

“ *Nature has its own way of healing; just let it be, and it will mend itself.* ”

– Mr. Pradip Burman
Chairman, Mobius
Foundation



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION (ICSE) 2024

The 6th International Conference on Sustainability Education 2024 is going to be organised on **19th-20th September 2024** at **India Habitat Centre, New Delhi**. The theme for this edition is ‘**Greening Education for a Sustainable Future**’.

Registration for the 6th International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) 2024 is open. The deadline for ‘**Early Bird**’ registrations is **15th July 2024**.

The conference will cover a broad range of critical topics, including educating for informed family planning practices towards a sustainable population and planet, green chemistry to combat plastic pollution, the role of sustainability education in skilling for green jobs, innovative technologies for sustainability education, youth conclave, circularity for sustainability, fostering ocean stewardship through learning, to name a few.

In collaboration with globally renowned national and international organizations and institutions such as UNESCO, UNEP, CEE, FEE, Climate Reality Project India & South Asia, Population Foundation of India, IIT Guwahati, and Central Institute of Technology, Kokrajhar, the conference promises to be an influential platform for advancing sustainability education. The participants will have numerous networking opportunities, allowing them to connect with like-minded professionals, share insights, and forge partnerships that can drive forward the sustainability agenda.

Join us at ICSE 2024 to participate in this crucial dialogue on sustainability education and contribute to the global movement towards greening education for a sustainable future. To register please visit: <https://www.icse-esd.org/alp-registration-2024.php>



YOUTH FOR EARTH

The 5th edition of the Youth for Earth (Y4E) 2024 campaign, a collaboration between the Mobius Foundation and The Climate Project Foundation, launched in February 2024, has seen an overwhelming response. There were 306 registrations nationally and internationally, including participants from Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. The registration deadline was April 15, 2024, and participants are required to submit their project reports by July 15, 2024, in the provided format available on the Y4E website. In May, the campaign's intensity was highlighted with the finalization of jury teams and the introduction of a new evaluation process to ensure the highest quality projects. June featured a pre-ICSE online forum on World Environment Day, emphasizing project report submission guidelines and evaluation criteria. This forum saw enthusiastic participation from over 450 individuals across South Asia including India. The winners from both Junior and Senior categories will be recognized at the 6th International Conference on Sustainability Education 2024, scheduled for September 19-20, 2024, at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. For more information, visit: **Y4E 2024**.



GYAN KANYA SHAKTI

Madhya Pradesh

1. A three member team consisting of, Mr. Neeraj Mittal, Sr. AVP and Ms. Ankita Hazra, Sr. Prog. Manager, from Lotus Petal Foundation and Ms. Neha Chaudhary, Program Coordinator, Gyan Kanya Shakti, MP from Mobius Foundation, conducted one on one session with various stakeholders from the education department and schools. Attendees included District Education Officers, Block Resource Coordinators, Principals and teachers. This session served as on boarding of these stakeholders for Gyan Kanya Shakti 2024-25.

The sessions involved Q&A section, where all questions from various stakeholders were answered. These sessions will be critical in understanding and troubleshooting some of the challenges that we faced during our pilot project in academic session 2023-24.

Key points discussed

- i. Introduction of Gyan Kanya Shakti program
- ii. Challenges faced by school teachers in bridging learning gaps
- iii. Importance of attendance for success of any educational interventions
- iv. Live class recording was shown for better understanding
- v. Processes involved in setting up of smart classes
- vi. Role of school teachers and principals in smooth running of program
- vii. Technical requirements for setting up the classes



District Sidhi, Madhya Pradesh



District Satna, Madhya Pradesh



District Panna, Uttar Pradesh

2. **25th April 2024:** An MoU was signed between Mobius Foundation, New Delhi and M.P. Birla Hospital & Priyamvada Birla Cancer Institute, Satna, for project Gyan Kanya Shakti - 100 school program, as health and sanitation implementation partners. Dr. Sanjay Maheshwari, Managing Director, MP Birla Hospital, Satna and Ms. Jessica Gill, Program Lead, Gyan Kanya Shakti-MP, Mobius Foundation signed the MoU, on behalf of respective organisations.

