

India Inc's CSR Spends Up 5% in FY23 to ₹15,524 Crore

HDFC Bank (₹820.8 cr), TCS (₹783 cr) and RIL (₹744 cr) made top spendings among 1,296 NSE-listed cos

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Bengaluru: India Inc.'s corporate social responsibility (CSR) spends rose by 5% from ₹14,816 crore in FY22 to ₹15,524 crore in FY23 across 1,296 NSE-listed companies, led by HDFC Bank (₹820.89 crore), Tata Consultancy Services (₹783 crore) and Reliance Industries (₹744 crore).

Ten companies, including these three, accounted for 33% of the total spends on CSR in FY23, according to data shared exclusively with ET by primeinfobase.com, an initiative of Prime Database Group.

Others in the top 10 in terms of CSR expenditure included Tata Steel (₹480.62 crore), Oil and Natural Gas Corp. (₹475.89 crore), ICICI Bank (₹462.66 crore), Infosys (₹391.51 crore), ITC (₹365.5 crore), Power Grid Corporation of India (₹321.66 crore) and NTPC (₹315.32 crore).

The CSR law, which came into force in April 2014, mandates that companies with net worth of ₹500 crore and above or revenue of ₹1,000 crore and above or net profit of ₹5 crore and above during the preceding financial year, have to spend 2% of average net profit of the last three years on

Beyond Profit

CSR spends by companies listed on NSE over last 9 years

	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15
No. of Companies	1,296	1,224	1,151	1,124	1,067	1,057	992	925	884
Average Net Profit of last 3 years (₹ lakh cr)	8.14	7.20	6.81	6.80	5.95	5.20	4.80	4.57	4.18
Actual Amount Spent (₹ cr)#	15,524	14,816	14,780	14,760	11,790	10,142	9,058	8,485	6,549

#includes administrative expenses and impact assessment cost
Source: primeinfobase.com

CSR projects.

The average net profit of these 1,296 companies over the last three years was ₹8.14 lakh crore, up from ₹7.20 lakh crore in FY22. As per CSR requirements, the amount required to be spent by them was ₹15,713 crore (FY22: ₹13,994 crore), against which they spent a slightly lower ₹15,524 crore (FY22: ₹14,816 crore).

According to Pranav Haldea, managing director, Prime Database Group, the shortfall can be explained by the increase in the amount that remained unspent and transferred by companies to the Unspent CSR Account (₹1,643 crore) for use in future years.

Public sector unit (PSU) spending

saw a decrease of 17% from FY22. As many as 56 PSUs spent ₹3,136 crore in FY23, down from ₹3,766 crore spent by 59 PSUs in FY22.

In line with previous years, education received the maximum (₹1,211 crore) followed by healthcare (₹825 crore). In comparison to the previous year (only considering data of 536 companies for which project details were available for both years), spends on environmental sustainability increased the most (76%) followed by spends on education (41%) and rural development (26%).

In contrast, contribution to disaster management fell the most (77%), followed by that on slum develop-

ment (75%) and the PM's Relief Fund (59%).

The top five companies that posted a maximum increase in CSR spends in absolute terms over FY22 were ICICI Bank (₹196.04 crore), Jindal Steel & Power (₹111.20 crore), Hindustan Zinc (₹87.53 crore), HDFC Bank (₹84.88 crore) and Tata Steel (₹74.65 crore). All the figures refer to the increase in CSR expenditure in FY23 over FY22.

According to primeinfobase.com, 1,893 companies were listed on the NSE main board as on March 31, 2023. Of these, annual reports for FY23 have been released by 1,854 companies.

