CSRL
TRANSFORMING LIVES

समृद्धि Samriddhi

CSRL's Quarterly Newsletter

ISSUE 8 | APRIL-JUNE 2026



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ISSUE 8
APRIL- JUNE 2026

Newsletter Committee

ADVISORS
Mr. Krishnamurti Singh
Ms. Meenakshi Shahi

LEAD EDITOR
Aparna Dandona

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HEAD OFFICE
A-33 Swasthya Vihar, New Delhi-110092

Centre for Social Responsibility and Leadership (CSRL) is a registered society, founded in 2008, working for the betterment of society through education and skill development. Established under the visionary leadership of the Late Mr. S.K. Shahi, CSRL was created in response to the growing socio-economic inequalities in India, particularly impacting underprivileged communities. CSRL believes that education, discipline, and ethical leadership are the most powerful tools for social transformation. Through structured initiatives in the domain of Education and Skill Development, the organization works to bridge
opportunity gaps and nurture responsible, capable individuals who can contribute meaningfully to society.

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"If you get NO as an answer,
remember N.O. means Next
Opportunity!."

–Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam



Dear Readers



Life has never been equal for all. Some begin their journey with all the advantages, while there is a large number who begin with very little. This is the reality and trade mark of every society.

The question, however, has never been about people being born into different circumstances. The more important question is whether those circumstances should decide the course of their lives. My personal belief and answer has always been no. And this is where the true power of opportunity lies.

Opportunity does not promise success. It cannot guarantee outcomes. What it does is far more basic. It offers every individual a fair chance to discover what they are capable of.

When we look at successful people, we often admire their talent and hard work. Both deserve appreciation. But behind almost every achievement is an opportunity that arrived at the right time. It may have been a teacher who believed in a student, a family that valued education despite financial hardship, a scholarship, an institution that chose to invest in someone's future or even an unknown benefactor.

Initially such moments may appear small, but they often shape an entire lifetime. It is the gospel truth that we cannot decide where a child is born. We can, however, decide whether that child has access to quality education, good mentors and a learning environment. That choice reflects our values.

At CSRL, this value guides everything we do. We do not assume that talent belongs to a particular city, school or section of society, it is universal. Opportunity is not.

And we take that responsible step to ensure that opportunity is provided to the deserving without any discretion. Every student who receives the right guidance, the right learning environment and the confidence to pursue a dream, invariably succeeds and that is where we focus – providing opportunities. The value of opportunity is not measured only by the success of one individual. Its real impact is seen in the confidence it creates within families, the hope it brings to communities and the example it sets for future generations.

As we reflect on the theme The Power of Opportunity, let us remember that progress is built gradually but in a consistent manner. Every opportunity we create today has the potential to shape a future that extends far beyond what we can see. That is the enduring power of opportunity. It changes one life, and through that life, many others. Let us continue providing them.

Shri NK Bharali
Director General, CSRL

THE POWER OF OPPORTUNITY: WHY IT'S MORE THAN JUST LUCK.

*Penned by **Dr. Rohit Koul***
Founder Director and CEO |People's Hut Foundation
(Ex. Project Head Kashmir Super 30 and Chenab Super 30, J&K)



In Image: Left to Right : Mr. Rohit Koul with Late Shri SK Shahi (Founder, CSRL)

Opportunity is often romanticized as a sudden stroke of luck—a chance encounter, a fortunate inheritance, or simply being in the right place at the exact right time. But limiting opportunity to mere chance robs it of its true power. The power of opportunity lies not in its random arrival, but in our capacity to recognize, seize, and actively create it. It is the ultimate catalyst for human growth, innovation, and personal transformation.

Disguised as Hard Work

Thomas Edison famously noted that opportunity is missed by most people because "it is dressed in overalls and looks like work." The most profound opportunities rarely arrive with fanfare or on a silver platter. Instead, they are hidden within challenges, failures, and moments of deep frustration.

When a complex problem arises, the natural human instinct is often to retreat. Yet, the greatest inventors and leaders throughout history built their legacies by leaning into that friction. A sudden job loss might be the hidden opportunity to pivot to a far more fulfilling career. A failed project might offer the exact data needed to build a resilient business model. When we reframe adversity as a gateway rather than a dead end, we unlock the true, transformative power of opportunity.

