



HARITHKRAM

under the aegis of
INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL

**SHAHEED BHAGAT SINGH COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI**

PRESENTS



A BIENNIAL CONFERENCE FOR YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALISTS

on

**RESILIENT INDIA FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE :
REDISCOVERING INDIGENOUS WISDOM AND EMBRACING
HOLISTIC PRACTICES**

OCTOBER 25, 2024

VENUE: SHAHEED BHAGAT SINGH COLLEGE



www.harithkram.org





MESSAGE FROM THE PATRON

Dear esteemed readers, I am pleased to welcome you to Harithkram, the Environmental Society of Shaheed Bhagat Singh College and to introduce you to the promising environmentalists who work tirelessly to offer a holistic perspective on environmental issues. We are excited to



announce the sixth edition of the **Delhi University Sustainability Forum (DUSF '24)** being organised on October 25, 2024.

DUSF '24 will witness the participation of secondary and senior secondary level students, undergraduate students from different institutions and scholars pursuing specialised studies. The main focus of the event is to ensure the participation of students from various educational levels to carry out discussions on environmental challenges of sustainability for a decisive outcome in the future.

This year, aligning with India's Mission LiFE, the event will focus on "Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices." We aim to inspire discussions on the importance of sustainable practices rooted in India's traditions while addressing modern global environmental challenges.

I take this opportunity to congratulate all the members of Harithkram for this noble initiative under the able stewardship of Ms. Jyoti Varshney, Dr. V. A. V. Raman and Dr. Komal Agarwal. All my best wishes to the green brigade of the College for a successful event.

Warm regards,

Prof. Arun Kumar Attree
Principal

MESSAGE FROM THE CONVENER

As the Convener of Harithkram, it is with immense pride and enthusiasm that I introduce you to this year's flagship event—DUSF '24. Our dedicated students and faculty members have once again gone above and beyond to craft a truly remarkable experience, keeping alive



Harithkram spirit of venturing “Beyond the Boundaries.”

This year marks a pivotal moment in our journey as we present the sixth edition of DUSF. In alignment with Mission LiFE, we are exploring the theme “Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices” for DUSF '24. The theme resonates with India's ancient traditions and their relevance in addressing modern challenges, particularly climate change, sustainability, and ecological resilience. It inspires a deep reflection on how indigenous knowledge and time-honoured practices can harmonise with contemporary sustainable solutions.

As always, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our exceptional student leaders, and the whole team, whose unwavering dedication is integral to the success of this event. I also extend my sincere thanks to the participants from various institutions who will bring diverse and valuable perspectives to this unique forum. Together, we hope to make significant strides towards creating a sustainable future for India and the world. I warmly invite you to join us in this journey toward a resilient and sustainable tomorrow

Warm regards,

Ms. Jyoti Varshney

MESSAGE FROM THE STAFF ADVISOR

The youth of today are the architects of tomorrow's success, and their role in addressing environmental challenges is more critical than ever. Harithkram's young environmentalists have stepped forward as proactive leaders, driving vital discussions on key global issues like climate change, sustainability, and the urgent environmental crises confronting nations worldwide.



I am pleased to announce that Harithkram is organizing the sixth edition of the **Delhi University Sustainability Forum (DUSF '24)** on October 25, 2024. This year's theme **“Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices”** explores the synergy between smart technologies, sustainable urban planning, indigenous wisdom, and circular economy practices. The goal is to build resilient infrastructure that promotes the well-being of all citizens, minimizes environmental impact, and encourages sustainable tourism.

We are excited to host three key events under the banner of the **6th Delhi University Sustainability Forum: School Students' Competition (SSC), Harithkram Youth Summit (HYS) and National Photography Competition (NPC)**. These events aim to guide our planet's future towards environmental sustainability and conservation by embracing indigenous practices. Participants will engage in high-impact discussions at the eco-conference and have meaningful exchanges with distinguished scholars and stakeholders from various fields, fostering a deeper understanding of these crucial issues.

MESSAGE FROM THE STAFF ADVISOR

The Delhi University Sustainability Forum is a result of Harithkram's commitment to spreading awareness through its motto "Beyond the Boundaries." This dynamic platform encourages students to address urgent environmental issues by blending traditional wisdom with modern innovation. It brings together experts from governments, industries, academia, and civil society, emphasizing the use of indigenous knowledge and holistic practices for sustainable development. With this year's focal theme, the platform seeks to combine ancient ecological understanding with contemporary strategies to develop actionable solutions that align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring a more resilient and sustainable future.

