

# DEEP JYOTI



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## Remembering Late Shri C. K. Mehta: Honoring His Legacy



On the first death anniversary of Shri C. K. Mehta, the visionary founder of Deepak Foundation, the organization commemorated his enduring legacy with two significant events, reflecting his commitment to social welfare, environmental sustainability, and community empowerment.

### **Free Disability Certificate Camp: A Step Towards Empowerment**

In collaboration with the District Social Security Office and amnabai General Hospital, Deepak Foundation organized a free disability certificate camp at Deepak Medical Foundation, located in Nandesari, Gujarat. This initiative was designed to support individuals with disabilities from nearby villages by offering them the opportunity to obtain official disability certificates. Over 130 people were examined by specialist doctors, and as a result, they were able to apply for government benefits and schemes that would improve their quality of life.

The camp was part of the Foundation's larger "Project Sangath," which goes beyond just providing certificates. The project offers valuable guidance on navigating various government programs and

ensures that follow-up assistance is provided to ensure individuals access the benefits they are entitled to. This initiative embodies Shri C. K. Mehta's vision of an inclusive society where every individual receives the support and resources they need to lead a dignified life.



*Inauguration of Digital Angawadi in Nandesari, Vadodara*



## Inauguration of 'Suchna Rath' to Boost Awareness of Government Schemes in Devbhumi Dwarka

In a significant move towards empowering rural communities, Mr. G.T. Pandya, IAS, District Collector and District Magistrate of Devbhumi Dwarka, inaugurated the Suchna Rath initiative. Supported by NAYARA Energy's CSR program and implemented by Deepak Foundation, this mobile information service aims to enhance awareness about government schemes and extend vital services to the residents of Khambhaliya and Lalpur blocks.

The Suchna Rath initiative represents a transformative step in bridging the information gap and ensuring that critical government schemes reach those who need them the most.



The Suchna Rath is a part of the Excel project, a social security initiative backed by NAYARA Energy, designed to facilitate access to government welfare programs and resources for rural communities.

During the inauguration, Mr. Pandya highlighted the importance of ensuring that rural populations are well-informed about available government benefits and services. He emphasized that raising awareness is key to ensuring equitable access and fostering social development in underserved regions.

The event also saw the participation of other distinguished guests, including Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Singh from NAYARA Energy's leadership team, Mr. S.D. Dhanani, District Development Officer, as well as local leaders and residents from Vadaliya Sinhan.



## Deepak Foundation Joins Gujarat Changemakers Meet 2024: A Catalyst for Positive Change

Deepak Foundation proudly participated in the inaugural Gujarat Changemakers Meet (GCM) 2024, a pioneering initiative organized by Samanvay Pratishthan in collaboration with Bharat Foundation. The event brought together a vibrant community of individuals and organizations united by a shared commitment to driving social, environmental, and economic change in Gujarat.



Under the theme "From Problem to Solution," the meet served as a dynamic platform for collaboration, networking, and knowledge-sharing. Deepak Foundation contributed to the discussions by showcasing its innovative approaches across various interventions aimed at improving the lives of underserved communities. With over 50 influential changemakers from diverse sectors in attendance, the event provided a unique opportunity for organizations to connect, exchange ideas, and explore partnerships that can further amplify the impact of their initiatives.



## Fostering Innovation and Empowering Entrepreneurs

Mr. Santosh Surve, In-charge of Education at Deepak Foundation, was recently invited as an esteemed panelist at the Preliminary Screening under i-Hub Gujarat's flagship initiative, Startup Srujan Seed Support (S4), held in Ahmedabad. His participation in the event played a crucial role in shaping the conversation around nurturing innovative ideas and supporting startups on their journey from Proof of Concept (PoC) to market-ready products. The Startup Srujan Seed Support (S4) initiative, a program under i-Hub Gujarat, is designed to empower entrepreneurs with groundbreaking ideas by providing the necessary support to transition from the early stages of innovation to tangible, market-ready products. The initiative is focused on helping startups overcome the financial and developmental hurdles that often prevent them from reaching their full potential.



As a panelist, Mr. Surve brought his extensive expertise and experience in education, community development, and capacity building to the table, providing valuable insights on how startups can be empowered not only through financial support but also through strategic mentoring and guidance. His contributions highlighted the importance of nurturing both the technological and human elements that drive successful entrepreneurial ventures.

The S4 initiative offers grants of up to INR 10 Lakhs to selected startups, which enables them to refine their Proof of Concept and advance to the Product/Market stage. This crucial phase allows startups to further develop their solutions, enhance product feasibility, and prepare for broader market introduction.



## Deepak Foundation's Disability Certificate Camp Empowers 196 Individuals in Palghar District

Deepak Foundation, in collaboration with Deepak Group, JMF Foundation, Tehsil Office Mokhada, and Mokhada Rural Hospital, recently completed a highly successful Disability Certificate Camp at Mokhada Rural Hospital in Palghar district, Maharashtra. This impactful initiative brought significant change to the lives of 196 individuals living with disabilities.

