



Annual Report 2020 - 2021



**10
Years**



**10,00,000+
People
reached**



**83
Projects**



**12
Significant
Policy
Suggestions**



**10,000+
Students**



**55 Partnerships
& Continuous endeavour
for a
pro-people public policy**



CARE

CARE is a word, an emotion and an expectation that every individual has been yearning for since the pandemic jostled the world. While these trying times pushed us to a plethora of difficulties, it was also phenomenal in unveiling the forgotten 'humane' face that laid dormant within us.

Overcoming the lens of differences, **Care** (in different manifestations), masked as humanity helped the world heal from this widely spread health emergency. It is in this context that GRAAM's fervour to work within the framework of CARE can be defined as

Commitment to Collaborate ...

Ardour to Act ...

Research to Reverberate ...

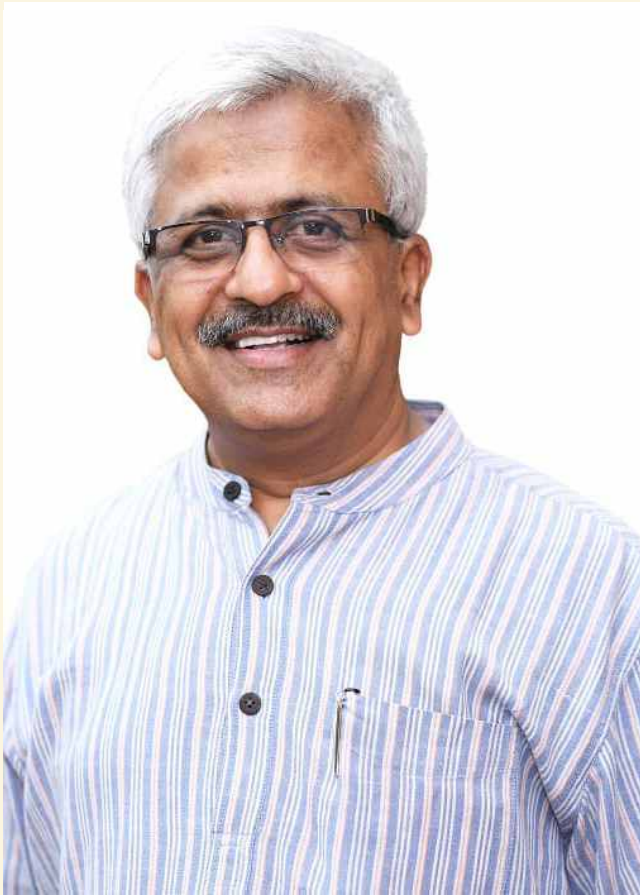
Engage to Empower ...




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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK



Dr R Balasubramaniam
Founder and Chairman

 Dear friends and well-wishers of GRAAM,

The last one year has indeed been a momentous one for every person around the world and we at GRAAM were no exception. Whether it was a few of our staff and their family members going down with the COVID infection, or the layoffs that we needed to do to stay afloat or the continued feeling of uncertainty and insecurity – GRAAM too had its share. GRAAM also saw leadership amongst its team members and the sheer determination to pull through the crisis manifested in everything that each one did. It is this resilience and collective strength of every member of the GRAAM team, and the support extended by the Trustees that saw us negotiate through the year. The emerging second wave is going to be another major milestone, but we are determined to carry ahead this resilience and inner convictions in ensuring that we not only survive but also thrive.

And thrive we should. What the world will now need is organizations like GRAAM to go deeper into understanding the public health and policy crisis that emerged during the COVID crisis. We now need to ensure that the residual damage to the health of communities and the economy of the nation is addressed with proper understanding and driven by evidence. It is here that GRAAM can continue to add to the body of knowledge in all the four strategic verticals that we are engaged in – Health & Wellness; Learning, Skills and Livelihoods; Governance & Democracy and the Development of Indigenous Communities. We need to go beyond mere articulation of the issue and come up with practical and implementable solutions. Whether it is the State or the Private Sector or our several Civil Society partners – each one has contributed uniquely to meeting the challenge and we need to capture the impact and build on the principles of partnership.

While the going will be tough, we are confident that the existing projects being undertaken by GRAAM currently, will give us the base to not only expand but also come up with some demonstrable models. The



COVID crisis has also shown how the current economic models may need a closer re-look and viable, sustainable and scalable alternatives must be explored. GRAAM with its partnership with 'The Fourth Sector Group' is well positioned to take forward the work on the 'for-benefit' economy. GRAAM also had the distinction of contributing to the creation of working guidelines for the Social Stock Exchange, which if implemented could be a game changer for the Social sector.

We at GRAAM also had several lessons that were learnt while implementing the Sugamya Shiksha project in public schools. We witnessed first-hand the challenges faced by students, parents, teachers and administrators as they struggled to keep the children engaged in different forms of learning. We also saw how important the blend of brick & mortar schools along with digital education is going to be in the future. GRAAM is looking forward to support from our partner community to build on this knowledge and explore such blended solutions.

All this and more will only be possible from the continued support that we hope to receive from our partners – the pool of knowledge of our domain experts, governments, corporate partners,

universities and donors. While thanking all those who helped see through this difficult year, we are looking forward to their active engagement in ensuring the democratization of human development and public leadership.

Yours truly,

Dr R Balasubramaniam

Founder & Chairman - GRAAM



There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what is required for a community's sustainable progression. GRAAM's closely knit bond with community strives to discover what matters the most in the grassroots. Our tale of commitment to community is thus...

COMMITMENT TO COLLABORATE



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GRAAM

Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM), is a public policy research and advocacy initiative. GRAAM's extensive expertise spans over policy research, program evaluation, community consultation, policy engagement, strategic consultation and academic programs. GRAAM is fuelled with a vision to create and nurture an evaluation space that embodies community 'voice' based on empiricism, democratic principles and a progressive interaction in the development sector including government, citizenry, private sector, civil society and academia.

INCEPTION

GRAAM is the brainchild of the experience of finding it challenging to combine academic knowledge with the experience of the development practitioner. Though there was so much that each had to offer to the other, it was very difficult to get them to have a dialogue in a language that was acceptable to both. It was amidst this that we felt that GRAAM could be that bridge, the meeting point where empirical research gets built on grassroots experience at the community level.

GRAAM is an organization where academicians work hand-in-hand with practitioners in the field and combine their knowledge, expertise and experience for the larger good of the communities that they serve.

Therefore, GRAAM is that unique research organization where the outcome of research would lead to advocating for policy change. And this advocacy would be driven by the philosophy of partnership rather than confrontation. GRAAM's work for the past nine years has reinforced this conviction where one can combine research and advocacy to bring out constructive change in the development landscape of India.



VISION

Facilitating development that expands the capabilities and potential of growth within communities at the grassroots level while respecting individual rights and values.



MISSION

GRAAM shall advance higher standard of living, civic empowerment, political participation and social justice by working in the focussed areas-

- Learning, Skill development and Livelihoods
- Health and Wellness
- Governance and Democratisation
- Indigenous Community Development



VALUES

- Society first
- Honesty and transparency
- Integrity
- Collaboration
- Continuous learning
- Innovation



We, the GRAAM family



A confident multi-disciplinary and experienced team at various organisational levels are working to deliver any assignment on time.

The team's expertise spans across public health, education, skill development and rural livelihoods, ICT, water management, child rights and welfare, gender, statistics, human development, political science, public administration, development studies, economics and sociology.

The team is well equipped, trained and has the capacity to handle large-scale research, survey (baseline, midline and end line surveys), Community Need Assessment, KAP Study, concurrent monitoring/evaluations, Impact Evaluation as well as implementation of program / project (action research) in any part of the country. Guidance and handholding from an expert panel of advisors are available to the team regularly for appropriate and high-quality delivery.

In addition to the diversified skills, we are also diversified in our roots with representations from West Bengal, New Delhi, Orissa, Maharashtra, Kerala and Karnataka.

Board of Trustees



Dr R Balasubramaniam
Founder and Chairman
Visiting Professor - ILR School,
Cornell University, USA
Visiting Professor, IIT-Delhi India
Member (Human Resource) - Capacity Building Commission,
Government of India



Dr Vivek Ujire Padvetnaya
Development Professional and
Health Economist



Mr J Purushotham
Advocate and advisor for
Labor & Industrial Relations



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MYRA School of Business (MSB)
Associate Dean, Student Life

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M N Venkatachaliah
Former Chief Justice of India



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John P Windmuller Chair of
International and Comparative
Labor at Cornell University



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Legislative Assembly



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CGHSR, University of Minnesota



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Research at Autism Speaks



Mr S K Das - IAS (Retd.)
Former Additional Chief Secretary
to the Government of Karnataka



Dr Susanne M Bruyère
Professor of Disability Studies,
Director of the Employment and
Disability Institute, and Associate
Dean of Outreach at the Cornell
University



Our Esteemed Partners

ACADEMIC / RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS



NGOS AND CIVIL SOCIETY MOVEMENT



GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS



CORPORATE PARTNERS



Our passion becomes the beacon to seek our 'self'. When we serve the community we become who we are and do what we love. Our passion to find ourselves is narrated thus...

ARDOUR TO ACT



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THEMATIC AREAS OF OPERATION



Governance and Democratisation

GRAAM believes in the principle that decentralization and community involvement in governance should be fostered with deeper understanding and practical realization of these ideals. The starting point of GRAAM's endeavours in this thematic area include assessment of the institutional frameworks, levels of community participation and inclusiveness, measures of social accountability and quality of services and development outcomes and impacts. GRAAM is working on building community accountability frameworks and indices in the panchayat raj system in India.

GRAAM's governance projects have won international accolades and created platforms to reach grassroots' voice to the policy makers.



Health and Wellness

The studies and policy engagement under this thematic area focuses on needs and priorities to strengthen public health systems in India. The studies have focussed on regional disparities in health services, better working conditions for frontline workers, strengthening of community monitoring initiatives, policies for reducing out of pocket expenditures and addressing quality issues in healthcare delivery in India.

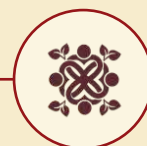


Learning, Skill Development and Livelihoods

Community participation is the core for strengthening and sustaining the public schooling system in India. The studies of GRAAM constantly strive to create evidence for quality education, stakeholder participation, wellness of children and safe learning environment. With the action research initiative, GRAAM is building a model initiative for the comprehensive school development with vibrant stakeholder participation.

The policy engagement, research and evaluation studies around skill development and rural livelihood immensely contributed in developing vision and policy documents for the government.

Income inequality, which is growing at an alarming speed, is one of the main concerns of the millennium. GRAAM firmly believes that creation of 'for-benefit economy' is the need of the hour. We are creating grassroots models for rural wealth creation through our action research initiatives.



Indigenous Community Development

The studies under this thematic area focuses on making the Forest Rights Act enabling. The issues of indigenous communities in terms of acquisition of individual land rights, access to the forest produce, making exclusive provisions for indigenous communities for the empowerment of indigenous communities, etc., are the areas of the studies' focus.

Journey of GRAAM Since 2011

- Initiation of GRAAM 12th Jan "2011"
- Initiated Arogya Shreni, a technology-based action research project for community monitoring which won South Asia Level Award
- Initiated first state level evaluation study - National Rural Livelihood Mission which subsequently contributed to policy level changes
- Launched Madhyama Manthana – a state level conference on development journalism

- Created research portfolios on specific development themes
- Featured on the cover page of Civil Society Magazine
- Strategic consultations for the Govt. – Strategy Focus Document for Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Mission
- Key role in establishing Karnataka Evaluation Authority
- Empanelled for GPSA (Global Platform for Social Accountability), a World Bank initiative.
- Two state-wide evaluations - National Rural Health Mission and Nirmal Gram Purasakar awarded GPs, resulted changes in implementation strategies of these programs
- Partnership with Cornell University

- Empanelled by 3ie as an associate member
- Empanelled by UNICEF
- Empanelled by Karnataka Evaluation Authority
- Initiated research studies in Telangana
- Advocated successfully to ensure circular by GoK to accommodate Persons with Disabilities in MGNREGA

2011-2012

2012-2013

2013-2014

2014-2015

2015-2016

- Constitution of Advisory Board
- Ventured out of Karnataka, a study on school sanitation in Andhra Pradesh
- Conferred with "2013 South Asia eNGO Challenge Award" by Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF) for the use of ICT and digital media for good governance practices GRAAM stood as a winner among 340 NGO contenders across South Asia
- Initiated Strategic Consultation Portfolio
- Partnered with NCAER in a large-scale India Human Development-II Survey
- Advocacy with leading political parties on development-oriented election manifesto

- Registration of GRAAM as an independent legal entity
- Constitution of Board of Trustees
- Revision of panel of Technical Advisors
- Contributed for State Human Development Reports and Preparation of two District Human Development Reports in Karnataka
- Drafted Policy for procurement of land for residential scheme in Karnataka
- Initiated annual advocacy event 'Ground Realities'
- Invitation to GRAAM Executive Director as a Fellow at EDI – Cornell University

2016-2017

- Empanelled as domain expert in Corporate Social Responsibility for NFSCR IICA
- Conferred with Global Communication Association's A.P. Chowdappa Memorial Award for recognising GRAAM's policy engagement efforts.
- Launched Workshop in collaboration with Cornell University
- Launched Sugamya Shiksha- an education related action research programme

2017-2018

- Signed MoU with Mauritius Society Renewal
- Expanded the Action Research project Sugamya Shiksha to four more districts in Karnataka
- Expanded Board of Trustees with inclusion of three new members
- Authored Vision documents for the Karnataka government's 'Vision Karnataka 2025'
- Barefoot Research Conference, an annual program was launched for the teachers of primary and secondary government schools to present research papers in the presence of policy makers.