On this special occasion, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the dedicated students of Harithkram, especially the leaders of the organizing team, whose passion for nature and commitment to environmental advocacy fuel these inspiring initiatives. I also extend my appreciation to the students, young scholars, and community members who have come together to share their knowledge and expertise in the field of environmental conservation.

I trust that our website, www.harithkram.org, will continue to serve as a valuable resource for all those eager to explore our work, stay updated about our events, and access essential information on environmental issues and sustainable practices. I wish all participants success in these meaningful events.

Green regards,

Dr. V. A. V. Raman

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CONVENOR

In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks.

—John Muir



Nature's abundance is limitless, but the resources available for human exploitation are finite. For over twelve years, Harithkram has championed the cause of sustainability and the critical need for a responsible lifestyle, extending its efforts both within the college and far beyond its boundaries. It fills me with immense pride to see the tangible shift toward sustainable practices across our institution, with the achievement of a zero-waste campus being a particularly notable milestone.

This year, Harithkram is hosting the sixth edition of the biennial conference for young environmentalists, the **Delhi University Sustainability Forum (DUSF '24)**, on the theme **“Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices.”** In alignment with the goals of **Mission LiFE**, this theme emphasises the integration of traditional knowledge with modern sustainability practices, promoting resilience and a conscious lifestyle in the face of environmental challenges.

DUSF '24 will convene students from diverse educational institutions, offering a platform to engage with current research and discussions on sustainability and the environment. By welcoming participants into our green family on this occasion, we aim to inspire their creativity and commitment in tackling the pressing environmental issues we face today.

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CONVENOR

I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to all participants, delegates and our esteemed guests. Their presence, despite demanding schedules, speaks volumes about their commitment to the environment. What you will witness today is the outcome of the exemplary passion and relentless efforts from the entire Harithkram team, especially our dedicated student volunteers. I would also like to acknowledge the ongoing contributions of our alumni, whose support continues to be invaluable to our success.

I hope that DUSF '24 not only reaches its goals but also serves as a catalyst for more meaningful green initiatives in the future.

Best regards,

Dr. Komal Agarwal



ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, named after the great Indian freedom fighter, Shaheed-e-Azam, Sardar Bhagat Singh, was established in 1967 as a co-educational institution affiliated with the University of Delhi. The College celebrated its Golden Jubilee Year in 2016-17, marking 50 years of academic excellence and professional distinction. Throughout its history, the college has fostered a dynamic and intellectually stimulating academic environment that encourages independent thinking and vision. It is equipped with a fully computerized library featuring state-of-the-art facilities to enhance knowledge, skills, and capabilities essential for success in the challenging business landscape of the 21st century.

It also distinguishes itself not only through academic excellence but also by actively participating in a diverse range of cultural activities, including dance, music, visual arts, and performing arts. Students are encouraged to partake in both college-level and city-wide events, consistently demonstrating exceptional performance across various disciplines and levels. The College prides itself on its longstanding tradition of fostering student initiatives and creative expressions beyond the confines of the classroom. Its adaptability to societal needs and aspirations over time underscores the institution's dynamism. The College's alumni have made significant contributions to the realms of business, culture, and society at large.

HARITHKRAM

The Environment Society of Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, known as Harithkram, was officially launched on September 7, 2012, by the renowned environmentalist and author, Padma Shri Sunita Narain. Its primary objective is to foster environmental consciousness and encourage sustainable practices within the college and its surroundings. Harithkram is actively involved in green advocacy towards its mission to build a green and sustainable society. The society serves as a platform for young environmentalists to develop and channel their creative ideas towards building a greener future through collaborative efforts. The society's main focus is to raise awareness among students about critical environmental issues by promoting environmental education and awareness among the masses.

Our objective is to foster a growing interest in environmental issues among students and establish Harithkram as a prominent platform for constructive discussions and debates on various green causes. The society has actively participated in eco-campaigns organized by the Delhi Government, UNEP-India, WWF-India, TERI and CEE etc. Additionally, Harithkram organizes nature walks, field trips, eco-outreach and extension activities within Delhi NCR.

On the global platform, inspired by UNEP's initiative, Harithkram has pioneered the simulation of the United Nations Environmental Assembly, calling it the **Harithkram Model United Nations Environment Assembly (H-MUNEA)** since 2014. Furthermore, Harithkram has successfully executed biennial youth conferences under the auspices of the **Delhi University Sustainable Forum (DUSF)** starting in 2014.

