

Connect

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Seema Arora
CEO
CII Foundation

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India's G20 Theme of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' serves as a powerful reminder of the interconnectedness of all life on this planet and the need for collaborative efforts to address multi-faceted challenges like poverty, climate change, and gender inequality towards creating an equitable world.

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India's G20 Theme of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' serves as a powerful reminder of the interconnectedness of all life on this planet and the need for collaborative efforts to address multi-faceted challenges like poverty, climate change, and gender inequality towards creating an equitable world. At the forthcoming G20 Leader's Summit to be held in Delhi in September this year, a G20 Leaders' Declaration will be adopted, which will be based on the priorities that emerge out of the deliberations held by various working groups and ministerial meetings.

As a developing economy, India must strike a fine balance to ensure that its growth and development are environment-friendly and sustainable to safeguard the well-being of future generations.

Indian industry plays a key role in India's socio-economic development. Its invaluable support is powering several of the CII Foundation's multi-stakeholder projects where the expertise of various stakeholders - government, industry, academia, and the communities we work with - is translating into significant positive socio-economic impact.



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Our woman exemplars, grassroots women leaders from rural and resource-poor areas, continue to inspire as they carve new paths for themselves and their communities, overcoming poverty and social barriers. In May, we announced the winners of the CII Foundation Woman Exemplar Award 2023 at the CII Annual Session. Smt Smriti Irani, the Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs presented the Award to Pushpa Shukla from Raipur, Chhattisgarh; Archana Gokul Mane from Osmanabad, Maharashtra and Zohmangaihi from Aizawl, Mizoram in the categories of Education, Micro-enterprise and Health, respectively. Pushpa has brought about a change in the basic education system of her State, benefiting close to 7.5 lakh beneficiaries while Archana has trained over 1.14 L women farmers in sustainable farming practices and secured over 37 lakhs as interest-free loans for women entrepreneurs in her village. Zohmangaihi has transformed the lives of over 19000 HIV+ patients and helped them find a new sense of dignity. Each of these women has shown remarkable courage in the face of adversity, and their inspiring stories bear testimony to their grit and determination to drive social change.

Our woman exemplars, grassroots women leaders from rural and resource-poor areas, continue to inspire as they carve new paths for themselves and their communities, overcoming poverty and social barriers.

The waste management project in Delhi's Okhla is transforming the area as more households adopt better waste management practices.

In other areas of our work, we continue to combat climate change by promoting sustainable agriculture practices focusing on mitigating crop residue burning in our project villages in Punjab and Haryana, with intensive groundwork with farmer-outreach events and training sessions undertaken this quarter. Our waste management project in Delhi's Okhla is transforming the area as more households adopt better waste management practices. Moreover, we have launched a new plastic waste initiative and established an integrated plastic waste recycling centre to efficiently manage non-biodegradable waste.

Our work across thematic areas was showcased for the first time at the CII Annual Session 2023 through a special exhibition on CII's Social Development and Inclusion Initiatives. The overwhelming response from people of diverse backgrounds reaffirmed our belief that collectively we have the power to build a more robust and sustainable world that thrives amidst challenges by empowering local communities, sharing knowledge, and embracing environment-friendly solutions.

The CII Foundation remains committed to strengthening its interventions to catalyze change and contribute to a more equitable world.



CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE

Crop Residue Management

While there is a perceptible move towards environment-friendly agriculture practices, crop residue burning continues in India's north-western states of Punjab and Haryana. Stubble burning causes immense damage at various levels: it raises air pollution levels dramatically causing respiratory and other ailments and degrades soil quality reducing farm yield over time.

In fact, stubble burning emerged as a significant contributor to the rising air pollution, especially in winters in India's northwest, according to a 2017 study conducted by the CII-NITI Aayog.

To address the issue of stubble burning, CII launched a comprehensive crop residue management program under its Cleaner Air, Better Life initiative in 2018. Given the complexity of the issue, it was launched as a multi-stakeholder project with the government, industry, state agricultural universities, farmer

communities and field partners to mitigate stubble burning and enhance the adoption of environment-friendly agricultural practices.

Over the years, the project coverage has been expanded, and in season 2022, the project covered 300 villages in the two states. Project interventions have resulted in 83% reduction in stubble burning in the adopted villages. Such has been the success of the project interventions, that the project implemented in Sangrur, Punjab, supported by the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, won the Best CSR Project Award at Indian Oil's CSR Vihaan Pipelines Division CSR Conclave 2023 held in Coimbatore.

During the April to June 2023 quarter, extensive on-the-ground activities were conducted to increase outreach and raise awareness among farmers about environmentally friendly crop residue management practices towards creating a zero-stubble burning movement.

Key Components of the Program

- ◆ Building awareness
- ◆ Creating Community Tool Banks
- ◆ Technical training and handholding
- ◆ Local engagement and ownership
- ◆ Research and policy advocacy

EXPANDING FARMER OUTREACH – REACHING DOOR-TO-DOOR



While the project offers continuous support to farmers throughout the year, focused awareness drives were conducted during this quarter. Project volunteers trained by the CII Foundation visited farmer households to directly engage with them, addressing their concerns and dispelling myths and misconceptions and promoting adoption of new technologies. They raised awareness about the ill effects of stubble burning and the benefits of participating in the project, offering them guidance and support to adopt sustainable agricultural practices, ensuring that farmers make informed decisions about crop residue management.



TRAINING SESSIONS WITH STATE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT



Training sessions in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) were held across all the districts of Punjab and Haryana to enhance farmers' understanding of the economic benefits of not burning stubble, maximum utilisation of resources, crop health and introducing them to paddy varieties that produce less stubble. For example, specific varieties of paddy seeds are promoted and the cultivation of varieties like PUSA-44 is discouraged, since it tends to generate more stubble and requires additional time for management.



IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An impact assessment exercise is currently underway for the project being implemented in Haryana and Punjab. In Haryana, the assessment has been completed in two districts, namely Fatehabad and Sirsa, and is currently ongoing in the district of Karnal.

The impact assessment aims to evaluate the project outcomes and effectiveness, particularly in yield improvement. The assessment will provide insights into the project's progress, identify areas of success, and help plan future strategies for enhancing the program's impact.



STORIES FROM THE FIELD



Khem Singh
Farmer
Malerkotla, Punjab



We have been working with the organization for the last 2 years. Initially, when they told us that they will provide machinery at a nominal rent, and in return, they only want a commitment that we will not burn stubble, we thought that this is one of the cases where corporates make announcements and leave. But they kept their word and even conducted training sessions and regular meetings with us. They stood with us all these years, not only during the season. We are now practising zero burning.



Karnail Kaur
Sarpanch, Kamalpur
Sangrur, Punjab



The pollution problem in our village has significantly decreased as a result of this initiative. Since our village acquired the Rotavator and Super Seeder machines, the amount of stubble burned by farmers has significantly decreased, resulting in less pollution and easier wheat sowing, both of which have greatly benefited the farmers.