2018-2019

- Extended Action Research project- Sugamya Shiksha from 11 Schools to 22 schools in four districts of Karnataka reaching 5000 children.
- MoU with McGill - The Max Bell School of Public Policy.
- Dr R Balasubramaniam delivered a talk 'Governance and Democracy in India' at the international seminar organized by India in Germany (Embassy of India, Berlin) and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- Launched 'Children's Parliament', an innovative program bringing all the executive arms of Govt. who matter for school development, and presided by the judiciary in collaboration with Karnataka State Legal Services Authority and District Administration.

2019-2020

- Signed MoU with DSERT, GoK for expanding the reach of Sugamya Shiksha
- Submitted the study report titled 'Roadmap of Social Enterprise ecosystem as a precursor for a viable Social Stock Exchange in India to NABARD, PMO and FMO
- Provided the concept paper for No School Bag Day initiative of Government of Karnataka which was passed as an order to be practised in government schools of Karnataka.
- Partnered with WHO and expanded GRAAM's reach to Assam and Chattisgarh
- Signed an MoU with Quality Council of India for a capacity development initiative in understanding public policy

2020-2021

- Assessed the implementation of AB-HWCs in 8 states of India
- Secured the first FCRA project and expanded GRAAM's footprint to Jharkhand.
- Entered into MoUs for mutual cooperation in education, training, consultation, research and establish framework for programmes of exchange with:
 - Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC)
 - Centre Food Technical Research Institute (CFTRI)
 - Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat University (KSRDPU)
 - RV University
- Awarded with the GuideStar India Transparency Key

GRAAM'S MOU with CFTRI – Adopting technology in building sustainable rural livelihoods

CSIR-CFTRI (Central Food Technological Research Institute) and GRAAM (Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on 20 August 2020. The memorandum serves to provide a framework for understanding and cooperation between the two institutions in implementing the rural livelihood projects.

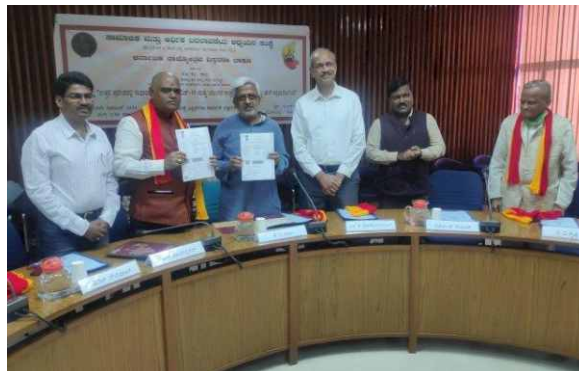
As part of the MOU, CFTRI will extend the technical support for planning production units, technical training to the women entrepreneurs, quality assurance, etc. GRAAM, having a rich expertise in developing livelihood models for rural communities based on rural wealth creation principles will handhold the women entrepreneurs with necessary capacity building, training, mobilizing and motivating them to find a sustainable livelihood. The project aims at developing a resurgent economy in rural India by adding value to the local agricultural products. The program is expected to benefit the entrepreneurs as well as farmers in the rural areas.



GRAAM and Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC) inked an MoU

GRAAM, a public policy research and advocacy institute inked Memorandum of Understanding on 29 December 2020 with the Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC), India's premier institute for Inter-disciplinary Research and Training in the Social Sciences. The MoU was signed to work jointly on research, faculty training and research collaboration, projects and internships for students.

Under the terms of the MoU, both the research organizations have agreed to work on joint projects, provide support in implementing projects and apply for collaborative funding encompassing research on all aspects of a developing society within the inter-disciplinary framework. The organizations have agreed on jointly developing short term and distance learning programs for general public's consumption, apart from the short-term training through seminars, lecture series, workshops and conferences.





GRAAM and KSRDPRU signed an MoU

GRAAM signed an MoU with Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University (KSRDPRU), Gadag Karnataka in January 2021, to promote cooperation in educational, training, consultation and research activities. It also aims at establishing a framework for programmes of exchange and collaboration in areas of education, research, knowledge building, innovative and extension activities, public policy, health, community development and other areas of common interests for mutual benefit. This MoU will include joint research programme, holding conference, seminars/workshop/training, faculty exchange programme, joint publications, academic collaborations for course development, exchange of knowledge & resource sharing (teaching aids), development of content for online and distance learning programs.

GRAAM now holds GuideStar India Transparency Key

GRAAM has been awarded the GuideStar India Transparency Key. The key is valid till December 2021. GuideStar India is India's largest and most reliable online information repository with 10000+ NGOs. We have been awarded the prestigious GuideStar India Transparency Key award for 2020 and have joined India's largest pool of credible NGOs after undergoing a rigorous due diligence process. GuideStar India's Transparency Key is the Foundation Level certification indicating that the organisation has filed annual income tax returns as a tax-exempt entity and has shared the same in the public domain.



"Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is the power to choose our response.
In our response lies our growth and our freedom."

-Viktor E Frankl



Appointed as Member (HR) of PM's Capacity Building Commission

Dr Balasubrahmaniam, was appointed to the Capacity Building Commission. As part of Mission Karmayogi - National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB), the Capacity Building Commission (CBC) is mandated to harmonize training standards, create shared faculty and resources, and have supervisory role over all Central Training Institutions.

Technical committee on Social Stock Exchange by SEBI

SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) has inducted Dr R Balasubramaniam as a member of the Technical Group on Social Stock Exchange. This committee has been formed to develop guidelines for setting up Social Stock Exchange in India. The team's responsibilities include developing a framework for on-boarding non-profit organisations and non-profit enterprises as well as prescribing disclosure requirements on financials and governments. This membership was inducted with effect from 7 October 2020.



Confederation of Indian Industry's (CII) South India Regional Committee has appointed GRAAM's Executive Director, Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, as a member of the Committee on Education, Skill Development & Job Creation for the fourth consecutive term. Dr Basavaraju R was also invited previously by CII to join the Taskforce on Water.



RESEARCH TO REVERBERATE

*Research is purposive... Research is our tread to connect with the community...
Research is this curiosity that nudges to action... Our acquaintance with the
community is thus...*



PUBLIC HEALTH

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Assessing the Demand Side Dimensions of Primary Health Care in Assam

Project title	:	Demand Side Assessment of Primary Health Care in Assam
Study team	:	Dr R Balasubramaniam, Dr Ananya Samajdar, Dr Deepak Kumaraswamy
Partner	:	World Health Organization (WHO), Local partner: The Ant Assam
Duration	:	September 2019 to June 2020
Field Site	:	Golaghat, Barpeta and Nagaon

Introduction

National Health Policy 2017 aimed at Universal Health Coverage, and the recent effort of establishing Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) with expanded range of services is one attempt towards achieving this goal. Despite its stringent efforts, primary health care has been recording low rates of utilization. National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) data shows that 11.5% households in rural areas and only about 4% in urban areas reported seeking any form of OPD care with Public Health Systems.

The above data gives rise to the question of why people are not using primary healthcare or if they are getting left out. There was thus a need for a study to unravel the demand and supply side factors that interact to shape the utilization of primary health care.

Demand Side Assessment of primary health care in the state of Assam was conducted specifically focusing on the three districts of Barpeta, Golaghat and Nagaon. The utilization of primary healthcare facilities by different socio-economic groups was examined on the basis of survey data.

Recommendations

To ensure the continuous supply of generic medicines at all facilities, buffer stocks of essential medicines for at least three months should be maintained at facilities.

Availability of rapid diagnostics kits at Sub Centers and with frontline workers is suggested to ameliorate the problem of availability of diagnostics.

The tracking of NCD patients after the initial diagnosis and prescription should be strengthened, and continued availability of medicines for chronic diseases should be ensured.

There is a need for stronger monitoring (including through online means) of referral visits by patients.

NCD screening at the community level is recommended to identify a risk population.

Reasons for choosing private providers

Reason	Grand Total
Easy to reach/nearby	45 (28.85)
Experience of Effective treatment	54 (34.62)
Heard that people get better	22 (14.10)
She is preferred doctor	39 (25.00)
Inconvenient timing in govt. facilities	9 (5.77)
Long queue in govt. facilities	13 (8.33)
Poor quality of govt. facilities	73 (46.79)
When Illness doesn't get cured through home remedies	4 (2.56)
When Medicines from village store are not effective	8 (5.13)
When treatment from govt. facility fails	25 (16.03)
Other	1 (0.64)



Research team interviewing a health official in Assam

“During our visit to the Mising tribal community, a feeling of helplessness regarding health was projected such that the women started sharing their health problems to the field staff for seeking support. Although they were close to the town, they were unaware of the Health and Wellness Centre in their locality,” recounts a member of the research team.

An Assessment of the Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres in India

Project title	:	Assessment of the Implementation of Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWC) in India
Study team	:	Dr R Balasubrahmaniam, Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Dr Ananya Samajdar, Dr Deepak Kumaraswamy, Ms Dimple Khattar and Mr Soumitra Joshi
Partner	:	National Health Systems Resource Centre (NHSRC)
Duration	:	September 2020 to June 2021
Field Sites	:	Karnataka, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Punjab

Introduction

The Government of India aims to set up 1.5 lakh Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) by 2022 based on the Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) paradigm.

Expanded range of services include care for non-communicable diseases, ENT care, mental care and palliative, first level care for emergencies and trauma along with free essential medicines and diagnostic facilities.

Aiming at CPHCs, more than 50,000 Ayushman Bharat-Health and Wellness Centres are now operational across the nation. Thus, National Health Systems Resource Centre (NHSRC) awarded a research study on the assessment of Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) set up under Ayushman Bharat.

The study aimed at an assessment of the ground level implementation processes involved in the roll-out of HWCs in eight states of India viz. Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Manipur. The study examined the alignment of the performance of HWCs with the expectations of key stakeholders such as the community.

Key findings

For all the states covered in this assessment, a high degree of user satisfaction with the treatment received in Health and Wellness Centres was seen.

1. The implementation of AB-HWC is on track in most states with a clear roadmap for achieving targets set for December 2022.
2. The addition of CHOs in the primary health care team has strengthened primary health care and has resulted in the ability of the SHCs to deliver expanded range of services.
3. States have enthusiastically adopted the ICT initiatives and are innovating at their level to leverage its potential to strengthen the delivery of health services.
4. There has been an improved availability of diagnostics and medicines at HWCs, especially for NCDs, resulting in better patient satisfaction with PHC services.
5. The preparedness of the primary care system to deliver the expanded range of services including that of non-communicable diseases has been strengthened. State level initiatives to provide mental health, elderly and palliative care have been successful.



Ayushman Bharat Wellness Center
staff from Gandhinagar, Gujarat



Interview with ASHA workers from Manipur

Recommendations

1. Accelerate the implementation of AB-HWC to sustain the gains with continuous technical support provided to states for its full implementation.
2. Improve co-ordination with other Ministries and their initiatives (Digital India Mission and Solar energy) to identify opportunities for closing the infrastructure gaps in state specific contexts.
3. Increase flexibility in use of funds at state level to promote the next phase of HWC conversions with states expediting the release of funds.
4. Integrate the various ICT initiatives across a common inter-operable digital platform with provision of handholding support for a smoother digital transition.
5. Ensure availability of full complement of trained workers at HWCs. A digital mode of regular in-service training linked to career progression may be considered.

GRAAM Research also expresses its gratitude to local field partner organisations AARTHI (Association for Awareness on Rural and Tribal Health Institute) from Andhra Pradesh, SIDA- Samarthan from Chhattisgarh, Surachana Education and Charitable Trust from Gujarat, HABF (Health and Beyond Foundation) from Manipur, Sevavardhini from Maharashtra, GADSS (Guru Angad Dev Sewa Society) from Punjab and HABF (Health and Beyond Foundation) from Uttar Pradesh for their support in data collection. We thank Dr Anand Lakshman and Dr Swathi Hawaldar for their technical and expert consultation for this study.

"Hamara gaon main Doctor Aagaya! This was the preliminary expression that we could record from the people of Maharashtra when we visited the fields for study. Branding and appointment of CHOs have resulted in health-seeking behaviour of the people. Once this expanded range of services becomes fully operational, it will benefit early detection of diseases and reduce the Out of Pocket Expenditure of the people," accounts our research team from Maharashtra.

"Almost all the Health centers visited in the rural areas had good infrastructure and basic facilities. After the intervention of Ayushman Bharath HWC, the CHO and the stakeholders are happy. Almost all the CHO's mentioned, due to extended range of services participation, trust and respect on the HWC has increased. Especially introducing screening, prevention, control and management of Non-Communicable diseases (diabetes and BP) at the centers, have made the rural people come to the center regularly," mentioned our team from Manipur.

Devising Community Monitoring and Social Audit Structures for HWCs

Project title	:	Demonstrating Community Monitoring and Social Audit mechanisms for Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) in Jharkhand - JAN Arogyashreni
Study team	:	Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Dr Ananya Samajdar, Mr Bhagavan Bidarkote, Ms Susmita Pattnaik and Ms Pooja
Partner	:	JHPIEGO (Funded by USAID)
Duration	:	January 2021 to June 2022
Field Sites	:	Jharkhand (Khunti and West Singhbhum Districts)

Introduction

Community Based Monitoring and Planning has been a key strategy of the National Health Mission (NHM).

