



ANNUAL REPORT

2021-22

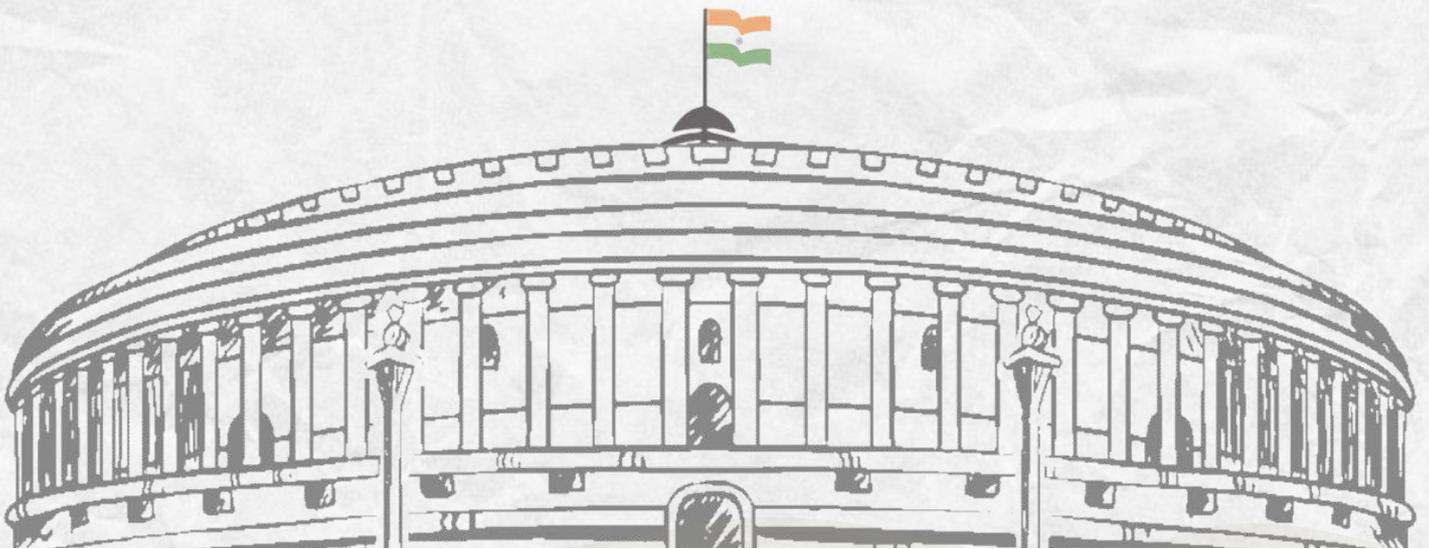
Skills In Need CMKKY
Skill India PMKVY Skills in Demand Community Centric
Policymaking 21st Century Skills **Governance**
Technology Participatory

RESURGING GRASSROOTS

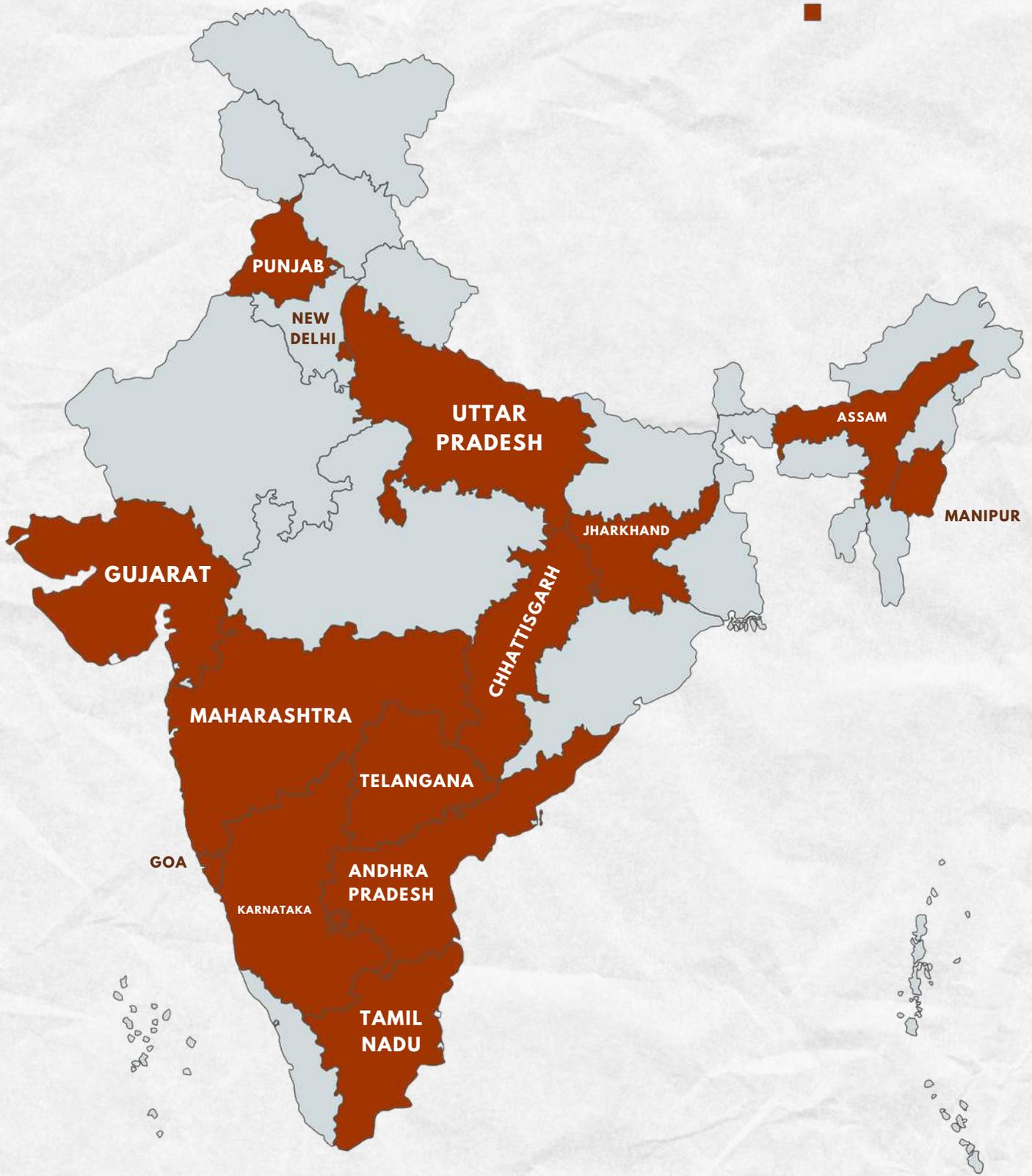
REIMAGINING INDIA

INNOVATE- INVOLVE- IMPACT

Social Inclusion 5 Trillion Economy **Ayushman Bharat**
Tribal Welfare Livelihood Community Monitoring
Rural Wealth Creation Primary Healthcare
Forest Rights Women Empowerment
Atmanirbhar Bharat

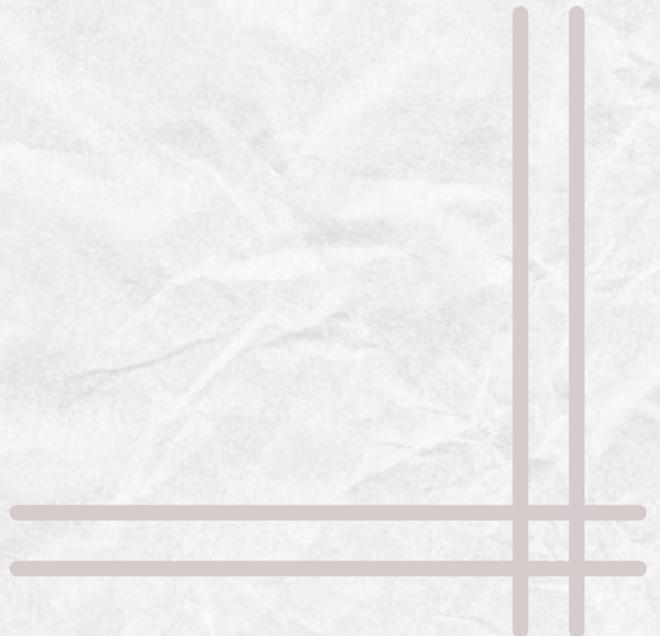


GRAAM'S FOOTPRINTS



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear friends of GRAAM,

Having been associated with GRAAM for close to half a decade, I am more than happy to be donning the new role bestowed on me as its Chairman.

GRAAM, after staying the course amidst the pandemic, stands firm in a new avatar to understand the needs of the community better. Despite the nationwide lockdown, our team went ahead with its research and policy engagement activities. I sincerely appreciate the efforts put up by the team members of GRAAM for their persistent work during the pandemic.

Even though the situation during the pandemic was demanding, GRAAM demonstrated immense strength and conviction while showing the world as to how to get head-on with the issues. Pushing the envelope further, GRAAM strived at bringing new inputs to the policies and programmes of the government. To begin with, GRAAM prioritised areas such as health and wellness, governance and democratization, learning, skill development and livelihood, and indigenous community development.

GRAAM's dedication to serving the grassroots during the pandemic also made us realise the importance of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). I for one coming from the industry, believe that industries have more to do with development and CSR. GRAAM also believes that CSR is one of the pillars of development. It is imperative that people with CSR intents understand the developmental challenges at the grassroots. An appropriate need assessment is required to understand the problems of the people. The aspirations of the community are vital. Although we are mandated to plan yearly projects under CSR, I would suggest that corporates have a long-term CSR developmental strategy along with an annual specific action plan.

As assured earlier, we at GRAAM worked towards bringing transformation in the management of Covid19 through its COVIREACH project. Turning Covid19 management into a community-driven activity, we marched at making selected village panchayats of Mysuru COVID-Free in 60 days. Our team took to grassroots level work during the Covid19, standing by their principles of being true advocates of the needy. Our team spread across the country advocating the needs of the community, not restricting itself to Karnataka. One of the commendable tasks was acting as an evangelist in strengthening community engagement through Jan Arogya Samithi in pockets of Jharkhand.

When Covid19 brought down the opportunities for students seeking education, GRAAM, along with Sugamya Shiksha, engaged in teaching at the community level. We believed that the students could not be deprived of education and hence, the team of Sugamya Shiksha took basic learning to their doorsteps. Not only did they implement learning centres, but also engaged with the Government in conveying voice of the common man to open the schools soon.

Another milestone GRAAM achieved during this year was its collaboration with the Election Commission of India. The team prepared a DPR for the Museum of Democracy and submitted it to the Karnataka Election Commission. By proposing the Museum of Democracy at Mysuru, the heritage city of Karnataka, we, at GRAAM want to strengthen our ties with the past.

Post lockdown, GRAAM began working on several projects pertaining to skill development and 21st Century Skills. We partnered with UNICEF's YuWaah to examine the policy and intervention landscape of 21st century skills in India. We took up projects to evaluate the impact of PMKKY and CMKKY in pockets of Karnataka in line with the Union Government's plan to strengthen the skills of the masses. A Skill Gap Study was also taken up by GRAAM to understand and propose suggestions to address the skill gap. Observing the need for creating an impact with innovation and involvement in the government policies, GRAAM got into a Statement of Intent with DMEO, an essential wing of the NITI Aayog. This collaboration could boost the monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in India.

GRAAM has genuinely believed in working at the grassroots, uplifting and rejuvenating the communities. With this as the backdrop, a social business initiative for rural women was launched with 14 women from Bilikere village in rural Mysuru. These women were given the opportunity to become first-generation entrepreneurs via WeMill. Ragi, the staple foodgrain of Karnataka became a means of enterprise in the hands of these women entrepreneurs and WeMill stands as a testimony to skill development and entrepreneurship.

I am looking forward to working with the GRAAM team in this new capacity and channel the efforts at every step. With the constant support of our Trustees, guidance from our Advisors and collaborative work with our partners, I believe the next year is going to be great for us as we move forward.

Yours Truly,

Mr Arjun Ranga
Chairman, GRAAM

About GRAAM



Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) is a development research and policy engagement initiative. GRAAM's extensive expertise spans across policy research, program evaluation, community consultation, policy engagement, strategic consultation and academic programs. GRAAM is fuelled by 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 an outcome of finding it challenging to combine academic knowledge with the experience of the development practitioner. GRAAM infuses grassroots experience at the community level into empirical research. 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.

The approach, therefore, helps GRAAM to advocate for policy change driven by partnership rather than confrontation. GRAAM's work for the past 11 years has reinforced this conviction that one can combine research and advocacy to bring out a constructive change in the development landscape of India.