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The Intersection of Preparation and Timing

The ancient Roman philosopher Seneca defined the phenomenon perfectly: *"Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity."*

You cannot control when a door will crack open, but you have absolute control over whether you are equipped to walk through it. Preparing for opportunity means continuously honing your skills, expanding your knowledge, and nurturing your relationships before you actually "need" them. An incredible opportunity presented to an unprepared mind is simply a missed connection. The power lies in your readiness to act the moment the window opens.

Cultivating an Opportunity Mindset

Harnessing this power requires a proactive mindset. It involves shifting from a passive observer of your life to an active architect. You can cultivate this by focusing on three key habits:

a. Embrace relentless curiosity: Ask questions, explore adjacent industries, and remain a lifelong learner. Curiosity expands your peripheral vision, allowing you to spot the subtle chances that others walk right past.

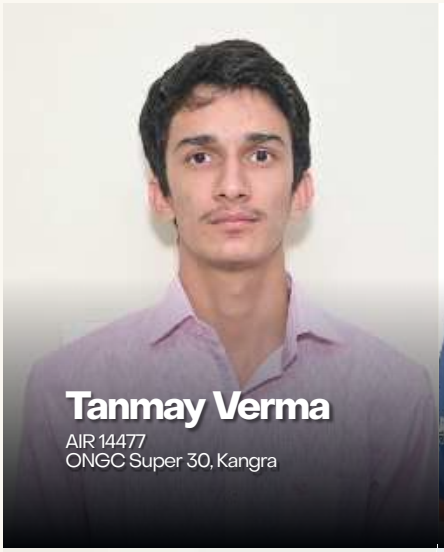
b. Take calculated risks: Say "yes" to things outside your immediate comfort zone. Action generates momentum, and momentum generates new pathways that playing it safe keeps permanently closed.

The Daily Choice

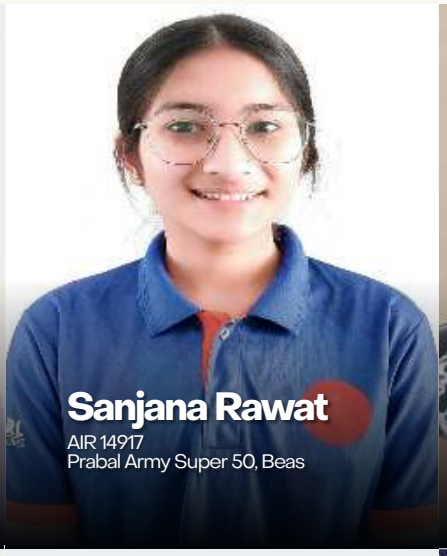
The power of opportunity is ultimately the power of human agency. It is the exact friction point where raw potential turns into kinetic energy.

Every single day presents micro-opportunities—a chance to learn a new concept, to connect with a stranger, or to break a bad habit. Compounded over time, these small shifts create massive waves. While we cannot dictate the exact timing of the universe, we can control our vision and our courage. By staying prepared and keeping our eyes wide open, we ensure that when opportunity finally knocks, we aren't just home—we are fully ready to open the door.

A New Chapter of Success



Tanmay Verma
AIR 14477
ONGC Super 30, Kangra



Sanjana Rawat
AIR 14917
Prabal Army Super 50, Beas



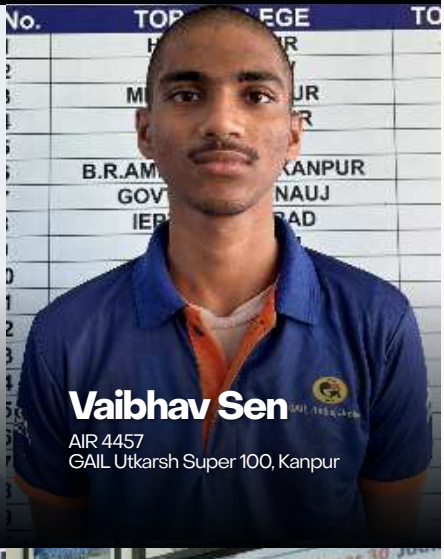
Jahnvi Gupta
Air 9297
GAIL Utkarsh Super 80, Varanasi