Under the Government of India (GoI)'s Ayushman Bharat initiative, the Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWC) are being created to provide comprehensive primary health care (CPHC) services spanning preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative care.

The GOI has issued a guideline for constituting community structures such as 'Jan Arogya Samiti' at SHC & PHC-HWC's level.

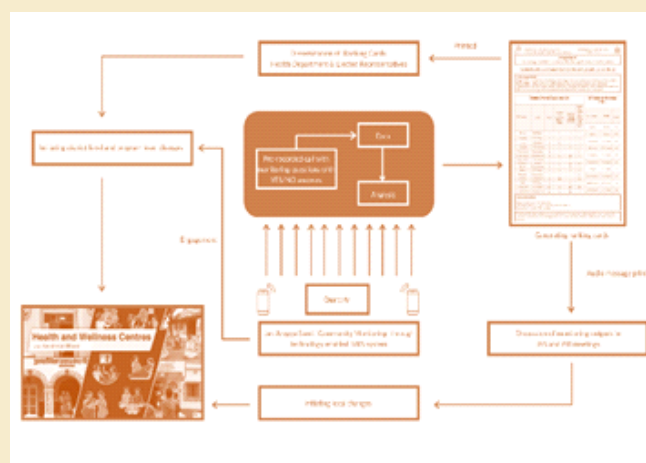
It is important to develop contextually relevant systems and processes. Hence, this project is designed to complement the strengths in making health services a community led movement.

GRAAM is implementing the Jhpiego's USAID support project NISHTHA. GRAAM has its expertise and prior experience of working and engaging with communities and establishing community accountability mechanisms.

The aim of the project is to demonstrate community led monitoring mechanism and establishment of Jan Arogya Samitis (JAS) for strengthening delivery of CPHC through SC-HWCs in Jharkhand. From 2011-2014, GRAAM had implemented a project Arogya Shreni in Karnataka which was conferred with a South Asia Level Award. The JAN Arogya Shreni project is designed based on the best practices of project Arogya Shreni.



Key Project Interventions



Project Strategy



Team GRAAM's meeting with the MD of National Health Mission in Jharkhand



Team GRAAM upon visiting the Health and Wellness Centre in Khunti, Jharkhand

An Evaluation of the Skills Programs in Karnataka

Project title	:	Impact Evaluation of CMKKY and PMKVY in Selected Districts of Karnataka
Study team	:	Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Mr Aditya Narayana Rai, Dr Shivprasad
Partner	:	Karnataka Skill Development Corporation
Duration	:	November 2020 to October 2021
Field Sites	:	Yadgir, Raichur, Dharwad, Dakshina Kannada, Shivamogga and Ramanagara

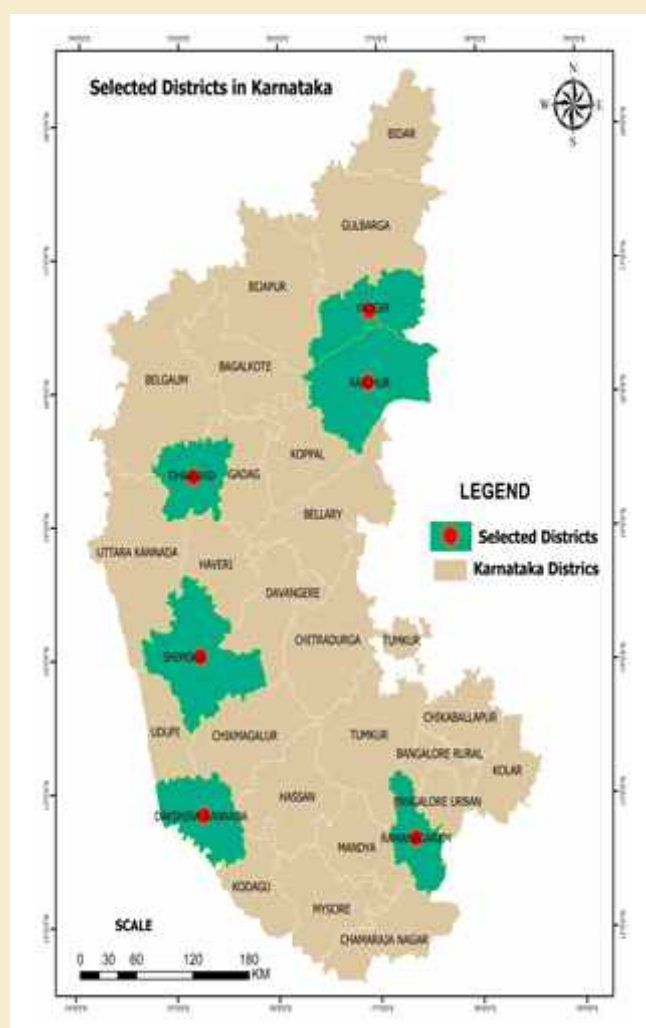
Introduction

India Skills Report 2018 discloses that only 47% of the individuals passing out of educational institutions are employable. With that being a significant portion of the working age population, the nation has to undertake the skill development programs more aggressively.

Karnataka has an excellent opportunity of achieving economic growth and it can be accomplished only by promoting skill development of the working population in general and youth in particular. Pradhan Mantri Kaushalya Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and Chief Ministers Kaushalya Karnataka Yojana (CMKKY) schemes are implemented in Karnataka with the objective to enable a large number of Indian youths to take up industry-relevant skill training that will help them in securing a better livelihood.

This study has been conducted to understand the implementation and performance of the PMKVY and CMKKY scheme is being implemented for skilling youth.

GRAAM is carrying out an impact (output and outcome) evaluation of CMKKY and PMKVY schemes in selected districts of Karnataka for the reference period from 2017-18 to 2019-20.



“During our study in Yadgir, what we noticed was that the beneficiaries enrolled for different courses didn't know how they could use the skills in their district. They couldn't visualize using the skill for employment purposes. The industries set up in Yadgir were largely rice mills, rail coach factories, pharmaceuticals, etc.” stated a member of the research team.



Interviewing a beneficiary in Dharwad, Karnataka



Orientation Programme for data collectors conducted in Dharwad, Karnataka

Understanding Skill Needs and Demand

Project title	:	Skill Gap Study in selected districts of Karnataka
Study team	:	Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Mr Aditya Narayana Rai and Mr Navaneeth
Partner	:	Karnataka Skill Development Corporation
Duration	:	November 2020 to October 2021
Field Sites	:	Raichur, Yadgir, and Ramnagara

Introduction

Skills gaps, which is considered as one of the top five pressing concerns among both developed and developing countries, directly impact on improved productivity and employment in both the formal and informal sectors.

It constrains the growth, innovation, real time disbursement of products and services, quality standards and other requirements of the country.

Skill gap in India has several shortcomings such as not meeting sector skill demand, lack of upgradation of skills and lack of competency in trainers. There is a need to enrich the soft skills in order to enhance the employability.

There is a huge gap between skills acquired and required in Karnataka when it aspires to be a choice of destination for the skilled human capital. Unfortunately, Karnataka has less proportion of skilled workforce.

At present, there is no major comprehensive study done at the district level for understanding the Skill Gap Study framework, methodology and tools for the survey. Hence, this study is being proposed to conduct a skill gap analysis in three districts of Karnataka.

The evaluation study would assess skill gap and employability based on various parameters considering the demand and supply side components.

Workshop on ‘Devising Tools and Methodology for Skill Gap Study in Karnataka’

The Skill Gap workshop was conducted in Bengaluru to understand varying perspectives on the employability skills prevalent across the state of Karnataka and the wider county. The workshop also included seeking insights from the experts to take corrective measures on the approach and methodology based on the demand and supply of the skill sets required by the industries in the districts of Karnataka.

Highlights from the workshop include:

Increasing the scope in the age group of the youths

Growing Gig Economy/Platform Economy

Opportunities for youths in Indian uniformed Services

Inclusion of youth with disability in the overall study sample

Listing of youth in the villages into trained and untrained categories

Role of private skill development training institutions

“We felt, importance should be given to identify and check the demand and supply of skills from the local perspective. Since most of the households depend upon agriculture importantly, there is a presence of seasonal migration where people depend on external employment opportunities only during the non-agricultural seasons largely. Hence, there was a lapse in connect between the skills offered in the region and its translation in opportunities related to the skills,” informed the research team who visited Yadgir.



Community Youth Survey being conducted in Raichur, Karnataka



Workshop on 'Devising Tools and Methodology for the Skill Gap study' conducted in Bengaluru

A Move towards Sustainable Development and Empowerment for the Underprivileged

Project title	:	Endline Evaluation of Prerepana project
Study team	:	Dr Rajendra Prasad, Dr Ananya Samajdar
Partner	:	NR Foundation and Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM)
Duration	:	Jan 2021 to March 2021
Field Sites	:	Mysuru Urban

Introduction

Prerepana project is concerned with human and social capital development in seven slums of Mysuru. The project has been implemented since the year 2016.

It aims at sustainable development and empowerment of the underprivileged community by mobilizing community based organizations in the sectors of education, skill development, livelihoods and health. One of the unique features of this scheme is its emphasis on community ownership.

In this, committees are constituted consisting of slum residents for operationalizing the execution of the scheme in different thematic areas.

GRAAM carried out a baseline study in 2016, mapping the slums on a plethora of human and social capital indicators. Between December 2018 and March 2019, a midline evaluation was conducted.

An endline evaluation was conducted in 2021. Health, education, and socio economic empowerment of women and youth have been the key development indicators of this project.

Prerepana project gathers crucial evidence on the status of success through understanding the overall impact of the intervention.

Key findings

Prerepana has contributed to the development of the slums by making their life easier by providing social entitlements, such as ration card and Aadhar card and RTE seat.

Members of the committee have been empowered through conducting more and more social entitlement programmes.

Thus, now they are eligible to take up sustainability programmes and they are well recognized in the community through these programmes.

48 chronic alcoholics were treated during the current year, 24 have completely stopped drinking alcohol and around 202 chronic alcoholics are under observation.

Irregular students and dropouts are admitted to the schools.

Recommendations

Imparting Life Skill and Entrepreneurship training along with the assistance for self-employment.

Providing the seed money assistance for self-employment and loan facility to return/recover the seed money.

Workshops and activities related to water, sanitation and hygiene/cleanliness should be conducted in all the areas.

Encouraging primary and secondary school students towards higher education and extending overall support for talented students.

Conducting education, health and other awareness programmes for the women along with sports programmes.

“There are several lacunas in slums and abolition of slums is inevitable due to rural migration. Their unity is their property. We can’t ignore the reality that urban migration has contributed for their development,” recollects a member of the research team .



FGD conducted in Vande Mataram Slum, Mysuru district.

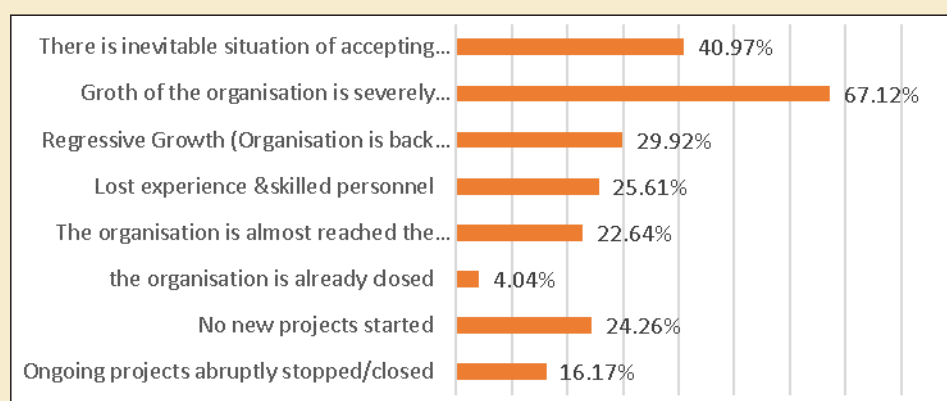
The pandemic-hit Non-Profit Organisations

Project title	:	How India's Grassroot Non-profit Organisations are affected by COVID-19
Study team	:	Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Dr Rajendra Prasad and Mr Bhaskar T C
Partner	:	GRAAM
Duration	:	June 2020 to October 2020
Field Sites	:	Multiple states of India

Introduction

COVID19 pandemic has exposed survival challenges of the Non-Profit Organizations (NPO), with their funding sources drying up among others. At present, India's committed NPOs are working with limited or no resources because of decline in funds, low CSR contributions, inadequate government funding and fall of public donations inside the country.

As a result, a huge number of people are getting laid off in the NGO sector, which is one of the largest employers in the country. GRAAM undertook a research study to understand the plight of NPOs and create evidence to support it.



