

# SWANITI EDGE



# CATALYST Fellowship!



Applications Open

## CATALYST Fellowship

Celebrating Actions with Training and Activating Leadership  
in Youth for Sustainable Transformation

Application will be live Soon!

[www.swaniti.com](http://www.swaniti.com)

#Swaniti@10

The CATALYST–Celebrating Actions with Training and Activating Leadership in Youth for Sustainable Transformation– represents the ethos of Swaniti’s commitment to public service, i.e. working with young people as problem solvers at the community level to activate local governance systems. It is an initiative to identify, train and support people who are solving problems within their communities.

Through a rigorous evaluation process, Swaniti will select 10 change-makers and support them for a year. To know more visit:the [website](http://www.swaniti.com).

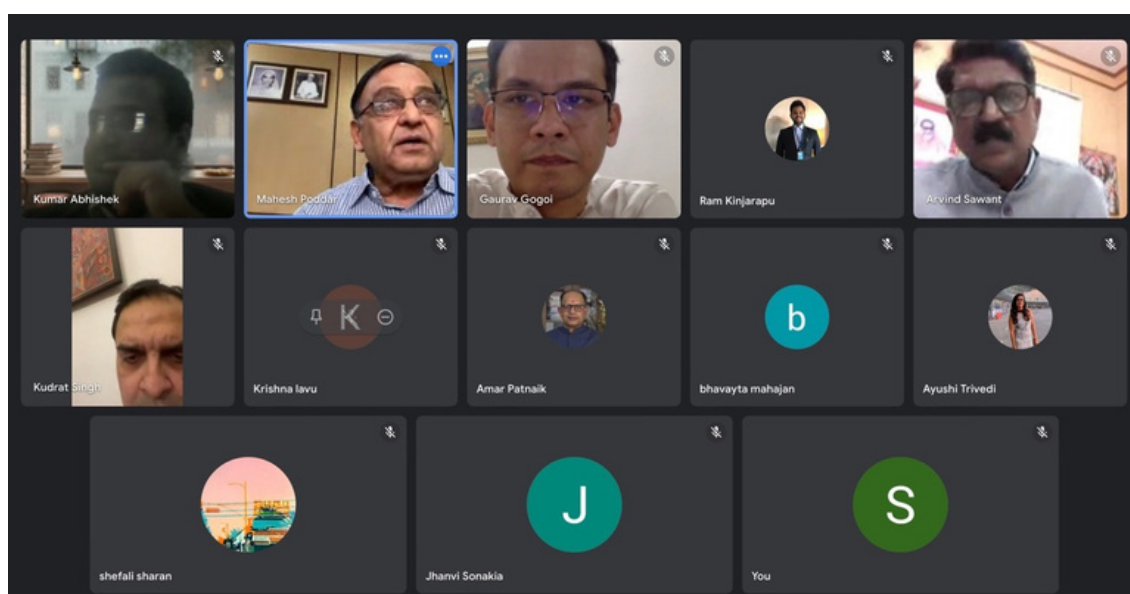


# Round Up

*(Snippets of activities being conducted amongst projects in April 2022)*

## Parliamentary Engagement Team

Swaniti Initiative supported Parliamentarians' Group for Clean Air (PGCA) to host a meeting with its Executive Committee Members on 20th April 2022. The meeting was organized to seek guidance on the monitoring indicators of the Air Pollution Toolkit to be deployed for measuring the impact of existing interventions in the constituencies. The main agenda was to finalize the monitoring indicators for its deployment, to freeze the strategy to engage with the Hon'ble Minister, MoEFCC on the collected data basis of the finalized indicators, and consideration of submission of the Toolkit and a report to the Hon'ble Minister by the PGCA members. The meeting was a success witnessing the enthusiastic participation of 9 Hon'ble MPs giving their valuable feedback such as suggesting a framework that needs to be proposed to control air pollution caused by opencast mining in mining belts, the quality of roads in mining states needs to be maintained constantly to ensure low levels of air pollution and the mandate of segregation of dry and wet waste needs to be enforced strictly as its implementation needs improvement.



