.**

The project delivers compassionate care, treatment, and rehabilitation to homeless, disabled, orphaned, and destitute individuals, reuniting them with families across India, Nigeria, and Nepal, while also providing critical disaster relief in multiple regions, restoring dignity and hope to the



vulnerable. The Jury conferred GOLD+COMMENDATION for its deeply empathetic and inclusive approach to supporting disabled, orphaned, and destitute individuals.

**SECTOR - Others - NAB Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Environment Stewardship**

**PROJECT TITLE - School Soil Health Programme**

**PROJECT REGION - 517 districts including 82 aspirational districts of 33 states & UTs**

The Programme aims to improve soil health by conducting soil testing significantly enhancing the resilience and sustainability of agricultural livelihoods across 517 districts of India. The program fosters environmental stewardship by training students and teachers, reducing farmers' costs, creating a skilled, eco-conscious workforce through education-led, data-driven land management practices.

## **WINNERS IN SILVER CATEGORY**

**SECTOR - PSU - Northern Coalfields Limited, Singrauli**

**CATEGORY - Special Categories**

**PROJECT TITLE - Restoring Lives, Rebuilding Hopes**

**PROJECT REGION - Singrauli, (M.P) & Sonbhadra, (U.P)**

The project enabled inclusive rehabilitation of persons with disabilities through comprehensive rehabilitation services, assistive aids, therapy, documentation support, and livelihood opportunities—promoting inclusion, dignity, and self-reliance while integrating them into the social and economic mainstream of society.

**(Second Award)**

**SECTOR - PSU - NTPC Dadri**

**CATEGORY - Skill Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Skill Development Initiatives**

**PROJECT REGION - Gautam Buddha Nagar**

The project enhances youth employability by supporting technical education, providing residential training, and facilitating apprenticeships. It empowers self-help groups with infrastructure and entrepreneurial skills while connecting job seekers to opportunities through government-led industry partnerships.

**SECTOR - PSU - NTPC Dadri**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - Promotion of Education in nearby Villages**

**PROJECT REGION - Gautam Buddha Nagar**

The Project aims to provide infrastructure support for upliftment of existing schools, providing coaching and support through kits and bicycle distribution, empowering children with better learning environments and opportunities for a brighter future.

**SECTOR - PSU - Power Grid Corporation of India Limited**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - Establishment of 100 bedded Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at GSVM Medical College, Kanpur, U.P**

**PROJECT REGION - Kanpur and nearby 7-8 districts of Uttar Pradesh**

The Project aims to provide advanced and specialized care for critically ill children, reduce paediatric mortality by ensuring timely interventions, and support the public healthcare system with essential intensive care equipment and infrastructure.



**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Hindalco Industries Limited, Samri Mines Division**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - Ujjwal Bhavishya**

**PROJECT REGION - 9 Villages in and around Samri Bauxite Mines**

The Project aims to promote inclusive, equitable, and quality education through inclusive education, vocational training, adult literacy, enhancing school infrastructure and teacher capacity that empowers individuals, and contributes to sustainable development of the society.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - PNB Housing Finance Limited**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - Pehel Swasthya**

**PROJECT REGION - Multiple cities Pan India**

The Project aims to ensure equitable access to quality medical care and holistic well-being for all through emergency services, mobile medical units, hospital infrastructure support, and initiatives focusing on preventive healthcare, maternal and child medical support, awareness programs, and infrastructural enhancements.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Vedanta Limited, Lanjigarh**

**CATEGORY - Women Empowerment**

**PROJECT TITLE - Sakhi**

**PROJECT REGION - 80 Villages in Kalahandi and Raygada Districts, Odisha**

The project fosters women's socio-economic and political empowerment through inclusive engagement, gender-sensitive development, and decision-making. Project Sakhi promotes sustainable livelihoods by designing farm and non-farm interventions that enhance entrepreneurship, self-employability, and long-term livelihood security for women.



**SECTOR - CORPORATE - TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL)**

**CATEGORY - Women Empowerment**

**PROJECT TITLE - Samriddhi**

**PROJECT REGION - Kakarudrapur, Baliana Block in Khurda District**

Project Samriddhi is a transformative initiative aimed at inclusive rural development, with a strong focus on enhancing women's livelihoods and fostering their economic independence. The initiative aligns with the thematic interventions of TPCODL, which revolve around the 4 Es—Education, Employability & Employment, Entrepreneurship, and Essential Enablers, placing women at the center of its mission.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Noida Power Company**

**CATEGORY - Environment Stewardship**

**PROJECT TITLE - Project Sanjeevani**

**PROJECT REGION - Greater Noida**

The project aims to foster environmental sustainability, promote circular economy practices and raise community awareness through diverse interventions such as plastic waste management via Reverse Vending Machines, water conservation through Rainwater Harvesting and pond rejuvenation, eco-friendly sanitary waste disposal, recycled plastic infrastructure, afforestation and educational outreach.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE FOUNDATION - Redington Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Skill Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Centre of Logistics Training for Excellence (COLTE)**

**PROJECT REGION - While the COLTE centre is based in Chennai, it serves and trains students from across India**

The Project aims to build foundational logistics sector skills and provide them with access to high-quality, inclusive training and education through simulators, digital tools, and real-world exposure, which enable them to gain employment in the Logistics Sector.



**SECTOR - NGO- Sir Ness Wadia Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Livelihoods**

**PROJECT TITLE - Village Development Program (VDP)**

**PROJECT REGION - Palghar, Thane, Pune and Ahmednagar districts of Maharashtra**

The purpose of the Village Development Program is to reduce malnutrition in a holistic and sustainable manner by improving the overall well-being of children and their families in the intervention area. The program aims to not only provide immediate nutritional support but also strengthen agricultural productivity and rural livelihoods through farmer training, seed and livestock distribution, veterinary care, and poultry-based entrepreneurship.

**SECTOR - NGO- Deepak Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - Vivek Vidya**

**PROJECT REGION - Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Telangana**

The Project aims to improve learning competencies (literacy and numeracy) among children aged 6-15 years in alignment with New Education Policy 2020 through community-based women educators, mobile libraries, remedial sessions, and parent engagement.

**(Second Award)**

**SECTOR - NGO- Deepak Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Sustainable Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Sangaath**

**PROJECT REGION - Gujarat, Maharashtra & Haryana**

The project empowered beneficiaries by facilitating government schemes, cash benefits, insurance, and in-kind support. With strong ground-level execution, it improved access, reduced hardship, and delivered exceptional social return on investment, fostering inclusive welfare and financial resilience.



**SECTOR - NGO- Ishanya Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - Aarogyam**

**PROJECT REGION - 63 villages in Raigad, Maharashtra, 4 villages in Bharuch, Gujarat, and 62 slums from Pune, Maharashtra**

The Aarogyam Project delivers accessible healthcare through mobile clinics, diagnostics, eye care, nutrition support, and special health camps, benefiting underserved rural and urban populations by addressing critical health needs and promoting preventive care

**SECTOR - NGO- PHD Family Welfare Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Women Empowerment**

**PROJECT TITLE - Empowering Women through Skill Development Initiatives**

**PROJECT REGION - Resettlement areas and any other regions affected by national calamities across multiple cities**

The Project aims to empower women and girls by equipping them with vocational and life skills that enable them to become self-reliant, earn a sustainable livelihood, support their families, and build a sense of confidence and dignity in their personal and professional lives.

**SECTOR - NGO - Dani Sports Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Sports Promotion**

**PROJECT TITLE - Chhalaang**

**PROJECT REGION - Jharkhand, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh**

The project aims to ensure the right to play for every child and strengthen grassroots sports by integrating inclusive physical education in schools, training teachers, partnering with local NGOs, and engaging communities, promoting physical literacy across aspirational districts.



## WINNERS IN BRONZE CATEGORY

### SECTOR - PSU - Simhadri Super Thermal Power Station, NTPC Ltd.

#### CATEGORY - Education

##### PROJECT TITLE - Vidya

##### PROJECT REGION - Remote hamlets of VSR District, Andhra Pradesh

Project Vidya empowers Kondh tribal communities by providing primary education to first-generation learners through culturally rooted teaching, local educator training, and community engagement, fostering learning, identity, and sustainable transitions to formal education

### SECTOR - PSU - Power Finance Corporation Limited

#### CATEGORY - Healthcare

##### PROJECT TITLE - Setting up Research undergraduate anatomy laboratory in Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IITM)

##### PROJECT REGION - IIT Madras, Tamil Nadu

The Project aims to drive innovation and research to create cutting edge technology in the domain of healthcare, convergence of medical sciences and technology with a world class research environment, fostering research in the Medical and Technology sector is an important thrust area for IIT Madras.