Challenges faced by the NPOs

Job loss in NPO sector

	Staff strength in 2019-20	Staff strength in 2020-2021	Job loss	Percentage
Staff strength	19877	11146	8731	43.92
Administrative staff	4343	2977	1366	31.45
Programme/Technical staff	8543	6298	2245	26.27
Part-time/consultancy basis staff	6991	1871	5120	73.23

We Mill: A Will to Carve Rural Women for Entrepreneurship

Project title	:	We Mill - An initiative to develop a sustainable livelihood for rural women entrepreneurs
Study team	:	Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Mr Bhagavan Bidarkote, Mr Janardhan
Partner	:	Wurth Elektronik
Duration	:	January 2021 to June 2022
Field Sites	:	Mysuru



Project Objectives:

Identify the most potential area to establish the project among Hunsur, T. Narasipura, Nanjanagud and Mysuru taluks of Karnataka

Establish and improve the systems and processes over the next three years for producing millet-based food products in a cost effective, professional and hygienic manner.

Develop a bouquet of value-added millet based food products that are appealing, tasty and nutritious, catering to the demands of the market.

Establish and streamline an effective marketing channel to reach the product to potential markets and make the enterprise sustainable.

Augment the capacity of the women entrepreneurs in order to sustain the initiatives beyond GRAAM's involvement.

Expected Outcome:

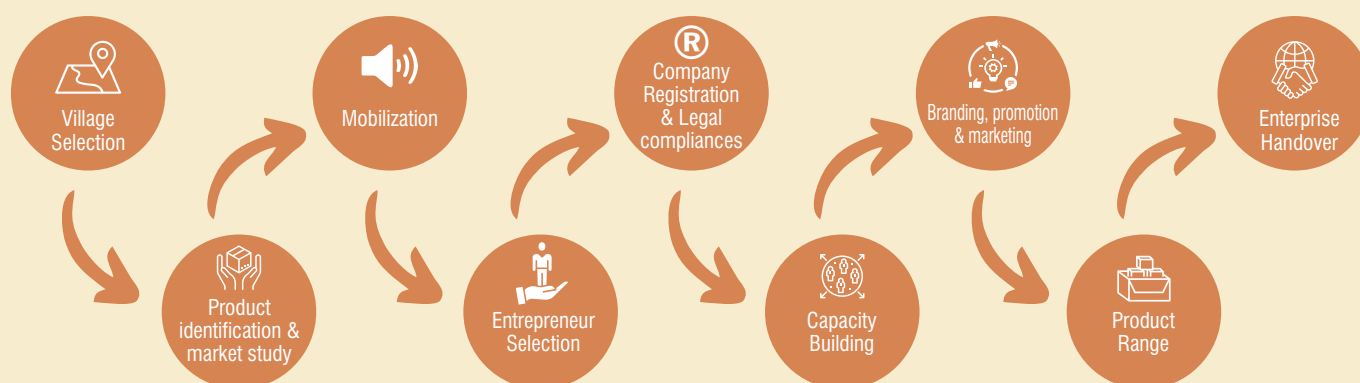
Create a viable, dependable and sustainable livelihood opportunity for the involved rural entrepreneurs, including women and small landholding farmers.

Augment the current monthly income from INR 2000 - INR .

Achieve full production capacity by the middle of the second year.

Sustain a product range of diversified millet-based foods.

Develop and establish a reliable distribution and marketing channel including wholesale and retail channels for a self-sustaining model.



Project Strategy



Women participating in one of the tasks during the capacity building workshop



A Facilitator from GRAAM Team taking a session on health and hygiene for the women group.

Sugamya Shiksha – An Exploration to Understand Public Schooling System and Act

Project title	: Sugamya Shiksha – Comprehensive School Development Programme
Project team	: Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Ms Usha C R, Dr Rajendra Prasad, Mr Gopala O K, Ms Sahana, Mr Ravikumar P G, Ms Kavitha, Ms Vinutha, Ms Mamatha, Mr Sandeep, Mr Mahadevaswamy, Ms Pushpalatha, Mr Naveen Kumar, Mr Ravi Kumar C S
Partner	: Aris Global
Duration	: 2016 – present
Location	: Karnataka

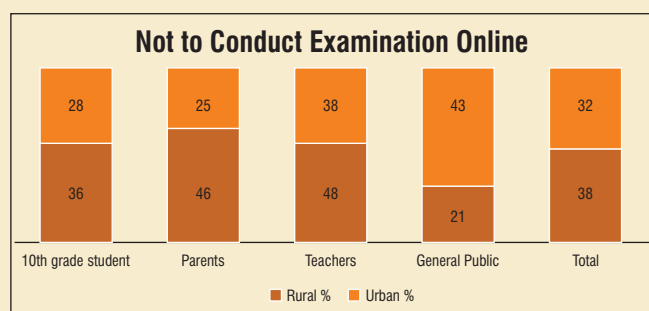
Sugamya Shiksha is an action-research program planned and conceptualised by GRAAM to make government schools as a model that enables comprehensive learning environment.

The onset of the pandemic derailed the process of early age learning across the world. And this was not going to be an exception for Sugamya Shiksha's school intervention program spread across six districts of Karnataka. The shutting of schools at multiple instances called for adaptive measures in the face of adversity, while ensuring the utmost safety of our school going children. Sugamya Shiksha functioned under reduced capacity, executing its responsibility of delivering its holistic education, even if it meant through a piecemeal approach. Some of the studies and engagements undertaken by Sugamya Shiksha can be identified with surveys and community engagements that explored and supported different and alternative means of imparting and impacting education.

GRAAM tapped the perceptions of the communities in the form of surveys which responded to the questions and deliberations of the period. They are:

Should the board examination for tenth standard students be conducted in 2021 amidst the COVID pandemic?

While not much debate is happening for passing children up to ninth standard, the debates and deliberations regarding tenth standard students was shaping up as a heated one for all the board exam pressure it comes packed with.

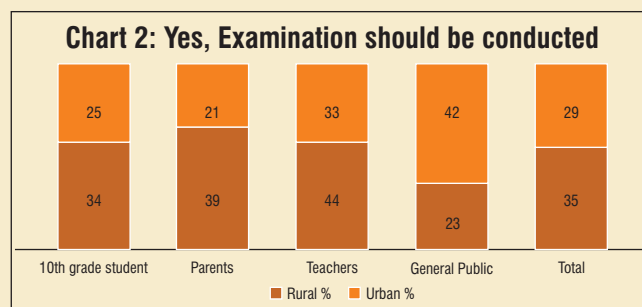


The opinion was collected through a three-day state-wide survey in which 1487 respondents participated. Out of 1487 respondents, 737 were from the rural areas and the remaining 750 were from the urban areas. The survey elicited responses from the primary stakeholders, with 606 students and 254 teachers participating alongside 278 general respondents.

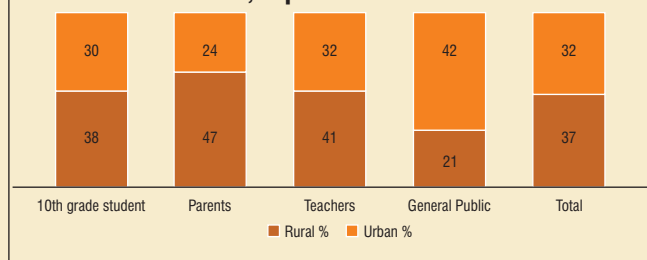
Key Find outs

Should exams be conducted offline?

In total, 64 percent of the respondents are in favour of conducting exams whereas 36 percent were not showing much interest towards offline exams. Interestingly 71 percent of the respondents from the rural areas are supporting the exams.



Student will Face Difficulties in Choosing their next course of Education, If promoted without Examination.



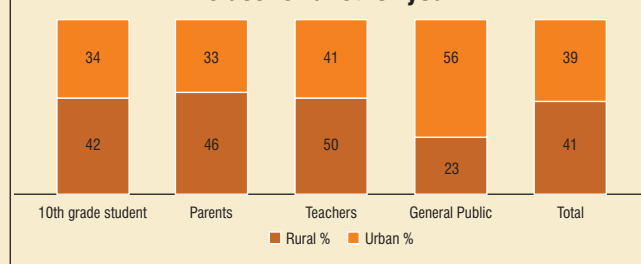
Whether it will affect the choice of course?

Normally, the results of tenth standard exams a decisive factor in choosing the next discipline of study. The scores children get in Mathematics, Science and English will be considered as a metric for availing admission in science and technical disciplines. Students also get to understand their competence or interest in the subjects or discipline based on the marks they score in the respective subjects.

Or exams should be conducted online

Online has become an inevitable option of communication now. Likewise, it has also emerged as an option to conduct examinations. Expectedly, more respondents from the rural areas (77 percent) are not in favour of online exams and it is the teachers who are most against the online examination.

Chart 3: Children should not be retained in the same class for another year



Grade retention or promotion

Teachers are more in favour of promoting them to the next class (91 percent). It is also interesting to note that 23 percent of the students feel they should continue in the same class.

Recommendations

- Examination centers may be increased at more clusters that are most accessible and connected with adequate public transportation facilities. SSLC Exam Express – a special transport facility using KSRTC buses should be made available.
- The Panchayat/Municipality should take special care to sanitize the school premises every day before the examination.
- If possible, a suggestion of conducting TWO exams per day with the provision of mid-day meals can be considered, so that the number of trips to school for the sake of examination could be reduced.
- The Head Teachers from other cluster High Schools may be made as the Superintendent of the Examination Centers, wherever the centers are considered as sensitive (previous history of malpractice etc).
- Health Personnel should be deployed to ensure health, hygiene and social distancing and appropriate implementation of the same.
- Ensure use of hand sanitizers and gloves at every level of paper handling, including distribution, collection, bundling and storing/dispatching.

Perceptions of the Parents and Teachers about reopening of Public Schools in Karnataka

GRAAM undertook a survey to understand and analyse the perceptions of parents and teachers about reopening public schools in Karnataka in the month of June 2020. The sample of respondents in this study is purposive and non-random and covered 685 respondents including 250 parents and 435 teachers.

In the above survey, as much as 42% parents stated that they are ready to send their children to school if it reopens this year and 40 percent of respondents said that they will send their children to school after finding a vaccination for COVID-19. Around 25% of parents were uncertain about sending their children to the schools.

On the other hand, teachers expressed their concern over reopening of schools - like reopening will affect the process of teaching and learning, particularly in terms of organizing group activities (87%), maintaining physical distance (75%) in the classroom, spreading of the disease to others



(62%), playing together (89%) and impacting other peer learning activities (74%).

When asked about the impact of the closure of schools on children, parents said that children have been forgetting what they have learnt so far (85%), learning bad habits (28%) and cumulatively have been leading to psychological distress (24%) (Depression, monotony, etc.).

Recommendations

A set of recommendations was forwarded to the concerned department within the government based on the analysis that emerged from the study:

- Basic infrastructure facilities like clean water, taps for hand-washing and toilet rooms in accordance with the number of children should be provided.
- Government should look for alternative methods other than online classes which are easily affordable by the parents. One such alternative is to set up a Community Education Centre and it may prove beneficial for everyone in the long run.
- It is advisable for the government to set up a helpline number in case some children need any type of psychological support to fight the pandemic.
- Parents, Local Community, SDMC, NGO/Voluntary Organizations, Gram Panchayat and Department of Health have to play an important role in making the school a safe bubble for the children. All these stakeholders should be brought under one platform and should discuss standard operating procedures before reopening the schools.

Student perceptions on the Pareekshavaani TV programme in DD Chandana

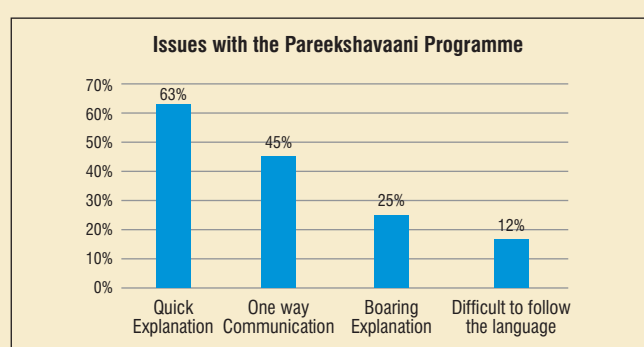
GRAAM undertook an exploratory research study to inform the government, civil society organizations, and major stakeholders of Public Education about the success and impediments of the measures being adopted by the Department of Education as far as the process of teaching and learning at public schools was concerned. A study was conducted on “The Perceptions of Students about the process of Teaching and Learning in the Pareekshavaani TV programme in DD Chandana”. This study exclusively focused on the programme ‘Pareekshavani’ telecasted for SSLC students in DD Chandana channel.

The sampling of respondents for the study was purposive and non-random. A total of 196 SSLC students took part in this study.



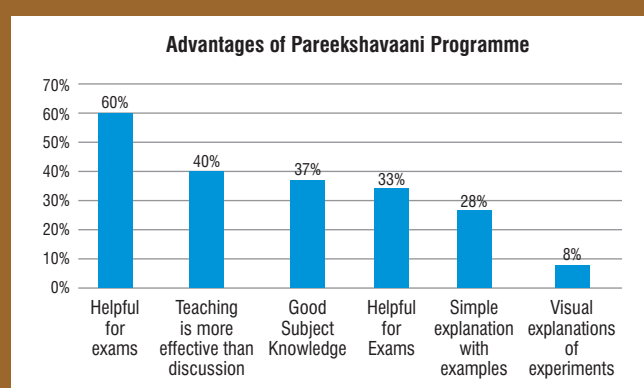
Major findings

- 90% of the students in the study responded that they are facing issues related to power outage/electricity either sometimes or regularly while watching the programme Pareekshavaani in DD Chandana. Among the respondents 17% of the students reported not having a television at home.
- As much as 63% of the students in the study informed that the process of explanation by the teachers in the programme was very fast and it made the process of learning very difficult and boring.
- 35% of the students in the study believed that the instructions/explanations were not clearly understandable and it was also difficult to follow explanations (19%).



