

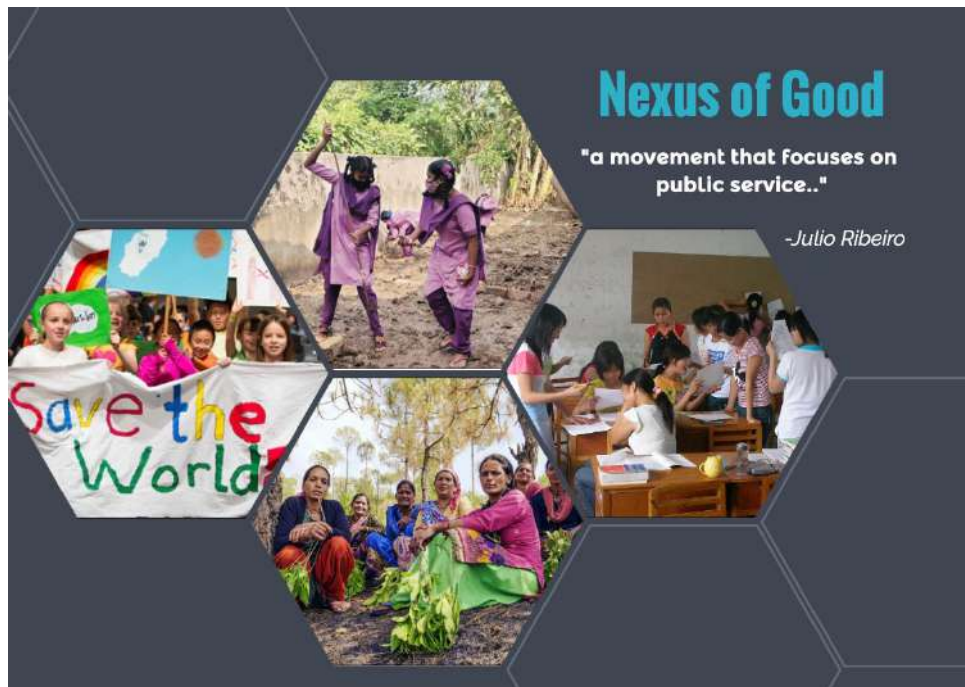
# Newsletter

Issue 11 • Jan 2023

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Editor:  
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## Nexus of Good

"a movement that focuses on public service.."

-Julio Ribeiro

## NEXUS OF GOOD

*Nurturing Goodness, Spreading Hope*

Join us to identify, appreciate,  
propagate, and replicate good work.

Reinforce the nexus of good—  
share a positive replicable story of good  
happening around you!



# Newsletter

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## what is inside

### From the editor..



Hello friends,

I am glad to present Issue 11 of the Nexus of Good *Newsletter* covering activities of the Foundation for the quarter Oct-Dec 2022.

The issue contains ten stories of positive action primarily by individuals in the field of mental health, education, environment, women empowerment, community service, and conservation.

The highlight of the stories included here is the crusades spearheaded by two teenage girl students, one against child marriage and the other in building toilets in educational institutions for the sake of girl students. Another interesting fact that has emerged from the stories is that most of the individual initiatives covered in the issue have been taken by women.

The *Newsletter* also includes accounts of constructive work by quite a few organisations and individuals in the civil society and the government covered in the media by means of weekly columns by Anil Swarup, the founder-chairman.

We request you to share these stories of positive action all over their networks to widen support for the Nexus of Good movement.

Wishing you all *Happy New Year 2023*.

• **Himmat Singh**

## The Stories



Mental Health

### Ashray

#### A Home for the Specially Enabled

Anil Joseph knew from a very young age that he would do something to help others. After completing his diploma in special education in 2002, he started working with an NGO, and got his first opportunity when he came across a specially enabled baby on the point of being abandoned by its mother. He decided to give it shelter.

In 2005, he opened an NGO named Integrated Institute of Rehabilitation for the Disabled, catering to children with mental and physical disabilities. Today, he has 72 wards living in his shelter home called '*Ashray*', one of its kind in Agra.

• Courtesy: [www.thebetterindia.com](http://www.thebetterindia.com)

[Read more of Anil's inspiring story >>](#)

### Saving the Environment

#### Farmer turns banana waste into ropes

P M Murugesan, working with his father in banana farming, wondered why farmers burn tonnes of banana waste, and hit upon the idea of making ropes from banana fibre.

Initially, he used the machine that turns coconut husk into ropes. After repeated trial and error, he finally invented his own machine and patented it. The machine produces an average of 15000 meters of rope in a day and needs just four persons to work on it.