A total of 154 applicants were able to successfully secure their disability certificates, unlocking access to essential government benefits and services. In addition to the successful applicants, the camp also overcame challenges to provide support to 42 individuals whose initial applications had been rejected. With the help of dedicated teams and streamlined processes, Deepak Foundation ensured that these individuals received the necessary documentation to move forward with their applications.



The event was a critical step in Deepak Foundation's ongoing efforts to promote inclusivity and provide individuals with the resources they need to access social welfare programs. By assisting these individuals in obtaining their disability certificates, the Foundation is helping to open doors to a range of opportunities, including healthcare, financial aid, and social security schemes.

## A Green Tribute: Gram Jal Sanchay Project's First-Year Milestone

In another tribute to Shri C. K. Mehta's legacy of environmental stewardship, Deepak Foundation marked the first year of the Gram Jal Sanchay (Village Water Conservation) project in Dagamansai village, Roha Block, Raigad district, Maharashtra. Launched as part of Deepak Foundation's broader environmental efforts, this project successfully planted 3,000 fruit trees across the lands of 58 farmers in the region. These trees, which will thrive alongside sustainable water resources provided by the project, symbolize both environmental resilience and the promise of a prosperous future for the local community.

The initiative was a collaborative effort between Deepak Nitrite and Deepak Foundation. With a focus on sustainable agricultural practices and water conservation, the project aims to enhance the livelihoods of local farmers while contributing to ecological balance. In honoring Shri C. K. Mehta's commitment to a greener, more sustainable world, this project has laid the foundation for long-term environmental and social benefits.



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## HIGHLIGHTS

### Launch of Sangaath Rath - Mobile Awareness Platform

Deepak Foundation, in collaboration with the Vadodara District Administration, launched the Sangaath Rath mobile platform to bridge the gap between underserved communities and government schemes. The initiative, covering 12 villages in Nandesari, Vadodara, provides vital information on government programs and helps communities access benefits. The launch was graced by key dignitaries, including Honorable District Collector Shri B.A. Shah and Deepak Foundation Trustees.



### On-Farm training organized in Tilakwada (HRIDAY Project)



Deepak Foundation conducted essential on-farm training sessions for farmers in Tilakwada under the HRIDAY (LIC-HFL) project. The training focused on mix cropping, crop diversification, and sustainable agricultural practices, such as the use of neem oil and other growth promoters. This initiative empowers farmers with the skills to boost yields and protect their crops, fostering a sustainable agricultural future.





# AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

## Mangrove Conservation at Paniyadra Coast

In partnership with Deepak Phenolics Ltd. and the Gujarat Forest Department, Deepak Foundation is working on restoring mangroves along the Paniyadra coast. Through community engagement and educational programs, including documentary screenings and quizzes, the initiative has inspired students, with some of their artwork being selected for the 2024 "Children's Art Mangrove Contest."



## Sangaath Project Wins Award at Social Impact Conference

Deepak Foundation's Sangaath Project was honored at the 4th Social Impact Conference & Awards in the Social Incubation, Research and Development category for its innovative approach in making government welfare schemes accessible to all. The recognition highlights the project's role in empowering communities and ensuring equitable access to government programs.





## From Struggle to Hope: Vahidbhai's Journey to Empowerment with Deepak Foundation's Support

In the face of adversity, Vahidbhai's journey is a powerful testament to resilience, hope, and the transformative power of timely support. A farmer from a rural area, Vahidbhai's life took a tragic turn when an accident left him disabled, casting a shadow of uncertainty over his future. However, his indomitable spirit and the timely intervention of Deepak Foundation's Sangaath Project brought a ray of hope into his life.

Thanks to the Sangaath Project, funded by Deepak Group, Vahidbhai received the guidance and support he needed to navigate the complex process of applying for the Viklang Sahay Yojana (Disability Assistance Scheme). The path to securing government benefits wasn't easy. Vahidbhai had to overcome significant hurdles, including the challenge of acquiring essential documents like a disability certificate.

Despite these challenges, the Sangaath team worked closely with him, providing the necessary assistance and ensuring that his application was successfully processed. Today, Vahidbhai is receiving a monthly financial aid of Rs. 1000—an amount that may seem small, but it holds immense value in supporting his family's basic needs and ensuring their dignity. Vahidbhai's story is not just about the financial aid he received; it's about the empowerment that comes from knowing that help is available when it's needed most. Deepak Foundation is proud to be a part of his journey, supporting him as he moves forward towards a future of independence and hope.

This initiative is just one example of how the Sangaath Project is making a real difference in the lives of individuals, ensuring that people like Vahidbhai have access to the resources they are entitled to, and empowering them to rebuild their lives with dignity and confidence.



For any queries or suggestions, please write to us at:



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