Nikhil Pandey
AIR 11308
ONGC Super 30, Kangra



Sahil Suriyal
AIR 11503
RailTel Akansha Super 30, Dehradun



Vaibhav Sen
AIR 4457
GAIL Utkarsh Super 100, Kanpur



Mayank Suthar
AIR 5563
OIL Pragyan Super 30, Jodhpur



Suraj Singh
AIR 5748
GAIL Utkarsh Super 100, Kanpur

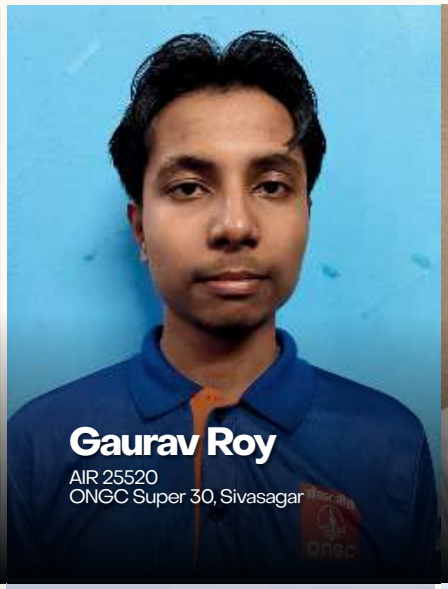


Mahipal
AIR 20831
OIL Pragyan Super 30, Jodhpur

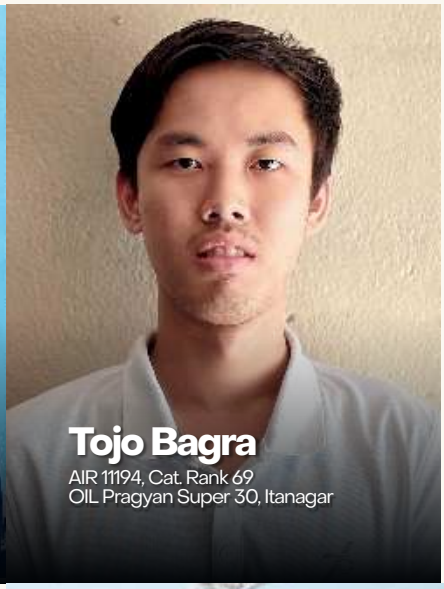
Celebrating JEE Advanced Achievers



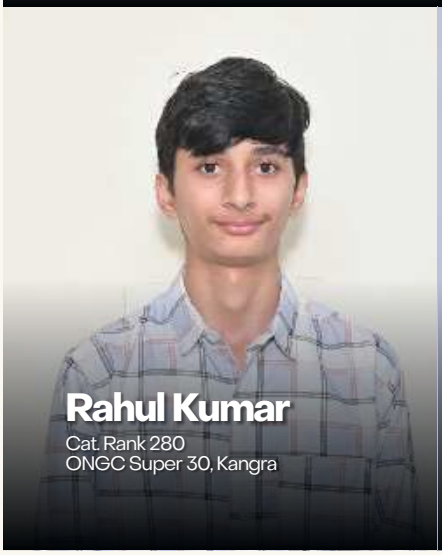
Abhishek Kumar
AIR 24560
ONGC Super 30, Kangra



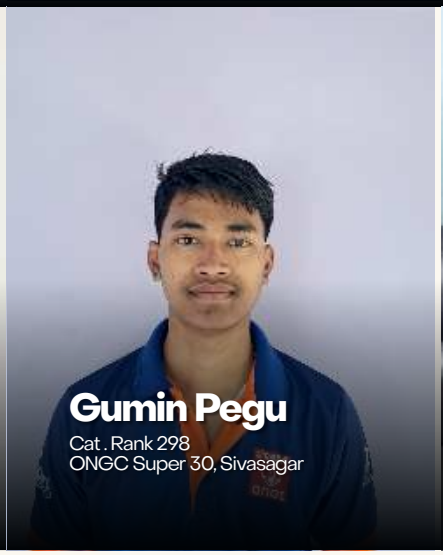
Gaurav Roy
AIR 25520
ONGC Super 30, Sivasagar



