

# IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

## CSR Project

### Development of Bandipora, Nishat Garden in UT of Jammu and Kashmir



Submitted to:-



**NHPC Limited**  
NHPC Office Complex  
Sector -33,  
Faridabad, Haryana 121003

Submitted by:-



**Institute of Rural Development (IRD)**  
AT/O-Balidokan, PS-Konark,  
District-Puri, Odisha-752111



**Development of Bandipora, Nishat Garden  
in UT of Jammu and Kashmir**

## Acknowledgement

At the outset we would like to thank NHPC Limited for giving this opportunity to conduct Impact Assessment Studies on Redevelopment Project of Nishat Garden at Bandipora. Institute of Rural Development Programme (IRDP) would also thank Shri Imtiyaz Ahmed Ganai, Joint Director Planning, District Administration, Bandipora for his co-operation in conducting the Impact Assessment and Shri Parag Saxena, Executive Director, NHPC and his entire team for facilitating IRDP team in collection of data in various stages of the study.

It would have never been a successful study without the co-operation and warm welcome by the people of Bandipora who are the most important stake holders of the project. Their feedback and suggestions for improvement were noted and submitted with this report for future development.

**With Regards,**

*Bhupesh*

Bhupesh Yadav

Executive Director(IRDP)



## Preface

This is an impact assessment report of a CSR project on “Development of Bandipora Nishat Garden” in UT of Jammu & Kashmir implemented by NHPC. This project was developed and executed in order to improve the quality of life for local populations by enhancing tourism, occupation, environmental, and economic sustainability in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to the CSR Annual Report, this activity corresponds to the area of rural development. This report provides a brief overview of NHPC Limited, its CSR strategy, and its objectives. Furthermore, the aims and objectives of this CSR initiative are defined by providing information on project beneficiaries residing in UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The development of Bandipora Nishat Garden was monitored and stakeholder mapping was completed during this evaluation. The impact assessment team consulted with project beneficiaries and analyzed substantial outcomes. The conclusions of the impact evaluation are based on both quantitative and qualitative information that has been gathered and examined utilizing ZOHO analytics, in addition to success case studies and stories of accomplishment. The conclusions are peculiar to this intervention and contain insights that could potentially be applied to future endeavors.

## Impact Assessment Team

The assessment team comprised of subject experts, experienced CSR professionals from public sector enterprises, social scientists, environmentalists, health professionals, energy experts in renewal energy domain etc.

Name	Designation
1. Mr. Bipin Kumar Bal	Director - IRDP
2. Mr. Bhupesh Yadav	Executive Director, IRDP
3. Mr. Swapnedu Kumar	Senior Expert, IRDP
4. Mr. Imbesat Rana	Project Manager, IRDP
5. Dr. Prateek Jain	Communication Manager, IRDP
6. Dr. Mukesh Mahapatra	Investigator, IRDP
7. Mr. Soumyashree Mishra	Investigator, IRDP
8. Mr. Sonu Kumar	Investigator, IRDP
9. Mr. Banu Sharma	Investigator, IRDP
10. Ms. Arushi Bhargav	Investigator, IRDP
11. Mr. Anupam	Investigator, IRDP
12. Mr. Prabhat Kumar	Investigator, IRDP



## List of Abbreviation

<b>CSR</b>	:	Corporate Social Responsibility
<b>SDG</b>	:	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>IA</b>	:	Impact Assessment
<b>CD</b>	:	Community Development
<b>CSR &amp; SD</b>	:	Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development
<b>DI</b>	:	Direct interaction
<b>OECD</b>	:	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
<b>ToR</b>	:	Terms of Reference
<b>PDD</b>	:	Power Development Department
<b>RLG</b>	:	Rural Local Governance
<b>ULG</b>	:	Urban Local Governance
<b>PHC</b>	:	Primary Healthcare Centre
<b>NGO</b>	:	Non Governmental Organization
<b>J&amp;K</b>	:	Jammu and Kashmir

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Impact assessment report on Development of Bandipora Nishat Garden gives an unbiased and mirror image of the impacts created by NHPC on the society and environment at Bandipora. A very clear and brief message was received from the community, which will set an example for all the corporate sectors to maintain balance between Industry and Environment. Sustainability goals were verified and public feedback were recorded during the assessment which is satisfactory and turns out to be a great green initiative. The Institute of Rural Development Programme (IRDP) has carried out Social Impact Assessment & Environmental Impact Assessment Study of Nishat Garden Bandipora.

NHPC Limited has not only established an ecosystem dedicated to environmental protection but has also introduced a new dimension of green living through Nishat Garden. While gardens offer numerous environmental advantages, the primary focus of stakeholders lies in the profound impact of plants on mental and physical well-being, which significantly contributes to the overall quality of life.

Most of the people already knew and others discovered during the pandemic, hobbies like doing exercise in garden. Moving around the garden offers an opportunity to enjoy nature and give a person a more positive outlook to life. Nishat garden is a very rich and beautiful presentation to the kids which teaches them to care for the plants, flowers and water bodies. Children were traced playing with their friends and families which is creating a very positive impact on the society.

With the initiative of NHPC, opportunity of tourism in Bandipora District has also increased rapidly in the last two years which is creating economic opportunities for growth of people in many ways.

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

The Hon'ble CM of J&K during the Public Meeting on 29.10.2017 issued directions for the "Development of Nishat Garden in Bandipora". Accordingly, District Administration, Bandipora, directed and instructed NHPC Kishanganga Power Station for undertaking this project under CSR under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan sector.

The once famous tourist garden and picnic spot, Nishat Garden in North Kashmir's Bandipora district, was constructed in 1954 under the supervision of the then Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Bakhshi Ghulam Mohammad. The garden was environment-friendly as it had a terraced garden locally known as Nishat garden, similar to that of Nishat Bagh in Srinagar.

