

"Decent work is at the heart of sustainable development. ICSE 2025 focuses on 'Sustainability Education for Green Jobs'—highlighting the urgent need to equip youth with the skills and mindset to thrive in a green economy. This platform will catalyse dialogue and action to bridge the gap between education and employability in the sustainable sector."

— **Pradip Burman**, Chairman, Mobius Foundation



## 7th International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) - 2025

Scheduled for September 17–18, 2025, at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi, the 7<sup>th</sup> ICSE focused on the theme "**Sustainability Education for Green Jobs**." The event emphasized the importance of equipping youth and professionals for emerging roles in the green economy and climate-resilient sectors. Outreach support from **Down To Earth magazine** and **The Hargila Desk** helped extend the conference's reach to a wider sustainability-focused audience. The conference also took meaningful steps toward becoming **carbon-neutral**, reinforcing its commitment to environmental responsibility.



ICSE 2025 was set to spotlight thought leaders and changemakers through plenary sessions that aimed to explore the intersection of education, green jobs, and sustainability. Discussions to be covered included leveraging AI and technology for green careers, promoting STEM for sustainability, and building green skills in the Global South. The conference was also designed to advance solutions in the circular economy, blue economy, and climate-resilient livelihoods, moving from visionary ideas to actionable pathways for sustainability-driven education and entrepreneurship.

The conference was planned to be inaugurated with a distinguished ceremony, featuring a welcome address by **Dr. Ram Boojh**, Advisor, Mobius Foundation; followed by a special address from **Mr. Praveen Garg, IAS (Retd.)**, President, Mobius Foundation, and a keynote address by **Ms. Karima Kadaoui**, Member of The Club of Rome and Co-Founder & Executive President, Tamkeen Foundation for Human Development, Morocco. Guest of Honour addresses were to be delivered by **Dr. Benno Boer**, Chief of the Natural Sciences Unit at UNESCO South-Asia Regional Office, New Delhi, and **Mr. Pradip Kumar Das**, Chairman & Managing Director of IREDA Limited, New Delhi. **Mr. Pradip Burman** was scheduled to present the Chairman's address, setting the tone for an impactful and forward-looking event. Lastly, **Shri Bhupendra Yadav**, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Gol, was expected to deliver the Chief Guest's address.

In addition, the conference was arranged to feature a hands-on **Workshop on Green Careers**, along with two engaging **SAMVAADS**—interactive dialogues designed to foster cross-sector collaboration and reflection. Notable sustainability influencers **Aalekh Kapoor** and **Anuj Ramatri** were scheduled to bring youth perspectives and innovation into the spotlight.



## Youth for Earth 2025

The winners of the Youth for Earth competition had been announced, following enthusiastic participation from across India and South Asia. This year saw 290 registrations and 77 impactful project submissions in both junior and senior categories, reflecting a growing commitment among young minds toward environmental action. Five winners had been selected from the junior category and four from the senior category.

The winning projects—evaluated by sustainability experts from **the Mobius Foundation** and **The Climate Reality Project**—were to be recognized at a special award ceremony during the 7<sup>th</sup> ICSE. The ceremony was planned to be held on **September 18, 2025, from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM at the Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi**.



# Legal Symposium - Advocating Change: From Climate Justice to Climate Action

The **Mobius Foundation** is organizing a legal symposium titled “**Advocating Change: From Climate Justice to Climate Action**” on the recent International Court of Justice (ICJ) advisory opinion, which affirms that climate change is an “urgent and existential threat” to people, ecosystems, and future generations.

The event will focus on the **International Court of Justice (ICJ) advisory opinion** and its implications for global climate accountability and action. The landmark opinion underscores states’ legal duties under multiple sources of international law and sets a strong legal benchmark for climate action. This discussion will explore the opinion’s implications and the legal challenges it raises for environmental law and policy, both in India and globally. It will bring together journalists, advocates, jurists, and policymakers to foster a meaningful dialogue.

Students and delegates from related fields are encouraged to attend and will receive participation certificates.

