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Barclays and TCS partner to Help Children with Locomotor Disabilities

Tata Consultancy Services' Virtual Habilitation Platform Helps Children with Autism and Cerebral Palsy Gain Mobility and Functional Skills

Pune/Mumbai, 12 March, 2019: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), a leading global IT services, consulting and business solutions organization, has joined hands with Barclays to launch the TCS VHAB (Virtual Habilitation) platform at the ZEP Rehabilitation Centre in Pune, to help children with neuro-muscular disabilities become more self-dependent.

As part of the partnership, REACH – the Barclays Disability and Mental Health Network, is providing the hardware and equipment, while TCS is deploying and supporting its VHAB solution.

VHAB is a digital assistive platform conceptualized, designed and developed by TCS to significantly improve the physiotherapy regimen for children with locomotor disabilities due to cerebral palsy or autism. The platform uses motion sensors, progressive analytics, gesture analysis, finger mapping and real-time simulation in an immersive VR environment to create a series of personalized simulated environments that children can interact with in a gamified environment and develop skills that will enable them to carry out tasks closely related to real life.

VHAB is already being successfully used by over 500 students across three schools for children with special needs. The results have been positive with the children exhibiting a visible increase in their attention, concentration and other learning skills.

Speaking at the launch of this program, Sean Dunphy, Senior MD, Barclays, said, "This is the start of an exciting journey towards making a difference in the lives of India's specially-abled population, it is a great

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example of two global firms coming together to leverage their core expertise to make a positive difference for the communities that we live and operate in.”

“With advancements in motion sensing technologies, wearables and gamification, digital technology solutions are increasingly transforming wellness and healthcare. TCS has been at the forefront of innovation that uses these technologies to make a real impact in the lives of people,” said Ananth Krishnan, VP & CTO, TCS. “We are working to expand the VHAB platform to further address the full scale of the autism spectrum, and are glad to partner with Barclays as we take this unique program to more children.”

ZEP Rehabilitation Centre, an NGO established in 2008, runs specially designed programs to help improve the mobility of children with locomotor disabilities. These programs enable the development of daily skills, self-help skills, functional skills and academics and is made available to all children irrespective of their socio-economic status

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