

1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on "Ethics, Spirituality & Sustainability", is organised by "Green Earth Alliance (GEA-International) in holy city of Rishikesh on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

Speakers and delegates from all over **India, Europe, Maldives, Bangladesh & Nepal** participated enthusiastically and raised their concern on various ethical & unethical practices going on the name of sustainable development & CSR in the region & how to address them with their respective faiths and beliefs.

Dr. Anil Jaggi, CEO -Green Earth Alliance, welcomed participants coming from all over &



briefed them about the objectives and philosophy of the conference and why there is urgent need to co-relate "Ethics and Spirituality with Sustainable Business practices" and how this new ethical decision making with strong sense of conscious can transform the landscape of future business models for the betterment of community at large.

This is only launch of the campaign & we have long way to

travel together to spread this message with help of various stakeholders i.e. *Govt., Civil Societies (CSOs), INGOs, Business, Media & Academia* to inculcate new work culture in board rooms, *said Dr Anil Jaggi*.

Mr Deep Sharma, Chairman Rishikesh Municipal Corp., formally welcomed all speakers with garlands and





wished for the success of this conference on the bank of **Ganges**.

Though Govt. has introduced **New Company Act 2013,** making CSR mandatory but we need to focus on green and conscious CSR, coming deep from heart and making larger & tangible impact Said **Swami Chidanand Sararwati,** Spiritual head of

**Parmarth Niketan**, Rishikesh in his inaugural and highly motivating speech.

**Dr. Mohan Singh Rawat "Goanwasi, Independent Director THDC India Ltd**, mentioned urgent need to link Spirituality with present business culture and also spoke about various

ongoing CSR activities of THDC, under its CSR offshoot "**SEWA-THDC**" in Uttarakhand Region .

**Dr. Chand Bhardwaj**, International Speaker and founder of "**Gyan Vigyan**" spoke on "the power of attention" as attention is the outer expression of the soul which is the creative intelligence connected to its permanent and ever-lasting source as Absolute Intelligence and a capable force with divine attributes, which has super power to change ones thought process and connect

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with right decisions, be it in business or in social life.



**Dr. Harbhajan Singh,** *Director Punjabi University* linked his talk with the selfless philosophy of Guru Nanak & his teachings, which is more relevant in today's world & urged gathering to remain focus on humanity with love and compassion.

**Dr. Satyanarayan,** *Managing Trustee of Strides Foundation,* spoke on the importance of "*Three*"

Ns" i.e Nayay, Niyati and Niyat" in order to achieve 'Sustainability' through Ethics and Spirituality. You don't need any Code of Ethics, if you are honest in your decision and actions and those who follow Ethics and Spirituality gain long term Sustainability, Said Dr. Satyanarayan.





**2nd** Session on "Ethical Leadership & Spiritual Dimension of CSR in 21st Century" was chaired by **Dr. Vivek Agarwal**, Chairperson International Solid-Waste Management Association with other Panelist **Mr Khurram Naayab**, CSR Strategist, Cairn Oil & Gas, **Ms Romshri Ashesh**, spiritual therapist- Galway Foundation and **Ms. Jaya Chittoor**, Women in Tech and KM Expert.

After brief introduction of all panelists, Dr. V. Agarwal, informed how his organisation is

working to save leftover food by recycling and redistributing among poor in Jaipur slums and also blamed religious organisations & functions for wasting lot of fresh food on the name of Bhandara's. They need right planning & professionals management in order to save such wastage of precious resources, said Dr. Agawral.

**Mr Khurram** gave presentation of various ongoing CSR initiatives of **Cairn Group** in



Rajasthan & other regions and also highlighted the philosophy behind "**Zakaat**" (*giving & charity culture in Islam*).

Ms Romshri, linked "Self Empowerment program (SEP)" of Galway and importance of such conference for awakening business leaders through "Self-Knowledge", "Self-Transformation" & "Practicing the Virtues".

**Ms. Jaya**, spoke on the empowerment of

**Women through Technological intervention** and shared her experience to deal with communities, transforming & empowering thru community Radio and other ICT interventions at grassroots level.

 $2^{nd}$  session was concluded with **tree plantation** under the guidance of **Dr. Shiv Nath Mishra** 





*MSTC Kolkata*. Dr. Shahab Shabbir, Maldives National University, Mr Keshav Prasad Duwadi, Chairperson Awaj Aviyan , Nepal, Swami Prem Gauranga Das ji of Goverdhan Eco Village (ISKON) and Achrya Tsetan Gyurmat, Khenpo of Drinkung Kagyu College were other panlists.

