sustainability initiatives

Annual Report

2024-25



Sustainability Initiatives

creating sustainable impact and building resilient cities together.

About Us

sustainability initiatives

Sustainability Initiatives (SI) is a not-for-profit organisation based in Pune. It is formed by a group of like-minded professionals in the field of urban and environmental planning, architecture, environmental science, geography and energy. Sustainability Initiatives is formed with the objective of creating a network of researchers, academicians and professionals to develop core research in the area of environment and energy. Sustainability Initiatives works in the area of Advocacy for government policy and provide studied opinions on its benefits and issues. In this area, we handhold government departments and provide them the necessary resources to conduct specific research to guide policy making. Our detailed and expert research on the Development Plan for Pune and our studied opinion on the Development Control Rules for the city have been widely appreciated.

We also work in the area of Knowledge creation, conducting research that is used for quality publications. Our efforts to create Urban Street Design Guidelines for Pune have gained appreciation at various levels. We have a quarterly Newsletter, SI:Imprint, in which we showcase interesting projects in the areas of urban environment planning and management.

We conduct numerous training programmes, conferences and seminars to disseminate knowledge to a wider audience. We have conducted trainings and conferences on Green Buildings in Pune, Mumbai, Nashik, Jalgaon, Aurangabad and Nagpur. Professionals in these cities continue to connect with us for sharing and gaining knowledge about environment and construction.

Sustainability Initiatives is a platform where people from all fields can come together, collaborate and celebrate environmental action in our cities. We always look forward to connecting to bright and enthusiastic people and offer our resources for any positive action for environment.

The functional areas of Sustainability Initiatives have emerged through identification of existing gaps. There is a severe gap in availability of quality research that is specific to India and India's growth trends and potential. Further, there is a massive gap between academic research and professional applications. Similarly, government's capacity to conduct research and analysis for effective policy formulation is also weak, leading to ineffective policy implementation.

Advocacy will be a cornerstone functionality that is being explored at Sustainability Initiatives. Through the services for Advocacy, Sustainability Initiatives aims to support governmental departments and similar bodies to carry out targeted research and analysis for decision making.

Core Members



Dr. Poorva Keskar
Trustee



Ar. Hrishikesh Kulkarni
Trustee



Ar. Anagha P. Purohit
Trustee



Ms. Apoorva Kulkarni
Trustee



Ar. Vijay Sane
Core Member



Ar. Dwaipayan Chakravarty
Core Member



Mr. Amol Umbarje
Senior Coordinator

We make a difference through



Research & Publication



Capacity Building



Advocacy & Outreach



Community Contribution

SI Foundation Day Celebration 2025

The SI Foundation Day celebration held on 21st November 2025 brought together meaningful insights, inspiring discussions, and collaborative ideas for the future of SI.

The event began with a warm welcome followed by an engaging presentation on SI's ongoing and upcoming projects by Mr. Amol Umbarje. Trustees Dr. Poorva Keskar, Ar. Hrishikesh Kulkarni, and Ms. Apoorva Kulkarni shared their perspectives on SI's evolving journey and vision for the years ahead. A dynamic brainstorming session, coordinated by Ms. Shilpa Bhalerao, encouraged participants to put forth creative suggestions for the special activities planned for SI's 15th year.

The celebration concluded with a joyful cake-cutting ceremony by the SI team, marking another milestone in SI's continued path of growth and impact.









Research & Publication

There is a pressing need for credible and quality research that supports policy making and enables informed and sensitive development in India. At Sustainability Initiatives, we believe that research, particularly in the areas of urban planning and policy will go a long way in developing robust cities.



SI IMPRINT 2024

The 5th issue of SI-IMPRINT was published by Sustainability Initiatives on 20th July 2024, at the Annual Day event of VK Group held in the Community Hall, PYC Pune. This special edition, dedicated to the topic 'BAMBOO', highlights its immense environmental and commercial value. The publication was graced by the esteemed actor and environmentalist, Mr. Sayaji Shinde, through a video message.

Mr. Sayaji Shinde highly appreciated this initiative, recognizing the significant impact it will have on our environment. A big thank you to Mr. Sayaji Shinde for encouraging us with support like this, which motivates us to continue our efforts towards a greener future. The core team of SI, Ar Hrishikesh Kulkarni, Ms Apoorva Kulkarni, Dr Poorva Keskar, Ar Vijay Sane, Ar Dwaipayan Chakravarty, Dr Anagha Athavale and Mr Amol Umbarje were present on the dais. Dr. Poorva Keskar and Ms. Apoorva Kulkarni introduced SI-IMPRINT, emphasizing the importance of bamboo in sustainable development.

A soft copy of the SI Imprint is also available on the SI official website.
https://www.sustainability-initiatives.org/SI2023/download/









Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation awarded IGBC Platinum Certificate 2025

Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation has been awarded IGBC Platinum Certificate under the IGBC Green Existing Cities Rating Program for which the documentation was conducted by VK:e environmental & Sprout under the guidance of Dr. Poorva Keskar, Director of VK:e and Trustee of Sustainability Initiatives. The Pune Municipal Corporation and supporting organizations were felicitated by CII & IGBC Pune Chapter during the event “Abhinandan”.
Shri. Shekhar Singh, IAS, Commissioner, PCMC received the Platinum plaque in the presence of Shri. Aseem Kumar Gupta, IAS, Principal Secretary, Urban Development Department, Government of Maharashtra.
Sustainability Initiatives being a part of VK:e environmental, would like to congratulate the Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation and the supporting organizations for their efforts this brilliant achievement.

The recognition of Pimpri Chinchwad as a Green City is not only a testament to the city's ongoing sustainability efforts but also a reflection of the collaborative spirit between local industries, government bodies, and the community. This collective endeavour has led to significant advancements in eco-friendly infrastructure, energy efficiency, and waste management practices. The city's journey towards becoming a green city serves as an inspiring model for other urban centres aiming to balance development with environmental conservation.
Ar Tanaya Patil and Mr Amol Umbarje from Sustainability Initiatives were also involved in this process.









SI in the VKollective Exhibition 2025

VK Group recently celebrated 51 years as a prominent built environment consultancy with the VKollective Exhibition, showcasing the wide range of innovative and impactful projects of the Group. As a key participant, SI presented 3D models of the Earth Center and a waste management unit serving nearly 10,000 households. The stall also highlighted SI's wider initiatives, including Tree Plantation drives, Blood Donation camps, Green School Projects, and a Nala Restoration Project. These efforts were organised under the four pillars — Research & Publication, Capacity Building, Advocacy & Outreach, and Community Contributions—reflecting SI's integrated approach to sustainability and social responsibility. The exhibition provided a strong platform to communicate SI's work in environmental and communal welfare.

The SI stall attracted several eminent dignitaries, including Hon. Minister of State for Urban Development Smt. Madhuri Misal; Hon. MLAs Shri Siddharth Shirole and Smt. Medha Kulkarni; MP Rajya Sabha Shri Shekhar Mundada; Shri Brijesh Dixit, former MD of Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.; and Shri Kunal Kumar, Joint Secretary, Smart Cities Mission. Industry, academic, and cultural leaders such as Pratik Magar, Pramod Rawat, Saurabh Gadgil, Mukund Sangoram, Ranjit Naiknavare, Rajiv Mishra, Vikas Achalkar, Abhishek Kiran Gupta, and Ar. Rahul Vaidya also visited the stall.

SI also showcased its publications, including SI Confluence, Green Footprints of Pune, Green Building Footprints Map, SI Imprints, and Urban Street Design Guidelines.









Published in DREAMS Magazine Issue 13, 2025

SI's impact as a CSR partner was featured in DREAMS Per Square Feet Magazine, July-Sept 2025 issue.

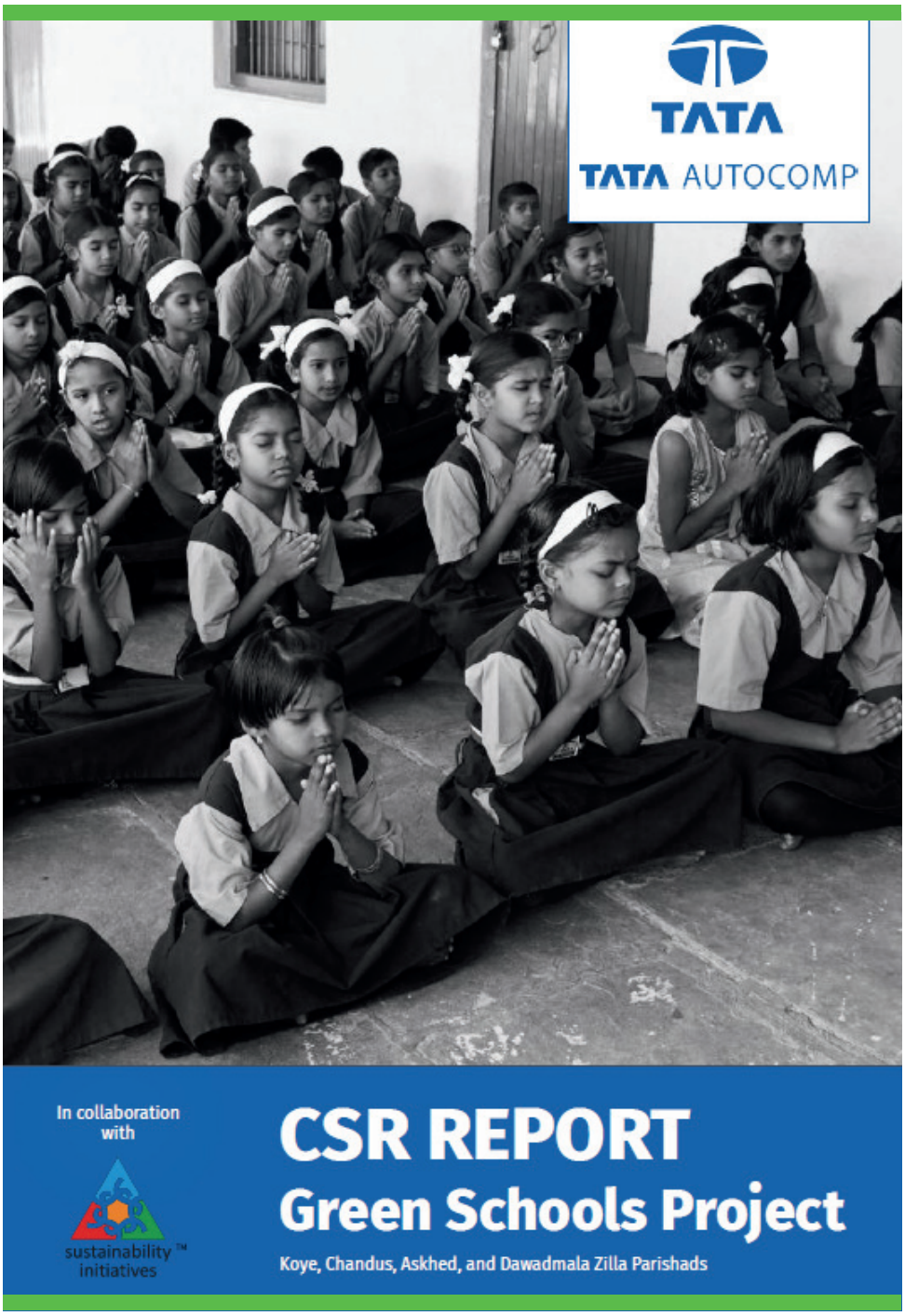
The soft copy of the publication can be found at:
https://dreamspersqftmagazine.in/.../vol4-issue13_july.../





Green School Project Report 2025

Sustainability Initiatives (SI) hosted the Tata AutoComp team for the unveiling of the Green School Project CSR report. The visit was marked by a meaningful discussion on key learnings and exciting possibilities for future collaboration. The Tata Group's commitment to sustainability and their thoughtful engagement continue to inspire us!



Capacity Building

Capacity Building through Training and Awareness programmes and dissemination of essential knowledge and skills is a cornerstone towards achieving sustainable development. The Capacity Building Wing of Sustainability Initiatives provides training and guidance to professionals, academicians, decision-makers, and students for effective policy formulation, implementation, and mainstreaming of best practices.



Session on Environmental Analysis for PVPCoA 2024

A session was held on 02.02.2024 by the trustee of Sustainability Initiatives, Ar. Anagha Paranjpe and Ar. Sonali Deshmukh from VK:e environmental on Environmental Analysis, for the students of VIT's PVP College of Architecture at Sustainability Initiatives studio.

The session was attended by approximately 40 students of 4th year B.Arch. Demonstration of various tools to analyze climate, shadow analysis, daylight analysis, shading analysis and introduction to energy simulation was conducted. Students were given an exposure on softwares like climate consultant and Autodesk Ecotect.

The topics covered a brief understanding of several environmental parameters and their impacts on building design and performance.









Green Expedition visit to Enpro Industries Headquarters, Pimpri 2024

IGBC Pune Chapter, Sustainability Initiatives and VK:e environmental organized a green expedition visit to Enpro Industries Headquarters, Pimpri which is certified green building project for the students of BKPS College of Architecture, Pune to mark the beginning of the World Green Building Week.