Recommendations

- The department of education should take initiatives to reach the students by opening Community Education Centers or by providing workbooks to the children through post-office mediums or directly through school teachers.
- The speed of teaching should be fixed in a proper band width. Teachers should keep the explanations simple and easy to follow and understand.
- The facilitators should make the process of learning more qualitative in nature and should involve real life examples during the teaching process.
- It is advisable that the Department of Education of the state should consult the Department of Energy/Electricity Board and take necessary steps to ensure students continue their learning in these unprecedented times.



Through its encounters with the ground realities, Sugamya Shiksha strived to work towards the enhancement of the process of learning by exploring different interventions which have been described below.

Community Learning Centres

Community Learning Centres were initiated on 20th July 2020 in two areas – Metagalli & Koorgalli, which were later expanded to Udbur, D Salundi and Beerihundi. Eventually 09 centres were conducted in 05 areas, reaching 214 children. Each CLC was conducted in 3 batches of 10 children each, for two hours of time period. These centres were perceived and implemented in easily accessible places like community halls, anganwadi centres and even garages, and were each managed by facilitators. The CLCs were discussed with community leaders and the panchayat leaders for their support in running the program efficiently. Before enrolling the children, their family background and health conditions were surveyed. The centers were cleaned regularly and maintained hygienically. All COVID Appropriate Behaviour of



social distancing, mask and sanitization were made compulsory. Every day and in each batch students' body temperature was checked before letting them into the center. The activities at the centres looked to strengthen the fundamentals of Language, Maths and Life Skills.



Distribution of Scholarship

A small program was conducted to distribute scholarships for the select 10 SSLC Pass students of Metagalli School on 26th September 2020. Prof. Venkatesh Kumar, Dept. of Psychology, University of Mysore, Mr. Nagaraja Nayak, Sub Inspector, Metagalli Police station, were the chief guests. Metagalli School Head teachers and Block Education Officer were also present in the program. 10 students who had secured 60% and above were provided with a scholarship of INR 5000. The economic background was also considered with the scoring for the selection.

The students expressed confusion and anxiety about going forward with the education and school support. They were not clear on how the academic system will be for the year 2019-20. On this occasion, Prof. Venkatesh Kumar gave a talk on handling and managing oneself as students in this crisis period and interacted with the children for about 15 minutes. He opined, *"Students need motivation, aspiration and planning to go forward and handle the present situation."* Both SSLC passed and present SSLC going children were present.

Tablet Distribution

GRAAM, in association with Rotary Bangalore Downtown Club, marked the occasion of 157th Jayanthi of Swami Vivekananda's birth by distributing tablets to grade 10 students at Kudlu Government High School, Bengaluru. Students including 36 from Kannada medium and 20 from English medium were the recipients. The tablets came preloaded with class 10 curriculum for the benefit of the students. The event was presided over by Dr Basavaraju R. Shrestha, Executive Director, GRAAM and Dr Madhura Chatrapathy, PDG Rotary Club & Chair of TEACH in Bengaluru district. The school Headmaster, Mr. Raghupathy and other faculty members had arranged & anchored the program within the school ensuring all the social distance protocols. SDMC member Mr. Muniraju was also present on this occasion. Addressing the gathered, Dr Basavaraju



reiterated the call to unite people with education, to have educated youths who will help in the process of nation building. He also reminded the children that the tablets provided today are from the hard earned money of a few people who had good thoughts of supporting the children in need. And that we need to respect and be committed to these people by using the tablet in the best way.

Solar Lights Distribution

Under the Sugamya Shiksha Initiative solar lights worth Rs. 2 lakh were installed at the premises of the Government High School in Udbur and handed over to the teachers and School Development and Management Committee (SDMC) in the presence of MLA and former Higher Education Minister G.T. Devegowda (GTD). In his inaugural speech, GTD appreciated GRAAM for having transformed 13 schools across the taluk as model schools with the support of various institutions, officials and the community. Speaking on the occasion, GRAAM's Executive Director Dr Basavaraju Shreshta remarked how, apart from financial investment, efforts of the teachers, support from the people's



representatives and involvement of the community made this school a model school in the State. Udbur Government Primary School Inter-District Skating Competition winners were also felicitated on this occasion.

Preparation of Hand book 'To manage the school and conduct classes during COVID-19 situation'

A handbook was prepared with details of managing the school during COVID-19 situation. The handbook is a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) followed to manage and run the school. It had four major components –

- (a) Planning and managing before starting the school,
- (b) Planning and managing classrooms,
- (c) Planning on conducting classes and thus managing the children, and finally
- (d) Collaborative support of community and other departments.

Preparation of Handbook for children and parents on 'Awareness on COVID-19' in Kannada

We observed a lot of confusion and misinformation going around the community regarding COVID-19. Hence there was an immediate need for an informative handbook in the local language to reach the community with the right information. This handbook is 4 pages long with pictorial description and simple language. The hand book defines Corona virus and its symptoms, how it can be managed and what medical treatment is available.

CO (COVID) VI (Village) Reach

Demonstrating a Community Based Management Model for combating a pandemic

To express solidarity with the people at the grassroots, the government and the service providers during the moments of crisis, GRAAM envisioned the initiative COVI Reach. The project aims at demonstrating the model of how a community based management of COVID-19 can be endeavoured with the collaborative efforts of all the institutions of development. Having an advantage of policy expertise at the macro-level and micro-level implementation experience, GRAAM recognized the areas of complementation required in the local self-government. The project followed the philosophy of identifying solidarity with the government and other stake holders to confront the pandemic. A pragmatic model to demonstrate community based management of COVID-19 or any pandemic was brainstormed and titled this engagement as CO (COVID) VI (village) Reach.

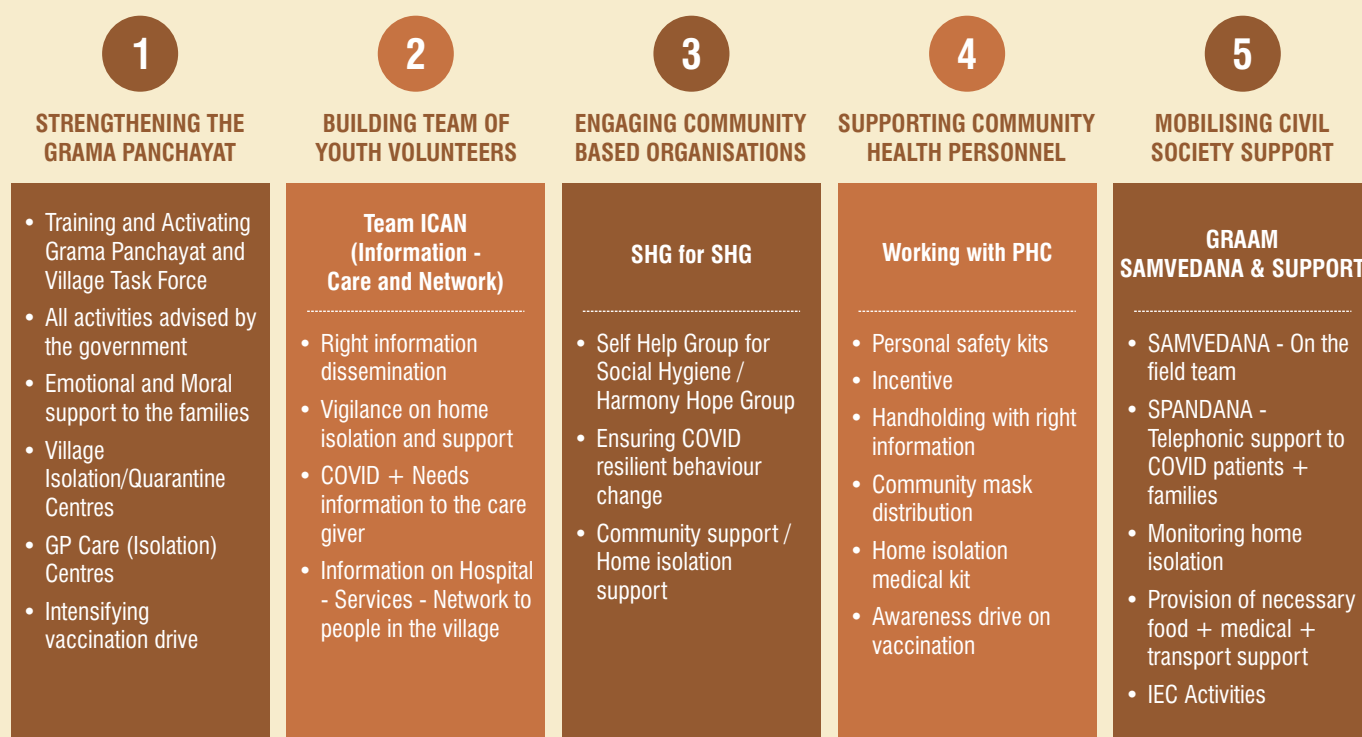
The project is planned for being implemented in the areas where number of COVID-19 cases were high in the Mysuru taluk. Within a span of three months, GRAAM through COVI Reach is looking forward to reach 7 Gram Panchayats, 4 PHC limits, 56 villages and impact 60 thousand people.

The engagement also aims at imbibing research to understand the control and management of COVID-19 in selected parts of Mysuru taluk and record perceptions of different stakeholders like Gram Panchayats, ASHA workers, and the community in general.

COVI Reach is working on developing systems and processes for effective community-based management of COVID-19. The project looks forward to raise awareness by using innovative and contextual IEC activities, create a platform for youth to engage and serve, mobilize and orient community-based organizations to bring behavioral changes, and create necessary social support for frontline workers. Thus, COVI Reach aspires to make Panchayats free from COVID-19 within a span of three months.



PROJECT STRATEGY: PANCHATANTRA - GRAMA MANTRA



With a unique blend of research and grassroots perspective, we strive to march for the sustenance of a citizen-centric public policy

ENGAGE TO EMPOWER



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POLICY ENGAGEMENTS

Voicing for the Civil Society Organizations in the Budget 2021-22

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman sought inputs from a cross section of the society across India while preparing for the budget season 2021-22. In this regard, Dr Balasubramaniam, Founder and Chairman, GRAAM, was invited to seek inputs regarding the challenges facing the social sector and NGOs. Dr Balasubramaniam, strongly advocated for the stimulation of rural economies, speaking widely for the social and civil societies.



Prominently featured in the discussion was the recent amendment to the Companies Act 2013, and in particular the Corporate Social Responsibility Policy Amendment Rules 2020. He prescribed inputs over regulatory effectiveness and taxation related to the social sector, including increasing the cap on admin expenditure under FCRA or considering a revision of the definition of admin expenditure.

Among his suggestions, he also proposed a re-visit to the Societies Registration Act of 1860, to make it more relevant, updated and facilitatory to the contemporary NGO ecosystem.

Furthermore, Dr Balasubramaniam's discussion followed up on last year's announcement of setting up a social stock exchange in India, with a clear transition pathway for the existing NGOs and Civil Society Organisations to evolve into Social Enterprises. He also made suggestions on improving the process of disclosures, performance incentives and social impact/results, including an accredited way of measuring social impact.

GRAAM's Response to Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Amendment Rules, 2020

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs released a draft Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Amendment Rules, 2020 for people's comments during the pandemic season. But in its consideration of the proposed amendments, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) doesn't seem convinced on the importance of CSOs in the development of the nation, neither in the history, nor with the contemporary evidence. GRAAM, as a prominent player in the space of CSR Consulting and implementation, took this opportunity to share its response on the draft policy. Some of the highlights include -

Inclusion of Trusts and Societies:

The draft recommends CSR activities to be carried out by the company itself or through a company registered under section 8 of the Companies Act or an entity established under an Act of Parliament or a State Legislature. This prescription comes forward when India's not-for-profit sector comprises largely of trusts and societies and

section 8 companies are growing popular only in recent times.

Since all three entities (trust, society and section 8 company) are eligible for tax exemption u/s 12AA of Income tax, donations to all three entities are eligible for tax deduction u/s 80G and all three are eligible to register under FCRA 2010 and neither Income tax nor MHA (under FCRA) offers preferential treatment to a section 8 company over a trust or society, GRAAM recommended including NGOS, Trusts and Societies along in the newly suggested practice. A consortium of Section 8 & NGOs/trusts can be formed for implementation with clarity on roles.

Enabling collaboration is a necessity:

The draft now accommodates companies to collaborate on CSR activities/projects and also permits reporting the activities separately through respective CSR committees to the ministry. GRAAM encourages such collaborations as a necessity, alongside recommending a reporting structure that clarifies the process in terms of partnership roles and associated reporting requirements.

