

## **BITS Goa Advances to Regional Finals of 6th Annual Hult Prize in response to President Bill Clinton's Early Childhood Education Challenge**

*The Hult Prize has recently announced the winning team from BITS Pilani, Goa Campus has advanced to the 6th annual regional finals of the competition.*

Zuarinagar, Goa, November 16, 2014 /[India PRwire](#)/ -- The Hult Prize is a crowdsourcing platform for social good, named one of the top five ideas changing the world by President Bill Clinton and TIME Magazine. In partnership with the Clinton Global Initiative, the innovative crowdsourcing platform identifies and launches disruptive and catalytic social ventures that aim to solve the planet's most pressing challenges. This year, the Hult Prize is focused around finding solutions for the millions of slum dwellers around the world that are affected by Early Childhood Education Challenge- a challenge selected by President Bill Clinton.

Hult Prize at BITS Pilani was conducted at the Goa campus, in the telepresence room, as teams from all the four campuses, viz., Goa, Pilani, Hyderabad and Dubai competed for the best solution.

The winning team members from BITS Goa include Priyanka Tata, Anirudh Nigania, Neha Nandwana and Radhika Nikam.

The team competed in the Hult Prize at BITS Pilani event on 8th November and built a solution to this year challenge by President Bill Clinton around Early Childhood Education. Their solution solves an often overlooked fact that early childhood education happens more around the home rather than outside it. As opposed to making children travel far and wide to reach a school, Project 'Eduvan' embraces this remarkable concept to take a trip to the homes and create a learning environment for the children, in the comfort of their homes. The team will now move on to compete at the Hult Prize regional finals on March 13 and 14, 2015, which are being hosted at one of Hult International Business School's six campuses in Boston, San Francisco, London, Dubai and Shanghai.

The judges were Mr. Vivek Naik, the founder of Goa Startup Launchpad, Mr. Binayak Datta, the ex CFO and VP of Zuari Industries, Mr. Suryakant Narvekar, Director-West at SMILE foundation and Dr. Mridula Goel, Faculty Coordinator of Centre for Entrepreneurial Leadership at BITS. Aashima Monga, the campus director for Hult Prize at BITS Pilani expressed her thanks to all the four campuses for making this event a success.

Ahmad Ashkar, CEO and Founder of the Hult Prize attributes the success of the competition to the global youth revolution and said, "We continue to be moved by the large number of students from around the world who are capitalizing on the opportunity to develop business models that target the bottom of the pyramid." "We wish every team the best of luck and thank BITS Pilani for supporting this initiative."

Following the regional finals, one winning team from each host city will move into a summer business incubator, where participants will receive mentorship, advisory and strategic planning as they create prototypes and set-up to launch their new social business. The final round of competition will be hosted at the Clinton Global Initiative annual meeting in September, where CGI delegates will select the annual Hult Prize winner. None other than President Bill Clinton himself will award the USD 1,000,000 Prize to the winning team.

"The Hult Prize is a wonderful example of the creative cooperation needed to build a world with shared opportunity, shared responsibility, and shared prosperity, and each year I look forward to seeing the many outstanding ideas the competition produces." - President Bill Clinton, Founder, William J. Clinton Foundation and 42nd President of the United States.

### **Notes to Editor**

#### **About the Hult Prize Foundation**

The Hult Prize is a start-up accelerator for social entrepreneurship, which brings together the brightest college and university students from around the globe to solve the world's most pressing issues. The annual initiative is the world's largest student competition and crowd-sourcing platform for social good, and has been funded by the Hult

family since its inception in 2009. To learn more, visit [www.hultprize.org](http://www.hultprize.org).

### **About The Clinton Global Initiative**

Established in 2005 by President Bill Clinton, the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI), an initiative of Bill, Hillary & Chelsea Clinton Foundation, convenes global leaders to create and implement innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. CGI Annual Meetings have brought together more than 150 heads of state, 20 Nobel Prize laureates, and hundreds of leading CEOs, heads of foundations and NGOs, major philanthropists, and members of the media. To date, CGI members have made more than 2,500 commitments, which are already improving the lives of more than 430 million people in over 180 countries. When fully funded and implemented, these commitments will be valued at \$87.9 billion.

### **For more information, please contact:**

#### **Kaustuv Mohanty**

PR Head, Hult Prize at BITS Pilani  
(L) 8149143116, (M) 8149143116

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