The students were given a tour of the building by the consulting expert. The expert elaborated on the various sustainable architecture principles on which the building was designed and green features implementedon site to achieve the targeted rating. Environment conservation measures like landscape design, rain water harvesting, energy efficient lighting, HVAC system, strategies for water use reduction were explained in detail.

We thank the Enpro Industries Headquarter team, particularly Mr. Vilas Phalke, for assisting us throughout the visit. Around 40 students from BKPS College of Architecture attended the visit.









Green Building site visit 2024

Sustainability Initiatives organized a green building visits to a commercial project, Amar Tech Park and a residential project, Anjali (PJA), for the students of the 4th year from VIT's PVP College of Architecture, Pune.

The project Amar Tech Park, Balewadi is one of the highest rated green projects in the city by IGBC under the IGBC New Building Rating system, which has received the Platinum certification. It has been constructed by Amar Builders and green certified by VK:e environmental.

Similarly, the project Anjali, Bhandarkar road is one of the highest rated green projects in the city by IGBC under IGBC Green Homes Rating System, which has received Platinum certification. It has been constructed by Pandit Javdekar Associates and green certified by VK:e environmental.

The students were given a tour of the buildings by the consulting expert. The visit explained the sustainable architecture principles on which the buildings are designed and the green features implemented to achieve the target rating. For eg, landscape design, rain water harvesting, energy efficient lighting, water efficient fixtures, installation of STP and OWC.

SI thanks Mr. Hrishikesh Manjrekar, Executive Director- Amar Builders and Mr. Rahul Pandit and Mr. Shivkumar Javdekar, Founders - Pandit Javdekar Associates for permitting us to organise this visit and for the arrangements made for the students. We would also like to thank Mr. Gaurao Patil, Mr. Sidhharth and Mr. Niranjan Peshawa from Amar Builders and Mr. Tushar Gite from Pandit Javdekar Associates for assisting us throughout the visit.

The session was conducted by Ar. Sonali Deshmukh and Ar. Priyal Deshpande from VK:e environmental in the presence of Mr. Amol Umbarje from Sustainability Initiatives and Ms. Meenakshi Sarawgi from VIT's PVP College of Architecture. Around 40 students from VIT's PVP College of Architecture attended the visit.





Green Building Visit to M-Vivanta Baner 2024

Sustainability Initiatives organized a green building visit to M-Vivanta by Malpani Group, Baner for the students of Dr. Bhanuben Nanavati College of Architecture, Pune. The project M-Vivanta by Malpani Group, Baner is highest rated green residential projects in the city by IGBC, which has received the Platinum certification. It has been constructed by Malpani Group and green certified by VK:e environmental.

The students were given a tour of the building by the consulting expert. The visit explained the sustainable architecture principles on which the building is designed and green features implemented to achieve the target rating. i.e , landscape design, rain water harvesting, energy efficient lighting, water efficient fixtures, installation of STP and OWC.

SI thanks Mr. Yogesh katyare and Ms. Rupali Nimbalkar from Malpani Group for permitting us to organise this visit and for the arrangements made for the students. The session was conducted by Ms Rucha Phansalkar from VK:e environmental in the presence of Mr. Amol Umbarje from Sustainability Initiatives. Around 45 students from BNCA attended the visit.









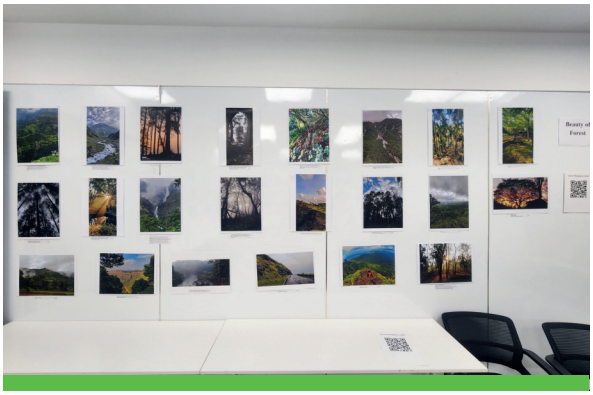
Photography Competition 2024

In celebration of World Sparrow Day, World Forestry Day, and World Water Day, Sustainability Initiatives organized a Photography Competition for the employees of VK Group. The aim of this competition was not just to highlight the splendor of nature but to foster awareness and ignite a conversation about the crucial need for environmental conservation.

We're delighted to have received an overwhelming response, with over 65 amazing photos sent in by our talented team members.
The studio became a gallery, displaying all the entries, for everyone to appreciate. An online voting process allowed all employees to participate actively in choosing the best photographs that resonate most with the spirit of our themes: Click a Bird, Water for Life and Beauty of the Forest.

Winners:
Click a Bird- Winner- Tejas Dole, SM- Amol Chougule
Water for Life- Winner- Chaitrali Kulkarni, SM- Akanksha Kembhavi, SM- Prachi Saraf
Beauty of the Forest- Winner- Azhar Indikar, SM- Tanmayi Vaidya









SWaCH Site Visit for Students 2024

Under the outreach function, site visits was organised by Sustainability Initiatives for the students of Victorious Kidss Educares to learn about door-to-door waste collection management and composting plant through SwaCH,

SWaCH is India's first wholly-owned cooperative of self-employed waste collectors and other urban poor. It is an autonomous enterprise that provides front-end waste management services to the citizens of Pune. The visits was organised on 5th March 2024. All participants were briefed by experts from SWaCH.









Eco Friendly Ganesh Idol Making Workshop 2024

Living up to the belief that creativity and responsibility go hand in hand, employees of VK Group came together to celebrate sustainability through an Eco-Friendly Ganesh Idol Making Workshop.

More than 70 enthusiastic participants crafted their own Ganapati idols, embracing the joy of hands-on creativity. The workshops were conducted under the expert guidance of professionals from Corporate Excellence, ensuring both artistic quality and environmental responsibility.

Two workshops were successfully held on 27th and 29th August 2024 at the VK Group office in Pune, organized by the Sustainability Initiatives (SI) team. Participants worked with natural clay, and special emphasis was placed on using natural, eco-friendly colours for painting the idols.

The results exceeded expectations, with every idol turning out beautifully—leaving participants pleasantly surprised and deeply satisfied. These self-made sustainable Ganesh idols will be installed in employees' homes, making this year's Ganesh Chaturthi even more meaningful and personal.









Session on Ecological Nala Restoration 2024

We had an incredible interactive session on Ecological Nala Restoration organized by Sustainability Initiatives and IGBC Pune Chapter. The event took place on 31st May 2024 at the VK Group, Next Gen Avenue, Bahiratwadi, Senapati Bapat Road, Pune.

Participants gained valuable insights into the vital efforts to restore our local ecosystems. We were honored to have two distinguished experts:

1. Dr. Medhavi Rajwade, Co-Founder of EcoSatva Solutions, who enlightened us with her presentation on "Ecological Restoration: Understanding the Concept."
2. Ms. Sayali Joshi, CEO of Shrishti Eco-Research Institute (SERI), who shared her expertise on "Ecological Restoration of Polluted Streams."

Together, we explored sustainable solutions to ecological challenges, fostering a deeper understanding of how we can contribute to a healthier planet.









ShramA Empowerment Workshop 2025

VHTPL site hosts the ShramA Empowerment workshop by Ethos Foundation, in Association with Sustainable Initiatives (SI) for construction workers, focusing on skill development and empowerment. An awareness program on labor laws, schemes, and rules was also conducted to ensure worker rights and safety. This initiative supports a better-informed workforce for a sustainable future.

ShramA, a collaborative initiative by Ethos Foundation and Saint-Gobain India, SI, bridges the gap between construction workers and the design community. Through Empowerment Workshops, it equips shramiks with skills and fosters dialogue with architects, students, and professionals, promoting inclusion and dignity.









Green Building Site Visit 2025

Sustainability Initiatives and VK:e Environmental organized a Green Building site visit for architecture interns of the VK Group to Pandit Javdekar's Clover, Kothrud currently pursuing GEM 5 certification.

The interns were guided by a consulting expert who explained green building fundamentals, certification requirements, onsite management practices, and the integration of sustainable design elements. As the project is under construction, the expert also highlighted site safety measures, design intent, landscape planning, rainwater harvesting, energy efficient systems, HVAC design, and water use reduction strategies. We extend our gratitude to the Pandit Javdekar's team for hosting the visit and thank Mrs. Priyanka and Mr. Vighnesh Dalvi for their support. A total of 11 interns from VK Group participated in this insightful learning experience.



Eco Friendly Ganesh Idol Making Workshop 2025

On 19th August 2025, Sustainability Initiatives organized two Eco-Friendly Ganesh Idol Making Workshops for the enthusiastic teams of VK Group, with the enthusiastic participation of 50+ employees.

Under the guidance of Ms. Amruta Govardhane from Corporate Excellence, the sessions beautifully blended creativity, devotion and sustainability, as participants crafted their own idols using natural, eco-safe materials. The initiative not only celebrated tradition but also strengthened team bonding and inspired awareness about protecting our rivers and environment—making the year's Ganesh Festival a truly green and meaningful celebration.









Advocacy & Outreach

Advocacy is one of the pillars of Sustainability Initiatives. The efforts under the Advocacy and Outreach wing aim to address gaps within the current and future policies of the government. One of the prime objectives of Sustainability Initiatives is to guide governmental and semi-governmental departments in policymaking through expert-driven research and analysis.



Open Ideas National Competition 2024

The award distribution ceremony for the "Open Ideas National Competition-2024" and the Housing Studio initiative was held on January 31, 2025, at 6 PM at the Sumanth Mulgavkar Hall of the Maratha Chamber (Senapati Bapat Road, Pune). The competition was organized in collaboration with Habitat Forum (INHAF) and Sustainability Initiatives. The objective behind this initiative was to find innovative solutions to make small and low-cost houses more livable. This was the fourth year of the competition.

The chief guest, Barjor Mehta (Chairman, CEPT University, Ahmedabad), delivered a speech through a video conference. Other distinguished guests included Yogesh Kajale, Senior Vice President of B.G. Shirke Construction Company; Kirti Shah, Founder of Habitat Forum; Pratibha Joshi of Shelter Organization; former MP Adv. Vandana Chavan; Vishwas Kulkarni, Founder of VK Group; Ar. Anagha Paranjape Purohit, Dr. Poorva Keskar, Apoorva Kulkarni, Hrishikesh Kulkarni, and others. Dwaipayana Chakravarty gave the opening remarks.

Architects, interior designers, planners, engineers, senior students, professionals working with voluntary organizations, government institutions, and people working in slum redevelopment and upliftment participated in the competition.

A total of 287 participants registered, and 65 proposals were received. Five proposals were selected by the judges. In addition to this, a 12-week Housing Studio initiative was conducted alongside the competition. This studio was conducted at the Bhanubhen Nanavati College of Architecture in Pune under the guidance of Habitat Forum. Three colleges, including Brick Group of Institutes in Pune, Vishwakarma University, and VIT Vellore, participated. A total of 21 proposals were presented, and three of them were declared winners by the judging panel and were honored with cash prizes





Milgard Group Meet 2024

Mr. Amol Umbarje from Sustainability Initiatives presented SI's initiatives and projects at the Milgard Group meet in Hinjewadi. Employees and management staff from India and abroad attended the event.

All SI projects and initiatives were well appreciated by the audience, opening doors for future collaborations. The event was organized by the CSR team of Milgard Group.





Training on Fire and Safety 2024

As part of our commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of all employees, Sustainability Initiatives, in association with the Fire and Security Association of India organized a Fire mock drill training including demos and lecture for VK group employees on 23rd February 2024 at VK office.

Employees of VK:a architecture, VK:e environmental, VK:i interiors, VK:o operations, VK:u urban and Sustainability Initiatives actively participated in the training. As fires are a major urban environmental hazard, Sustainability Initiatives was organized the training.

The purpose of this training was to familiarize everyone with the necessary procedures and protocols to follow in the event of a fire emergency. The mock drill simulated a real-life fire scenario, allowing us to practice evacuation procedures, use of fire extinguishers, and overall emergency response. It is essential that all employees participated in this training to ensure that we are well-prepared in case of an actual emergency.

The training session was conducted by Er. Ramesh Upadhyay and provided valuable information on fire safety measures and evacuation protocols.









World Environment Day 2024

An upcycling competition was organized for the staff of VK Group. Participants were asked to create functional and durable products from items they no longer need at the office or home.

The entire staff of VK Group participated in the event! The idea was to promote hands-on repurposing practices. We saw some brilliant ideas put into form and function and the enthusiasm was overpouring !
Around 300 employees were grouped into 18 teams, who made some amazing products from waste: footrests and stools from empty paper rolls, hangers from antennas, pen stands from obsolete visiting cards, paperweights from rough papers, fans from e-waste, etc., to name a few. These products were exhibited in the office studio for two days.

All employees voted for the products through a Google form, and the winners were declared based on the voting and expert judgments.

Ms. Priyanka Dhok, Founder of The Upcycling Studio, and Ms. Snehal Burhade, CEO of ECOLO Store, were the honorable judges of the event.

