



रामभाऊ म्हाळगी प्रबोधिनी
Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini



A Dialogue on

DECADE OF CSR: RETROSPECT & PROSPECTS

One-day Dialogue focusing on
the Policy Analysis of a decade
of implementation of Corporate
Social Responsibility (CSR)



Need for Re-looking CSR Policy:

The need for revisiting a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy arises from the dynamic nature of societal environments and their expectations. As stakeholders' demands evolve and regulatory landscapes shift, companies must ensure their CSR policies remain relevant and effective. This continual review process is crucial to maintain alignment with business strategies, address emerging social and environmental issues, comply with legal requirements, and uphold developmental landscape. By revisiting CSR policies companies vis-à-vis Implementing Agencies (IA's) can enhance their social impact, mitigate risks, and strengthen stakeholder trust, thereby contributing to sustainable development and long-term success.

Introduction:

On the eve of successful completion of a decade of CSR provisions under the Company Act, 2013, a Dialogue on a Decade of CSR Policy has been organized by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP) along with Lakshya as a knowledge partner. It was held successfully on 13th January 2024. The one-day event aimed to bring diverse stakeholders active in CSR domain like Corporates, Implementing Agencies (IA's) and Govt. Agencies, representing 3 pillars of CSR. The dialogue provided platform for each pillar of CSR to present their challenges and recommendations pertinent to CSR Policy. The event witnessed an overwhelming response, with over 83 enthusiastic stakeholders actively engaged in the dialogue putting their voices to relook or suggest provisions to CSR policy. The participants profile includes various stakeholders ranging from corporates, NGO's, Govt. Agencies whose area of work is Pan-India.



Brief Background Note

Nature of Event

It's time to take the Industry vis-a-vis Voluntary sector along with Govt. Agencies on board for celebrating a decade of CSR – lessons, learnings & way forward for bridging the gaps. It is possible by organizing 1-day National Dialogue on CSR at Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP), Uttan.

For that, inviting CSR Head of the Industries who are spending their 2% of Avg. Net Profit (preceding 3 years) in some impactful and innovative projects managed by Voluntary sectors/Civil societies as a part of their CSR expenditure and representatives from Voluntary sector spending sizable CSR amount at Social end is necessary.

As Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP) having its core work in Social Sector, this symposium can be instrumental in connecting Industry with Voluntary Organizations (VOs)/ Civil Societies contributing in various goals enshrined under Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Recently, RMP, being the Secretariat of C20, hosted various conferences for Civil Societies (C20) all across the country. For the said symposium, we will take on board such selected Civil Societies registered on the C20 portal to connect them with the Industry so that Innovative projects can be showcased during the event.

Certainly, reflecting on 10 years of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) provides an opportunity to assess the progress made, challenges faced, and the evolving landscape.

Lakshyaa will be the knowledge partner to RMP for this National CSR Dialogue.

Here are some perspectives and issues that could be discussed at the dialogue

1. Evolution of CSR Practices:

- How have CSR practices evolved over the past decade?
- Have there been significant shifts in focus, from philanthropy to sustainable business practices?

2. Integration of CSR into Business Strategy:

- To what extent have companies integrated CSR into their core business strategies?
- Have organizations moved beyond standalone CSR initiatives towards embedding sustainability into their DNA?



3. Measuring Impact:

- How successful have companies been in measuring the impact of their CSR initiatives?
- Are there standardized metrics for evaluating social and environmental impact, or is there a need for more uniform measurement criteria?

4. Stakeholder Engagement:

- How have companies engaged with various stakeholders in their CSR efforts?
- Is there a trend towards more inclusive and collaborative approaches involving employees, customers, local communities, and other stakeholders?

5. Technology and CSR:

- How has technology played a role in advancing or transforming CSR efforts?
- Are there concerns about the ethical implications of certain technologies used in CSR initiatives?

6. Globalization and Cultural Sensitivity:

- In a globalized world, how have companies addressed cultural differences and local contexts in their CSR programs?
- Have there been instances where CSR initiatives were not well-received due to cultural misunderstandings?

7. Regulatory Environment:

- How have changes in the regulatory environment influenced CSR practices?
- Are there new regulations or policies that have impacted the way companies approach CSR?

8. Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability:

- To what extent have companies contributed to environmental sustainability?
- How are organizations adapting to the challenges posed by climate change, and are there innovative solutions emerging?