VALUES



Society
First



Honesty &
Transparency



Integrity



Collaboration



Continuous
Learning



Innovation

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 a 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



GRAAM team comprises of confident, multi-disciplinary and experienced members working at various organizational levels to make an impact at the grassroots level. 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 and trained for large-scale research, surveys (baseline, midline and end-line surveys), Community Need Assessment, KAP Study, concurrent monitoring/evaluations, Impact Evaluation as well as the implementation of program/ project (action research) across the country.

The team is guided by an expert panel of advisors who are available for the team at any juncture.

The GRAAM Family

GRAAM's MILESTONES

2021-22

COVIREACH

Contributed to national level COVID Home Isolation Guidelines for Vulnerable Population

POLICY ENGAGEMENT

- a. GRAAM's policy engagement brought advancement in social security pension amount
- b. GRAAM inputs were considered by the education department for the re-opening of schools during the pandemic
- c. Provided position paper for Vocational Education in Schools as part of the NPE Working Committee.

SKILL INDIA, BUILD INDIA

GRAAM successfully completed 4 skill studies including two for KSDC, State of the 21st Century Skills Sector Report for UNICEF, and program evaluation for MyQuest

NITI AAYOG

Inked a Statement of Intent (Sol) with the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog for strategic and technical collaboration to strengthen monitoring and evaluation of government policies and programs in India. GRAAM was one of the collaborator in NCMEI 2022

RURAL WOMEN SOCIAL BUSINESS

Women entrepreneurs launched Ragi products under the brand WE MILL- GRAAM's contribution to AtmaNirbharBharat

GOVERNANCE- DEMOCRACY

- a. Developed a plan for the 'museum of democracy' for the Election Commission
- b. Initiated a 'Youth for Governance' Fellowship



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Board of TRUSTEES



Dr R Balasubramaniam
Founder- GRAAM
Visiting Professor- ILR School,
Cornell University
Visiting Professor- IIT Delhi



Dr Vivek Ujire Padvetnaya
Development Professional
and Health Economist



Mr Biren Bhuta
Development Practitioner



Tara Appachchu Sharma
Strategic Development
Professor



Dr. Prakash K Nair
Leadership Development and
Human Resource Professional



Mr. Arjun Ranga
Managing Director of M/s. N
Ranga Rao and Sons Pvt Ltd.



Mr. J Purushotham
Advocate and Legal
consultant, Labour Laws HR
&IR at Purushotham &
Associates

Advisory PANEL



M N VENKATACHALIAH

Former Chief Justice of India



MR JOE GRASSO

Associate Dean for Administration Finance & Corporate Relations at Cornell University



MR D R PATIL

Former Member of Karnataka Legislative Assembly



DR SHAILENDRA PRASAD

Carlson Chair of Global Health CGHSR, University of Minnesota



MR S K DAS - IAS (RETD.)

Former Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka



DR GARY FIELDS

Professor of Economics and the John P Windmuller Chair of ILR, Cornell University



DR SAROSH KURUVILLA

Professor of Industrial Relations, Asian Studies and Public Affairs at Cornell University



DR PAUL R GREENOUGH

Distinguished Faculty at the Department of History, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Iowa, USA



DR ARUN KARPUR

Director Data Science & Evaluation Research at Autism Speaks



DR SUSANNE M BRUYÈRE

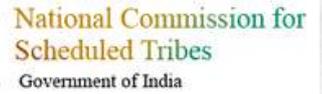
Professor of Disability Studies, Director of the Employment and Disability Institute, and Associate Dean of Outreach at the Cornell University

Esteemed PARTNERS

ACADEMIC



GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS



NGO & CIVIL SOCIETY MOVEMENT



CORPORATE



Thematic AREAS



GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRATISATION

GRAAM believes in the principle that decentralization and community involvement in governance should be fostered with a deeper understanding and practical realization of these ideals. The starting point of GRAAM's endeavors in this thematic area includes 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 the grassroots voice to the policymakers.



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The studies and policy engagement under this thematic area focus 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 a safe learning environment. With the action research initiative, GRAAM is building a model initiative for comprehensive school development with vibrant stakeholder participation. The policy engagement, research and evaluation studies around skill development and rural livelihood immensely contributed to 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 the creation of a '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 focus on enabling the Forest Rights Act. The issues of indigenous communities in terms of acquisition of individual land rights, access to the forest produce, making exclusive provisions for the empowerment of these communities, etc., are the areas of focus.

Star STORY



SOI WITH NITI AAYOG

GRAAM signs an SoI with Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog

GRAAM, in November 2020, inked a Statement of Intent (SoI) with the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog for strategic and technical collaboration to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of government policies and programs in India.

The signing ceremony took place in the presence of Dr Sekhar Bonu, Director General, DMEO, Shri Alok Mishra, Deputy Director-General DMEO, NITI Aayog officials, and GRAAM's Chairman Dr R Balasubramaniam along with other staff in New Delhi. The memorandum on behalf of GRAAM was signed by the organization's Executive Director Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta.

As part of the SoI, GRAAM will provide technical assistance to DMEO in the preparation of technical and/or policy documents, conduct joint studies, and facilitate capacity building programs on monitoring and evaluation of government policies and programs for public officials at the Centre and States, local researchers, regional institutions and other stakeholders.

Known for conducting credible evaluation and research studies pan India in partnership with WHO, UNICEF and other policy / academic institutions, GRAAM will also be organizing events, exchanging and disseminating best practices, developing communication and other activities comprising technical assistance.

Dr Bonu at the event spoke about DMEO's plans for working with States for strengthening the M&E ecosystem. He appreciated the steps taken by the Karnataka government for coming up with a state-level Evaluation Authority. He further said that DMEO is looking forward to engaging with GRAAM to build a robust evaluation agency system across the nation.

“Evaluation agencies play a critical role in implementing data-driven programs and undertaking policy evaluations with a focus on quality and standard of the programs. There is a need to strengthen and encourage them further.”

- Dr R Balasubramaniam



GRAAM steers NITI Aayog's session under 'National Conference on Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM), designed, conceptualized and steered a session on 'Participatory and Citizen-centric Approach to Monitoring & Evaluation' under NITI Aayog's National Conference on Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (NCMEL) conducted on a virtual platform in March 2021.

The insightful discussion was moderated by Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Executive Director, GRAAM, and witnessed the participation of Dr Ananya Samajdar, Deputy Director, GRAAM, Shilpa Nag CT, Commissioner, Rural Development, Government of Karnataka, and Dr Yogesh Kumar, Executive Director, Samarthan.



Scan to read more



M&E @70: STRENGTHENING INDIA'S EVIDENCE SYSTEMS FOR ACCELERATED REFORMS AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

A Compendium of Essays

March 2022



COMMUNITY MONITORING FOR STRENGTHENING RESPONSIBLE PARTICIPATION LEVERAGING ICT – EXPERIENCE OF AROGYA SHRENI IN KARNATAKA AND JAN AROGYA SHRENI IN JHARKHAND

Authors:
Basavaraju R Shrestha, Ananya Samajdar

GRAAM

RESEARCH PAPER ON COMMUNITY MONITORING

Representing GRAAM, Dr Ananya Samajdar- Deputy Director, presented insights from the paper titled "Community Monitoring for strengthening responsible participation leveraging ICT – Experience of Arogya Shreni in Karnataka and Jan Arogya Shreni in Jharkhand" co-authored by Dr Basavaraju and herself.

The paper elaborates on the concept, design, outcomes, and necessity of community participation in monitoring health services at the grassroots level. GRAAM, in the paper, sighted evidence from Arogya Shreni project (a platform for community engagement in public health delivery as a stakeholder) in Karnataka and Jan Arogya Shreni in Jharkhand.



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New APPOINTMENTS



**DR R
BALASUBRAMANIAM**

Founder- GRAAM

Dr R Balasubrahmaniam, Founder, GRAAM has been nominated as the Head of the committee constituted to form Karnataka Youth Policy-2021. GoK has formed a 13-member expert committee to elicit opinions about expectations from the new policy.

The expert committee has been formed considering the need for revising youth policy to meet the current demands in contemporary society. The committee holds the responsibility of submitting a comprehensive skill report aiming to provide an opportunity and support to the youth. The policy will focus on preventing teenagers from drug abuse, emphasize technology and innovations, prioritize sports through strengthening youth organizations and inculcating leadership qualities among the youth.

Indian School of Business (ISB), a world-class business school in India, has invited Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Executive Director, GRAAM to be the Advisor for its 'Emerging Technology Center' (ETC), a jointly created entity between ISB and Intel India. The overarching goal of ETC is to support Governments (Central and State) and embed relevant technologies for the holistic advancement of society.

Dr Basavaraju is also serving as a member of the Confederation of Indian Industries' South India Committee on Education, Skill Development, and Livelihood for the fourth consecutive term. He is also part of various policy level committees of the Government.



DR BASAVARAJU R

Executive Director-
GRAAM



DR ANANYA SAMAJDAR

Head, Research- GRAAM

Dr. Ananya Samajdar, Head- Research, GRAAM has been appointed as a member of Working Groups for Tribal Development. This working group has been constituted under the Task Force on Tribal Development, Forest Management, and MFP management.



**NOT
ALL
HEROES
WEAR
CAPES!**

AYUSHMAN BHARAT

The Government of India is aiming at creating 'One India, One Health', and also possesses the vision of building infrastructure beyond big cities. The government is also committed to making India a Global Medical Value Hub by further strengthening the traditional medicine industry and boosting 'Heal in India, Heal by India'.

Be it Swachh Bharat Mission, Fit India Mission, Nutrition Mission, Mission Indradhanush, Ayushman Bharat, or Jal Jeevan Mission, the government wants to take all such missions to a maximum number of people.

Falling in the same line, Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) also conducted thorough research on Health and Wellness themes to add up to the policies and programs of the government.

READ MORE

Jan

AROGYA

Project Title	Demonstrating Community Monitoring and Social Audit mechanisms for Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) in Jharkhand - JAN Arogya Shreni
Study Team	Dr. Ananya Samajdar, Dr. Basavaraju R Shreshta, Bhagavan Bidarkote, Dimple Khattar, Susmita Pattnaik and Ms Pooja
Partners	JHPIEGO (Funded by USAID)
Duration	January 2021 to June 2022
Field Sites	Jharkhand

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

OBJECTIVES



The aim of the project is to demonstrate a **community-led monitoring** mechanism and establishment of **Jan Arogya Samitis (JAS)** for strengthening the delivery of CPHC through SC-HWCs in Jharkhand



From 2011-2014 **GRAAM** Implemented a project **Arogya Shreni** in Karnataka which was conferred with a South Asia Level Award and the current projects has been designed on the best practices of project Arogya Shreni



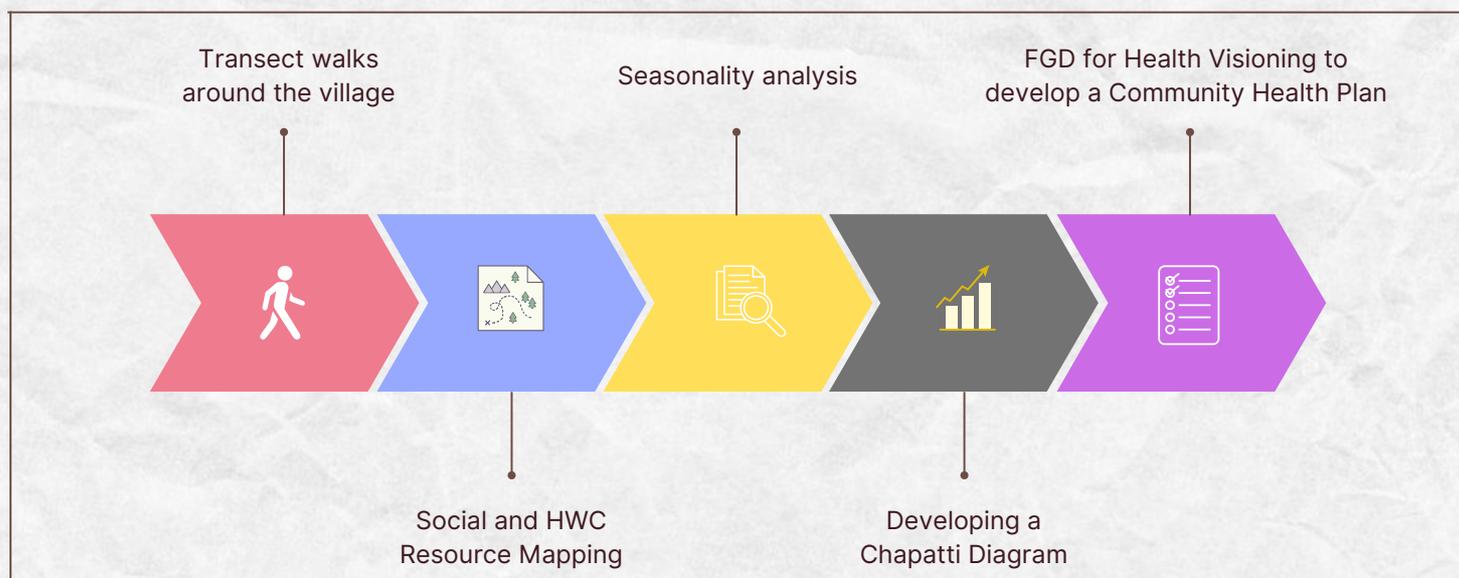
WORK IN PROGRESS

In partnership with USAID-JHPIEGO Project NISHTHA, GRAAM facilitated the setting up of Jan Arogya Samitis (JAS) in Khunti and West Singhbhum districts of Jharkhand. JAS is a participatory committee that is set up for Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (HWC) to promote community participation in establishing social accountability, leading health promotion activities and improving the facilities and services of the HWC.