### SECTOR - PSU - North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd.

#### CATEGORY - Women Empowerment

##### PROJECT TITLE - Girl Empowerment Mission (GEM) & Women's Economic Empowerment

##### PROJECT REGION - Bokuloni, Dibrugarh in Assam & Agartala in Tripura

The project fostered holistic development and empowerment through skill-based GEM workshops and entrepreneurship training for women, promoting self-reliance, creativity, digital literacy, and livelihood generation, especially among youth

and BPL women near power station communities.

### SECTOR - PSU - NLC India Limited

#### CATEGORY - Water Conservation and Management

##### PROJECT TITLE - Jal Pariyat

##### PROJECT REGION - Tittakudi Taluk of Cuddalore District in Tamil Nadu

The Project aims to enhance augmentation of water resources and manage floods, improve irrigation facilities and ground water table in Cuddalore District. It strengthened local irrigation systems, revitalized natural water flows, and contributed to long-term ecological balance and community well-being through effective water resource management.

### SECTOR - CORPORATE - Ceragem India Pvt. Ltd.

#### CATEGORY - Education

##### PROJECT TITLE - Dream School

##### PROJECT REGION - Multiple cities Pan India

The project aims to empower underprivileged schools of India under the motto " Future of Children is the future of India." The Dream School project transformed learning environments across India, by improving infrastructure, digital access, and sanitation, thereby promoting inclusive education, boosting enrollment, and empowering students through safe, joyful, and technology-enabled classrooms.

### SECTOR - CORPORATE - Kalpataru Projects International Limited

#### CATEGORY - Healthcare

##### PROJECT TITLE - Kalpa Seva Aarogya Kendra (KSAK)

##### PROJECT REGION - Gandhinagar, Gujarat and Khorpa village, Raipur, Chhattisgarh



Kalpa Seva Aarogya Kendra is established to provide access to affordable promotive, preventive, curative and diagnostic healthcare services to the marginalized communities. The project delivers specialist-led healthcare through state-of-the-art centers and mobile outreach, bridging critical infrastructure gaps, and providing essential diagnostics.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Aditya Alumina Refinery, Kansariguda**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - Integrated Health Services**

**PROJECT REGION - Around 50 villages of Aditya Aluminium, Kansariguda**

The project ensures accessible and integrated healthcare for underserved communities through village dispensaries, mobile health units, and 24x7 ambulance services, delivering primary care, emergency response, and doorstep medical support to remote and project-affected villages.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Muthoot Finance Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - NCD Education and Screening Programme**

**PROJECT REGION - 100 villages in the Lamtaput Block**

The project aims to enhance health outcomes among tribal and rural populations by promoting awareness, early detection, and timely management of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) through community-led education and screening across 100 villages.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Tata BlueScope Steel Pvt. Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Skill Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Nipun**

**PROJECT REGION - Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Haryana**

The project aims to empower marginalized youth and women

through job-oriented skill training in construction, manufacturing, nursing, and ITI trades, implemented with Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC), and PAN IIT Alumni Research Foundation of India (PARFI), ensuring industry-relevant placements, enhanced livelihoods, and inclusive economic growth.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Bharat Forge Ltd.**

**CATEGORY - Skill Development**

**PROJECT TITLE - Skill Development Initiatives**

**PROJECT REGION - Baramati & Pune from Maharashtra**

Giving back to society is embedded in the DNA of Bharat Forge Ltd. The project aims to bridge the industry-academia gap through advanced training in future-tech domains like IoT, AI, and robotics, enabling students to gain practical exposure in cutting-edge technologies and supporting their employability.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - Petronet LNG limited**

**CATEGORY - Swachh Bharat**

**PROJECT TITLE - Swacchta Pakhwada and Swacchta Hi Seva campaigns**

**PROJECT REGION - Delhi, Dahej and Kochi**

The project aims to promoting and sustaining cleanliness and hygiene practices across various sectors of society ensuring a cleaner, healthier environment through cleanliness drives, plantation drives, health awareness camps etc.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - The Mathrubhumi Printing & Publishing Company Ltd**

**CATEGORY - Environment Stewardship**

**PROJECT TITLE - Love plastic 2.0**

**PROJECT REGION - Kerala**

The project aims to provide a platform for the young students



to be a part of a green initiative to create awareness among the student communities and protect our mother nature by reducing the plastic pollution.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - The Tata Power Company Ltd, Jojobera division**

**CATEGORY - Other (Empowering for Inclusion)**

**PROJECT TITLE - Adhikar Program**

**PROJECT REGION - East Singhbhum**

The project empowered tribal populations in East Singhbhum by improving access to government welfare schemes and establishing functional and financial Literacy Centers, bridge the gap between remote, underserved communities, and enabling greater socio-economic inclusion.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - ICICI LOMBARD**

**CATEGORY - Other (Employee Volunteering)**

**PROJECT TITLE - Caring Hands**

**PROJECT REGION - Across Country**

Caring Hands is a 100% employee volunteering initiative empowering employees to conduct nationwide eye camps, screening and distributing spectacles to underprivileged children, significantly improving vision, academic focus, and confidence among students.

**SECTOR - CORPORATE FOUNDATION - Epsilon Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Livelihoods**

**PROJECT TITLE - Aequo Galerie – Empowering Artisan Livelihoods through Market Access**

**PROJECT REGION - Mumbai, Alibag (Maharashtra), Jaipur (Rajasthan), Bangalore and Bidar (Karnataka), Kondagaon (Chhattisgarh)**

The project aims to create sustainable and dignified livelihoods for Indian artisans by equipping them with the skills,

resources, and market platforms necessary to thrive in the evolving global design economy.

**SECTOR - NGO - Child Help Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - Digital Skills Programme in Schools**

**PROJECT REGION - Palghar in Maharashtra, Sheikhpura in Bihar, Silvassa in DDN, and Goa**

The project empowers students through inclusive access to advanced digital tools and skills, fosters real-world tech readiness, promotes public-private collaboration, and integrates 21st-century competencies into life skills, enhancing academic success and future career opportunities for all learners.

**SECTOR - NGO - Peepul**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - Mentor Teacher Professional Development (MTPD) Programme**

**PROJECT REGION - Delhi**

The project aims to strengthen foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN) outcomes in MCD schools by building a robust cadre of academic mentor teachers who can effectively coach and support primary grade teachers.

**SECTOR - NGO - Centre for Social Responsibility and Leadership**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - HPCL Super 50, Mumbai**

**PROJECT REGION - Mumbai, Maharashtra**

The project offers 11 months of free residential mentoring to underprivileged students in Mumbai, fostering academic growth, life skills, and holistic development, thereby empowering them to break the cycle of poverty and pursue higher education and meaningful careers.



**(Second Award - BRONZE)**

**SECTOR - NGO - Centre for Social Responsibility and Leadership**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - RailTel Akansha Super 30, Dehradun**

**PROJECT REGION - Uttarakhand**

The project offers 11 months of free residential mentoring to underprivileged students in Dehradun, enabling equitable access to quality education, fostering academic excellence, and supporting them with the guidance and stability, to leverage their future opportunities.

**SECTOR - NGO - Ennable Social Innovation Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - Holistic Model School Transformation Project**

**PROJECT REGION - Jalindar Nagar, Taluka Khed, Pune District, Maharashtra**

The project aims for sustainable school transformation by empowering inspired teachers who carry both vision and rooted commitment. Ennable identified and partnered with a deeply committed government school-teacher, Ware Sir, who had begun sowing seeds of change, to uplift school ecosystems.

**SECTOR - NGO - LEPRA Society**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - Jagruti**

**PROJECT REGION - Kalyanpur Block of Samastipur district, Bihar**

The project aims to reduce the risk and negative impact of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) Leprosy & Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) through women-led initiatives for WASH behavior change and NTD prevention and care among vulnerable communities in 130 villages of Samastipur district, Bihar.