9. Social Justice and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI):

- How have companies addressed issues of social justice and incorporated DEI (Diversity, Equality, Inclusion) into their CSR strategies?
- What steps are being taken to ensure equitable distribution of benefits from CSR initiatives?

10. Challenges and Criticisms:

- What are the main challenges faced by companies in implementing effective CSR programs?
- Have there been criticisms or controversies surrounding certain CSR initiatives, and what lessons can be learned?



11. Future Trends and Opportunities:

- What are the emerging trends in CSR for the next decade?
- Are there new opportunities for companies to make a positive impact on society while also benefiting their bottom line?

By addressing these perspectives and issues, stakeholders can engage in meaningful dialogue on the progress and future directions of CSR over the past 10 years. This can lead to insights that contribute to more effective and sustainable CSR practices in the years to come. RMP with its Knowledge Partner Lakshyaa together look forward to putting these valuable suggestions from all pillars of CSR to the respective Union Ministries involved in shaping CSR Legislation.

Agenda of the Day

Inaugural Ceremony

The Inaugural Session was addressed by Hon. Minister Shri. Rao Inderjit Singh, MoS Corporate Affairs Ministry while the special session was addressed by Dr. Jitendra Singh, MoS to PMO, Dept. of Space.

Schedule of the Dialogue:

Time	Task	Speaker	Activity
10.30 – 10.40			Gathering Participant in Raja Shivaji Hall
10.40 – 10.54	RMP Film (Hindi)		Film will be played
10.55 – 11.00	Inviting Guests on Dias	Shri. V Satish Ji, Shri. Shrikant Badve Ji Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, Dr. Jayant Kulkarni	Film will be played
11.00 – 11.05	Welcoming Delegates	Dr. Jayant Kulkarni	
11.05 – 11.25	Keynote Address	Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe	
11.25 – 11.40	Opening Remarks	Hon. Minister Shri. Rao Inderjit Singh, MoS to Ministry of Corporate Affairs, NITI Aayog (IC)	
11.40 – 11.45	Vote of Thanks	Ameya Deshpande	
11.45 – 11.55	10 Years of CSR	Nikhil Pant	
11.55 – 12.05	Revisiting core concept of CSR	Ameya Deshpande	
12.05 – 12.15	TEA BREAK		Tea at Lounge

Presentations by Implementing Agencies (IA's)

Dedicated Session for Implementing Agencies to present their challenges and recommendation to the CSR domain:

Participating Implementing Agencies

Dr Suhas Agoankar Mr. Vijay Ukkalgaonkar, Savitribai Phule Mahila Ekatma Samaj Mandal, Sambhaji Nagar, Maharashtra	Anil Maheshwari, Ramendra Singh, Surennder Talkhedkar, Rashtriya Seva Bharati New Delhi	K Seshaditya Youth for Seva Bengaluru, Karnataka	Dnyanada Deshpande, Deshpande Foundation. Hubballi, Karnataka
Himanshu Limaye Y4D Foundation, Pune, Maharashtra	Ketan Deshpande, Sarvesh Kuberkar FUEL, Pune, Maharashtra	Santosh Gupta ISRN, New Delhi	Dr. kshama Nikam, Niramay Health Foundation Mumbai, Maharashtra
Tapas Sutradhar Tpsaya Foundation, Pune, Maharashtra	Padmashree Girish Prabhune, Vijay Warudkar Social Responsibility, Pune, Maharashtra	Shri. Shyam Sharma, Shri. Sampat Khurdia Bharat Vikas Parishad, Mumbai, Maharashtra	Nitin Dhakad Shivganaga Samagra Gramvikas Parishad Indore, Madhya Pradesh
Prashant Ingale Bbabaasheeb Ambedkar Vaidyakiya Pratishthan Sambhajinagar (BAVP), Maharashtra	Dr. Prasad Deodhar, Bhagirath Gramvikas Pratishthan, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra	Mr Subhash Tamboli, Vaishali Gawande AFARM Pune, Maharashtra	Narhar Dev, Gajanan Parsodkar Dindayal Seva Pratishthan, Yavatmal, Maharashtra
Pramod Deshmukh, Karimalmanohar Patil Sanskriti Samwardhan Mandal, Nanaded, Maharashtra	Anirudha Kulkarni, Mamta Deshmukh Srujan Pratishthan- Kshamata Vikas Kendra Pune, Maharashtra	Shri. Neelakantan K Ayyar Keshav Srushti Mumbai, Maharashtra	Shri. Kher & Dr. Archana Chaudhary Vatsalya Trust, Mumbai, Maharashtra
Santhanam U, Pratiksha Dalal, BOSCONET, Mumbai, Maharashtra	Manohar Neve, Rushikesh Yadav, Bhosla Sainik School, Nashik, Maharashtra		

