

Coming Today: A ₹500-crore Booster Shot for Uttarakhand's Development

US entrepreneur Manoj Bhargava, founder of Living Essentials, to pay over 6 years

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New Delhi: NRI billionaire entrepreneur Manoj Bhargava, one of the few Indians to sign the 'The Giving Pledge', is set to announce a plan to give ₹500 crore over six years for a development programme in Uttarakhand.

Bhargava, who is one of the richest Indians in America, has already given more than ₹300 crore to over 151 organisations across India, with 406 completed or ongoing projects in the areas of healthcare, education, disability, livelihood, water and sanitation, in the past five years, through The Hans Foundation (THF).

The foundation will on Tuesday announce the ₹500-crore 'investment' in Uttarakhand 2020, a comprehensive state-wide development programme focusing



THE GIVING PLEDGE: Manoj Bhargava

on disease prevention, child education and forest regeneration in Uttarakhand. "We have created pockets of change in each of the 25 states where THF has worked. We are now pooling the best of what we have learned and scaling it up in Uttarakhand," says Bhargava.

Bhargava's Fund One of India's Largest ▶▶ 20

Special Feature

New Age Philanthropy

The governance framework has to be right for philanthropic monies and efforts in developmental work to gain in impact. A clutch of philanthropists, singled by the system, now want to salvage the situation. Rohini Nilekani, Anu Aga, Luis Miranda, TV Mohandas Pai and Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw are channelling their wealth and intent into data access, think tanks and alternative media. Their thinking, in a way, also signifies a certain maturing of Indian philanthropy, which is now readying to enter the so-called no-go areas, reports Naren Karunakaran. ▶▶ 18