

HCL Foundation



# A step towards Nation Building

## HCL Grant Granule

*Pic: Ranchi, Jharkhand, Ekjut, HCL Grant Finalist 2022, Health Category*



# HCL Grant Edition VIII

HCL Grant completed its 5th round of "Sub Jury" for HCL Grant Edition VIII. Top 9 NGOs, 3 in each category of Environment, Health and Education have been selected.

Video documentation of all the top 9 NGOs have also been completed wherein the team of videographers visited the NGO's project locations to capture the work organization is doing and the project that they have proposed for HCL Grant.



# Partnerships Bulletin

## A step towards transforming schools of Heaven on Earth to peaceful havens!

HCL Grant visited Government Boys Middle School, Mal-Manchhama in Budgam district of Jammu and Kashmir, one of the intervention schools of the project "Promoting Quality Education Through a Culture of Peace and Safe Learning Environment for the Most

Marginalized Children of UT J&K and UT Ladakh", a collaborative step to turn schools into "Zone of peace" for children with Save the Children, India. So far in 60 intervention school of district Budgam and Leh, Child protection and School Management Committees structures have been formed and strengthened, with a total 2087 active members including teachers, members of school management committee and children group.



## Launch of Peace App

With an objective to get peace education included within the formal education curriculum, a web-based e learning system called "Peace App" was launched on December 1, 2022 at the University of Kashmir, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir as a joint initiative of HCL Foundation, Save the Children, India and Directorate of School Education. Teacher Training Manuals have been designed and developed following extensive consultation with multiple stakeholders including the teachers. By ensuring that these manuals are more widely distributed among teachers, lecturers, masters across UT of J&K and Ladakh as well as at the national level, the purpose of this app is to provide appropriate technological support to exhibit peace education learnings at the school level, making peace as a shaping vision of education.



## Recognition of efforts

Wildlife Trust of India, HCL Grant Recipient 2019, Environment category is working towards “Connecting Landscapes, Empowering People and Protecting Elephants- An initiative to secure the Baghmara–Balpakram Elephant corridor and protect the wildlife habitats of Garo Hills, Meghalaya”.

So far more than 600 hectares of land has been declared as Village Reserve Forest (VRFs)

under the project developing corridor between Baghmara Reserve Forest and Balpakram National Park and date more than 101 species of flora and fauna has been registered in the biodiversity register being prepared over these corridor forest.HCL Foundation was conferred with a “Certificate of Appreciation” by Mr. A R Marak, CEO, Gari Hills Autonomous Development Council (GHADC), Tura, Meghalayafor the efforts on December 21, 2022



## A step towards bridging the gap with an app- SundariSundarban

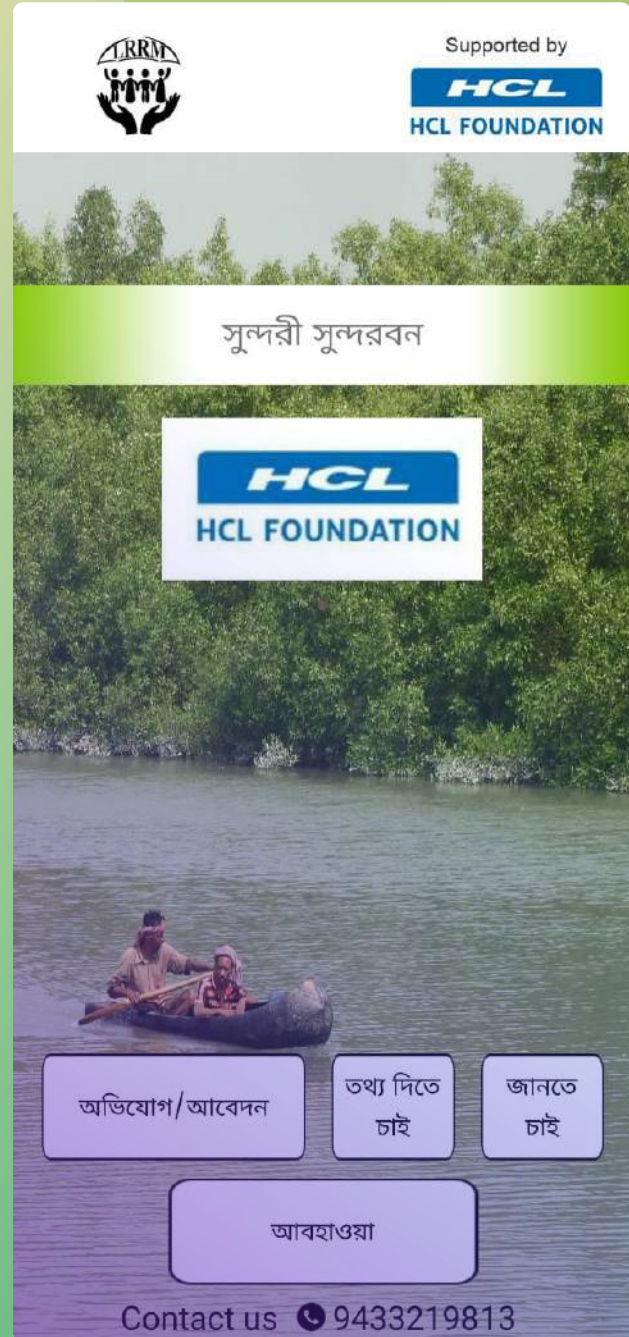
Lokmata Rani Rashmoni Mission, HCL Grant Finalist 2022, Environment Category has developed an app - "SundariSundarban". It is a platform that gathers, compiles, and disseminates various information about the Indian Sundarban on pre-defined topics. It will assist in building a link between people of community and scholars, policy-makers, the media, etc. The app's goal is to provide a forum for community people to gather issues at grass roots level. The user's information will be redirected to experts for their input, and their reply will be sent directly to that particular user.