Mr. Vakeel Yadav, Operations Head, MP Birla Hospital and Ms. Neha Chaudhary, Program Coordinator, Gyan Kanya Shakti-MP, Mobius Foundation, were present to facilitate the process. The hospital will support by conducting health camps at all the adopted schools in three districts, Satna, Panna and Sidhi in Madhya Pradesh. Two health camps will be conducted during the academic session, through a dedicated team of doctors. The team will comprise of a gynaecologist, a dietician, a health control officer and a coordinator. Data of all the students will be maintained in a dedicated database system.



MoU signed with M.P. Birla Hospital & Priyamvada Birla Cancer Institute, Satna, MP



Borewell dug at Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School, Gunnaur, Panna, MP

3. In May, the Government Girls High School in Gunaur, Panna, Madhya Pradesh, was adopted by Mobius Foundation under the Gyan Kanya Shakti

initiative. With over 500 girls enrolled, the school faced a severe shortage of clean water. Mobius Foundation, with the technical support of the Panna District Administration, sponsored the installation of a new borewell. Ms. Jessica Gill and Ms. Neha Chaudhary from Mobius met with Mr. Suresh Sharma, Collector of Panna, who ensured full administrative support. On 25th June 2024, the new borewell was successfully installed, providing the students with much-needed access to clean water and significantly improving their learning environment.

4. Induction of Field Coordinators for four districts Sidhi, Satna, Panna and Sheopur in MP, was done on 24th June 2024. They were introduced to Mobius Foundation and Gyan Kanya Shakti - 100 school program, followed by distribution of Induction Manuals for them to better grasp the details of the program. The session was conducted by Ms. Jessica Gill, Senior Research Associate and Ms. Neha Chaudhary, Program Coordinator.
5. A two day training session was conducted by Lotus Petal Charitable Foundation at Dhunela, Gurugram, for the Field Coordinators to bring them on board with the processes and reports of running online smart classes under Gyan Kanya Shakti, on 25th and 26th June 2024. They were introduced to the Vidya Sahyog platform, which is used to decide the course curriculum for the smart classes. They were also introduced to various reporting formats, that will be a part of their roles and responsibility, for successful running of the classes. The sessions were conducted by Ms. Ankita Hazra, Sr. Program Manager, Mr. Inderjeet Singh, Sr. Project Coordinator, Mr. Ranjeet Yadav, Sr. Project Coordinator, Ms. Megha Sharma, Mentor and Ms. Jyoti Yadav, Mentor.



Field Coordinators for four districts – Sidhi, Satna, Panna and Sheopur in MP with Ms. Neha Chaudhary at Mobius Foundation, Delhi office



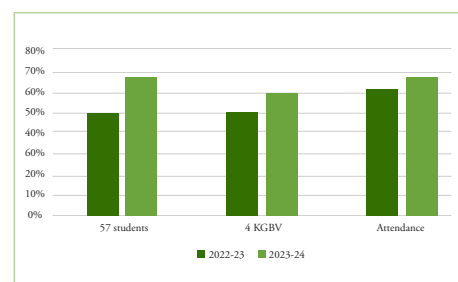
Training session conducted by Lotus Petal Charitable Foundation at Dhunela, Gurugram

Uttar Pradesh

MF Gyan Kanya Shakti culminated the endline exam in the schools of Chitrakoot, UP, administered by the Lotus Petal Foundation in March 2023. The results showed a significant improvement, with the class average rising to 60%, and 83% of students passing the exam, compared to a baseline exam at the project's onset, where the class average was 19% and only 22% of students passed.

MF also conducted orientation sessions for wardens and district collectors in Mahoba, Banda, Kaushambi, and Hamirpur, along with the orientation program for students in Chitrakoot. Another notable achievement was the organization of proper Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTMs) across all KGBVs, where the team engaged with 35% of parents to discuss vital aspects such as attendance, parental involvement, and dropout rates.