DISASTER RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

Rising global temperatures and sea levels and changing precipitation patterns have contributed to the increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather conditions. This has amplified the challenges faced by India. Due to its geographical location, topography, and climate patterns, the country experiences a range of disasters such as cyclones and earthquakes which severely impact infrastructure, the economy, and society as a whole.

The CII Foundation plays a pivotal role in disaster relief and rehabilitation efforts. It actively engages with various stakeholders like the government, industry partners, and civil society organizations, to undertake relief operations such as distributing medicines and food, and rehabilitation efforts including the rebuilding of damaged infrastructure to alleviate the damage due to the disaster.

KERALA RELIEF & REHABILITATION

The floods that ravaged Kerala in 2018 stand out as one of the most devastating natural disasters the state had witnessed in nearly a century. The excessive rainfall overwhelmed riverbanks and water bodies, leading to massive floods across the state. They displaced millions of people from their homes, damaged property and infrastructure and caused loss of life and livelihoods.

CII and CII Foundation responded with alacrity and collaborated with the Kerala State Government to

provide urgent relief measures for flood victims as part of the government's "Nava Keralam" efforts. As part of the rehabilitation efforts, the Government Lower Primary School (GLPS) in Kayanad and six Public Health Centres in North Paravoor, Moothakunnam, Chittattukara, Puthuvyppu, Mulavukadu, and Avoly were identified for renovation or reconstruction. Substantial progress has been made, with the GLPS in Kayanad rebuilt and handed over to the school administration in January 2022.

INAUGURATION OF FOUR HEALTH CENTRES

In April, four out of the six health centres were handed over to the state government, ensuring the restoration of essential healthcare services in the affected areas. Community Health Centre, Moothakunnam, Family Health Centre, Chittattukara, Family Health Centre, Avoly and Family Centre, Mulavukadu were inaugurated by Smt Veena George, Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Government of Kerala, in the presence of esteemed guests including Hon'ble MLA Shri VD Satheesan, Hon'ble MP Shri Hibi Eden, Ernakulam Constituency and Shri Aju Jacob, Chairman, CII Kerala and Joint Managing Director, Synthite Industries Pvt. Ltd.

During the inauguration, the Minister commended the CII and the CII Foundation for their swift and effective intervention following the floods, which played a crucial role in restoring and enhancing the patient-friendliness of the health centres. The Minister acknowledged the public-private partnership (PPP) model implemented by CII, which aims to elevate public health and improve facilities. This approach not only creates an environment at par with private centres but also enhances the quality of services offered to the public.

Appreciating the efforts of CII and the CII Foundation, Shri Hibi Eden, MP of Ernakulam announced a significant contribution from the MP Fund, a dialysis machine to the hospital, further supporting the healthcare infrastructure and services provided by the health centres.



The initiatives undertaken by the CII Foundation in Kerala will have a significant impact on the local population. It is estimated that 5 lakh individuals will directly benefit from the improved infrastructure and services annually.



STORIES FROM THE FIELD



Dr Seamol VC
Medical Officer in Charge,
Family Health Centre,
Chittattukara



Dr Seena N S
Medical Officer
Community Health Centre,
Moothakunnam

In 2018, our area was heavily affected by floods, and as a result, our health centre needed significant upgrades. Fortunately, CII Foundation generously stepped forward to assist us in transforming our facility into a Family Health Centre. The intervention greatly uplifted our health centre and has made it a one-of-a-kind healthcare facility in the Ezhikkara Block Panchayat area. Additionally, the mini-conference hall, which was built as part of the intervention, now serves as a major training centre for healthcare providers. We are now in the process of obtaining ISO Quality standards for our hospital, and we have already received initial visits from the District Quality Cell.

Community Health Centre Moothakunnam caters to the health needs of 4 major panchayats - Vadakkekara, Chittattukara, Kodungallur & Chendamangalam, located in the coastal belt where the majority of residents are fishermen. CHC Moothakunnam was devastated after the floods. I express my gratitude for the efforts of CII, which took up the challenge of renovating the hospital and got the implementation done through COSTFORD. The interventions were primarily focused on making the hospital more patient-friendly and enhancing the treatment facilities. The intervention at the IP ward and centralised oxygen supply for the IP ward was of great help during the COVID-19 pandemic as the renovated facility and oxygen system were used to treat Covid patients from the nearby panchayats. Presently our daily outpatients have increased to 400 per day, which is a testament to the high quality of healthcare services we now offer.

MEDIA COVERAGE



● മുത്തകുന്ന് സാമൂഹികാശാസ്ത്ര കേന്ദ്രത്തിൽ കോൺഫെറൻഷൻ ഓഫ് ഇന്ത്യൻ ഇൻഡസ്ട്രീസ് ബുക്കിയ റൈടെക് ലാബ്, ഐ.പി. ബ്ലോക്ക്, ഇമുണൈസേഷൻ റൂം എന്നിവയുടെ ഉദ്ഘാടനം മന്ത്രി വീണാ ജോർജ് നിർവ്വഹിക്കുന്നു.

പറവൂർ എറണാകുളം മെഡിക്കൽ കോളജിൽ 100 കോട് രൂപ ചെലവിൽ ഐസൊലേഷൻ ബ്ലോക്ക് സ്ഥാപിക്കുമെന്നു മന്ത്രി എൻ ജോർജ് പറഞ്ഞു. ക്രോ-സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കിൾകളുടെ ധനവിഹിതം പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുത്തി നിർമിക്കുന്ന രാജ്യത്തെ ഏറ്റവും വലിയ ഐസൊലേഷൻ ബ്ലോക്കായിരിക്കും. ണ്

മുത്തക്കുന്നം സാമൂഹികാരോഗ്യ കേന്ദ്രത്തിൽ കോൺഫെഡറേഷൻ ഓഫ് ഇന്ത്യൻ ഇൻഡസ്ട്രീസ് ഒരുക്കിയ ഹൈടെക് ലാബ്.