All the collected information (after scrutiny) will be sent to a separate website (<https://rashmoni.org.in/sundarban/>) for the use of general public. The aforementioned website will feature a blog and photo blog on Sundarban in addition to disseminating the data gathered via the mobile app.

In order to resolve the concerns at the earliest, LRRM is currently trying to integrate various government departments, scientists, organizations, and the media with the app. A widespread effort to notify the community about the app will also be started soon.

It is now available on Google play store to download:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.complain.sunderban>



## Trekking for some learning!

A trekking program was organised by EKjut, HCL Grant Finalist 2022, Health Category for the youth on December 11, 2022 in Taimara forest of Bundu block. Ranchi district. 5 Forest Guards of the Bundu forest Range were the resource persons and they shared in-depth knowledge of the local flora and fauna among the 45 youths who participated in the programme. Participants were capacitated on different methods to prevent forest fire, significance of Forest Committee, environment

and its relationship with people and the negative aspects of the deforestation, schemes and services available from forest department, different methods of water and soil preservation and forest and cultural identity of Jharkhand.

Participants also gathered the information on local flora and fauna; what needs to be done to preserve the local environment and what role the adolescents and youth can perform in doing so.



# Stories of Transformation: Reaching the Unreached



## Environment

Lokamata Rani Rashmoni Mission,  
HCL Grant Finalist 2022

**Sanjay Mondal**, a resident of village Madhya Gurguria, Kultali Block, South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, is a marginal farmer who was habituated to use chemical fertilizers and pesticides for farming. Two years back Sanjay came to know about organic farming but there was no one to guide him for the same. This year Sanjay came to know about the initiative of LRRM under its HCL Grant project. Sanjay showed his interest to join. He got training on NIA (No to Inorganic Agriculture) and received various hand holding support from the project.

“

I was using chemical fertilizers and pesticides for years. This year, one of my friends told me about the new initiative by LRRM. I joined and got training on NIA and various materials. Oh! Now I am so happy preparing my own fertilizer and pesticide and cultivated indigenous paddy seed variety known as 'Pobin-Kartic'. This year my yield is satisfactory and I got the sufficient profit. Cost of agriculture has reduced and there is no dependency on market. I am looking forward to share the Magic of NIA with fellow farmers as well.”

Sanjay





**Maya Mondal** is a resident of Deulbarivillage, Kultali, South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal. Deulbari is one of the most environmentally vulnerable villages of Indian Sundarban. After the super cyclone Amphan, farms of Deulbari were inundated by saline water that made them unfit for cultivation and embankments were destroyed because of which residents of Deulbari were discouraged to take up farming again. With the support of HCL Grant, staff of LRRM approached women of Deulbari and encouraged them to start nutrition garden for their family consumption.

Like many others Maya Mondal came forward to utilize her under-utilized backyard land for Nutrition Garden through NIA (No to Inorganic Agriculture) method for production of vegetables. Production of vegetable during this winter season was beyond the expectation of Maya. After family consumption she is now selling excess vegetable in local market and started earning. Maya now know the magic of vermicomposting, azolla, etc. Now, Maya is not only producing pure organic vegetable for her family but she is producing for community too.





## Health

Ekjut,

HCL Grant Finalist 2022

**Amit Lohra**, 15 years old is a student of 9th standard and dwells in Paramdih village of Ranchi district with his parents. Farming is a major source of livelihood of the family. Being the only child of the family that has survived, he is extremely loved. His parents though mostly worry about him because of his indulgence to the substance abuse and peer circle. Most of the time Amit used to bunk classes and spent time with his friends indulging in substance intake.

With the support from HCL Foundation, Ekjut under its HCL Grant Project "Improving Nutrition & health of Youth & Adolescents" started implementing its activities with an objective to promote health and well-being among adolescents and youth in the village by engaging youth in fun programmes like sports events, trekking, capacity building and various awareness programmes and Amit actively started participating in the same. His parents are very happy as his behavior has changed positively and he is slowly getting rid of the substance use as he gets engaged in such type of recreational activities.