Internationalising Development:

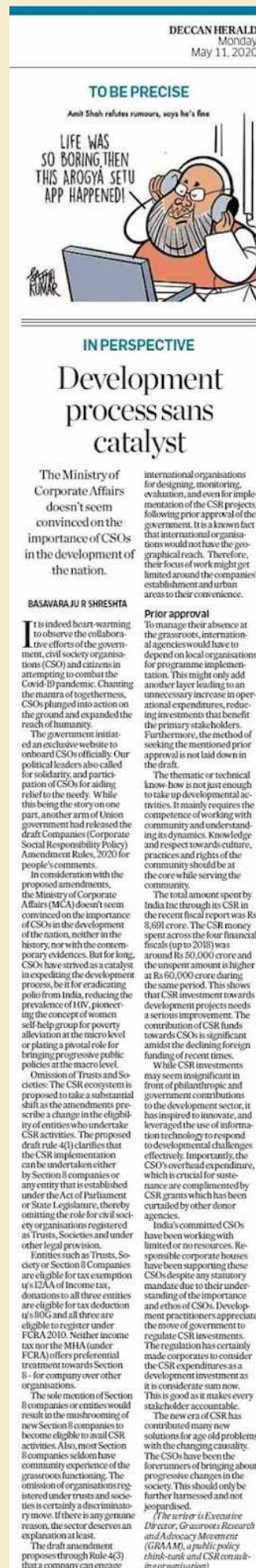
The draft amendment proposes that a company can engage international organizations for designing, monitoring, evaluation, and even for implementation of the CSR projects, following prior approval of the government. GRAAM in its response expressed concern over the limits such a partnership to CSR project implementation could have with international organizations lacking access to the geography and stakeholders on ground

Duplication of Supervisory Roles:

With introduction of Chief Financial Officer as the approver of CSR budget and expenditures, he is suggested to be the person responsible for financial management and certify to that effect. GRAAM found the introduction of CFO further enhancing the close monitoring of CSR program management. However, it also found it too cumbersome to practice having the Board report and also be certified by the CFO or the person responsible for financial management. This clause makes the CFO apparently responsible for the entire CSR provision without him being part of the CSR committee or the board of directors.

In conclusion, GRAAM recollected how CSR has contributed many new solutions for age old problems with the changing causality. CSOs have been the forerunners of bringing about progressive changes in society. This should only be further harnessed and not jeopardised.

(The suitably modified article authored by Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Executive Director, GRAAM was published in the Deccan Herald. An image of the article published can be found here.)



POLICY ENGAGEMENT WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS



A workshop on National Education Policy (NEP) - Through Sugamya Shiksha's perspective

A workshop on National Education Policy from Sugamya Shiksha's PoV was organised at GRAAM on September 25, 2020. Resource persons from the department of Public Education, GRAAM's empanelled consultant group and members of the Sugamya Shiksha team participated in this workshop. The workshop highlighted the below points:

Education for children between the age group of 3 to 5 was not included in the previous education policy. NEP offers a formal structure now through Anganwadis and Kindergartens.

A suggestion followed for GRAAM to organise a teacher's orientation programme on the lines of GRAAM's Sandhya Shaale project, exploring beyond the existing system of the government being the sole institution imparting teacher's training.

Special educators were also discussed, in line with NEP, highlighting the integration/inclusive education for special children and how Sugamya Shiksha's Chirayu could be further strengthened based on the policy recommendations.

As per NEP guidelines, recruitment of tribal teachers to teach tribal language in schools and create a pool of locally skilled artisans for vocational training was also duly considered for GRAAM's uptake.

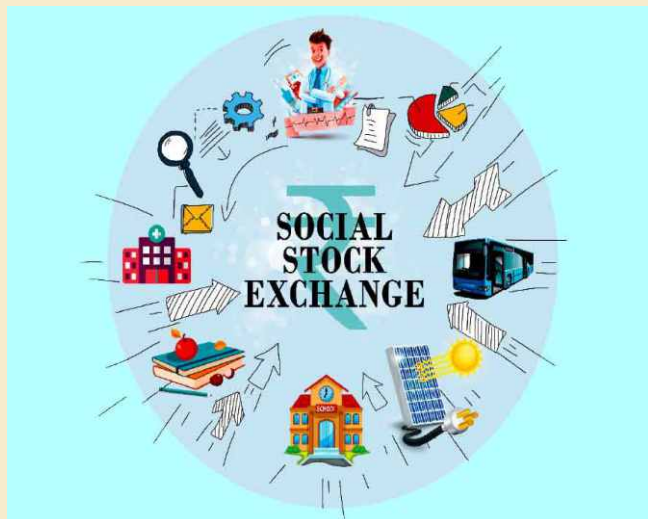
A breakout session was organised to explore further the inclusions and exclusions for Sugamya Shiksha as per NEP recommendations. A diversified voice emerged advocating for the creation of interest clubs, gender sensitization programmes and physical activity groups to inculcate a healthy lifestyle as part of growing up within NEP's guidelines. For the upcoming year, Sugamya Shiksha has largely benefited from this workshop, intending to keenly consider the outputs of the workshop.



Can the Social Stock Exchange (SSE) play a role in India's Development? - A global perspective

The massive development challenges that our world faces today can no longer be addressed only by the three traditional sectors, viz. the Government, the for-profit sector and the non-profit sector. While non-profits are guided by social

purpose, they are often constrained in accessing sufficient financial resources to fulfil their missions. A 'for-benefit economy' or 'fourth sector' is emerging at the intersection of the non-profit and for-profit sectors. While the purpose of the 'for-benefit' or 'fourth sector' organizations is to advance the social good, they no longer depend only on philanthropy, but generate a substantial proportion of their resources from commercial activities.



The Honorable Finance Minister of India, in her Budget Speech of July 2019, had proposed a Social Stock Exchange (SSE) that would allow Social Enterprises in India to raise capital in the form of equity and debt. The concept of SSE has now gained momentum. Different organisations are working on developing a framework for SSE in India. SEBI constituted a working group to suggest possible structures, mechanisms and associated regulatory frameworks. As commissioned by NABARD, GRAAM has undertaken a study to analyze India's Social Enterprise ecosystem, which would be the demand-side foundation of the proposed Social Stock Exchange.

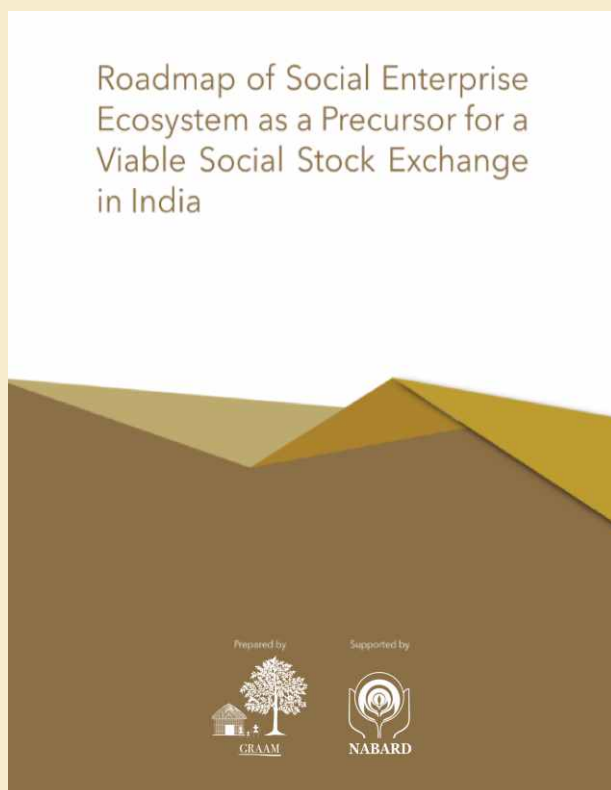
In this context, this webinar was organised by GRAAM to engage all the stakeholders, importantly the Civil Society Organisations in the discourse of SSE. The objectives being:

- To understand the concept, need and importance of SSE for the development sector
- To understand the opportunities and challenges for establishing SSE in India
- To get the global perspective on SSE

The webinar can be accessed in: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a14EIGniGIY>

GRAAM SSE Study:

Supported by NABARD, GRAAM has carried out a secondary data-based study to extensively analyse the Social Enterprise system in India, identify its gaps and challenges, define the role of the Government in supporting Social Enterprises and suggest forms of Government support for Social Enterprises. This study also suggests the appropriate legal form for Social Enterprises and lays down a roadmap for the development of the Social Stock Exchange in India.



Workshop for Enumerators on Data Collection

A two-day workshop for enumerators on data collecting methods for KSDC 's PMKVY and CMKKY schemes was conducted in Dharwad between 17th and 18th of March 2021. Total six districts were earmarked for this study and the workshop has been conducted for local NGO partners belongs to these districts. Total 48 enumerators representing Ramanagra, Raichur, Yadgir, Dharwad, Shivamogga and Uttar Kannada districts were participated in this study

On the first day Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta briefed the importance of the survey, need of the data collection and guidelines to be followed during the survey to the participants.

Second day, Dr Shiva Prasad explained the methods of data collection through using a Kobo software. A demo on uploading responses has been demonstrated to the enumerators through a mock survey. A question and answer session organised at the end of the day helped the enumerators to clarify their doubts.

A discussion of the status of NPOs during post COVID was organised on the same occasion. More than 28 Local NGOs participated in this event and shared their views on challenges and scope of NGOs during the COVID era.



Workshop conducted by GRAAM to train field enumerators on data collection for Skill Gap and Skill Evaluation study in Dharwad, Karnataka.

ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENTS



Introduction to Public Policy Course

GRAAM's IPP is focused on general public policy aspirants coming from across the world. The program is organised in partnership with Indian Institute of Development (IIDL) under Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP), Mumbai. Since the pandemic, we have conducted about six workshops, with 165+ participants with varying professional backgrounds joining from world over. The participants shared very good feedback on the workshop and also about the teaching faculty.

These workshops have been running under the tutelage of Dr R Balasubramaniam, our Chairman, with the core faculty including Dr Basavaraju R, Executive Director of GRAAM and Dr Ananya Samajdar, Head of Research at GRAAM.

The inaugural and valedictory sessions of the IPP courses have had guests like Sri. Dr S. Selvakumar I.A.S. Secretary to Chief Minister of Karnataka and Secretary to Govt. of Karnataka, Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood, Dr Anirban Ganguly, Director of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation (SPMRF), Mr Anil Relia Head, PPID, QCI, Dr Devender Singh, Associate Professor, Dr Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC) New Delhi, Sri. Arvind Rege, Member of Managing Committee, Mr Ravindra Sathe, DG, RMP, and Mr Ravi Pokarna, CEO, RMP.

QCI Assessment and Evaluation Trainings

GRAAM has partnered with Quality Council of India, an autonomous body set up by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which plays a pivotal role at the national level in adoption, propagation and adherence to quality standards. Their intervention into areas including education, healthcare, environmental protection, governance, social sectors, infrastructure sector and such other areas of organized activities that have significant bearing in improving the quality of life and wellbeing of the citizens of India. GRAAM has entered into an MOU with QCI to train their young professionals working in assessment and evaluation of various programs and schemes of the government on public policy. The workshop is conducted exclusively for the QCI professionals.

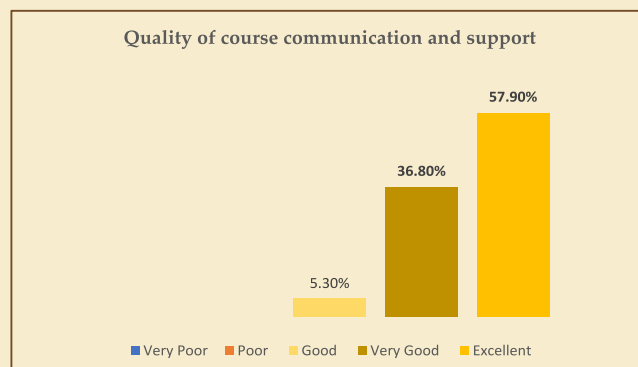
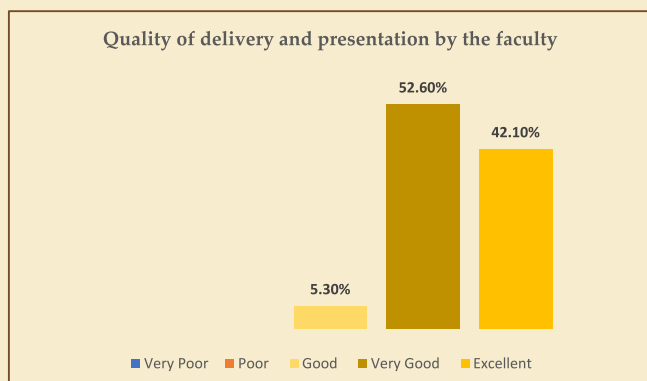
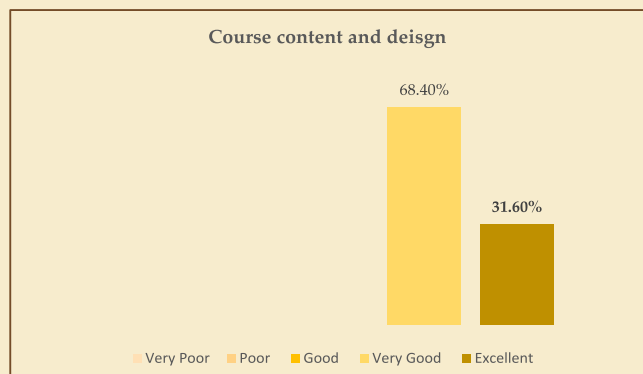
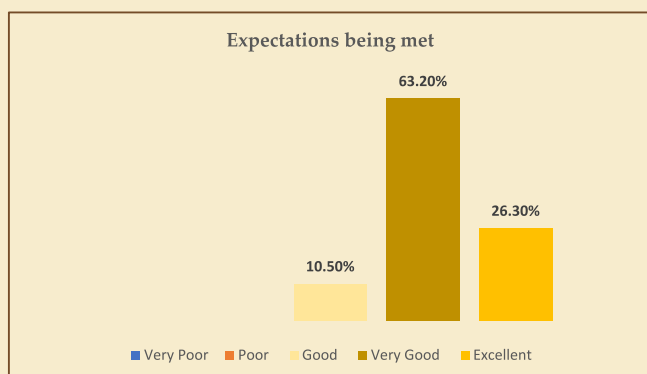


Building Human and Social Capital Workshop

GRAAM has also conducted three batches of online training on "Building Human and Social Capital" for professionals from all walks of life in partnership with V-lead, Mysuru. About 80+ development enthusiasts participated in the workshops. Participants had a chance to listen to both theoretical and vast grassroots development experience of Dr R Balasubramaniam during these workshops.