എ.പി. ബോധ്, ഇച്ഛാശക്തി, ധർമ്മം എന്നിവയുടെ ഉദ്ദേശ്യം നിലനിർത്തുകയായിരുന്നു. കാനൂസി ചികിത്സാ രീതി രോഗബാധയ്ക്കു സർവ്വതും സഹായിക്കുകയും അതിൽ കാനൂസി സെന്ററിലും മലബാർ കാനൂസി സെന്ററിലും ആരംഭിക്കുകയും ആവർ പാഞ്ഞു. പ്രസിദ്ധതയോടെ പരിചരിക്കുന്നതിനായി എം.പി., ജില്ലാ പഞ്ചായത്ത് പ്രസിഡന്റ് ഉദ്യോഗം തോന്നി, വടക്കേക്കര പഞ്ചായത്ത് പ്രസിഡന്റ്

[illegible]

മെഡിക്കൽ കോളേജിൽ നൂറ് കോടിയുടെ
ഐസൊലേഷൻ ബ്ലോക്ക് നിർമ്മിക്കും: മന്ത്രി

കാഴ്ച: കേരളസംഭരണ നവമി എന്നാകട്ടെ മെഡിക്കൽ കോളേജിൽ രണ്ടു മോടിയിലൂടെയും മണ്ണാകൽ നിർമ്മിക്കുമെന്ന് ആരാധ്യപുത്ര വിന്നോ ചോർജ്ജ് പറഞ്ഞു. മോണിറ്ററഡ് ഗവൺമെന്റിനുള്ളിൽ ഇതിന് പ്രസിഡൻസി കൗൺസിലിലും ആരാധ്യപുത്രന്റെ ഇടയിൽ ഉൾക്കൊള്ളാൻ കഴിയില്ലെന്ന് എം.പി. മുഖ്യാമത്ത് പ്രസിഡൻ്റ് മുഖ്യാമത്സ് നടത്തുമ്പോൾ സമീപം

യുഎഫ്എപ്പിആറോലി, വൈപി
 ന്നുള്ളവകാട്, ചിറ്റാറ്റകരകടുംബ
 രോഗ്യകേന്ദ്രങ്ങളിൽ നടത്തിയ
 നവീകരണ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങളും ഉ
 ദ്ഘദീപനം ചെയ്യുകയായിരുന്നു

കാൻസർ ചികിത്സാരംഗത്ത്
രാജ്യാലയത്തിൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെയും സമീപത്തുള്ളവരുടെയും കൗൺസിലറുടെയും സഹായത്തോടെയാണ് പ്രതിരോധനം നൽകുന്നത്.

[illegible]



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

The future of a nation lies in the hands of its children, making it crucially important to provide them with good nutrition and education, especially during their formative years. These years determine their chances of survival, growth and development and lay the foundation for their holistic learning and well-being.

In India, early childhood education and care for children up to 6 years are delivered through Anganwadi Centres

(AWCs) under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) program.

Recognizing the immense potential of investing in Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) for the benefit of children and society, the CII Foundation has been working closely with State Governments, industry, and local NGOs to strengthen ECE (Early Childhood Education) and other services provided at AWCs across the country.

Key Components of the Program

- **Infrastructure Support to Develop Model Anganwadi Centres:** Traditional brick-and-mortar Anganwadi infrastructure is transformed into child-friendly learning spaces with wall art and other means under the concept of Building as a Learning Aid (BaLA).
- **Building Capacity of Anganwadi Workers:** The skills and knowledge of Anganwadi workers are enhanced through comprehensive training sessions, workshops, group discussions, and educational videos. They are also trained to monitor the growth of children and provide nutrition counselling for children.
- **Developing Age-Appropriate Curriculum:** The Foundation supports the development and implementation of curriculum that is suitable for different age groups. In areas where there is a specific curriculum mandated by the State, the CII Foundation ensures compliance.
- **Engaging the Community:** The community is engaged to achieve the common goal of improving learning outcomes and overall health for children by:
 - **Establishing Anganwadi Samitis:** Anganwadi Samitis are established to work closely with the AWCs to support and collaborate with ICDS to ensure effective service delivery and community involvement at the centres.

- **Establishing Nutrition Gardens:** To enhance community health and encourage active participation, women and adolescent groups are encouraged to cultivate trees and vegetables in small plots of land surrounding the AWCs.



On the lines of its earlier intervention in Ramban, Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), Phase II of the ECE program is being implemented in partnership with the Mission Directorate POSHAN, J&K where 1000 Anganwadi Centres have been identified in four blocks across three districts - Banihal and Gool in District Ramban, Breng in District Anantnag and Narwah in District Baramulla. The focus is on enhancing the cognitive learning, school readiness of children enrolled in the centres and improving nutritional awareness among parents and communities located near AWCs. To achieve this, the CII Foundation has partnered with Jammu & Kashmir Association of Social Workers (JKASW) for the implementation on:

- Creating a cadre of 40 Block level Master Trainers (Supervisors).
- Capacity Building of 950 Anganwadi workers/Helpers on transaction of Nanhe Kadam & Growth Monitoring.
- Creating a cluster of 80 Model AWCs in each target block.
- Creating and strengthening 80 Anganwadi Support and Monitoring Groups (ASMGs).

- Developing Parameters and Tracking Outcomes:**
 The CII Foundation develops comprehensive and user-friendly tools for monitoring and evaluating the performance of Anganwadi Centres.



In addition, the Foundation has also begun working with the AWCs in rural Karnataka in Dharwad, Hoskote, Nellamangala and Chamrajnagar. The project aims to establish a dedicated resource centre that will serve as a learning hub for over 300 AWCs in the region. The project also aims to develop 30 model AWCs, setting a benchmark for high-quality early childhood education and care. Infrastructure support by way of construction of compound walls to enhance safety at the Centres and installation of hand wash sinks to promote better hygiene practices have been provided.



STORIES FROM THE FIELD



Rajdulari

*An Anganwadi Worker
in Ramban, Jammu*

“

I have been working as an Anganwadi Worker (AWW) for more than 20 years. Never have I ever felt as confident and competent as I do now after attending the training facilitated by CII Foundation. We have learnt a lot through the training provided to us - using poems and Teaching/Learning Materials (TLM) to engage the children, work on their cognitive development, etc.

“



WASTE MANAGEMENT

Clean Abul Fazal Project

Proper waste management methods are essential not only for the health of the people but also to ensure that the cities are clean and liveable. Well-established waste collection and disposal systems and processes are also a step forward in assisting the conversion of waste to energy and contributing to a circular economy. With rapid urbanisation, one of the challenges in several cities in India is the inadequate infrastructure and systems for managing municipal waste, particularly in densely populated urban slum areas.

To address the issue of poor urban waste management, the CII Foundation launched a waste management initiative in Delhi's Abul Fazal, a densely populated area, in June 2021 in partnership with PTC Foundation and PTC India Financial Services Limited.

The project complements the waste management system of the local municipal corporation and is designed as a multi-stakeholder project which is community driven. It promotes civic participation by working closely with the local government, residents, and community institutions such as the RWAs, creating awareness and advancing good waste management practices.

Key Components of the Program



Creating awareness and catalysing civic engagement



Promoting waste segregation at source and safe waste collection



Promoting recycling waste locally and value-addition in bio-degradable waste with the involvement of RWAs



Segregating and recycling non-biodegradable/dry waste such as plastic



Building skills of waste workers and enhancing their safety

In the April to June quarter, the ongoing project interventions were strengthened while new initiatives were launched to make Abul Fazal a 'zero-waste' neighbourhood.

PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE

Plastic waste poses a major health hazard as it is non-biodegradable. It is often seen littering the area, choking drains, and a large part ends up in landfills causing huge environmental damage. To tackle the same, a plastic waste management initiative has been launched under this project, which focuses on,

- Efficient plastic waste collection, targeting both low and high-value plastic waste such as polythene and bottles.
- Semi-processing plastic waste for better packaging and transporting. Baling and grinding machines have been installed allowing local waste aggregators to properly package plastic waste thus saving on transportation costs.

An integrated Plastic Waste Recycling Centre has been set up for efficient plastic waste management. It enables the sorting, packaging and aggregating of plastic waste for sale. This initiative supports small aggregators by treating plastic waste and facilitating their work, thereby creating opportunities for economic growth and sustainable livelihoods.



PROMOTING WASTE SEGREGATION AND COMPOSTING

As part of the waste management efforts, dustbins have been distributed to encourage community members to segregate their waste. Home composting bins have also been provided to promote composting of wet waste at home, resulting in increased adoption of this practice.

To facilitate large-scale composting, a Community Compost Centre was established in January 2022. Waste collected from residents is transported to the Composting Centre, where machines can handle up to 4 tonnes of organic waste daily. 1 lakh tonnes of wet waste have been treated so far and converted into compost and is being utilized as manure to enhance the greenery of Abul Fazal.

PROMOTING GREENING OF ABUL FAZAL

Through the joint efforts of CII Foundation, PTC Foundation and PTC India Financial Services Limited, Okhla Community Form (OCF), Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) and the residents, spaces once used for dumping waste have been revitalized into beautiful community parks under the project. Regular cleanliness and plantation drives have become a hallmark of the Abul Fazal locality.

In April, a local dumping site was transformed into a seating area to provide a space for the elderly to relax and socialize. Furthermore, in May, another local dumping site was cleared and a plantation drive was conducted.



Recently, 50 Anganwadi women were also entrusted with the responsibility of nurturing plantations and promoting environmental sustainability.



STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

During April and May, regular meetings were conducted with various stakeholders including recyclers, aggregators, OCF and Safai Abhiyan and Aid Foundation (SAAF) Members. These meetings focused on discussing strategies to improve the plastic recycling rate, address challenges, and find solutions.

In April, a meeting took place with a recycler, discussing the handling of dry waste, sample collection methods and negotiating purchase rates.

In May, the CII Foundation project team visited the plastic waste management facility to discuss implementation of safety measures such as fire extinguishers



and earthing to ensure a secure working environment. Simultaneously, conversations with vendors were conducted to explore ways to optimize the operational speed of recycling machines to increase efficiency.

RATION DISTRIBUTION

The initiative goes beyond waste management itself and focuses on improving the working conditions of waste workers and providing essential facilities such as waste carts, safety kits, insurance coverage and ration support.

Ration was distributed amongst waste workers in May.



STORIES FROM THE FIELD



Member
Safai Abhiyan and Aid
Foundation (SAAF)

“

The CII Foundation has helped us with masks, rations, and carts and we are grateful for it. Thank you.

”



Rizwan Khalifa
Resident
Abul Fazal Enclave

“

I would like to share the experience of my Block, G block. The CII Foundation is doing a wonderful job. To promote segregation of waste into wet and dry waste at the household level, they are distributing dustbins.

”

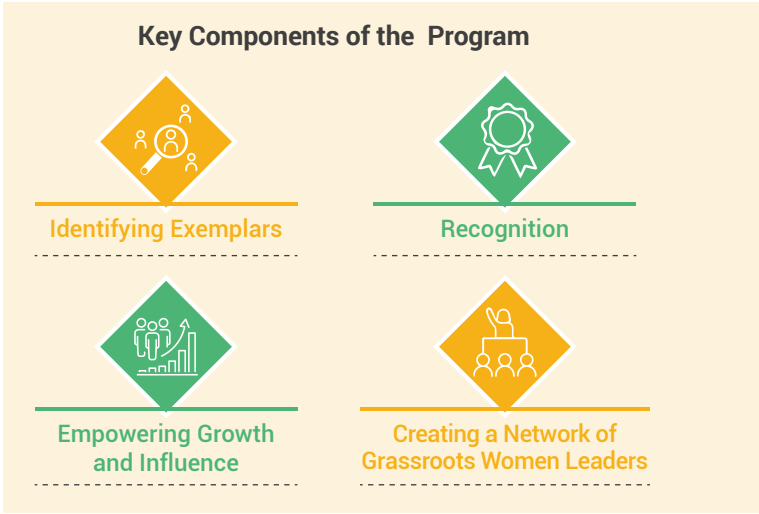


WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Woman Exemplar Program

CII embarked on a journey to empower grassroots women in 2005 with the institution of the CII Woman Exemplar Award. Going beyond recognition, it widened the scope and impact of its work in women empowerment by making the Award a part of a larger program called the CII Foundation Woman Exemplar Program in 2011.

Under the Program, grassroots women leaders are not only recognised for their work in areas such as Health, Micro-enterprise and Education through the Award, but are also coached and mentored to help them scale up their work for greater impact.



IDENTIFYING EXEMPLARS

Each year a rigorous and multi-step process is followed to identify the Woman Exemplars.

In 2022, over 400 nominations were received for the CII Foundation Woman Exemplar Award 2023, and after

evaluation which included telephonic interviews and personal visits to understand the journey of each of the nominees, their contribution and impact, three winners were selected by an eminent jury selected from industry, media, and the social sector.

PRESENTING THE 2023 COHORT OF CII FOUNDATION WOMAN EXEMPLARS

Pushpa Shukla

Born in a remote tribal village in Chhattisgarh, Pushpa's father's non-supportive attitude towards girls' education and systemic challenges prevented her from becoming a doctor but did not deter her from the path of education.

Pushpa's unwavering commitment to providing equal opportunities to every tribal child did not falter. Instead, she rose to the challenge and created online tools and resources that benefited more than 10,000 students, 200 school headmasters, and over 1,600 assistant teachers. Her work in improving the foundational literacy levels of children and has brought about a change in the Basic Education System of the state, benefiting close to 7.5 lakh beneficiaries directly and indirectly.

Age: 35 years
Education: MA in Hindi and D.Ed.
Years of Experience: 16
Name of organization: LIT (Language and Learning Foundation)
Location: Raipur

Zohmangaihi

Battling severe depression, suicidal thoughts, and anxiety after being diagnosed with HIV, Zoh found a new life with counselling and ART therapy. Widowed at a tender age with an infant and a malignant disease, Zoh was ostracized from the society because of revealing her HIV status. Finding solace in therapy, Zoh recuperated and took it on herself to help women like her.