GRAAM team has conducted the following activities during the last three months. The Project implementation team has been trained on the following aspects to conduct the Community Health Plan:



A decentralized health planning has been a must-achieve task to bring out the positive changes in community health. The exercise was conducted with the participatory method a PRA exercise with the following activities was conducted as part of the health planning exercise:



LAUNCH OF IVRS FOR STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THROUGH JAS

IVRS (Interactive Voice Response System) technology aimed at Strengthening Community Engagement in the health sector through Jan Arogya Samitis (JAS) developed by GRAAM in collaboration with NISHTHA was launched in Jharkhand on December 16th, 2021.



In association with GRAAM, NISHTHA is piloting the model for community engagement and the establishment of Jan Arogya Samitis (JAS) for strengthening Health and Wellness Centres (HWC).



Dr. Marshal Aind, Director-In-chief, State Health Services, Jharkhand launched IVRS technology. After launching in his speech he said, “We extend our support to the IVRS technology and through this, we want to ensure the communities that they are the major stakeholders in health systems.”



“We are aiming at strengthening HWCs services by empowering Jan Arogya Samithi's and developing stronger community engagement and participation in the health sector,” said Basavaraju R Shreshta, Executive Director, GRAAM. “JAS will be trained to use this IVRS technology to generate ranking cards for CPHC and HWCs,” he added.



Follow the Tweets

WORKSHOP IN JHARKHAND

Workshop on “Health visioning exercise and Development of Health Plan” in Jharkhand

A One-day workshop on “Health visioning exercise and Development of Health Plan” was organized as a part of the project “Community Monitoring and Social Audit Mechanism” which aims at improving the health challenges faced by the community through the formation of Jan Arogya Samiti (JAS), for the project field team members at Chaibasa, HQRS of West Singhbhum District of Jharkhand on 6th September 2021.

The workshop highlighted the importance of a participatory health planning process that involves appropriate articulation of community priorities along with solution/aspiration statements that can be customized according to the preference and ease of usage of the JAS.

Multiple pieces of training starting from conducting baseline survey, project induction to the process involved in the formation of JAS and their role and responsibility, etc was imparted to the project team.



PROJECT COVI-REACH



VISION

An empowered Grama Panchayat with necessary resources and make them covid free with an active GP COVID Task Force and community structures.

OBJECTIVES

To strengthen 07 Grama Panchayat Level and Village Level COVID Task Force

To provide necessary material support to the most needy COVID affected families

To enhance awareness on prevention & management of COVID through IEC Kits, audio & WhatsApp

To compliment the efforts of the community health workers

To provide telephonic support to the COVID affected people/family



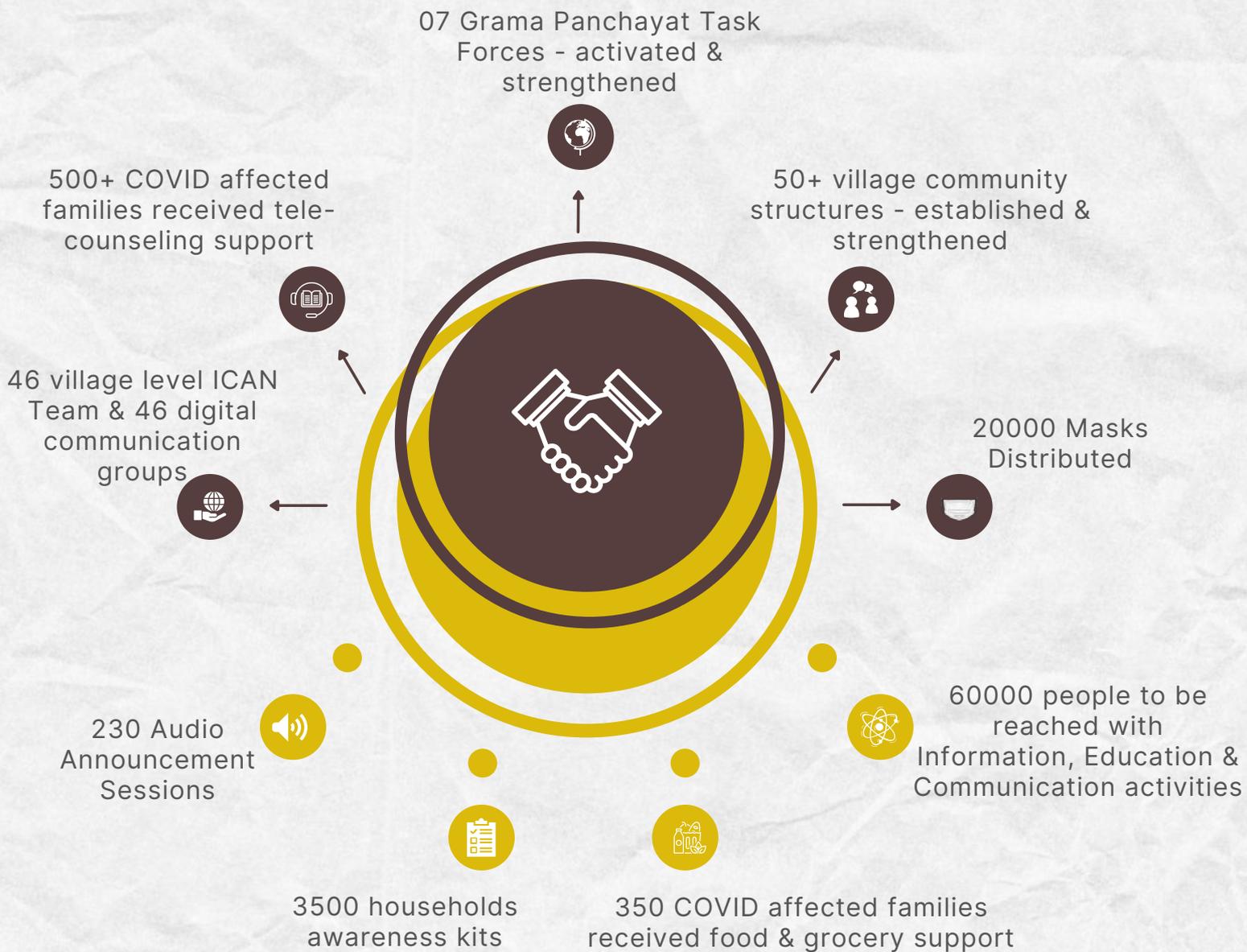
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GOALS

To Serve People at the Grassroots and express solidarity with Government - other service providers

To develop a pragmatic model to demonstrate Community Based Management of COVID- an handbook

SERVICES (OUTPUT)



PANCHA TANTRA-GRAMA MANTRA

01



STRENGTHENING THE GRAMA PANCHAYAT

Training, emotional and moral support, village isolation centres, intensifying vaccination drive

BUILDING TEAM OF YOUTH VOLUNTEERS



02

Right information dissemination, vigilance on home, isolation & support, information dissemination

03



ENGAGING COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS

Self Help Group for social hygiene, harmony & hope group, ensuring COVID resilient behaviour change & Community support

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY HEALTH PERSONNEL



04

Personal safety kits, incentives, handholding with right, information, distribution of masks, kits

05



MOBILISING CIVIL SOCIETY SUPPORT

SAMVEDANA – on the field team, SPANDANA - Telephonic support to COVID patients + families



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Distribution of care kits to ASHA workers

In order to ensure the safety of ASHA workers who carried out the door-to-door COVID 19 care to break the chain of infection, GRAAM distributed care kits to the workers belonging to the Varuna constituency in Mysuru Taluk in July, 2021.

MLA for Varuna constituency, Dr Yathindra Siddharamaiah and GRAAM Executive Director, Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta distributed these care kits to the ASHA workers in a kit distribution program organized at Dr B R Ambedkar community hall in the village. Total of 75 ASHA workers belonging to Varuna, S R Hundi, Kellasapura and Mellahalli Primary Health Centre limits received these ASHA kits on the occasion.

Thanksgiving ceremony to rural pandemic warriors

A thanksgiving ceremony for ASHA and Anganwadi workers was organized by Grassroots Research And Advocacy Movement (GRAAM)'s COVIReach project supported by Aris Global of Mysuru Taluk at the premises of Zilla Panchayath in August, 2021.

Former Minister & MLA G T Devegowda said through the COVIReach program GRAAM made us realize that all the stakeholders in the community are the warriors in the fight against COVID.

More than 100 ASHA and Anganwadi workers were felicitated on the occasion. Certificates were issued to ICAN team members in recognition of their service to the community as well as to the project. Meanwhile, cheques were also distributed to the members of deceased families.

GRAAM distributed thermal scanner devices to government schools

GRAAM distributed a total of 103 thermal scanner devices to 79 Government higher primary schools and five Karnataka Public Schools of Mysuru Taluk in a program organized in association with the Department of Public instructions at the premises of Gopalaswami school in Mysuru in September, 2021. On this occasion, GRAAM also launched and distributed a handbook to all the government schools regarding the COVID-preventing measures to be considered and followed by the school management.

In his inaugural speech Ramachandra Raje Urs, Deputy Director of Public Instructions (DDPI) said that reopening schools in the current situation was really a challenge for the government and education institutions.



Ensuring Comprehensive HEALTHCARE

Project Title	Public Engagement meetings for Urban CPHC
Study Team	Anantha Murthy P N, Dr Arpita Mitra, Dr Rajendra Prasad, P; Ravi C S, Dr Shrinidhi Adiga, Susmitha Das Patnaik
Partners	Karnataka Health Promotion Trust (KHPT)
Duration	December 2021 to April 2022
Field Sites	Mysuru, Karnataka

INTRODUCTION

The state government in association with KHPT and its other partners is implementing a project to develop a Primary Health Care model for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in Mysuru city with the aim of introducing a holistic care model and transforming it into a healthy city. It plans to design, develop, implement and evaluate a model of Urban Comprehensive Primary Health Care in Mysuru city.

Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) is a holistic approach to health and well-being that encompasses all services that can impact health and wellbeing and are delivered in partnerships by an interdisciplinary team through a range of services and programs that are accessible, equitable, ongoing, culturally appropriate, safe, effective and efficient. This CPHC model will be positioned within a larger objective of transforming Mysuru city into a healthy city.

The first year of these five-year-long research projects will focus on the situational assessment covering both quantitative estimation and qualitative exploration of the status of primary healthcare provision. Based on these formative research findings, implementation design options will be finalized to pilot across facilities in Mysuru City.

OBJECTIVES

- To identify and explore the role of key stakeholders in the provision of urban primary health care
- To describe the current status of urban comprehensive primary health care in Mysore city at three different levels – health systems, facilities, and community
- To identify and explain barriers and facilitators to Comprehensive Primary Health Care
- To identify design options for strengthening urban primary health care

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



GRAAM conducted a Public Engagement (PE) program to identify the barriers to Comprehensive Primary Health Care and the way to strengthen Urban Primary Health Care. The first PE workshop was conducted for the personnel from Academics, Non-governmental Organisations, Community Based organizations (CBOs), Health Activists, Media, etc from Mysuru city. They were considered as representatives of the “Citizen’s Voice who are familiar with the status of the services, availability, grievances, what needs to be added and how to shape or contribute towards strengthening of the system.

Participants for allied disciplines exchanged their thoughts to improve the present health care system and quality of patient care. Community participation with Coordination and communication between various stakeholders like NGOs, government, and community was emphasized.



SKILL INDIA BUILD INDIA

The goal of reaching a \$5 trillion economy is a matter of courage and the Government of India says that this would open the window to new opportunities. According to the government, a \$5 trillion economy also means dreaming of New India.

Honorable President of India, Ram Nath Kovind once stated that both innovation and entrepreneurship have the ability to not just ease lives through technology but can also provide employment opportunities to many people. While India is celebrating the addition of the 100th Unicorn, the government's belief in innovation, programs like Atmanirbhar Bharat, and Skill India have proven that the country is marching towards building a skill-based India.