Winners of the competition:
1st – Team A - One Earth
2nd – Team D - Dump to Treasure
3rd – Team L - Life-Re-Style
Special Mention – Team P - Panchatantra and CuMi Lab







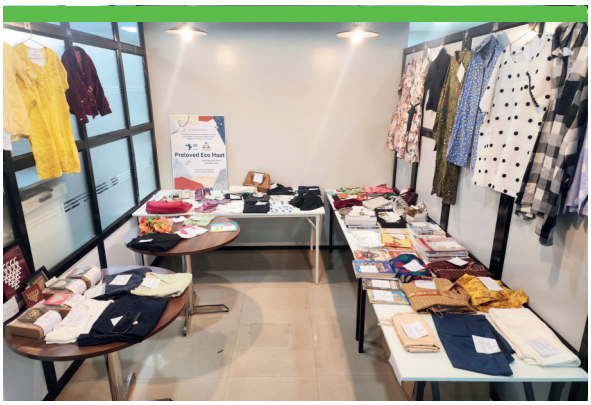


Preloved Eco Haat 2024

We are thrilled to celebrate the success of the 'Preloved Eco Haat' initiative by Sustainability Initiatives, made possible through the enthusiastic efforts of the community at VK Group.

This initiative was not just about swapping, selling, or donating used items—it was about coming together to embrace sustainability in a meaningful way. From board games and clothes to bags, purses, and paintings, many items found new homes, reflecting the collective commitment toward reuse and responsible consumption.
As part of the initiative, these preloved items will be displayed at the VK office on the 4th Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of every month, encouraging continued participation and engagement.









E-waste Collection Drive September 2024

On the occasion of World Green Building Week, the IGBC Pune Chapter, Sustainability Initiatives, and VK:e environmental jointly organized an E-Waste Collection Drive. The drive was conducted from 9th to 13th September 2024, focusing on responsible disposal and recycling of electronic waste.

Through this initiative, various types of e-waste were collected, including LCD screens and TVs, keyboards, mice, adapters, power cables, CPUs, telephones, graphic cards, RAM, mobile phones, CDs, and computer monitors, among others, for recycling.

A total of 178 kg of e-waste was donated to RISO, an authorized e-waste collection organization. RISO assesses and separates the working components of the collected e-waste and puts them back into use. The remaining non-functional scrap is sent to authorized recyclers and re-processors for metal extraction.







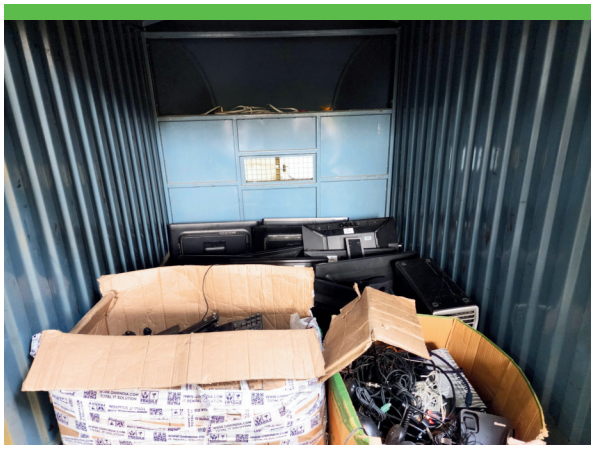
E-waste Collection Drive 2025

Sustainability Initiatives organized an E-Waste Collection Drive. The drive took place from 4th Feb to 6th March, 2025, during which we collected a wide range of electronic waste.

The items collected included LCD screens/TVs, keyboards, mice, adapters, power cables, CPUs, telephones, graphic cards, RAM, mobile phones, CDs, computer monitors, and more, all of which were designated for recycling.

The collected e-waste was donated to the Ghole Road Ward Office, Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC), an organization dedicated to e-waste collection. They evaluate and segregate the reusable components of the e-waste, putting them back into circulation. The remaining scrap is then forwarded to authorized recyclers and re-processors for metal extraction.









Earth Hour Initiative – Energy and Carbon Savings

At Sustainability Initiatives (SI), we actively practice Earth Hours, during which we switch off non-essential electrical equipment such as office lights, air conditioners, fans, coffee machines, and printers for one hour. Computers and servers are kept operational, as they are essential for our core work. This simple practice allows us to observe the tangible savings that even a single hour of energy conservation can achieve in terms of both electricity and cost.

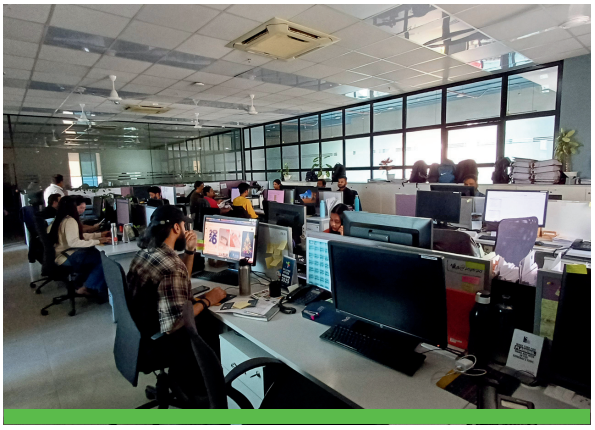
In the past years, SI shifted to a larger office space. While a bigger workspace typically implies higher energy consumption, the Earth Hour practice has enabled us to achieve even greater savings, as reflected in the accompanying chart. We encourage citizens to adopt Earth Hours in their homes and offices, as collective action can lead to significant environmental benefits.

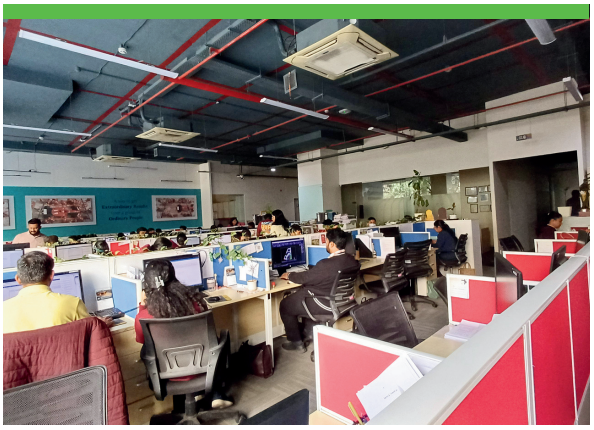
Since 2017, Sustainability Initiatives has been implementing the Earth Hour initiative by switching off electricity for one hour on one Friday of every month. From April 2017 to December 2025, the total electricity saved through this initiative amounts to 1129 kWh. This saving of 1129 kWh of electricity is equivalent to:

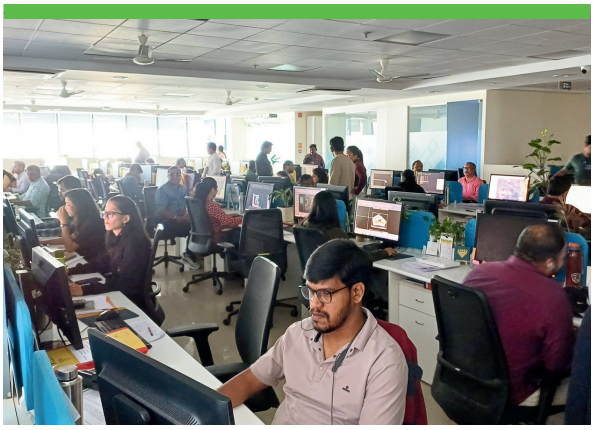
- Conserving approximately 305 litres of diesel,
- Avoiding about 0.93 metric tonnes of CO_2 emissions,
- Matching the annual carbon absorption of 44 mature trees,
- Powering 11–12 households for one month, and
- Enabling an electric vehicle to travel nearly 7,000 km.

The total monetary saving achieved through this initiative is approximately Rs16,370.50. This small yet consistent initiative has helped VK Group reduce its carbon footprint from electricity consumption. As observed, even a simple step such as switching off power for one hour can make a meaningful contribution towards reducing carbon emissions from electricity use, which remains one of the major contributors to India's overall carbon footprint.

Earth Hour Details			
Month - Year	**Earth Hours**	**Saving Units/ KWH**	**Cost**
April 17 – March 18	12	61	884.5
April 18- March 19	12	62	899
April 19 – March 20	11	60	870
Nov 21 – Dec 21	2	29	420.5
Jan 22 – Dec 22	16	235	3407.5
Jan 23 - Dec 23	12	208	3016
Jan 24 - Dec 24	12	235	3407.5
Jan 25- Dec 25	12	239	3465.5
Total	**89**	**1129**	**16370.5**









Preloved
Eco Haat 2025

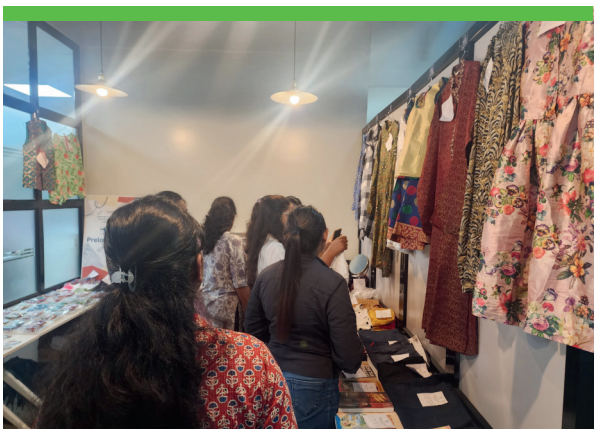
Continuing the success of our 'Preloved Eco Haat' initiative by Sustainability Initiatives, thanks to the amazing efforts of our community at VK Group. This initiative wasn't just about swapping, selling, or donating used items—it was about coming together to embrace sustainability in a meaningful way.

From board games and clothes to bags, purses, and paintings, so many items found new homes today, and it's all because of you! These items will be displayed in VK office, on 4th Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of every month.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated and made this event a true celebration of sustainability.









Celebrating World Environment Day 2025

On the occasion of World Environment Day, Sustainability Initiatives in collaboration with VK Group organized a collection drive where VK employees contributed 90 kg of clothes and 20 kg of plastic.
The donated clothes and plastic were handed over to Samajbandh, Rcube, Respun, and Sagarmitra — NGOs dedicated to recycling and upcycling, giving waste a new purpose and promoting the circular economy.
Together, we're turning awareness into impact — one donation at a time.









Waste To Best 2025

As part of World Environment Day celebrations, Sustainability Initiatives and VK Group are conducted a creative workshop for the employee of VK Group on the theme "Best from Waste."
Participants used plastic bottles, coconut shells, and newspapers to craft innovative, functional, and artistic items — turning everyday waste into beautiful and useful creations.
A hands-on reminder that small changes and creative thinking can make a big difference.









NGO Meeting in PMC 2025

The Environment Department of Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) organized an interactive meeting with NGOs working in the environmental sector to understand their ongoing initiatives and discuss key environmental challenges in Pune city.

Mr. Amol Umbarje from Sustainability Initiatives presented the SI's initiatives.

The meeting was initiated and chaired by Dy. Commissioner Mr. Ravi Pawar, fostering collaboration between PMC and local NGOs towards a greener and cleaner Pune.









Green Conclave 2025 - A Landmark Event for Sustainability!

Sustainability Initiatives was an associate organization for Green Conclave 2025, hosted by the ISHRAE Pune Chapter, titled SHUNYA – Our DHARMA Towards NETZERO. From inspiring keynote speakers to thought-provoking discussions on NetZero, decarbonization, and climate action, we have taken bold steps toward a sustainable future.

Mr. Murli Mohol, State Minister of Aviation for the Government of India, Shri Prakash Javadekar – Former Cabinet Minister, Govt. of India, Ar. Karin Meisenberger – COOP HIMMELBLAU, Vienna, Austria, Shri Kunal Kumar (IAS) – Joint Secretary & Mission Director, Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, Shri Pankaj Dharkar – Chairman, Decarbonization Task Force, ISHRAE, Shri Anoop Ballaney – Society President, ISHRAE 24-25, Shri Ashish Rakheja – International Vice President, ASHRAE, Shri Hariharan Chandrasekar – IGBC Chairman, Bengaluru, Smt. Shruti Narayan – Managing Director, C40 Cities, Shri Mahesh Harhare – WRI Program Head, Climate Action Plan, Shri Ramprasad Akkisetty – Managing Director, CCBA Studio were presented as guests.

Over 350 professionals gathered, with 100+ top industry CEOs engaging in meaningful dialogue. The exclusive CEO Roundtable led to powerful insights, celebrating achievements with the NetZero Accelerator Awards and thoughtful sessions on actionable sustainability strategies.

Our Trustee Dr. Poorva Keskar was the Convener of this Conclave, and our mentor firm VK:e Environmental was the carbon audit partner of the conclave.





Pune Social Impact Dialogue 2025

Sustainability Initiatives (SI) partnered in the Pune Social Impact Dialogue organized by SEAP at the Sheraton Grand Hotel. The event brought together companies and NGOs working on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues to build meaningful partnerships.

Our trustee, Ar. Anagha Paranjape-Purohit, was a panelist and shared her views on the urgent need for sustainable urban development in fast-growing Indian cities. SI also showcased its work through a dedicated stall, represented by team members Shilpa Bhalerao, Amol Umbarje, and Anand Gholap.