## Himachal Pradesh

To accelerate the work towards establishing green enterprises in the district of Hamirpur, Swaniti Initiative organised 5 day training on Textile Upcycling Production Workshop for 27 women on the occasion of International Earth Day. The training was conducted in collaboration with Bunko Junko, "sustainable fashion brand which works on pre-consumed textile waste and re creates fashion products out of it. They can be used for daily lifestyle to contribute small efforts in the way to control environment sustainability. The aim of the workshop is to guide women from rural areas to do basic stitches and basic tailoring on the basis of which they can pursue employment. During the five days of training, the women were trained to create products related to home decor, bags, hair accessories and fabric from textile scraps. The women were also linked to women-only social platforms Sheroes, Flipkart Samarth etc.



हिमाचल 28-04-2022

### हमीरपुर में हरित उद्यम के निर्माण पर कार्य शुरू

महिलाओं को आत्मनिर्भर बनाने के लिए सामान बनाने के लिए किया जा रहा है ट्रेड

सिटी रिपोर्टर | हमीरपुर

हमीरपुर में हरित उद्यम के निर्माण को लेकर कार्य शुरू हो गया है। पर्यावरण संरक्षण और स्थिरता को प्रदर्शित करने की दृष्टि से स्वनिर्भर इनिशिएटिव के साथ बंको जुंको की सीओ भाविनि पारिख ने जिला मुख्यालय के साथ लगती मति टोहरा पंचायत में टेक्सटाइल अप-साइकलिंग पर पांच दिन कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया। इस कार्यशाला को महत्वपूर्ण इसलिए माना जा रहा है क्योंकि महिलाओं को आत्मनिर्भर बनाने के लिए परिजनों के अलावा घर के साथ साझा का सामान बनाने को लेकर भी ट्रेन किया जा रहा है। पारिख का कहना है कि कपड़े का उत्पादन विश्व का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा प्रदूषणकारी उद्योग है। एक परिधान का औसत जीवन काल लगभग तीन वर्ष है। वस्त्र भारी मात्रा में अपशिष्ट उत्पन्न करते हैं। सभी वैश्विक लैंडफिल का पांच प्रतिशत, कपड़े के कचरे द्वारा लिया



हरित उद्यम के निर्माण को लेकर महिलाओं को सामान बनाने के लिए किया जा रहा है।

जा रहा है। उत्पादन या उपयोग के दौरान अपव्यय से बचना संभव नहीं है। भाविनि पारिख ने बताया कि पर्यावरण को नुकसान पहुंचाए बिना उन्हें त्यागने के सर्वोत्तम तरीकों में से एक है, अप-साइकलिंग कपड़े और सामान है इसके कई पर्यावरणीय लाभ जिनमें कम अपशिष्ट, कम प्रदूषण, पानी और की बचत प्रमुख है। उनका कहना है कि कार्यशाला का उद्देश्य महिलाओं को सशक्त बनाना एवं हमीरपुर में हरित उद्यम

का निर्माण करना है। कार्यशाला के दौरान महिलाओं को परिधानों के अलावा घर की साज सजा जैसे गलीचे, बेड-स्रेड और लेपटॉप बैग, क्लच, शुभके बनाने सिखाई गईं। संस्था की ओर से इनके द्वारा बनाए गए सामान को मार्केट में उपलब्ध करवाई जाएगी। बंको जुंको और स्वनिर्भर इनिशिएटिव हमीरपुर की ओर से महिलाओं के लिए रोजगार का अभिनव पहल की शुरुआत की गई है।





## Maharashtra

### Baseline Study

In the month of April, the MH project continued collecting data in Pune, Chandrapur, Amravati, and Nagpur. Additionally, the enumerator's training was successfully held for the data collection team in the Nandurbar district.



### District Innovation Hub

The team is also in the process of signing MOUs with the collectors for the district innovation hub in Pune, Chandrapur, and Nandurbar.