**Date:** 24 September 2025

**Time:** 5:30 PM onwards

**Venue:** Meeting Room 2, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

## Program Highlights:

### Chair:

**Hon'ble Justice Mr. Prakash Srivastava,**  
Chairperson, National Green Tribunal (NGT)

### Special Remark:

**Hon'ble Chief Justice Antonio H. Benjamin,**  
Supreme Court of Justice, Brazil  
**Prof. Narinder Singh,** Former Head of Legal & Treaties,  
MoEA; Member of ILC, Secretary General, ISIL  
**Ms. Urmila Goswami,** Assistant Editor (Climate Change & Environment), The Economic Times  
**Jatinder Jay Cheema,** Barrister & Solicitor, Advocate, Author, Chambers of Jay Cheema

### Moderated by:

**Jessica Gill,** Programme Lead, Mobius Foundation  
We look forward to your presence at this meaningful dialogue on advancing climate action.  
Registration at:

<https://forms.gle/BMbAWbBdXgWhKAuWA>



OR Scan the QR:



## Gyan Anant Vidyalaya (GAV)

### District Yoga Championship - 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2025:

17 students (15 girls, 2 boys) participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District Yoga Championship at JMS World School, Hapur. Around 250 students from 10 schools participated in the event. The students showcased outstanding talent and discipline, winning **23 medals** across age categories (10–12, 12–14, and 14–18 years) – 10 Gold, 6 Silver, 7 Bronze.

With this stellar performance, GAV secured an overall **2<sup>nd</sup> position** among all participating schools reflecting the dedication of students and the tireless efforts of their yoga instructors.



Students during the District Yoga Championship at JMS World School, Hapur





Independence Day Celebration



Glimpse from VVIECA School Award

### 79<sup>th</sup> Independence Day Celebration - 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2025:

The special assembly featured a soulful patriotic song, a moving theatre act on Jallianwala Bagh, and an energetic dance performance. Kindergarten students added charm with slogans, placards, and quotes, spreading love for the nation. Dr. Poonam Minhas, Principal, with her inspiring words motivated all to uphold the spirit of patriotism. The celebration concluded with a beautiful group rendition of "Nanha Munna Rahi Hoon," leaving everyone filled with pride.

### VVIECA 2025 School Award - 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2025:

Gyan Anant Vidyalaya was honoured with the prestigious **Vidya Vaibhav International Education Conclave & Awards (VVIECA) 2025 – School Award** at the Vidya Vaibhav International Education Conclave held in Udaipur, in the esteemed presence of dignitaries like **Dr. Abhay Jere** (Vice Chairman, AICTE), **Shriji Dr. Lakshyaraj Singh Mewar, and Princess Jahnavi Kumari Mewar**. This recognition reflects the dedication of our educators, the excellence of our students, and the unwavering support of our school community.



Students during the State-level Yoga Championship at Acharya Narendra Dev University of Agriculture and Technology, Ayodhya

### State-Level Yoga Championship - 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2025:

held at Acharya Narendra Dev University of Agriculture and Technology, Ayodhya. **Eight students** represented the school across various categories, earning the following accolades:

- **Deepanshu Prajapati** – 1<sup>st</sup> Rank (Gold) in Traditional (16-18)
- **Taniya Kohri** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Rank in Traditional (16-18)
- **Shivani, Alish, Nikita, Taniya, Jasiya** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Position in Free Flow Event
- **Sanket** – Consolation (4<sup>th</sup> Rank) in Traditional (16-18)
- **Jasiya** – Consolation (4<sup>th</sup> Rank) in Traditional (12-14)
- **Chhavi** – Participant (State Certificate)



Two students have been selected to represent Uttar Pradesh at the National-Level Championship – a proud milestone for the school.





# Gyan Kanya Shakti (GKS): 100 Schools Program



## UTTAR PRADESH

**1 Academic Classes with Lotus Petal Foundation:** With the support of the **Lotus Petal Foundation** and the on-ground facilitation of **Aayojikas**, a total of **1,160 classes** in Mathematics, Science, and English were conducted across **24 schools in 8 districts**. This consistent effort continues to strengthen subject understanding among girl students.

**2. IT Installation Support in 5 Schools:** IT infrastructure was successfully installed in **five schools** — Kamasin, Mau, Pahadi, Kabrai, and Chhok — spanning the districts of Banda, Chitrakoot, Mahoba, and Jalaun. Equipped with technology screens, audio systems, and tech kits, these schools now provide an enriched digital learning environment to deliver more impactful academic and life-skills education.

