

March 2026 | Quarterly TRIBune

# QUARTERLY tribUNE

**Hello friends and supporters,**

2026 marks ten years of TRI. What began as a small team has grown into a multi-state institution working alongside communities, governments and partners to shape how rural transformation happens. None of this would have been possible without you.

Thank you for your support and for believing in what rural India can become. As we step into our next decade, here's a short video on our journey:

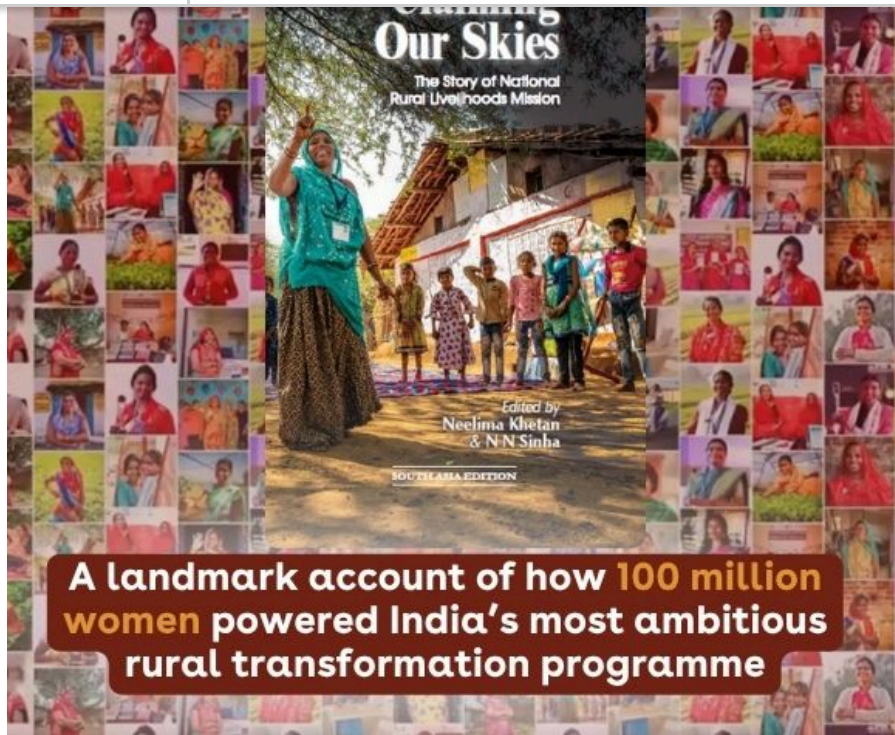


**Claiming Our Skies: The Story of NRLM is now OUT!**

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We're delighted to launch '*Claiming Our Skies*', a powerful account of how 100 million women have stepped into leadership, entrepreneurship and decision-making roles across rural India. Tracing NRLM's 15-year journey, the book brings together 30+ voices from the ground and policy, offering both reflection and a blueprint for what's possible for India and for the world.

### Building a Women-Led Mobility Workforce



Connecting rural women to formal jobs is crucial for expanding economic opportunity and agency. TRI thrilled to be joined by EvenCargo and Changemakers to launch the Rural Women Mobility Initiative in Madhya Pradesh. Now operational across 45 WoW (Work. Opportunity. Well Being)

### TRI Partners with MP Govt for Inclusive Rural Growth



Putting rural women at the centre of MP's development is key to building stronger, more inclusive systems. In line with this, TRI has entered into a five-year partnership with the State Government and MP-SRLM to strengthen women-led institutions and advance gender-responsive rural

women into the logistics workforce through mobility and digital skilling.

enterprises, improve market access and enhance youth employability.

### Charting the Vision for 2026

### Making AI Inclusive for Rural India

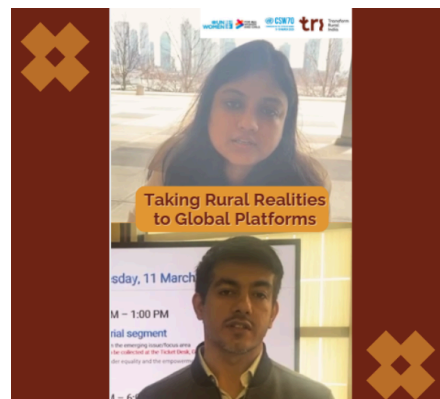
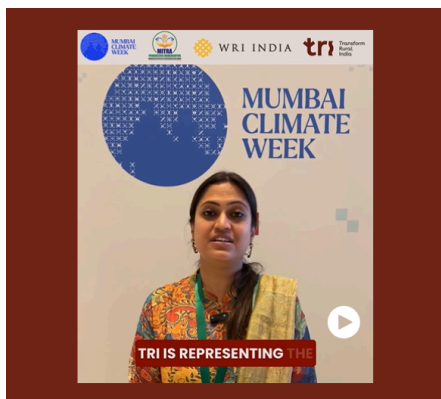


We started the year with our ‘TRI for 2026’ series, where our specialists and experts shared their vision for the year ahead. Spanning livelihoods, governance, health, and beyond, the series reflects our belief that lasting change must be thoughtfully designed, community-centred and built for the long term.

Moving rural youth from technology consumers to creators can help build future-ready livelihoods. In response, TRI, along with Changemakers and the Development Intelligence Unit, launched ‘AI Futures’, a first-of-its-kind initiative that equips youth with AI skills and connects them to diverse economic opportunities.