Environment

Murugesan founded M S Ropes Production Centre in Madurai that now employs 350 people, mostly women, and exports its products to foreign countries.

• Courtesy: [www.thebetterindia.com](http://www.thebetterindia.com)

[Read more of Murugesan's pioneering enterprise >>](#)



## Fighting Bank Forgery IAS Officers implements financial literacy programme

In Mandala, a naxal-affected tribal district, a number of persons from poor tribal communities, who received funds from various government schemes for their betterment, were the victims of bank forgeries primarily because of their illiteracy.



Harshika Singh, the District Collector, decided to make them 'functionally literate' to enable them to handle money. With no extra resources at her disposal, Harshika mobilized 25000 literate volunteers to take the programme forward and set up *Mahila Gyanalays* (Women Schools) across 490 gram panchayats in the district.

Her stupendous effort resulted in significant reduction in bank forgery cases in the district.

• Courtesy: [www.thebetterindia.com](http://www.thebetterindia.com)

[Read more about the amazing grass-root work of this resolute officer >>](#)



## Turning a New Leaf Cultivating barren land for livelihood

Recoiling from the dust, pollution, and low air quality in the national capital, Sudhanshu Sharma and his wife Susmita decided to quit their corporate jobs to go back to their

family land near Bhopal lying barren for years, and cultivate it by environment-friendly methods in order to improve the quality of their lives and breathe clean air.

They started an organic farm, Jaivik Jeevan Farm, a zero-waste project where they ensured that everything used to fertilize the land comes from the land itself. A number of local farmers are now associated with their integrated farming model that has improved the quality of their lives too.

• Courtesy: [www.thebetterindia.com](http://www.thebetterindia.com)

[Read more about 'good-earth' initiative of the couple >>](#)



## ASK Foundation

### Helping financially weak students achieve their dreams

Abdul Ahad Ashraf and his brother Abdul Muneer Mushhad established the *ASK Foundation* in 2020, to give back to society to the best of their capacity for the support they received from it during the course of their lives. The Foundation, named after their parents, is run without any donations, and serves children in need irrespective of caste, creed and region.

The Foundation takes up free tuition classes for financially weak students and school dropouts, arranges shelters and medical relief for the downtrodden, and helps them set up small units to improve their livelihood. It also conducts awareness programmes on legal services and provides free legal services.

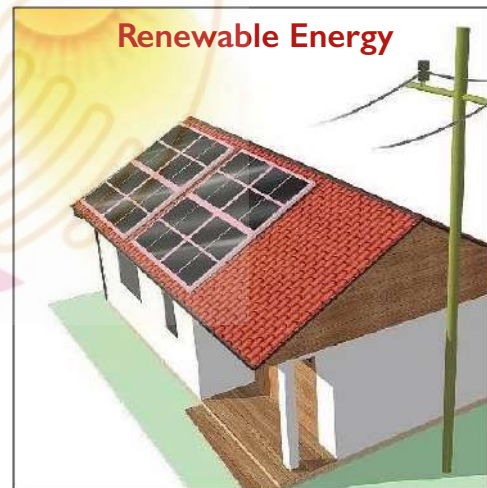
• Courtesy [www.newindianexpress.com](http://www.newindianexpress.com)

[Read more about this humanistic endeavour >>](#)

## Meeting Power Supply Challenge

### 37 panchayats adopt alternative power generation model

To overcome the challenge of uninterrupted power supply, Perinjanam, a panchayat in Kerala's Thrissur district, has set up a model for alternative power generation and distribution, and installed solar power panels on rooftops of 747 houses along with a system to connect the generated electricity to the KSEB grid.



The project, first introduced in 2016 in Perinjanam, is now being replicated in 37 panchayats, and can be used to run pumps for irrigation of farmlands, besides household consumption. On September 23, 2019, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the 500-kW solar power project in Perinjanam. As more households have become part of the project, the panchayat in total now generates 1.16 MW and uploads it to the KSEB grid. KSEB even pays families generating power in excess of their consumption.

• Courtesy [www.newindianexpress.com](http://www.newindianexpress.com)

[Read more about this couple's passion >>](#)



## Empowering women IIM Graduate helps more than 1000 women grow their businesses

While doing volunteer work in remote villages of Bihar years back, Manjari, an IIM graduate and a corporate employee, witnessed the skills of women there. She decided to quit her job and help these women scale up their businesses and provide financial independence to them.

She started a for-profit social enterprise called 'Farm Didi' to empower rural women. She makes them aware of food safety components and helps them market their products all over the world by highlighting their preservative-free locally made food items. *Farm Didi* has so far helped 1080 women in 40 villages and plans to reach a million of them.