Presentations by Corporates

Dedicated Session for the Corporates to present their challenges and recommendation to the CSR domain:

Participating Corporate Entities & Govt. Agencies

Chetna Yadav IIFL Foundation	Sanjay Bhatia Genpact	Mandar Pophale Praj Industries	Mr Pankaj Srivastava CCIL
Mr. Abhishek Jain Ms. Savita Sawant TATA Autocomps	Janardhan Kale Manoj Pallod Canpack	Ms. Varada Kulkarni RIL	Saria Vishal Ajanta Pharma
Vikram Aggarwal DS Group	Dr. Republica Sridhar Immanuel S RMD Group of Hospitals	Gujaran Manoj Mehta Ashish Poonawalla Fincorp Foundation	Omkar Kaulgud, Chavhan Rohan Yazaki India Pvt Ltd.
CS Makrand Bhale Ex-President, ICSI	CA Rajiv Joshi CVK & Associates		

Steering Committee Members

Shri. Shrikant Badve, Managing Committee Member, RMP	
Dr. Jayant Kulkarni Executive Director, RMP	Shri. Nikhil Pant Lakshyaa
Ratnakar Patil, Mentor, RMP	Dr. Prasanna Patil, Mentor, RMP
CA Jayant Falke, Mentor RMP	Ameya Deshpande Project Officer, RMP

Key Outcomes and Impact of Dialogue:

The one-day event will prove to be highly impactful, fostering knowledge exchange, networking, and collaboration among participants. Key outcomes include:

- 1. Increased Awareness:** The event aimed to raise awareness about the current practices in the domains of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) – challenges & opportunities
- 2. Capacity Building:** The event was a brainstorming session for most of the participants as diverse stakeholders were present who presented their respective challenges resulting in the capacity building of others.



3. Networking and Collaboration: The event provided a platform for diverse stakeholders, including Corporates, Academics, NGO leaders and political representatives, to come together and exchange ideas. This facilitated potential collaborations, partnerships, and knowledge sharing among participants, fostering a collective approach towards sustainable development.

4. Empowering Social Institutions & Communities: The discussions on CSR policy went ahead of mere discussion, rather the platform acted as a teambuilding of pillars of CSR domain, sharing issues with each other & solutions thereof, sharing of best practices, and much more, strengthening social institutions & hence, communities.

Sustained capacity building of Implementing Agencies is need of an hour:

Looking at the present awareness about CSR provisions scenarios of Bharat, the policy push towards opening up various domains along with suggestions to improvise has been mentioned in the Communique released during deliberations at the dialogue. A national movement to build the capacity of Social Institutions in CSR sector will aim at having following sustained impact:

- **Continued Capacity Building:** Organizing regular and longer capacity-building workshops and training programs to deepen the understanding and skills related to CSR practices.
- **Strengthen Collaboration:** Foster collaboration between Corporates, government agencies, NGOs, academia, and community leaders to create a coordinated approach in leveraging developmental landscape through CSR.
- **Policy Integration:** It will be important to advocate for the integration of challenges and opportunities into CSR policies and guidelines to facilitate its widespread adoption and usage in developmental initiatives.

Conclusion:

The Geospatial Technology Capacity Building Event conducted by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini and EarthSight Foundation proved to be a remarkable success. The success of this event is a testament to the growing recognition of the pivotal role that geospatial technology plays in addressing socio-environmental challenges and driving sustainable development.

RMP with Earth Sight Foundation and ISRO aim to take the initiatives to nook and corner of the nation while focusing the Stree-Shakti to take the revolution to its maximum impact. A sustained national level program will help long term engagement, deeper association and collaborative solution building and overall having a spatial thought.



CORPORATES



Ms. Chetna Yadav
IIFL Foundation



Ms. Savita Sawant
Tata Autocomps Ltd.