State of the garden:

The garden over the period had lost its charm and was in demand for attention. There were also media reports wherein Locals have alleged that Bandipora Municipal Committee (BMC) has failed in up keeping and maintenance works of the garden, thereby worsening the condition of the already deplorable garden.

It was reported that the garden was in poor condition with broken benches, damaged lights; cafeteria and jogging tracks in bad shape. The media also reported about the deplorable condition of public toilets inside the garden - without proper water supply, broken taps, non- functioning of the flush systems and dirt on the floor- force people to think twice before using them. The huts, shutter places and cafeteria were also in dilapidated condition



# **CSR Project: “Development of Bandipora Nishat Garden” in U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir**

<b>Project Proponent</b>	<b>NHPC Limited</b>
<b>Project Executioner</b>	Floriculture Department of district Bandipora of the then State Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir.
<b>Year</b>	2017-18 to 2020-21
<b>Start Date</b>	05-03-2018
<b>Completion Date</b>	07-01-2021
<b>State</b>	U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir
<b>Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Renovation of viewpoints, cafeteria, chowkidar hut, lavatory block, boundary wall, water channels &amp; pools, bore wells, water fountains etc.</li><li>• Illumination of garden, construction of glazed view point, sump, open well, Bio toilets, children playing equipment etc.</li></ul>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	Rs. 203 lakhs + applicable taxes

# MAJOR IMPACTS CREATED BY THE PROJECT:

## 1. Center of community

Nishat garden provides space for neighbourhood residents to interact with each other and meet new people. It is a great space for events and for people engaged in recreational activities. This allows people to develop a sense of community. Nishat Garden is a garden which is perfect for a picnic, a concert or a farmer's market—whatever your community feels it needs.

Nishat garden encourages recreational facilities in Bandipora neighbourhood and also reducing crime rates, especially among youth. By giving young people a safe place to interact with one another they keep them off the streets and out of trouble. Similarly, Nishat Garden is used by many people, there are more eyes on the street, creating a safer environment for everyone.



## 2. Clean Air

The Trees planted at Nishat Garden remove a wide variety of pollutants from the air. Air pollution can increase risk of certain cancers and have adverse effects on children, the elderly and anyone with underlying respiratory problems. It also reduces the distance you can see on a summer day and increases the mortality rate in highly polluted cities.

Nishat garden is a place where people are able to make connections, meet new friends and participate in recreational activities and is also good for the locals' mental health. After all, physical health and strong relationships are important to maintain mental well being.



### 3. Stress Relief and Mental Health Boost

Nishat garden is a place where people are able to make connections, meet new friends and participate in recreational activities is also good for the locals' mental health. After all, physical health and strong relationships are important to maintaining mental well being. Yet the mental health benefits of gardens go beyond the obvious. Direct exposure to nature has its own benefits on mental health, reducing stress and increasing happiness. And these effects take place almost immediately.

### 4. A Place for Physical Activity

In these days many problems are caused by a lack of physical activity. The sedentary lifestyle many people live today is directly linked to obesity, which can cause a number of health problems including certain forms of cancer and heart disease.

Nishat Garden is making a neighbourhood more enjoyable to walk through and provide space for popular sports, encouraging physical activities. They provide hiking trails and other amenities designed to get people active place for children

Being outside and playing in nature is crucial for the healthy development of children. Learning to play in nature improves hand eye co-ordination. Regular time in nature also improves the child's ability to learn and reduces symptoms of ADHD, training the brain to focus better. Children who spend a significant amount of time in nature also experience better emotional stability and improved mental health.

Gardens also provide great opportunities for parents to bond with children, and for children to make new friends in the neighbourhood. A big garden is also a great place for a child's birthday, giving them the opportunity to run around safely and learn to appreciate nature.





## 5. A place for children

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## 6. Protect Natural Ecosystems

Nishat Garden has its own ecosystem. They provide natural habitats for many different animals. As cities grow, more and more of bees, bugs and butterflies found a new home. Nishat garden provides a safe place for many of those displaced by urban sprawl.

## 7. Activities promoting ecosystem protection and environmentally responsible behaviors

CSR work to protect the environment and maintain ecological viability. This project governs the responsibility to maintain the sustainability for future generations. It is essential to acknowledge humans are not merely an aspect of the ecosystem, although that they may occasionally contribute to the environmental issue as well. It is significant to encourage actions that preserve and safeguard our environment in order to mitigate the damage already have caused to the environment.

These activities encourage those around us to take similar actions by participating in activities that advance environmental protection and conservation. This may entail everything from cleaning up scattered trash on the ground to organizing a community clean-up day. Even minor activities have an influence on the environment, thus it is critical that we all participate in these projects and set a good example.



## 8. Society cleanliness

Garden development is a crucial tool for promoting a healthy and clean society as it offers various advantages that motivate people to care for their surroundings. It can be utilized for cultivating flowers, fruits, and vegetables that can filter pollutants from the air, minimize environmental damage, and offer areas for peaceful relaxation. They also prevent soil erosion from wind and rain, offer habitat for animals, and provide green place for the community to visit.

They may also be utilized as educational opportunity to teach students about nature and the value of accepting responsibility for their actions. The development of gardens might be crucial in fostering societal hygiene. It assists to promote mental health, lower air pollution, and capture carbon dioxide. Additionally, it offers a secure environment for individuals to spend time outside while also housing animals. By encouraging the growth of gardens in our neighborhoods is prominent for building a more sustainable and clean society.