**SECTOR - NGO - Biocon Foundation**

**CATEGORY - Healthcare**

**PROJECT TITLE - Oral Cancer Control Program using Mobile Health (mHealth)**

**PROJECT REGION - Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, Punjab, Nagaland, and Assam**

Biocon Foundation has aptly identified the reason for the poor outcome of oral cancer treatment, and designed a mobile health (mHealth) approach for mass, cost-effective screening in rural areas, while advancing AI-enabled point-of-care research to bridge gaps in early diagnosis and specialist availability.

**SECTOR - NGO - The Desai Foundation Trust**

**CATEGORY - Women Empowerment**

**PROJECT TITLE - Asani Sanitary Napkin Program - By Women, For Women**

**PROJECT REGION - 8 States including 3765 villages.**

The project aims to address period poverty by providing affordable, biodegradable sanitary napkins and comprehensive menstrual health education in underserved communities. By fostering awareness, the program dismantles menstrual stigma and promotes health equity.

**SECTOR - MSME - Auto Ignition Limited**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - Strengthening the Roots: Cultivating Quality Education by Strengthening Ecosystem**

**PROJECT REGION - Pan India**

The project aims to improve infrastructure and learning environment in rural government schools and support higher education for meritorious girls from underprivileged backgrounds through access to higher education, foundational learning, and skill development for long-term academic and personal growth.



**SECTOR - Others - HLL Management Academy**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - DHRUVA - Life Skill Education for Tribal Adolescents**

**PROJECT REGION - Noolpuzha and Thirunelly in Wayanad District, Kerala**

The project aims to foster resilience & well-being among adolescents in the tribal communities of Noolpuzha and Thirunelly in Wayanad District.

**(Second Award)**

**SECTOR - Others - HLL Management Academy**

**CATEGORY - Swachh Bharat**

**PROJECT TITLE - THINKAL - Awareness Creation and Distribution of Menstrual Cups**

**PROJECT REGION -**

The project promotes sustainable menstrual hygiene through awareness conducted by medical professionals, training

SHGs, and free distribution of reusable menstrual cups. Project Thinkal intimates menstruating individuals of health hazards of conventional products empowering women with safer, eco-friendly alternatives.

**SECTOR - Others (Institute) - IIHMR University**

**CATEGORY - Livelihoods**

**PROJECT TITLE - Restoring Livelihoods Through Water Productivity Enhancement Programme**

**PROJECT REGION - Dang Region, Karauli, Rajasthan**

The project aims to improve water productivity, agricultural yield, and livelihoods through effective Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) structures, while fostering community participation, and promoting gender and social inclusion, mitigating challenges in agriculture and livestock rearing due to harsh environmental conditions of this region.

### WINNERS IN SPECIAL MENTION CATEGORY

**SECTOR - CORPORATE - TELUS Digital India**

**CATEGORY - Education**

**PROJECT TITLE - TELUS Days of Giving**

**PROJECT REGION - Uttar Pradesh**

The project aims to enhance educational infrastructure, improve digital literacy, and provide skill development opportunities for underserved communities. The initiative seeks to create lasting impact by empowering students, youth, and women through targeted educational programs and community engagement.

**SECTOR - MSME - Arthimpact Digital Loans Private Limited**

**CATEGORY - Livelihoods**

**PROJECT TITLE - Micro Entrepreneur Development Program**

**PROJECT REGION - Lucknow, Ayodhya, Raebareilly**

The MEDP project aims to empower women from SHGs across

Uttar Pradesh by equipping them with aligned skills, entrepreneurial training, credit access, and market linkages, enabling them to establish micro-enterprises, generate income, and overcome poverty and hunger.

**Award Category - CSR PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR**

**Shashi Arora, CEO - Nand Ghar**, a flagship initiative of the Anil Agarwal Foundation, the social impact arm of Vedanta Shashi Arora is a business leader with over 35 years of experience across industries including consumer durables, FMCG, telecom, banking, media & entertainment, and now, social impact. At Nand Ghar, Shashi leads a transformative effort to empower women and children through modernized anganwadis delivering integrated services in child health & nutrition, early childhood education, and women skilling.



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# Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

## ONE WHO WALKS THE PATH OF SERVICE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS IS IMMORTAL

A Heartfelt Tribute to Late Shri Subhash Gupta

**L**ate Shri Subhash Gupta lived his life in unwavering service, humility, and devotion to the greater good. Though he left his mortal body on 24 November 2024, his soul, mission, and legacy remain immortal, a guiding light for all who strive for selfless service.

A deeply respected public servant and social worker, Shri Subhash Gupta dedicated his life to humanitarian causes. Whether it was healthcare, education, community upliftment, or spiritual pursuits, he remained at the forefront, quietly and persistently working to improve lives. His actions always reflected his firm belief: that service must never be tied to personal gain.

Among his many contributions, his role in nurturing and advancing *Maharaja Agrasen Hospital, Punjabi Bagh*, stands out. As a long-serving member of its board, he championed the belief that hospitals should serve humanity, not profits. Under his guidance, the hospital grew



Late Sh Subhash Gupta

into a symbol of affordable and ethical care, never turning away anyone in need.

Born on 5 January 1958 into a family rooted in values and social consciousness, Shri Gupta followed in the footsteps of his father Late Shri Ram Prasad Gupta and grandfather Shri Ghamandi Lal Gupta — both of whom had also served society in various capacities. His journey into social service formally began in 1982, when he joined the Arya Samaj and committed himself to causes such as cow protection, girls' education, environmental awareness, and the promotion of

Vedic ideals.

A spiritual soul with a firm moral compass, he believed in *karma yoga*, the path of selfless action. His calm demeanor, unwavering principles, and radiant smile made him both loved and respected. His contributions spanned a wide array of activities, from organizing free medical camps and distributing food to initiating scholarship programs and guiding youth.

- He held esteemed positions in numerous organizations including:
- Director, Maharaja Agrasen Hospital
- Active leader in Arya Pratinidhi Sabha and Bharat Vikas Parishad
- Chairman and trustee of several educational and charitable institutions

Even during his final days, he continued to participate in community events and remained deeply involved in hospital administration, undeterred by personal health challenges.

Late Shri Subhash Gupta's life was a symphony of service, simplicity, and spiritual conviction. Though he is no longer physically present, his values, work, and spirit will continue to inspire future generations. CSR Times bestowed upon him a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 12th National CSR Summit to honour his commitment to the countless lives he touched.



# ONGC

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Scope-1 and Scope-2

We are **ENERGY** Now and Next





# Sansad Bharati Samman

## SMT. SMITA UDAY WAGH

Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)

**S**mt. Smita Uday Wagh, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from Jalgaon, standing as a prominent figure in Maharashtra's political landscape, was recently conferred with the prestigious *Sansad Bharati Samman* at the 12th National CSR Summit. Born in Andarsul, Yeola Taluka of Nashik district, and raised in Jalgaon, where her early exposure to public life and social service took root. Hailing from a family deeply committed to grassroots leadership, with her father having served as President of the Panchayat Samiti in Yeola and her father-in-law as Sarpanch of Dangar Bk., she naturally imbibed the values of community service and leadership from a young age.

Alongside her social commitment, she also carved a niche in entrepreneurship, successfully managing a printing press in Jalgaon, which earned her the Businesswoman of the District award. Her university years from 1985 to 1990 were particularly transformative. As a student leader of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), she developed a strong ideological foundation and sharpened her leadership, public speaking, and organizational skills. One of her most notable contributions during this period was her role in the movement for a separate university in North Maharashtra, a campaign that culminated in the establishment of **Kavayitri Bahinabai Chaudhari North Maharashtra University**. Despite facing bureaucratic hurdles, limited political



support, and the challenge of unifying students from varied backgrounds, the movement succeeded symbolizing collective student resolve and regional aspiration.

Being raised in an environment where public service was a way of life, community welfare had already begun shaping her worldview, and post her marriage to Late Shri Uday Bhikanrao Wagh of Dangar Bk., Amalner Taluka, her political journey gained further direction and strength. Her political career formally began in 1992 when she joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), inspired by the nationalist and service-oriented ideals. She rose through the ranks to become the **first woman President of the Jalgaon Zilla Parishad (2009–2012)**, where her focus areas included strengthening rural infrastructure, improving sanitation and education, and advancing women's empowerment. One of the initiatives was the launch of capacity-building programs for elected women Sarpanches and local representatives.