**3. Student Support Initiatives – Kaushambi & Jhansi Divisions:**

- **Kaushambi:** Juice packs were distributed to promote student well-being.
- **Jhansi:** Learning kits (notebooks, pens, and geometry boxes) were distributed to **287 students** across **8 schools**, ensuring access to essential learning materials.

**4. School Engagement & Assessments – Kaushambi & Jhansi Divisions:** Liaison visits in Kaushambi focused on onboarding new schools, while in Jhansi, a **baseline academic assessment** was conducted for Class 6 students. These initiatives are vital for strengthening program outreach and tailoring academic interventions effectively.

**5. Aayojikas Onboarding & Orientation – Jhansi, Jalaun & Lalitpur:** Newly appointed **Aayojikas** were formally welcomed, followed by an orientation to align them with program objectives.



## MADHYA PRADESH

- **MoU Signing – 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2025:** The **Mobius Foundation** signed a **three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Rajya Shiksha Kendra (RSK)**, Education Department, Madhya Pradesh, under the **Gyan Kanya Shakti, MP** initiative. This strategic collaboration aims to strengthen educational outcomes and promote sustainable development through focused interventions in girls' education and capacity building. Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. Harjinder Singh, Director, RSK**, emphasized the importance of such partnerships in driving long-term improvements in the quality of education across the state.
- **Notebooks and Stationery Distribution:** As part of the academic support initiative for the 2025–26 session, notebooks, compass boxes, and pens were distributed to students across 25 schools in Madhya Pradesh, ensuring they are equipped with essential learning materials for the year ahead.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Roof repair work was successfully completed at **GGHSS, Amanganj, Panna**. The maintenance addressed minor seepage issues ensuring improved waterproofing of the roof, creating a more conducive and safe learning environment for students.



Ms. Neha Chaudhary, Co-ordinator with Dr. Harjinder Singh, Director, Rajya Shiksha Kendra, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh for MoU Signing



- Menstrual Health Management (MHM) Workshops:** MHM workshops were successfully conducted in **12 schools across Umaria, Shahdol, and Satna districts**, reaching over **800 girls from classes 6 to 8**. The sessions focused on raising awareness about safe and hygienic menstrual practices, the importance of a balanced diet, and the benefits of incorporating yoga into daily routines. Students actively engaged throughout the workshops, demonstrating curiosity and openness in discussions. To reinforce the key messages, each participant received an informational pamphlet summarizing essential tips for maintaining a healthy lifestyle.
- 3-day District Coordinators' Training** – conducted by the **Lotus Petal Charitable Foundation (LPCF)** at **LPCF Campus – 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025**: The training featured a range of sessions including a **campus tour**, an **orientation on the Foundation's work**, and a detailed **briefing on the Vidya Sahyog initiative**. Coordinators had the opportunity to interact with the **teaching team**, engage in **backend operations discussions**, and receive guidance on administrative processes such as **bill submission and reimbursements**. The agenda also included **leadership reinforcement, clarification of current responsibilities**, and the distribution of a **handbook and a basic IT troubleshooting guide (Aayojika PPT)**. Additional sessions covered the **mid-term examination schedule**, and the training concluded with an inspiring interaction with the **Founder, Mr. Kushal Chakrasali**. The programme aimed to strengthen coordination, improve operational efficiency, and empower district leads in their pivotal roles.

- National Sports Day Celebration – 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025:** Students were introduced to the significance of the day, commemorating the birth anniversary of hockey legend **Major Dhyan Chand**. The celebrations included a variety of sports and games, encouraging teamwork, physical activity, and a spirit of healthy competition. Students thoroughly enjoyed participating and engaging with their peers in a fun and active environment.



Students during National Sports Day Celebration



An Initiative by Mobius Foundation

## Project Aakar

### Janani Siddharthnagar

The Aakar Janani project in Siddharthnagar emphasized community mobilization and family planning services throughout August 2025.