## Jharkhand-RESET Project



As the heatwave sweeps across India, our associates have donned their thinking caps to ramp up the initiative of solar-based applications across the 12 districts of Jharkhand. Through the dust, heat and sweat we have now been able to touch the lives of more than 9000 beneficiaries.

**1) Solar Based Irrigation:** The Chatra district organised a Farmers Outreach Workshop under the PM-KUSUM scheme (Component B), which was attended by JREDA officials, district officials and the farmers to address the on-ground constraints related to the scheme, and to subsequently propose amendments at the policy level. Chatra has become a flag bearer for organising such workshop in Jharkhand, where ground realities can be considered for policy-level changes. Further beneficiaries have been identified for the second phase of the implementation in the Bokaro, Chatra, and Palamu districts.

**2) Rooftop Solar Installation:** For Rooftop Solar Installation, in Sahibganj district 91 healthcare buildings and 151 educational institutions have been identified, 72 administrative and healthcare buildings have been identified in Ranchi, 107 healthcare buildings and 4 administrative buildings in Palamu and 4 administrative buildings have been identified in Chatra district. Additionally 4 educational institutions and 1 hospital under construction have been identified.

**3) Solar Cold Storage:** To enhance the agro-storage infrastructure, a 5 MT cold storage is to be installed through the Jharkhand Renewable Energy Development Agency across the districts of Jharkhand. Such storage systems will ensure the longevity of the crops, thereby reducing the distress sale. For the same, the land identification process has been completed in the districts of Bokaro, Chatra, Jamtara, Palamu and Ranchi districts.

**4)E-mobility:** 295 e-scooters have been distributed to the ANM and ASHA workers in West Singhbhum district through CSR funds for enhancing the last mile connectivity. Further, training regarding charging the scooters, periodic service, repair and maintenance has been provided to the health workers. This initiative has received considerable media coverage and support through the Times of India, NitiAayog and the Chief Minister's Office, Jharkhand.



# Success Stories

*(Celebrating milestones achieved by teams in April 2022)*

## Jharkhand RESET Project

With the joint efforts of Pakur district administration and Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS), Chas Haat project was initiated in the year 2021 to empower the women belonging to the Sakhi Mandal by increasing their accessibility of vegetable production. The objective of the scheme is to increase the production and marketing of vegetable crops in the district and to further promote women's entrepreneurship. A significant milestone for the project was achieved in February 2022 when the Chas – Haat initiative was registered as Chas – Haat Farmers Producers Company Limited (CHFPC). In the last financial year, through the initiative, about 7803 farmers of Pakur have started cultivating vegetables on 1712 acres of land. Through production of about 266 metric tons of vegetables, these farmers have earned INR 4.5 crores in a short span of time. For timely monitoring and evaluation, our associate collects, summarizes and analyses the data from all the blocks, and explores opportunities to include sustainable and clean initiatives within the project. Further, sustainable business models are being explored for the smooth functioning of the company.



## Maharashtra

The Baseline study is in the last leg of data collection in the Vidarbha and Pune regions of Maharashtra. An approximate 1500 household surveys have been collected along with 150 focus group discussions. From the analysis on the field, the team has procured some credible understanding of the gaps and issues on the ground. Meanwhile, the team in the Nandurbar district is in the process of beginning the baseline study consisting of a household survey and focus group discussions.



### Data Insights

Following are some of the insights from the ongoing baseline study:

1. The data from Pune (urban) brought to the fore the significance of voting rights in the city. Many workers travel to their hometowns to partake in voting activities.
2. Data also showed the lack of savings amongst workers because of low wages being paid.

### DMFT-PMU, Pakur

Under the program "Hunar", DMFT of Pakur with the joint effort of the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) of Pakur district administration and Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS) distributed stitching machines to the rural women. The main objective of this program is to create an alternative livelihood through self-employment for sustainable growth of women who were willing to participate in income generation activities. A total of 128 beneficiaries benefitted from this initiative. During the initial phase of this project, we conducted capacity and skill-building training programmes and distributed machines. Within six months, they started to earn almost 3000-4000 rupees from their home only. It improves their willingness to carry forward their work by creating microeconomic zone at their rural pocket. This initiative will encourage the rural women of Jharkhand to create mastery in different economical activities to strengthen their livelihood and better living.