[**READ MORE**](#)

Program

EVALUATION

Project Title	Impact Evaluation of CMKKY and PMKVY in Selected Districts of Karnataka
Study Team	Aditya Narayana Rai, Dr. Basavaraju R Shreshta, Bhaskara T C, Navaneeth S, Roshan Mishra, Dr Shivakumar Nayka, Dr Shivaprasad, Dr Swamy
Partners	Karnataka Skill Development Corporation, Government of Karnataka
Duration	November, 2020 to March 2022
Field Sites	Yadgir, Raichur, Dharwad, Dakshina Kannada, Shivamogga and Ramanagara

INTRODUCTION

About 47% of the individuals passing out of educational institutions are employable. With a significant portion of the working-age population, the nation has to undertake 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 Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and Chief Ministers Kaushalya Karnataka Yojane (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 schemes in generating skills for rural youth.

OBJECTIVES

- To understand and map the demographic characteristics of the beneficiaries and their aspirations and willingness to participate in the program.
- To study the impact (output and outcome) of the PMKVY and CMKKY programs which is being imparted in the state
- To study the effect of skill training on the industries in terms of availability of skilled manpower
- To assess the challenges in enrollment, training, finding job opportunities, placement, and retention of the trained candidates in the jobs and suggest measures for bridging the gaps and improving the program implementation

FINDINGS

-  The extent of unemployment among those who are vocationally trained (1.7 percentage) is higher
-  About 95 percent believe it is important for a person to possess a skill and go through a skill development program
-  Amongst those who had undergone a skill training program (18 percent), most of them (43 percent) had received training through the Government Skill Training program
-  More than half of the PMKVY beneficiaries (56 percent) and 47.9 percent of the CMKKY beneficiaries told that they joined the course to get a job as soon as possible
-  Both the programs' beneficiaries were found to be satisfied with the quality of the training program in general
-  82 percent were fully satisfied and 15 percent were partially satisfied, while for PMKVY 92 percent were fully satisfied and 8 percent partially satisfied with the training infrastructure
-  73 percent were fully satisfied and 14 percent were partially satisfied, while for PMKVY 75 percent were fully satisfied and 11 percent partially satisfied with the quality of training equipment
-  Overall, 66.9 percent of beneficiaries responded that they are satisfied with the placement job/the first job after training

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Orientation about the skill program, its nature, potentiality and employment opportunities are crucial
- Strengthen pre-training counselling of candidates and their parents to deal with the challenge of converting mobilization to enrolment
- Hybrid model of conducting training both on-site (industry) and in-house is preferred by trainees as well
- Courses with different levels of minimum qualifications (including graduation) should be more widely available to cater to the significant share of more qualified candidates as PMKVY beneficiaries are more from this stratum
- Training centers require to ensure that the certificates are issued to all the students who have completed the assessment
- Given the high share of graduates among PMKVY beneficiaries, it is recommended to link PMKVY with SHREYAS (Scheme for Higher Education Youth for Apprenticeship and Skills) which supports six-month apprenticeship/internship for non-technical graduates
- Emphasise the transition of the "Job Seeker" to a "Job Maker" mantra to strengthen skills of the self-employed (who constitute only 18% people under the scheme) and can potentially generate local employment

SKILL IN DEMAND

Project Title	Skill Gap Study in selected districts of Karnataka
Study Team	Aditya Narayana Rai, Dr. Basavaraju R Shreshta, Bhaskara T C, Navaneeth S, Roshan Mishra, Dr Shivakumar Nayka, Dr Shivaprasad, Dr Swamy
Partners	Karnataka Skill Development Corporation, Government of Karnataka
Duration	November, 2020 to March 2022
Field Sites	Yadgir, Raichur, Dharwad, Dakshina Kannada, Shivamogga and Ramanagara

INTRODUCTION

Skills gaps which are considered one of the top five pressing concerns among both developed and developing countries directly impact improved productivity and employment in both the formal and informal sectors. It constraints the growth, innovation, real-time disbursement of products and services, quality standards, and other requirements of the country.

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 was commissioned to conduct a skill gap analysis in three districts. The evaluation study assesses skill gap and employability on the various parameters considering the demand and supply-side components.

RATIONALE

This study has paved the way to identify the current and emerging skills 2022-25 and estimate the workforce requirement by industries and sector-wise skill gaps existing in the districts of Raichur, Yadgir and Ramanagara.

It also assesses the A-I-M of the youths & their KAP on training, employment, up-skilling, re-skilling & apprenticeships, identifies development opportunities keeping in mind factor endowments & stakeholders' perspectives and offers suggestions and recommendations/interventions to address the skill gap.

FINDINGS- SUPPLY SIDE

90%⁺ of youths do not consider themselves to be skilled

≈ **50%** of industries are not aware of the skill development programs by the government

50%⁺ of community youths are unemployed

≈ **78%** youths have no prior work experience which they said makes it difficult for them to find a job

65% community youths in Yadgir & Ramanagara are NOT looking for new opportunities

≈ **70%** misalignment of skills offered by training centers and needed by the industries

≈ **50%** youths in Raichur have no goals/ ambitions

≈ **25%** industries are unwilling to partner with the government's skill development programs

≈ **40%** community youths wish to have a private job

≈ **16%** industries are interested in the 'public-private partnership' model

≈ **60%** youths are unaware of the skill development programs

≈ **57%** of youth respondents aspire to become entrepreneurs

FINDINGS- DEMAND SIDE

Raichur

By 2025, Power and Energy, Food processing, Textile, Chemical, Fertilizer & Pharmaceuticals & Construction Materials and Building Hardware will be the **top five employing sectors** in the district



By 2025, 0.60 million youths in Raichur will be available for skill development training

Yadgir

By 2025, Auto -auto components, Power and Energy, Chemicals and fertilizers, Textile and Food processing will be the **top five employing sectors** in the district



By 2025, 0.39 million youths in Yadgir will be available for skill development training

Ramanagara

By 2025, Auto and auto components, Textiles, Food processing Transportation, Logistics, Warehousing and Packaging and Construction Materials and Building Hardware will be the **top five employing sectors** in the district



By 2025, 0.30 million youths in Ramanagara will be available for skill development training

RECOMMENDATIONS

-  Enhance communication and awareness activities at both the community as well as industry level
-  Provide Foundation Course for candidates to help build A-I-M (Aspiration, Inspiration and Motivation) and help them to choose an appropriate course
-  Orient, guide and handhold youths during 'training melas' to inform them about the available career opportunities post skill training
-  Conduct bi-annual Industry Melas/ Summit inviting both private players as well as industries from districts to explore 'public-private partnership' and bridge the need-gap
-  Promote/ Tie-up with private digital educational course (EdTech) startups to strengthen course curriculum, to make it engaging & enable youths to take classes from home when needed to ensure continuous learning
-  Hybrid model of conducting training more on-site (industry) and less in-house training
-  Tie-up with more private placement agencies to secure jobs for youths as well as create a program only for entrepreneurship by involving local youths, industry experts and institutions to enable growth of small-scale industries



Making Youth Employable-

EVALUATION

Project Title	Impact Evaluation of MyQuest Programme in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat
Study Team	Dr Ananya Samajdar, Dr Arpita Mitra, Dr. Basavaraju R Shreshta, Bhagavan BR, Dimple Khatter, Late Dr Malavika S (Consultant), Dr Nikhilesh, Roshan Mishra, Dr Swamy
Partners	Quest Alliance
Duration	September 2021 to March 2022
Field Sites	Tamil Nadu and Gujarat

INTRODUCTION

The low employability of Industrial Training Institute (ITI) graduates is a matter of concern. The India Skills Report released in 2019 reveals a 30% drop in the employability of ITI graduates between 2017 and 2018. The low employability of ITI graduates has been attributed not only to the gaps in their technical skills but also to the gaps in their soft skills such as communication skills and life skills, along with the insufficient focus on industry involvement.

Quest Alliance has carried out a multi-pronged, comprehensive intervention known as MyQuest in ITIs and other centres of vocational training in order to enhance the employability and 21st Century skills of youth studying in these institutes. GRAAM carried out an evaluation study to assess the outputs and outcomes of this intervention, most importantly its effect on the employability and employment of the ITI students.

OBJECTIVES (TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF THE MYQUEST PROGRAM ON)

- ⚙ The employability and workforce preparedness of the students covered by the program
- ⚙ The placement performance of the covered ITIs
- ⚙ The learning environment for 21st skills of the covered ITIs
- ⚙ To understand the stakeholders' perceptions and experiences about the program, the kinds and processes of change they have experienced, and the benefits and challenges experienced by them

FINDINGS

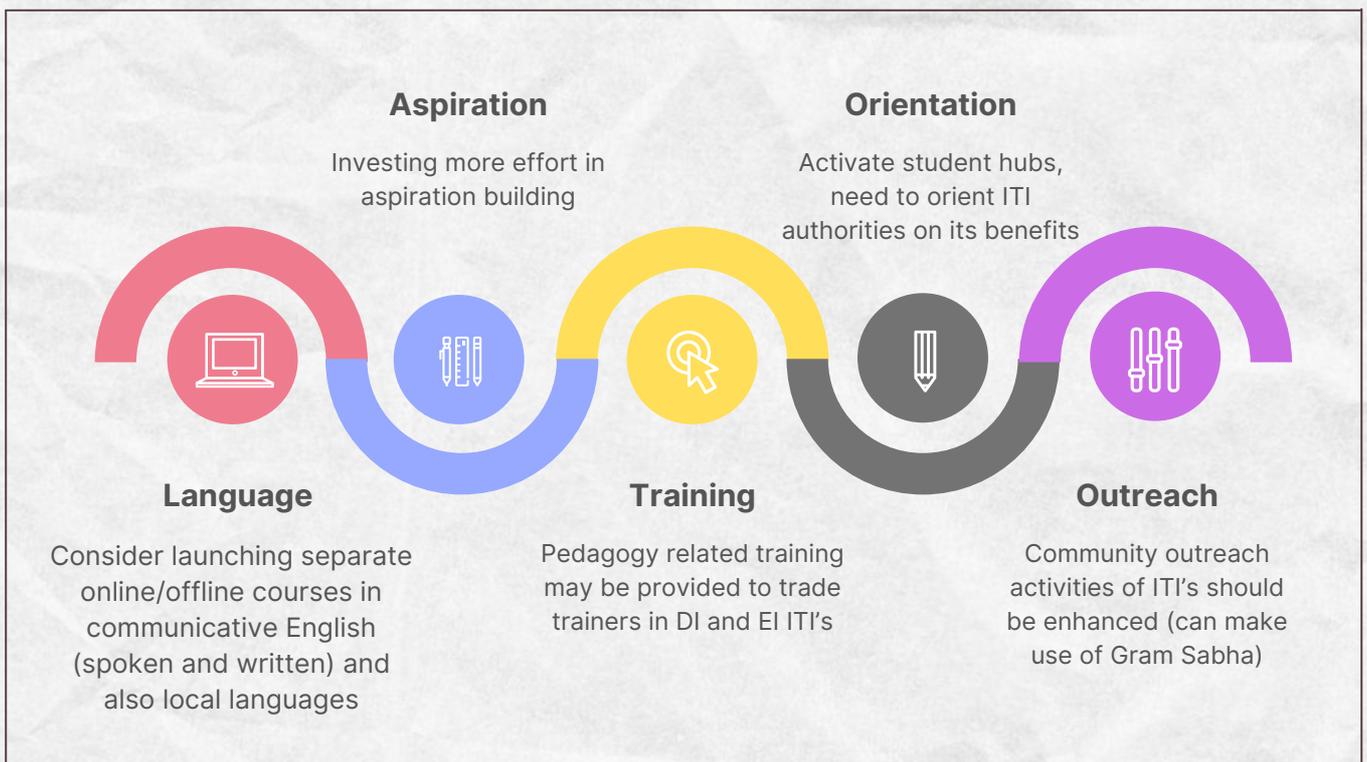
Process related findings

- The proportion of ITIs where students of all trades were covered by ES training sessions was high in both states
- In Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, the usage of digital and blended methods of teaching was high among ITIs

Stakeholder engagement and cooperation

- IDI responses revealed that DET officials in both states held a positive view of the program, even though Quest Alliance team members feel that better support from DET officials can strengthen the program further

GRAMM RECOMMENDS





21ST CENTURY SKILLS

The 21st century skills space is a complex and fragmented one since there are multiple terminologies, definitional and content frameworks, and players. Therefore, it is crucial to systematically study, map and analyze it to promote a coherent understanding of the status of this sector. Hence, UNICEF commissioned the writing of the State of the Sector Report on 21st century skills in India, which has been prepared by GRAAM.

[**READ MORE**](#)

State of the SECTOR REPORT

Project Title	21st Century skills in India State of the Sector Report 2022
Study Team	Dr Ananya Samajdar, Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Bhagavan Bidarakote, Jatin Anand, Rashmi Gopal, Dr Sushma Murthy
Partners	UNICEF
Duration	October 2021 to February 2022
Field Sites	Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, New Delhi and Odisha

OBJECTIVES

The report identifies the **key stakeholders and agencies**, and key scalable interventions in the domain of 21st-century skills in India, highlights **best practices, enablers, and challenges** of prevalent 21st Century skills interventions and in the 21st-century skills ecosystem as a whole and presents a well-grounded, understanding of the 21st Century skill space by incorporating the experiential insights and opinions of key stakeholders

GRAAM has also made **actionable recommendations** relevant to the Government and other decision-makers in the 21st Century skills space.