## 9. Activities replenishing ground water

People explore for methods to reconnect with nature and relieve stress, gardening has grown in popularity in recent years. In addition to being a wonderful way to spend time outside, it also helps replenish the groundwater. Gardeners may collect and store water for later use by raising plants and trees. They are able to conserve water and preserve the environment in this way. The addition of organic matter to the soil, which serves to boost its ability to retain water, can assist raise soil fertility. In addition, plants growing in gardens absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere to help mitigate the consequences of global warming.

Furthermore, it is a fantastic method to encourage others to engage in activities that support sustainability and good living. People may acquire insight into ways their activities are positively influencing the environment. Understanding the value of nature and biodiversity to our own well-being can enable us to aid nature.



# CHAPTER II

## ABOUT NHPC LIMITED

### *2.1 Introduction*

NHPC Limited is the largest hydropower development organization in India, with capabilities to undertake all the activities from conceptualization to commissioning of hydro projects. NHPC has also diversified in the field of Solar & Wind energy development etc.

NHPC Ltd. (Formerly known as National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd.) was incorporated in 1975 under Companies Act, 1956. The company is mandated to plan, promote and organize an integrated and efficient development of power in all its aspects through Conventional and Non-Conventional Sources in India and abroad. NHPC is a listed company on NSE and BSE after successfully concluding its IPO in 2009.

NHPC has an authorized share capital of ₹ 15,000 crores, paid-up share capital of ₹ 10,045.03 crore and an investment base of ₹ 70,299 crore as on March 31, 2022.

NHPC's total installed capacity as on 30th April, 2023 is 7097.20 MW including 1546 MW in Joint Venture, comprising 6971.20 MW from 22 Hydro Power Stations, 76 MW from two Solar Power Project and 50 MW from a Wind Power Project. NHPC's hydro share of 6971.20 MW comes to about 14.88% of the country's total installed Hydro capacity of 46850.18 MW.

In addition, Twelve projects aggregating to a total installed capacity of 5882 MW are Under Clearance Stage which includes four hydro & two solar projects by NHPC on his own and Six projects ( 2 in hydro & 4 in solar) in JV mode. Further, two Hydroelectric projects aggregating to a total installed capacity of 890 MW are in Survey & Investigation Stage being undertaken by NHPC.

## 2.2 Vision

- To be a global leading organization for sustainable development of clean power through competent, responsible and innovative values.

### 2.2.1 Mission

- To achieve excellence in development of clean power at international standards.
- To execute & operate projects through efficient and competent contract management and innovative R&D in environment friendly and socio-economically responsive manner.
- To develop, nurture and empower the human capital to leverage its full potential.
- To practice the best corporate governance and competent value based management for a strong corporate identity and showing concern for employees, customer, environment and society.
- To adopt & innovate state-of-the-art technologies and optimize use of natural resources through effective management.

### 2.2.2 Scope

- Plans or initiatives adopted for CSR/Sustainability should primarily benefit stakeholders besides NHPC Limited's employees.
- The proportionate costs paid on those other than NHPC workers and their families shall be taken into account under CSR in the event that the initiative's benefits are extended to NHPC employees and their families as well.
- For the identification & selection of CSR & sustainability schemes, guidance in implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the schemes/activities, NHPC will have an appropriate organizational structure both at the corporate level and NHPC's projects/field units.
- To affect the necessary attitude shift towards environmental preservation, social development, and the necessity for adopting ethical business practices, NHPC will take initiatives to educate and teach its personnel about the corporation's CSR & sustainability policies.
- NHPC will engage in programmes and initiatives that will benefit society visibly in social, economic, or environmental ways. As part of its CSR/sustainability initiatives, NHPC will also try to include the suppliers and contractors involved in the adoption of sustainable technology.

## **2.3 CSR and Sustainability Policy**

The business concept of NHPC has always included CSR. In order to gain the trust and confidence of all stakeholders, NHPC conducts business in a socially responsible manner by upholding a high level of organizational integrity and ethical behavior, adhering to expected standards of transparency in reporting and disclosing the performance in all spheres of its activities, demonstrating concern for social welfare, and adopting best management practices and efficient operational methods.

## **2.4 CSR Vision and Mission**

### **CSR Vision**

To contribute to sustainable development and inclusive growth while taking care of People, Planet and Organizational goals/ growth.

### **CSR Mission**

To become socially responsible corporate entity committed to improving the quality of life of the society at large.

To create and develop facilities for the communities we engage with.

To balance economic, environmental and welfare development objectives through collective and unified effort of all stakeholders.

## **2.5 Objectives of NHPC's CSR Policy**

### **Objectives**

- To address the concerns of important stakeholders, particularly those who are directly touched by NHPC's operations and activities, regarding social, economic, environmental, and welfare.
- Adopt green practices, procedures, and standards that support environmental and social sustainability.
- Empower marginalized and impoverished elements of society and communities, and promote inclusive growth and equitable development.

# CHAPTER III

## Research Methodology



### 3.1 Introduction

This chapter provides a brief overview of the study, including its purpose, aim, survey questions, data collection, and constraints. It is important to have a full grasp of the research methodology used in order to provide context and justification for the findings of the study.

### 3.2 Impact assessment goals

The goal of this study is to assess the impact and sustainability of the projects being implemented, as well as to identify the strengths, weaknesses, and shortcomings in project implementation, as well as the benefits received by the intended beneficiaries, so that the impact can be measured and learning can be applied to future CSR project designs and implementation. The following are some of the crucial areas:

1. Evaluation of the NHPC CSR Policy and its congruence with project outcomes at various project locations.
2. The methods and strategies used by NHPC in the identification, execution, monitoring, and effect evaluation of CSR projects.
3. Stakeholder involvement, site visits, and meetings with direct and indirect beneficiaries.
4. Evaluating the extent of advantages gained and the effectiveness of the implementation.