HARITHKRAM

Harithkram has persisted in its endeavours to raise awareness about environmental concerns among the youth by commemorating various international movements (such as the Earth Hour and World Environment Day). Additionally, the society releases content and posters in observance of crucial environment days and endangered species on its social media handles to spread the much-needed awareness about the same.

During the global lockdown of 2020, Harithkram launched numerous **e-initiatives** to continue its mission of working for the cause of the environment. Starting with the observance of the **Earth Hour** (March 2020) online, Harithkram organized the fortnight-long **Biodiversity Trail** (May 22 - June 5, 2020), and monthly events between July 2020 and May 2021 in celebration of the **International Year of Ecological Biodiversity**; weekly and later, biweekly online eco-assembly called **Cockatoo Green Chats**, and celebrated **Harithkram's Foundation Day** (2020-21), **World Environment Day** (2020-21), **Earth Hour** (2020-21), and conducting **DUSF '20** and **H-MUNEA '21** in the online mode.

Harithkram, in collaboration with the Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems of the College, also organized an ICSSR-NRC sponsored National Seminar on “**Ecological Consciousness in Ancient India: Life Then and Now**” on the occasion of Earth Day this year.

This society is guided by the core conviction that young people are a powerful and untapped force that can bring about a positive change in their communities and nations. Such a force is essential to bring about a paradigm change in our society.

DELHI UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

The Delhi University Sustainability Forum (DUSF) is a dynamic platform that seeks to revolutionize the way we think about sustainability. Initiated by Harithkram, DUSF is a vibrant platform that converges students, experts and professionals from diverse backgrounds to drive meaningful discourse and innovation around sustainability. It also aims to discuss worldwide industrial development, associated environment and sustainability analysis, and provide innovative solutions to local industries and governments to meet the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

EMPOWERING CHANGE: OUR MISSION

Devoted to translating innovative ideas into practical solutions that can flourish at the community level.

Uniting forward-thinking institutions, specialists, and industry leaders in a collaborative knowledge-sharing effort.

Strengthening local-global partnerships to integrate academia, businesses, and civil society in addressing pressing environmental issues.

Focusing on enabling individuals and communities to implement creative, interconnected solutions for a resilient, sustainable future.

OUR VISION

To cultivate a space for transformative conversations that empower individuals and communities to craft eco-conscious solutions, bridging traditional knowledge with contemporary approaches, leading to impactful change at grassroot level.

DELHI UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

CORE OBJECTIVES

DUSF's Core objectives are designed to drive tangible impact:

- Translate innovative ideas into practical community-level solutions.
- Unite forward-thinking institutions and specialists in knowledge sharing.
- Harness the power of interconnected solutions to cultivate a resilient and thriving tomorrow.
- Uncover and amplify breakthrough solutions, turning inspiration into actionable impact.

Thus, the Delhi University Sustainability Forum provides a unique opportunity for participants to engage with cutting-edge research, innovative technologies, and successful case studies, ultimately informing and shaping sustainable practices in various sectors. Our Forum emerges as a pivotal catalyst for transformative change, converging diverse minds, innovative ideas and collective action. DUSF will not just be a forum for constructive discussions but will also try to find feasible approaches to solve the manifold and intersecting challenges in the way of sustainability in today's world.

CONCEPT NOTE FOR DUSF '24

In 2024, amidst global concerns over climate change, urbanization, and resource depletion, India finds itself at a critical juncture in its pursuit of sustainable development. The rapid urbanization propelling the nation's economic advancement necessitates a revaluation of urban planning, development strategies and a pan-India growth graph. Additionally, the incorporation of indigenous knowledge and principles of circular economy presents an exciting opportunity to address these challenges with innovation and efficacy.

The **Delhi University Sustainability Forum (DUSF)**, organised by Harithkram, is set to host its 6th edition on October 25, 2024. The theme **“Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices”** aims to explore how smart technologies, sustainable (urban) planning, Indigenous wisdom and circular economy practices can come together to create a resilient infrastructure that caters to the well-being of all citizens while minimising environmental impact and fostering sustainable tourism.

We are pleased to announce that under the auspices of the **6th Delhi University Sustainability Forum (DUSF)**, we will be hosting the **School Students Competition (SSC)**, **Harithkram Youth Summit (HYS)** and the **National Photography Competition (NPC)** to guide the future of our planet towards environmental sustainability, environmental conservation, and adoption of indigenous practices towards the achievement of the former goals. These events are designed to offer participants an exceptional platform to observe as well as take part in high-yielding discussions of an eco-conference and engage in meaningful interactions with esteemed scholars and stakeholders from different fields.