In May, Gyan Kanya Shakti (GKS) project has conducted formal examinations, revealing significant improvements compared to the previous year. The students' scores reflected the positive impact of interactive classes and efforts to foster interest in studies. Analysis of the results shows a **9%** increase in average marks compared to the 2022-23 academic year. Additionally, **57 students** exhibited remarkable progress, with their marks improving by **17%**. Attendance also saw a **6.75%** increase compared to last year, further demonstrating the project's overall impact.



Lotus Petal team at Basic Shiksha Vibhag, Hamirpur

As part of the project, a room was set up with BaLA (Building as Learning Aid) paintings and stocked with library books at KGBV Shivrampur to cultivate reading habits among students. Moreover, the Health Department organized an MHM (Menstrual Hygiene Management) workshop for adolescent girls at KGBV Pahari on International MHM Day.

Encouraged by the positive outcomes of the pilot project in Chitrakoot's 4 KGBV, the program will expand to new districts after the summer break, aiming to continue motivating and empowering students.



Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTMs) at KGBV



BaLA Painting, KGBV, Shivrampur, UP



MHM Day, KGBV, Shivrampur, UP



Government Girls School, Ganaur, Panna, MP



GYAN ANANT VIDYALAYA (GAV)

Gyan Anant Vidyalaya organized a “Capacity-building Workshop” for its teachers. It was conducted by Mrs. Vandana Banga, CBSE resource person. The program is designed to help faculty members stay up-to-date with the latest developments in education and to develop new pedagogical skills. Mrs. Banga began the session with an interactive note and shared tips on how to develop a meaningful and an effective lesson-plan so that it caters to the needs of the variety of learners. At the end of the session, Dr. Poonam Minhas, Principal, GAV thanked Mrs. Vandana Banga for her valuable input.



Dr. Poonam Minhas, Principal, GAV with Mrs. Vandana Banga and other teachers

GAV has successfully achieved CBSE affiliation up to Class 12th. Previously affiliated up to Class 10th, this new milestone allows our students to complete their education through to Class 12th without any interruptions. This achievement underscores our commitment to providing comprehensive and continuous education for all our students.



Visit to Old age home

GAV during the vacations conducted online summer camp from 27-30th May, which included like yoga sessions, a day full of creativity and expressions and dance classes. We wrapped up the camp with a focus on sustainability where students engaged in activities that taught them the importance of protecting our environment, and fostering a sense of responsibility and care for our planet. The students of GAV visited an old age home in Pilkhuwa and Hapur as part of our **food donation drive**. This initiative is a step towards achieving the **SDG 2 of Zero Hunger**.

On June 21 2024, Gyan Anant Vidyalaya commemorated ‘**International Yoga Day**’ with an invigorating yoga session for students from Grades 1 to 10. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from teachers, parents and students, resonating with the profound interconnection between a healthy mind and a healthy body.



PROJECT AAKAR

Project Ummeed 1.0, Umeed 2.0 and Aakar Siddharth Nagar, initiated across eight districts in Uttar Pradesh, are key interventions aimed at bolstering family planning services, ensuring population stabilization, and improving maternal health. This report provides an in-depth analysis of the activities, progress, and impact of these initiatives from April to June 2024.

Key Objectives

- 1. Establish Family Planning Corners:** Set up dedicated corners for family planning services at Community Health Centres (CHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs), and Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs).
- 2. Improve Contraceptive Supply:** Ensure a consistent and adequate supply of contraceptives to meet the needs of the population.
- 3. Enhance Stakeholder Coordination:** Strengthen collaboration among district health authorities, non-governmental organizations, and community leaders.
- 4. Increase Demand for Contraceptives:** Raise awareness and promote the use of contraceptives among couples in reproductive age.

मुख्य चिकित्सा अधिकारी ने किया उम्मीद परियोजना का शुभारम्भ

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Activities and Progress

1. Orientation Meetings and Stakeholder Engagement

- Conducted orientation meetings led by district health authorities.
- Established coordination mechanisms among key stakeholders, including government officials, health workers, and community leaders.

2. Establishing Family Planning Corners

- Completed a comprehensive need analysis.
- Assessed existing family planning services and identified locations for new FP corners.