# Top Policy Updates of the Month

## **E-WASTE Management In Informal Sector :**

Under the E-waste (Management) Rules, 2016, Producers of notified electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) were given phase wise annual e-waste collection target. As per the information available with Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), 1,64,663 tonnes; 2,24,041 tonnes and 3,54,291.22 tonnes of e-waste were collected and processed during the Financial Year (FY) 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively. The defaulting units/producers are liable to pay financial penalties under para 21(2) of E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016. To ensure compliance of targets, guidelines have been framed by CPCB. No authentic estimate is available so far regarding the proportion of e-waste being handled by the informal sector. Under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016, the Department of Labour in the State or any other government agency authorised in this regard by the State Government has been assigned responsibility for ensuring the safety and health of workers involved in dismantling and recycling e-waste.

## **Scheme for Adolescent Girls**

Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG), a Centrally-sponsored scheme, aimed at providing nutritional support to out of school girls in the age group of 11-14 years for improving their health and nutritional status and motivated them to go back to formal schooling, provided life skill training, accessing public services etc. However, the Right to Education Act, 2009 provides legal entitlement for compulsory and free education to AGs in the age group of 11-14 years and all the AGs in this group are entitled to go-to school wherein they are provided mid day meal for improving their nutritional status. Hence, a decline in the number of beneficiaries was seen under the Scheme due to the RTE Act. Since the adolescent girls in the age group of 11-14 years are being covered under the RTE Act, recently the Scheme for Adolescent Girls has been revised and subsumed under Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 wherein the targeted beneficiaries are all the AGs in the age group of (14+) to 18 years in the Aspirational Districts and the North Eastern States.

## **E-Shram Registered Unorganised Workers Getting Decent Jobs through NCS**

During the Budget Speech 2022-23, the Finance Minister had announced the interlinking of four portals i.e. National Career Service (NCS), e-Shram, UDYAM, and AASEEM to enable services related to credit facilitation, skilling, and recruitment with an aim to further formalize the economy and enhance entrepreneurial opportunities for all. In line with the budget speech, the linkage between NCS and e-Shram has been completed recently and has enabled unorganized workers registered on E-Shram to seamlessly register on NCS and look for better job opportunities through NCS. So far, more than 26,000 E-Shram beneficiaries have registered on NCS and have started benefiting from this linkage.

## Cabinet approves amendment in Mega Power Policy 2009 for Provisional Mega Power Projects

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, approved the time extension (36 months) to identify 10 Provisional Mega certified projects for furnishing the final Mega Certificates to the Tax authorities. Extension of the time period for furnishing the final mega certificate will enable developers to competitively bid for future PPAs and get tax exemptions as per Policy terms. The increased liquidity will boost the overall growth of the country and also ensure the revival of various stressed power assets.

## ADB Financing to Support Urban Development in Nagaland

The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank signed a \$2 million Project Readiness Financing (PRF) Loan for designing climate-resilient urban infrastructure, strengthening institutional capacity, and improving municipal resource mobilization in 16 districts headquarter towns (DHTs) in Nagaland. The PRF loan will help design water supply, sanitation, solid waste management and urban roads in 16 DTHs with climate-resilient features and improved access to the poor and vulnerable. Capacity building of state agencies will help augment own-resource mobilization by urban local bodies (ULBs), improve their readiness for implementing the ensuing project and initiate sector and institutional reforms.

# Articles and Publications

### Panchali Banerjee

Project Manager,  
Swaniti Initiative.

### [Why time banking is a crucial tool to empower women](#)

#### Why time banking is a crucial tool to empower women

Unpaid labour is not considered 'real work' and is often devalued by the men, society



By Panchali Banerjee  
Published: Wednesday 13 April 2022



“Time-banking can benefit women, their families and their communities by alleviating time poverty through the system of exchange services through time credits. The system has the potential to improve the livelihoods of women and their families, thereby increasing overall economic activities.”