In Parliament, Smt. Wagh has consistently demonstrated exceptional dedication, maintaining the sacred responsibility entrusted by the people to be their voice at the national level. This sense of duty drives her consistent high attendance, active participation in debates, and the introduction of Private Member's Bills. Leveraging the MPLAD scheme, she has driven impactful development across sectors such as irrigation, rural roads, healthcare, school infrastructure, and support for women's self-help groups.

A staunch advocate for women's representation in politics, she continues to mentor emerging women leaders through the BJP Mahila Morcha focusing on policy awareness, grassroots-level training, and building mentorship and support networks for emerging women leaders.

In 2025, she was honoured with the Sansad Ratna Award, a recognition of her exemplary performance and deep-rooted public engagement, that reinforces active participation, and being a true voice for the people in Parliament, raising the bar for what it means to be a truly people-centric representative.





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(supported 62 GW RE Installed capacity)



Shashi Arora, CEO - Nand Ghar

# CSR PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR



**Y**our journey spans top-tier roles in sectors like telecom, FMCG, and now social impact. What inspired your transition from corporate leadership to leading an initiative like Nand Ghar?

After spending over three decades in the corporate world, leading businesses across telecom, FMCG and Consumer Durables, I reached a point where I wanted my work to contribute more directly to societal development & progress. The opportunity to lead Nand Ghar, Vedanta's flagship social impact initiative, was deeply aligned with that objective. Nand Ghar is not just a social impact program; it is a movement to transform the Anganwadi ecosystem, nurture young children and empower women across India. The scale of impact and the vision of building a stronger, healthier and a self-reliant nation inspired me to make this transition from leading businesses to running a non-profit initiative. It has been an immensely fulfilling journey so far and I am learning to apply my corporate / management learnings to creating sustainable models for grassroots change. In many ways, it is path to sustainable leadership!

**More than 8,500 Nand Ghars have been established across India. Is there an unexpected factor towards the success of the project?**

One unexpected factor has been the immense ownership shown by local communities. While we had anticipated operational challenges in remote regions, what surprised us was how quickly Nand Ghar became a part of the community's identity in the hinterland. From village sarpanches to mothers, Anganwadi workers to local youth, people from all walks of life have joined in as stakeholders and champions. Their belief and support for the program has accelerated adoption, usage, and helped us in co-creating solutions that are local yet scalable. Another factor that one must hasten to point out is the support of the government & the department of WCD both at the state level and at the Central level. Without their involvement and co-ownership, it would not have been possible to scale up this project.

**Nand Ghar integrates early childhood education, health, nutrition, and women's empowerment. How do you ensure this holistic model remains accessible and adaptable across India's diverse landscape?**

We have built Nand Ghar on the principles of partnership, scalability, convergence, and sustainability. The backbone is a uniform template for all regions and a common digital platform that tracks child development, health services, and women engagement. But the strength of the model lies in customising delivery where required—be it millet-based nutrition bars distribution in Uttar Pradesh or vernacular storytelling in Odisha. We work closely with state governments and WCD departments to ensure alignment with local policies, and we invest in capacity building for on-ground teams as well as the Anganwadi workers. Our approach respects local cultures and requirements while ensuring every Nand Ghar adheres to the same core standard of care & empowerment.

**How has your experience in the corporate world, especially with brands like Airtel, Blue Star, and Hindustan Unilever, shaped your approach while working on the Nand Ghar project?**

My corporate experience taught me the value of execution excellence, consumer centricity, and scalable innovation. The backbone of management principles remains the common thread across all businesses. Whether it was building telecom networks or rolling out new products in rural India, or

indeed launching high-impact campaigns, I have learned that business growth must go together with sustainability. At Nand Ghar, I have tried to bring in the same executive rigor, setting measurable goals, using data for decision-making, and creating systems that are built to last. But more importantly, I have also learned to listen more closely, to frontline workers, to beneficiaries. Because true transformation is people-led.

**Over the years, Vedanta has established itself as a leading global natural resources and technology conglomerate. What are the long-term goals of Vedanta, specifically through the Anil Agrawal Foundation, to extend support towards vulnerable communities and facilitate social impact?**

Vedanta, through the Anil Agarwal Foundation, is committed to nation-building in the truest sense. Our long-term goal is to benefit 7 crore children and 2 crore women through programs that address health, nutrition, education, skilling, and livelihood. The foundation derives its vision and sustenance power from the Chairman, Mr. Anil Agarwal. Nand Ghar is one such part of this larger vision, which is specifically aimed at eradicating child malnutrition and generating economic opportunities for women. The idea is to bridge the development divide and help rural India thrive with dignity and opportunity.

**Sustainability has become central to the functioning of organisations.**

**How do you see the role of large conglomerates like Vedanta evolving in terms of environmental and social responsibility?**

Today, purpose is not just an add-on, it is a core expectation from every Corporate. At Vedanta, we see sustainability not just in environmental terms, but also in the intergenerational impact of our work. Our operations are becoming greener through renewable energy, water stewardship, and circular economy practices. On the social side, we are investing in long-term human capital development, particularly among underserved communities. The Corporate sector needs to lead by example, embedding ESG into its business strategy and seeing social impact not as an add-on, but as sustainable, ever-lasting legacy.

**Women's empowerment is a core pillar of Nand Ghar. Could you share specific stories that reflect the real-world impact of the project?**

There are thousands of stories that inspire us daily. One that stands out is Anupriya, a Nand Ghar beneficiary from Himachal Pradesh. She, along with the women in her community established a community kitchen, developing a sustainable livelihood model for them. Or Rajni Rathore from Rajasthan, who has become a beacon of hope for the women in her community, leading them into starting their own SHG for making decorative items. These stories are not just anecdotes, they are proof that when women are empowered, entire communities move forward.

# GLIMPSES FROM THE 12TH NATIONAL CSR



# SUMIT AND CSR TIMES AWARDS 2025

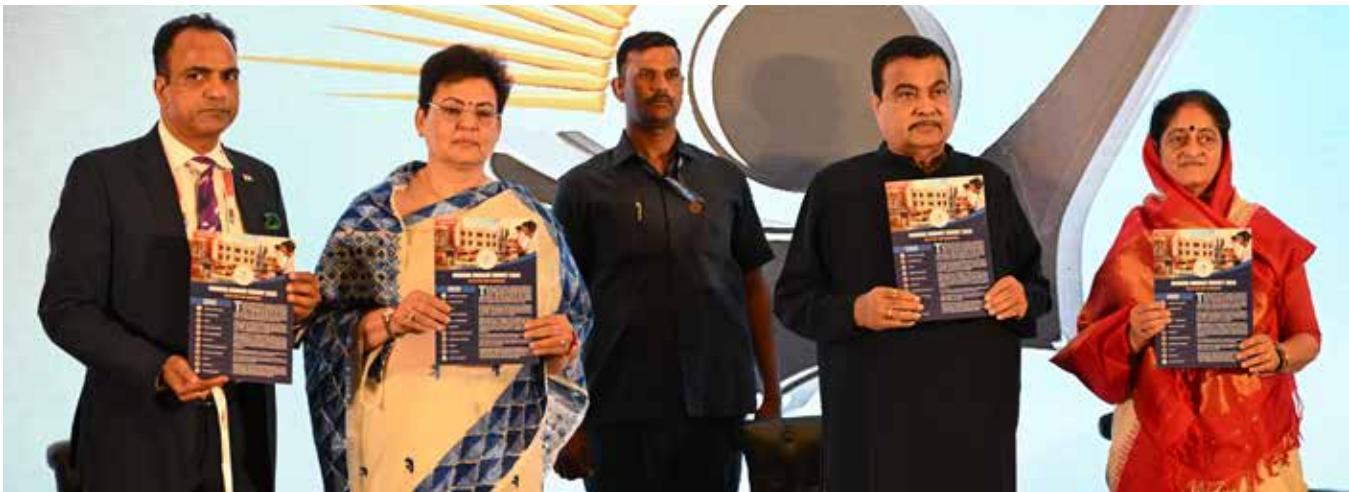
CSR TIMES  
SUMMIT





# SHIKSHA BHARATI SURVEY PROJECT UNVEILED

By Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways



Shri Nitin Gadkari and Smt Rekha Sharma unveiling the Shiksha Bharati Survey project.

The 12th National CSR Summit, hosted by *CSR Times* at Le Méridien, New Delhi, on 15th July, brought together key stakeholders from across the country to deliberate on the theme "*The Role of CSR in Mission Viksit Bharat by 2047*".