### 3.3 Methodology

To comprehend the nature, design, and components of accomplished projects for which impact assessment is required, an exploratory study was undertaken. The main method of completion was field study. To gain a thorough understanding of the CSR projects implemented areas and objectives, alongside its characteristics, aims, structure, and sustainability requirements, several academic works are consulted.

The study of secondary data and literature available such as the NHPC website, baseline reports, sample monitoring and evaluation reports, implementation agencies, beneficiary data and CSR Annual Reports of the NHPC, news reports, and so on.

Creating data collecting tools, creating survey questionnaires that can be completed online, training field investigators, testing tools in a pilot programme, and gathering data on the spot are just a few examples.

The assessment process involves data separation, analysis, evaluation, or comparison with the established criteria and intended guidelines.

Fig 3.1 Methodology



### 3.3.1 Framework for Assessing Sustainability by the OECD

The evaluation criteria (relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability) were initially established by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 1991. These six criteria form the basis for assessing initiatives, programs, and policies related to international development and humanitarian aid. The following definitions of these assessment criteria:

Fig. 3.2: The OECD DAC Framework's six criteria



Source: neerman.org

**Relevance:** The degree to which the intervention aims and design address the needs, interests, and policies of recipients and do so even as conditions change.

**Coherence :** It is the degree to which one action (especially policy) complements or contradicts another, and vice versa. both internal and exterior coherence is included.

**Effectiveness:** The degree to which the intervention accomplished or is anticipated to accomplish its goals and outcomes, including any discrepancies in outcomes between groups.

**Efficiency :** It is the degree to which an intervention produces, or is anticipated to produce, outcomes in the shortest amount of time.

**Impact:** The amount to which the intervention has created or is projected to generate substantial positive or negative, intentional or unforeseen, higher-level impacts.

**Sustainability:** The amount to which the net advantages of the intervention remain or are anticipated to continue.

To apply this framework to this study, the IA team determined a few essential factors and components, which are listed in the table.

Table 3.1: Six OECD DAC Framework and their constituent parts

Factors	Components
Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on the Requirements Analysis.</li> <li>• Information about need assessment is provided.</li> <li>• Compliance with NHPC Limited's CSR policy.</li> <li>• Dedication to the SDGs.</li> </ul>
Coherence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal and external coherence (Indian government policies and CSR initiatives)</li> </ul>
Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timeliness must be followed</li> <li>• Budget adherence</li> </ul>
Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accomplishing the goal (planned vs. actual)</li> </ul>
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline Evaluation Report</li> <li>• Impact and accessibility of impact indicators</li> </ul>
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mechanism for sustainability and convergence</li> </ul>

A 6-point scale was created using weighted scores. When evaluating the sustainability score of a CSR project's impact, the following factors are used.

85-100% -> Exceptionally satisfied

70-84% -> Satisfactory

55-69 %-> Moderately satisfactory

40-54 %-> Barely acceptable

20-39 %-> Unsatisfactory

20% or more -> Highly unsatisfactory

### **3.4 *Research Instruments***

In order to have a thorough approach in data collecting and stakeholder interaction, a method study design was adopted. We employed both qualitative and quantitative research methods. The minimal number of samples required by research criteria were covered by quantitative procedures like survey questionnaires, which were comprehensive in character. In-depth involvement with project recipients and public input were the main areas of focus for qualitative research techniques. Data processing for analysis was done using analysis tool, and MS Excel.

### **3.5 *Data Collection***

The gathering of primary and secondary data was done using the following strategy.

Primary Information: The primary information were gathered on the ground and in both offline, as well as through feedback and consultation, beneficiary interviews, focused group discussions, and in-depth interviews. Short films and geo-tagged images were also produced.

Secondary Data: Included in this are a literature analysis of the NHPC website, baseline reports, a sample monitoring and evaluation report, implementation agencies, beneficiary data, NHPC CSR Annual Reports, media stories, etc.



### 3.5.1 Sampling technique and sample size

For the survey, the following sample plan was created. For all effect assessment activities, such as stakeholder consultation, semi-structured interviews, field observations, and other tasks, the impact assessment.

Table 3.2 Sampling strategy

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Sample size (%)</b>
1	Bandipore, UT, J&K	100

### ***3.5.2 Tools for Data Collection***

Questionnaire for Survey: To gauge whether initiatives are affecting the life of the villagers, a thorough questionnaire was designed (per the project's specifications). To get high-quality data for each project, a sizable number of replies were gathered. Depending on the availability of internet in the locations, the direct interaction method was utilized to assist the gathering of data offline. The following steps were used to conduct the survey:

1. The method of random sampling was used to determine participants in accordance with the inclusion criteria.
  2. In order to get their agreement, the participants were made to feel at ease and informed of the survey's objectives.
  3. The investigator manually entered the replies.
  4. Following the completion of the questionnaire, a debriefing was conducted.
- Consultations with stakeholders: Consultations with stakeholders were also held to evaluate each project. Local residents, public representatives, representatives from implementing agencies, and local government were all participants in this activity, which had extremely stringent inclusion criteria. The impact assessment team made sure that men and women were equally represented throughout stakeholder dialogue.
  - Semi-structured Interviews: Semi-structured interviews were done to learn more about the advantages of the initiatives that were put into action.
  - Fieldwork observations: The surveyors did a walkthrough of the project regions, village, and streets to ensure the project's physical validity and operation.

### ***3.5.3 Tools for data analysis***

The core data gathered during the survey was analyzed using direct interaction method and MS-Excel as a data analysis tool. This tool analyses all of the objective inputs, and semantic analysis techniques are used to analyzed the subjective replies.