Ms. Varada Kulkarni
RIL



Shri. Mandar Pophale
Praj Industries



Shri. Pankaj Shrivastav
CCIL



Shri. Sanjay Bhatia
Genpact



FELICITATION OF CORPORATES FOR THEIR PERFORMANCE IN CSR



Poonawalla Fincorp Ltd.



DS Group



Yazaki India Pvt. Ltd.



TATA Autocomps System Ltd.



Ajanta Pharma



HSBC Bank



EXPERTS PANEL



CA Shri. Rajiv Joshi
CVK & Associates



Shri. Makrand Lele
Ex-President of ICSI



Shri. Santosh Gupta
ISRN, Delhi



STEERING COMMITTEE



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Managing Committee Member, RMP



Dr. Jayant Kulkarni
Executive Director, RMP



Shri. Nikhil Pant
Lakshyaa



Shri. Ratnakar Patil
Mentor, RMP



Dr. Prasanna Patil
Mentor, RMP



CA. Shri. Jayant Falke
Mentor, RMP



Shri. Ameya Deshpande
Project Officer



VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS



Dr. Prasad Deodhar
Bhagirath Gramvikas Pratishthan



Dr. Suhag Agoankar
Savitribai Phule Mahila Ekatma
Samaj Mandal



Himanshu Limaye
Y4D Foundation



K Seshaditya
Youth for Seva



Ms. Dnyanada Deshpande
Deshpande Foundation



Santhanam U
BOSCONET



Shri. Anil Maheshwari
Rashtriya Seva Bharati



Shri. Aniruddha Kulkarni
Srujan Pratishthan



Shri. Ketan Deshpande
FUEL



Shri. Manohar Neve
Bhonsala Military School



Shri. Narhar Dev
Deendayal Seva Pratishthan



Shri. Neelakantan K Aiyar
Keshav Srushti



VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS



Shri. Nitin Dhakad
Shivganga Samagra Gramvikas
Parishad



Shri. Pramod Deshmukh
Sanskriti Samwardhan Mandal



Shri. Sampat Khurdia
Bharat Vikas Parishad



Shri. Shrikant Joshi
Vatsalya Trust



Shri. Subhash Tamboli
AFARM



Shri. Tapas Sutradhar
Tapasya Impact Foundation



Shri. Vijay Ukalgaoakar
Savitribai Phule Mahila Ekatma
Samaj Mandal



Shri. Vijay Warudkar
Social Responsibility



आस्थास्यो रश्मिः।

रामभाऊ म्हाळगी प्रबोधिनी
Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini

Presenting

Suggestions to CSR Policy

On the eve of completion of a Decade of
CSR Provisions under Company Act 2013

Knowledge Partner





To,

Date:

Ministry of Corporate Affairs

Subject: Suggestions to CSR Framework on the eve of completion of decade of CSR

Respected Sir,

Following are the suggestions for your kind consideration for the CSR framework. All suggestions have been compiled from various stakeholders who have participated in the one-day dialogue on CSR organised by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP) with Knowledge Partnership of Lakshyaa on 13th January 2024.

Summary of Recommendations: Key recommendations received from Corporates, Implementing Agencies and Govt. Agencies for your quick reference –

1. Robust and Updated GOI Portal on CSR for Public Disclosure
2. Introduction of a Standard Checklist for NGOs
3. Creation of a CSR Knowledge Sharing Portal
4. Need for the revival of Accreditation process, IA Hub, an initiative by IICA
5. Need for broad parameters for the Capacity Building of Implementing Agencies (IA) to be laid down by MCA
6. Flexibility in CSR Activities
7. Clarity on Impact Assessment of CSR projects
8. Local Area Implementation clause in CSR
9. Guidelines for Direct Implementation of CSR Projects by corporates
10. Inclusion of Incubation and Innovation of project and processes aligned with social sector
11. Explicit alignment of Schedule VII with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
12. Diverse CSR Committee Membership (Invitee)
13. Clarification on Treatment of Intangible Assets created out of CSR Funding & Use of CSR Benefits for ESG Reporting
14. A comprehensive Clarification regarding Direct and Indirect taxation for CSR project

Detailed Recommendations

As dedicated stakeholders committed to advancing Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, RMP and Lakshyaa, alongside other corporates and NGOs, extends its collective voice in proposing suggestions to augment the impact and transparency of CSR activities.

We believe these recommendations, rooted in practicality and foresight, will fortify the CSR sector and foster a more profound connection between corporate and societal progress.

