



Daily News & Analysis

Thursday, November 05, 2009
DNA MAIN EDITION Page 4

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<< Back to Headlines

Altruistic donors get online help

A website that allows people an opportunity to do their bit for the society

Archita Wagle



Do you ever wonder what to do with old things that you have no use for? Rohena Gera was faced with the same dilemma when she bought a new refrigerator.

The old one was just occupying space in the house. She didn't want to sell it and finally gave it away to her maid servant. "While I was searching for a donor for the refrigerator that I realised that there were many like me who had things to donate or give away. But they had no idea how to go about with it," said Rohena Gera.

Hence the help hub.org was created. "It is a non-profit exchange platform, which acts as a facilitator between donors and recipients. The website is strictly for helping out those less fortunate than us," added Gera.

To donate something, all you have to do is log on to the website and post your requirement. The website is quite user friendly and allows one to register and post their offer. The users can also surf the site to see if they can match up any requirements. Take the case of Shona Bagga, vice president (marketing) of Paranjpe Schemes, who realised that a NGO in Kashmir required 40 blankets.

Wanting to help them out she purchased 40 blankets and sent them off with a friend

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travelling to Kashmir. Bagga feels that the website is a good exchange platform. "There

are so many times when we feel like helping, but we are not sure whether our donations will reach the right people. But I feel the portal is a very good concept," said Bagga. There are some limitations on what you can donate. Gera doesn't encourage clothes or cash donations. The website has witnessed some pretty out-of-the-box donations. Like Tanya Bijlani, a writer, who donated a wheelchair. "My grandmother passed away recently and we were looking to give away a wheelchair that she used, since we now had no use for it. Fortunately there was a requirement for a wheelchair in a slum in Jamnagar," said Bijlani.

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<< Back to Headlines

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