## 3.6 Planned and Executed Impact Assessment (PEIA) in Project Management

To arrange the field work within the allotted time, this necessitates communication with the NHPC project site officials, implementing organizations, and impact assessment team. The impact assessment team also created checklists, forms, and formats as part of a standard operating process. The following are some quick details of the PEIA SoPs:

### 3.6.1 Checklist for Impact Assessment study

#### Stage 1: Planning, survey preparation, and training

- Schedule for the field trip.
- Preparation of the survey questions as well as the direct interaction (DI) method.
- investigators are instructed and briefed.
- Role and responsibility definition.
- setting up the framework for the daily report.

#### Stage 2: Gathering necessary documents and materials before heading to the field

- Letter of representation from IRDP
- ToR for investigators.
- All investigators must wear identification cards.
- Project information.
- Link to a survey questionnaire.
- Response Form.
- several forms for data collecting.
- Pen and a diary.

#### Stage 3: Field Visit

- Consultation with the Nodal Officer of the implementing agency.
- Interaction with stakeholders.
- Activity verification.
- Surveying the beneficiaries of benefits.
- Success stories and case studies.
- pictures with a geotag.
- brief films of the beneficiaries.
- Evidence from field trips (meetings, streetlights, survey respondents, interviews) in the form of photos and videos
- composing and submitting a daily progress report.

#### Stage 4: Report writing and data analysis

- Success stories and case studies are being prepared.
- writing and editing the report.
- Expert opinion on impact assessment.

### 3.7 Implications for Ethics

The importance of informed consent for all research activities was upheld throughout the study. The goal of the study was explained to the respondents and important study stakeholders. All responders received a guarantee about the interview's confidentiality in addition. While the survey or interview was being conducted, they had the option of not responding to any questions.

### 3.8 Fieldwork Schedule

Table 3.3: Fieldwork Schedule

Project Name	Actual Schedule of Fieldwork	
	Start Date	End Date
“Development of Bandipora Nishat Garden” in UT of Jammu & Kashmir.	05-03-2018	07-01-2021

# CHAPTER IV

## Development of Nishat Garden, J & K



### 4.1 About the Project

The people of Jammu and Kashmir had a magnificent tourist destination there, but it wasn't maintained, resulting in a severe loss of tourism. NHPC realized their dream. Envision the way the NHPC plans to improve and beautify this enormous garden under CSR project. The difficult process of beautifying these gardens was completed by NHPC, who also built a pedestrian bridge, a bore well, repaired a water channel that had been broken, built a chaukidars hut, and other things over the course of around 5 km. Establishing a fresh source of water, the problem of rebuilding boundary walls, changing the designs of fountains, and many other tasks were challenging to undertake under the extreme circumstances.

Currently, Nishat garden is maintained by the local government and the Floriculture Department of the district Bandipora of State Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

The aforementioned works cost more than Rs. 2 crores in total. The stakeholders and users thanked the NHPC for their funding under the CSR project to transforming the Nishat garden. They also thanked them for building a well, restrooms, a hut, a pump house, and other amenities for the communities that were deprived of place for the physical activity, yoga, children activities in the Bandipora UT, J&K.

The Nishat garden is located in the heart of the Bandipora town. It is one of the tourist attraction of the city. Bandipora is an important district of UT of Jammu & Kashmir and is located at a distance of about 70 kms, approximately 1 ½ hour road drive from Srinagar Airport. The said CSR project was financially assisted by NHPC Ltd. through an MoU with District Development Commissioner of Bandipora. The development work of garden involves the Civil & Electrical engineering works by way of repairs/renovation, ornamental works and creation of some infrastructural facilities.

## 4.2 Objectives of the Project

Details of some of the works undertaken for the development of garden is as below:

1. Renovation of viewpoints, cafeteria, chowkidar hut, lavatory block, boundary wall, water channels & pools, bore wells, water fountains etc.
2. Illumination of garden, construction of glazed view point, sump, open well, Bio toilets, children playing equipment etc.

## 4.3 Project sites

Bandipora is a district of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, India. It is located about 75 Kms from Sri Nagar.

Fig 4.1 : Project sites on Political Map of U.T. of J& K (India)



## **4.4 Implementing Agency**

Floriculture Department of district Bandipora of the then State Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir

## **4.5 Findings and analysis**

All the observations, feedback received from the individual beneficiaries, information gathering through stakeholders consultation are recorded in true form as follows:

During stakeholder consultation it is found that the Re-development, Re-construction and beautification of Nishat garden has been done as a replica of Nishat Garden, Sri Nagar. All stakeholders have done very good job of their scope. End users are very happy with the development of the garden with recycling of fresh water instead of drain water which used to flow earlier through out the garden. Local people are very much satisfied with the recreation of this garden and are being benefited to the most.

### **4.5.1 Key Observations made by Field Investigators**

The following work was done well in the eyes of the investigators: Chemical Tile was appropriately installed on the whole pedestrian way.

1. A single underground bore well contains a pump house to supply water to channels and fountains.
2. It was discovered that the pools with fountains and the broken water channels were built appropriately.
3. Devri stone steps to several terraces were successfully repaired.
4. Construction of renovated vantage points was discovered beside restored chawkidars huts and latrine structures.
5. 9 Mtr High Octagonal Lighting Poles were discovered erected, as well as outfall channel development and spring conservation.
6. On the top terrace, a recently constructed gazebo-style vantage point was discovered.
7. The boundary wall was discovered to be rebuilt.
8. network of irrigation systems found for the various terraces and lawns
9. There were offered decorative metallic ship cabins on various terraces.
10. Playground equipment for children was found. A nearby electric substation had been found to be built.

## 4.5.2 Stakeholder's Feedback

### Shahnaz Ali

My name is Shahnaz Ali, I am from Bandipora local, I came here to walk, earlier there was no development in the park, but now DC sir has taken this initiative and with the help of NHPC the park is now fully developed, People from the city are always coming here to do walk around and visit the park. It is a source of fresh Air; we thank NHPC for the good initiative. NHPC has modified this park for the people and people are very happy to come here, People from outside also come here to visit.



