ABOUT HIMWATS
INTRODUCTION

Himalaya Water Service Tatha Vikas Avam Paryavaran Sanrakshan Samiti (HIMWATS) is a NGO established in 1997. Located in Uttarakhand, HIMWATS focuses on sustainable and inclusive development across various sections of the society. HIMWATS aims to create localized solutions that provide accessibility while working on creating an ecosystem of change within the communities of Champawat district.
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THE PROBLEM

EDUCATION
- Lack of access to quality school infrastructure
- Lack of scientific rationale
- Inadequate teacher training
- Lack of access to digital learning means
- Lack of awareness regarding existing education schemes

HEALTHCARE
- Lack of access to quality healthcare infrastructure
- Severely understaffed hospitals
- Lack of general awareness with regards to health and wellness

UNEMPLOYMENT
- Disguised employment in the farming sector
- Lack of skill-based training to generate employment

ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION
- Deteriorating natural water reserves
- Deforestation leading to
OBJECTIVES

• Provide underprivileged children of Champawat with incentives and infrastructure so that they may benefit from formal primary education and vocational training.

• To develop scientific curiosity and rationale among the children of hilly rural areas

• To provide the training to school teachers, social workers, and other individuals create an ecosystem of change.

• To spread awareness about healthcare and wellness while providing access to healthcare to the underprivileged.

• To create awareness on environmental issues among the local rural people of the hilly areas.
• SCHOOL ADOPTION
• LEARNING AND SCIENCE RESOURCE CENTER
• TEACHER TRAINING
• DIGITAL LEARNING
• SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS
• ROTARY LIBRARY
• GIRLS’ INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
SCHOOL ADOPTION
To mitigate the lack of infrastructure and availability of teaching learning materials in local government schools, HIMWATS adopts a school to help and support by providing the infrastructure facilities, study materials, equipment, and tools for experiential learning, sports material, and scholarships.

LEARNING AND SCIENCE RESOURCE CENTRE
HIMWAT’s Learning and Science Resource Center (LASRC) was established by Dr. H.C.Verma, with the aim to promote the "learning-by-doing" teaching methodology. The project runs a science training program for local children from grades 1 to 10 in association with the Department of Physics, IIT Kanpur. Through this initiative students learn about different scientific principles and topics by performing simple low-cost experiments.

TEACHER TRAINING
With the aim of creating sustainable change within the communities, HIMWATS trains teachers in collaboration with the local DIET center in an effort to establish effective teaching learning methodologies. The organization conducts a three-day science workshop to train government school teachers in the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) Lohaghat.
DIGITAL LEARNING
Recognizing the digital divide in rural areas, the organization aims to inculcate digital learning early on in the learning process. While technology may or may not provide significant improvement in learning, it sure does provide access to the 21st century amenities. Through this, HIMWATS was able to help villagers access e-payment of bills, online banking, and other transitions, and uses of digital working in their day-to-day lives.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS
To mitigate the lack of access due to financial crunch, the organization provides a merit scholarship worth Rs.1000 to students of grades 6 to 10 and Rs. 2000 for students of grades 11 and 12 students. These students must have secured more than 80% score during their academic year. Children of the adopted schools are also provided with extra lessons to prepare for the Navodya School entrance examination and NTSC Scholarship.

ROTATING LIBRARIES
The organization has established rotating libraries which provide access to books of varied levels and genres. These libraries have been established in the adopted schools to supplement children’s learning. Currently, the libraries hold over 3,000 books which community members are able to take home. Book Fairs are also organised with the help of local volunteers.
GIRLS’ INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

During the month of January 2022, the organization launched an internship program to develop the skills of young girls in the community. It also aimed to provide them with financial aid that would then allow them to explore various educational and vocational opportunities.

The program selects 10 girls who are currently enrolled in the Bachelor’s of Science programs at the Champawat Degree College and trains them to conduct science workshops with children. In the month of January 2022, a girl internship program was conducted.

Once trained, the girls are grouped into pairs and allotted 15 villages wherein they conduct 30 workshops. The girls receive a renumeration of Rs 500 for each successful workshop and Rs 3000 as a scholarship to further support their educational journey.
SKILL DEVELOPMENT

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The district of Champawat faces extreme unemployment crisis. This is further exacerbated though disguised employment in the farming sector.

Under the vocational training program, rural youth are trained in employable skills such as stitching, knitting, doll making and basics of computer.
HEALTH CAMPS

The organization takes up several standalone events in an attempt to increase the awareness related to health and wellness.

Health camps are often organized within government schools for students and parents. These free camps offer general, eyes, ears, and dental check-ups. Activities such as yoga camps are also organized to promote the physical well-being of the students.
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Uttarakhand is a resource rich area with lush forests and water bodies. However, this also makes the area prone to deforestation and environmental destruction. Hence, a key objective of the HIMWATS is the conservation and protection of the environment. The organization conducts plantation drives each year. In addition to this, awareness camps are organized for the protection of the natural water reserves in the villages.
LEADERS OF CHANGE

**DR. H. D. BISHT**
Founder and Emeritus Secretary of Himwats

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