School Students' Competition (SSC)

An Online Essay Competetion

on

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

The **School Students' Competition (SSC)** is an **essay competition** aimed at school students (Secondary and Senior Secondary levels) to foster environmental consciousness through academic writing. Participants are encouraged to explore topics rooted in indigenous knowledge and sustainable practices, reflecting the local ethos of their community or region. The competition encourages primary or secondary research, proper citation, and collaboration with a faculty mentor.

Guidelines:

1. **Eligibility**:
   - Open to students from Class 9 to Class 12.
   - Team size: 1 to 3 students.
   - Each team must have one faculty mentor for guidance.
2. **Topic Selection**:
   - Choose a **sub-theme** within the broader focal theme of "Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices"
   - Topics should highlight indigenous practices or sustainability efforts relevant to the student's local environment.
   - Submitting an essay with the exact title or theme of the DUSF event will result in disqualification. Participants are required to choose a distinct sub-theme.
3. **Essay Requirements**:
   - Word Limit: 1500 words (excluding citations and references).
   - Essays should be rooted in primary or secondary research with proper citations and references.
   - Originality and creativity in presenting solutions or insights will be highly valued.
   - Essays should include examples of indigenous knowledge or practices where applicable.
   - Essays should be typed using Times New Roman font, size 12(main body), size 14(Headings)
4. **Submission Process**:
   - To participate, fill out the Google form (https://forms.gle/tKXbPPSQ7RNKDEYT8)
   - Submit the essay in PDF format via the form.
   - **Deadline for submission**: October 18, 2024.
   - Ensure proper mention of references and citations.

5.**Judging Criteria**:
  - Relevance to the theme.
  - Depth of research and analysis.
  - Originality and creativity in approach.
  - Structure and clarity of the essay.
  - Proper citation and use of references.

6.**Prizes and Recognition**:
  - The top 3 essays will receive certificates and cash prizes.
  - Winning essays may be published on Harithkram's platform.
  - Special mention awards for essays highlighting unique indigenous practices.

7.**Participation Details**:
  - The competition is free of cost.
  - Selected students will be invited to attend the Delhi University Sustainability Forum (DUSF) event at Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, Delhi University.
  - Each school can submit a **maximum of 2 entries** for the competition.

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HARITHKRAM YOUTH SUMMIT
A Case Study Competition
on
Green Entrepreneurship: Harnessing Indigenous Wisdom for a Sustainable Future

The Harithkram Youth Summit (HYS), themed "Green Entrepreneurship: Harnessing Indigenous Wisdom for a Sustainable Future," invites participants to explore and develop innovative business models that combine traditional knowledge, holistic practices, and sustainability strategies for contemporary times. As part of the broader DUSF 2024 event, HYS supports the forum's overarching theme, "Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices."

HYS empowers the next generation of entrepreneurs to create transformative business models that foster green entrepreneurship, driving positive change for both the environment and society. HYS will serve as a platform for students to present innovative, actionable solutions that reflect the synergy between traditional knowledge and modern sustainability practices, inspiring local and global communities alike. This competition challenges participants to craft solutions that promote sustainable development and leverage the deep ecological wisdom embedded in India's indigenous practices. By merging ancient insights with contemporary approaches, participants will highlight the vision that will eventually pave the way for a resilient and sustainable future, which, without doubt, is the need of the hour.

The competition will unfold in three stages, with each phase building upon the last, culminating in a live presentation at the Delhi University Sustainability Forum (DUSF) 2024. Throughout this journey, participants must ensure that their ideas are original, actionable, supported by primary research and aligned with the competition's theme.

Eligibility Criteria

- A Competition for Undergraduate Students: The Harithkram Youth Summit (HYS) is open to all undergraduate students enrolled in any college or university.
- Team Composition: Teams can consist of 1 to 4 members. Each team must be composed of students from the same college or university. Members may be from different courses or years.
- Institutional Affiliation: All team members must be from the same institution, but they can be from various academic disciplines or levels within that institution.
- Number of Entries: Each team can submit only one entry for the competition.

Stage 1: Concept Note Submission

Objective:

Participants must submit a concise and compelling concept note outlining an innovative business model or solution addressing a specific sustainability challenge. The focus should be on integrating indigenous knowledge and holistic practices to create a resilient and sustainable solution.

Submission Guidelines:

- Length: Maximum 3 Slides PPT
- Format: PDF
- Content Requirements:
  - Problem Statement: Clearly define the sustainability challenge being addressed.
  - Proposed Solution: Describe the business model or solution, highlighting how it integrates indigenous wisdom and modern sustainability practices.
  - Impact Analysis: Outline the solution's potential environmental, social, and economic impacts

Evaluation Criteria:

- Creativity and Innovation: The uniqueness and originality of the proposed solution.
- Relevance to Theme: Alignment with the competition theme of integrating indigenous wisdom and sustainability.
- Potential Impact: The expected positive outcomes for the environment and communities.
- Originality (Check for Plagiarism): The originality of the work submitted, with a thorough check for plagiarism to ensure that the ideas and content are original and not copied from existing sources.

Deadline: 29th September, 2024

Outcome:
The best concept notes will be selected to advance to Stage 2, where teams will be asked to develop their ideas further into comprehensive business plans.