Below are the detailed explanations for each recommendation, which includes rationale, potential benefits and any supporting evidence or data.

1. Robust and Updated GOI Portal on CSR for Public Disclosure

Explanation: Advocate for a robust and updated www.csr.gov.in (<http://www.csr.gov.in>) portal to disseminate current CSR information and data to the public.

Rationale: Emphasize the need for real-time updates, particularly regarding the Annual Action Plan, Corporate data, NGO Project data, and Project Unique Code Identity Numbers. The current data on csr.gov.in (<http://csr.gov.in>) is of old version, lacking updates on individual sector-wise spending with respect to present situation.

Benefits: The proposed robust CSR portal enhances transparency, collaboration, and strategic planning for corporations while serving as a valuable resource for NGOs, streamlining processes, improving visibility, and supporting research for informed decision-making and effective government policy.

2. Introduction of a Standard Checklist Document for NGOs

Explanation: Propose the introduction of a standardized checklist, which may include everything from CSR 1 registration to M&E reporting, Utilization Certificate, etc., similar to the Start-Up India program for NGOs/Implementing Agencies.

Rationale: Simplifies and standardizes processes for all NGOs, especially smaller ones

Benefits: Ease of doing CSR and no need to invent the wheel every time

3. Creation of a CSR Knowledge Sharing Portal

Explanation: Advocate for the creation of a centralized portal dedicated to CSR knowledge sharing and learning about best practices.

Rationale: This will boost partnerships between Government, Corporate and NGOs with ease of mapping supply and demand.

Benefits: Ease in collaboration and research, maximizing impact.



4. Need for the revival of the Accreditation process, IA Hub, an initiative by IICA (Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs)

Explanation: Need for rejuvenation of implementing Agency (IA) hub set up by IICA to facilitate Corporates to connect with good quality and well-established Implementing agencies.

Rationale: This would seek to meet the urgent requirement by corporates who would look out for trustworthy and reliable implementing agencies.

Benefits: Ease of partnerships between corporates and IAs

5. Need for broad parameters for the Capacity Building of Implementing Agencies (IA) to be laid down by MCA

Explanation: The provision entails establishing guidelines and criteria to enhance the capabilities and competencies of organizations engaged in implementing CSR initiatives. These parameters serve as a framework for identifying and addressing the capacity-building needs of Implementing Agencies to strengthen their ability to plan, execute, and monitor CSR projects effectively.

Rationale: Many Implementing Agencies may lack the necessary skills, knowledge, and resources to design and implement impactful CSR projects. Establishing broad parameters for capacity building allows the MCA to address these gaps by providing targeted support and training programs tailored to the specific needs of IA. Capacity-building initiatives help ensure Quality Assurance, fosters innovation and adaptability within Implementing Agencies and ensures that IA are well-equipped to manage and sustain CSR projects beyond the initial funding period.

Benefits: This will bring uniformity across the country and across the sectors in CSR Domain

6. Flexible CSR Spending Mandate

Explanation: Proposing a mandate for a percentage of CSR fund utilization within one year, with the flexibility to carry forward up to 15% of funds whose utilization can be submitted by the end of the first quarter.

Rationale: The proposal recognizes the challenges of closing projects by March 31, considering last-minute implementations or requirements. Currently, unspent funds must be transferred to the Unspent CSR account, leading to demands from corporates for immediate return of fund by implementing agencies (IAs).

Benefits: This approach will streamline implementation and reporting, ensuring a continuous fund flow to on-ground projects. It relieves pressure on NGOs to hastily close projects in April, facilitating smoother and continuous CSR operations.



8. Local Area Implementation clause in CSR

Explanation: Need clear guidelines from the ministry regarding local area implementation to address the current imbalance in CSR spending, which often favours developed states and urban areas, creating regional imbalance.

Rationale: The CSR spend is quite centralised as per present provisions, with most expenditure on developed states where more corporates are located, leaving many developing states and rural areas requiring CSR funds untouched. MCA in its Newsletter of May 2023 has highlighted this. However, a clearer mandate needs to be made from MCA for Corporates to follow/apply in order to yield genuine results.

Benefits: Better distribution and utilization of CSR funds across the region will help in reduction of regional disparities. Also, it will lead to reduced disparity in terms of spending and growth.

