

SOCIAL PROJECTS

Delhi teens to represent India at UN Activate Impact Summit

Two talented Delhi teenagers, Ishaan Gupta, a Class 10 student of Shri Ram Millenium School, Noida, and Saina Sareen, a Class 9 student of Ridge Valley School, Gurugram, are going to represent India at the United Nations 7th Activate Impact Summit to be held in New York on November 30.

They will present their ongoing projects — solar powered drinking water for rural areas, and promoting sustainable menstrual hygiene among poor girls — to a 2,000-strong audience of educators, industry experts, government officials and students from across the world at that summit, which was organised by IMIB, a United Nations-accredited non-profit organisation.



Ishaan was deeply impacted by local construction workers working at remote locations that lack clean drinking water. He designed his project on solar-powered water purifier to help men and women living in such conditions, especially in rural India.

The 16-year-old worked with his grandfather to develop and test a solar powered chlor-alkali water filter whose pilot was used at a construction site in Sahibabad, Uttar Pradesh.

The system ended up providing drinking water to over 35 families at the site. Thereafter, Ishaan moved to install his system at two other sites — a school in Sarai Kale Khan in New Delhi and a make-shift refugee camp in Majnu-ka-Tilla.

Ishaan crowdfunded ₹75,500 to help pay for the costs of his filtration system.

He also tutors students in Sarai Kale Khan on his developed filtration system.

At 14, Saina champions sustainable and healthy menstrual hygiene for girls from poor families. Her project Kamakhya has conducted awareness sessions and organised sustainable sanitary pads distribution drives for poor families.

Saina has already impacted over 800 women and girls in and around Delhi region.

She continues to hold webinars and drives in schools for young girls.



Ishaan Gupta, above, provided drinking water for people in rural areas while Saina Sareen distributed sanitary napkins as part of their projects

Kamakhya recently partnered with the Juvenile Justice Board of India and the Honda CSR team to bring her programme to underprivileged women and girls in over 12 villages around Delhi.

Saina crowdfunded ₹45,000 for arranging 1500+ sustainable pads for distribution.

Saina has also invested in pad incinerators to be installed in schools.

Saina and Ishaan are two of the many leaders IMIB is creating through skill development, entrepreneurship, and creation of one million dynamic youth leaders.