CONCEPT NOTE FOR DUSF '24

The mitigation of climate change entails the promotion of disaster preparedness, climate-smart agriculture and resilient infrastructure to ensure food security, sustainable livelihoods and sustainable development. Sustainable urban development emphasizes intelligent infrastructure, green spaces, and participatory governance to enhance urban sustainability and quality of life. Integral to environmental stewardship is the adoption of circular economy principles, which aim to minimize environmental impact through waste-to-resource initiatives, sustainable packaging, and community recycling programs, fostering innovation.

Furthermore, the incorporation of **Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)** is essential for biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management, aligning with **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** such as **SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities)** and **SDG 15 (Life on Land)**. Collectively, these approaches align with the theme “Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices” thereby foregrounding the significance of comprehensive environmental stewardship and sustainable development.

Delhi University Sustainability Forum is the brainchild of Harithkram's initiative to spread awareness adhering to the motto “**Beyond the Boundaries.**” This innovative platform brings together students to address pressing environmental issues by combining traditional wisdom with modern innovation. It connects experts from governments, industries, academia and civil society with a focus on leveraging indigenous knowledge and holistic practices for sustainable development. With an emphasis on the theme “Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices” the platform aims to integrate

CONCEPT NOTE FOR DUSF '24

ancient ecological consciousness and environment-friendly insights with contemporary strategies to create practical solutions that support **the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and promote a more resilient and sustainable future.

The Sixth Edition of the Delhi University Sustainability Forum will comprise three events in addition to the **DUSF Plenary Session** on the focal theme.

1. School Students Competition (SSC):

The School Students Competition (SSC) is an essay competition for **school students (secondary and senior secondary)** on the essence of the focal theme **“Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices.”** School students are expected to choose a topic based on the focal theme, in consultation with a faculty mentor from their school, and submit an essay based on primary/secondary research, with proper citations by the due date. We encourage topics and essays rooted in the local ethos of the place where the school is based/students hail from. The idea behind this event is to orient school students early on to the wisdom inherent in indigenous and sustainable practices to ensure a greener future.

2. Harithkram Youth Summit (HYS):

The Harithkram Youth Summit (HYS) on the theme **“Green Entrepreneurship: Harnessing Indigenous Wisdom for a Sustainable Future”** is a platform for **undergraduate participants** to develop innovative business models that integrate traditional knowledge with contemporary sustainability techniques. This competition comprises three stages and culminates in live presentations, encouraging participants to devise environmentally-mindful

CONCEPT NOTE FOR DUSF '24

solutions rooted in ecological wisdom and in-line with sustainable development. HYS aims to empower young entrepreneurs to lead positive change, promoting green entrepreneurship and exemplifying the harmonious blend of indigenous methodologies and modern approaches for a resilient future.

3. National Photography Competition (NPC):

Aimed at capturing the essence of **“Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices,”** this competition invites participants to creatively document themes of sustainability, environmental conservation, and indigenous practices. The NPC provides a platform for young, environmentally conscious photographers to creatively highlight India’s journey towards sustainability through the medium of their lens. The competition is open to all **undergraduate students, postgraduate students and research scholars** affiliated with any educational institution or university in India.

**Date: October 25, 2024 | Venue: Shaheed Bhagat Singh College,
University of Delhi**

THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS PRACTICES FOR VIKSIT BHARAT: REEVALUATING SDG TARGETS IN INDIA

India possesses a rich heritage of indigenous practices that have sustained its economy, culture, and society for centuries. These traditional methods are intricately linked to the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and play a pivotal role in shaping a sustainable future for the nation. By amalgamating indigenous wisdom with contemporary strategies, India can fortify its commitment to achieving the SDGs and cultivate a *Viksit Bharat* (developed India). The ensuing sections elucidate how diverse indigenous practices contribute to specific SDGs and promote sustainable development.

1. Sustainable Agriculture

India's agricultural sector has historically relied on indigenous techniques such as crop rotation, organic farming, and watershed management. Additionally, farmers employ agroforestry and crop diversification, amalgamating traditional knowledge with advanced methods to mitigate climate change impacts, conserve natural resources, and augment crop yields.

These practices align with **SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)** by fostering food security and sustainable agriculture, ensuring local communities can produce nutritious food while preserving ecosystems. Furthermore, by promoting sustainable agriculture, they also bolster **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** through low-emission farming practices like Conservation Tillage and Carbon Farming that enhance resilience to climate change.

THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS PRACTICES FOR VIKSIT BHARAT: REEVALUATING SDG TARGETS IN INDIA

2. Water Management

Indigenous water management techniques such as rainwater harvesting, traditional wells, and community-managed irrigation systems aid in conserving water resources. Methods such as use of temple tanks for water conservation are tailored to local climatic conditions and community needs, reflecting a responsible and holistic approach to water use.

These practices support **SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation)** by ensuring sustainable water management and access to clean water, which is indispensable for health, agriculture and overall community well-being.

3. Renewable Energy Solutions

With the increasing emphasis on Clean Energy, indigenous technologies play a pivotal role in harnessing renewable energy sources like sun, wind and biomass. Traditional methods such as solar cookers, solar water heaters, windmills, and biogas plants offer affordable and eco-friendly alternatives to conventional energy sources.

These practices contribute to **SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)** by promoting renewable and decentralised energy solutions, particularly for rural communities, and reducing dependence on non-renewable energy sources.

4. Sustainable Cities and Communities

Indigenous construction practices emphasise sustainable human settlements by utilising region-specific materials like mud, bamboo, and stone. Illustrative examples include *Kath Kuni* architecture in Himachal Pradesh and Bamboo houses in Assam.

THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS PRACTICES FOR VIKSIT BHARAT: REEVALUATING SDG TARGETS IN INDIA

These practices facilitate the development of structures adapted to local climates, promoting resilience and environmental harmony.

These methods support **SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)** by fostering the development of sustainable, disaster-resilient infrastructure, contributing to climate-adaptive urban and rural planning.

5. Forest Conservation and Biodiversity

Indigenous communities often engage in sustainable forest management practices, such as selective logging and utilizing non-timber forest products. Sacred groves, which are protected and left untouched by human activities, act as ecological hotspots, thereby also preserving the flora and fauna of the region.

These practices contribute to **SDG 15 (Life on Land)** by promoting biodiversity conservation, sustainable land use, and combat deforestation, which is crucial for maintaining ecological balance and enhancing climate resilience.

6. Economic Growth with 'VOCAL FOR LOCAL'

By employing local labour and traditional craftspeople, indigenous construction practices ensure local economic development. The use of locally-sourced materials minimizes the cost and environmental impact of transportation, while simultaneously promoting local employment and reducing carbon footprint.

These practices align with **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)** by providing employment opportunities to local artisans and craftsmen, fostering economic empowerment, and preserving cultural heritage.

THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS PRACTICES FOR VIKSIT BHARAT: REEVALUATING SDG TARGETS IN INDIA

In order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it is crucial to recognize the significance of indigenous practices. These practices are instrumental in promoting sustainable resource management, preserving biodiversity and fostering community resilience. By integrating indigenous wisdom into policy-making, India can effectively support the vision of Vikshit Bharat and move towards a sustainable and prosperous future.

India's climate-action strategies, including clean energy initiatives, disaster-resilient infrastructure, and eco-restoration efforts serve as prime examples of how indigenous practices can be leveraged to achieve national targets. By actively implementing its nationally determined contributions and integrating traditional methods, India can play a pivotal role in global climate action and advance its vision for **Satat Bharat – Sanatan Bharat (Sustainable India)**.



GREEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP UNDER MISSION LIFE

Mission LiFE is a groundbreaking initiative taken up by the Government of India that emphasizes promoting sustainable living and environmental consciousness among individuals and communities. Its goal is to nudge individuals and communities toward environmentally conscious choices. By aligning personal actions with global sustainability goals, Mission LiFE encourages a collective effort to reduce the ecological footprint. Harithkram has closely related its initiatives and events to Mission LiFE in the last two years. In previous years, we have organized events that align with the ideology of Mission LiFE, such as **Earth Hour Celebrations, Climate Action Strike, DUSF 2022 x HMUNEA 2023 and a National Seminar on Earth Day (2024)**.