Tojo Bagra
AIR 11194, Cat. Rank 69
OIL Pragyan Super 30, Itanagar



Rahul Kumar
Cat. Rank 280
ONGC Super 30, Kangra



Gumin Pegu
Cat . Rank 298
ONGC Super 30, Sivasagar



Anchal Puri
Cat. Rank PWD (ST)-1
GAIL Utkarsh Super 80, Varanasi



TURNING OPPORTUNITIES INTO PURPOSE



Mr. Bharat Bhushan
Project Manager, OIL Pragyan Super 30, Jorhat

Looking back, I realise that my life has not been shaped by a single defining moment. It has been shaped by a series of opportunities, some planned, many unexpected. Each one changed the direction of my journey.

I grew up in a modest family in Jagdishpur village of Bihar, where education was valued despite limited means. My mother believed that education was the greatest gift she could give her children, while my grandfather and teachers constantly encouraged me to keep moving forward, even during difficult times.

As a student, I dreamed of becoming an engineer. But after Class 10, family circumstances and health challenges affected my studies. Financial constraints made me seriously consider leaving education and taking up work to support my family.

At that point, a teacher introduced me to Commerce. It was not a subject I had ever imagined studying, but I decided to give it a chance. What seemed like a small change became the first turning point in my life. I completed my education in Commerce and went on to pursue a Bachelor's degree.

During college, another opportunity came my way. I was entrusted with responsibilities as a Contract Manager for railway projects in Jharkhand. The experience taught me far more than technical work. It taught me discipline, leadership, accountability and the confidence to handle challenges.

Life, however, had another unexpected opportunity waiting for me.

In 2009, while visiting my younger brother, who was associated with CSRL, I volunteered to distribute leaflets for the Super 30 programme. It was a simple task, but I approached it with sincerity. That small responsibility led to an invitation to join CSRL as the Mess In-Charge for its Guwahati centre.

I could never have imagined that this would become the most meaningful chapter of my life.

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Over the years, CSRL gave me opportunities to grow alongside the organisation. From establishing centres across the North-East to supporting day-to-day operations and interacting closely with students, every responsibility became a learning experience. More importantly, I discovered that the greatest satisfaction comes not from personal achievement, but from contributing to the success of others.

The most rewarding moments have been watching students from humble backgrounds enter premier institutions and build successful careers. Many of them continue to stay in touch even today. Their journeys remind me that when one opportunity reaches the right person, its impact extends far beyond a single life.

If there is one lesson my journey has taught me, it is that opportunities rarely arrive in extraordinary ways. They often come disguised as a new subject, a modest responsibility, a conversation, or a task that seems too small to matter. The future is shaped by how we respond to those moments.

At CSRL, I have witnessed this truth every day. Opportunity, when matched with hard work and determination, does far more than change individual lives. It creates hope, strengthens families and inspires future generations.

That, to me, is the true power of opportunity.

What an Opportunity Means to those who Need it

"The true value of an opportunity is known only by those who believe it's out of reach."

ADVIK BHARGAVA
STUDENT, NMIMS

We've all heard the saying, "Hard work pays off". In the overwhelming majority of cases, this saying is true; putting in the effort, working day in and day out in order to achieve your goals does work, but there are many cases where the lack of opportunity prevents this process from even beginning.

The value of opportunity diminishes with the amount of privilege one has. For example, for a student coming from an extremely wealthy household, the options regarding education and careers alone are limitless. One's provided with the chance to study from their own choice of standardized boards, the chance to go to a private college for higher education, or even the chance to go abroad to pursue their degrees. Whether these students realise it or not, having these opportunities is a luxury; a luxury that the vast majority of the population just doesn't have.