### Mohd. Aman

My name is Mohd. Aman, I read in High School nearby, After School we always come here. This park is so beautiful, After School we come here for half an hour with friends and we feel great relief. You all should come here to visit once. We all thank to the Government and NHPC for the development. There was nothing before, Now there is fountain, flowers, Plants etc , we all move here to get comfortable. We also expect Government and NHPC to do more development like this.

### Sehnaaz & Anjum

I am Studing in 5<sup>th</sup> Class, Here there is a very good park, I came here today and I also come here every day with my Friend family. My father comes here and my mother comes here. Here we feel very good, earlier it was not that good, Now it has become so beautiful. We also come to study here sometimes.





### **Danish**

My name is Danish and I live in front of the park, It is a very nice park, we all come here to do exercise and running , brisk walking etc. My family also come here, I believe everyone should come here to enjoy.

### **Parvez Ahmed**

I am the Head Gardener here, I maintain the whole park, NHPC has done a great job, I will do my best to make this park more beautiful, I am very thankful to the Department and NHPC for giving me Job opportunity here. Four to Five Gardeners are also coming here to do flower gardening work and cleaning work, they earn their livelihood from this park.

### **Mr. Aamir, Civil Engineer, Floriculture Department, Bandipora**

My name is Aamir, I was the Engineer In-charge for construction of this park, and Bandipora is a District where there is no place for recreation. The park was already here but it was under shambles, No fencing was there, No water channel and lighting, From NHPC it was renovated, for community mobilization, We started this work and we have completed this, We have reshaped it, Additional pathways we have made, lighting attraction was installed, Fountains and water channels are being constructed, Nishat park was a replica of Srinagar Nishat Park, Every evening and morning people come here to visit, In the evening park becomes so beautiful with lighting, It is very helpful for them as there is no park in Bandipora for recreation work, Local employment was generated to construct this park and a lot of people got employment during making this park. I wish NHPC all the best and requesting to grant such projects repeatedly to make this city beautiful and benefit people.



## 4.5.3 Success Stories

### MR. IMTIYAZ AHMED GANAI

JOINT DIRECTOR PLANNING  
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION  
BANDIPORA



This is the only garden in the entire town of Bandipora and has its significance among the young players who visit the garden in the morning and the Senior citizens who go to the garden in the evening for evening walk. The garden was entirely in shambles prior to its renovation. We are grateful to Kishanganga Power Station, NHPC Limited , that they invested around Rs. 2 Crores by giving it a new look. Entire pathways have been renovated and waterfalls have been created. This garden is known as Nishat garden and has its replica at Srinagar. So it is famous for that also and is well used by the public now.



## Feedback from the Stakeholders

## SHRI PARAG SAXENA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
KISHANGANGA POWER STATION,  
NHPC LIMITED



एनएचपीसी की सीएसआर नीति में कहा गया है कि समाज में बड़े पैमाने पर जीवन में सुधार करना और सामाजिक रूप से जिम्मेदार कॉर्पोरेट कंपनी बनना। जन सुविधाओं में सुधार करना और समुदायों का विकास करना हमारा मिशन है जिनसे हम जुड़े हुए हैं। सभी हितधारकों के सामूहिक प्रयासों के माध्यम से उद्योग और पर्यावरण के बीच संतुलन बनाए रखना हमारा उद्देश्य है।

मानवीय मूल्यों और पर्यावरण की रक्षा हमारी सीएसआर नीति की प्राथमिकता है। इसी उद्देश्य से हमने बांदीपुर के निशात गार्डन के जीर्णोद्धार की परियोजना शुरू की थी। हमने झाड़ियों-से-पत्थर तक काम करना शुरू किया और हमने वहां एक सुंदर पार्क बनाया। बांदीपुर के सभी लोग वहां मॉर्निंग और इवनिंग वॉक के लिए आते हैं। हमने न केवल प्रकृति का ध्यान रखा, बल्कि हमने लोगों के लिए प्रकृति की सुंदरता का आनंद लेने के लिए एक वातावरण भी बनाया। हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि इस तरह के प्रोजेक्ट लाकर हम बांदीपोरा के लोगों को और अधिक लाभ पहुंचाएंगे और उनके जीवन को बेहतर बनाएंगे।



## Feedback from the Stakeholders

#### 4.5.4 OECD-DAC Framework Scoring

Overall performance and rating by the beneficiary are satisfactory. The project was successfully implemented and commissioned in 2021. Currently the garden is maintained properly by the concern of authorities.

Table 4.1: OECD-DAC framework Scoring of the project

<u>OECD Parameters</u>	<u>Score</u>
Relevance	Satisfactory
Coherence	Satisfactory
Effectiveness	Extremely Satisfactory
Efficiency	Satisfactory
Impact	Satisfactory
Sustainability	Satisfactory