Community Contribution

Grassroots level development is crucial in paving the way for resilient cities. While we work extensively in city-level development, we take active efforts towards community and neighborhood level initiatives. Under this wing, we host social events and activities in association with various local organizations to positively impact communities through participatory and democratic processes.



Blood Donation Drive 2024

Sustainability Initiatives organized a blood donation camp along with VK Group as a social initiative. The Blood Donation Camp was organized in collaboration with Deenanath Mangeshkar Blood Bank.

During the drive, which took place at VK Group Office, Senapati Bapat Road Pune, a total of 115 employees expressed their willingness to donate blood. Out of these, 102 employees were found eligible and successfully completed their blood donation in this day camp. Employees of Strudcom Consultancy also participated actively.
In attendance at this significant occasion were Mr. Sachin Vyavhare and Dr. Ashwini Joshi from Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital; Mrs. Rupa Bandal from Deenanath Mangeshkar Blood Bank.

Founders of VK Group Ar. Vishwas Kulkarni, Ar. Hrishikesh Kulkarni, Ms. Apoorva Kulkarni and Ar. Anagha Paranjape Purohit; Mr. Nikhil Inamdar from Strudcom Consultancy; Mr. Amol Umbarje from Sustainability Initiatives and Barish Date of Graphics Beyond.

This initiative holds special significance as VK Group, celebrating its 50th year, continues its commitment to social responsibility. Last year, 66 employees contributed to a similar blood donation drive, marking it as an annual tradition for VK Group. The firm remains dedicated to organizing such camps every year as part of its ongoing social outreach efforts.





Tree Plantation Project for Sukhawani Associates 2024

SI is committed to sustainability and has planted more than 2,000 native trees at Dange Chowk for Sukhawani Associates to support their environmental compliance efforts.

Here the Miyawaki method was used. This project enhances biodiversity and supports long-term environmental health. SI will maintain the forest for three years to ensure its growth and resilience. Jambhul, Kanchan, Pimple, Badam, Mango, Karanj, Umbar and more native trees are planted.









Tree Plantation Project for Bhujbal Township 2024

SI supported environmental compliance efforts with tree plantation projects by planting more than 500 for Bhujbal Township at Dange Chowk. The Miyawaki method was used to enhance biodiversity and support long-term environmental health.

This initiative promotes local biodiversity and environmental well-being. SI will maintain the forest for three years to ensure its growth and resilience. Jambhul, Kanchan, Pimple, Badam, Mango, Karanj, Umbar and more native trees are planted.









Tree Plantation Drive 2024

218 representatives of various organizations planted 565 native trees on the Smrutivan hill at Warje, as part of a tree plantation program organized jointly by the Bhamburda Range Forest Department, Sustainability Initiatives, Maha NGO Federation, VK Group, and Lions Club. The native trees were planted such as tamarind, palash, bhahava, arjun, kanchan, putranjiva, rohitak, neem, peepal, mahua, soapnut, and others.

The tree plantation initiative involved volunteers from various sections of society, including children, elderly, youth, differently-abled individuals, and tribal communities, fostering social commitment through an environmental initiative. The entire event was coordinated by Amol Umbarje, Mukund Shinde, and Kishor Moholkar. Kishor Moholkar, with support of Lions Club, will be taking responsibility of nurturing the trees.

Sustainability Initiatives, Maha NGO Federation and Lions Club regularly conduct such tree plantation programs. Notable attendees at this event included Raghunath Dhole Patil, Vijay Sarda, Shraysh Dixit, Kanya Dixit, Sangeeta Kanse, Mahesh Gavhane, Archana Gavhane, Virendra Borade, Ashutosh Joshi, Rameshwar Fundipalle, Gandhile (Forest Department), Anagha Athavale from SI, Vishal Deshmukh, Kanchan Sidhaye, Akansha Kembhavi, Girish Kale, Ketaki Karmarkar, Apoorva Karwa, and Komal Gandhi. Representatives from Genesupport, Lions Club, Resilient, Genembio, Brick School of Architecture, Pune Deccan India Chapter, Strudcom, Navkshitij Mentally Challenged Children's Institute, FSAI, Unique Environcare, Approach Helping Hands, Mamta Foundation, ISHRAE Pune Chapter, and Marathwada Mitra Mandal were also present for the event.

Kishor Moholkar provided guidance on the importance of tree plantation and post-plantation care. Amol Umbarje urged all organizations to come together for tree plantation and contribute in maintaining the environmental balance.





E-waste collection drive 2024

The regular use of electronic devices and office gadgets results in the generation of a considerable amount of e-waste. In line with the organization's commitment to responsible resource management, every effort is made to repair and maintain electronic equipment in order to extend its usable life.
However, once devices reach the end of their functional lifecycle, they are responsibly discarded and donated as e-waste for recycling. Items contributed during the drive included LCD screens and TVs, keyboards, mouse devices, adapters, power cables, CPUs, telephones, graphic cards, RAM, mobile phones, CDs, and laptops, among others.

This marked the first e-waste collection drive of 2024, during which discarded electronic items were donated to RISO, an authorized e-waste collection organization. RISO evaluates the collected materials, segregating functional components that can be refurbished and put back into use. The remaining non-usable scrap is sent to authorized recyclers and re-processors, where it undergoes safe and scientific recycling for metal extraction and material recovery, ensuring minimal environmental impact.





Donation Camp 2024

Sustainability Initiatives facilitated a donation camp led by students from Victorious Kidss Educares (VKE) for the students of Anubhav Shala in Keshav Nagar Slum (Anubhav Shala is an educational program for underprivileged children run by Jnana Prabodhini Pune). They generously contributed rations, food, pencils, sketchbooks, clothes, and toys, extending essential support while nurturing a culture of compassion.









Green School Project with TATA AutoComp Systems Pvt. Ltd. 2025

Sustainability Initiatives (SI) joined hands with TATA AutoComp Systems Pvt. Ltd. to bring the Green School Project to life - a powerful CSR initiative that's now benefiting over 600 students across four government schools in Pune:

•Ashkhed Zilla Parishad School
•Dhawadwamala Zilla Parishad School
•Chandus Zilla Parishad School
•Koye Zilla Parishad School

Together, we've launched transformative green projects such as:
•Environmental sustainability awareness sessions
•Installation of Waste composter machines
•Rainwater harvesting systems
•Solar panel installations
•Tree plantations (including indoor plants!)
•Water-saving low-flow taps
•Science park visits for hands-on learning
•Established Green Army team
•Introduced Green Calendar for Schools
Every step taken today is a seed for a sustainable tomorrow.









Tree Plantation Drive 2025

A grand tree plantation drive was held at Sanjivan Van Udyan in Kothrud. The event was jointly organized by Maha NGO Federation, Sustainability Initiatives, V.K. Group, and Care Foundation. Representatives from as many as 200 voluntary organizations participated in this initiative and collectively planted 500 indigenous trees.

The plantation included local and native tree species. Notably, the event witnessed participation from mentally challenged individuals, orphans, senior citizens, youth, and tribal community members, thus presenting a commendable example of social inclusion and environmental commitment.

The entire initiative was planned and coordinated by Amol Umbarje, Meghana Pingle, and Mayur Waregaonkar. Post plantation, the Care Foundation will maintain of the trees. Under the guidance of founder Shekhar Mundada and trustee Apoorva Kulkarni, Maha NGO Federation and Sustainability Initiatives regularly bring together various organizations to conduct such tree plantation drives every year.

Major participating organizations included V.K. Group, IGBC Pune Chapter, Brick School of Architecture, Navkshitij, FSAI, Mamta Foundation, ISHRAE Pune Chapter, Ravindra Jadhav Global Foundation, Rostrum India Social Organization, Ginsport, Resilient, Ginombio, and Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Architecture. All these organizations actively contributed towards environmental conservation while fulfilling their social responsibility.

The event concluded with distribution of certificates to the participants. The joy of having dug the pits and planted the trees themselves was clearly visible on the faces of the participants.





IIA Interoffice Box Cricket League Season-01, 2024

IIA Interoffice Box Cricket League Season-01 was organized by the Indian Institute of Architects - IIA Pune Centre, on 17th and 18th February 2024, at Vision Ground, Vadgaon-Bk.

Employees from different architecture offices in Pune participated, with the support of Sustainability Initiatives as Gold Sponsors, Sneh Precast as Title Sponsors, and Silver Sponsors—Icon Associate Sponsors—Eros, Shubhoday Corporation, and Safe Board.

A total of 24 teams participated in this IIA Box Cricket Season—Champions under the stars! UNISTORM clinched the championship title with their unbeatable. Vka Classic made a wonderful match as the runners-up.









Flood Relief Donation Drive 2025

SI, along with VK Group, provided essential support to government and ZP primary schools across the flood affected villages of Hattur, Wangi, and Wadagbal, including:
* Classroom furniture (tables, benches, chairs, blackboards)
* Water facilities and sanitation support
* Stationery, school bags, and other essentials

Donations were sent to the school principals of the affected Zilla Parishad Schools. Any surplus funds were used to extend help to nearby hamlets by providing household essentials.



Blood Donation Drive 2025

On the occasion of its 52nd Foundation Day, VK Group, a leading multi-disciplinary consultancy firm in the city, demonstrated its deep sense of social responsibility by organizing a remarkable blood donation camp. Initiated by VK Group's 'Sustainability Initiatives Trust' and in collaboration with Deenanath Mangeshkar Blood Bank, the drive was held at the company's head office on Senapati Bapat Road.

A total of 161 individuals underwent preliminary health screening, out of which 116 volunteers successfully donated blood -showcasing their dedication and spirit of service to society.

Not only VK Group employees, but employees from partner organizations like EbixCash, Bahirat Realty, ONIT, High Garden, Prachay Capital, and Genesys Technologies actively participated in the initiative. Through this, the celebration of the Foundation Day was transformed into a meaningful act of community service, underlining the company's commitment to social causes.

The blood donation camp was inaugurated in the presence of several dignitaries including VK Group Founder Vishwas Kulkarni, Director Anagha Paranjape-Purohit, Meghana Pingle, Sustainability Initiatives' Amol Umbarje, and representatives from Deenanath Mangeshkar Blood Bank – Dr. Laxman Ugade, Aniket Patil, and Akshay Agam. They warmly welcomed the donors and appreciated their valuable contribution.

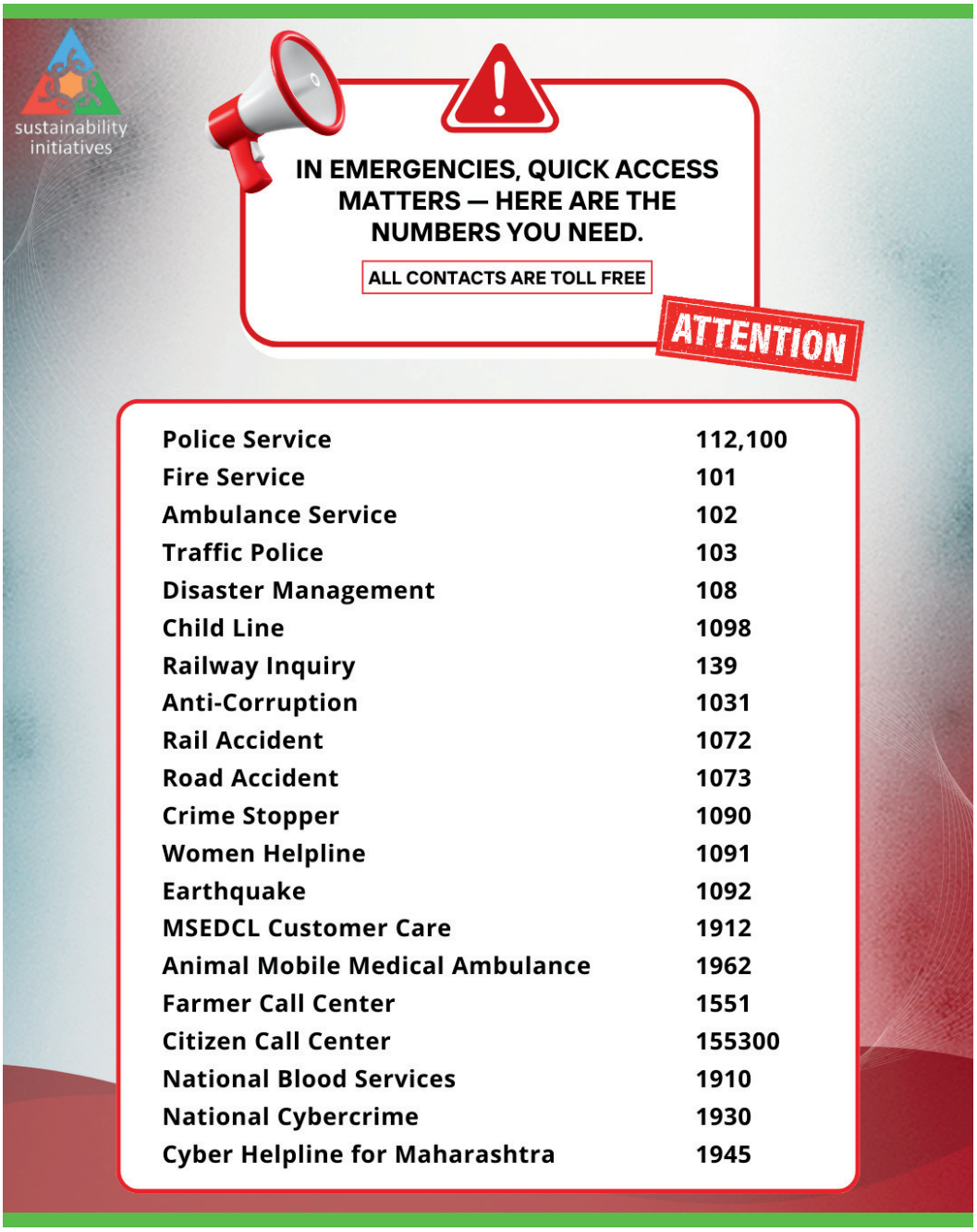
This initiative reflects a perfect blend of corporate success and social consciousness, setting a positive direction for change in a progressive city like Pune. Sustainability Initiatives has set a powerful example through this initiative, awakening a collective sense of responsibility in the community.