Thus, across the span of a year, GRAAM's academic spread successfully reached 247 pupils from diverse backgrounds through a total of nine academic programs in the form of 'Introduction to Public Policy' course, 'Building Human and Social Capital Workshop' and 'Assessment and Evaluation Training' of various government schemes for the young professionals of Quality Council of India.

Feedback received from Participants



Reeti Mahobe, QCI expressed,

“I was expecting to get acquainted and oriented to the public policy domain from experts. I was looking forward to work on my ability to develop a perspective while reading through policy documents and understand practical ways and means to work on policy documents. However, upon the completion of the course, I felt the topics were systematically covered with relevant examples which helped me connect better. I could gain insights on complexities of policy making processes and understand some key points regarding policy documentation.”



TALKS DELIVERED

Dr R Balasubramaniam, Chairman, GRAAM

- Lecture delivered on “Social Stock Exchange: Why and how it is relevant in Indian Context?” in Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow on 8th September 2020.
- Talk delivered about “Exercising Leadership to create a new economic order” in Indian Institute of Management, Tiruchirappalli on 6th September 2020.
- Lecture delivered on “Understanding self-reliance from a national perspective: The foundation for Aatma Nirbharata” hosted by GOI Field Outreach Bureau & ATME College of Engineering, Mysuru on 26th August 2020.
- Part of the panel of speakers discussing the topic “Beyond CSR”, hosted by NHRD during the virtual conference on 27th November 2020.
- Delivered a talk on “Building Rural Economic Clusters”, hosted by the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, on 27th November 2020.
- Delivered a Talk on “Leadership Lessons for Daily Living”, hosted by Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership (IIDL), Maharashtra on 7th January 2021.
- Delivered a Lecture on “Swami Vivekananda’s concept for Man-Making Education”, organised by Vivekananda International Foundation, New Delhi on 11th January 2021.
- Yuva Germany hosted a webinar on “The Students and Swami Vivekananda” on 16th January 2021.
- Lecture on “Putting the Tribal First”, hosted by Anthropological Association, Mysuru on 9th February 2021.
- Delivered a Lecture on “How Community Institutions Can Fight Corruption”, organized by Bengaluru Dr B R Ambedkar School of Economics University on 11th February 2021.
- Speaker for the Leadership Summit 2021, an international event hosted by Innovation Roots on the topic “Emergent Leadership” on 21st February 2021.
- Speaker for the National Level Webinar on National Education Policy (NEP 2020) on the topic “NEP-2020: Cross-Disciplinary and interdisciplinary thinking” organised by DISHA BHARAT in association with Bangalore University on 26th February 2021.
- Session for Masterclass Changemakers on "Leadership, Ethics & Values for Social Changemakers" on 26th February 2021 hosted by Digital Impact Square DISQ, TCS Foundation.
- A Special Lecture “Building a Planet-friendly Economy”, hosted by Impact and Policy Research Institute, (IMPRI), New Delhi on 12th March 2021.
- Speaker for the “Learning from our Past to Craft the Education of the Future”, hosted by TEDx Yadavagiri on 24th March 2021.

Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Executive Director, GRAAM

- Understanding the Return on Skills Training Models in India, March 2021.
- Leaving No One Behind: Eyes to the ground by NISHTHA/Jhpiego on June 3rd, 2021.

Dr Ananya Samajdar, Head, Research, GRAAM

- Delivered a seminar on "Social Stock Exchange and Social Enterprises - Concept of Social Enterprises," organized by KSRDPR University, Gadag in association with GRAAM, on 28th November 2020.

INTERNSHIPS

GRAAM offers a great learning opportunity for Postgraduates and Research Scholars pursuing their studies in the development sector. Every year we receive numerous applications seeking internship opportunity from across the globe, including premium institutions in the US like Cornell, University of Iowa, IITs, IIMs, other social sector and premiere management institutes like TISS, SPJIMR, NMIMS, Manipal, OP Jindal etc., in India. In 2020-21, over twenty interns have had a chance to get a hands-on learning opportunity with dedicated mentoring at GRAAM.

Interns have gained knowledge, skill and expertise in the areas of Research, Evaluation, Policy, CSR and in various development sector specific domains, while contributing to the organisation's different portfolios. This year's students came from institutes like Cornell University, SPJIMR, University of Mysore, Symbiosis Law School, Indian School of Public Policy, Central University of Kerala and National Law School of India University.



"My time at GRAAM was informative and absolutely fun. The mentors were warm and welcoming and in the process of teaching me various nuances of the research field, they busted a lot of myths I had about it! I learnt not only the aspects of my domain but also the importance of diligence and punctuality. The team is an absolute delight to work with!"

Tarushi Dubey

3rd year BSc Economics

Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS), Mumbai

"I was part of Skill Evaluation Project. I worked on data analysis, report writing and drafting Request Proposals (RFPs). The learning curve at GRAAM is exponential. Internship at GRAAM is a great opportunity for someone who intends to work on grassroots issues."

Aniket Marne

2nd year Masters in Public Policy

Jindal School of Governance and Public Policy, Delhi

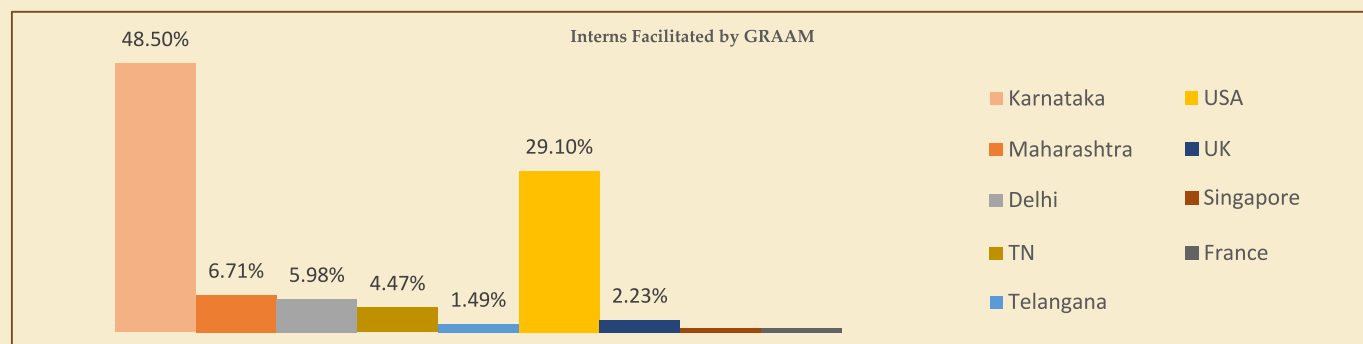


"As a student of public health, I have always heard about the importance of decentralization but experiencing the importance of it and documenting the success of it, especially through the COVID Village reach project was a wonderful opportunity to learn. Moreover, the team encourages and supports us by giving equal importance to interns for sharing ideas and opinions."

Lekhak M.

BAMS, MPH

K S Hegde Medical Academy (KSHEMA), NITTE, Mangaluru



Organisational Reach

10,000,000+

People reached

04

Thematic Areas Covered

83

Major Assignments/Projects handled

33

Indian Academic Institutions Partnered

14

International Academic
Institutions Partnered

55

Partners (Govt, Corporates
CSOs, Grassroots NGOs)

10,000+

Children in
government schools

136

Interns Facilitated

08

Policy engagements

04

Public policies & state vision authored

12

Significant Policy suggestions

01

National Level Award

01

International Level Award

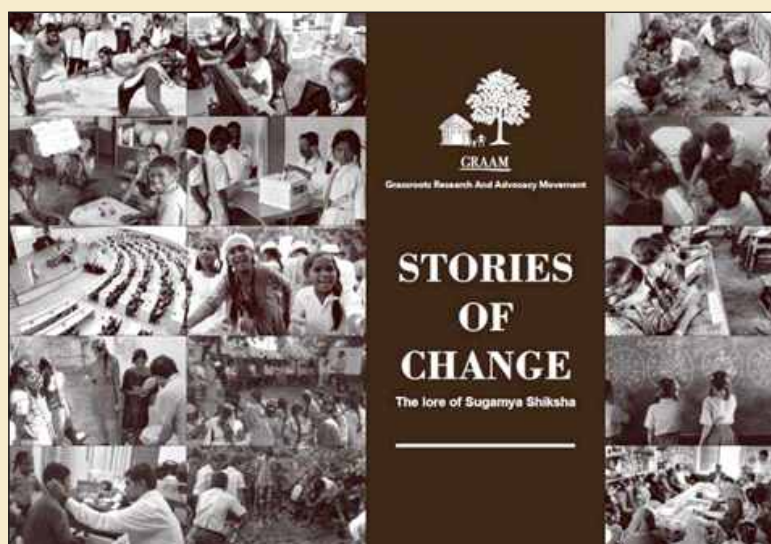
14

States reached

PUBLICATIONS

LEADERSHIP LESSONS FOR DAILY LIVING

Dr Balu's seventh book 'LEADERSHIP LESSONS FOR DAILY LIVING' was released on 18th September 2020 in a virtual event in the presence of distinguished guests Mr Pramath Raj Sinha, Founder and Chairman for Harappa Education, Founder and Trustee for Ashoka University and Dr R S Praveen Kumar, IPS, Secretary for Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society. ILSS (India Leaderships for social change) is the co-publisher of this book along with the GRAAM.



STORIES OF CHANGE

Stories of Change, is a collection of stories brought out from the schools and their supportive environment by the Suganya Shiksha team. These stories project leadership, team work, community participation, heightened sense of health and hygiene, interactive learning and collective ownership. These are not just stories of change, but stories of hope and a better future. The book was published in the month of April 2021.

<http://graam.org.in/blog/graam-publishes-stories-of-change-from-within-the-suganya-shiksha-program>

ಶಾಲೆ ಇಲ್ಲದೇ ಕುಗ್ಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳು!

■ ಗೃಹಕೃತ್ಯ, ಕಾಲ ಹರಬ ಸಾಕಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು
■ ಮೈಸೂರು ತಾಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ಗ್ರಾಮ್ ಅಭ್ಯಾಸ ವರದಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗ



ಕಲಾಪುರದ ಕಿವಿ
ಮೈಸೂರು ತಾಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ಗ್ರಾಮ್ ಅಭ್ಯಾಸ ವರದಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗ. ಗ್ರಾಮ್ ಅಭ್ಯಾಸ ವರದಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗ. ಗ್ರಾಮ್ ಅಭ್ಯಾಸ ವರದಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗ.

Lower cancer screening rate in south K'taka, reveals NHFS

Almost No Screening For Breast Cancer In Three Districts

SCREENING FOR TYPES OF CANCER

Cancer Type	Screened (%)	Not Screened (%)	Total (%)
Breast	0.0	99.9	99.9
Cervix	0.0	99.9	99.9
Colon	0.0	99.9	99.9
Liver	0.0	99.9	99.9
Prostate	0.0	99.9	99.9
Stomach	0.0	99.9	99.9
Testis	0.0	99.9	99.9
Uterus	0.0	99.9	99.9
Womb	0.0	99.9	99.9

ALCOHOL & TOBACCO CONSUMPTION AMONG 15+ BOYS

Substance	Used (%)	Not Used (%)	Total (%)
Alcohol	22.2	77.7	100.0
Tobacco	18.5	81.5	100.0
Opium	2.2	97.7	100.0
Heroin	0.0	100.0	100.0
Cocaine	0.0	100.0	100.0
Marijuana	0.0	100.0	100.0
Other	0.0	100.0	100.0

According to the National Family Health Survey 2019-20, a more sustained health and education awareness drive is required to improve the quality of life of women in south Karnataka districts.

'ಕರ್ಮಚಾರಿ'ಯನ್ನು 'ಕರ್ಮಯೋಗಿ' ಆಗಿಸುವತ್ತ

ಕರ್ಮಚಾರಿ'ಯನ್ನು 'ಕರ್ಮಯೋಗಿ' ಆಗಿಸುವತ್ತ

ಮೈಸೂರು, 25 ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್: ಕರ್ಮಚಾರಿ'ಯನ್ನು 'ಕರ್ಮಯೋಗಿ' ಆಗಿಸುವತ್ತ. ಕರ್ಮಚಾರಿ'ಯನ್ನು 'ಕರ್ಮಯೋಗಿ' ಆಗಿಸುವತ್ತ.