A counsellor, community mobilizer and an influencer, Zoh has transformed the lives of over 1900 HIV+ patients in the region. Her tireless work has brought medical care, counselling, and a newfound sense of dignity to thousands of people living with HIV (PLHIV) in the region.

Age: 25 years
Education: Class 12
Years of Experience: 16
Name of organization: Positive Women Network
Location: Aizawl, Mizoram

Archana Mane

Born into poverty in rural Maharashtra, Archana was forced to beg for money, counting her resolve to support her family and children. Starving off with stitching clothes and harvesting them for groceries she got deeply affected by the former suicides in the region. Resilient and determined, she overcame poverty and hardship to become a trailblazer in empowering women and promoting sustainable farming practices. Training over 1,141 women farmers and securing over 137 lakhs as an interest-free loan, forming a production company that ensures fair prices for their organic produce, Archana has turned around the destiny of women farmers like her.

Age: 35
Education: BA Graduate
Years of Experience: 10
Name of organization: Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP)
Location: Osmanabad, Maharashtra

Bhawani Kanwar

Making inroads against gender-biased taboos, and defying and challenging dominant narratives for hapless women, Bhawani fought poverty, normal abuse and gender discrimination, struggling to complete her schooling and becoming the only woman with a Master's degree in her village.

Inspiring the fate of thousands of young girls from the Dalit Community denied education, Bhawani is ensuring education for all. Defining herself in ensuring social empowerment and uplifting, facilitating access to quality education and skill training over 1 lakh beneficiaries and over 24000 beneficiaries directly.

Age: 24 years
Education: Masters of Arts
Years of Experience: 4
Name of Organization: Centre for Community Economics and Development (CCED) Society (CCED SOCIETY)
Location: Tinkh District, Rajasthan

Rekha Devi

Fighting oppressive poverty and socio-cultural norms of caste discrimination, Rekha heavily suffered from child abuse, sexual harassment, and violence. Having no support whatsoever and with a young child to feed, Rekha's education helped her overcome these challenges.

Rekha eventually transformed into a formidable force in her region, child labor and exploitation in the region, while educating the girls of her region in remote villages. She has rescued nearly 4000 children in Rajasthan from the clutches of human trafficking and child labor, ensuring their childhood, ensuring education and livelihoods for all. She has helped a population of over one crore that is currently facing the present pandemic.

Age: 32 years
Education: BA
Years of Experience: 10
Name of Organization: Narmada Prastha
Location: Bikaner, Uttar Pradesh

Meena Rani

Despite being considered "too sick" in her family, Meena refused to accept the education was the only way to climb out of the poverty they were plagued with. Meena's degree.

From improving the social status of women and girls in empowering them to participate in decision-making in their lives, Meena has been making a difference, one person at a time. She believes that educating the young one gender equality can shape the future of India and is working relentlessly to ensure systemic change directly impacting over 13000 beneficiaries.

Age: 34 years
Education: MPhil
Years of Experience: 9
Name of organization: Breakthrough India
Location: Baramulla, Jammu and Kashmir

Swati Sawant

Coming from a family forced by tradition into a shocking amount of hardship, migration, death and displacement, an adolescent Swati witnessed her own mother getting beaten to death, faced years of abuse and was into an abusive marriage. Swati realized it all started while working as a social mobilizer.

Relating to similar stories of all the women in her community, Swati started a leadership training for over 12000 women on their leadership rights, schemes, and policies. She took the education system and ensured a further second wave of women leading among social justice for all.

Age: 33 years
Education: Currently pursuing MB
Years of Experience: 2
Name of organization: CHRI India
Location: Kolhapur, Maharashtra

P Anna Vilasini

Born in the night of Annapurna (monsoon) night, Anna was believed to be the bad omen for the family, pushing her into a life of abuse and discrimination. Her mother abused her and left her behind with an alcoholic father and a menacing grandmother. Anna was made to do the dirty jobs along with being isolated and abused everyday by different men. Staying in an extremely abusive marriage, Anna was forced to make her mother stronger to provide children from getting abused. In an age of 27 years, her community initiatives have reached 3.5 lakh children, 1.8 lakh women across 50000 more who also received voice training for their work.

Age: 24 years
Education: BA and MCA
Years of Experience: 5
Name of organization: Mahila Chakra Foundation
Location: Nellore district, Telangana

Jaspreet Kaur

Born into a low-income family, Jaspreet's life began in the shadow of struggle and poverty. With a father crippled by his addiction to alcohol, her childhood was spent witnessing episodes of emotional violence and the constant threat of being a victim of domestic violence. In a time, realizing early on that the patriarchal system can help her rise, she grabbed the opportunity that came her way and one to connecting health and sports for the development of young girls, helping gender equality of an early age.

Championing mental and reproductive health education since 2013, Jas has been the face of over 1,000 young girls impacted by the underreported danger of sexual abuse by gender abuse and stereotypes.

Age: 32 years
Education: MA
Years of Experience: 10
Name of organization: Youth Football Club
Location: Jalandhar, Punjab

Sapna Verma

Born into a poverty-stricken house with deep disabilities and, Sapna realized early on that education was the only way to climb out of the poverty they were plagued with. Married at 16 into an abusive household, Sapna's education helped her overcome these challenges.

Establishing all that she was forced to go through as a community health leader and eventually creating model families in her region, Sapna has been making a difference, one person at a time. She believes that educating the young one gender equality can shape the future of India and is working relentlessly to ensure systemic change directly impacting over 13000 beneficiaries.

Age: 31 years
Education: MA Community Nursing, Masters in Child
Years of Experience: 12
Name of organization: Pragna
Location: Baramulla, Uttar Pradesh

Razia Nasreen

Born in the most notorious slum of East India, Razia grew up witnessing violence, prevalence of multiple gangs in the area and desperate means to make ends meet as a ragpicker. Staying in a marriage by her own choice, Razia was a step away from being a victim of domestic violence and sexual violence of countless others.

While grappling with this vicious cycle, Razia started her own medical mission and took to improving the health of the community around her. Leading the health mission, she has been able to reach over 2000 children and over 1.1 lakh adults, ensuring their health and quality of life.

Age: 32 years
Education: Class 12
Years of Experience: 17
Name of organization: Pragna
Location: Kolkata, West Bengal

Sunita Chauhan

Surviving extreme poverty and isolation in a remote village, Sunita was the only girl in her village of Madhuk, surrounded by men, poverty and inadequate medical connectivity. Sunita managed to complete education and start her own business.

Inspired by the frequent child deaths in her community and motivated by the nurses working on malnutrition, Sunita took to community health work, addressing malnutrition, immunization, anemia, and malnutrition among children. Sunita has directly impacted over 20000 beneficiaries in the area, ensuring 100% institutional deliveries, and malnutrition cases going down to as low as 3% in the last 5 years.