The Summit, powered by State Bank of India, brought together over 400 delegates including business leaders, CSR professionals, and numerous award winners from across India, while over 2,000 participants joined via live streaming. This event is set in accordance with the goals of *Viksit Bharat by 2047* set by our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi as the nation positions itself as a voice for the Global South and a key partner to developing countries worldwide.

The chief guest of the event was **Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport and Highway Shri Nitin**

**Jairam Gadkari.** The event was also graced by several distinguished dignitaries, including the **Smt. Rekha Sharma, Member of Parliament (RS)**, **Smt. Smita Wagh, Member of Parliament (LS)** among many others.

A notable highlight of the event was the launch of the Shiksha Bharati Survey project, an initiative by *CSR Times*. The Survey brochure was presented by **Mr. Harish Chandra**, Publisher & Managing Editor, *CSR Times*, to the dignitaries, following which Shri Gadkari and Smt. Sharma officially unveiled the initiative.

**Sh. Ravi Shankar** in his project overview, emphasized the need for a comprehensive school evaluation, designed to recognize and honour schools and other educational institutes working diligently to provide quality education to our highest population of young minds. The ini-

tiative draws attention to the theme - "*To ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all, promoting lifelong learning opportunities.*"

The **Shiksha Bharati Survey** (<https://www.shiksha-bharati.com/>) is aimed at assessing educational institutions across 11 vital parameters - academic excellence, infrastructure, sports, creative expression, digital integration, inclusivity, environment sensitivity, community outreach, faculty, leadership, and risk management, thereby fostering a brighter future for education in India. By spotlighting exemplary practices, the initiative seeks to inspire progress and elevate the standards of education nationwide. The overall atmosphere was one of enthusiasm and hope, reflecting a collective commitment to impactful social responsibility initiatives.



# विद्युत उत्पादन से राष्ट्र का सशक्तिकरण



हमारा साझा विजन

2040 तक **50000** मेगावाट

2030 तक **25000** मेगावाट

घरों, उद्योगों एवं अर्थव्यवस्थाओं के लिए स्वच्छ,  
विश्वसनीय एवं स्थाई ऊर्जा प्रदान करने में अग्रणी

एक सतत एवं समावेशी भविष्य के लिए हमसे जुड़ें।  
आइए मिलकर प्राकृतिक ऊर्जा को अपनाएं, नवाचार को आगे बढ़ाएं  
और एक उज्ज्वल, हरित भविष्य का निर्माण करें।

पंजीकृत कार्यालय : शक्ति सदन, कारपोरेट ऑफिस काम्पलैक्स,  
शनान, शिमला-171006, हिमाचल प्रदेश (भारत)

सम्पर्क कार्यालय : ऑफिस लाक, टॉवर-1, 6वीं मंजिल,  
एनबीसीसी कॉम्पलैक्स, ईस्ट किंडवर्ड नगर, नई दिल्ली-110023

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(भारत सरकार एवं हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार का संयुक्त उपक्रम)

**‘एक नवरल सीपीएसई’**

# Mission Viksit Bharat

# SBI'S CSR BLUEPRINT

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in India has blossomed from a charitable afterthought into a transformative pillar of national development. No longer confined to donations or token gestures, CSR today serves as a bridge between economic prosperity and social equity. It empowers corporations to become co-architects in building a more inclusive, sustainable, and resilient India. At the forefront of this journey stands the State Bank of India (SBI), the nation's largest public sector bank, whose deeply embedded CSR philosophy aligns seamlessly with India's vision for Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Viksit Bharat 2047 is not merely a destination - it is a clarion call to reimagine India as a fully developed nation by the centenary celebration of the independence. It envisions a country where every citizen - be it the poor (Garib), youth (Yuva), farmer (Annadata), or woman (Naari) - has a stake in and access to progress. SBI's CSR blueprint is in perfect harmony with this vision, reaching far beyond financial aid to nurture enduring, community-driven ecosystems across education, healthcare, sustainability, financial inclusion, and livelihood generation.

SBI pioneered Corporate Social Responsibility as 'Innovative Banking' nearly five decades ago, embedding the idea of social good as one of its core institutional principle. Over the years, this pioneering spirit has evolved into a strategic and deeply rooted commit-

ment to national development. "At SBI, our commitment extends beyond financial contributions, focusing on creating sustainable and responsive community support systems. The CSR activities of SBI aims to integrate economic, environmental, and social objectives to support national priorities such as education, green environment, Healthcare and sanitation, livelihood, rural and slum area development, skill development; empowerment of women,

sanitation, and empowerment.

Among the most vital engines propelling India toward Viksit Bharat is skill development. It empowers individuals - especially youth and women - to meaningfully engage in the economy. By equipping citizens with vocational and entrepreneurial tools, India paves the way for innovation, employment generation, and sustainable self-reliance. Recognising this, SBI has made skill development a cornerstone of its CSR vision. The Bank operates 153 Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) in 29 states and union territories, offering free, high-quality vocational training to rural youth. In FY2025 alone, Rs 21.34 crore was dedicated to strengthening these institutes. A particularly inspiring initiative was launched on Republic Day: a women-exclusive training drive across all RSETIs that empowered 5,200 women with the skills to reshape their futures.

Women empowerment, a force multiplier of progress, pulses at the heart of SBI's social mission. A nation flourishes when its women rise and be an active participant in its growth journey. SBI advances this belief through initiatives such as SBI Asmita, Swayam Siddha Saral, and Nari Shakti. These schemes provide credit, skills, and confidence to women entrepreneurs, particularly those in Self Help Groups under the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM). Under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative, SBI has so far allocated over Rs 10 crore to promote girl child education and welfare,



youth and senior citizens, thereby making a significant positive impact on millions of lives throughout the country", said Shri Challa Sreenivasulu Setty, Chairman of SBI in his message in bank's Sustainability Report for FY25.

SBI's CSR efforts in FY 2024-25 are marked by their scale and strategic focus. The Bank allocated Rs 610.77 crore to CSR activities, benefiting more than 65 lakh individuals across the country. These initiatives were implemented through both direct efforts and the SBI Foundation - the Bank's CSR arm - which funded 180 out of 339 CSR projects across 94 Aspirational Districts, with a total value of Rs 485.83 crore. These districts, identified by the government as requiring targeted development, benefited from contributions in critical areas such as health, education,

covering over 2,100 institutions and catering the students with critical facilities by constructing girls' toilets and distributing cycles to help them march seamlessly on their educational journey.

SBI's CSR canvas also vividly illustrates inclusion. To uplift differently-abled citizens, the Bank joined hands with the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), Kanpur, pledging Rs 10 crore for assistive devices - ranging from wheelchairs to hearing aids - to 9,000 beneficiaries across 20 cities. This culminated in a landmark national distribution event The International Day of Persons with Disabilities with SBI's Chairman personally leading the gesture of dignity and care.

Environmental sustainability is another principle woven deeply into SBI's ethos. In FY2025, the Bank planted more than 16.21 lakh trees and partnered with Isha Outreach for the Cauvery Calling initiative, facilitating an additional 9 lakh plantations across Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. These efforts replenished ecosystems while boosting local livelihoods. In its internal operations as well, SBI is implementing green initiatives with strategic intent. As of March 31 2025, the bank has installed 4,534 solar rooftops with a capacity of more than 31 MW, has built 542 rainwater harvesting systems, and earned IGBC green certifications for 61 buildings. With a goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030, the Bank is leading by example.

Beyond its walls, SBI cultivates green consciousness among employees through plastic-free zones, ESG workshops, and Green Clubs, igniting a culture of environmental responsibility that echoes through every branch.

However, if India has to walk steadily

on its growth path on a consistent basis, then education must make the bedrock of our growth towards being the Viksit Bharat by 2047. Education empowers individuals with knowledge, critical thinking, and the skills needed for innovation and nation-building and helps them drive productivity and foster informed & inclusive participation in the economy. Our education sector is rising steadily over the years yet foundational challenges persist with literacy, numeracy, teacher training, and tertiary enrolment lagging behind UNESCO's SDG-4 target. Here, the role of CSR becomes extremely critical as through providing contribution to infrastructure, scholarships, digital classrooms, teacher training, and community-led learning models, it can actively play a part in bridging gaps in our nation's educational landscape.