Toll-Free Numbers 2025

The list of toll-free numbers were created and circulated on social media so that people can stay aware, vigilant, stay and informed for help quickly in case of emergencies.



SI: Links

SI runs an active internship program under the name SI: Links to mentor students looking for practical experience along with core technical learning. We provide them an opportunity to work on on-going projects and interact with our partner organizations and professionals during their project assignments.



Suhan Kamble
NICMAR University, Pune

My one-month internship with Sustainability Initiatives was a highly enriching experience. Representing VK Group at the Pune Design Show 2025 allowed me to directly engage with corporate, industrial, and government stakeholders and communicate the value of sustainability-driven CSR initiatives. Through interactions with professionals from hotels, hospitals, institutions, and PMC and PCMC offices, I gained practical insight into how energy-efficient solutions, particularly under initiatives like AEEE, create measurable environmental and operational impact.
The supportive mentorship and collaborative work culture encouraged learning, open dialogue, and professional growth. This experience significantly strengthened my understanding of sustainability, stakeholder engagement, and the practical implementation of energy-efficiency programs in practical world.

My internship at Sustainability Initiatives proved to be an insightful and rewarding experience. I was actively involved in real-world sustainability projects, including a CSR initiative supported by Tata Autocomp, which offered first-hand exposure to how corporate responsibility programs are structured and executed at the grassroots level.
Working on purpose-driven assignments allowed me to connect sustainability objectives with tangible outcomes. This experience helped me apply my academic knowledge in practical scenarios, strengthened my research and analytical skills, and deepened my understanding of environmental sustainability. I am grateful for this opportunity and will carry these learnings forward in my future academic and professional journey.



Shivanand Vichare
Fergusson college, Pune

Media Coverages

Many of our events and activities gained public attention and was covered by the media, both online and print, in various languages like English, Hindi and Marathi. Following are a few snippets from the coverages.

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epaper.mahamtb.con

लहान घरे आरामदायी बनवणाऱ्या कल्पनांचा गौरव

पुणे : 'ओपन आयडियाज राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धा-२०२४' आणि 'हाऊसिंग स्टुडिओ' उपक्रमाचा पारितोषिक वितरण समारंभ दि. ३१ जानेवारी रोजी सायंकाळी ५ वाजता 'मराठा चेंबर'चे सुमंत मुळगावकर सभागृह येथे आयोजित करण्यात आला आहे. ही स्पर्धा 'हॅबिटॅट फोरम' (आयएनएचएएफ) आणि 'सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हस' यांच्या सहकार्याने आयोजित करण्यात आली होती. यामागील उद्दिष्ट लहान व कमी खर्चाची घरे अधिक राहण्यायोग्य बनवण्यासाठी नाविन्यपूर्ण उपाय शोधणे हे होते. कार्यक्रमात बरजोर मेहता, हे प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून उपस्थित राहतील. डॉ. राजेंद्र निंबाळकर, अमित बापट यांची प्रमुख उपस्थिती असून तेही मार्गदर्शन करतील. या कार्यक्रमातून एकूण २१ प्रस्ताव सादर करण्यात आले. परीक्षक मंडळाने त्यातील तीन प्रस्ताव विजेते घोषित केले.

प्रजा जागरुक

महत्त्वाच्या बातम्या



सस्टेनॅबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज् ट्रस्टच्या वतीने रक्तदान

पुणे : पुण्यातील नामवंत मल्टी डिसीप्लिनरी कन्सल्टसी फर्म व्हीके ग्रुपच्या 'सस्टेनॅबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज' ट्रस्टने व्हीके ग्रुपच्या कर्मचाऱ्यांसाठी दीनानाथ मंगेशकर रक्तपेढीच्या सहकार्याने रक्तदान शिबीर आयोजित केले होते. एकूण १०२ रक्तदात्याने रक्तदान केले.या उपक्रमामध्ये स्टडकॉम कन्सल्टसीच्या कर्मचाऱ्यांनी देखील सहभाग घेतला. हे शिबीर व्हीके ग्रुप कार्यालय, सेनापती बापट रस्ता येथे दि.३१ जानेवारी रोजी पार पडले. दीनानाथ मंगेशकर हॉस्पिटलचे सचिन व्यवहारे, डॉ.अश्विनी जोशी, व्हीके ग्रुपचे संस्थापक विश्वास कुलकर्णी, हृषीकेश कुलकर्णी, सौ.अपूर्वा कुलकर्णी, सौ.अनघा परांजपे पुरोहित, स्टडकॉम कन्सल्टसी चे निखिल इनामदार, 'सस्टेनॅबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज् 'चे अमोल उंबरजे, 'ग्राफिक्स बियाँड'चे बारिश दाते, दीनानाथ मंगेशकर रक्तपेढीच्या सौ. रुपा बांदल हे उपस्थित होते. ज्येष्ठ आर्किटेक्ट विश्वास कुलकर्णी यांनी 'व्हीके ग्रुप' ची स्थापना केली असून संस्थेच्या वतीने नगरनियोजन,पर्यावरण संवर्धन,शास्वत विकास अशा अनेक विषयांवर चर्चासत्रेही आयोजित केली जातात. मागील वर्षी ५० व्या वर्षात पदार्पण करत असताना 'व्हीके ग्रुप'ने अनेक सामाजिक उपक्रम करण्याचे योजले होते. दरवर्षी रक्तदान शिबिराचे आयोजन करण्याचे 'व्हीके ग्रुप'चा मानस आहे.

Media Coverages

ओपन आयडियाज राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धा पारितोषिकांचे वितरण

लहान घरे आरामदायी बनवणाऱ्या कल्पनांचा गौरव



पुणे, दि. ३१:

'ओपन आयडियाज राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धा-२०२४' आणि हाउसिंग स्टुडिओ उपक्रमाचा पारितोषिक वितरण समारंभ ३१ जानेवारी २०२५ रोजी सायंकाळी ६ वाजता मराठा चेंबरचे सुमंत मुळगावकर सभागृह(सेनापती बापट रस्ता,पुणे) येथे झाला. ही स्पर्धा हॅबिटॅट फोरम (आयएनएचएएफ) आणि सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हस यांच्या सहकार्याने आयोजित करण्यात आली होती.यामागील उद्दिष्ट लहान व कमी खर्चाची घरे अधिक राहण्यायोग्य बनवण्यासाठी नाविन्यपूर्ण उपाय शोधणे हे होते. हे चवथे वर्ष होते.

कार्यक्रमात प्रमुख पाहुणे बरजोर मेहता(अध्यक्ष,सीईपीटी युनिव्हर्सिटी,अहमदाबाद) यांनी दृरदृश्य प्रणालीद्वारे मार्गदर्शन केले.बी जी शिर्के कन्स्ट्रक्शन कंपनीचे वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष योगेश काजळे,हॅबिटेट फोरम चे संस्थापक किर्ती शाह, शेल्टर ऑर्गनायझेशनच्या प्रतिभा जोशी, माजी खासदार अॅड. वंदना चव्हाण, व्हीके ग्रुपचे संस्थापक विश्वास कुलकर्णी, डॉ. अनघा पुरोहित, डॉ. पूर्वा केसकर, अपूर्वा कुलकर्णी, हृषीकेश कुलकर्णी आदी मान्यवर उपस्थित होते.

द्वैपायन चक्रवर्ती यांनी प्रास्ताविक केले.

या स्पर्धेसाठी वास्तुविशारद, इंटीरियर डिझायनर, नियोजनकर्ते, अभियंते, वरिष्ठ विद्यार्थी, स्वयंसेवी संस्था, शासकीय संस्थांमध्ये काम करणारे व्यावसायिक तसेच झोपडपट्टी पुनर्वसन व उन्नती क्षेत्रात काम करणाऱ्या व्यक्तींचा सहभाग मागवण्यात आला होता. प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना (PMY) व इतर परवडणाऱ्या गृहनिर्माण योजनांसाठी घरांची रचना अधिक कार्यक्षम,राहण्यायोग्य आणि शाश्वत बनवण्यासाठी नाविन्यपूर्ण उपाय शोधणे हा या उपक्रमाचा उद्देश आहे.

ही स्पर्धा मे २०२४ मध्ये सुरू करण्यात आली होती. एकूण २८७ स्पर्धक नोंदणीकृत झाले व ६५ प्रस्ताव प्राप्त झाले. त्यापैकी पाच प्रस्ताव परीक्षकांनी निवडले.याच विषयावर आधारित १२ आठवड्यांचा हाउसिंग स्टुडिओ उपक्रम देखील स्पर्धेसोबतच राबवला गेला. हे स्टुडिओ भानुबेन नानावटी कॉलेज ऑफ आर्किटेक्चर,पुणे येथे हॅबिटॅट फॉर्म द्वारे पथदर्शी स्वरूपात राबवले गेले. पुण्यातील ब्रिक ग्रुप ऑफ इन्स्टिट्यूट्स,विश्वकर्मा विद्यापीठ आणि वेल्होर इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नॉलॉजी वेल्होर यांच्यासह तीन महाविद्यालयांनी सहभाग घेतला.या कार्यक्रमातून एकूण २१ प्रस्ताव सादर करण्यात आले, परीक्षक मंडळाने त्यातील तीन प्रस्ताव विजेते घोषित केले. त्यांना रोख पारितोषिके देऊन गौरविण्यात आले.

खऱ्या समस्या सोडवा : बरजोर मेहता

बरजोर मेहता म्हणाले,' युवकांच्या नवकल्पना, ऊर्जा नव्या जगाचे प्रश्न सोडवेल. डिझाईन प्रोफेशन ची जबाबादारी वाढत आहे. वैयक्तिक, मार्केट,सरकार या पातळ्यांवर चित्र बदलले आहे. कागदावर चांगले दिसणारे आराखडे प्रत्यक्षात अपयशी ठरत आहेत. युवकांनी नवी आव्हाने पेलली पाहिजेत. बाजारपेठेच्या समस्या समजून घेतल्या पाहिजेत. फक्त आराखडे करण्याऐवजी खरेखुरे प्रश्न सोडवले पाहिजेत. मनुष्यकेंद्री, शाश्वत संकल्पना पुढे आणल्या पाहिजेत.

शहरे गॅस चेंबर होऊ देऊ नका: अॅड.वंदना चव्हाण

शहरं वाढत असून समस्या वाढत आहे. वस्तुस्थिति समजून घेऊन धोरणकर्ते आणि राज्यकर्ते वागले पाहिजेत. शहरं विकासाची केंद्रे असली तरी सर्वांना राहण्यासाठी पुरेशी नाहीत. आर्किटेक्ट मंडळींनी डीसी रूल्स सारखे नियम पाळण्याचा आग्रह धरला पाहिजे. बांधकाम क्षेत्रात चटईक्षेत्र वाढवले जात आहे. तेवढी शहरांची क्षमता आहे का हे पाहिले पाहिजे. शहरांची गॅस चेंबर होऊ देऊ नका.हवा,पाणी काही सुरक्षित राहिलेले नाही. हा धोक्याचा इशारा आपण ओळखला पाहिजे.

प्रतिभा जोशी यांनीही नागरी वस्त्यातील घर बांधणी समस्या बाबत माहिती दिली.योगेश काजळे म्हणाले,' नागरी वस्ती, झोपडपट्टीत बांधकाम करणे हा दुर्लक्षित भाग असू नये. कमी जागेत सुविधाजनक करणे सोपे नाही.कीर्ती शाह यांनीही शहरी घरे आणी समस्या यावर मार्गदर्शन केले.गृह बांधणी हा राष्ट्रीय आणी सामाजिक प्रश्न बनला आहे. चांगले घर हा मानवी हक्क आहे, हे विसरता कामा नये, असे ते म्हणाले.

विजेत्यांचा गौरव

सिडको पुनर्विकास प्रकल्प, काळमंडई प्रकल्प, ठक्कर बाप्पा कॉलोनी, जहागीरबाद योजना यांना ओपन आयडियाज राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धा-२०२४' स्पर्धेतील पारितोषिक देऊन गौरविण्यात आले. हौसिंग स्टुडिओ उपक्रमात चिरंतन पाटील, वेदश्री कुलकर्णी, हर्ष अगरवाल, सादिया अन्सारी यांना गौरविण्यात आले.