### Harnessing the Value of Bamboo for Rural Maharashtra

### TRI in New York, Bringing Rural Voices to the Global Stage



Bamboo, a hero of sustainability, can strengthen Maharashtra’s rural livelihoods. At Mumbai Climate Week, we amplified this thought and, in

In New York, TRI joined the 70th Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations, bringing grassroots realities to a global stage.

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priorities across productivity, markets, climate finance and R&D for long-term impact.

livelihoods and institutional access for rural women, drawing from on-ground experience to inform global discourse.

### TRI on Substack: Deepening the Discourse on Rural Development

### TRI Initiatives: How We Design Solutions for Rural India



TRI launched its Substack platform to share insights, research-driven perspectives and systemic analyses on rural development. The aim is to deepen discourse and build a lively knowledge ecosystem that informs and engages development professionals. Click [here](#) to subscribe.

We're delighted to launch TRI Initiatives, a series that shares TRI's innovations with a wider audience, showing how we design development models on the ground and scale them for real impact. Through this series, we'll unpack what works, what we're learning, and how these ideas can travel across contexts.

### Scooty, Sass & Sisterhood: How Geeta Devda is Changing the Game in MP



On International Women's Day, we reflected on Geeta Devda's journey in rural Madhya Pradesh. From surviving domestic violence to leading as a Cluster Federation Coordinator, she now drives change on her scooty, advancing gender equality and inspiring other women to step forward.

### **TRI IN THE MEDIA**

TRI continues to expand its reach, sharing impactful stories of driving rural impact. Our media page features editorials in leading publications, in-depth articles on our initiatives, and expert insights from our thought leaders. Stay updated on how we're driving change and shaping conversations on social development.

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This article is authored by Aliva Das, associate director and Rakesh Ganguli, gender expert, TRI.

### Jharkhand Farmer Earns Rs 3 Lakh After Years of Dry Fields & Daily Wages

For years, Vinita Mahata waited for the monsoon to decide her harvest. Then the water finally reached her fields. This is how solar irrigation, training, and one bold decision helped her build a stable, year-round farm in rural Jharkhand.

### National Youth Day 2026: Transforming Rural Leadership -- Stories Of Courage & Change

Despite forming a major part of India's population, rural youth - especially women - remain excluded from growth. This National Youth Day highlights young rural women leaders Sarita Bhuiyia, Rāmala and Reshma Khanna, whose journeys show how grassroots leadership, supported by Self Help Groups and Transform Rural India, is driving social change, empowerment and inclusive development.

### TRI के ग्रामीण समुदायों में परिवर्तन के 10 वर्ष पूरे: वैश्विक स्तर पर विस्तार का लक्ष्य, एक दशक में 51 जिलों, 1 करोड़ ग्रामीणों तक पहुंचा

### Budget 2026: Agri research funding cut raises concern; stakeholders question income gains from high-value crops

### From Belém to the budget: What India's green transition means for rural women

December 7, 2025, 5:43 PM IST | [Neha R. Kulkarni](#) | [View Article](#)

### Women-led decentralised renewable energy and India's last-mile transition

Women-led decentralised renewable energy in India could address energy inequality, strengthen rural livelihoods, and shape a just transition

Published - February 13, 2026 05:13 pm IST

[NIRATIKA BARK SINGH](#), [NEERAJ KUDRIMOTI](#)

### Influencer Didis Who Went From the Back of the Room to Leading Their Villages

Three ordinary women from Madhya Pradesh, supported by Transform Rural India, became the most powerful change-makers their villages had ever seen.

### World Day of Social Justice: Across India's rural heartland, influencer Didis are taking the reins of social progress

### Women's Day 2026: From failed crops to Rs 70K income - How Basanti Devi became Jharkhand's 'Net House Queen'

### When Funding Ends, Can Communities Sustain Social Change?

### Changemakers and Evencargo Partner to Enable One Million Rural Women into Formal Workforce

### TRI celebrates 10 years of transforming rural communities; aims to expand its global footprint

NABARD's 2025 survey highlights rising rural prosperity, driven by Transform Rural India's decade of work. TRI empowered 13 million people through gender equity, local entrepreneurship, and systemic policy reforms.

### Republic Day: Three Rural Stories that Celebrate the Idea of Self-Reliant India

### Jharkhand Woman Farmer Turns Climate Risk Into Rs 15 L Livelihood

The photo, showing Vinita Mahata working in her field in Chhatrapur, Bihar, is the Jharkhand Farmer's story. Her crops prosper from the sun, and the water of her borewell has helped her journey from being poor to a successful farmer.

### WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE: ACROSS INDIA'S RURAL HEARTLAND, INFLUENCER DIDIS ARE TAKING THE REINS OF SOCIAL PROGRESS

Read more:

- [Why India's path to aatmanirbharta runs through rural women](#)
- [Women-led decentralised renewable energy and India's last-mile transition](#)
- [This Women's Day, Meet the Influencer Didis Who Went From the Back of the Room to Leading Their Villages](#)
- [When Funding Ends, Can Communities Sustain Social Change?](#)
- [TRI celebrates 10 years of transforming rural communities; aims to expand its global footprint](#)
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Why not join us in driving meaningful change? Visit [TRI.in](https://www.tri.in) to explore ways to get involved, and follow us on social media for inspiring stories and real-time updates. Stay informed with [Thoughtful Tarraki](#), our exclusive LinkedIn newsletter, for deeper insights into rural development.

Together, let's build a more inclusive and empowered rural India!

Lyndee Prickett

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