Understanding the imperative of educational transformation, the State Bank of India pledged Rs 55.38 cr in educational initiatives benefitting over 23 lakh students. From installing digital classrooms in 46 government schools in Odisha and 80 Smart Digital Boards in Rajasthan, to setting up an AI-ready Hi-tech Computer Lab at IIIT Bhopal, the Bank is bridging the digital divide. Initiatives like mobile libraries and solar systems in Madhya Pradesh, and laptops for underprivileged SC/ST students in Jaipur and Bhopal, further reinforced SBI's inclusive vision. In rural Telangana, it empowered students with a science lab, books, and a digital library. Each initiative is a promise - of hope, equality, and opportunity - echoing SBI's belief that quality education is the cornerstone of a truly Viksit Bharat.

Financial inclusion also remains another powerful vector of SBI's CSR

approach. With an extensive network of Business Correspondents and Customer Service Points (CSPs), the Bank has enabled over 151 million PMJDY accounts and handles around 3.2 million transactions daily. These CSPs act as micro-banks, offering 33 essential services, including cash withdrawals, insurance, and pension enrollments - bringing financial dignity to even the most remote corners of India.

Complementing this, SBI's green finance initiatives underscore its belief that environmental and economic futures are intertwined. The bank financed Rs 76,736 crore in renewable energy in FY2025 and has committed to ensuring 7.5% of its gross domestic advances to be green by 2030 - a pledge both visionary and vital.

This multifaceted impact through CSR activities has earned SBI numerous accolades such as, CSR Journal Excellence Awards, Navbharat CSR Awards, ASSOCHAM Menstrual Hygiene Excellence Award, and BW Disrupt Social Impact Leaders Award, among others - serving as testaments to a legacy of trust and impact. "Through our CSR initiatives, we remain committed in balancing economic growth with environmental stewardship and social progress, directly supporting our national development goals", stated Chairman CS Setty in his annual message.

As India moves towards the centenary year of its independence, SBI walks together with the nation in the journey of its overall growth and welfare and towards achieving the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047. Through its vast and strategic CSR initiatives, the bank is sculpting a future where economic growth harmonises with equity, ecology, and empowerment. In doing so, SBI is both supporting and composing the anthem of the nation's dream of a Viksit Bharat.



THDC High School, Tehri

# CONTRIBUTION OF THDCIL TOWARDS CSR: BUILDING A SASHAKT BHARAT

THDC India Limited (THDCIL), is a leading Power Sector and Profit-making sector enterprise and registered as a Public Limited Company in July 1988 under the Companies Act, 1956. The Equity of the Company is shared between the NTPC and the Government of Uttar Pradesh. Presently, THDCIL has a portfolio of 09 projects in Hydro, Thermal, Wind and Solar. THDCIL, through its philanthropic arm SEWA-THDC (a registered society) has consistently demonstrated its commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) by promoting inclusive growth and sustainable development.

## Core of THDCIL CSR Policy

The CSR policy of THDCIL is built



EV charging Station in Rishikesh

on the principles of equity, inclusion, and sustainability, aligning seamlessly with the company's vision of fostering community empowerment while

addressing environmental challenges. Under the broad umbrella of 'THDC Sahridaya' (Corporate with a Human Heart), THDCIL's CSR initiatives are

thoughtfully categorized into distinct focus areas, each addressing critical societal needs and promoting long-term sustainability.

The core focus areas of THDCIL's CSR programs include:

- i. THDCNiramaya (Health) - Nutrition, Health and Sanitation and Drinking Water projects
- ii. THDC Jagriti (Initiatives for a Bright future) - Education initiatives
- iii. THDC Daksh (Skill) - Livelihood Generation and Skill development initiatives
- iv. THDC Utthan (Progress) - Rural Development
- v. THDC Samarth (Empowerment) - Empowerment initiatives
- vi. THDC Saksham (Capable) - Care of the aged and differently abled
- vii. THDC Prakriti (Environment) - Environment protection initiatives
- viii. THDC Virasat (Culture) - Art & Culture protection & promotion initiatives.
- ix. THDC Krida (Sports) - Sports promotion initiatives

**THDCNIRAMAYA:** THDCIL has been running an allopathic dispensary in Tehri since 2014, and served over 8 lakh OPDs, with modern facilities such as a minor operation theatre, pathology lab, ECG, X-ray, on-call ambulance, and free medicines. It is significantly improving healthcare access. THDCIL previously run similar multiple homeopathic dispensaries, offering free consultations and medicines, providing a lifeline to underprivileged people. Apart from the dispensary, THDCIL has provided various medi-



Beneficiaries of Tailoring Training Program, at Tehri

cal equipment's such as Health ATM Machines for rural areas, which is in itself a modern health technology serving people and giving result instantly where pathology lab is situated at far flung. Moreover, The company has conducted 207 multi-specialty health camps, benefiting 34,287 individuals and restoring vision through 2,127 cataract surgeries.

Additionally, THDCIL periodically provides essential medical equipment to health institutions, including MRI Testing Unit, PRP machines, gynaecological chairs, wheelchairs, Zeiss Microscope Model:(OPML) Lumera 700 system and ELISA testing kits.

The Telemedicine Project in Tehri, with 40 centers linked to AIIMS Rishikesh, earned national recognition from Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and won the

E-Governance Award in 2019.

#### **Innovative Water Solutions:**

Procured 15 'Meghdhoot' atmospheric water generators for Government schools, addressing drinking water scarcity. Moreover, under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan initiative, THDCIL constructed 2,069 school toilets to promote hygiene and sanitation among students in Uttarakhand.

#### **THDCJAGRITI: THDC Institute of Hydro Power Engineering and Technology (THDC-IHET):**

The company established the THDC Institute of Hydro Power Engineering and Technology (THDC-IHET) at Tehri with an investment of ₹60 crore. It runs three schools serving over 900 underprivileged students. The company has enhanced infrastructure in government schools by providing fur-



niture, books, and upgrading over 110 classrooms to smart classrooms.

**THDC DAKSH:** THDC Daksh has empowered more than 1,400 unemployed youth through skill training in trades like welding, hotel management, and nursing. A sanitary pad unit was established to support women-led Self-Help Groups (SHGs).

The company has adopted two Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in Chamba, Tehri, and Gopeshwar, Chamoli, facilitating infrastructure development and skill training.

**THDC SAMARTH:** The THDC SAMARTH initiative has touched thousands of lives:

THDCIL has conducted 145 computer training courses and 189 tailoring and beautician programs, benefiting more than 7,000 women. Additionally, the company has established a sanitary pad production unit for Self-help groups, promoting women's health and economic empowerment.

### THDC PRAKRITI: Preserving the Environment

THDCIL understands that sustain-



Construction of Community Centre, at Suman Nagar Haridwar

able development hinges on environmental conservation. The company has implemented several eco-friendly programs. THDCIL has established **EV charging stations**, planted over **2.6 lakh trees including medicinal plants**, built **1,000+ rainwater harvesting tanks**, Chal-Khal trenches, and the modernization of water mills (Gharats), and promoted clean lighting with **2,418 solar streetlights**.

THDCIL has implemented water conservation measures, including Chal-Khal trenches, rainwater harvesting tanks, and the modernization of water mills (Gharats). Iconic areas in Rishikesh now shine under THDCIL's LED lighting projects.

### THDC UTTHAN: Strengthening Infrastructure

THDCIL has been instrumental in strengthening infrastructure through various development projects including:

Construction of community centers, Yatri sheds, tin sheds, pathways, and irrigation canals in remote and underserved areas. These initiatives have significantly improved the quality of life for local communities.

### Conclusion:

Through its integrated, inclusive, and impactful CSR efforts, THDCIL is shaping not just infrastructure, but lives. From health and education to women empowerment, environment, and rural upliftment, THDCIL stands as a beacon of national development, committed to the vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" and truly building a Sashakt Bharat.