Age: 33 years
Education: MBBS
Years of Experience: 10 years
Name of organization: ECHO
Location: Raichur, Madhya Pradesh

Poonam Paul

Born in a small village hidden in the remote Himalayas, Poonam was the only girl in her village. She was the only girl in her village who was able to complete her education and start her own business.

Building on the skill of a former agricultural worker, Poonam has been able to create a market for her produce, ensuring the production of 5000 women in her community. Through her generous efforts, Poonam has been able to help the power of women in her community, ensuring the power of women in her community, ensuring the power of women in her community.

Age: 30
Education: 10th Standard
Years of Experience: 11
Name of organization: Jyoti Yashwanth
Location: 10th and 11th Standard, Punjab

Bishnupriya Swain

Challenging the status quo of a dominating caste, Bishnupriya started her own business, observing abuse and oppression in her family. Facing constant abuse by the community for not getting married, Bishnupriya held on to the opportunity of working with Dalit women as a community health leader and eventually creating model families in her region.

Starting off by working for the rights of the Dalit community and social justice, Bishnupriya has been able to reach over 2000 children and over 1.1 lakh adults, ensuring their health and quality of life.

Age: 32 years
Education: 10th Pass
Years of Experience: 10
Name of organization: Pragna
Location: Baramulla, Uttar Pradesh

Rita Devi

Coming from an aristocratic rural area in Bihar, Rita grew up in a house with a strong gender role and social expectations. Despite facing extreme violence at home, she was constantly reminded of her place as a woman. Rita started her own business, ensuring the power of women in her community, ensuring the power of women in her community.

Starting off by working for the rights of the Dalit community and social justice, Rita has been able to reach over 2000 children and over 1.1 lakh adults, ensuring their health and quality of life.

Age: 40
Education: No formal schooling
Years of Experience: 16
Name of organization: Pragna
Location: Patna, Bihar

Laxmi Rani

With an infectious smile and unbreakable spirit, Laxmi started her own business, observing abuse and oppression in her family. Facing constant abuse by the community for not getting married, Laxmi held on to the opportunity of working with Dalit women as a community health leader and eventually creating model families in her region.

Starting off by working for the rights of the Dalit community and social justice, Laxmi has been able to reach over 2000 children and over 1.1 lakh adults, ensuring their health and quality of life.

Age: 33 years
Education: 10th Pass
Years of Experience: 10
Name of organization: Pragna
Location: Baramulla, Uttar Pradesh

Sonali More

Facing severe poverty since childhood and being forced into a marriage of violence and inequality, Sonali's life was filled with challenges. With no one to turn to for help, Sonali started her own business, ensuring the power of women in her community, ensuring the power of women in her community.

Starting off by working for the rights of the Dalit community and social justice, Sonali has been able to reach over 2000 children and over 1.1 lakh adults, ensuring their health and quality of life.

Age: 38
Education: BA Com
Years of Experience: 7
Name of organization: Ekamta Kumbh & Gramin Vikas Sanstha (EKGVS)
Location: Nanded, Maharashtra

Click here to read their stories.



RECOGNITION



Born in a remote tribal village, Pushpa's orthodox father held her back from becoming a doctor but could not deter her from pursuing education and becoming a teacher. As a primary school teacher, Pushpa focussed on foundational learning for first generation learners. Her work has brought about a change in the Basic Education System of the state, benefiting close to 7.5 lakh beneficiaries.

Location: Raipur, Chhattisgarh



Born into acute poverty, Archana was forced to beg for money to treat her sick child. Resilient and determined, she overcame poverty and hardship to become a trailblazer by revolutionizing agriculture in her region. She trained over 1.14 L women farmers in sustainable farming practices and secured over 37 lakhs as interest-free loans for women entrepreneurs in her village.

Location: Osmanabad, Maharashtra



Battling HIV, severe depression, and anxiety, Zoh found a new life with counselling and ART therapy. Widowed with an infant and a malignant disease, Zoh was ostracized from the society on revealing her HIV status. A counsellor, community mobilizer and an influencer, Zoh has transformed the lives of over 19000 HIV+ patients and helped them find a new sense of dignity.

Location: Aizawl, Mizoram

The CII Foundation announced the Woman Exemplar Award 2023 winners at the CII Annual Session held in New Delhi on 24th May 2023 where Smt Smriti Irani, the Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs, presented the awards.

The recipients of the awards were Pushpa Shukla from Raipur, Chhattisgarh, in the Education category, Zohmangaihi from Aizawl, Mizoram, in the Health category, and Archana Gokul Mane from Osmanabad, Maharashtra, in the Micro-enterprise category. Each winner received a trophy, a certificate, and a cash prize of Rs 3 lakh.

Smt. Smriti Irani emphasized the significance of celebrating the indomitable human spirit to triumph over sorrow, adversity, and obstacles, and said, "CII Foundation Woman Exemplar Awards highlight the need to do much more to inspire women at the grassroots level to bring about social change. Between the Government and Industry, let us resolve to build a society that is empathetic to the needs of the women".

CAPACITY BUILDING: LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND MENTORSHIP



In May, a two-day training program was held at the CII Gurugram office, immersing the woman exemplars in sessions encompassing various essential topics, including leadership development, gender dynamics, and much more. It was an opportunity for the women to enhance their skills and broaden their perspectives, setting them on a path to excel further in their respective fields.

The training session focused on building leadership, reflective thinking and effective communication. Through engaging and thought-provoking exercises, an environment was created where the exemplars could openly discuss their experiences, challenges, and aspirations.



Rekha Devi
Education Category
CII Foundation Woman
Exemplar 2023

“ I learnt about the qualities of a good leader - how she keeps her team united, what hurdles miscommunication can pose, and various ways for enhancing teamwork and assigning tasks to team members based on their strengths & abilities. ”



Sonali More
Micro Enterprise Category
CII Foundation Woman
Exemplar 2023

“ I made new friends there, got to know about their work. CII Foundation Woman Exemplar Laxmi Rani from Rajasthan became a close friend of mine. She is teaching computer skills to women in her village and also conducting workshops on handicrafts at the Indo-Pak Border. I asked her to teach me the skill and she agreed. ”

AMPLIFYING THE VOICES

Session on the Role of Rural Women in a Future-Ready India Woman Exemplars at the CII Annual Session 2023:

At the CII Annual Session 2023, the CII Foundation hosted a thought-provoking session titled "Role of Rural Women in a Future-Ready India" which discussed the contributions and resilience of rural women in shaping a progressive India.