## 4.6 Developmental phases

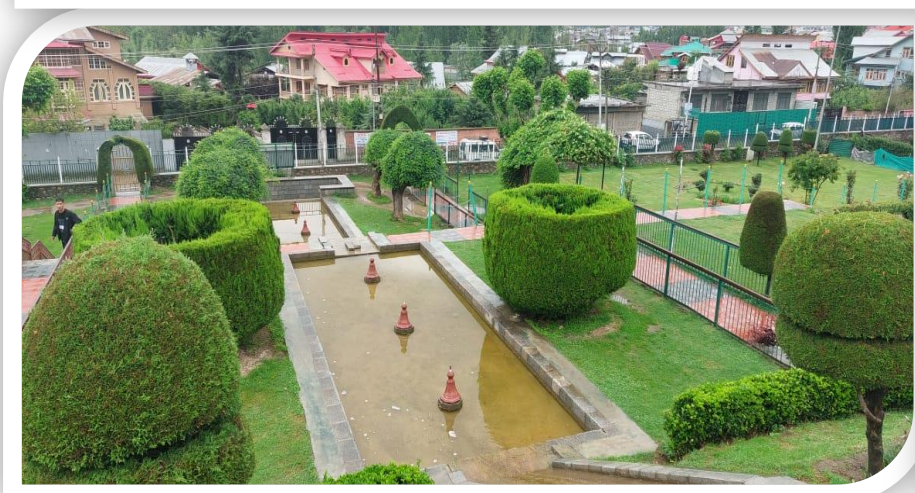
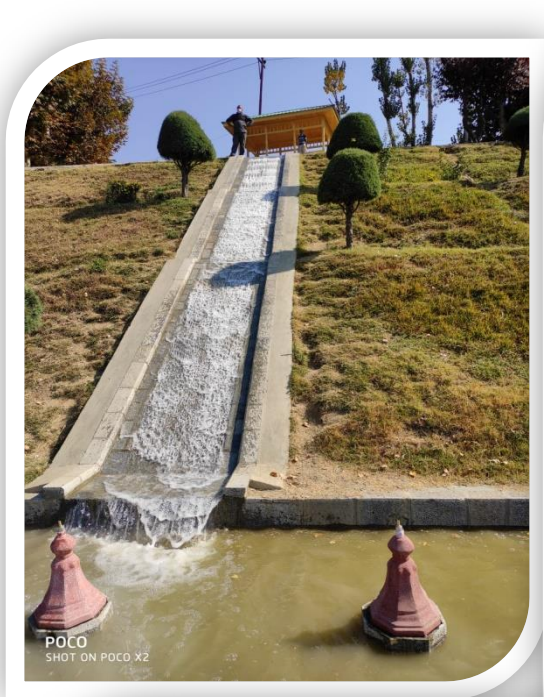
### 4.6.1 Nishat garden before development



## 4.6.2 Nishat garden under redevelopment



### 4.6.3 Nishat garden at present



## **4.7 Impact of the project**

The establishment of Nishat Garden has the following beneficial effects on individuals. The Nishat Garden is a gathering place for locals to socialize and meet new friends. It is a great location for gatherings and recreational activities. As a result, the populace could develop a sense of belonging. Nishat Garden is a beautiful garden where you may have a picnic and watch kids playing. The trees grown at Nishat Garden contribute to a decrease in the amount of air pollutants in the surrounding area. People of all ages, including children, the elderly, and those who already have respiratory issues, are negatively impacted by air pollution along with the risk of certain cancers is also increased. In addition, it reduces the amount of fatalities brought on by high pollution levels in urban areas. Direct exposure to the outdoors can enhance mental health by reducing stress and increasing enjoyment. Obesity is strongly linked to the sedentary lifestyle people currently lead, which can result in a number of health problems, such as various forms of cancer and heart disease. Nishat Garden enhances the neighbourhood as a spot for walking and provides room for playing prevalent sports, encouraging physical exercise. They consist of playgrounds and other elements, such as walking trails, that promote physical exercise. It also provides many different animals with their natural habitats. They also offer a home for animals, prevent soil erosion brought on by wind and rain, and create magnificent green places for the public to enjoy. Creating gardens might be crucial to advancing societal cleanliness.

Gardening has been more and more well-liked recently since it helps to enhance mental health, lower air pollution, and capture. Additionally, it is a terrific opportunity to spend time outside and refills the groundwater. Gardeners may collect and store water for later use by growing plants and trees. They are able to preserve water and safeguard the environment in this way. The addition of organic matter to the soil, which increases its ability to retain water, may help to increase soil fertility. In order to decrease the consequences of global warming, the gardens feature plants that collect carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

## **4.8 Conclusion**

The initiative has had a significant positive influence on people's lives, their desire to remain in the region, and their level of happiness. The presence of a newly constructed, well maintained garden that resembles Nishat Garden in Srinagar, J&K, has assisted the residents in improving their health, environment, and way of life.

The area's beneficiaries are very appreciative of NHPC's CSR effort, which has improved their social and economic conditions.

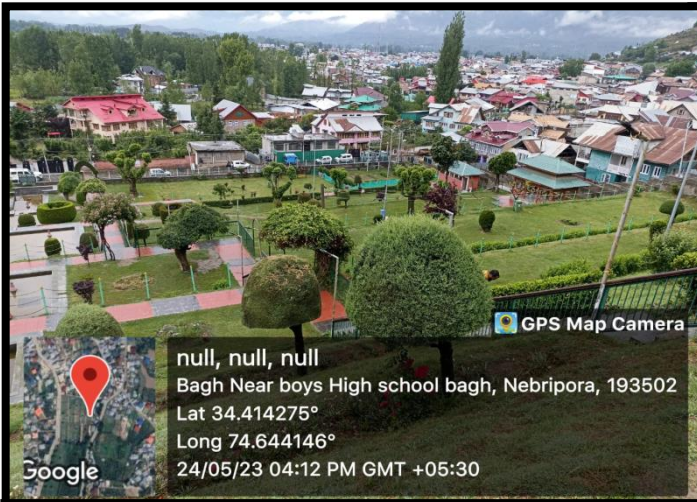
The level of happiness of the individuals has clearly increased and is obvious as we witness enthusiasm and smiles on their faces regarding this CSR Project.