# एनएचपीसी का हरित ऊर्जा नेतृत्व स्वर्ण जयंती वर्ष

**180 मेगावाट से 8247.18 मेगावाट तक की यात्रा :** अनेक चुनौतियों का सामना करते हुए 30 नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा पावर स्टेशनों के माध्यम से उल्लेखनीय प्रगति।

**सुदृढ़ वित्तीय प्रदर्शन:** अपनी स्थापना के बाद से नियंत्रण सुदृढ़ परिणाम प्रदर्शित कर रही है।

**16 सक्रिय परियोजनाएं :** संधारणीय भविष्य के लिए, लगभग 10,000 मेगावाट क्षमता का निर्माण कर रही है।

**एनजी ट्रांजिशन को बढ़ावा देना:** वर्ष 2032 तक 23,000 मेगावाट और वर्ष 2047 तक 50,000 मेगावाट नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा का लक्ष्य।

**भारत की दो सबसे बड़ी जलविद्युत परियोजनाओं का निर्माण:**

- दिबांग बहुउद्दीय परियोजना: 2,880 मेगावाट अरुणाचल प्रदेश में।
- सुबनसिरी लोअर परियोजना: 2,000 मेगावाट अरुणाचल प्रदेश और असम में।

**नवरत्न का दर्जा:** कार्यनीतिक महत्व को मान्यता देते हुए 30 अगस्त, 2024 को प्रदान किया गया।

**भविष्य के लिए विजन:** एनएचपीसी संधारणीय ऊर्जा और वर्ष 2047 तक विकसित भारत के विजन के प्रति समर्पित है।



आइए,  
हम सब मिलकर हरित ऊर्जा में नेतृत्व की विरासत का उत्सव मनाएं !



# SJVN CSR: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES, ENRICHING LIVES



**S**JVN, a leading Navratna CPSE under Ministry of Power, Government of India, has consistently demonstrated that its mission extends far beyond generating electricity. The company through its dedicated CSR Trust, SJVN Foundation has been implementing CSR activities. It has proved to be a beacon of inclusive development, especially in remote regions where its projects are located.

Till now, SJVN has spent more than ₹489 crore on CSR initiatives across



Inauguration of Biodiversity Park by Director (Personnel) Sh. Ajay Kumar Sharma.

India. These efforts have touched lives of thousands of people, fostering equitable growth and sustainable development. The company's CSR programs are aligned with Schedule VII of Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013, covering a wide range of focus areas including health and hygiene, education, skill development, women empowerment, support for armed forces veterans, infrastructure, cultural preservation, and disaster relief.

One of SJVN's flagship health initiatives is *Satluj Sanjeevani Sewa*—a fleet of mobile medical units that provide essential healthcare services in remote areas free of cost. The company has also supported the Nikshay Mitra program for tuberculosis eradication, strengthened the public health infrastructure, organized specialized health camps, constructed toilets under the Swachh Vidyalaya Abhiyan and created awareness under Swachh Bharat Mission. These efforts span across mainly Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Maharashtra, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan and other states of presence.

In education, SJVN has made a lasting impact through infrastructure

development in schools, establishment of libraries, and scholarship schemes like the *Silver Jubilee Merit Scholarship*. The company also rewards academic toppers and supports project-affected students by nominating them to government ITIs. Recognizing the importance of employability, SJVN actively contributes to the National Skill Development Mission by offering vocational training through reputed institutes.

Sustainability is another cornerstone of SJVN's CSR philosophy. The company has undertaken initiatives such as water source conservation, promotion of solar energy, afforestation drives, biodiversity park development, and installation of sewage treatment plants in project areas. These actions reflect SJVN's vision of leaving a greener planet for future generations.

Under its infrastructure and com-



munity development vertical, SJVN has constructed schools, hospitals, roads, bridges, public toilets, bus stands, parks, and playgrounds. These projects are implemented in collaboration with local panchayats, school management committees, and community-based organizations to ensure participatory development.

SJVN also plays a vital role in preserving India's cultural heritage. It has adopted and restored iconic sites such as the Bhimakali Temple in Sarahan, Tara Devi Temple in Shimla, and the Parshuram Temple in Kullu. The company has also contributed to development works in Kedarnath and Badrinath.

In times of natural calamities, SJVN has always stepped forward with financial aid, relief materials, and infrastructure support—either directly or through contributions to government relief funds like the PM CARES Fund and State Disaster Management Funds.

As per DPE guidelines, SJVN has adopted district Chamba in Himachal Pradesh for annual theme-based CSR activities. Projects here include construction of 17 schools, establishment of 22 libraries, provision of medical equipment, nutrition kits for 10,000 women, and mobile health vans—all monitored jointly with the Deputy Commissioner's office.

SJVN's CSR journey is a testament to its belief that true progress is measured not just in megawatts, but in meaningful change. By focusing on the most vulnerable sections of society, SJVN continues to power not only homes and industries—but also hopes and futures.

# A DECADE OF CSR IN INDIA: FROM COMPLIANCE TO COMMITMENT



When India amended the Companies Act in 2013 to introduce Section 135, mandating Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for qualifying companies, it marked a historic moment—not just for India, but for the global discourse on responsible business. India became the first country to legislate CSR, effectively transforming voluntary philanthropy into a structured, accountable, and strategic endeavor.

Now, as we complete a decade of this landmark legislation, the CSR landscape in India has undergone a

remarkable evolution—moving from ad hoc donations to purpose-driven interventions aligned with national development priorities. This journey offers lessons in innovation, partnerships, governance, and the expanding role of businesses in nation-building.

## CSR as a Boardroom Agenda

Over the past ten years, CSR has transitioned from the periphery to the core of corporate governance. No longer a mere tick-box activity, CSR today is anchored in boardroom discussions, integrated into business strategy, and

linked to long-term sustainability goals. The inclusion of Independent Directors in CSR Committees, the emphasis on impact assessment, and public disclosure requirements have elevated CSR to a strategic function that now attracts senior management attention and accountability.

## Financial Commitment: ₹2.17 Lakh Crore and Counting

Since the enforcement of CSR provisions on 1st April 2014, Indian companies have collectively spent over ₹2,17,000 crores on CSR activities. According to the National CSR Portal,

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TRANSMITTING PROSPERITY...



# Hydropower and Beyond...

# THDCIL SAHRIDAYA

**Powering Progress,  
Building a Sashakt Bharat**

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THDC INDIA LIMITED  
(अनुसूची 'ए', मिनी रत्न, पीएसयू)  
(Schedule 'A', Mini Ratna PSU)



27,188 companies spent ₹34,908.75 crores in FY 2023–24 alone, implementing more than 51,900 projects. These figures underscore not just the financial scale of CSR, but also its operational complexity, involving hundreds of NGOs, government bodies, and thematic interventions across the country.

States like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu have emerged as top recipients, but there is increasing attention on backward and aspirational districts to ensure more equitable resource allocation.

## Evolution of the CSR Landscape

The last decade has witnessed a paradigm shift in how CSR is conceived and implemented in India:

- From Philanthropy to Strategy:** Early CSR efforts were largely donation-driven. Today, most companies align CSR with their core competencies, stakeholder interests, and national goals like education, healthcare, skilling, and climate action.
- From Activity to Impact:** The CSR Rules (amended in 2021) introduced requirements for impact assessments, outcome-based reporting, and unspent CSR fund transfers, ensuring a shift from input-output metrics to outcome-impact accountability.
- From Standalone to Collaborative:** Multi-stakeholder partnerships involving corporates, NGOs, academia, and government have become com-

mon. Flagship initiatives like Vedanta's Nand Ghar, NTPC's Girl Empowerment Mission, and Infosys Foundation's education programs exemplify this collaborative approach.

## Sectoral and Thematic Shifts

CSR spending has matured across sectors:

- Education and Skilling** remain dominant themes, but there is growing investment in **WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene), climate resilience, and digital inclusion.**
- Health**, especially post-COVID, has seen significant growth—e.g., CSR contributions towards healthcare infrastructure, telemedicine, and vaccine support.
- CSR is also supporting **entrepreneurship, women empowerment, and rural development**, often in synergy with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## Challenges and the Road Ahead

Despite the progress, CSR in India still grapples with certain challenges:

- Geographical Imbalance:** A disproportionate share of CSR funds goes to industrialized states.
- Capacity Constraints:** Many implementing agencies lack adequate capacity to design, execute, and measure high-impact projects.
- Compliance vs. Commitment:** For some firms, CSR remains compliance-driven rather than impact-led.

To overcome these challenges, the next phase must focus on:

- Innovative Financing Models** (e.g., CSR bonds, blended finance),
- Data-driven Decision-Making** (leveraging AI, GIS mapping, real-time dashboards),
- Capacity Building** for NGOs and internal CSR teams, and
- Integration with ESG Frameworks** to create shared value for business and society.

## Conclusion

India's CSR journey over the last decade is a testament to the potential of legislative innovation when coupled with corporate will. From an initial phase of confusion and compliance, we now stand at the cusp of a more mature, impact-oriented CSR regime.