—Down to Earth, 13 April 2022



# Knowledge Pieces

## The Digital Age of Public Service Delivery Systems in India

*Daniel Flynn and Dr. Gargee Basu*

This paper seeks to outline the development of India's systems of digital public service delivery. This includes the measures the Government of India (GoI) has implemented to reach its citizens with necessary programs and benefits, as well as the challenges and issues that have arisen throughout the process.

## CCI Google Investigation & Implications for Tech

*Daniel Flynn and Dr. Gargee Basu*

Technology policy and regulation in India have been rapidly evolving in recent years as policymakers and corporate leaders grapple with complex issues on everything from social media to data protection to cryptocurrency. As more and more people build their livelihoods through technological skills and tools, the Government of India has been working to ensure an effective balance between national interests, commercial interests, and individual interests.



We are just one call away!

## Office Hour

An initiative for faster redressal of concerns and exchange of ideas

“

We believe and have witnessed that larger impact can be created when we ensure collective efforts of all with constructive systems for all. As you might have witnessed, the purpose of bringing in multiple systemic reforms is to be a better organisation. The growth so far of-course would have not been possible without your drive of creating impact and addressing global issues. In this growth journey as an organisation, at present we're working with 120+ strength and having presence not only in India but also in other parts of the world. Thanks to each one of you! While working on various fronts, we do not want to miss out on any of the ideas and feedback from any of our team members. We want to address each concern at the earliest and grow with learning from each step.

This initiative '**Office Hour**' is being introduced to create a hotline and make the two-way communication easier. This remains a designated channel for getting your concerns, feedback or ideas communicated to the senior management of the organisation. It does not mean that other channels are minimised - this is just an addition.

Please feel free to communicate any of your concerns, ideas, feedback or seek any help that you may require to be more efficient. If you don't find a slot on a particular date, please reach out to the Chief Peoples' Officer at [ankit.r@swaniti.in](mailto:ankit.r@swaniti.in).

Please plan the conversation [here](#)

”





# Meet Your New Work Buddies

*(An opportunity to know new peers !)*

Swaniti, in the month of April, hired 12 employees across India for our various projects. The employees were absorbed in our Clean Air Program across India, Maharashtra Labour Project, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy Project-Jharkhand, Peoples' Team, and Sustainable livelihood Projects- Himachal Pradesh.



**Asha Singh**

**Associate Manager - HR & Admin**

**Joining Date: 28 April 2022**

I have completed my MBA in Human Resources and Admin. I have 9 years of experience working in different sectors like entertainment, manufacturing and the IT industry.



**Gyanjt Boruah**

**Team Lead - DMFT**

**Joining Date: 9 April 2022**

I have completed my graduation in Economics from CVS, Delhi University and then my MBA from IIM Indore in 2019. Before joining Swaniti, I worked in Capgemini and I-PAC for more than 2 years across domains like IT Consulting, Campaign Management and Market Research..



**Bedika Borah**

**Associate- Clean Air**

**Joining Date: 18 April 2022**

I have completed my Graduation and Post Graduation from Delhi University and TERI School of Advanced Studies respectively. Post that, I along with my peers, founded an NGO and worked on water-induced disasters, climate change and sanitation in Assam. I joined the Quality Council of India in 2019 as a Junior Analyst as my first full time placement.



**Evita Rodrigues**

**Associate- Clean Air**

**Joining Date: 11 April 2022**

Graduated in Political Science and Economics from St. Stephen's College, after which I undertook the LAMP Fellowship working as a legislative researcher for a Lok Sabha MP from Assam.



**Swagata Chatterjee**

**Associate- Clean Air**

**Joining Date: 1st April 2022**

I completed MA in Social Work in Dalit and Tribal Studies and Action. I have worked at IPAC. After that, I decided to pursue something related to my education background which was followed by my current role at Swaniti.



**Jalinder Wanve**

**Associate, Maharashtra**

**Joining Date: 20 April 2022**

I completed my postgraduate studies in social work at Pune University. I have worked for 3 years with the Government of Maharashtra as a Chief Minister's Rural Development Fellow.