FINDINGS (BEST PRACTICES)

The landscape analysis done in this report shows that partnerships (especially government partnerships), use of technology, and the training of teachers or trainers are the 3 main approaches that have helped organizations to achieve scale.



**Partnerships
(especially with govt)**

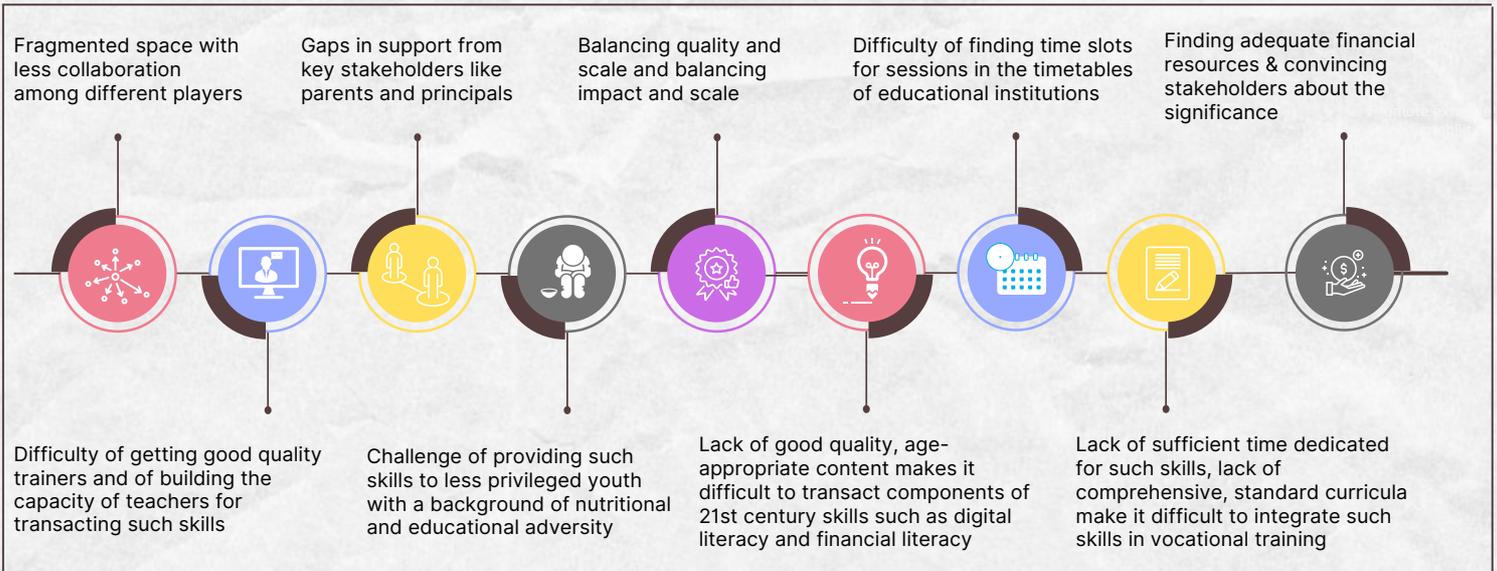


Technology



**Training of
Teachers**

FINDINGS (CHALLENGES)



GRAAM RECOMMENDS

01

Collaborate

Intensify and support collaborative platforms and expand the numbers and diversity of their component organization

02

Framework

Create unified framework combining different 21st Century skill components, instead of depending on separate life skills, digital skills, financial literacy and other such frameworks

03

Training

Reform the existing teacher training curriculum and develop a systematic strategy for training teachers at scale for integrating such skills in their teaching

04

Curriculum

Blend curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular approaches to promote 21st century skills

05

Mapping

Map the most industry-relevant 21st century skills, so that youth can be better equipped with such skills through systematic dialogue between policymakers and industry

during school hours: Study

Bengaluru: Homebound due to the pandemic, only 15% of government school children in rural areas are engaged in some form of learning during school hours, while others are busy with phones or watching TV, a survey has found.

Grassroot Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM), a Mysuru-based public policy research and advocacy initiative, conducted the survey among 400 children in rural areas of

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2021
TIMES BENGALURU / REGION

Girls spend more time on TV, mobile

Continued from page 1

According to the survey, only 15% of the children achieve some form of learning during school hours, including through TV, online classes or reading. It reaches a maximum of 23.8% between 6pm and 9 pm. While 29% of children watch TV or use mobile for entertainment during school

decision will be taken on reopening of Classes 1-8 by the month-end.

The percentage of time higher primary (5-7) students dedicate to learning is significantly lower than in high schools. During school time, only 10% of boys and 16% of girls are engaged in some form of learning activity.

Among higher primary cultural activities, 11% are occupied with household work. Among girls, agricultural activities are less while nearly a quarter (24%) on average are involved in household work.

"The answer to all the problems is reopening of schools for all grades. If that cannot be done, the state government has to then look at launching community learning help of local NGOs. It is important where they the foundation was wasted in playing on the ground. The director of the department of social invest-

WHAT KIDS DID FROM 10AM-5PM

Educational activities	15
Physical activity	27
Household work	13
Agriculture (farming, animal husbandry etc)	7
Entertainment	23
Wasting timing by roaming around, sleeping etc	9

Challenges for attending online classes

No smartphone	6
Siblings also need it	10
I don't get it when I need it	10
Other members need it	23
Insufficient data	10
Network issues	15
No internet connection	12
No mobile phones	15

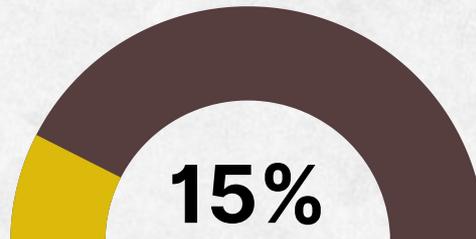


PANDEMIC & EDUCATION

Only 15% of government school children in rural areas are engaged in some form of learning during school hours, while others are busy with mobile phones or watching television stated a study titled, 'A Study to Understand the Activities Engaged by Rural Government School Children at home due to COVID lockdown,' conducted by GRAAM.

This study was conducted in 53 villages of Mysuru, covering 07 village panchayats with 397 children (class 5th – class 10th) enrolled in the government schools from July 2021- August 2021, at a time when educationists were advocating the importance of reopening schools after the prolonged school closure due to the pandemic-induced lockdown.

According to the survey:



15% children only achieved some form of learning during school hours, including TV/online classes or reading



23% 8th to 10th-grade boys were involved in agricultural activities in the morning



27% children were involved in playing (indoor and outdoor) during the school hours



78% 8th to 10th-grade girls were involved in household activities in the morning



32% High School girls spent more time on TV/Mobile for entertainment during school hours

*The same pattern was observed in Higher Primary School students. Girls are more engaged in household chores early in the morning and late in the evening. GRAAM highlighted the importance of taking policy decisions at the earliest and initiating educational outreach activities.

SUGAMYA SHIKSHA

An action-research program

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

The COVID-19 pandemic has created the largest disruption of education systems in human history and COVID protocols like social distancing and restrictive movement policies have significantly disturbed traditional educational practices.

Teachers were compelled to adopt an online education system which was very new to them.

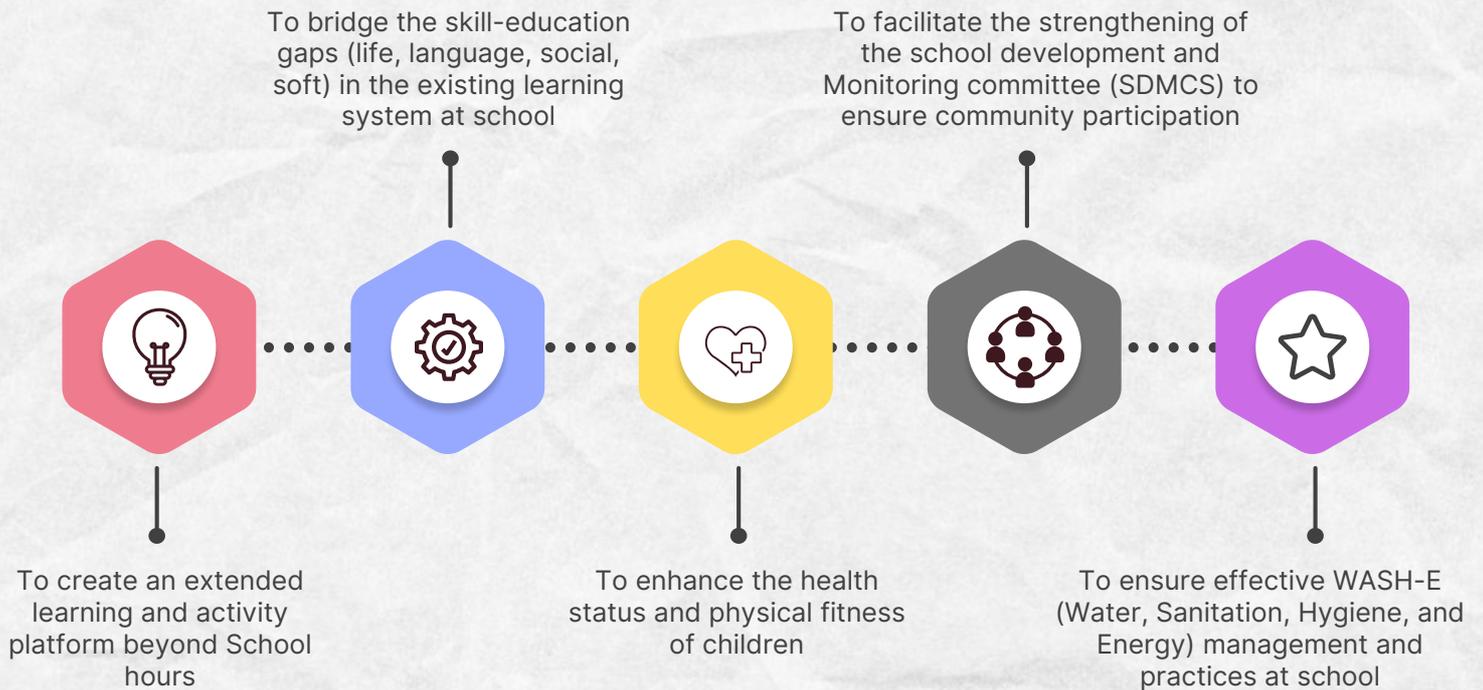


Project Title	Sugamya Shiksha
Study Team	Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Gopal OK, Naveenkumar C, Dr Rajendra Prasad, Ravikumar P G, Usha R
Partners	Aris Global
Duration	November 2021 to March 2022
Field Sites	Mysuru

The Pandemic paused Sugamya Shiksha too from its regular school activities. When schools rebooted after a one-and-a-half-year-long shutdown Sugamya Shiksha also re-launched with the aim of holistic growth.

The program was relaunched in Government Higher Primary School (GHPS) and Government High School (GHS) Metagalli and Government Higher Primary School (GHPS) Koorgalli with the capacity of more than 500 students.

OBJECTIVES



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

With the complete physical reopening of schools, Sugamya Shiksha restarted its various programs like spoken English, life skill, computer learning, Wash E activities, Swachh School activities, My country My pride (covers diverse topics like environment conservation, doctors for a social cause, police and armed forces for secured India etc), etc. Various school clubs like Savithribai Phule club for girls to educate on menstruation hygiene, and the Fit children program to form sports clubs, were reactivated and the junior ministers assumed charges in the school cabinet.



SCHOOL POLLS AND STUDENT'S POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

School cabinet – an elected student body plays a pivotal role in maintaining discipline and coordinating various non-academic activities in school. It provides a platform for students to acquire the traits of leadership and represent their voice in the sessions of the school cabinet.

In September, 2021 the School Cabinet was formed through an election process in the schools under the supervision of the Sugamya Shiksha program. Orientation and training was imparted to the elected members and an action plan was shared among newly elected student representatives.

TALK ON TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARENESS

A talk on 'Road Safety Rules' was organized for the students of Government Higher Primary School Metagalli as a part of Sugamya Shiksha's implementation program to create awareness of traffic rules among the school children.

The program was steered by Police Inspector Aruna Kumari who taught the children about the basics of traffic rules such as riding without a helmet, drink and driving, overloading pillion riders, no license, etc.



MENSTRUAL HYGIENE MANAGEMENT FOR SCHOOL GIRLS

An activity-based awareness program on 'Menstrual hygiene management and physical & emotional changes among adolescents' was organized for the students of Savitribai Phule team as a part of the 'Arivu' program at Government Higher Primary School Metagalli recently.

