

*“As the festival of Diwali brightens our lives, may it also ignite a spirit of environmental consciousness.”*

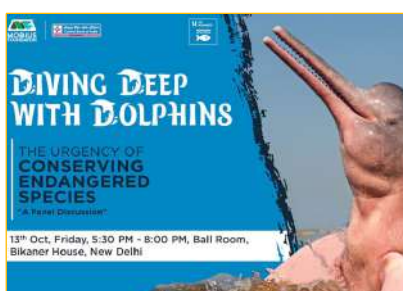
. . . **Mr. Pradip Burman**, Chairperson, Mobius Foundation

## Diving Deep with Dolphins: The Urgency of Conserving Endangered Species

In view of the Wildlife Week and Dolphin Day, the Mobius Foundation in partnership with Central Bank of India organised an event to raise awareness about dolphins, the challenges faced in their conservation and to find potential innovative solutions to help in saving the dolphins.

The event took place on the 13th of October 2023, at Bikaner House, New Delhi, in the form of a panel discussion. **Mr. Pradip Burman**, Chairperson, Mobius Foundation addressed the gathering and highlighted the importance of river dolphins. He reminded us how individuals can contribute to the conservation of endangered species. The esteemed experts - **Mr. G. Ashok Kumar**,

Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, **Mr. Sanjay Upadhyay**, Supreme Court, Advocate, Founder and Managing Partner of India's First Environmental Law Firm, Enviro Legal Defence Firm, **Dr. Sandeep Behera**, Consultant, NMCG and **Mr. Suresh Babu SV**, Director, River basins and Water Policy, WWF, delved into several pressing issues related to riverine dolphins in India and other parts of India. The panel discussion became more interactive with a Q&A session with the audience in the house. **Mr. Praveen Garg**, President, Mobius Foundation in his concluding remarks, emphasised the importance of saving endangered mega-fauna of river ecosystems and elaborated how Mobius Foundation is working towards creating awareness on the need for strengthening their conservation efforts.



## Online session on “Importance of Dolphins and the dire need for their Conservation”

Wildlife Week is celebrated every year in India during the first week of October with the aim to safeguard and preserve the lives of endangered species through strategic actions. In line with the same, Mobius Think Tank conducted an online session ‘Importance of Dolphins and the dire need for their Conservation’ with the students of Gyan Anant Vidyalaya (class 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>) on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023. The session was conducted by Dr. Sandip, Research Associate, MF in coordination with Ms Mamta Giri, Project Associate, MF and Mr. Pawan, Research Associate, MF. Dr. Sandip introduced students to various species of different South Asian River Dolphins prevalent in India, need for their conservation and threats faced by them. Total 61 students along with their teachers participated in the session with great enthusiasm.



## Quiz Competition on National Dolphin Day at Gyan Anant Vidyalaya (GAV)

To raise awareness and enhance the knowledge about dolphins amongst the youths of GAV, Dr. Sandip Tanu Mandal, Ms. Mamta, and Mr. Pawan Jai Singh Rathore from Mobius Think Tank organized a quiz competition on 'The Importance of Dolphins and its Conservation' on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 which is also commemorated as National Dolphin Day in India. Students from class 8th and 9th participated in the quiz with great enthusiasm. They competed in five teams: the Ganges River Dolphin, the Indus River Dolphin, the Irrawaddy Dolphin, the Amazon River Dolphin, and Hector's Dolphin. The winners and participants received certificates and prizes. Dr. Poonam Minhas, Principal, GAV, addressed the students and praised the initiative by Mobius Think Tank for conducting the quiz competition on National Dolphin Day in the school.



## Launch of Seeds of Change 2023: State of the Education Report for India 2023

The UNESCO New Delhi Regional Office would like to acknowledge the support from UNICEF India, British Council India, and Mobius Foundation towards the development of this report.



UNESCO in partnership with Mobius Foundation launched SEEDS OF CHANGE: State of the Education Report (SOER) for India 2023 on 18th October, 2023 at UNESCO Office, India, New Delhi.

SEEDS OF CHANGE: State of the Education Report (SOER) for India 2023 delves into the role of education in tackling the increasingly complex and intensifying challenges posed by climate change in India. The report focuses on the interaction of two Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)- Quality Education (SDG 4) and Climate Action (SDG 13) – in the context of India, particularly Target 4.7 (Education for Sustainable Development [ESD] and Global Citizenship Education) and Target 13.3 (Building Knowledge and capacity to address Climate change).

Mobius Team also set up a booth in this event to showcase various activities and projects being conducted by Mobius Foundation.



Mobius Team along with CEO MF and Ms. Joyce Poan, Chief of Education, UNESCO



## Gyan Anant Vidyalaya (GAV)

### Achievement of Gold Award in the Eco-Friendly School Category at the Global Sustainability Awards 2023

Gyan Anant Vidyalaya is delighted to share that it has achieved Gold Award in the Eco-Friendly School category at the Global Sustainability Awards 2023. This international event received participation from 450 schools worldwide, among them, GAV emerged as the winner after two rounds of jury verdicts. GAV extends its gratitude to the jury members and its dedicated team for their hard work, which has brought immense pride and glory to our school on a global platform. This achievement is truly a proud moment for us, and it reflects our unwavering commitment to sustainability.