**Vivek Kumar**

**Green Associate**

**Joining Date: 15 April 2022**

I am a Chemistry honours graduate from St. Xavier's college and have done my PGDM in Rural Management from XISS, Ranchi. I have worked at Foundation for ecological Security (FES) as a Project Manager.



**Aarti Salve**

**Senior Associate, Maharashtra**

**Joining Date: 13 April 2022**

With an academic degree of LLB and an M.A in Social Work from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, I have worked in a variety of settings and brought along 15 years of rich experience in the development sector.



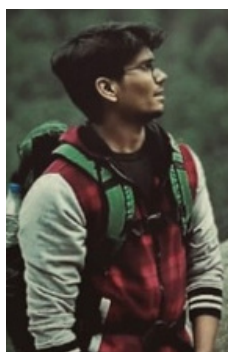


**Bavanisha Kalyan**

**Associate- Clean Air**

**Joining Date: 20 April 2022**

I am a postgraduate in Politics and Public policy from the University of Madras. I was previously working as a Tech Policy Research Associate at Deepstrat, a New Delhi based Think Tank.



**Dheeraj Manikanta**

**Associate- Clean Air**

**Joining Date: 18 April 2022**

I completed my Bachelor's in Architecture and Master's in Urban Design from the School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi and a PG Diploma in Urban Planning and Development. Earlier, I worked as an Associate Architect at Jump9 Studio Bangalore for a span of 6 months. I have also worked in state PIU as Urban local body coordinator in Telangana state for 4 months.



**Shipra Goswami**

**Associate, Hamirpur**

**Joining Date: 22 April 2022**

I have 2 years of work experience in the field of political and management consulting where I worked with multiple national parties and other related clients. I have completed my academic training in Development Studies from Azim Premji University, Bangalore, and a Bachelors in Social Work from AMU.



**Dheeraj Manikanta**

**Associate- Clean Air**

**Joining Date: 18 April 2022**

I hold a postgraduate degree in Development Studies from the TISS, Mumbai. I have worked with NABARD, J- PAL and the Centre for Equity Studies, New Delhi on various projects related to the development sector.

## Current Opportunities at Swaniti

Swaniti is expanding and we believe that the best talent can be sourced through internal referrals. We are hiring across various verticals, and if you think someone would be the right fit, head to the career page <https://www.swaniti.com/jobopenings/> or feel free to send the candidature at [akriti.s@swaniti.in](mailto:akriti.s@swaniti.in).

## Social Media Updates

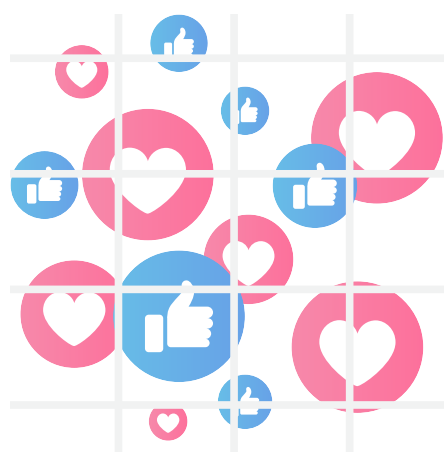


### Twitter Space

This month Swaniti Initiative conducted two Twitter Spaces on the topic "**Institutionalising Ed-Tech in District Education System**" by Pratikshita Chaudhary (DMFT Ranchi, Jharkhand) and "**Decoding Air Pollution through Policy Lens**" by Bhavayta Mahajan, Sparsh, and Jhanvi Sonakia (Policy Team). Both the events were marked with a grand welcome with over 68+ listeners joining us live in the latter. We look forward to hosting more such episodes on the platform for further engagement with the audience and visibility on social media.