The saying, "When opportunity knocks, answer the door" may apply to a lot of us; the ones with the knowledge, the resources, the connections. But the majority of people out there don't have these forms of support for their careers. It's a tragedy to even begin to process the number of people who could have changed the planet with their ideas if given the correct resources. There's countless problems that affect not just our country, but the world as a whole, and we may have forgone countless solutions to these problems, simply because the opportunities to train someone for these breakthroughs were never provided. It was Milton Berle who rephrased the quote to, *"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door"*.

And that's exactly what people, especially those beginning their careers, have done.

It takes great resolve to be able to accomplish great things; but accomplishing them while on uneven footing with the competition, that takes a level of resilience only present in a handful of people. What these people have in common is their undying hunger to achieve their dreams and change their lives for the better.

That hunger they possess is why having an opportunity to flourish is so significant. Their hunger fuels their drive to achieve unimaginable success, which is the case for many people who come from backgrounds without opportunities; the ones who 'built their own doors'.

The significance of receiving an opportunity to grow is one that could never be quantified, as it affects the receiver in ways much more than materialistic. The mere opportunity to envision a life, free of certain stresses, is enough to shape one's mentality for the better. The images one conjures up with opportunity is also a form of hope- and as we know, hope sustains.

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एक अभिभावक की दृष्टि से



एक अभिभावक के रूप में हमारी सबसे बड़ी चिंता हमेशा यही थी कि हमारे बच्चे की प्रतिभा कहीं हमारी आर्थिक परिस्थितियों के कारण सीमित न रह जाए। हम जानते थे कि उसमें क्षमता है, मेहनत करने का जज़्बा है, लेकिन यह भी सच था कि केवल मेहनत ही पर्याप्त नहीं होती। सही मार्गदर्शन और अवसर भी उतने ही आवश्यक होते हैं।

हमारे परिवार के लिए सबसे बड़ी चुनौती यह नहीं थी कि हमारा बच्चा पढ़ना चाहता है। चुनौती यह थी कि हम उसे वह वातावरण कैसे दें, जहाँ वह बिना आर्थिक चिंता के अपने सपनों पर पूरी तरह ध्यान दे सके। कई बार लगता था कि सीमित संसाधन कहीं उसके सपनों की सीमा न बन जाएँ।

ऐसे समय में **सीएसआरएल रेलटेल आकांक्षा सुपर 30, देहरादून** से जुड़ने का अवसर हमारे परिवार के लिए एक नए विश्वास की शुरुआत बना। पहली बार हमें लगा कि हमारे बच्चे के सपनों का मूल्य उसकी आर्थिक स्थिति से नहीं, उसकी प्रतिभा और मेहनत से आँका जा रहा है।

सबसे बड़ा परिवर्तन हमने अपने बच्चे में देखा। उसमें आत्मविश्वास आया। उसने चुनौतियों से घबराना छोड़ दिया। उसने बड़े लक्ष्य तय करना सीखा और उन्हें पाने के लिए धैर्य और अनुशासन के साथ मेहनत करना भी। एक अभिभावक के रूप में इससे बड़ी संतुष्टि और क्या हो सकती है कि आपका बच्चा अपने भविष्य को लेकर आश्वस्त दिखाई दे।

आज हमारा बच्चा **आईआईटी रुड़की** में **सिविल इंजीनियरिंग** की पढ़ाई कर रहा है। यह उपलब्धि केवल एक संस्थान में प्रवेश पाने की नहीं है। यह उस विश्वास की जीत है कि परिस्थितियाँ चाहे जैसी हों, सही अवसर मिलने पर सपनों को साकार किया जा सकता है।

इस यात्रा ने केवल हमारे बच्चे का भविष्य नहीं बदला, बल्कि पूरे परिवार की सोच बदल दी। आज हमारे छोटे बच्चे भी बड़े सपने देखने का साहस करते हैं। हमारे घर में शिक्षा अब केवल पढ़ाई का माध्यम नहीं, बल्कि बेहतर जीवन का विश्वास बन गई है।

हम मानते हैं कि अवसर का सबसे बड़ा प्रभाव केवल एक व्यक्ति तक सीमित नहीं रहता। वह पूरे परिवार की सोच बदल देता है। वह आने वाली पीढ़ियों के लिए नई राह खोल देता है।