Stage 2: Business Plan Development

Objective:
Teams selected from Stage 1 will be tasked with expanding their concept notes into detailed business plans. This stage emphasizes the development of a robust strategy that can be realistically implemented, with a strong focus on sustainability, scalability, and the integration of indigenous knowledge.

Submission Guidelines:
- Length: Maximum 12 Slides PPT (excluding appendices)
- Format: PDF
- Content Requirements:
  - Detailed Problem Analysis: An indepth exploration of the sustainability challenge, including context, background, and key issues.
  - Expanded Solution: A comprehensive description of the proposed solution, focusing on integrating indigenous knowledge and modern practices.
  - Financial Projections: A financial plan outlining revenue models, cost structures, and funding requirements.
  - Implementation Roadmap: A detailed plan for executing the solutions.
  - Monitoring and Evaluation Plan: Methods for assessing the effectiveness and impact of the solution over time.

Evaluation Criteria:
- Comprehensive Analysis: Depth and thoroughness of the problem and solution analysis.
- Innovation and Integration: How well does the solution incorporate indigenous wisdom alongside modern sustainability practices?
- Feasibility and Scalability: Practicality of the implementation and potential for scaling the solution.
- Financial Viability: Soundness of financial projections and sustainability of the business model.
- Presentation: Clarity, creativity, and professionalism of the video pitch.

Deadline: 14th October, 2024

Outcome:
The top 8 teams from Stage 2 will be invited to present their business plans live at DUSF 2024, on October 25, 2024 at Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi.

Stage 3: On-Campus Presentation and Q&A

Objective:
The finalist teams will present their fully developed business plans to a panel of esteemed judges during the DUSF 2024 event. This stage is designed to test the teams' ability to effectively communicate their ideas and respond to critical questions from experts.

Presentation Guidelines:
- Presentation Time: 10 minutes for the presentation, followed by 5 minutes for Q&A.
- Content Requirements:
  - Overview: A concise summary of the problem, solution, and impact.
  - Detailed Solution: Provide an indepth explanation of the business model, highlighting the integration of indigenous knowledge.
  - Implementation Strategy: Key steps, timelines, and milestones for bringing the solution to life.
  - Financial and Risk Management: Financial projections and risk mitigation strategies overview.
  - Impact and Sustainability: Longterm benefits and sustainability of the solution.

Evaluation Criteria:
- Clarity and Persuasiveness: Effectiveness of the presentation in conveying the solution.
- Depth of Knowledge: Understanding and explanation of the problem, solution, and its implications.
- Innovation and Relevance: Originality and applicability of the solution in realworld scenarios.
- Feasibility and Practicality: Realistic potential for implementation and success.
- Engagement during Q&A: Ability to respond thoughtfully and convincingly to questions from the judges.

Prizes and Recognition

- **Winner:**
  - Cash Prize: A significant cash reward.
  - Certificate: A certificate of achievement
  - Recognition: A feature in Harithkram's publications and media channels.

- **Runner Ups**
  - Cash Prize: A smaller cash reward.
  - Certificate: A certificate of achievement.
  - Recognition: A feature in Harithkram's publications and media channels

- **Special Mention**
  - Certificate: A certificate of achievement.
  - Recognition: A feature in Harithkram's publications and media channels

National Photography Competition (NPC)

on

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

The National Photography Competition (NPC) under DUSF 2024 invites photography enthusiasts across India to capture the essence of the theme: "Resilient India for a Sustainable Future: Rediscovering Indigenous Wisdom and Embracing Holistic Practices." 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 times immemorial.

Participants are encouraged to submit original images highlighting themes such as sustainable living, nature conservation, eco-friendly innovations, or the preservation of traditional knowledge systems.

Guidelines for Participation:

Eligibility:

- The competition is open to all students from any educational institution in India.
- Participation is on an individual basis only.

Submission Rules:

- Each participant is allowed to submit up to 2 images.
- Photographs may be clicked using either a phone or a camera.
- The images must be submitted online in JPEG format, and each image should be at least 1800 pixels wide for horizontal shots or 1800 pixels tall for vertical shots.
- Submitted images should not exceed 15 MB in size, and higher resolution images may be requested by the organizers, if necessary.

Image Restrictions:
- No digital manipulation that distorts the reality of the images will be accepted. Basic enhancements such as sharpening, contrast adjustment, or simple cropping are allowed.
- Use of stock or default images from laptops, tablets, or smartphones is strictly prohibited.
- All submitted images must be the original work of the participant and must adhere to the theme.

Submission Process:
- Participants must submit their entries through Unstop platform.
- The following details must be provided in the submission form:
  - Captions/Description (Between 50-100 words) relevant to the theme.
  - EXIF Information of the photographs:
    - Shutter Speed, Aperture, Focal Length, Camera Model, and ISO.

Judgement Criteria:
- Relevance to the Theme: How well the image reflects indigenous knowledge, sustainable practices, and resilience.
- Creativity and Originality: The uniqueness of the composition and approach.
- Technical Excellence: Sharpness, exposure, lighting, and composition.
- Storytelling through Imagery: The power of the image to evoke an emotion or tell a story in line with the theme.
- Adherence to Guidelines: Conformity to the size, format, and technical submission rules.

Awards and Recognition:

- 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.