



Vikas Arora, Sr. VP Corp. Affairs, GTL Ltd. - Interviewed by Times Foundation

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Vikas Arora, Sr. V. P. Corp. Affairs, GTL Limited



1. Please provide us a brief profile about your organization.

GTL Limited, a Global Group enterprise, is a leading Network Services company, offering services and solutions to address the Network Life Cycle requirements of Telecom Carriers and Technology providers (OEMs).

The company offers comprehensive range of services spanning across Network Planning & Design, Network Deployment, Network Operations & Maintenance, Infrastructure Management, Energy Management and Professional Services.

2. What are the various CSR activities undertaken by GTL so far. What are the reasons for choosing these initiatives?

Corporate Social Responsibility at Global Group has been institutionalized as a way of life for many Globalites. We believe that CSR means much more, than extending commitment to all the stakeholders including the society. We believe that it is an integrated approach towards operating in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner. The focus is more of an inclusive approach taking care of the interests of investors, employees, business partners, customers, local communities, the environment and society at large.

Global Group's CSR initiatives are channeled through GTL Foundation, a Public Charitable Trust. The foundation has implemented several noteworthy projects in areas of health, disability, education, women empowerment and children.

Our Main focus

- Bridging the digital divide: responding to the socio-economic need of the people in rural areas and marginalized sections of society by bridging the digital divide through its various computer literacy projects

- Support to Differently Aabled: Committed to transform the lives of differently abled people and integrate them with national economic system and improve productivity.

3. Please tell us about your employee care projects.

Employee care initiatives have been an integral part of the company's CSR initiatives. The initiatives are aimed at providing a work environment that is conducive, improves productivity and ensures health and safety. Following are the various projects

Project Gyan Jyot: This is an initiative to encourage young achievers through scholarships for children of GTL employees. More than 300 children have been awarded with this scholarship so far.

Project: Samrakshan: Project Samrakshan was launched to provide financial assistance to the dependent families of the deceased or totally disabled employees of GTL Limited. We have supported the families of 5 deceased Employees so far.

Hospitality Desk: Helpdesk caters to the employee's personal in providing added services like Tax Consultation services, Income Tax returns filing services, Bill payment services, Emergency Services, Various Banking and Loan facilities with competitive pricing services, Best deals and offers on various products. All these services are made available at GTL campus from time to time.

Health Care: Employees health and safety are priority concerns of Global Group. We have visiting doctors from all most all specializations, tie-ups with hospitals for medical check-ups, and a host of professionals that give advice to our employees and associates. Health insurance is also made available for employees and their families

4. What has been GTL's achievement in bringing about awareness on Environment?

GTL Limited is energy conscious, environment friendly and a sustainable business organization.

Some of the initiatives and activities undertaken by us under environment management are as follows

1. Reduction in consumption of natural resources: The annual paper consumption has been reduced by 17% in 2008-09. GTL through its associate companies is working extensively at several energy management initiatives that will help in reducing the energy expenses of customers and more importantly reduce energy consumption. Our customers have been able to achieve 5% reduction in consumption of electricity at app 700 sites. These efforts would have resulted in savings totaling Rs 84 Lakhs.

2. Reducing Green house Gas emissions: We introduced Carpool portal to minimise the numbers of vehicles running to reduce green house gas emissions.

3. Waste Management: Efforts have been made to recycle biodegradable waste generated at office premises. These wastes are treated in Green House and organic manure is used in gardening.

4. Tree Plantations: GTL has carried out an aggressive greening program around the Mahape facility's vicinity and has planted more than 2000 trees. Free saplings are distributed to employees to improve the environmental quality.

5. Awareness and Education: GTL has conducted several training programs with leading NGO's to educate the employees and associates regarding the care for environment and occupational safety

For the various initiatives that were taken by GTL, it was awarded the Environment Excellence Award in Silver Category by Greentech Foundation in 2008-09.

What are your suggestions for making CSR initiatives more effective and useful?

I believe that for the success of CSR initiatives, there needs to be accountability for the money spent and resources deployed and the benefits to the community. Community consciousness has become an essential component, which when managed appropriately helps augment competitiveness and boosts overall wealth creation.

The profit organizations has several strengths that when harnessed as part of a larger collaboration, would be extremely valuable to deliver significant, measurable and large-scale impact.

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Forthcoming Events

- "Wellness for All" - Twelfth Times Wellness Workshop



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