आज जब पीछे मुड़कर देखते हैं, तो सबसे बड़ी खुशी किसी उपलब्धि की नहीं, बल्कि उस आत्मविश्वास की है जो हमारे बच्चे और हमारे परिवार को मिला। यही हमारे लिए इस पूरी यात्रा की सबसे बड़ी उपलब्धि है।

राजेश कुमार & रीतेश देवी
प्रिंस कुमार के अभिभावक
CSRL Super 30 पूर्व छात्र, सिविल इंजीनियरिंग, *IIT* रुड़की

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When Possibility Entered Our Home

By Wijali Manyu Kri
Mother of Shirumai Nushancy Kri
(Batch of 2025-26)

There is a quiet fear that many parents carry but rarely speak about.
It is not whether our children are capable. It is whether their dreams will be limited by our circumstances.

My husband and I come from **Tezu in Arunachal Pradesh and belong to the Mishmi community. We are the first generation in our families to receive an education.** Like every parent, we wanted our children to dream without fear. Yet we often wondered whether our financial situation would allow those dreams to grow.



Ms. Shirumai Nushancy Kri

Our daughter, Shirumai, always loved learning. She worked hard, remained disciplined and believed that she could earn a place in one of India's finest institutions. We believed in her too. What we were unsure of was whether we could give her the opportunity she deserved.

For a parent, that is a difficult feeling. You know your child is ready to fly, but you worry that life may not give her enough sky.

The opportunity to join **OIL Pragyan Super 30** changed that.

The greatest gift was not coaching or study material. It was freedom from constant worry. For the first time, we knew that our daughter's future would depend on her ability and her effort, not on what we could afford. That brought a sense of peace that is difficult to describe.

Living hundreds of kilometers away, we were always worried, but knowing she was in such a safe and caring environment gave us immense peace of mind. The warm, homely atmosphere of the institute completely eased the homesickness that comes with a young girl leaving family for the first time. She would always tell us about how supportive the faculty was, the close friendships she was making, and even how the good, comforting meals made the hostel feel like a second home. For the first time, we saw our daughter truly flourish, growing not just as a student, but as a confident young woman ready to take on the world.

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Today, as she prepares to step into IIT, we know this milestone belongs to so many people. It is the result of a rare, life-changing opportunity being given to a student who just needed a chance.

"Opportunity doesn't always arrive with a fanfare. Sometimes, it quietly knocks on the door of an ordinary family and changes the course of generations forever."



Left to Right: Ms. Wijali Manyu Kri & Ms. Shirumai Nushancy Kri

Qualifying JEE Advanced is a massive achievement for anyone. But for our small Mishmi community, it means even more. Shirumai is on track to become the very first IITian in both her father's clan and my own. This isn't just a victory for our household; it is a moment of immense pride for our entire community.

At its heart, it is a story about what happens when you give children a level playing field. It proves that brilliance is everywhere; in the quietest villages and the smallest towns. Our youth don't lack capability; they just lack access. When you put a real opportunity into capable hands, it doesn't just lift up one child - it lifts the aspirations of an entire community.



Seeing Beyond Limits

By Kennam Modi
Student,
OIL Pragyan Super 30
Batch 2026-27

An opportunity also brings responsibility.

People often think opportunity is something that changes your future.

I have come to believe that it first changes your thinking.

Before an opportunity arrives, our dreams are often shaped by the limits around us. We quietly adjust our ambitions to match what seems possible. We tell ourselves, "Maybe this is enough," not because we lack ability, but because we have never seen another path.

The moment someone believes in us, something begins to change. We start believing in ourselves.

That, to me, is the real power of opportunity.

As a student, I have realised that learning is about much more than preparing for an examination. Every day presents an opportunity to become more disciplined, more resilient and more confident than I was yesterday. The lessons I value most are not always found in textbooks. They are found in overcoming self-doubt, learning from mistakes and discovering that persistence often matters more than perfection.

When someone invests time, trust and effort in your future, you begin to understand that success is no longer just a personal goal. It becomes a way of honouring that trust and creating possibilities for others who will follow.