As India aspires to become a \$5 trillion economy and meet its SDG and net-zero targets, CSR will remain a vital lever in this transition—bridging gaps, building capacities, and creating a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable society.

Indeed, the next decade of CSR must be about depth, not just breadth—about making every rupee count, and every project matter.



**Dr. K.K. Upadhyay**  
Professor &  
Chairperson - Centre  
for Sustainability &  
CSR

Birla Institute  
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- Reaching a Mining capacity of over 100 Million tonnes when Machhakata and Patrapara coal blocks come into operation.
- A major thrust to Renewable power projects - a 2000 MW capacity Solar project in Rajasthan and 1000 MW capacity Solar power project in Assam along with a pilot-scale Green Hydrogen project in Neyveli.
- Unwavering support through physical relief works at flood-affected cities / areas including de-watering inundated areas with high capacity industrial pumps and providing food packets to the needy during floods.
- Unflinching commitment to large-scale CSR initiatives in Education (construction of classrooms and provision of educational aids) to schools in and around Neyveli, conduct of Health camps in surrounding villages and distribution of Aid and assistive devices to the differently abled.
- Collaboration with NPTI to provide job oriented Post-Diploma and PG Diploma courses to Project Affected Persons (PAPs) of NLCIL, enabling them to get employment opportunities in premier companies.

NLC India Limited, a "Navratna" PSU with over 60 years in the energy sector, operates nationwide and is poised to play a large role in a "Viiksit Bharat" with a targeted Mining Capacity of 104 MTPA and 10 GW of Thermal Power generation by 2030.

Being the first PSU to cross 1 GW of Renewable Energy generation, NLCIL also aims to reach 10.11GW renewable energy generation by 2030 with plans for Green Hydrogen and Floating solar projects.



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# From Boardroom to Bharat: CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FUELLED INDIA'S JOURNEY TO 2047



India is at the brink of remarkable transformation towards becoming a developed nation by 2047, marking a century of independence. As we carve out the path towards fulfilling the ambitious vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, it is a moment for introspection and collective action. The journey towards a developed India that will be prosperous, self-reliant, and inclusive, is not merely the prerogative of government policies or economic indicators. It is, fundamentally, a shared

endeavour where every stakeholder, especially the corporate sector, must play a pivotal and proactive role. The vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 is multidimensional, encompassing robust economic growth, advanced technological leadership, comprehensive social empowerment, unwavering environmental sustainability, and good governance.

At JSW Foundation, we believe that development is meaningful only when equitable growth hap-

pens across the communities. CSR is no longer about philanthropy or one-time interventions, it is about co-creating long-term, sustainable impact in partnership with communities, governments, and civil society in collaboration with various stakeholders. It is a strategic imperative, aligned with national goals and local aspirations.

For instance, **Social Empowerment and Inclusive Growth**. Viksit Bharat envisions an India free of poverty, with universal access to quality education and healthcare, and meaningful employment for all. At JSW Foundation, our initiatives in education, health, and livelihoods are directly aligned with these aspirations. We have established digital classrooms, provided scholarships, and supplied essential learning materials, ensuring that children, especially from underserved communities, have access to foundational literacy and numeracy. Our mobile health camps, antenatal check-ups, and targeted programs like TB Mukt Panchayats are bringing essential healthcare services to the remotest corners. Beyond direct aid, we are investing in skill development, empowering thousands with vocational training and supporting self-help groups, particularly for women,

in areas like sustainable farming and rural BPO centers through initiatives like JSW Shakti. This focus on “Yuva, Garib, Mahila, Kisan” – Youth, Poor, Women, and Farmers – is central to both Viksit Bharat and our CSR philosophy.

Economic Growth and Livelihoods are intrinsically linked. A developed nation requires a robust economy, fuelled by a skilled workforce and thriving rural economies. Our efforts in training farmers in sustainable agricultural practices, promoting water conservation through watershed development and micro-irrigation, and converting barren land into cultivable areas directly contribute to enhancing rural livelihoods and agricultural productivity. These initiatives are further bolstered by promoting diversification into allied agricultural activities and supporting the establishment of non-farm economic opportunities, which provide additional income streams and reduce dependency on rain-fed agriculture. By creating opportunities for economic participation, we are not only addressing immediate needs but also fostering a self-reliant and prosperous citizenry that can contribute to India’s burgeoning economy.

The urgency of Environmental Sustainability cannot be overstated in our pursuit of Viksit Bharat. A developed India must also be a green India, committed to mitigating climate change and preserving its natural heritage. JSW Foundation has made significant strides in this domain, from conserving vast amounts of water and undertaking large-scale affores-



tation drives, including the unique Miyawaki forest model, to promoting waste management awareness in thousands of households. These efforts reflect a deep commitment to a cleaner, greener future, ensuring that development does not come at the cost of our planet. Further demonstrating this commitment, JSW Foundation actively supports the prestigious Earth Care Awards, recognizing and championing transformative climate action across India.

Furthermore, **Technological Upgradation and Innovation** are crucial for a modern India. Our interventions in digital literacy through school programs and the establishment of rural BPO centers through JSW Shakti indirectly support a digitally empowered society. We believe that by improving access to digital tools and skills at the grassroots, we are preparing communities to embrace the technological advancements that will define Viksit Bharat.

As the CEO of JSW Foundation, I witness daily the transformative power of a well-conceived and executed CSR strategy. It's about building resilient communities, empowering individuals to realize their full poten-

tial, and fostering a sense of shared responsibility for our nation's future. Our work in renovating schools, providing clean drinking water solutions, installing solar street lights, and building community centers are tangible examples of how CSR bridges critical gaps and improves the quality of life in rural areas.

The journey to Viksit Bharat by 2047 comes with its set of challenges and abundant opportunities, therefore, CSR is no longer an option but a strategic imperative that aligns business success with societal progress. By focusing on long-term, sustainable interventions that address the root causes of underdevelopment, rather than just the symptoms, companies can become true partners in nation-building.

At JSW Foundation, we are committed to deepening our impact, forging stronger partnerships, and innovating our approach to CSR. We urge our collaborators and fellow corporates to embrace this transformative power, recognizing that investing in India's social and environmental fabric is, ultimately, an investment in our collective future. Together, through committed and strategic CSR, we can indeed turn the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047 into a vibrant reality for every Indian.



**R. Pavithra Kumar**  
CEO, JSW Foundation

# INDO-RWANDAN CULTURAL NIGHT CELEBRATES “ART FOR PEACE” IN NEW DELHI

In celebration of Rwanda National Day, the High Commission of Rwanda, in collaboration with Chavara Cultural Centre and with the support of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, hosted the Indo-Rwandan Cultural Night: “Art for Peace” at the Shri Ram Centre for Performing Arts, in New Delhi.

The evening brought together an audience of approximately 400 guests, including members of the diplomatic corps, business leaders, academics, civil society representatives, and members of the Rwandan community residing in India.

The highlights of the programme included captivating performances of traditional Rwandan songs and dances by a troupe of Rwandan students studying in India, alongside Indian songs presented by Indian dancers. These performances offered a vibrant showcase of the rich cultural heritages of both Rwanda and India, earning resounding appreciation from the audience.



The event featured remarks by several distinguished speakers, including Fr. Roby Kannanchira, Director of the Chavara Cultural Centre; H.E. Jacqueline Mukangira, High Commissioner of Rwanda to India; H.E. Reuben Gauci, High Commissioner of Malta to India; and Dr. Sandeep Marwah, Founder of Noida Film City, Marwah Studios, and the Asian Academy of Film and Television.

Fr. Roby Kannanchira reflected on the enduring spirit of peace that characterises both Rwanda and India, praising

the role of culture in advancing mutual understanding and reconciliation.

H.E. Jacqueline Mukangira emphasised the cultural richness of Rwanda and India, underlining culture's role in fostering social cohesion. She further noted the shared commitment of Rwanda and India to global peace, particularly through their contributions to international peacekeeping efforts.

Dr. Sandeep Marwah commended the initiative for its dedication to cultural dialogue and peaceful coexistence.

H.E. Reuben Gauci, the Ambassador of Malta and Guest of Honour, called for the global promotion of a culture of peace through artistic and cultural exchanges.

The evening concluded with a renewed commitment to strengthening people-to-people ties and promoting peace and harmony through cultural diplomacy.



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