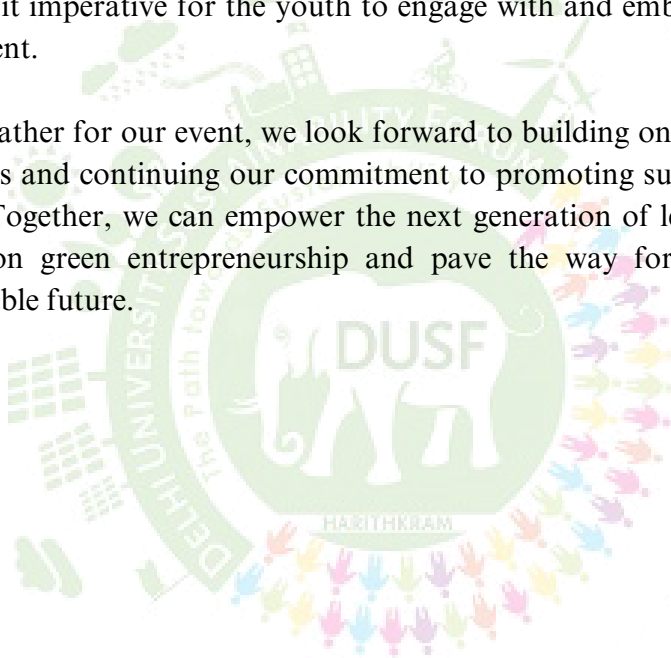
As Harithkram organizes the sixth edition of DUSF, we are excited to introduce the theme of Green Entrepreneurship under Mission LiFE for **Harithkram Youth Summit (HYS)**, which aims to inspire participants to develop innovative business plans that not only drive economic growth, but also prioritize environmental sustainability. DUSF '24 will serve as a platform for young thinkers to showcase their creative solutions to pressing environmental challenges, fostering a culture of sustainability among the youth.

Green entrepreneurship plays a crucial role in this context. It refers to businesses that prioritize environmental sustainability while also aiming for profitability. Green entrepreneurs create innovative solutions addressing environmental challenges and contribute to economic growth. By incorporating eco-friendly models, they help reduce carbon footprints, conserve resources, and promote sustainable consumption. This emerging field is gaining momentum as consumers increasingly demand sustainable products, pushing businesses to adopt greener strategies.

GREEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP UNDER MISSION LIFE

As we witness the impacts of climate change and resource depletion, green entrepreneurship has become the need of the hour. It not only addresses urgent environmental issues but also creates new job opportunities and stimulates innovation in various sectors. By harnessing technology and creativity, green entrepreneurs are at the forefront of driving the transition towards a sustainable economy, making it imperative for the youth to engage with and embrace this movement.

As we gather for our event, we look forward to building on our past successes and continuing our commitment to promoting sustainable living. Together, we can empower the next generation of leaders to champion green entrepreneurship and pave the way for a more sustainable future.



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

This youth conference marks the **Sixth Edition** of the Delhi University Sustainability Forum, an event that continues to grow in significance with each passing year. The conference includes **3 sub-events**, all centered on the focal theme **“Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices.”**

1. SCHOOL STUDENTS’ COMPETITION (SSC)

School Students’ Competition is an essay writing competition designed for students in Secondary and Senior Secondary levels. The primary objective of this competition is to cultivate environmental consciousness among young minds through academic writing.

The focal theme **“Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices,”** invites participants to delve into topics that highlight the relevance of traditional knowledge systems and sustainable practices.

2. HARITHKRAM YOUTH SUMMIT (HYS)

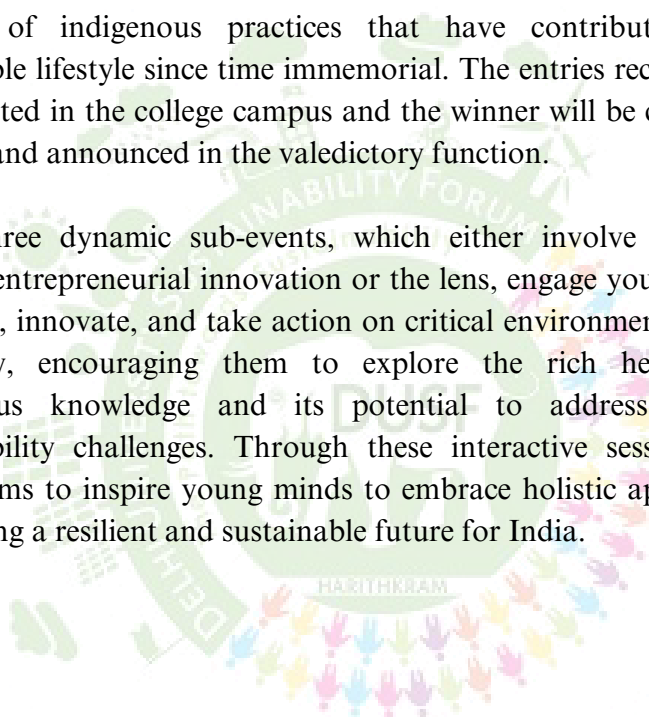
The Harithkram Youth Summit is not just a competition—it’s a movement toward a greener, more resilient future. The summit empowers undergraduate students and our future entrepreneurs to create transformative ventures that integrate holistic, time-tested practices with cutting-edge sustainability strategies on the theme **“Green Entrepreneurship: Harnessing Indigenous Wisdom for a Sustainable Future.”**