One thought stays with me whenever I think about the future. Talent exists in every part of our country. Dreams exist everywhere too. What is often missing is the chance to turn those dreams into reality.

That is why opportunity matters so deeply.

It tells a young person, ***"Your circumstances may explain where you started, but they do not decide where you can go."***

As I continue this journey, I know that I still have much to learn. But I also know that this opportunity has already given me something that no examination can measure. It has given me the confidence to imagine a future that once seemed beyond my reach.

Perhaps that is the greatest gift of all.
Opportunity does not simply open doors.
It changes the person who walks through them.

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Learning to Begin Again



By Bengia Tachung
Student,
OIL Pragyan Super 30, Itanagar
Batch 2026-27

Opportunity has a unique power. It does not change where we come from, but it can completely change where we are going. For many students, especially those from economically weaker families, one opportunity can mean the difference between giving up on a dream and finally believing it is possible.

I experienced that transformation when I became a part of ***OIL Pragyan Super 30, Itanagar.***

Until a few weeks ago, my future felt uncertain. After losing my father, I watched my mother work tirelessly to ensure that my siblings and I could continue our education. Like many students, I had dreams of studying at an IIT, but quality coaching and the resources needed to prepare seemed beyond our reach.

Super 30 changed that.

More than providing free education, it gave me something I had been searching for: confidence. Here, I found mentors who believed in my potential, classmates who quickly became family, and an environment where every student is encouraged to dream without the burden of financial limitations. We come from different cultures and backgrounds, yet we are united by a shared purpose and equal opportunities to succeed.

Every day reminds me that opportunity is not just about opening a door. It is about giving someone the support, guidance, and belief to walk through it. In a short span of time, I have learned new academic concepts, developed discipline, and discovered strengths within myself that I never knew existed.

Today, my dream of becoming an IITian feels closer than ever. But Super 30 has taught me an even greater lesson. Success is not defined only by the college we enter or the career we build. It is also measured by the values we carry, the resilience we develop, and the people we become along the way.

The power of opportunity lies in its ability to replace uncertainty with hope and potential with purpose. I am grateful to have received that opportunity, and I hope to honour it through hard work, perseverance, and a commitment to creating opportunities for others someday.

Because sometimes, all it takes to transform a life is one chance.

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YOGA



















DAY

3rd Project Officers' Conference

Delhi

Project Officers' Conference is our annual event that brings together all Project Officers - our frontline outreach ambassadors for reflection, dialogue, and forward-thinking. The conference serves as a valuable platform to review the year gone by, share learnings from the field, and collectively explore strategies for improvement in the upcoming session.









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12th Annual Projects' Meet

Delhi

The Annual Projects' Meet is one of the most significant events in the CSRL calendar. Now in its 12th edition, it brings together Project Managers from across the country to reflect on the year's journey, exchange ideas, and strengthen the shared vision that drives our work.

More than a review meeting, it is a platform for meaningful dialogue and collaborative learning.





Experiences from diverse project locations come together to spark new ideas, address common challenges, and identify practical solutions that can be adapted across centres.

The meet also provides an opportunity to celebrate achievements, recognise the dedication of project teams, and appreciate the collective impact of CSRL's initiatives.

Reflect. Realign. Rise

Equally important, it creates space to align priorities, share emerging strategies, and prepare for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Each year, the Annual Projects' Meet reinforces an important belief: while every project operates in a unique context, our purpose remains shared. By learning from one another and working together, we continue to strengthen our programmes and expand our impact, one initiative at a time.





























CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

12TH ANNUAL PROJECTS' MEET 2026

TAKING SUCCESS STORIES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

To celebrate the outstanding performance of our students in JEE Main 2026, press meets were organised three project locations. The events brought together students, parents, project teams and media representatives to recognise the hard work and perseverance behind these achievements.



More than a celebration of results, the press meets provided an opportunity to share inspiring student journeys with the wider community, reinforcing the belief that with determination and the right opportunities, every dream has the potential to become a reality.



We were privileged to have Mr. Ayush Gupta, Director (HR), GAIL as the Chief Guest, whose presence made the occasion even more memorable.