दैनिक
पुणेरी आवाज

'.... अन्यथा कार्बन उत्सर्जनाबद्दल कर भरण्याची तयारी ठेवली पाहिजे '

'क्लायमेट ॲक्शन ऑर सस्टेनेबिलिटी'वरील चर्चासत्राला प्रतिसाद ; 'गोल्डन ठायलॉग्स' संवादमाले अंतर्गत आयोजन



थोडक्यात

आर्किटेक्ट आरेखनाच्या केंद्रस्थानी पर्यावरण आणा ; चर्चासत्रात सूर

पुणे : "मानवी बांधकामांच्या वाढीला मर्यादा असल्याने पर्यावरणपूरक विकासविषयक मुद्द्यांवर काळजी घ्यावी, आर्किटेक्ट आरेखनाच्या केंद्र स्थानी पर्यावरण हा घटक आणावा," असा सूर आर्किटेक्चरविषयक मार्गदर्शन सत्रात उमटला. आर्किटेक्चर क्षेत्रातील करिअरशी निगडित मुद्द्यांवर विद्यार्थ्यांना मार्गदर्शन करण्यासाठी, चर्चा करण्यासाठी 'गोल्डन जंप स्टार्ट ' या उपक्रमात 'रेग्युलेटरी मेकॅनिझम्स रिलेटेड टू एन्व्हायर्नमेंटल क्लिअरन्स अँण्ड ग्रीन बिल्डींग सर्टीफिकेशन', पर्यावरणविषयक मुद्द्यांवर व्ही.के.एन्व्हॉयर्नमेंटलच्या संस्थापक-पार्टनर अनघा परांजपे -पुरोहित, व्ही.के.एन्व्हॉयर्नमेंटलच्या संस्थापक -पार्टनर डॉ. पूर्वा केसकर यांनी मार्गदर्शन केले. हा कार्यक्रम व्ही.के. ग्रुपच्या सेनापती बापट रस्त्यावरील मुख्यालयात झाला. या मेंटरशिप प्रोग्रामसाठी ३० विद्यार्थी निवडण्यात आले आहेत. ऋषिकेश कुलकर्णी यांनीयांनी प्रास्ताविक केले. शिवाली वायचळ, अमोल उंबरजे यांनी संयोजन केले.

Media Coverages

सोमवार, दि. ३० सप्टेंबर २०२४ दायित्व

वस्तूंच्या पुनर्वापरासाठी सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज संस्थेचा स्तुत्य उपक्रम

• पुणे •

पर्यावरण क्षेत्रात काम करणारी सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज या सामाजिक संस्थेच्या माध्यमातून 'प्रीलव्ह इको हाट' या आगळ्यावेगळ्या उपक्रमाची सुरुवात पुण्यातील नामवंत व्हीके ग्रुपच्या कर्मचाऱ्यांनी केली. 'प्रीलव्ह इको हाट' या उपक्रमाद्वारे आपल्याकडील वस्तू जी वापरात नाही पण ती इतर कोणी वापरण्यायोग्य असेल तर ती ह्या प्रदर्शनामध्ये ठेवली जाते. त्यामुळे वापरलेल्या उपादनांची, कपड्यांची अदलाबदल, विक्री आणि दान एकाच व्यासपीठावर होणे शक्य असते. बोर्ड गेम्स, पुस्तके, शूज, ज्वेलरी, शो पिसेस आणि कपड्यांपासून ते बॅग, पर्स आणि पेंटिंगपर्यंत, अनेक वस्तू या प्रदर्शनात आहेत. सेनापती बापट रोडवरील व्हीके ग्रुपच्या कार्यालयात दर महिन्याच्या चौथ्या सोमवार, मंगळवार आणि बुधवारी या वस्तू प्रदर्शित केल्या जातात.



या उपक्रमास खूप चांगला प्रतिसाद मिळत असून तार्पर्यंत या प्रदर्शनाद्वारे २३० हुन अधिक वस्तूंची देवाणघेवाण झाली आहे. हा उपक्रम केवळ वापरलेल्या वस्तूंची अदलाबदल करणे, विक्री करणे किंवा देणगी देण्याबद्दल नव्हे तर एक अर्थपूर्ण मानसिक दिकाऊपणा स्वीकारण्यासाठी एकत्र येण्याबद्दल आहे.

सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हजच्या ट्रस्टी पूर्वा केसकर, अन्या परांजपे पुरोहित, हिथीकेश कुलकर्णी, अपूर्वा कुलकर्णी, विजय साने, अमोल उंबरजे तसेच व्हीके ग्रुपच्या वैशाली आठवले व मेघना पिंगळे यांच्या सभन्वयातून हा उपक्रम राबविला जातोय.

सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हजच्या ट्रस्टी अपूर्वा कुलकर्णी म्हणाल्या की, पर्यावरणासाठी एक पाऊल पुढे जाऊन आम्ही ह्या उपक्रमाची सुरुवात केली. पूर्वी भारतात वस्तूंची देवाणघेवाण खूप होत असे, आपण दुकानदाराकडे साठ्या देऊन भांडी घ्यायचो, मोठ्यांचे कपडे छोट्या भावंडांना वापरायला दयायचो, धान्य देऊन किराणा माल घ्यायचो. त्यामुळे सर्व वस्तूंचा पुनर्वापर होत असे. सस्टेनेबिलिटी घराघरात राबवली जाई. याची एक समांतर अर्थव्यवस्था होती. ही संस्कृती टिकून रहावी यासाठी आम्ही आमच्या ऑफिस मध्ये ह्या उपक्रमाची सुरुवात केली. आपल्याला आवश्यक नसलेल्या वस्तूंना नवीन जीवन देऊन, आपण एकत्रितपणे कचरा कमी करू शकतो आणि पर्यावरणावर सकारात्मक परिणाम करू शकतो.

कर्मचाऱ्यांमध्ये शाश्वत मानसिकता निर्माण करण्यासाठी प्रीलव्ह इको हाट सारखे उपक्रम महत्वाचे आहेत. आमच्यासाठी एकत्र येण्याची, एकमेकांना आधार देण्याची आणि आमच्या शाश्वतता उद्दिष्टांमध्ये योगदान देण्याची ही एक उत्तम संधी आहे.

अश्या प्रकारचे उपक्रम अनेक कार्यालयामध्ये राबविले पाहिजे. हे उपक्रम जर आपल्या कोणत्या ऑफिस मध्ये सुरु करावयाचे असल्यास आम्ही सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हजच्या माध्यमातून सहकार्य करू असे आयोजक सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हजचे अमोल उंबरजे आणि व्हीके ग्रुपच्या वैशाली आठवले व मेघना पिंगळे यांनी सांगितले.

दैनिक संध्या ६८ वर्ष

नि:पक्ष समीक्षणाचे....निर्भीड दैनिक

मंगळवार, दि. ०४ जून २०२४

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"नाला पुनरुज्जीवन" विषयावर झालेल्या चर्चासत्रास उत्फुर्त प्रतिसाद

पुणे (दै. संध्या)

■ सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज व आयजीबीसी पुणे चॅप्टर यांचा उपक्रम



नाल्यांचे पर्यावरणीय पुनरुज्जीवन करताना घरे, सोसायट्यांमधून नाल्यात पडणारे सांडपाणी स्वच्छ करण्याबरोबर घनकचऱ्याची विल्हेवाट लावणे, डोंगरातून येणाऱ्या पाण्यासाठी पुरेशी जागा करून देणे, पाण्याचा प्रवाह नियमीत करणे, नाल्याकाठी झाडे लावून नाल्यामध्ये काही प्रवाह तयार करणे हे पर्यावरणासाठी आवश्यक आहे. नाल्याचे नैसर्गिकरित्या सुशोभिकरण, पाणी स्वच्छता, दुर्गंधी मिटवणे, डासांची पैदास रोकणे व परिसरातील जैवविविधता सुधारणे हे देखील महत्वाचे असल्याने यातूनच नाल्याचे पुनरुज्जीवन शक्य असल्याचे मत तज्ज्ञांनी "नाला पुनरुज्जीवन" चर्चासत्रात व्यक्त केले.

जागतिक पर्यावरण दिनानिमित्त सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज व आयजीबीसी पुणे चॅप्टर यांच्या वतीने पर्यावरणीय नाला पुनरुज्जीवन या विषयावर चर्चासत्राचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. या चर्चासत्रात सृष्टी इको रिसर्च इन्स्टिट्यूटच्या सायली जोशी व इकोसत्व सोल्युशन्सच्या मेधावी राजवाडे या तज्ज्ञांनी मार्गदर्शन केले. यावेळी विविध पर्यावरणप्रेमी, अर्चिटेक्टस, इंजिनिअर, महाविद्यालयातील प्राध्यापक व विद्यार्थी, सामाजिक संस्था प्रतिनिधी, सल्लागार व विविध कंपन्यांचे प्रतिनिधी तसेच पुणे महानगरपालिकेचे अधिकारी उपस्थित होते. पर्यावरण दिनाचे औचित्य साधत सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज या सामाजिक संस्थेचे वार्षिक अहवालाचे इ-प्रकाशन करण्यात आले. या अहवालात संस्थेच्या वतीने विविध संस्थांबरोबर केलेल्या उपक्रम व प्रकल्प यांचा वार्षिक कार्याचा अहवाल आहे.

सामाजिक बांधिलकी जपत ११६ जणांनी केले रक्तदान

■ राष्ट्र संचार न्यूज नेटवर्क

पुणे : शहरातील अग्रगण्य मल्टी-डिसीप्लिनरी कन्सल्टन्सी संस्था व्हीके ग्रुपने वर्धापनदिनाचे औचित्य साधून सामाजिक बांधिलकी जपत एक उल्लेखनीय रक्तदान शिबिर आयोजित केले. व्हीके ग्रुपच्या 'सस्टेनॅबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज् ट्रस्ट'च्या पुढाकाराने व दीनानाथ मंगेशकर रक्तपेढीच्या सहकार्याने हे शिबिर सेनापती बापट रस्ता येथील मुख्य कार्यालयात पार पडले. या शिबिरात एकूण १६१ इच्छुकांची तपासणी करण्यात आली, त्यापैकी ११६ स्वयंसेवकांनी रक्तदान करत समाजाप्रती आपली निष्ठा आणि सेवा-भावना दाखवली.

या उपक्रमात केवळ व्हीके ग्रुपचे कर्मचारीच नव्हे, तर ईबिक्स कॅश, बहिरट रिअॅलिटी, वोनीट, हाय गार्डन, प्रचय कॅपिटल, जेनिसिस टेक्नॉलॉजी या सहकारी संस्थांचे कर्मचारीही सक्रियपणे सहभागी झाले. रक्तदान शिबिराच्या उद्घाटनप्रसंगी व्हीके ग्रुपचे संस्थापक विश्वास कुलकर्णी, संचालिका अनघा परांजपे-पुरोहित, मेधना पिंगळे, सस्टेनॅबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हजचे अमोल उंबरजे, तसेच दीनानाथ मंगेशकर रक्तपेढीचे डॉ. लक्ष्मण उगाडे, अनिकेत पाटील आणि अक्षय आगम आदी मान्यवर उपस्थित होते. त्यांनी रक्तदात्यांचे स्वागत करत त्यांच्या योगदानाचे मनःपूर्वक कौतुक केले.



पुणे शहरातील अग्रगण्य मल्टी-डिसीप्लिनरी कन्सल्त बांधिलकी जपत एक उल्लेखनीय रक्तदान शिबि

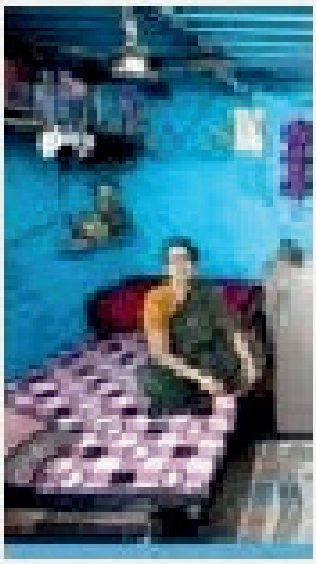
Media Coverages

राष्ट्रसंचार

पुण्यात काय घडतंय...

राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धा पारितोषिक वितरण

- **विषय :** 'ओपन आयडियाज राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धा-२०२४' आणि हाउसिंग स्टुडिओ उपक्रमाचा पारितोषिक वितरण समारंभ. ही स्पर्धा हॅबिटॅट फोरम (आयएनएचएफ) आणि सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हस यांच्या सहकार्याने आयोजित करण्यात आली होती. यामागील उद्दिष्ट लहान व कमी खर्चाची घरे अधिक राहण्यायोग्य बनवण्यासाठी नाविन्यपूर्ण उपाय शोधणे हे होते.
- **प्रमुख उपस्थिती :** बरजोर मेहता (अध्यक्ष,सीईपीटी युनिव्हर्सिटी,अहमदाबाद)
- **मार्गदर्शक :** डॉ.राजेंद्र निंबाळकर (माजी मुख्य अधिकारी,म्हाडा) आर्किटेक्ट अमित बापट (डिझाईन हेड-वेस्टईस्ट झोन, गोदरेज प्रॉपर्टीज)



Media Coverages

'सस्टेनॅबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज' या संस्थेतर्फे आर्किटेक्चरल

डिझाईन स्पर्धांतील राष्ट्रीय विजेत्यांशी संवाद

■ राष्ट्रसंचार न्यूज नेटवर्क

पुणे : 'सस्टेनॅबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज'या संस्थेतर्फे 'आर्किटेक्चरल डिझाईन कॉम्पिटिशन्स -पुशिंग द एज इन आर्किटेक्चर प्रोफेशन' या विषयावर चर्चासत्राचे आयोजन करण्यात आले आहे.