‘ಶಾಲೆ ತೆರೆಯುವವರೆಗೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಕಲಿಕೆಗೆ ಮಾದರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅವಶ್ಯ’

ಗ್ರಾಮ್: ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಬೋಧನೆ ಕುರಿತ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಡಾ.ಆರ್.ಬಾಲಸುಬ್ರಹ್ಮಣ್ಯಂ ಸಲಹೆ

ಗ್ರಾಮ್: ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಬೋಧನೆ ಕುರಿತ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಡಾ.ಆರ್.ಬಾಲಸುಬ್ರಹ್ಮಣ್ಯಂ ಸಲಹೆ

ಮೈಸೂರು: ಗ್ರಾಮ್ (ಗ್ರಾಮ್ ರೂಲ್ಸ್) ರೂಲ್ಸ್ ಆಂಡ್ ಅಡ್ವೈಸ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಕಲಿಕೆಗೆ ಮಾದರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅವಶ್ಯ. ಗ್ರಾಮ್ (ಗ್ರಾಮ್ ರೂಲ್ಸ್) ರೂಲ್ಸ್ ಆಂಡ್ ಅಡ್ವೈಸ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಕಲಿಕೆಗೆ ಮಾದರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅವಶ್ಯ.

GRAAM hands over solar lights to Udbur Govt. School

GRAAM hands over solar lights to Udbur Govt. School

ಮೈಸೂರು, 25 ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್: GRAAM hands over solar lights to Udbur Govt. School. GRAAM hands over solar lights to Udbur Govt. School.

ಮೈಸೂರು ನಗರ ಸುದ್ದಿಗಳು

ಮೈಸೂರು ನಗರ ಸುದ್ದಿಗಳು

ಮೈಸೂರು, 25 ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್: ಮೈಸೂರು ನಗರ ಸುದ್ದಿಗಳು. ಮೈಸೂರು ನಗರ ಸುದ್ದಿಗಳು.

Community Learning Centres for underprivileged children launched

Community Learning Centres for underprivileged children launched

ಮೈಸೂರು, 25 ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್: Community Learning Centres for underprivileged children launched. Community Learning Centres for underprivileged children launched.

ಮೈಸೂರು ಸುತ್ತ

ಶುಕ್ರವಾರ 13 ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್ 2021

ಆಶಾ, ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತೆಯರೇ ನಿಜವಾದ ದೇವರು: ಜಿಟಿ ವರ್ಣನೆ

ಆಶಾ, ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತೆಯರೇ ನಿಜವಾದ ದೇವರು: ಜಿಟಿ ವರ್ಣನೆ

ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಟಿ ವರ್ಣನೆ. ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಟಿ ವರ್ಣನೆ.

DH

DECCAN HERALD

Release of 'Leadership Lessons for Daily Living' tomorrow

Release of 'Leadership Lessons for Daily Living' tomorrow

MYSURU, DHNS: Book 'Leadership Lessons for Daily Living', by Dr R Balasubramaniam, will be virtually released on Friday, September 18.

STATUTORY DETAILS

REGISTRATION

GRAAM is registered under Indian trust registration act 1882, dated 05/03/2014 from the office of the additional district Sub Registrar, Mysure South - 570008. Pgs, in book iv, cd volume no. mysd2018, pages 15 being no 514 for the year 2014.

FCRA Registration Number: 094590241

Dated: 08-07-2019

INCOME TAX

No.G-62/12AA/CIT/MYS/2014-15 dated 22/07/2014
Period 2014-15 and onwards
Approval under section 80G(vi) of the income tax act 1961
GST NUMBER: 29AACTG0684LIZA
PAN NUMBER: AACTG0684L

Account Details



Account number: 0566101069434
IFSC Code: CNRB0005666
Branch: Jayalakshmipuram Branch, Mysuru

POSCH COMPLIANCE REPORT



The report has been prepared in compliance of Section 21 (1) of Sexual Harrasment of Woman at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

Grassroots
Research
And
Advocacy
Movement



GRAAM/Admin 28/2020-21

11th June 2020

From
Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement
CA2/KIADB Industrial Housing Area, Ring Road, Hebbal,
Mysore-570 016

Respected Sir,


Subject: Submission of annual report as per the requirement of Section 21 (1) of Sexual Harassment of Woman at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013

This is for submitting the annual report of the Internal Complaints Committee on Sexual Harassment for the year 2019.

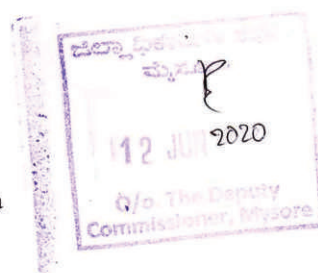
1)Number of complaints of sexual Harassment received in a year	Nil
2) Number of complaints disposed off during the year.	Nil
3)Number of cases pending for more than 90 days	Nil
4)Number of Awareness programmes or workshops against sexual harassment conducted in a year	1 st session conducted on June 19. 2 nd session on 19 th oct 2019. 3 rd session conducted in Feb 20.
5) Nature of action taken by the employer or District officer.	NA

The report has been prepared in compliance of Section 21 (1) of Sexual Harassment of Woman at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

Yours faithfully,


Presiding Officer,
Internal Complaints Committee

CC: The District Officer, Mysuru District, Karnataka



CA-2, KIADB Industrial Housing Area, Ring Road, Hebbal, Mysuru – 570 015
Phone +91-0821-2415412; E-Mail: graam@graam.org , Web: www.graam.org.in

LOOKING AHEAD, LOOKING ABOVE



On this note, I must thank my team at GRAAM for standing firmly with the organisation during difficult times. The phase was so fiddly. We were afraid to take up new studies due to the confronting challenges to accomplish the studies in hand without going to the field. And, GRAAM doesn't believe in only crunching on secondary data to draw inferences. Remote data collection doesn't suit the nature of the research that we take up.

But how the entire team stood in solidarity to surpass the situation is quite heart-touching. We had to complete a herculean task of field research which required reaching the remote villages across eight states. As health personnel were busy in battling COVID, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare gave a window period of 15 days to complete the task.

COVID has already acquainted us with the experience of uncertainties, fear and restrictions both at the individual and systemic level. But it could not restrict our team's spirit where each of our senior members took the responsibility of one state. Them, not being part of the research study primarily didn't affect their participation. We completed the field work, procuring both qualitative and quantitative data within the stipulated period. This again was an opportunity to bring different verticals of GRAAM together, rejuvenate the spirit of One Organisation – One Team. With limited finance, no clear strategy during the VUCA times, limited aid from technology, it was team work that gave us the competitive advantage.

“If Mohammed cannot go to the mountain, mountain should come to Mohammed. If children cannot go to the schools, schools should go to the children.” – Swami Vivekananda

Children were the most affected due to the pandemic. Their development without school is like a building without a strong foundation. Children in rural areas were indeed severely affected with limited or no opportunity for online education, lack of learning environment at home and other domestic responsibilities. GRAAM team was quick to change the model of Sugamya Shiksha from School Based to Community Based. With the support of the grassroots communities, we decided that no matter what comes, we will not let the learning of our children

Dear Well-wishers and Development Enthusiasts,


‘Be strong now, because things will get better. It might be stormy now, but it can't rain forever’.

2020-21 was a stormy year for the world. Like many other not-for-profit organisations, it was also a testing time for GRAAM. Our own study on ‘Status of Indian NGOs during Pandemic’ inferred that the growth of over 67% not-for-profit is severely affected and about 22% organisation reached the stage of closure. But we at GRAAM took some strong and committed decisions. We decided that we shall liquidate whatever the small corpus funds we have kept for our rainy days, but shall not let go our team members as much as possible. It can't rain forever, right?

Despite all the hurdles, it was another year, with multiple activities, meaningful achievements and fulfilling outcomes. I would like to extend my gratitude to our well-wishers, technical advisors, partner organizations and my beloved GRAAMers.

Our Board of Trustees guided and encouraged us to sail through all the challenges and keep our flag high. I would like to express our most sincere gratitude to the Board for their guidance and encouragement. The vision of our Chairman Dr R. Balasubramaniam, his intellectual inputs, setting high standards of performance and constant demand for quality augmented the strength of GRAAM.

“Not finance..., not strategy..., not technology... It is teamwork that remains the ultimate competitive advantage, both because it is so powerful and rare,” reminds Patrick Lencioni.



get affected. I must thank our partner organisation Aris Global for believing in GRAAM and supporting our experimentation for instilling an enabling learning ecosystem for rural children.

Right to dignity is no lesser than right to freedom, right to education and right to health for a child

Using the platform of Sugamya Shiksha, GRAAM participated and assisted the Department of Education in Karnataka in decision making. We inferred the Honourable Minister with the evidence ‘how favourable our children and parents are to appear for the Class 10th Examination?’, when there was a strong opposition for conducting exams. We conveyed the rationale and importance of examinations, and ways of conducting by ensuring the safety of children. We also constantly inferred about the status and quality of online education, communicating voice of children and other stakeholders to the policy makers through our studies and webinars.

During war, everyone is a soldier, in their own way

Although GRAAM is primarily a policy think-tank, we keep experimenting developmental solutions, which we have gained through our studies and grassroots experience. This has positioned GRAAM with a unique ability to offer pragmatic solutions. Hence, there is nothing like learning from the community. Towards the end of the year, GRAAM decided to plunge into the action of expressing solidarity with the frontline workers battling COVID. GRAAM pioneered a Community Based Model to combat COVID.

Looking Ahead:

Livelihood of people is severely affected after the pandemic. GRAAM with its partnership with ‘The Fourth Sector Group’ shall continue to experiment rural social business models. We aim to impact the rural social business policy through our grassroots experiments.

We will continue to contribute towards the thought processes for implementing New Education Policy. Sugamya Shiksha will be more aligned to provide an implementation model for NEP in the public schooling system. 21st Century Skills shall be one of the focus areas of GRAAM’s Learning and Skill Development Portfolio. While working at the macro-level, we shall constantly endeavour to build community-based model for solving development challenges.

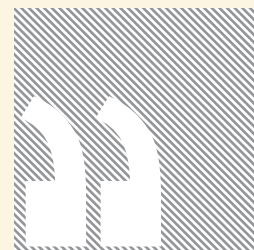
Extending collaborative learning communities will be the constant mission of GRAAM.

Yours truly,

Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta

Executive Director

GRAAM



ABBREVIATIONS

AB-HWCs	- Ayushman Bharath-Health & Wellness Centres	KEA	- Karnataka Evaluation Authority
ANM	- Auxiliary Nurse Midwife	KSRDPU	- Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat University
ASHA	- Accredited Social Health Activist	MGNREGA	- Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
CBC	- Capacity Building Commission	MO	- Medical Officer
CFTRI	- Central Food Technological Research Institute	MPW	- Multi-Purpose Health Worker
CHO	- Community Health Officer	NCD	- Non-Communicable Diseases
CII	- Confederation of Indian Industry	NGO	- Non-Governmental Organisation
CLC	- Community Learning Centres	NMIMS	- Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies
CMKKY	- Chief Minister's Kaushalya Karnataka Yojana	NPCSCB	- National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building
CPHC	- Comprehensive Primary Health Care	NPO	- Non-Profit Organisation
CSIR	- Council of Scientific & Industrial Research	PMKVY	- Pradhan Mantri Kaushalya Vikas Yojana
CSR	- Corporate Social Responsibility	PMO	- Prime Minister's Office
DAIC	- International Centre	PPID	- Project Planning and Implementation Division
DD	- Door Darshan	QCI	- Quality Council of India
DEF	- Digital Empowerment Foundation	NABARD	- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
DSERT	- Department of State Educational Research and Training	NCAER	- National Council of Applied Economic Research
ENT	- Ear, Nose and Throat	NHSRC	- National Health Systems Resource Centre
FCRA	- Foreign Contribution Regulation Act	RMP	- Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini
FMO	- Finance Minister's Office	RTE	- Right To Education
GRAAM	- Grassroots Research And Advocacy Movement	SEBI	- Securities and Exchange Board of India
GoK	- Government of Karnataka	SPMRF	- Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation
Govt	- Government	SPJIMR	- SP Jain Institute of Management and Research
ICCR	- Indian Council of Cultural Relations	SSE	- Social Stock Exchange
IICA	- Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs	TISS	- Tata Institute of Social Sciences
IIDL	- Indian Institute of Development	UNICEF	- United Nations Children's Fund
IIM	- Indian Institute of Management	USA	- United States of America
IIT	- Indian Institute of Technology	USAID	- U S Agency for International Development
IPP	- Introduction to Public Policy	WHO	- World Health Organisation
ISEC	- Institute of Social and Economic Change		
JANs	- Jan Aarogya Samitis		
JHPIEGO	- Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Gynaecology & Obstetrics		
KAP	- Knowledge Attitude Practice		

CSR OFFERINGS AT GRAAM



GRAAM

GRAAM (Grassroots Research And Advocacy Movement), is a public policy research and advocacy initiative in India. It was founded with the aim of nurturing a space for evolution of public policy that embodies community 'voice' and is driven by empiricism, democratic principles and progressive interaction of the key stakeholders in development. GRAAM's extensive expertise spans over policy research, program evaluation, community consultation, policy engagement, strategic consultation and academic programs. With an eclectic mix of professionals from diverse backgrounds and experiences, GRAAM has successfully undertaken research, evaluations, consultancies and advocacy initiatives in different sectors with a multi-dimensional approach. For more, visit: <http://www.graam.org.in/about-us/>



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