The program was led by Savitha, a social worker who busted several myths associated with menstruation among the students by conducting different activities and explaining the scientific reasons behind the physical and mental change among the adolescents.

BASICS OF FIRST AID

A talk on 'basics of first aid' was organized as a part of an awareness program at Government Higher Primary School Metagalli.

Resource person Rekha gave an orientation on first aid through demonstration. After a brief introductory session on personal hygiene and food habits, she taught several exercise tips for treating shortness of breath.





WE MILL

A SOCIAL BUSINESS INITIATIVE

INTRODUCTION

Social Business is a novel concept that addresses both the social as well as economic benefits. Based on the social business model, Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) has conceptualized the current initiative `We Mill' with a corporate partner - Wuerth Elektronik India Private Limited, and a technical partner CSIR-CFTRI (Central Food Technological Research Institute) for the necessary technical support.

The project has been crafted and implemented by Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) with an aim to develop a 'rural wealth creation model' in the pursuit of Atmanirbhar Bharat and strengthening the Rural Economy.

The journey to creating the perfect We Mill `Box' began with identifying a potential area to establish the manufacturing unit followed by product development, entrepreneur selection, capacity building, branding, promotion and marketing. This eventually led to the creation of Asare Sanjeevini Food Products, a social business registered under the name of our 14-women entrepreneurs.



THE WOMEN-POWER OF MYSURU AND 'MYSURU MAHILA RATNA PURASKARA' AWARDEES LAUNCHED 'WE MILL' PRODUCTS TO COMMEMORATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



To commemorate International Women's Day, Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM), in association with Wuerth Elektronik India Pvt Ltd., presented the 'Mysuru Mahila Ratna Puraskara' to six women achievers to recognize their contribution in their respective fields.

Adding value to the event, the women achievers along with our 14 We Mill Women and Chief Guest Smt K. Lalitha G.T.Devegowda, President, Karnataka State Cooperative Credit Societies Federation Ltd (KSCCF), GRAAM's Executive Director, Dr. Basavaraju R Shreshtha, Wuerth Elektronik India Pvt Ltd's Managing Director, Mr. Harsha Adya, Dr Usha Dharmaraj, Senior Technical Officer, Department of Grain Sciences and Technology, CSIR-CFTRI and Dr Sathyendra Rao B V, Chief Scientist, Technology Transfer & Business Development, CSIR-CFTRI launched the 'We Mill' products.

For We Mill you are an impact investor impacting the lives of first-generation rural women social entrepreneurs. The raw materials are sourced from the local farmers and prepared by the mothers of Bilikere village to strengthen the rural economy. The products are made using CSIR-CFTRI technology with the health first and business next motto. While you are impacting the health and well-being of your loved ones, you are also contributing to the creation of 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat, says GRAAM Executive Director Dr Basavaraju R Shreshtha



Scan to read more

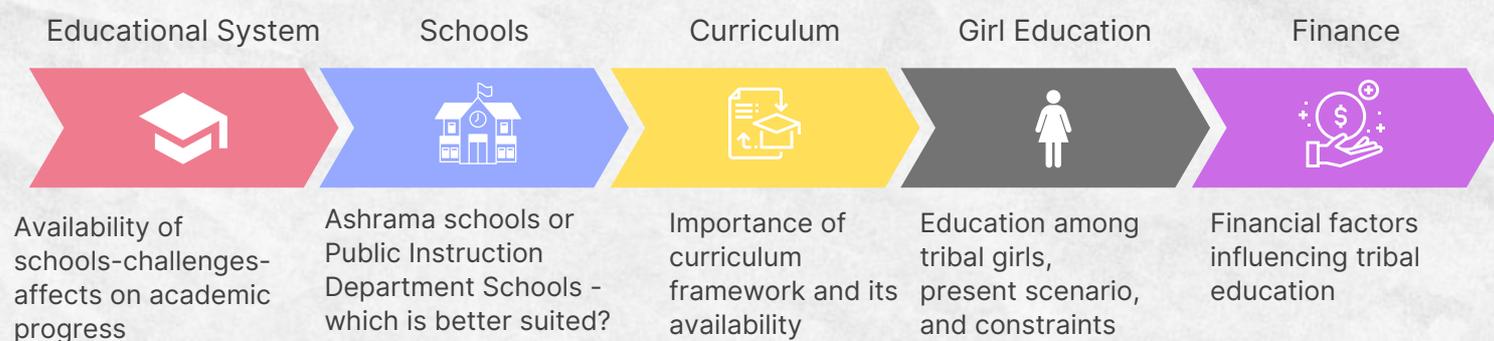
EDUCATION FOR THE TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

Present Scenario, Challenges, Policy intervention, and Action Plan

GRAAM in collaboration with the Tribal Forum of Karnataka organized a Webinar Series titled: 'Education for the Tribal Communities – Present Scenario, Challenges, and Necessary Actions' on a virtual platform between the 7th to 11th of October. State-Tribal Research Institute and Rise foundation also extended their support to this event.

The Scheduled Tribes (ST) are among the most socially and educationally disadvantaged groups in India. Though the government has implemented several programs for the social and economic upliftment of this community, all the development indicators highlight that they are distinct from the mainstream. This webinar focused on the issues concerning access to education and equity for Scheduled Tribe communities and also highlighted the problems induced by the pandemic and the need for policy intervention.

KEY ISSUES DISCUSSED



STAKEHOLDER EXPECTATION

-  Exclusive reservations should be provided to forest-based tribes within ST quota
-  Career guidance, professional education, and entrepreneurship training should be imparted
-  Skill development Programmes should be planned
-  Enhance community participation
-  Start Anganwadis in tribal settlements
-  Teachers to reside in tribal settlements
-  Learning in tribal language & learning the tribal language in schools



BUILDING A RESPONSIBLE BHARAT

The Government of India firmly believes in the concept of 'Minimum Government-Maximum Government'. Since its inception in 2019, Government has been constantly promoting good governance. The presentation of the 2021-2022 Union Budget was a classic example of upholding Minimum Government-Maximum Governance. The Union Budget 2021-2022 championed the concept.

Through 'Minimum Government, Maximum Governance' the Government of India wants to make the lives of people hassle-free, often by removing the hindrance a government has. It also aims to create and let people achieve their full potential.

The Government of India recently stated that a government does not run on policies alone, but believes that there is a need to include people for whom the policies are meant. It also opines that people are not just the receivers of the government's policies and programs, instead, they are the real driving force.

Following the footsteps of the Government Of India, GRAAM also took up research studies and academic program on Governance and Democratization.

[**READ MORE**](#)



GRAAM IMPACT

GRAAM'S POLICY ENGAGEMENT BRINGS ADVANCEMENT IN SOCIAL SECURITY PENSION AMOUNT

Being a Public Policy Research Institute, GRAAM connects with policymakers in many ways in the process of policymaking. GRAAM bestows guidance in planning and demonstrating effective public policy. In one such Policy engagement initiative, GRAAM recommended a hike in senior citizens' pension amount based on inflation and increasing medical burden, through its Senior Citizen's evaluation study in Karnataka. The state government has initiated a hike in the old age pension to INR 1200 under Sandhya Suraksha Scheme.

BACKGROUND OF SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES

Karnataka introduced Sandhya Suraksha Yojane (SSY) in 2007, to cover the larger section of poor elderly who may not be covered through the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) initiated by the Central government. The objective of SSY is to provide financial assistance to the eligible senior citizens of Karnataka while the objective of IGNOAPS is to provide a basic level of financial support to the destitute elderly. In India, both union and state Governments have introduced senior citizen pension schemes to provide income security for elderly people.

GRAAM, commissioned by KEA, evaluated the effectiveness of SSY in the state of Karnataka and its effects on the socio-economic conditions of elderly populations of the state. Some of the areas that were studied as part of the evaluation were:

- Functioning of SSY and identifying its contribution to the welfare of the elderly poor
- Knowledge and awareness about pension schemes among beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries
- The enrolment process for the pension scheme
- Pension disbursement mechanism
- Factors affecting the Aadhaar linked DBT coverage for pension schemes
- Adequacy of the financial assistance in providing a minimum livelihood to the old age people

GRAAM IMPACT

The study found that the pension amount (Rs 600 or Rs 1000) has a huge gap with beneficiaries' expenditures (average Rs 4770/-) and not keeping pace with inflation. Thus, the study recommended Pension amount indexed to inflation biannually, revised every two years. As this pension amount is not covering the entire monthly consumption expenditure of the beneficiaries, and as this amount was found to be inadequate, GRAAM made a suggestion to bring in a policy level change where the SSY pension amount must be raised to 50% of minimum wage or at least Rs 2000/- per month.

As recognition of the earnest effort made by GRAAM in this regard, the present government of Karnataka has decided to increase the pension amount under Sandhya Suraksha Yojane from Rs.1000 to Rs.1200 and this is expected to reach and help 35.98 lakh beneficiaries.

Thriving DEMOCRACY

Project Title	India Centre for Democracy and Ethical Electoral Practices (IDEEP)
Study Team	Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Bhagavan BR, Dr Nikhilesh Bagade, Rashmi Gopal Darshan R S, Nikita Choudhary, Sagana Umashankar (Interns)
Partners	Election Commission of Karnataka
Duration	June 2021 to August 2021
Field Sites	Mysuru, Karnataka

INTRODUCTION

In India, voter turnout had historically stagnated at around 55-60 percent, and these low polling percentages adversely impacted the quality of democracy. To address this, the 'Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation' program, better known as SVEEP, was established in 2009. SVEEP's primary goal is to build a truly participative democracy in India by encouraging all eligible citizens to vote and make an informed decision during the elections.

The objectives of the project were to enhance the understanding and appreciation of our democratic system and electoral processes, increase people's participation in elections, build capacity among stakeholders and be an inclusive and sustainable center.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The museum of democracy and a Capacity Building Centre by the Election Commission of India were proposed in Mysuru and Developing a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the proposed training centre and the museum was assigned to GRAAM. Thus district administration and GRAAM jointly held a consultative committee meeting to collect the responses of various stakeholders for the proposed Systematic Voters Education & Electoral Participation Museum, in Mysuru.

After the Consultation Committee meeting, GRAAM submitted a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for a proposed Systematic Voters Education & Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Museum and a Capacity Building Centre by the Election Commission of India in Mysuru including the recommendations for the self-sustaining model.

Stakeholders Consultation Workshop included people from different designated backgrounds like government officials, educational institutions, travels and hotel associations, museum, journalists, civil society organizations, youth representation, entrepreneurs and development consultants.



Honorable CEO of Karnataka Dr Sanjiv Kumar IAS inaugurating the stakeholder consultation workshop



A total of 44 stakeholders contributed their thoughts, ideas and suggestions during the consultation workshop

Without people's participation, there will not be any democracy. There is a need to give awareness to public participation. Thus, we are planning to create a museum and capacity-building centre here in Mysuru. No voter should be left behind as every vote counts. There is no museum of democracy in any part of the world. We should justify why we are working on the museum and why in Mysuru.

-Dr Sanjiv Kumar

Youth for GOVERNANCE

Project Title	Youth for Governance Fellowship Program
Study Team	Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Bhagavan BR , Kiran B S
Partners	Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) and Hans Seidel Foundation
Duration	February 2022 to December 2022
Field Sites	Mysuru, Karnataka

INTRODUCTION

This project aims at building the capacity of youth toward participatory governance and making them active by providing a platform of fellowship. A total of 25 youths selected from different parts of Mysuru will be trained on various training modules such as Governance, participation & citizenship, society, and social accountability during the period of the fellowship.

OBJECTIVES

-  Building the knowledge of youths on governance, participation and citizenship, society, and social accountability while enabling them to understand the self and their identities
-  Building capacity of the youth through theoretical and experiential learning approaches involving classroom training, field visits, and community research
-  To enable the youths to conduct community-based research activities on participatory governance and social accountability, and inspire them to be the agents of change
-  Paper publications from the findings of the research conducted by the youths of Mysuru

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

The principals and the Head Of the department/faculties were invited to the GRAAM campus as an initial step towards the promotion of the 'Youth for Governance' (Y4G) fellowship program.

The discussion on the fellowship program with institute heads was followed by the poster launch event of 'Youth for Governance Fellowship'.

The first orientation session was conducted in GRAAM followed by consecutive sessions at the University of Mysore, Vidya Vikas First Grade College, Maharaja Institute of Technology, Mysore.

Dr. R Balasubramaniam, Head of the committee for Karnataka Youth Policy-2021 & Founder-GRAAM, Mr. Nataraj, Director for Nehru Yuva Kendra, Mr. Chakravarty Sulibele, Founder of Yuva Brigade & Sodari Nivedita Pratisthana and Mr Santosh Kenchamba, Founder of Rashtra Dharma and GRAAM Executive Director Dr. Basavaraju R Shreshta unveiled the poster for Y4G.