# Mobius Foundation celebrates International Girl Child Day

Under MF's 100 School Project 'Gyaan Kanya Shakti', International Girl Child Day, was celebrated by Mobius Foundation in association with Lotus Petal Foundation on 11th October 2023. The celebration involved poem recitations, singing and dance performance by girl students from the Government schools of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Students also made beautiful and attractive posters to mark the occasion.

In alignment with the vision of Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman, Mobius Foundation, 100 school project was launched with an aim to empower and provide quality education to girls from marginalised communities.



## Aakar

Involving Communities to strengthen family planning drive

Under Project Aakar, a collaborative health fair took place on October 27, 2023 in Jarwal, and Bahraich districts of Uttar Pradesh, to enhance awareness and engage community in family planning. The event was attended by notable individuals, including **Dr. Brajesh Rathore**, the Director General of Family Welfare for the Government of Uttar Pradesh, and **Dr. Satish Kumar Singh**, the Chief Medical Officer of Bahraich. Representatives from the Mobius Foundation, Population Foundation of India, and various dignitaries from state and district health departments were also present.

### Event Highlights

- 867 community members reported at the registration desk in the Health Mela.
- 154 clients received Family Planning Counselling and Contraceptives.
- 134 adolescents received a Health check-up and IFA tablets.
- 538 men, women and children benefitted from General Health Check-ups and medicines as required.

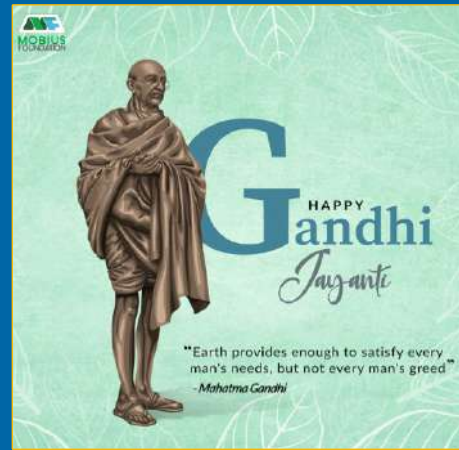
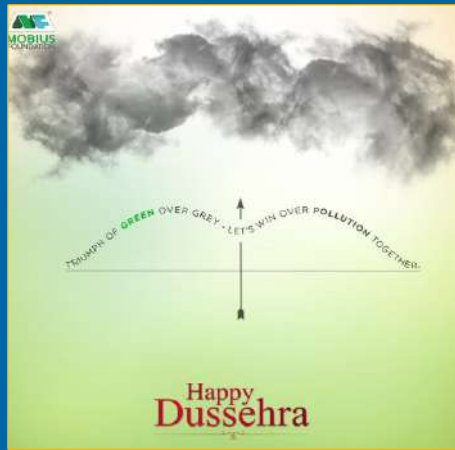


DG Health launching a new flipbook in family planning counselling to be used by ASHA & ANM.

Media Coverage

# Digital Campaign

## Special Days



Impressions 237,723 | Reach 214,195 | Engagement 8,021

## #DivingDeep



Impressions 266,224 | Reach 214,002 | Engagement 13,662

## Article

### 'Fuelling the Future'

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**Published in:** Millennium Post, 28 October 2023

**Link:** <https://www.millenniumpost.in/opinion/fuelling-the-future-538177>

**millenniumpost** Delhi Edition  
28 Oct 2023

# Fuelling the future

Streamlined efforts aimed at reducing the installation cost of floating solar panels can help integrate them in India's energy mix — aiding the fulfilment of green energy commitments

**ADITYA JOSHI & MAMTA GIRI**

India, ranking fourth in the Renewable 2022 Global Status Report by REN21, is one of the leading countries in solar energy transition. In less than a decade, its installed solar capacity has increased about 24 times, reaching 71.61 GW in August 2023, as per the monthly report of Renewable Generation by Central Electricity Authority (CEA). This is in line with India's target of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070 with a short-term target of increasing renewable capacity to 180 GW by 2030. The International Energy Agency has estimated that the energy demand per capita of the Indian consumer has increased from 25 per cent to 37 per cent between 2000 and 2019. The solar installations have indicated a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 29 per cent over the past decade, and the Government building India's largest floating solar project having 600 MW capacity, in two phases, on the Orkarebwar dam on the Narmada river in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh.

**Floating solar advantages**

The biggest advantage of developing floating solar projects is that they are not constrained by the availability of land for installation and functioning. Given the competing demands on land that floating solar panels do not face this problem as they are cooled by the surrounding water which increases their effectiveness by 10 per cent. Existing hydro-power and thermal power plants can also provide space for floating solar on their reservoirs. This is mutually beneficial as it saves the cost of setting up a separate transmission system, since the same can be used by both the solar and

hand solar project tends about Rs 3 crore of investment while a floating solar project requires around Rs 3 crore, leading to a higher tariff rate. As per norms fixed by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, power generated from land-based solar projects have a tariff range of Rs 2.3-2.9/kWh, whereas power from floating solar projects have a tariff range of Rs 2.94-3.08/kWh. Though, as mentioned earlier, the efficiency of CSPV is generally 10 per cent higher.

Before installing a floating solar plant, each location must undergo a detailed Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) in order to determine site suitability and to study the long-term effects of placing floating solar panels on the hydrologic ecosystem. However, in India, the guidelines for ESIA of floating solar panels are not properly available, thus there is a need for

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