सार्वजनिक बांधकाम खात्याचे मुख्य अभियंता अतुल चव्हाण हे या चर्चासत्राला प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून उपस्थित राहणार आहेत. सुनील पाटील (संचालक सुनील पाटील अँड असोसिएट्स), कल्पक भंडारी (संचालक, विकास स्टुडिओ), विजय साने (पार्टनर, व्ही. के.: यू,अर्बन) हे मान्यवर या चर्चासत्रात सहभागी होणार आहेत, हे तिन्ही मान्यवर वक्ते हे राष्ट्रीय स्तरावरील वेगवेगळ्या आर्किटेक्चरल डिझाईन कॉम्पिटिशनमधील विजेते असून ते त्यांचे अनुभव आणि विचार या चर्चासत्रात मांडणार आहेत. २३ जून रोजी सायंकाळी ५ ते ७ या दरम्यान सेनापती बापट रस्त्यावरील मराठा चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्सच्या सुमंत मुळगावकर सभागृह येथे हे चर्चासत्र होईल.

राष्ट्रीय व आंतरराष्ट्रीय तज्ज्ञांचा सहभाग

● पुणेकरांना भेडसावणाऱ्या शहरी समस्या, पर्यावरणविषयक जागरूकता, शाश्वत शहर विकास, शहरी जीवनाची गुणवत्ता अशा गोष्टींवर ऊहापोह करण्यासाठी या क्षेत्रातील राष्ट्रीय व आंतरराष्ट्रीय तज्ज्ञ, सरकारी अधिकारी, स्थापत्यशास्त्राचे विद्यार्थी, नागरिक, इंजिनिअर्स, वास्तुविशारद, स्टेकहोल्डर्स यांना ' गोल्डन डॉयलॉग्ज ' या संवादमालेत आमंत्रित करण्यात येते. या संवाद मालिकेची वर्षभरात पाच सत्रे नियोजित करण्यात आली आहेत.ज्यामध्ये 'रोल ऑफ प्लेसमेकिंग इन अर्बन रिव्हायटलायजेशन, पुणे शहरासाठी हवामान कृती आराखडा, डिझाइन स्पर्धेची भूमिका, शहरी इमारतीमध्ये रेटिंग सिस्टीमचे महत्व, पर्यावरणीय लँडस्केपिंग आणि शाश्वत शहरीकरण यासारख्या शहर विकासाशी निगडित विविध विषयांवर तज्ज्ञांसोबत चर्चा केली जाईल.

आर्किटेक्चर चे विद्यार्थी, आर्किटेक्ट व्यावसायिक, तसेच या क्षेत्राशी संबंधित व्यक्ती या चर्चासत्रात सहभागी होणार आहेत. विनामूल्य नाव नोंदणीसाठी गुगल फॉर्म भरण्याचे आवाहन करण्यात आले आहे. 'सस्टेनॅबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज' ही संस्था आर्किटेक्चर क्षेत्रातील व्ही.के. ग्रुप या कंपनीचा एक उपक्रम आहे. व्ही.के. ग्रुपच्या सुवर्ण महोत्सवी वर्षानिमित्त गोल्डन डायलॉग ही चर्चासत्रांची मालिका आखण्यात आली असून हे चर्चासत्र या मालिकेतील तिसरे चर्चासत्र आहे.

CITY DIGEST

Dialogue on AI in architecture

Sustainability Initiatives will conduct a series of panel discussions on generative design and artificial intelligence in architectural practice, at 5pm at BORI on Friday.

भांबुर्डे रेंज, वन विभाग, सस्टेनाबिलीटी इनिशीएटीवज पुणे व व्ही के ग्रुप यांचा उपक्रम



पुणे : वन विभागाच्या जागेवर साधारण ९० स्वयंसेवी संस्थांच्या माध्यमातून १६५ देशी झाडाची लागवड करण्यात आली. भांबुर्डे रेंज, वन विभाग ब पर्यावरण क्षेत्रात काम करणारी संस्था सस्टेनाबिलीटी इनिशीएटीवज, व्ही के ग्रुप यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने आयोजित वृक्षारोपण कार्यक्रम कोथरूड येथील म्हातोबा टेकडीवर पार पडला.

यावेळी सस्टेनाबिलीटी इनिशीएटीवज च्या ट्रस्टी अपूर्वा कुलकर्णी, अमोल उंबरजे, शिवली वाईचल, व्ही के ग्रुप च्या दीपा बोकील, वन विभागाचे पी बरले, बाळू तिगडे व इतर मान्यवर उपस्थित होते.

पुणे महानगर पालिका, आयजीबीसी पुणे, महा एनजीओ फेडरेशन, जिनसपोर्ट, रेजिलिएन्ट, जेनोमबीओ, नवक्षितिज, जिओ फौंडेशन, रिझो, इशरे, रिहा, एफएसएआय, एस एस व्हिजन, शांतिदुत परिवार, टीसपीएल ग्रुप, युनिक इनवारोकेअर ह्या संस्थेचे प्रतिनिधीही वृक्षारोपनामध्ये सहभागी झाले होते. सस्टेनाबिलीटी इनिशीएटीवज ब वन विभागाच्या सहकार्याने वृक्षरोपण करण्याचा हे पाचवे वर्ष आहे. संस्थेच्या बतीने वृक्षरोपण करण्यासाठी दरवर्षी अनेक सामाजिक संस्थांना व नागरिकांना आवाहन करत असतो असे सस्टेनाबिलीटी इनिशीएटीवजचे अमोल उंबरजे म्हणाले.

Media Coverages

विश्वदर्पण

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"नाला पुनरुज्जीवन" विषयावर झालेल्या चर्चासत्रास उत्फुर्त प्रतिसाद



पुणे : नाल्यांचे पर्यावरणीय पुनरुज्जीवन करताना घरे, सोसायट्यांमधून नाल्यात पडणारे सांडपाणी स्वच्छ करण्याबरोबर घनकचऱ्याची विल्हेवाट लावणे, डोंगरातून येणाऱ्या पाण्यासाठी पुरेशी जागा करून देणे, पाण्याचा प्रवाह नियमीत करणे, नाल्याकाठी झाडे लावून नाल्यामध्ये काही प्रवाह तयार करणे हे पर्यावरणासाठी आवश्यक आहे. नाल्याचे नैसर्गिकरित्या सुशोभिकरण, पाणी स्वच्छता, दुर्गंधी मिटवणे, डासांची पैदास रोकणे व परिसरातील जैवविविधता सुधारणे हे देखील महत्वाचे असल्याने यातूनच नाल्याचे पुनरुज्जीवन शक्य असल्याचे मत तज्ज्ञांनी "नाला पुनरुज्जीवन" चर्चासत्रात व्यक्त केले. जागतिक पर्यावरण दिनानिमित्त सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्ह्ज व आयजीबीसी पुणे चॅप्टर यांच्या वतीने पर्यावरणीय नाला पुनरुज्जीवन या विषयावर चर्चासत्राचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. या चर्चासत्रात सृष्टी इको रिसर्च इन्स्टिट्यूटच्या सायली जोशी व इकोसत्व सोल्युशन्सच्या मेधावी राजवाडे या तज्ज्ञांनी मार्गदर्शन केले. यावेळी विविध पर्यावरणप्रेमी, अर्चिटेक्टस, इंजिनिअर, महाविद्यालयातील प्राध्यापक व विद्यार्थी, सामाजिक संस्था प्रतिनिधी, सल्लागार व विविध कंपन्यांचे प्रतिनिधी तसेच पुणे महानगरपालिकेचे अधिकारी उपस्थित होते. पर्यावरण दिनाचे औचित्य साधत सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्ह्ज या सामाजिक संस्थेचे वार्षिक अहवालाचे इ-प्रकाशन करण्यात आले. या अहवालात संस्थेच्या वतीने विविध संस्थांबरोबर केलेल्या उपक्रम व प्रकल्प यांचा वार्षिक कार्याचा अहवाल आहे.

अनघा परांजपे पुरोहित यांनी कार्यक्रमाचे प्रास्ताविक केले. भूषण भालेराव यांनी चर्चेचा समारोप केला तर अनघा आठवले यांनी सूत्रसंचालन व अमोल उंबरजे यांनी समन्वय केले. सायली जोशी यांनी प्रदूषित प्रवाहांची पर्यावरणीय जीर्णोद्धार तर मेधावी राजवाडे यांनी पर्यावरणीय पुनरुज्जीवनची संकल्पना या विषयांवर सादरीकरण केले.

पुण्य नगरी

In Short

स्वयंसेवी संस्थांतर्फे देशी झाडांची लागवड



पुणे : वन विभागाच्या वारजे येथील स्मृतिवन टेकडीवर २१८ स्वयंसेवी संस्थांच्या प्रतिनिधींनी ५६५ देशी झाडांची लागवड केली. भांबुर्डा रेंज, वन विभाग, महा एनजीओ फेडरेशन, सस्टेनाबिलीटी इनिशिएटीवज, व्हीके ग्रुप व लायन्स क्लब यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने आयोजित वृक्षारोपण कार्यक्रम स्मृतिवन टेकडीवर झाला. उपक्रमाचे नियोजन अमोल उंबरजे, मुकुंद शिंदे आणि किशोर मोहोळकर यांनी केले. संपूर्ण वृक्षांची देखभाल लायन्स क्लब यांच्या माध्यमातून किशोर मोहोळकर करणार आहेत. या वेळी अमोल उंबरजे, मुकुंद शिंदे, किशोर मोहोळकर, रघुनाथ ढोले पाटील उपस्थित होते. महाएनजीओ फेडरेशनचे संस्थापक आणि महाराष्ट्र गोसेवा आयोगाचे अध्यक्ष शेखर मुंदडा यांचा नेहमीच अशा प्रकल्पांना पाठिंबा असतो.

ओपन आयडियाज स्पर्धेचा पारितोषिक वितरण समारंभ

पुणे, ता. ३: हॅबिटॅट फोरम आणि सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हस् यांच्या सहकार्याने 'ओपन आयडियाज राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धा-२०२४' आणि 'हाउसिंग स्टुडिओ' उपक्रमाचा पारितोषिक वितरण समारंभ आयोजित केला होता. सिडको पुनर्विकास प्रकल्प, काळमंडई प्रकल्प, ठक्कर बाप्पा कॉलनी, जहागीरबाद योजना यांना ओपन आयडियाज स्पर्धेसाठी पारितोषिक देण्यात आले, तर 'हाउसिंग स्टुडिओ' उपक्रमासाठी चिरंतन पाटील, वेदश्री कुलकर्णी, हर्ष अगरवाल व सादिया अन्सारी यांचा गौरव करण्यात आला.

घरांची रचना अधिक कार्यक्षम, राहण्यायोग्य आणि शाश्वत बनविण्यासाठी नावीन्यपूर्ण उपाय शोधणे हा या उपक्रमाचा उद्देश होता. प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून अहमदाबाद येथील सीईपीटी युनिव्हर्सिटीचे अध्यक्ष बरजोर मेहता यांनी मार्गदर्शन केले. यावेळी बी. जी. शिर्के कन्स्ट्रक्शन कंपनीचे वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष योगेश काजळे, हॅबिटेट फोरमचे संस्थापक कीर्ती शाह, शेल्टर ऑर्गनायझेशनच्या प्रतिभा जोशी, माजी खासदार ॲड. वंदना चव्हाण, व्हीके ग्रुपचे संस्थापक विश्वास कुलकर्णी, डॉ. अनघा पुरोहित, डॉ. पूर्वा केसकर, अपूर्वा कुलकर्णी, हृषिकेश कुलकर्णी आदी उपस्थित होते. जोशी व योगेश काजळे यांनी नागरी वस्त्यांतील घर बांधणी समस्या बाबत माहिती दिली. द्वैपायन चक्रवर्ती यांनी प्रास्ताविक केले.

Media Coverages

लहान घरे आरामदायी बनवणाऱ्या कल्पनांचा गौरव

पुणे:

'ओपन आयडियाज राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धा-२०२४' आणि हाउसिंग स्टुडिओ उपक्रमाचा पारितोषिक वितरण समारंभ ३१ जानेवारी २०२५ रोजी सायंकाळी ५ वाजता मराठा चेंबरचे सुमंत मुळगावकर सभागृह(सेनापती बापट रस्ता,पुणे) येथे आयोजित करण्यात आला आहे.ही स्पर्धा हॅबिटॅट फोरम (आयएनएचएएफ) आणि सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हस यांच्या सहकार्याने आयोजित करण्यात आली होती.यामागील उद्दिष्ट लहान व कमी खर्चाची घरे अधिक राहण्यायोग्य बनवण्यासाठी नाविन्यपूर्ण उपाय शोधणे हे होते.