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

3. NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION (NPC)

The National Photography Competition invites photography enthusiasts across India to capture the essence of the focal theme. The competition is an open-for-all event. This competition aims to showcase the resilience of the different communities in India and the wisdom of indigenous practices that have contributed to a sustainable lifestyle since time immemorial. The entries received will be exhibited in the college campus and the winner will be chosen by the jury and announced in the valedictory function.

These three dynamic sub-events, which either involve academic writing, entrepreneurial innovation or the lens, engage young minds to reflect, innovate, and take action on critical environmental issues creatively, encouraging them to explore the rich heritage of indigenous knowledge and its potential to address modern sustainability challenges. Through these interactive sessions, the forum aims to inspire young minds to embrace holistic approaches to building a resilient and sustainable future for India.



SCHOOL STUDENTS' COMPETITION (SSC)

The School Students' Competition is an online essay competition designed for **secondary and senior secondary students** to enhance environmental awareness through academic writing on the theme “Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices.” Participants are encouraged to delve into topics that reflect indigenous knowledge and sustainable practices within their local communities.

GUIDELINES

Eligibility

- Open to students from Class 9 to Class 12.
- Teams of 1 to 3 students must include a faculty mentor.
- Each school can submit a maximum of **2 entries**.
- Submitting an essay titled exactly as the DUSF theme will result in disqualification.
- Word limit: **1500 words** (excluding citations).
- Essays must be rooted in primary or secondary research and feature proper citations.
- Originality and creative insights are highly valued, including examples of indigenous knowledge.
- Fill out the Google form and submit the essay in **PDF format**.
- It should be relevant to the theme.
- Proper citations are a mandate

Prizes and Recognition

- Top 3 essays receive certificates and cash prizes.
- Winning essays may be published on Harithkram's platform.
- Special mentions for unique insights into indigenous practices.

HARITHKRAM YOUTH SUMMIT (HYS)

Harithkram Youth Summit is a case study competition for students on undergraduate level based on business plan. The theme for the same is **“Green Entrepreneurship: Harnessing Indigenous Wisdom for a Sustainable Future.”** The competition will take place in three stages

Stage 1 – submitting a 3-slide concept note (PDF) detailing a sustainability challenge and innovative business model.

Stage 2 – selected teams will expand into a 12-slide business plan with financial projections.

Stage 3 – Finalists will present their business plan on campus at DUSF '24 on 25 October, 2024. Time limit for the same is 10 minutes followed by 5 minutes Q&A round.

GUIDELINES

- The teams should include not more than 4 students, and they should be of the same institution.
- The original submissions should be in PDF format only.

PRIZES

Winner:

- A significant cash reward.
- A certificate of achievement
- A feature in Harithkram's publications and media channels.

Runner Ups:

- A smaller cash reward.
- A certificate of achievement.
- A feature in Harithkram's publications and media channels

Special Mention:

- A certificate of achievement.
- A feature in Harithkram's publications and media channels

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION (NPC)

The National Photography Competition (NPC) for DUSF 2024 invites photographers across India to explore the theme “**Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices.**”

GUIDELINES

- Up to **2 images** per participant.
- Images must be in **JPEG format (min. 1800 pixels, max. 15 MB)**.
- Submit through the **Unstop platform** with a caption (50-100 words) and EXIF details.
- It should be relevant to the theme.
- It should include creativity, technical excellence, and storytelling ability.