#### Key Achievements:

##### Community Mobilization:

- 94 VHSND sessions conducted, sensitizing **1,136 community members**.
- 7 cluster meetings at CHCs with **117 participants**.
- 10 FPCC counselling sessions benefitting **121 individuals**.

##### Family Planning Service Delivery:

- 7 Fixed Day Service (FDS) camps** held across blocks.
- 23 female sterilizations (ligation)** conducted (6 in Dumariyaganj, 1 in Mithwal, 4 in Khuniyawn, 2 in Bansi, 3 in Lotan, 3 in Uska, 4 in Barhni).

##### Contraceptive Distribution:

- 67 OCP cycles** distributed to 23 clients.
- 155 condoms** distributed to 7 clients.



Interaction with ASHAs during community visit

दैनिक जागरण गोरखपुर, 24 अगस्त, 2025

## परिवार नियोजन को लेकर सबको जागरूक होना जरूरी



खुनियांव पीएचसी में नसवंदी के लिए महिला लाभार्थी • जागरण

जागरण संवाददाता, इटवा : खुनियांव पीएचसी पर शनिवार को नसवंदी केंप का आयोजन किया गया। मोवियस फाउंडेशन की आकार परियोजना के अंतर्गत हुए इस केंप में चार लाभार्थी महिलाओं की सफलता पूर्वक नसवंदी की गई। शिविर को शुभारंभ अधीक्षक डा. पुलसत्य यादव ने किया। उन्होंने कहा कि परिवार नियोजन के प्रति सभी को जागरूक होने की आवश्यकता है। इस तरह के केंप का लाभ जन समुदाय तक ज्यादा से ज्यादा फूंचाया जाना चाहिए। शिविर में बेहतर कार्य करने वाली आशा को भी पुरस्कृत किया गया।

Press Release



Glimpse from Family Planning Camp





## “Umeed” Update - August 2025

The Umeed initiative under Project Aakar continued to scale up family planning (FP) awareness, service uptake, and capacity building across multiple districts of Uttar Pradesh.

### Umeed 1.0 - Jarwal Block - Key Interventions:

In August 2025, Umeed 1.0 continued its efforts to strengthen family planning awareness and service uptake in **Jarwal block** through targeted community outreach and capacity-building activities. Key highlights included the organization of a **School Chatbot AI training session**, **VHND sessions by Field Facilitators**, and **SBCC campaigns** across villages.

### Umeed 2.0 - Multi-District Interventions:

- **Refresher Training of Trainers (Lucknow):** 3 batches for master trainers from 7 districts, focused on rights-based counselling, FPCC use, and addressing early marriage norms.
- **SBCC Mobile Van Campaign (Sitapur, Unnao, Barabanki, Bagrai):**
  - Individual FP counselling for **8-10 people per village**.
  - Distribution of condoms, pills, and IEC handbills.
  - Games & quizzes to engage communities; prizes and gifts distributed.
- **AI-based Adolescent Education (SnehAI):** Digital workshops in Barabanki & Jarwal schools promoting safe spaces and dialogue on health and relationships.
- **CHO & Facility Staff Training:** Strengthened FP counselling and service delivery at HWCs/CHCs with study materials, flipbooks, and demonstration kits.
- **FPCC Field Inspections (Bagrai, Sitapur, Barabanki):** Strong institutional ownership observed; introduction of “Counsellor of the Month” and annual “Best CHC Award” planned to motivate quality services.
- **District-Level Engagements:** Meetings with CMOs & ACMOs (Bagrai, Shravasti, Sitapur, Unnao) to ensure support and visibility.



Glimpse from CHO Training Sessions



FPCC visit in CHCs of Bagrai

## Articles



### India's toxic taps: How Groundwater Contamination is Fuelling Chronic Illnesses

This article highlights how groundwater contamination in India has become a major public health crisis. It explains that over 85% of rural drinking water depends on groundwater, much of which is now polluted with fluoride, arsenic, nitrate, uranium, and heavy metals. These contaminants are causing chronic illnesses, including cancer and developmental disorders. The article cites institutional fragmentation, lack of coordination, and poor regulation as key issues, urging a bold, multi-agency strategy to tackle the growing health and environmental threat.

