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UNEP & Paytm partnered 'The Massive Earth Summit 2018' sees participation of over 300 industry leaders

Other leaders from industry came together to discuss innovations in biofuels, mobility, forests, air and water

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HBI Staff | Mumbai

The Massive Earth Summit 2018 held at Taj Diplomatic Enclave, New Delhi, by a partnership between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Paytm concluded yesterday. The one-day event witnessed leaders from diverse fields to share their views and insights on Pollution-as-Resource mindset. The event saw the launch of Massive Fund where Vijay Shekhar Sharma, Founder, Paytm and venture capitalist Shailesh Vickram Singh joined hands to launch a USD 150-million environment protection-focused fund.

The summit saw participation of over 300 startup founders, policy makers, corporates, and investors and discussed innovations in biofuels, mobility, forests, air and water which is expected to trigger an investment in excess of USD 2.5 billion in immediate future.

Commenting on the impact of the Summit, Shailesh Vickram Singh, Founder & MD at GoMassive said, "It was a successful event and we're overwhelmed by the response received from our audience. At the Massive Earth Summit, we were greeted with presence of 300+ delegates along with 30 esteemed speakers who discussed themes such as Nuclear energy as an option to provide clean and scalable energy business which is economically viable for the first time ever in the country. This was a first of its kind event, where venture capitalists, start-ups and policy makers joined hands to discuss India's environmental problems and collaboratively turn India into a great business opportunity."

Commenting on taking innovation to the grass root level in India, Satya S Tripathi, Sr Advisor to UNEP & Chairperson, SIFF said, "The biggest challenge is not about rural or urban India but about finding the champions who are willing to work with communities to develop ideas. It is important that local communities

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see a stake for themselves in solving larger problems. While this isn't about how much money is made in solving these challenges, the financial impact is however very important in sustaining such initiatives."

Aditi Balbir, Founder & CEO of V Resorts, said, "It was great to see the range of discussions on things that impact all of us. While our own work at V has been built around social and environmental consciousness in lesser known parts of India, it was great to see similar perspectives from organizations such as UNEP, WHO, SoftBank Energy and other startup innovators. The discussions offered validation to our belief that solving today's challenges is not only doable but can be done in financially viable ways."

The Massive Earth Summit 2018 saw closing remarks from Suresh Prabhu, Minister for Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation; Gajendra Shekhawat, Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; and eminent luminaries such as K. Vijay Raghavan, Principal Scientific Advisor to GoI; Vijay Shekhar Sharma, Founder, PayTM; Dr Anil Kakodkar, Ex-Chairman Atomic Energy Commission; Satya S Tripathi, Sr Advisor to UNEP & Chairperson, SIFF; Helena Molin Valdes, Head of Climate and Clean Air Coalition UNEP.

V Resorts, a leader in leisure travel space in India, and GoMassive together co-hosted The Massive Earth Summit 2018. The partnership between the companies is in line with its commitment towards sustainable tourism through tie ups with IFC on their EDGE Green Buildings program as well as the UN on promoting circular economies to support the mission of pollution reduction industry in India.



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