### LinkedIn

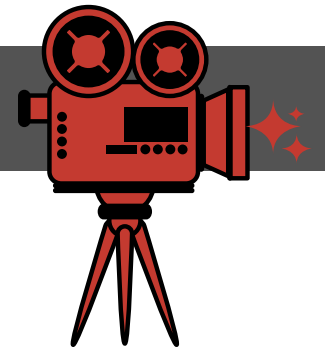


**SWANITI HAS CROSSED  
14K FOLLOWERS ON  
LINKEDIN**



# What are We Watching

*(Lets share our favourite playlists and shows of all times!)*



## Sairat

Platform: Zee5

Recommendation by Panchali Banerjee  
Project Manager, West Bengal



## Guilty Minds

Platform: Amazon prime

Recommendation by: Shruti  
Slaria, Manager, R&D



## Forrest Gump

Platform: Netflix

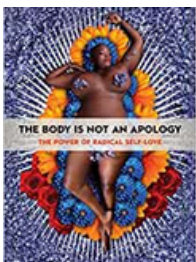
Recommendation by Pulkeshin Dubey  
Associate, JH-RESET



## Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom

Platform: Amazon Prime

Recommendation by Kissalay Anand  
Project Manager



## The Body is Not an Apology

Platform: YouTube

Recommendation by Karishma V  
Social Protection Lead



## Chungking Express

Platform: Mubi prime

Recommendation by: Shruti  
Vasudevan

Policy Analyst



## Raja, Rasoi Aur Anya Kahaniyan

Platform: YouTube

Recommendation by Sujay Pan  
Policy and Data Analyst



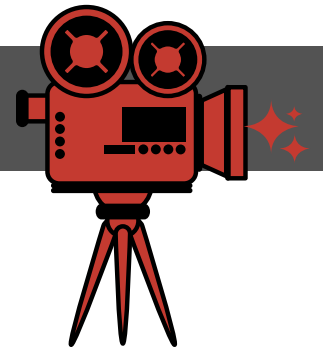
## Panchayat

Platform: Amazon Prime

Recommendation by Rimpa  
Associate-Office of CEO

# What are We Watching

*(Lets share our favourite playlists and shows of all times!)*



## **The Queen's Gambit**

Platform: Netflix

Recommendation by Gargee  
Senior Analyst



## **The Stranger Things**

Platform: Netflix

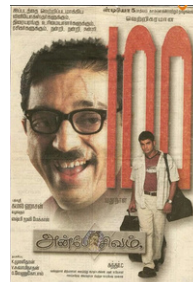
Recommendation by Gargee  
Senior Analyst



## **Guardian: The lonely and Great God**

Platform: Netflix

Recommendation by Sunanda  
Associate Chhattisgarh



## **Anbe Sivam**

Platform: Netflix

Recommendation by Sunanda  
Associate Chhattisgarh



# Travel Bucketlist

*(Lets share our favourite places to visit)*



## **Darjeeling, West Bengal**

**Top Places:** Tiger Hill, Mall Road, Mahakal Mandir, Ghum, Batasia Loop, Toy Train ride to Ghum



## **North Sikkim, Sikkim**

**Top Places:** Gurudongmar Lake, Yumthang Valley, Katao, Lachen, Lachung



## **Dooars, West Bengal**

**Top Places:** Sunthalekhola, Samsing, Gorumara



## **Kalimpong , West Bengal**

**Top Places:** Lava, Itegaon



## **Ranchi , Jharkhan**

**Top Places:** Jonha Falls, Patraru valley, Rock Garden



## **Alappuzha, Kerala**

**Top Places:** Alleppey Beach and Backwaters, Temples and Churches around the city, Kathakali Dance event

## Picture of the Month



True emancipation lies in knowing that your wings can  
make you fly- Pondicherry 2018

📷 Drishya Zachariah



Mussoorie Twinkling

📷 Panchali Banerjee

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Swaniti Initiative is a non-partisan social enterprise that delivers development solutions to legislators and governments. The organisation focuses on the issues of climate and sustainability, energy transition, livelihood, social protection, policy reform, human welfare and governance. The vision of the organization is to facilitate evidence based policy making and further help the government utilise its resource with utmost efficiency to ensure development of the community at the last mile.



Swaniti Initiative

13/14, Sarvapriya Vihar, New Delhi, India

[www.swaniti.com](http://www.swaniti.com)