His Majesty Maharaja Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar launched the poster and shared the video message appealing to the youth of Mysuru to join this fellowship and make the most of the opportunity.

Rigorous Social Media promotions were carried out through Facebook and WhatsApp. After these initiatives students from various streams applied for the fellowship program.

GRAAM and PRIA have shortlisted a total of 35 applicants for the fellowship through the interview.

At the GRASSROOTS

Project Title	A Study of Tribal Livelihood, Karnataka
Study Team	Dr Ananya Samajdar, Dr Arpita Mitra, Dr. Basavaraju R Shreshta, Dr Rajendra Prasad, Ravi C S, Dr Swamy
Partners	National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
Duration	March 2022 to June 2022
Field Sites	Chamarajnagar, Karnataka

INTRODUCTION

The Scheduled Tribes are the indigenous population of India that has been identified as socially and economically backward by the Government of India. These identified groups are in need of special protection from social injustice and exploitation. Tribal groups in India are at different stages of social, economic, and educational development.

OBJECTIVES

The study has been divided into two parts. The first is to study ST's participation in MGNREGA. Under the same, GRAAM will:

PARTICIPATION



Assess the extent of participation of STs in the scheme compared to other communities at the national level and state level, and shed light on inter-state variations in the same

CHALLENGES



Factors shaping demand for work among challenges faced by STs and PVTGs in obtaining and taking up work

PROCESS



Examine the implementation processes, and enablers and barriers in the same

RECOMMENDATIONS



Make policy and implementation recommendations for enhancing the participation and benefits from MGNREGA

To make it comprehensive, GRAAM will also study ST's access to CFR for which:

An examination of the procedure adopted in settling the land rights and community rights claims under FRA 2006 and an assessment of the implementation of FRA community rights in the selected study location will be conducted.

GRAAM will also understand exclusion errors empirically by conducting field studies, will study the functioning duties and responsibilities of the Forest Rights Enforcement Committee and other related statutory committees in the district.

Finally the study will dwell into the difficulties faced by the communities with regard to availability, storage, and disposal of small forest produce.

PROJECT STATUS

Initiating the study, GRAAM has developed the survey instruments and begun conducting pilot studies interacting with the indigenous population of the Chamarajnar district and conducted consultations with the relevant stakeholders.



ENGAGE TO EMPOWER

GRAAM Program

ACADEMIC

GRAAM conducted the Sixth edition of 'Introduction to Public Policy Session' in Delhi for the professionals of the Quality Council of India (QCI)



The first session was conducted by Dr R. Balasubramaniam, Founder- GRAAM on how society evolved from "anarchy to order" with his unique way of exemplars of four formers having different abilities of strength and knowledge followed by sessions from Dr Ananya Samajdar, Deputy Director- GRAAM and Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Executive Director- GRAAM on different aspects of policy execution and policy analysis respectively.

GRAAM in its CSR Vocal Series interacts with leaders spearheading CSR initiatives in various domains

CSR VOCAL

Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta, Executive Director- GRAAM interacted with Ms Manisha Singh, Senior GM, Head Sustainability and CSR (India and South Asia), Schneider Electrics on the 6E Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives of the company and more.

The second series saw an insightful discussion with Ms Shaina Ganapathy, Head Community Outreach, Embassy Group on the outreach and thoughtful intervention programs by the company.

While the third series was legacy driven with Dr Basavaraju in conversation with Titan Company Ltd.'s AVP & Head of Corporate Sustainability, Shridhar NE.



Events attended by

GRAMMERS

DR R BALASUBRAMANIAM, FOUNDER- GRAAM

- Delivered a Talk on 'Overview of NGO's & Stakeholders in the Development Sector, hosted by Danske IT, Bengaluru on 13th July 2021
 - Delivered a Lecture on 'Building a Future-Ready University' hosted by R V College, Bengaluru on 22nd July 2021
 - Talk delivered on 'Public Policy in a Post Covid World' Hosted by Jindal School of Govt. & Public Policy, Sonapat, Haryana on 2nd August 2021
 - Delivered a talk on "Asking the Right Questions, Finding Community Embedded Answers", hosted by St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences, Bengaluru on 08 April 2021
 - Delivered a talk on "Public Health & Human Development", hosted by DISOM – Transformation Leadership Institute, Panchgani on 05 June 2021
 - Speaker at the "Virtual Consultation on COVID -19 Home Isolation Guidelines for Vulnerable Population", organized by IAPSM – NISHTHA, New Delhi on 16 June 2021
 - Delivered a Lecture on "Social Stock Exchange – What Benefits it can bring to NGO Sector", organized by Dhvani Foundation, Bengaluru on 19 June 2021
 - Delivered a lecture on "Emergent Leadership for Social Change", hosted by SEWA International on 20 June 2021
 - Talk delivered on "Path to \$ 5 Trillion" Hosted by TIEcon Mysuru on 4th December 2021
-

DR BASAVARAJU R SHRESHTA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR- GRAAM

- Delivered a talk in a webinar on 'Kushala Yuvajana (A Skilful/ingenious Youth)', hosted by CMCA under their 'Spark Webinar Series' on 28th August 2021
- Designed and moderated the GUJARAT Youth Policy Workshop on 06 April 2021
- Participated in a virtual consultation on COVID-19 Home Isolation Guidelines for Vulnerable Population on 16 April 2021
- Delivered a talk as a Panelist - Rural Realities | Karnataka Practitioners' Experiences in Tackling the Second Wave in Indian Villages on 21 May 2021 organised by IMPRI
- Delivered a talk as a Panelist - "Leaving No One Behind: Eyes to the ground" by NISHTHA/Jhpiego on 03 June 2021
- Delivered a talk on 'Entrepreneurial Skills for Farmers' at Mysore Raitha Udyami Foundation - Talk on 28 June 2021
- Delivered a talk on 'Managing Covid-19 at Grassroots level: Local Governance and a Policy perspective' in a CAREER SESSION organized by O.P. Jindal Global University on 8th October
- Delivered a talk on the occasion of Good Governance Day at Akashvani- AIR Mysuru on 25th December, 2021
- Delivered a talk on "Sanitation for all- Grassroots Challenges", organized by Rotary Mysore Mid-Town
- Moderated a session on the National Conference on Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (NCMEL) organized by the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) of NITI Aayog on the 16th and 17th of March, 2022

DR ANANYA SAMAJDAR, HEAD-RESEARCH, GRAAM

- Participated in the Development Partners Meet of Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog, New Delhi on 24th November 2021
- Presented a paper titled "Community Monitoring for strengthening responsible participation leveraging ICT – Experience of Arogya Shreni in Karnataka and Jan Arogya Shreni in Jharkhand" in a session at the National Conference on Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (NCMEL) organized by Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) of NITI Aayog on 16th and 17th of March, 2022

Hear our INTERNS



Jatin Anand

The internship experience at GRAAM was really enriching. I've learned a lot of new concepts and modalities to conduct various types of research which will allow me to excel in my future endeavors. GRAAM gave me a platform to not only apply the academic knowledge I have gained during my coursework but also made me learn and unlearn so many things about research which I am sure will benefit me throughout my professional career.

Tooba Sayeed

I'm currently pursuing my Master's in Public Health at Manipal Institute of Higher Education. As a part of the program, I got the opportunity to intern with the GRAAM organization. During my internship, I worked on analyzing the Ayushman Bharat Operational guidelines for Mental and Neurological Health. Visiting GRAAM office was a rich experience, filled with meetings and working with many erudite professionals in the field of public health.



Sagana Umashankar

My experience as a research intern at GRAAM has given me a lot of exposure to the governance and research field. It gave me the opportunity to learn the process of writing a research proposal for the Election Commission of India and the steps involved throughout the process. One of the greatest benefits for me is being able to gain valuable knowledge by having hands-on experience. The work atmosphere was also an add on factor for me as I could voice out my ideas and suggestions were always welcomed by the entire team.



ಎನ್ನೆನ್ನೆಲ್ಲ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗೆ ಶೇ 64 ಮಂದಿ ಬಲವು

ಪ್ರಧಾನಿಕೆ ವಾಣಿ
ಮೈಸೂರು: ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಎರಡನೇ ಅಲೆಯ ಸಂಕಷ್ಟದ ನಡುವೆ 2020-21ರ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಎತ್ತರದ ಪಾಠ್ಯ ಪಠ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಬೇರೇ ಬೇರೇ ಎಂಬ ಒಬ್ಬ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಬಡವನು ಅದೇ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ (ಗ್ರಾಮ) ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಸಮಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 'ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಪಠ್ಯಪುಸ್ತಕ' ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಹೇಳುವುದು ಒಂದು ದೃಶ್ಯವಾಯಿತು.

ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೂ ಪಾಸ್ ಮಾಡಿ

ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ನಡವಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗದ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದಿನ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಅದೇ ತರಗತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೇಟಿಟೋನ್. ಬೇರೆ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಯವರಿಗೆ ಕೂಡಾ ಪಾಸ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಟ್ಟು ಮುಂದಿನ ತರಗತಿಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿ ಕೊಡುವುದು ಎಂದು ಶೇ 80ರಷ್ಟು ಮಂದಿ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ತರಗತಿ ಮಾಡಲಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದವರಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನವರು ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು. ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರೇ ಈ ಪ್ರಸಂಗಕ್ಕೆ 91.5%ರಷ್ಟು ಮಂದಿ ವಿವರಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಸಲಹೆಗಳು

- ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಕೊಡುವುದು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸುವುದು
- ಪ್ರತಿ ತರಗತಿಯಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಕೇಂದ್ರ ತರಗತಿ ಕೊಡುವುದು
- ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗೆ ಮುನ್ನ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ಮಾಡುವುದು
- ದಿನಕ್ಕೆ 60 ನಿಮಿಷಗಳ ಕಾಲ ಕಲಿಯುವುದು
- ದಿನಕ್ಕೆ 60 ನಿಮಿಷಗಳ ಕಾಲ ಕಲಿಯುವುದು



ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ನಡವಲು ಒಬ್ಬಗೆ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದವರಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು (ಶೇ 78) ಮೊದಲ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ನಂತರದ ಸ್ಥಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ರಮವಾಗಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು (ಶೇ 65), ವಿವಿಧ ತರಗತಿಗಳ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು (ಶೇ 60) ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಾಚಾರ್ಯರು (ಶೇ 60) ಇದ್ದಾರೆ. ನಗರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದವರು

732 ಮಂದಿ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶದವರಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 750 ಮಂದಿ ನಗರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದವರು. ಸಮೀಪವೇ 606 ವಿವಿಧ ತರಗತಿಗಳು, 254 ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು, 349 ಪ್ರಾಚಾರ್ಯರು ಮತ್ತು ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು (ಶೇ 57) ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶದವರು (ಶೇ 71) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಸ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 'ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ನಡವಲಿ' ಎಂಬ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಸಮೀಪವೇ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಗೆ ಶೇ 70 ಮಂದಿ 'ಬೇರೆ' ಎಂದು ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಗ್ರೀತದಲ್ಲಿ ಆತು ಕೊಂಡಿರುವ 278 ಮಂದಿಯ ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ಎಂದು 'ಗ್ರಾಮ' ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿತ್ತು. ಮೊತ್ತ 2100ರ ಮಟ್ಟದವರೆಗೆ ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ನಡವಲು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ದಿಶಾಂಶ ನೀಡಿದೆ.

ನಗರ, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 'ಗ್ರಾಮ' ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆ ಎನ್ನೆನ್ನೆಲ್ಲ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗೆ ಶೇ 64 ಮಂದಿ ಬಲವು



Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) members distribute thermal scanner devices to government higher primary schools and Karnataka Public Schools of Mysuru taluk during a programme in association with the department of Public Instruction in Mysuru. DH PHOTO

ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸಿ...
ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸಿ...
ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸಿ...

ಬಿಳಿಕೆರೆಯಲ್ಲೊಂದು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಉದ್ಯಮ

ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ಜೀವನೋಪಾಯಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಅಹಾರ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣಾ ಘಟಕಕ್ಕೆ ಇಂದು ಬಾಲನೆ

ಮಾ. 31 ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮೈಸೂರು
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧೀನದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಉದ್ಯಮ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಅಹಾರ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣಾ ಘಟಕವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿದೆ. ಈ ಘಟಕವು ಅಹಾರ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣಾ ಘಟಕವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿದೆ. ಈ ಘಟಕವು ಅಹಾರ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣಾ ಘಟಕವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿದೆ.



ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸ್ವಯಂ-ಸಹಾಯದ ಮೂಲಕ ಜೀವನೋಪಾಯಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಉದ್ಯಮ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಅಹಾರ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣಾ ಘಟಕವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿದೆ. ಈ ಘಟಕವು ಅಹಾರ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣಾ ಘಟಕವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿದೆ.