3. Recruitment and Training of Skilled Personnel

- Recruited skilled personnel at the district level, including health workers and counsellors.
- Provided training to new recruits to ensure they are equipped to deliver quality family planning services.

4. Clinical Outreach Team (COT) Services in Siddharth Nagar

- The Janani initiative continued to provide Clinical Outreach Team (COT) services, focusing on mini-lap sterilization procedures.
- By the end of June 2024, the Community Outreach Team (COT) comprising of OT technician, staff nurse, counselor, surgeon, manager, and multitasking staff performed 170 Female Sterilization Techniques (FST) procedures.

5. Assessment and Data Collection

- Conducted assessments in selected districts (Sitapur, Unnao, Barabanki, Gonda, Bahraich, Balrampur) to evaluate family planning needs.
- Completed checklists and questionnaires to gather data on existing services and areas for improvement.

Impact and Outcomes

Aakar-Siddharth Nagar

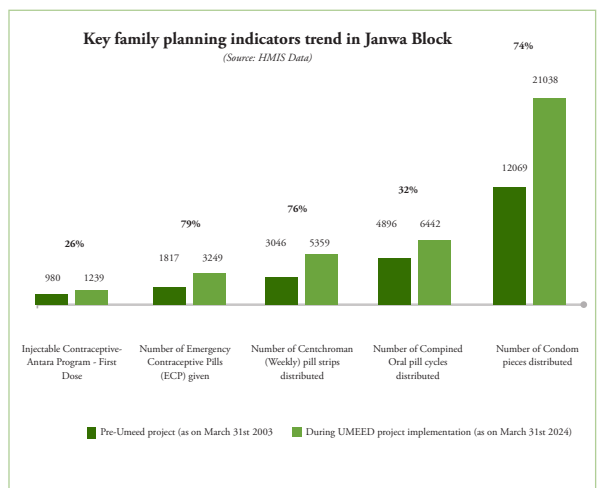
- The Janani initiative's COT services effectively addressed the community's needs.
- Significant progress in mobilizing beneficiaries and enhancing on-ground reach.

Ummeed 2.0

- Prepared to extend outreach by including an additional district, Shravasti.
- Identified and evaluated locations for establishing FP corners in selected districts.

Ummeed 1.0

Completed one year of intervention in Jarawal Block of Bahraich. Increased demand for contraceptives among couples of reproductive age, demonstrating visible changes and improved outcomes.



MOBIUS YOUNG CLIMATE LEADERS FOR HIMALAYAN DEVELOPMENT (MYCLHD)

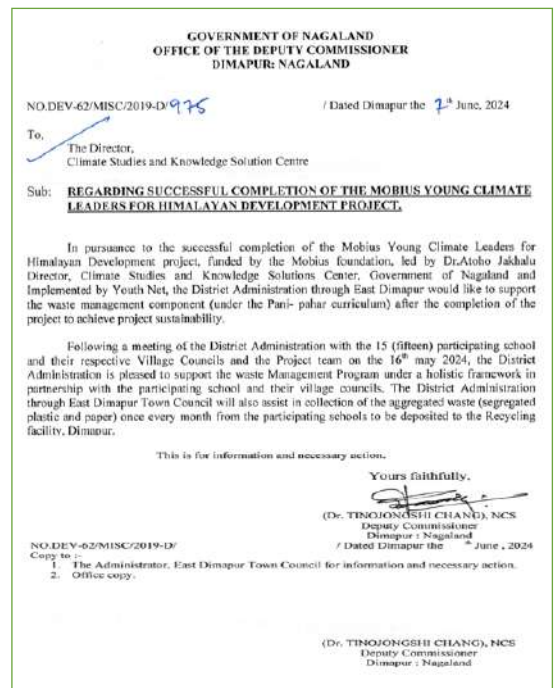
A Year of Nurturing Young Climate Leaders

The Mobius Young Climate Leaders for Himalayan Development Project has been diligently empowering young forestry graduates, providing them with the skills and knowledge needed to address the unique challenges of eco-sensitive areas like Nagaland. Over the past year, the project has effectively prepared these graduates to take on leadership roles, equipping them to implement sustainable practices and innovative solutions for preserving and protecting the fragile ecosystems of the Himalayan region. This initiative has garnered significant appreciation and support from government bodies across Nagaland.