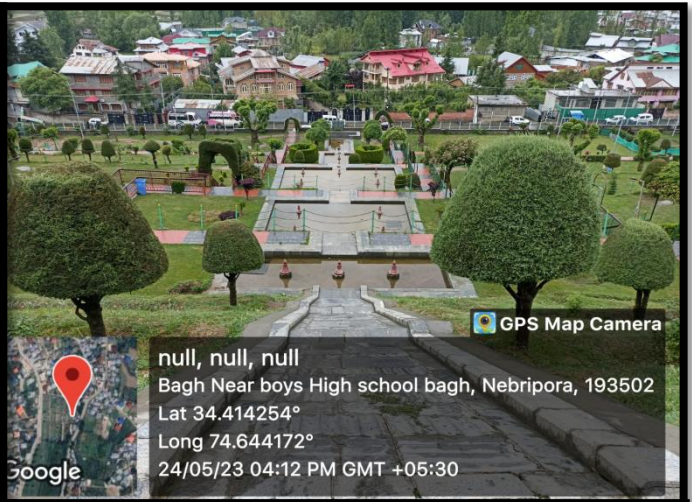
# Photo Gallery



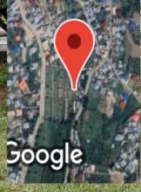
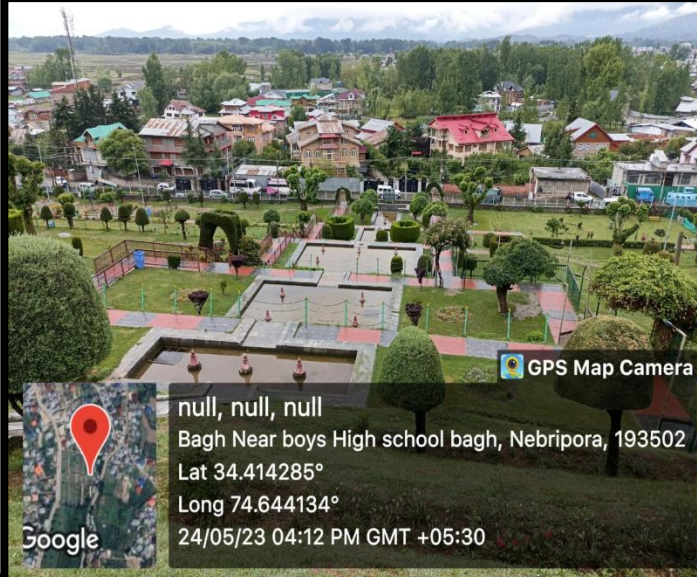




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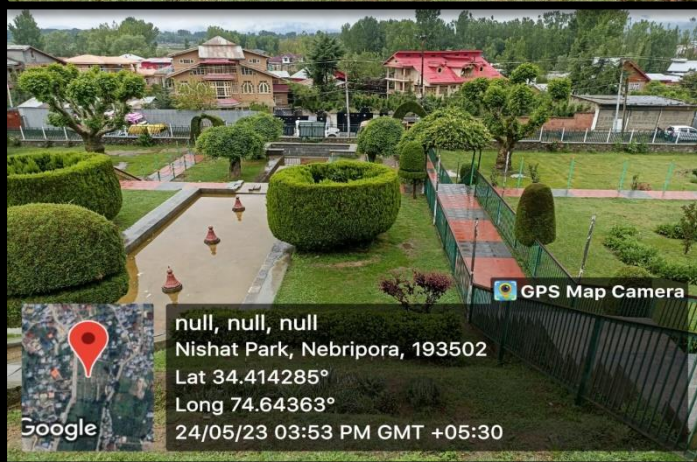
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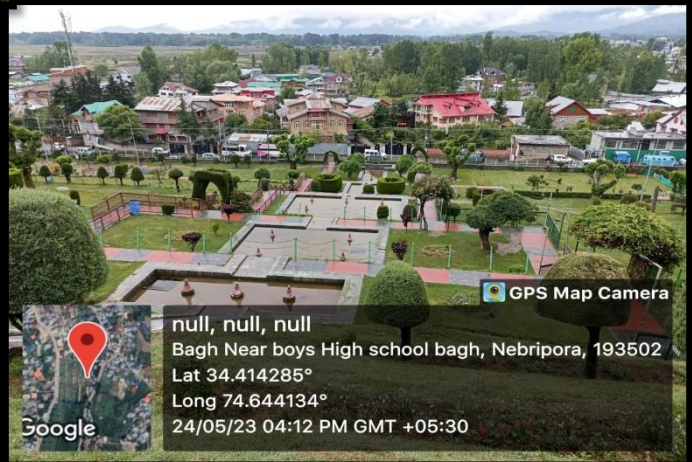
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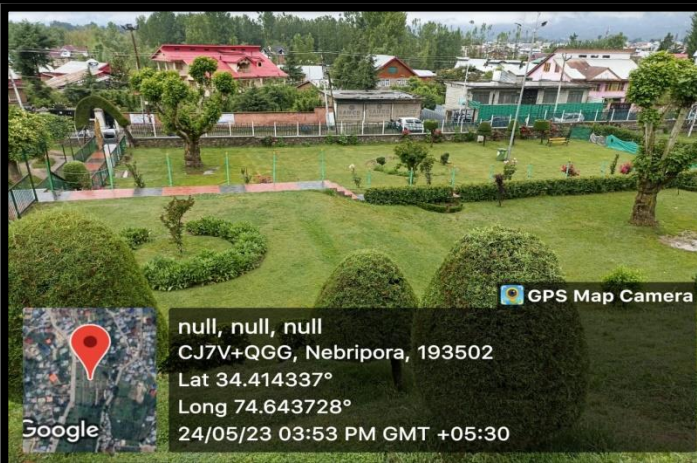
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**PREPARED BY**  
Institute of Rural Development Programme  
(IRDP)  
AT/O- BALIDOKAN, PS- KONARK,  
DISTRICT-PURI, ODISHA-752111  
+919583055900  
Email:irdpindia@gmail.com



