

OCTOBER 2023 | NEWSLETTER



Happy Gandhi Jayanti!

This is a significant day for India and especially for us as we launch our quarterly newsletter, bringing you vital updates in our mission to make India a more equitable place – helping transform languishing localities into flourishing communities.

Lots to share, so here are the key updates:



Helping Millets Trend While Creating Livelihoods

From helping an SHG create a millet café in Chhattisgarh that **Indian Prime Minister mentioned in his Mann ki Baat** to the same group being invited to attend a G20 event in Raipur, TRI's work with women farming millets and selling millet dishes is not just helping these lesser known grains trend. This livelihood scheme has empowered these women and inspired others. At the India Rural Colloquy held in August, Village Square also hosted a "Cultures and Cuisines" millets brunch and conversation with experts and food bloggers during which **the TRI documentary about millets** was also launched.

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Bringing Together Top Development Voices for 3rd India Rural Colloquy

This was an exceptional and expansive **India Rural Colloquy | 2023 Rural Renaissance**. We brought together over 100 leading voices in the development sector, including ministers and business leaders, who are working passionately to bring equal opportunities to all Indians. Unlike other development conferences, the Colloquy also heard from people on the ground who are the recipients of the wonderful programmes that are working to pull rural Indians out of poverty. This was especially prescient when we hosted three regional colloquies for the first time in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. Missed it? [You can watch all the sessions here.](#)



Growing Media Coverage

TRI's many specialists are being recognised as thought leaders, they are not only being quoted in leading daily publications (print and digital),

Data for Development

The Development Intelligence Unit (DIU) – a joint initiative between TRI and Sambodhi – produced four much-

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houses. You can find them all on our LinkedIn page and our soon-to-be relaunched website. Not surprisingly, the India Rural Colloquy has also garnered much attention and press coverage – in national and regional publications in both print and digital which you can read [here](#).

covered education, which was [launched by Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan](#), health, millets and rural youth at work. These reports were widely reported in the national media and [are all available here](#).



Village Square & TRI “Rural Renaissance” Concert

Udaipur’s prisoners-turned-band-mates [Naya Savera](#) and Ladakh’s folk-rock band [Dashugs](#) that had the crowd bobbing up and down, demanding three encores. [Click here to see the full concert](#) or to only see the [highlights click here](#).



Village Square Releases Fellowship Coffee Table Book

The Village Square Fellowship proved a huge success, pulling in unique and engaging coverage of rural India that has added to the content of the digital platform, which is growing in scope and readership each day. The culmination of the fellowship is the publication of the gorgeous coffee table book, [Many Corners of Village Square](#), which is available for sale and was launched at the India Rural Colloquy by filmmaker, fashion designer and artist, [Muzaffar Ali](#).

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In case you missed it... we changed our look! And soon will come our new website. Our new look shows that our roots are firmly planted in rural India but our approach extends much further. The new website will show how multifaceted we are – eschewing siloed solutions – and how we believe in bringing people and communities together with government and business, embracing design solutions and scaling-up responsive programmes to help transform rural India.

Stories From the Field

With the new website will come new strands – from our Big Bet Ideas page (a must-read for those interested in staying ahead of rural development) to Stories from the Field, a new section on our website that will highlight our on-the-ground insights and most compelling stories of transformation. It will also showcase the great partnerships we have forged with other stakeholders who are as passionate about making the world a better, more equitable place as we are.

As a tribute to the lives we work to transform, we will launch the new website on the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty – October 17.

Do forward this newsletter to your friends and associates in the development space who want to stay updated on the transformation taking place in rural India.

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