Project Objectives

- Greening the Schools through 'Pani Pahar-The Water Curriculum' developed by Cambridge University.
- Sustainability Leadership Development
- Conduct Research and Development
- Foster Community Engagement

A GLIMPSE OF ACTIVITIES UNDER THE PANI PAHAR CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION



MOBIUS FOUNDATION JOINS THE INTERNATIONAL BIG CAT ALLIANCE AS A PARTNER ORGANIZATION

Mobius Foundation has joined the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) as a 'Partner Organization' to jointly work for the conservation of the big cats. The International Big Cat Alliance was launched in April, 2023 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India during the commemoration of 50 years of Project Tiger. The alliance serves as a crucial platform for fostering cooperation, sharing knowledge, building capacity, advocating conservation initiatives and providing essential financial support for projects aimed at safeguarding big cat populations worldwide. As a partner organization to IBCA, Mobius Foundation would be able to join IBCA's various programs and activities, including participating in the IBCA assembly meetings.



Mobius team at the 1st International Steering Committee Meeting by IBCA

MF WASTE PAPER RECYCLING INITIATIVE

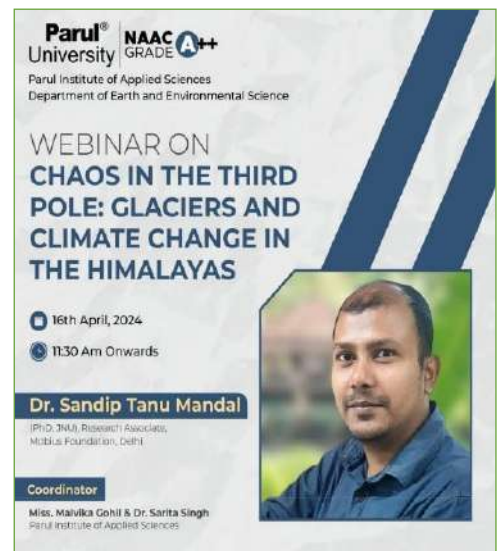
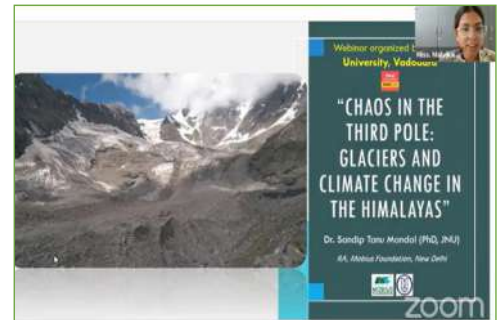
Mobius Foundation is pleased to announce the successful culmination of its waste paper recycling initiative with the collective effort of all Mobius Staff. A total of 175 kg of waste paper was collected from the premises of the Mobius Foundation and recycled in collaboration with Green-O-Tech, a Delhi-based waste management company. After recycling, we received 8 reams of recycled paper for further use in the organization.



PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT

1. Sandip Tanu Mandal, Research Associate, Mobius Foundation, was invited as a speaker in the webinar organized by **Parul University, Vadodra**, on 16 April 2024 on the topic **“Chaos in the Third Pole: Glaciers and Climate Change in the Himalayas”**. During the webinar, Dr. Sandip highlighted the accelerating impact of climate change on glacier melt in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region, posing risks to over a billion people living downstream. He emphasized on the urgent need for actions to preserve these glaciers. The lecture included insights on glacial changes in various sub-regions of the Third Pole, focusing on case studies conducted in the Western Himalayas, providing ground reality on the ecological challenges faced in the region.
2. Mr. Abhishek Patel, Project Manager and Ms. Himani Kantiwal, Jr. Research Associate, Mobius Foundation, attended the **Residential Training on Decentralized Renewable Energy (DRE) Systems: Designs, Operations and Applications of Solar Mini-Grid** (June 19-21, 2024), organised by **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), Delhi**

The training focused primarily on the DRE approach, which aims to promote energy efficiency, sustainable energy generation, and the establishment of a dependable, cost-effective system capable of addressing the electricity requirements of underserved communities. Moreover, it also aims to reduce electricity expenses and greenhouse gas emissions substantially. The training consisted of 3-day sessions led by industry experts, consultants, research professionals, and government officials involved in solar grid applications at the community, rural, and urban levels. Mobius Foundation can engage with communities deprived of power and electricity and plan a solar project to improve livelihood conditions while promoting sustainability.