कार्यक्रमात बरजोर मेहता(अध्यक्ष,सीईपीटी युनिव्हर्सिटी,अहमदाबाद)



हे प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून उपस्थित राहतील.डॉ.राजेंद्र निंबाळकर(माजी मुख्य अधिकारी,म्हाडा) आर्किटेक्ट अमित बापट (डिझाईन हेड-वेस्टईस्ट झोन,गोदरेज प्रॉपर्टीज) यांची प्रमुख उपस्थिती असून तेही मार्गदर्शन करतील.

या स्पर्धेसाठी वास्तुविशारद,इंटीरियर डिझायनर,नियोजनकर्ते,अभियंते,वरिष्ठ विद्यार्थी,स्वयंसेवी संस्था,शासकीय संस्थांमध्ये काम करणारे व्यावसायिक तसेच झोपडपट्टी पुनर्वसन व उन्नती क्षेत्रात काम करणाऱ्या व्यक्तींचा सहभाग मागवण्यात आला होता.प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना (झच-ध) व इतर परवडणाऱ्या गृहनिर्माण योजनांसाठी घरांची रचना अधिक कार्यक्षम,राहण्यायोग्य आणि शाश्वत बनवण्यासाठी नाविन्यपूर्ण उपाय शोधणे हा या उपक्रमाचा उद्देश आहे.

ही स्पर्धा मे २०२४ मध्ये सुरू करण्यात आली होती. एकूण २८७ स्पर्धक नोंदणीकृत झाले व ६५ प्रस्ताव प्राप्त झाले. त्यापैकी पाच प्रस्ताव परीक्षकांनी निवडले.याच विषयावर आधारित १२ आठवड्यांचा हाउसिंग स्टुडिओ उपक्रम देखील स्पर्धेसोबतच राबवला गेला. हे स्टुडिओ भानुबेन नानावटी कॉलेज ऑफ आर्किटेक्चर,पुणे येथे हॅबिटॅट फॉर्म द्वारे पथदर्शी स्वरूपात राबवले गेले. पुण्यातील ब्रिक ग्रुप ऑफ इंस्टिट्यूट्स,विश्वकर्मा विद्यापीठ आणि वेल्होर इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नॉलॉजी वेल्होर यांच्यासह तीन महाविद्यालयांनी सहभाग घेतला.या कार्यक्रमातून एकूण २१ प्रस्ताव सादर करण्यात आले, परीक्षक मंडळाने त्यातील तीन प्रस्ताव विजेते घोषित केले.

राजदंड ४

Media Coverages

'क्लायमेट ॲक्शन फॉर सस्टेनॅबिलिटी' चर्चासत्र

पुणे : शहर विकासाशी निगडित मुद्द्यांवर निगडित सर्व घटकांशी चर्चा करण्यासाठी आयोजित 'गोल्डन डायलॉग्स' या संवादमालेतील ' क्लायमेट ॲक्शन फॉर सस्टेनॅबिलिटी' विषयावरील चर्चासत्राला शनिवारी सायंकाळी चांगला प्रतिसाद मिळाला. 'जागतिक तापमानवाढीचा धोका पाहता, पर्यावरण संवर्धन केले नाही, तर कार्बन उत्सर्जनाबद्दल कर भरण्याची तयारी ठेवली पाहिजे आणि उत्सर्जन कमी करणाऱ्यांना प्रोत्साहन मिळाले पाहिजे,' असा सूर या चर्चासत्रात उमटला. नवलमल फिरोदिया ऑडिटोरियम, भांडारकर ओरिएंटल रिसर्च इन्स्टिटयूट येथे हे चर्चासत्र झाले. या चर्चासत्रामध्ये विविध व्यक्ती या सहभागी झाल्या होत्या.



वस्तूंच्या पुनर्वापरासाठी...

शहरबात

श्रीराम ओक

आपल्याकडील एखादी वस्तू वापरात नाही, पण ती इतर कोणास वापरण्यायोग्य असेल तर...? हा प्रश्न आपल्याला कधीच पडत नाही. अनेकदा हौशीपोटी आपण वस्तूंची खरेदी करतो. काही दिवस सातत्याने त्या जेवढ्या वापरता येतील तेवढ्या वापरतो आणि अगदी प्रेमाने वापरतो; पण त्यापेक्षा थोडीशी अधिक उत्तम प्रकारची म्हणजेच 'अपडेटेट' वस्तू आली, की आधीच्या वस्तूचे काय करायचे, असा प्रश्न आपल्याला पडू शकतो. हा प्रश्न निकाली काढण्यासाठी एक छान, सोपे उत्तर पर्यावरण क्षेत्रात कार्यरत असणाऱ्या पुण्यातील एका संस्थेने शोधले आहे. या कल्पनेला मूर्त रूप दिले आहे एका कंपनीतील कर्मचाऱ्यांनी.

पर्यावरण क्षेत्रात काम करणाऱ्या 'सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज' या सामाजिक संस्थेच्या माध्यमातून 'प्रीलव्हड् इको हाट' या आगळ्यावेगळ्या उपक्रमाची सुरुवात पुण्यातील 'व्हीके ग्रुप'च्या कर्मचाऱ्यांनी केली. 'प्रीलव्हड् इको हाट' हे या उपक्रमाचे प्रदर्शन. या प्रदर्शनामध्ये वापरलेल्या उत्पादनांची, कपड्यांची अदलाबदल, विक्री आणि दान एकाच व्यासपीठावर होणे शक्य झाले आहे. बोर्ड गेम्स, पुस्तके, पादत्राणे, दागिने, शोभेच्या वस्तू, तसेच कपड्यांपासून ते बॅग, पर्स आणि पेंटिंगपर्यंत अनेक वस्तू या प्रदर्शनात आहेत.

सेनापती बापट रस्त्यावरील व्हीके ग्रुपच्या कार्यालयात दर महिन्याच्या चौथ्या सोमवार, मंगळवार आणि बुधवारी या वस्तू प्रदर्शित केल्या जातात. या उपक्रमास खूप चांगला प्रतिसाद मिळत असून, आतापर्यंत या प्रदर्शनाद्वारे दोनशेहून अधिक वस्तूंची देवाणघेवाण झाली आहे. हा उपक्रम केवळ वापरलेल्या वस्तूंची अदलाबदल करणे, विक्री करणे किंवा देणगी देण्याबद्दल नव्हे, तर एक अर्थपूर्ण मार्गाने टिकाऊपणा स्वीकारण्यासाठी एकत्र येण्याबद्दल आहे.

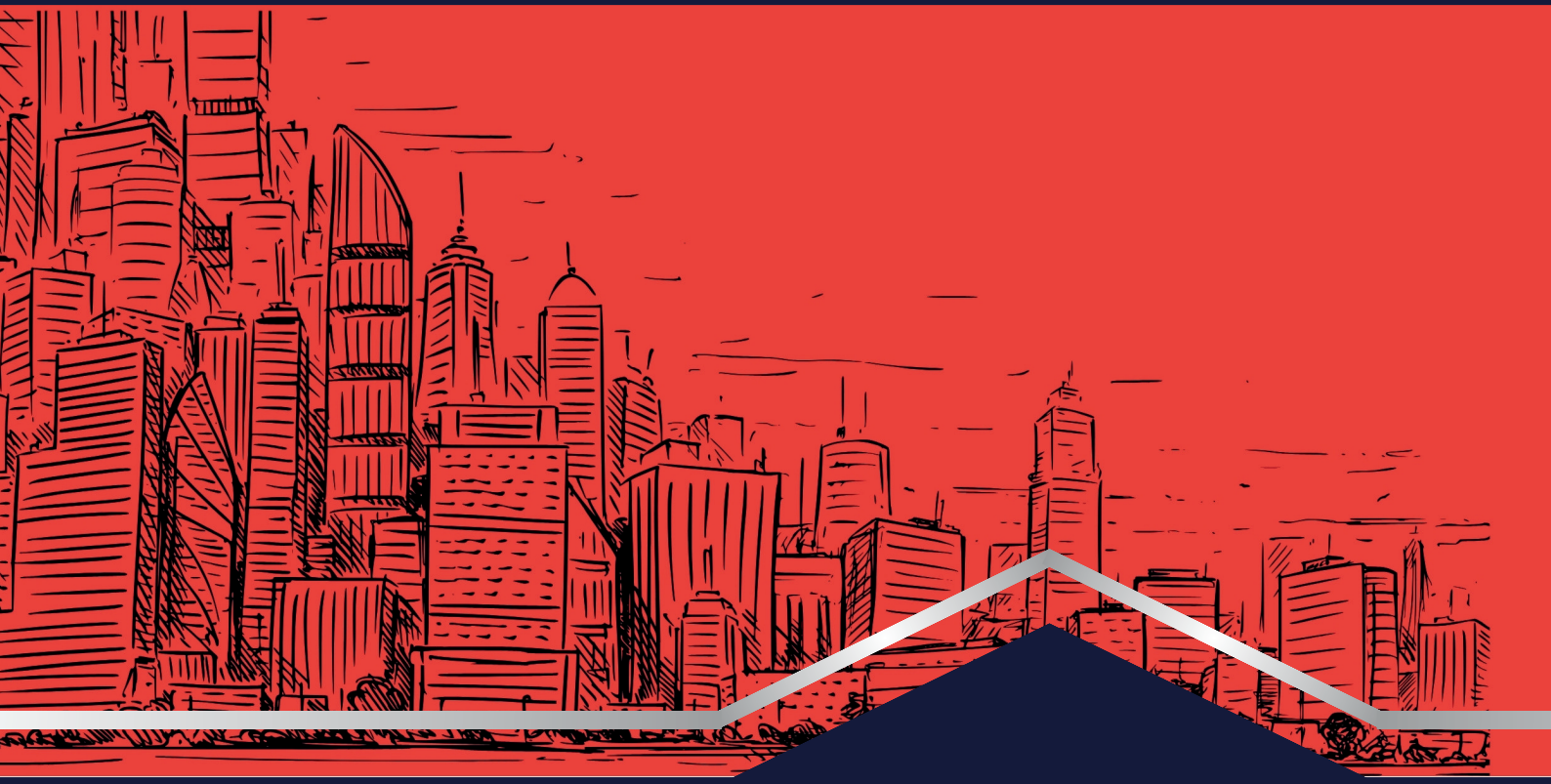
'सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज'च्या ट्रस्टी पूर्वा केसकर, अनघा पराजपे-पुरोहित, हृषीकेश कुलकर्णी, अपूर्वा कुलकर्णी, विजय साने, अमोल उंबरजे आणि 'व्हीके ग्रुप'च्या वैशाली आठवले व मेघना पिंगळे यांच्या समन्वयातून हा उपक्रम राबविला जातोय.

पर्यावरणासाठी एक पाऊल पुढे जाऊन आम्ही या उपक्रमाची सुरुवात केली. पूर्वी भारतात वस्तूंची देवाणघेवाण खूप होत असे. आपण दुकानदाराकडे साड्या देऊन भांडी घ्यायचो, मोठ्यांचे कपडे छोट्या भावंडांना वापरायला द्यायचो, धान्य देऊन किराणा माल घ्यायचो. त्यामुळे सर्व वस्तूंचा पुनर्वापर होत असे. 'सस्टेनेबिलिटी' घराघरांत रुजवली जाई. याची एक समांतर अर्थव्यवस्था होती. ही संस्कृती टिकून राहावी यासाठी आम्ही आमच्या कार्यालयात या उपक्रमाची सुरुवात केली. आपल्याला आवश्यक नसलेल्या वस्तूंना नवीन जीवन देऊन, आपण एकत्रितपणे कचरा कमी करू शकतो आणि पर्यावरणावर सकारात्मक परिणाम करू शकतो, असे 'सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज'च्या ट्रस्टी अपूर्वा कुलकर्णी यांनी सांगितले.

कर्मचाऱ्यांमध्ये शाश्वत मानसिकता निर्माण करण्यासाठी 'प्रीलव्हड् इको हाट' सारखे उपक्रम महत्त्वाचे आहेत. आमच्यासाठी एकत्र येण्याची, एकमेकांना आधार देण्याची आणि आमच्या शाश्वतता उद्दिष्टांमध्ये योगदान देण्याची ही एक उत्तम संधी आहे. अशा प्रकारचे उपक्रम अनेक कार्यालयांमध्ये राबविले पाहिजेत. हे उपक्रम आपल्या कोणत्या ऑफिसमध्ये सुरू करावयाचे असल्यास आम्ही 'सस्टेनेबिलिटी इनिशिएटिव्हज'च्या माध्यमातून सहकार्य करू, असे आयोजक अमोल उंबरजे आणि 'व्हीके ग्रुप'च्या वैशाली आठवले व मेघना पिंगळे यांनी सांगितले.

shriram.oak@expressindia.com

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CONNECT WITH US:

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Registered Address: 17B Pinnac Garden, next to Kokan Express, Kothrud, Pune 38 Registration no.: E-5809 (Pune)

Correspondence Address: VK Group, Ground, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Floor, Muttha Chambers II, Senapati Bapat Rd, Pune, Maharashtra 411016, India.

Phone: +91-20-6626 8888, Fax: +91-6626-8801
Email: mail@sustainability-initiatives.org