Ms. Chetna Gala Sinha, Founder Chairman, Mann Deshi Bank and Mann Deshi Foundation graced the panel as the moderator. From the 2023 cohort of Woman Exemplars, Pushpa Shukla, State Level Consultant & Assistant Teacher, Government Primary School, Sahispara Rajim, Chhattisgarh; Sunita Chauhan, Block Resource Person, EFICOR, Madhya Pradesh; Jaspreet Kaur, Project Manager, Youth Football Club, Rurka Kalan Punjab; P Anna Vilasani, Centre Coordinator, My Choices Foundation, Telangana; CII Foundation Woman Exemplar from the 2020 cohort Rupali Shinde, Bschool Program Director, Mann Deshi Foundation,

Maharashtra; and CII Foundation Woman Exemplar from the 2018 cohort Eliza Boro, Chief Functionary, Mahila Shakti Kendra (MASK), Assam were on the panel.

During the discussion, the exemplars shared their journeys. Woman Exemplar P Anna Vilasani spoke of her efforts in collaboration with My Choices Foundation to combat abuse and domestic violence in Hyderabad. Her vision is to create a society and community where domestic violence is eradicated, ensuring a safe environment for women and children, free from abuse.

Woman Exemplar Eliza Boro proudly affirmed, "My job is within my own fields." Hailing from Assam, she established a transformative initiative known as Mahila Shakti Kendra (MASK). This has empowered women from diverse tribal backgrounds by equipping them with sustainable livelihood opportunities.



Woman Exemplar Rupali Shinde Receives BRICS Women Innovation Award for Transformative Impact

CII Foundation Woman Exemplar Rupali Shinde received the prestigious BRICS Women Innovation Award and Certificate, for her contributions in promoting digital literacy in Satara District, Maharashtra. This recognition led to her invitation to the award ceremony which took place in Beijing, China in June.

Hailing from a Dalit family, Rupali overcame adversity and transformed a caste occupation into a thriving business of leather-based musical instruments. Rupali mentored 1,000 women affected by drought to establish their own ventures and provided training in technology-based financial transactions to 5,500 women entrepreneurs.

Rupali's nomination for the BRICS Women Innovation Award was initiated by the CII Foundation.



CII Foundation announced the Woman Exemplar Award 2023 winners



Aizawl : The CII Foundation announced the Woman Exemplar Award 2023 winners at the CII Annual Session. The Award, given in the categories of Health, Education and Micro-enterprise recognizes grassroots women leaders from rural and resource-poor backgrounds who are driving social change in their communities. The Award was presented by Smt Smriti Irani, Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs at a ceremony attended by senior leaders from the Government, Indian Industry, social development sector and media. "The Awards were given to Pushpa Shukla from Raipur, Chhattisgarh in the Education category, Zohmangaihi from Aizawl, Mizoram in the Health category and Archana Gokul Mane from Osmanabad, Maharashtra in the Micro-enterprise category. Each winner received a trophy, a certificate, and a cash award of Rs 3 lakh. "Zohmangaihi from Aizawl, Mizoram, winner in the Health Category battled depression and suicidal thoughts after being diagnosed with HIV. She found a new life with counselling and ART therapy. Widowed at a tender age with an infant and a malignant disease, Zoh was ostracized from society because of revealing her HIV status. She resolved to help women like her - As a counsellor, community mobilizer and influencer Zoh has transformed the lives of over 19000 HIV+ patients in the region. Her tireless work has brought medical care, counselling, and a newfound sense of dignity to thousands of people living with HIV (PLHIV) in the region. "Smt. Smriti Irani emphasized the significance of celebrating the indomitable human spirit to triumph over sorrow, adversity, and obstacles, she said that CII Foundation Woman Exemplar Awards highlight the need to do much more to inspire women at the grassroots

Eastern Sentinel

CII Foundation announces the winners of Woman Exemplar Award 2023

AIZAWL, May 26: The CII Foundation has announced the Woman Exemplar Award 2023, which recognizes grassroots women leaders from rural and resource-poor backgrounds who are driving social change in their communities. The Award was presented by Smt Smriti Irani, Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs, at a ceremony attended by senior leaders from the Government, Indian Industry, social devel-

She urged the Government and Industry to build a society that is empathetic to the needs of women.

The Awards were given to Pushpa Shukla from Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Zohmangaihi from Aizawl, Mizoram, and Archana Gokul Mane from Osmanabad, Maharashtra. Each winner received a trophy, certificate, and cash award of Rs 3 lakh. Zoh had battled depression and suicidal thoughts after being diagnosed with

केसरी

सीआईआई फाऊंडेशनने २०२३ च्या महिला आदर्श पुरस्कार विजेत्यांची घोषणा केली



छत्रपती संभाजी नगर - सीआईआई फाऊंडेशनने सीआईआई वार्षिक सत्रात महिला आदर्श पुरस्कार २०२३ च्या विजेत्यांची घोषणा केली. आरोग्य, शिक्षण आणि सूक्ष्म-उद्योग या क्षेत्रांमध्ये दिला जाणारा हा पुरस्कार, आपल्या समाजात सामाजिक बदल घडवून आणणाऱ्या ग्रामीण आणि उपेक्षित ग्रामीण महिला नेत्यांचा सन्मान करतो. महिला आणि बाल विकास मंत्रालयाच्या मंत्री श्रीमती स्मृती इराणी यांच्या हस्ते हा पुरस्काराला ४०० हून अधिक क्षेत्र आणि प्रसारमाध्यमांतील उच्चस्तरीय नेते उपस्थित होते. शिक्षण विभागातील रायपूर, छत्तीसगडच्या पुष्पा शुक्ला, आरोग्य विभागात मिझोरामच्या आयशॉलच्या जोहमगाई, उद्योग या क्षेत्रांमध्ये दिला महाराष्ट्राच्या उस्मानाबादच्या अर्चना गोकुल माने यांना हा पुरस्कार प्रदान करण्यात आला. प्रत्येक विजेत्याला बक्षीस, प्रमाणपत्र आणि ३ लाख रुपयेचे रोख पारितोषिक देण्यात आले. पुरस्काराला ४०० हून अधिक

Eastern Chronicle

CII declares the winners of Woman Exemplar Award 2023

CHRONICLE NEWS SERVICE

AIZAWL: The CII Foundation announced the Woman Exemplar Award 2023, which recognizes grassroots women leaders from rural and resource-poor backgrounds who are driving social change in their communities. The Award was presented by Smriti Irani, Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs, at a ceremony attended by senior leaders from the Government, Indian Industry, social development sector, and media.

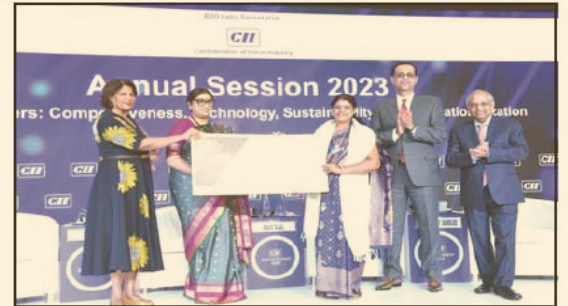
Smriti Irani highlighted the importance of celebrating the indomitable human spirit and the need to inspire women at the

grassroots level to bring about social change. She urged the Government and Industry to build a society that is empathetic to the needs of women.