Ms. Himani Kantiwal, Jr. Research Associate, receiving certificate of participation



Mr. Abhishek Patel, Project Manager, receiving certificate of participation



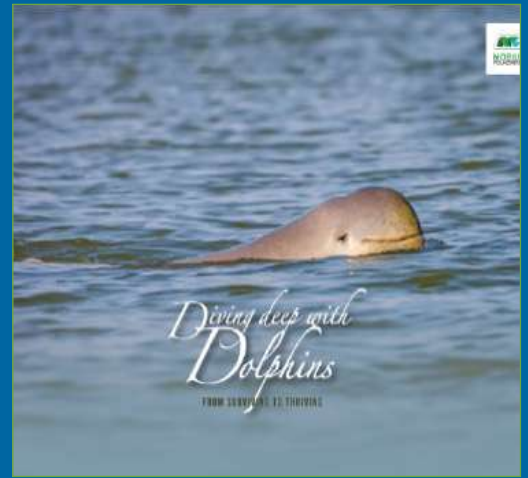
Attendees of the training program



PUBLICATIONS

‘Diving Deep with Dolphins-From Surviving to Thriving’

The Mobius Foundation’s ‘Diving Deep with Dolphins-From Surviving to Thriving’ publication offers a comprehensive overview of dolphins, exploring their historical significance and current status in India. It offers insights into dolphin populations and explores the intricate ecology and biology of species such as the Ganges River Dolphin, Indus River Dolphin, and Irrawaddy Dolphin. Additionally, the publication underscores the myriad threats facing these majestic creatures, including habitat degradation, poaching, pollution, and human-induced disturbances. It goes beyond mere depiction of challenges by providing actionable recommendations to mitigate these risks and ensure the sustained conservation of dolphin populations in India. Furthermore, it delves into the captivating subject of the ‘Personhood Status of Dolphins in India’, adding another layer of depth to the discourse.



ARTICLES

‘India’s Wetlands: The Economic Marvels’

The article highlights the often-underestimated economic prowess of India’s wetlands, portraying them not as mere ecological sanctuaries but as economic marvels driving the nation’s prosperity. It discusses the role of wetlands in water management, flood control, biodiversity support, fisheries, eco-tourism and more. Despite their economic significance, wetlands face threats like land conversion, unsustainable resource extraction and pollution. It is imperative that their economic value be recognized and integrated into national planning and decision-making processes. This necessitates comprehensive economic valuation studies, community involvement, and the implementation of incentive schemes for conservation. The path forward involves empowering local communities, raising awareness, and securing funding for long-term conservation efforts. It’s time to embrace these natural treasures as vital assets for our economic well-being and pave the way for a future where prosperity flourishes in harmony with nature’s silent riches.

Authors: Mr. Praveen Garg, President, Mobius Foundation and Ms. Paridhi Jain, Project Associate, Mobius Foundation.

Published in: “Millennium Post-Delhi Edition” pp: 7, 10th May, 2024

Link: <https://www.millenniumpost.in/opinion/an-economic-imperative-563111>



Biogas Slurry for Sustainable Agriculture

The article highlights the transformative potential of biogas slurry (BGS) in sustainable agriculture, exploring how government initiatives like GOBARdhan promote eco-friendly farming. It examines BGS's role in improving soil health and enhancing crop yields, while also discussing biogas production, biogas slurry benefits, and applications in agriculture. Furthermore, the authors address the connection between biogas slurry and organic farming benefits, provide specific examples and case studies from India, expand on how BGS can directly replace chemical fertilizers, and address potential challenges or limitations in implementing biogas slurry at scale.