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ಸಂವಾದ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಬಿಳಿ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆರಿವು ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರ

ಮೈಸೂರು, ದಿ. 28

BRIGHTSIDE
SUNDAY 19/09/2021
50 Years of Excellence
urban skating

MAGIC WHEELS

Skaters on a mission to empower rural government school students with the skill of 'urban skating'

It is a common sight to see children in rural areas playing 'urban skating' on their own. They are using their own wheels and skis to learn the art of urban skating. This is a great initiative to help children in rural areas learn a new skill and have fun at the same time.

The initiative is a part of the 'MAGIC WHEELS' program, which aims to empower rural government school students with the skill of 'urban skating'. The program is run by the Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) in association with the Department of Public Instruction, Mysuru.

The program is a great initiative to help children in rural areas learn a new skill and have fun at the same time. It is a part of the 'MAGIC WHEELS' program, which aims to empower rural government school students with the skill of 'urban skating'.

64% in favour of conducting SSLC exams

S Ramesh | TNN
Mysuru: A three-day online survey on conducting the SSLC exam amid the prevalent Covid situation has revealed that 64% respondents are in favour of conducting the SSLC exams.

The survey was conducted by Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) to elicit the opinion from concerned stakeholders including teachers, students and parents through social media platforms.

GRAAM said as many as 1,487 respondents participated in the survey. Out of the 1,487 respondents, 737 were from rural areas and 750 were from urban areas. As per the survey findings, 78% of the teachers, 60% of the students,

60% of the parents and 65% of the general public are in favour of conducting SSLC exam this year. Interestingly, 71% from the rural areas and 57% from urban areas too favoured conducting exam this year.

Around 51% of the respondents raised objections against promoting kids to next class on the basis of internal marks, while 70% of the respondents were not in favour of conducting exam online.

Deputy director of public instruction Panduranga said: "SSLC exams are crucial for students in choosing the next discipline of study as well as to assess their competence. Exams for state board Class 10 is must for their future."

Survey: 54% of senior citizens in pension schemes happy

Bharhava M
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Mysuru: In a study carried out among beneficiaries of government schemes for senior citizens, 54% said they are happy or very happy with their lives. Asked to rank their happiness on a scale of 5, the average score turned out to be 3.8.

The survey results were released by the Karnataka Evaluation Authority (KEA) earlier this year and uploaded on its website recently. It covered 4,087 beneficiaries in all - 2,394 of its Direct Aadhar National Old Age Pension Scheme (GNDOAPS), and 1,693 of Sandhya Suroksha Yojana. Among GNDOAPS beneficiaries, 57.3% ranked themselves as happy or very happy, while among SSY beneficiaries, the figure was 64.7%.

Another 40% said they are "ok" while 6.4% said they are "not happy" or "sad at all happy".

The study was carried out by the Mysuru-based Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement for the KEA. The study was aimed at analysing the functioning of the schemes and identifying their contribution to the welfare of the poorest of the poor.

► Improving Lives, P 4

Pension schemes improve lives of elderly

Continued From Page 1

The study making use of primary and secondary data, was aimed at analysing the functioning of the schemes and identifying their contribution to the welfare of the poor, besides gauging awareness about pension schemes among beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.

It also looked into factors affecting the Aadhaar-linked DBT coverage for pension schemes. The report points to several gaps in scheme implementation and makes several suggestions to implement them more effectively.

About 4.6% of SSY and 11.6% of GNDOAPS beneficiaries continue to work despite receiving pensions. About 30% of beneficiaries said they share the pension with their families. About a quarter of the pension goes towards food expenses while another 17% goes for medicines.

Chaya K Heganikar, additional chief evaluation officer of KEA, said since those surveyed are from very poor families, the pension schemes go a long way in improving their lives.

"This may be the reason for their feedback. In this study, we found several gaps in scheme implementation which will be addressed," she said.

"NTI Agency had suggested carrying out of evaluation studies of all schemes. The state budget also proposed an evaluation study of all the projects which cross Rs 100 crore," she explained.

Basavarajji R Shivappa, executive director of GRAAM said the social support system made available to the senior citizens, including care and support from the family, must have influenced the responses.

Gopnarth R, founder of Sparsha Trust in Bengaluru, said the 50% happiness score is consistent in similar studies carried out among senior citizens in villages and communities. "Another 30-35% say they are disappointed in their challenges. The rest live an average life. It is seen to be common in all communities and neighbourhoods," he said.

'Mysuru Mahila Ratna Puraskar' awardees launch 'We Mill' products



Mysuru, Apr. 3: To commemorate the International Women's Day, Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM), in association with Warrth Electronics India Pvt. Ltd. presented the Mysuru Mahila Ratna Puraskar to six women achievers to recognize their contribution in their respective fields on Mar 15.

The Mysuru women achievers, who received the Mysuru Mahila Ratna Puraskar include P. Bhanumathi, Maheshwari Venka and Saranathi, first women priest of the country and Founder of Isharyasa Veda Hada Kendra, Mysuru; K. Sarangethi (Educationist), Art teacher, Government High School, G.B. Sargur; Rachana Mahesh (Educationist), Managing Director - Edukare ITES, M.S. Saintha Malappa (Entrepreneurship), CEO at iProcess, Mysuru; M.N. Sumana (Social Worker), Activist and Advocate, Ghastivahana Women - Rehabilitation Centre and M. Veena (artist), Kree-da Ratna Award Winners for "Koo Koo", International Xho Koo player.

On the occasion, the women achievers, along with chief guest Karnataka State Cooperative Credit Societies Federation Ltd (KSCCF), President K. Lalitha G.T. Devegowda, GRAAM's Executive Director Dr. Basavarajji R. Shivappa and Warrth Electronics India Pvt. Ltd.'s Managing Director Manja Adya launched the 'We Mill' products.

After receiving the Puraskar, Rachana Mahesh shared her experience and called upon women to not to give up but achieve their goal with courage, tolerance and determination.

Sumana appreciated the initiative taken by We Mill women entrepreneurs and urged the women to unite and raise their voice for this cause.

In his introductory speech, Dr. Basavarajji Shivappa said, "The country is now talking about Start-Up India, Stand-Up India, Atmanirbhar Bharat and the future economy to accelerate the Indian economy. However, the growth aspects of the new millennium have left behind the rural population. We need an inclusive model to take rural India beyond financial growth, towards rural wealth creation that includes human and social capital."

Calling upon NGOs to support women in their initiatives, Lalitha Devegowda said, "It is indeed inspiring to see women from Billars are now the proud owners of We Mill."

Manja Adya advised We Mill women entrepreneurs to maintain consistency in the quality of the products.

Dr. B.V. Sathyendra Rao, Chief Scientist, Technology Transfer & Business Development, CSIR-CIFTRI, explained in detail the technology used to develop We Mill products. Dr. Linke Channarayana, Senior Technical Officer, Department of Grain Sciences and Technology, CSIR-CIFTRI, was present.

The products launched at the event included Raggi Mudda (a Semolina Mudda prahira), Raggi Malt N Shaka, Shikupochan (Stages I, II and III), Premium Raggi Flour and Premium Raggi.

The We Mill products are available on leading e-commerce platforms.

We Mill is a Rural Social Business initiative undertaken by Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) with corporate partner - Shreeji Electronics India Pvt. Ltd. and CSIR-CIFTRI (Central Food Technological Research Institute) for the necessary technical support - with rural wealth creation at the helm of the initiative.

We Mill is a Rural Social Business initiative, incorporated with the motive to not just empower the rural women but also add to the rural wealth creation.

The journey to creating the perfect We Mill flour began with identifying potential areas to establish the manufacturing unit.

After finishing Billars of Honour taluk as a favourable location, potential women entrepreneurs belonging to various Self-Help Groups (SHG) of Banjeru-Kamatka, State Rural Livelihood Promotion (SRLP) were identified through an intensive selection process conducted by GRAAM.

This eventually led to the creation of Asha Corporation Food Products, a Rural Social Business registered under the name of our 14-women entrepreneurs.

Igniting entrepreneurship among the rural women of India



www.wemill.in

We Mill We Will

STATUTORY DETAILS

REGISTRATION

GRAAM is registered under the Indian trust registration act 1882, dated 05/03/2014 from the office of the additional district Sub Registrar, Mysuru 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 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

Grassroots
Research
And
Advocacy
Movement



GRAAM/Admin-256/2022-23

6th April 2022

From,
Grassroots Research And Advocacy Movement,
CA-2, KIADB, Industrial Housing Area, Ring Road, Hebbal,
Mysore-570016.

Respected Sir,

Subject: Submission of Annual Report as per the requirement of Section 21 (1) of Sexual Harassment of Women 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 2021-22

1) Number of Complaints of Sexual Harassment received in an year	Nil
2) Number of Complaints disposed of during the year	Nil
3) Number of cases pending for more than 90 days	Nil
4) Number of Awareness Programme or workshops against sexual harassment conducted in a year	Due to COVID protocol – Meetings were held online. Reading materials were sent to the team members and clarifications were provided.
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 Women Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and redressal) Act, 2013.

Yours faithfully,

(USHA C.R.)
Presiding Officer
Internal Complaints Committee

CC: The District Officer, Mysuru District, Karnataka



LOOKING AHEAD – LOOKING ABOVE

Dear Well-wishers and Patrons!

There is a saying 'a true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him but because he loves what is behind him.' COVID-19 was no less than a war. A war waged by an invisible virus against humankind. We had all the reason to hate what was in front of us in this war. Despite the hardships, civil society organisations expressed solidarity with the Government in the fight against COVID. Mysuru was one of the severely affected districts in the state. The infection was rapidly spreading into the villages. Although GRAAM is not a service delivery organisation primarily, we decided to get into the battleground and fight from the front. As we were gearing to fly into the action, a call from our partner organisation ARIS GLOBAL gave us wings. We designed Project COVI REACH to make the fight against COVID 'a community-based movement'. Thanks to the team that worked selflessly and complemented the endeavor of the community and Government machinery in making seven high prevalent village panchayats COVID FREE in 60 days. Amidst our research and evaluation studies, this is something soul-satisfying that we could do our bit. We were invited by various national and international organisations to present our 'Pancha Tantra Grama Mantra' model of COVI REACH.

21st Century Skills is a highly emphasised but tangentially comprehended concept even among the academic community. An opportunity to develop the SOTS (State of the Sector) Report by Unicef indeed enriched our learning. We are sure the report would help policy planners in designing an integrated project for augmenting 21st Century Skills. GRAAM is committed to working with stakeholders through action research and developing a policy brief in the coming year that would complement the New Education Policy of the country.

Atmanirbhar Bharath, the call something resurged the swadeshi conscious. In resonance, WE MILL Project has been crafted imbining the principle of 'rural wealth creation.' The fully 'rural women owned' initiative powered by Wuerth Elektronik and capacitated by CFTRI dedicated the Ragi-based products, marking 'International Women's Day' meaningfully. We aim to demonstrate a model for 'rural women social business' with WE MILL.

Our work in Jharkhand to create an engaged community with Health and Wellness Centres is a true endeavor to create Jan Bhagidari (Community Stakeholding). Project Jan Arogya Shreni supported by USAID under Project NISHTA of JHPIEGO is working towards strengthening Jan Arogya Samitis and bringing in community engagement for effective service delivery.

Youth is not just the hope for the future, they are indeed a future. Unless their civic participation is augmented, demographic dividends cannot be derived. Youth for Governance Fellowship launched in collaboration with PRIA and powered by HSS is geared to create 25 engaged youth in Mysuru.

We continue to create a 'collaborative learning community' through our academic programs in our pursuit of human and social capital development. Introduction to Public Policy Course and Public Policy and Program Evaluation Workshop would be further intensified in the year to come. We also intend to engage more young minds and create young ambassadors for 'evidence-based policy' by instituting Policy Fellowship.

We are Looking Ahead to another enriching year with passion powered team with all these initiatives. We are Looking Above to your patronage and solidarity.

Yours Truly,

Dr Basavaraju R Shreshta,
Executive Director, GRAAM

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"As citizens, we could no longer be satisfied with mere information, we all had to work to ensure that we can have a society that is free from fear; a society where the meekest shall find their voice; where the rule of law is no longer an exception; where every citizen of India shall be proud to participate in its development and play his role in making India a healthy, vibrant, inclusive and participatory democracy."

excerpt from the book '**I, the Citizen**' by
Dr R. Balasubramaniam, Founder - GRAAM

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GRAAM is a development research and policy engagement initiative in India. GRAAM's extensive expertise spans over policy research, Impact Assessment and Evaluation, Community Consultation, Policy Engagement, Strategic Consultation and Academic Programs. GRAAM works in collaboration with all the four key stakeholders of development i.e. Government, Citizenry, Civil Society Organizations and Corporate. GRAAM has successfully undertaken research, evaluations, consultancies and policy engagement initiatives in different sectors with a multi-dimensional approach.



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