PRIZES

- The Top 50 entries will be notified and will receive recognition.
- The winning entries will be featured on various Harithkram and DUSF 2024 platforms, including social media and publications.
- Winners will also be invited to Shaheed Bhagat Singh College during DUSF 2024 for a special award ceremony and recognition

EMINENT GUEST SPEAKERS IN THE CONFERENCE



MR. RAVI SINGH

THE SECRETARY GENERAL & CEO
WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE - INDIA



COL. PROF. SANJAY SRIVASTAVA
CHAIRMAN, CROPC
PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE, TERI SAS

DISTINGUISHED PANELISTS

PANELIST



DR. FAWZIA TARANNUM

FOUNDER, EARTHWISE ENVIRONMENT AND
SUSTAINABILITY SOLUTIONS

PANELIST



MR. CHETAN AGARWAL

FOREST AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
ANALYST

PANELIST



MR. SAMARRTH KHANNA

CONSULTANT, ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

DISCUSSANT



MR. LAKSHYA YOG

SENIOR PROJECT ASSOCIATE, WORLD
RESOURCES INSTITUTE INDIA

JURY FOR HARITHKRAM YOUTH SUMMIT



MS. PAYAL RASTOGI
FOUNDER, PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT
CARBONFIXERS



MR. HARVINDER SINGH
FACULTY, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES,
SHAHEED BHAGAT SINGH COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

JURY FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS COMPETITION



DR. BIDISHA CHATTOPADHYAY

TEACHING FACULTY,
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING,
SCHOOL OF PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE,
NEW DELHI



MR. SINCHUILUNG GANGMEI KABUI

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR,
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH,
MOTILAL NEHRU COLLEGE (E)
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

JURY FOR NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



MR. V.V. KRISHNAN

PHOTO EDITOR (RETD.)
THE HINDU

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PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

6th DELHI UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

Theme: **Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices**

organized by

HARITHKRAM

under the aegis of

**INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL
SHAHEED BHAGAT SINGH COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI**

OCTOBER 25, 2024 | SBSC, NEW DELHI, INDIA

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Venue: Seminar Room (C5), SBSC Premises

INAUGURAL SESSION (10:00 – 11:30 Hrs)

10:00	Lighting of Lamp
10:05	Presentation of University of Delhi Kulgeet
10:08	Invocation Dance
10:13	Harithkram Video Presentation
10:20	Formal Welcome of Guests
10:25	Opening Remarks by the Convener, Harithkram Ms. Jyoti Varshney
10:30	Welcome Address by the Principal Prof. Arun Kumar Attree
10:35	Harithkram Presentation on the Focal Theme by Mr. Abhishek Rajhans
10:45	Chief Guest Mr. Ravi Singh , Secretary General & CEO, <i>WWF-India, New Delhi</i> to deliver the Inaugural Plenary Address of the DUSF SUSTAINABILITY DIALOGUES
11:15	Felicitation of the Chief Guest
11:20	Vote of Thanks by the Co-Convener, Harithkram Dr. Komal Agarwal
11:29	National Anthem
11:30	Tea

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

PANEL DISCUSSION (12:00 – 13:30 Hrs)

On the focal theme: **Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices**

12:00 Introductory Remarks

Panellists:

Dr. Fawzia Tarannum Founder, *Earthwise Environment and Sustainability Solutions*

12:05 **Mr. Chetan Agarwal** Forest and Environmental Services Analyst, *Centre for Environmental Development and Research (CEDAR)*

Mr. Sammarth Khanna Consultant, *Ecological Restoration*

Session Discussant: Research Fellow, *World Resources Institute, New Delhi*

Dr. Lakshya Yog

13:25 Concluding Remarks, Felicitation of Speakers and Vote of Thanks

HARITHKRAM YOUTH SUMMIT (HYS) (14:30 – 16:30 Hrs)

14:30 Selected Case Study **Presentations** from Undergraduate Teams on **Green Entrepreneurship: Harnessing Indigenous Wisdom for a Sustainable Future**

VALEDICTORY SESSION (16:30 – 17:30 Hrs)

16:30 Formal Welcome of Guests

16:32 **Opening Remarks** by the Convener, Harithkram **Ms. Jyoti Varshney**

16:35 **Welcome Address** by the Principal **Prof. Arun Kumar Attree**

16:40 Guest of Honour **Col. (Prof.) Sanjay Srivastava**, Chairman, *CROPC* and Professor of Practice, *TERI-SAS, New Delhi* to **deliver the Valedictory Address**

17:00 **Felicitation** of the Guest

17:05 **Declaration of Results** of the competition and **Closing Remarks** by the Staff Advisor, Harithkram **Dr. V.A.V. Raman**

17:25 **Vote of Thanks** by the Co-Convener, Harithkram **Dr. Komal Agarwal**

17:29 National Anthem

17:30 Tea

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STAFF ADVISOR

Dr. V. A. V. Raman

CO-CONVENER

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Handbook Content

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