Authors: Dr. Deepti Rai, Senior Research Fellow, Mobius Foundation and Dr. Bhagyashree Keshwani, Project Associate, Mobius Foundation.

Published in: "Agriculture Today" pp: 52-53, April 2024

Link: <https://agriculturetoday.in/magazine/magazine-april-2024>.



Booming tourism in Lahaul and Spiti district: Boon or doom?

The article highlights the challenges and opportunities surrounding the recent tourism boom in Lahaul & Spiti, Himachal Pradesh. Tourist arrivals in 2023 have skyrocketed by 524% since 2019, bringing economic benefits to the region. However, this rapid growth also raises concerns about the impacts of 'over-tourism' on the eco-fragile high-altitude cold deserts of Lahaul & Spiti. The newly opened Atal Tunnel has made the area more accessible year-round. This area is now experiencing similar struggles as Ladakh, with increased waste, water scarcity, and pollution from tourism. The National Green Tribunal has even issued a notice to MOEF&CC, state government and local governments due to environmental degradation. Limited hotel and homestay capacity during peak seasons could further strain infrastructure. To ensure sustainable tourism, authorities need to implement regulations on the number of tourists and vehicles, promote eco-friendly practices, and develop efficient waste management systems.

Authors: Dr. Aditya Joshi, Mobius Foundation and Dr. Sandeep Tanu Mandal, Research Associate, Mobius Foundation.

Published in: "Millennium Post" pp: 10, 21st May, 2024

Link: <https://www.pressreader.com/india/millennium-post/20240521/282196541066268>



Climate-proofing the Finances

Climate change has been identified as the paramount global risk in the Global Risks Report 2024. From severe weather events to financial instability, its implications are far-reaching. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has pinpointed two key pathways through which climate-related risks impact the financial sector: physical risks and transition risks.

To effectively manage these risks, the RBI has introduced a disclosure framework and is actively involved in initiatives like the NGFS (Network for Greening the Financial System).

Authors: Mr. Praveen Garg, President, Mobius Foundation and Mr. Pawan Jai Singh Rathore, Research Associate, Mobius Foundation.

Published in: "Millennium Post" pp: 7, 28th June, 2024

Link: <https://www.millenniumpost.in/opinion/climate-proofing-finance-569649>





GREAT PLACE TO WORK

We Did It Again! Celebrating Fourth Year as a Great Place to Work

We are thrilled to announce that for the fourth year in a row, Mobius Foundation has been recognized as a “Great Place to Work”! This remarkable achievement reflects the dedication, hard work, and positive spirit that each of our employees brings to the workplace every day.



WISDOM HOUR



The film leaves viewers with a resounding message: the most impactful personal step we can take to stop contributing to the destruction of the planet, and to protect our own health, is to adopt a whole-food, plant-based diet and give up animal products altogether.



The remarkable story is about human inventiveness and its power to overcome crippling adversity. The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind will inspire anyone who doubts the power of one

individual’s ability to change his community and better the lives of those around him.



The Wizard of Oz is a classic children’s story that will never grow old. The story by L. Frank Baum made the viewers relate to every character, whether it was the Scarecrow in need of a brain, the Tin Man in need of a heart, or the Cowardly Lion, in need of courage. The obvious message of the story is that there is no place like home. It also compels the viewers to find their inner joy and beauty and discover their true self.

ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

2024 July

11	World Population Day
26	International Mangrove Day
28	World Nature Conservation Day
29	World Tiger Day

2024 August

10	World Lion Day
10	World Biofuel Day
12	World Elephant Day

2024 September

16	World Ozone Day
22	World Rhino Day
29	World Rivers Day

DIGITAL CAMPAIGN

We Did It Again! Celebrating Fourth Year as a Great Place to Work

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#GyanKanyaShakti



Impressions 294,863 | Engagement 9,701 | Reach 231,573

#ProjectAakar



Impressions 19,427 | Reach 8,633 |
Engagement 2,400

#MobComic



Impressions 21,302
Reach 10,209
Engagement 2,392

#MFViram



Impressions 84,641 | Reach 61,539 | Engagement 1,454

MOBIUS FOUNDATION

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