The Awards were given to Pushpa Shukla from Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Zohmangaihi from Aizawl, Mizoram, and Archana Gokul Mane from Osmanabad, Maharashtra. Each winner received a trophy, certificate, and cash award of Rs 3 lakh. Zoh had battled depression and suicidal thoughts after being diagnosed with HIV and found a new life with counselling and ART therapy. She has transformed the lives of over 19000 HIV+ patients in the region, providing medical care, counselling, and a sense of dignity.

सीआईआई फाऊंडेशनने २०२३ च्या महिला आदर्श पुरस्कार विजेत्यांची घोषणा केली

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प्रसारमाध्यमांतील उच्चस्तरीय नेते उपस्थित होते.

शिक्षण विभागातील रायपूर, छत्तीसगडच्या पुष्पा शुक्ला, आरोग्य विभागात मिझोरामच्या आयशॉलच्या जोहमगाई, आणि सूक्ष्म उपक्रम

विभागात महाराष्ट्राच्या उस्मानाबादच्या अर्चना गोकुल माने यांना हा पुरस्कार प्रदान करण्यात आला. प्रत्येक विजेत्याला बक्षीस, प्रमाणपत्र आणि ३ लाख रुपयांचे रोख पारितोषिक देण्यात आले.

Mizoram woman among 3 winners of Woman Exemplar Award 2023

page 1 continue...

to three exceptional women who have made extraordinary contributions to society. Pushpa Shukla from Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Zohmangaihi from Aizawl, Mizoram, and Archana Gokul Mane from Osmanabad, Maharashtra were the proud recipients of this esteemed recognition. Each winner was presented with a trophy, certificate, and a cash award of Rs 3 lakh.

Zohmangaihi, the winner in the health category, has embarked on a remarkable journey of resilience and compassion. After being diagnosed with HIV, she battled severe depression and encountered suicidal thoughts. However, through counseling and Antiretroviral Therapy (ART), she found hope and transformed her own life. Zohmangaihi, widowed at a

young age due to a malignant disease, faced social ostracization upon revealing her HIV status. Undeterred by the challenges, she made a solemn commitment to assist women like herself. With her roles as a counselor, community mobilizer, and influencer, Zohmangaihi has positively impacted the lives of over 19,000 HIV+ patients in the region, providing them with crucial medical care, counseling, and most importantly, a sense of dignity.

The Woman Exemplar Award is a truly overwhelming year, with emotions pouring out of 22 states. The award ceremony was a short but impactful event, with a difference in fields and

to creating a better world. While each of the 17 women finalists exemplified courage and leadership, the final selection of the three winners was based on their personal challenges, the communities they serve, and the impact and vision they have demonstrated. The remarkable women exemplars of this year's award are Pushpa Shukla from Chhattisgarh, Zohmangaihi from Mizoram, and Archana Gokul Mane from Maharashtra.

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सीआईआई फाऊंडेशनने २०२३ च्या महिला आदर्श पुरस्कार विजेत्यांची घोषणा केली

छत्रपती संभाजी नगर -

सीआईआई फाऊंडेशनने सीआईआई वार्षिक सत्रात महिला आदर्श पुरस्कार २०२३ च्या विजेत्यांची घोषणा केली. आरोग्य, शिक्षण आणि सूक्ष्म-उद्योग या क्षेत्रांमध्ये दिला जाणारा हा पुरस्कार, आपल्या समाजात सामाजिक बदल घडवून आणणाऱ्या ग्रामीण आणि उपेक्षित ग्रामीण महिला नेत्यांचा सन्मान करतो.

महिला आणि बाल विकास मंत्रालयाच्या मंत्री श्रीमती स्मृती इराणी यांच्या हस्ते हा पुरस्कार प्रदान करण्यात आला, या समारंभात सरकार, भारतीय उद्योग, सामाजिक विकास क्षेत्र आणि प्रसारमाध्यमांतील उच्चस्तरीय नेते उपस्थित होते.

शिक्षण विभागातील रायपूर, छत्तीसगडच्या पुष्पा शुक्ला, आरोग्य विभागात मिझोरामच्या



आयशॉलच्या जोहमगाई, आरोग्य सूक्ष्म उपक्रम विभागात महाराष्ट्राच्या उस्मानाबादच्या अर्चना गोकुल माने यांना हा पुरस्कार प्रदान करण्यात आला. प्रत्येक विजेत्याला बक्षीस, प्रमाणपत्र आणि ३ लाख रुपयांचे रोख पारितोषिक देण्यात आले. पुरस्काराला ४०० हून अधिक नामांकने मिळाली आणि बहु-स्तरीय निवड प्रक्रियेने, १७ अंतिम स्पर्धकांची ओळख

झाली. उस्मानाबाद, महाराष्ट्रातील अर्चना गोकुल माने, मायको-एटरप्राइझ क्षेत्रातील विजेत्या, तिच्या कुटुंबाला आणि मुलांचे पालनपोषण करण्यासाठी भीक मागवी लागली. अनेकवेळा उदरनिर्वाहासाठी कपडे शिंवले आणि त्या बदल्यात तिने मायकच्याकडून जेवणाची व्यवस्था केली. त्या काळात या प्रदेशात होत असलेल्या शेतकरी

आत्महत्येमुळे प्रभावित होऊन तिने महिलांना सक्षम करण्यासाठी आणि शाश्वत कुपोषण पद्धती प्रोत्साहन देण्यासाठी गौरव आणि अडचणीवर मात केली. १.१४ लाख महिला शेतकऱ्यां प्रशिक्षण देऊन आणि ३७ लाख रुपयांचे विनव्याजी कर्ज घेऊन त्यांनी एक उत्पादन कंपन्या तयार केली आहे जी महिला शेतकऱ्यांच्या संप्रति उत्पादनां योग्य किंमत देते.

SHOWCASING CII SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSION INITIATIVES AT THE CII ANNUAL SESSION 2023

A key attraction at the CII Annual Session 2023 was a special exhibition stall showcasing CII's Social Development and Inclusion Initiatives.

CII's social development initiatives are unique in that they create platforms for effective multi-stakeholder engagement which leverages the expertise and experience of various stakeholders to deliver high-impact change.

The stall showcased CII's work towards mainstreaming the underprivileged and marginalized into a cycle of growth, development, and empowerment through various special initiatives and on-ground high-impact social programs through work undertaken by the CII Foundation, the CII Indian Women Network, CII India Business and Disability Network and verticals focused on areas such as health and education.



To know more about CII Foundation [Click Here](#)

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