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Orientation

Batch of

2026



Top 5 Most Impactful NGO's of the Year - 2026 at the Global CSR & ESG Awards 2026.



Gold Award at the Greentech Foundation CSR India Awards 2026 under the category Promotion of Education.



NEW UPDATE

A New Chapter Begins

CSRL, in partnership with the **Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board**, established **Trikuta Super 30** in **Jammu**, expanding access to free residential **NEET** coaching for deserving students from Jammu Region.

1 MAD LIBS

Step 1: Fill in the blanks (Don't read the story yet!)

- An adjective: _____
- A noun: _____
- The name of a place: _____
- A verb (action word): _____
- Another adjective: _____
- A profession: _____
- An emotion: _____
- A number: _____
- A verb ending in -ing: _____
- The name of a famous person: _____

Step 2: Read your story aloud!

One _____ morning, I found an unexpected _____ waiting for me.
It invited me to _____ at _____. At first, the idea seemed _____, but I decided to give it a try.
There, I met a _____ who reminded me that every opportunity begins with a single step. Although I felt _____, I kept going.
After _____ days of _____, I realised that success isn't about being lucky. It's about making the most of the opportunities we are given.
As _____ wisely said, "The future belongs to those who are willing to begin."

Think. Guess. Smile!

I have keys but
no locks.
I have space but
no room.
You can enter me,
but you can't go
outside.

What am I?



Your answer:

DID YOU KNOW?

Taking short breaks to solve fun puzzles boosts your creativity, focus and mood!



SHARE YOUR FUNNIEST MAD LIBS AND THE RIDDLE ANSWER AT
newsletter.editor@csrl.in

THE STONE IN THE ROAD

There is a story told of a king who lived long ago in a country across the sea. He was a very wise king, and spared no effort to teach his people good habits. Often he did things which seemed to them strange and useless; but all that he did, he did to teach his people to be industrious and careful.

"Nothing good can come to a nation," he said, "whose people complain and expect others to fix their problems for them. God gives the good things of life to those who take matters into their own hands." One night, while everyone else slept, he placed a large stone in the road that led past his palace. Then he hid behind a hedge, and waited to see what would happen. First came a farmer with his wagon heavily loaded with grain, which he was taking to the mill to be ground. "Well, whoever saw such carelessness?" he said crossly, as he turned his team and drove around the stone. "Why don't these lazy people have that rock taken from the road?" And so he went on complaining of the uselessness of others, but not touching the stone himself.



Soon afterward, a young soldier came singing along the road. The long plume of his cap waved in the breeze, and a bright sword hung at his side. He was thinking of the wonderful bravery he would show in the war. The soldier did not see the stone, but struck his foot against it and went sprawling in the dust. He rose to his feet, shook the dust from his clothes, picked up his sword, and stormed angrily about the lazy people who had no more sense than to leave such a huge rock in the road. Then he, too, walked away, not once thinking that he might move it himself. So the day passed. Everyone who came by complained and whined because the stone lay in the road, but no one touched it. At last, just at nightfall, the miller's daughter came past. She was a hard working girl, and was very tired, because she had been busy since early morning at the mill. But she said to herself, "It is almost dark. Somebody may fall over this stone in the night, and perhaps he could be badly hurt. I will move it out of the way." It was hard to move, but she pulled and pulled, and pushed, and lifted until at last she moved it from its place. To her surprise, she found a box underneath. She lifted the box. Upon it was written: ***"This box belongs to the one who moves the stone."*** She opened the lid, and found it was full of gold! The miller's daughter went home with a happy heart. When the others heard what had happened, they gathered around the spot in the road where the stone had been. They scratched at the dust with their feet, hoping to turn up a piece of gold. "My friends," said the king, ***"we often find obstacles and burdens in our way. We may complain out loud while we walk around them if we choose, or we can lift them and find out what they mean. Disappointment is usually the price of laziness."*** Then the wise king mounted his horse and, with a polite "Good evening," rode away.



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Centre for Social Responsibility and Leadership
A-33 Swasthya Vihar, Preet Vihar, New Delhi -110092
www.csrl.in | contact@csrl.in