## Education

### Centre for Youth and Social Development, HCL Grant Finalist 2022

**Purnima Pujari**, a 13-year old girl, is a resident of Guruguda village, a tribal village under Chedenga Gram Panchayat of Maithili block in Malkangiri district of Odisha. Her family consist of her parents along with two brothers and a sister. The main source of income of her family is from agriculture and daily wages. Purnima, being the eldest daughter in the family, had to discontinue her study after Class – VIII, because of some compulsions from her parents. Initially, efforts were made by the CYSD team under its HCL Grant project – “SAMADHAN” to counsel her father by the Gaon Mitra, to send her daughter to school, but could not convince him to do so. Then she reported the matter to the project team of SAMADHAN, who then, with the support of the Gaon Mitra facilitated a joint meeting of the School Management Committee (SMC), Guruguda School including the Head Master, President of SMC and the village committee with the concerned parents and made him understand them the significance of education for Purnima and her family as well. Finally, Purnima's parents agreed to send her to school. At present, Purnima is back to school, and continuing her education in Class – IX in

Chedenga High School, Mathili. She is also regularly attending the Supplementary Learning Centre (SLC) at Guruguda, and actively participating in different co-curricular activities including music, storytelling, drawing and painting, games and sports organized in SLC and in the school.

Purnima is now keen in grabbing all the opportunities that comes her way and is working hard for her studies. She aspires to become a teacher and become a role model for other children in the tribal community.



**Tulasi Katllela**, 12 years old, a resident of Baliguda village, Udilibeda Panchayat in Mathili block, Malkangiri district of Odisha had dropped out from school in Class VI. His father and mother both are agricultural labourers. His family income is around INR 12000/- to INR 15000/-annually. There are seven members in his family who all dependent on this income. Sometimes his father migrates to other states for earning. Before COVID-19 pandemic, Tulasi Katllela was admitted at Kaliaguda residential school where free boarding and food facilities are available for ST students. Initially, he was irregular in school and every month used to visit his family back home. Education is never a priority for his family. After lock down he refused to go back to Kaliaguda school and was engaged as a cow herder. The situation, however, took a positive turn five months ago, when a Supplementary Education Center was opened in Baliguda village by CSYD under its HCL Grant project - SAMADHAN. As a part of

community outreach, a meeting was organised with the School Management Committee members and the project team regularly started contacting with the community members. The efforts of the Gaon Mitra and the team members resulted in many children joining the Supplementary Learning Center (SLC). In the 1st phase total 50 children got enrolled in Baliguda Learning Center.

After attending the learning center Tulasi was also interested to go to school. One of the Gaon Mitras, Sasmita Bhumia, soon got him enrolled in Class – VII in the nearby school in Udilibeda. Regular attendance in the SLC helped him a lot to excel in his studies. He has now stopped working as a cow herder. His family also supported his education.

As a regular student at SLC, he attributes his success in school to supplementary education intervention.

“

Had it not been the motivation and support in SLC, I would have continued to work as a cow herder and in future as a wage labour. Education would never have happened in my life. I now aspire for higher studies and wish to work for my community.”

Tulasi Katllela



## Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health, HCL Grant 2022 Finalist

**Ramya**, a resident of Tiruchirappali district of Tamil Nadu is 32 years old, married woman. She has a 3-year-old daughter and lives in a joint family. She stated that due to frequent domestic conflicts she used to have suicidal ideations often.

“

My husband enrolled me in the community certification course- Diploma in Community Mental Healthcare Programme by BALM. Initially I had my own apprehensions and didn't want to, but once I attended the class I became the regular student. Although I am an M.A. and B.Ed graduate, it was very difficult to deal with the problem in my family but after coming to this diploma class I could feel a lot of changes in me. I find these classes very useful for my life. I love helping people and this course gave me that opportunity.”

Ramya



She became very involved in fieldwork assignments and coursework. She felt the classes helped her to improve her mental health and family life. Seeing the impact of the course, her brother-in-law's wife, who was also staying with her, joined the course.

**Viraghalur** panchayat's president from Pullambadi block of Tiruchirappali district, Tamil Nadu had nominated one person from his panchayat, Ms. Shanthasheela, to get trained as a community mental healthcare worker. Ms. Shanthasheela is a 34-year-old married woman and a homemaker with three children. She had discontinued her graduation in Bachelor of Commerce due to societal pressure to get married. The pressing needs of the family and the culturally accepted alcohol use pushed her husband to alcohol dependence. This further worsened their relationship, even leading to baseless accusations of affair by the husband and verbal abuse. Consumed by the dire situation, Shanthasheela was also highly distressed. When the panchayat leader told her about the Diploma in Community Mental Healthcare Programme by BALM, the very next day she got herself enrolled. Her enthusiasm stemmed from hopes of understanding individuals like her husband better, and also to improve her own mental health. She believes this will also provide new employment opportunities, not having to depend on her husband.



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*Pic: Malkangiri, Odisha, Centre for Youth and Social Development, HCL Grant Finalist 2022, Education Category*