9. Guidelines for Direct Implementation CSR Projects by Corporates

Explanation: Advocate for the establishment of clear guidelines for companies undertaking direct implementation of projects, including any specific requirements or restrictions.

Rationale: No clarification provided in FAQ's (provided by MCA) nor in Rules, regarding projects that are directly to be implemented by the Company.

Benefits: Bring more clarity to the process of direct implementation. As of now, most spending's are through the Implementing Agency. Suggested amendment will make the implementation process simpler and more transparent.

10. Inclusion of Incubation and Innovation of projects and processes aligned with the social sector

Explanation: Schedule VII can include support for Innovation and Incubation of all types of social projects and Research as well as it does for scientific projects. Non Central and State government funded efforts should also be made eligible, with due eligibility.

Rationale: The social sector is ever-growing and there's a lot of scope and requirement for research and innovation.

Benefits: Allowing innovation beyond STEM in the social sector not only diversifies CSR impact but also nurtures adaptability, supports evidence-based research, fosters creative problem-solving, catalyses project growth, optimizes resource use, encourages entrepreneurial contributions, and promotes collaboration, aligning CSR with evolving social challenges for a more impactful and responsive approach to development.



11. Explicit Alignment of Schedule VII with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Explanation: Advocate for periodic reviews aligning CSR activities with NITI Aayog's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), and propose a tailored mechanism to measure CSR contributions for SDGs.

Rationale: CSR can act as a catalyst to achieve nation's SDGs by Mapping each goal with their respective targets.

Benefits: Aligning Schedule VII with SDGs enables consistent measurement, guides strategic focus, improves reporting transparency, ensures long-term impact, adapts to evolving goals, boosts corporate reputation, and addresses interconnected issues for a holistic approach to sustainable development through CSR initiatives. It will help India to establish Global standard for better pitching of SDG targets.

12. Diverse CSR Committee Membership (Invitee)

Explanation: CSR committee members should have an established track record of CSR or CSR sector

Rationale: Beyond CA/HR/LEGAL qualifications, involving CSR professionals brings specialized knowledge crucial for effective decision-making and implementation

Benefits: Better decision-making. Understanding of processes and problems would be better which would lead to more impactful and strategic decisions.

13. Clarification on Treatment of Intangible Assets created out of CSR Funding & use of CSR Benefits for ESG Reporting

Explanation: Recommendation seeks clear guidelines for handling tradable environmental assets like carbon credits and demands tax clarity in CSR transactions, considering the dynamic nature of CSR. Further, seek clarification on the eligibility and procedural aspects of using CSR benefits, including carbon credits, for Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) reporting.

Rationale: Current restrictions on using CSR surplus for business benefits and uncertainty about reporting Green credits in ESG hinder transparency and effective CSR decision-making.

Benefits: As the importance of investing in the environment grows, it's noted that CSR spending in this domain remains relatively low. Allowing corporates to use Green assets, perhaps after a specified period like 5 years, could substantially boost investment in environmental projects. This approach promises multifaceted benefits, encouraging more substantial contributions to environmental causes and aligning CSR practices with evolving corporate and societal needs.



Conclusion:

In conclusion, the recommendations outlined above present a comprehensive strategy for enhancing the effectiveness and impact of Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives. By implementing these amendments, we have the opportunity to foster a more sustainable and equitable business environment that prioritizes social welfare alongside economic prosperity.

The proposed amendments address key areas of concern, including accountability, transparency, and alignment with national development priorities like ViksitBharat@2047.

Through clearer guidelines and enabling facilitation mechanisms, we can ensure that CSR activities are conducted in a manner that maximizes their positive impact on society while minimizing potential risks.

Furthermore, by incentivizing innovation and collaboration among businesses, NGOs, and government agencies, we can unlock new opportunities for collective action and sustainable development. By fostering partnerships and leveraging resources effectively, we can amplify the reach and scale of CSR initiatives, ultimately driving progress towards our shared goals of inclusive growth and sustainable development.

In light of these recommendations, we urge the ministry to consider their adoption and implementation with due diligence and expediency. By seizing this opportunity to strengthen the regulatory framework governing CSR activities on the eve of completion of a decade of CSR, we can catalyse positive change and make meaningful strides towards building a more prosperous and sustainable future for all.

We stand ready to support the ministry in any capacity necessary to facilitate the successful implementation of these recommendations and look forward to collaborating closely in this important endeavour.



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