• Courtesy: [www.thebetterindia.com](http://www.thebetterindia.com)

[Read more about this wonderful initiative >>](#)



## Radha Pandey A teenage fighter against child marriage

Radha Pandey, a teenage girl from Jharkhand's Koderma district, is heading a movement against child marriage. She stood firmly against her own marriage fixed by her parents and succeeded in having it cancelled so she could pursue her studies.

The Deputy Commissioner Remesh Gholap felicitated her for her stand and made her the brand ambassador against child marriage. Radha has just completed her class 12 exam and with her team has rescued 28 children from forced wedlock so far.

She is now part of Kailash Satyarthi-run Children's Foundation (KSCF) and is an inspiration for hundreds of girls.

• Courtesy [www.newindianexpress.com](http://www.newindianexpress.com)

[Read more about the inspiring story of the young leader >>](#)



## Swachh Bharat

### An eleven year old student builds 10 toilets

It was while watching the launch of Centre's *Swachh Bharat* campaign on TV in 2014 when Mondrita Chatterjee first learnt of the cause of girl students dropping out of school—lack of toilets.

Eleven years old at the time, Mondrita, has persistently campaigned against open defecation and in 2016 built the first toilet in Kendradih panchayat with her own pocket money. On a mission

to curb school dropouts, she has built 10 eco-toilets so far and her efforts have borne fruit.

Mondrita's work has earned accolades and she has now been made the Swachhata ambassador of Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee.

• Courtesy [www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com](http://www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com)

[Read more of the work of this teen crusader for cleanliness >>](#)

## Saving Endangered Storks

### Purnima Devi raises Hargila army

In 2007, when Purnima Devi Barman embarked on her Ph D on the greater adjutant stork, little did she know that she would soon spark a mass movement.

Responding to a distress call fifteen years ago, she found men felling a big kadamba tree hosting stork's nests and she managed to save nine stork chicks that had fallen on the ground. The incident turned her from an academic researcher to a committed conservationist. She started a conservation initiative in the area and motivated and formed a group of women, called the Hargila Army, to take the movement forward.



Purnima's life and work is part of National Geographic's 'Change for One' campaign launched on Earth Day.

• Courtesy <https://yourstory.com>

[Learn more about Purnima's commitment and her continuing work >>](#)

## The Events

### Mumbai Chapter Discussion

13 Oct 2022

Mrs Sangeeta Chudiwala of *Rishikul School* hosted a gathering for Mr Anil Swarup and other members of the Mumbai Chapter.

Organisations such as *Artha Global, Blue Bridge Consultants, Ceque, Each One Teach One, Muktangan* and *PCGT* spoke about their work.

The discussions were insightful with a few members finding opportunities to work together and drive sustainable impact.

(With inputs from Ms Aditi Ray)



Glimpses from the get-together





**Nov 2022**

‘Nexus of Good: Illuminating the Twilight,’ an article by Anil Swarup, *The Millennium Post*, 2 Nov 2022.



‘Nexus of Good: Ensuring Last-mile Excellence,’ by Anil Swarup, *The Millennium Post*, 9 Nov 2022.



‘Nexus of Good: Learning through Exemplification,’ by Anil Swarup, *The Millennium Post*, 16 Nov 2022.

‘Nexus of Good: Grooming the Changemakers,’ by Anil Swarup, *The Millennium Post*, 23 Nov 2022.

‘Nexus of Good: Twin Solutions,’ by Anil Swarup, *The Millennium Post*, 30 Nov 2022.

**Dec 2022**



‘Nexus of Good: An Enlightening Endeavour,’ by Anil Swarup, *The Millennium Post*, 7 Dec 2022.

‘Nexus of Good: A Transformative Movement,’ by Anil Swarup, *The Millennium Post*, 14 Dec 2022.



‘Nexus of Good: A Giant Leap Forward,’ by Anil Swarup, *The Millennium Post*, 21 Dec 2022.

‘Nexus of Good: Life Saving Endeavour,’ by Anil Swarup, *The Millennium Post*, 28 Dec 2022.

## JOIN US

### Become a part of NOG movement

#### Become a Donor

##### Your Entitlements as a Donor

- Invitation to attend all events of Nexus of Good Foundation
- A periodical journal / magazine proposed to be launched by the Foundation
- Quarterly Newsletter highlighting the activities of the Foundation
- Story of the Day delivered to your WhatsApp / mailbox

#### Become a Friend of NOG

In order to help people to become a part of Nexus of Good movement without becoming a Donor, we have initiated a way to become a Friend NOG.

To become a Donor or a Friend, please click [here](#).



Founder-Chairman: **Anil Swarup**

Secretary: **R K Singh**

CONTACT US



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