**Authors:** Dr. Sudheer Kr. Shukla, Head-Think Tank, Mobius Foundation

Published in: [The Hindu, 8 August, 2025](#)

**THE HINDU**  
**SCIENCE**

## How groundwater contamination is fuelling chronic illnesses

Groundwater contamination in India has escalated into a national public health crisis: fluoride contamination, arsenic exposure, nitrate contamination, uranium, and heavy metals all affect drinking water and cause widespread health consequences: a bold, coordinated, and multi-dimensional strategy is the need of the hour.

**Southwest Kumar Shukla**

**D**epite India's poor and seasonal monsoons, it is groundwater that sustains most of the nation's domestic and agricultural needs. Over 85% of rural drinking water and 65% of irrigation water used in India comes from the aquifer. However, the rapid and unregulated extraction of this vital resource has triggered a growing yet largely invisible crisis: groundwater pollution. Once considered nature's purest resource, groundwater is now tainted with nitrates, heavy metals, industrial toxins, and pathogenic microbes – posing a silent but grave threat to millions.

The 2021 Annual Groundwater Quality Report by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) revealed concerning findings: More than 20% of samples from 440 districts were contaminated with nitrate, largely due to the overuse of chemical fertilizers and leaching from septic systems. Excessive fluoride was detected in over 90% of samples, leading to widespread dental and skeletal fluorosis – particularly in Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. Arsenic levels in parts of Punjab and Bihar far exceeded the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines.

**THE GIST**

The CGWB Annual Groundwater Quality Report by the Central Ground Water Board reveals concerning findings: More than 20% of samples from 440 districts were contaminated with nitrate, largely due to the overuse of chemical fertilizers and leaching from septic systems. Excessive fluoride was detected in over 90% of samples, leading to widespread dental and skeletal fluorosis – particularly in Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. Arsenic levels in parts of Punjab and Bihar far exceeded the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines.

**Water woes** Groundwater systems consist of India's thermals, and agricultural needs. Over 80% of rural drinking water and 60% of irrigation water come from underground sources. (A. S. Sahoo)

## Global Plastic Treaty: Nurdles Escape Scrutiny, Coastal States Bear The Brunt

The article highlights the outcomes of the Global Plastics Treaty negotiations, aimed at creating binding international rules to curb plastic pollution. However, it underscores a major oversight — the exclusion of plastic nurdles, tiny raw pellets that are a key input in plastic production and a significant source of ocean pollution. Despite their environmental impact nurdles remain unregulated, with countries like India siding with petrochemical interests to resist stricter controls. This has left coastal states like Kerala and Tamil Nadu vulnerable to repeated pellet spills, while experts argue that up to 95% of such pollution is preventable through basic containment measures.

Speaking on behalf of the Mobius Foundation, he emphasized that: “Leaving nurdles out signals a dangerous concession to industry interests over environmental and human health. Refusing to even acknowledge them at the negotiating table — at the behest of Like-Minded Countries — signals a troubling disregard for both science and the plight of vulnerable coastlines. If regulators won’t name the problem, the industry has little incentive to solve it.”

**Expert Opinion :** Dr. Sudheer Kr. Shukla, Head-Think Tank, Mobius Foundation

Published in: [The New Indian Express, 16 August, 2025](#)

I Xplore

### Global plastic treaty: Nurdles escape scrutiny, coastal states bear the brunt

*With 95% of pellet loss preventable, activists say the absence of binding rules on nurdles is a miss. India aligning with the petro states bloc, which is opposed to strong measures, has sparked anger from coastal states hit hardest by the spills*



Photo | Express

SV Krishna Chaitanya X

Updated on: 16 Aug 2025, 12:00 am • 5 min read

## Inauguration - New Office

On 1<sup>st</sup> August, the team gathered to celebrate the inauguration of our new office—a significant milestone in our journey of growth and impact.

The event featured thoughtful and inspiring addresses by the Chairman, President, and Advisor, who shared reflections on the organisation's evolution, core values, and the path ahead. Their words underscored the importance of collaboration, resilience, and purpose in shaping our collective future.

More than just a new workspace, the office represents a renewed commitment to innovation, teamwork, and progress. With fresh energy and shared intent, the team looks forward to building on this foundation and advancing toward new goals.



Glimpses from the inauguration

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