When business grows beyond the firm and spreads itself in the form of drivers of social change through charitable, responsible philanthropic activities, the material profit becomes the spiritual capital and CSR

becomes a religious activity, said **Dr. TV Murlivallabham**.



Dr. Shahab Shabbir, raised his concern of various divides in the society on the name of regions

& religion and with his special oratory skills and knowledge of Quotes from Geeta to Quran and Nanak to Kabir got special appreciation from delegates. India, home of many faiths and belief is right place to launch such campaign, Said Dr. Shahab of Maldives National University.

Mr. Keshav laid emphasises on the power of Karma and quoted "Veda, Gita and Inclusion" from Gita in his talk. Karma yoga is the path of selfless act, It



teaches that a spiritual seeker should act according to dharma, without being attached to the fruits or personal consequences, said Mr. Keshav.

**Swami Prem Gauranga Das,** ISCON in his talk and presentation showed on how they are able to link Spirituality and Consciences with Sustainable Village development plan and able to get



desired results. **Goverdhan Eco-Village** in Maharashtra is one such successful model, adopted and executed by us, I invite you all to come and see for better learning, offered **Swami Prem Gauranga Das**.

**Achrya Tsetan Gyurmat**, sensitise delegates about the importance of Ethics and Sustainability in Buddhist philosophy

and how this can

help to achieve economic inclusion. Buddhism is a **path of practice and spiritual development** leading to Insight into the **true nature of reality.** It's learning to live from a **peaceful mind** and a good heart as the best **way to solve our own inner problems** of anxiety, depression, fear, etc.; finding a deepening sense of happiness and freedom from within; and in time helping and inspiring others to do the same, mentioned **Acharya Tsetan** 



4th Session linked "Ethics & Spirituality with UN's SDG (Sustainable Development Goal),



which was chaired by Prof. NN Sharma of BIMTECH/NOIDA along with Ms Anupama Jha, Ex- Executive Director - Transparency International India, Mr Gaurav Ahuja, founder of Green Gaddi and Mr Ramesh Ticku, founder of Pro-India Tourism.

Prof. NN Sharma, spoke on Vedic Tradition & four components of **Purusarth** i.e. **dharma**, **artha**, **kama**, **moksha** in order to achieve **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. "O

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man, procure wealth with one hundred hands and distribute it with one thousand hands. Thus u attains perfection of the work done and to be done", quoted Prof. Sharma from **Atharva Veda (3-24-5).** 

**Ms. Anupama**, raised her concern to check growing corruption in the society in order to climb ahead in the **Human Development Index (HDI)** and not to get confused with various surveys by Govt. I am sure, Sustainable Development can only be achieved, if we, collectively work to eradicate roots of corruption from our society, said Ms. Anupama.

Mr. Gaurav Ahuja, spoke on his unique initiative of "Green Gaddi" with space for plantation on the car roof top and brought his Innova for demonstration.







**Mr Ramesh Ticku**, urge everyone present in the conference to remain responsible towards tourism as everyone present here is tourist and his/her actions will decide & transform the world accordingly.

**Ms Atma Saraswati**, voluntarily organized **Self Awareness and Energy session** for all, giving refreshing experience after hectic day long session.







**Swami Arvind** of **Vivekanand Seva Samiti (VSS)**, gave away books of Swami Vivekanand to all delegates and spoke about ongoing mission of VSS, to spread the teachings of Swami ji.

**Dr. Vishad Tripathi**, Director Trasncon & Vedic Scientist in his video message spoke about various aspects of Mind Control and Consciousness

**Mr. Swaran Jaggi & Ms Jaya** jointly wrapped up the conference with concluding remarks and suggestions of delegates.

**Mr. Amit Anand, Mr.Manish and Mr. Bhavesh**, jointly launched new Web-portal **"Company CSR"** to spread the news, views and special case studies of Strategic CSR & Sustainable Development (SD).



All speakers, delegates, sponsors and organizers agreed to have regular interactions & brain storming sessions with **GEA International &** other stakeholders in different part of the country and closed the conference with "**Ganga Declaration**".

Vote of thanks was given to all speakers, delegates, participants, sponsors & partners i.e.THDC India Ltd., CavinKare, Strides Foundation, Galway Foundation, Uttarakhand
Corporative Bank, Global Peace Foundation (GPF), iColab, CSR Pool, IndiaCSR, team of
volunteers Atma Saraswati, Sindhu Eshwaran, Meenakshi Goyenka, Juli, Arun Kumar Singh,
Romi, Anil Sharma by organizers "Green Earth Alliance (GEA International)".

## **MEDIA COVERAGE**















