

Seeds of Change



JULY, 2026

Stories of people, communities and partnerships restoring land, lives and livelihoods

Every story starts with someone who chose to act

This edition of our newsletter is rooted in a simple truth: change rarely happens in isolation; it begins the moment someone chooses to act. Within these pages, you'll meet the people behind that choice: a farmer who refuses to give up on barren land, a mother who rebuilds after loss, a mangrove warrior who has spent three decades protecting a coastline, and a student who dares to dream beyond his circumstances.

Together, their stories capture resilience, restoration and renewal, each made possible by individuals, communities and partners who believe that lasting impact is built one commitment at a time.



The Mangrove Man of Muthupet

For more than three decades, Sankar has been the quiet force behind the protection and restoration of Muthupet's mangrove forests in Tamil Nadu. Affectionately known as the "Mangrove Man of Muthupet", he has dedicated his life to safeguarding the ecosystem.

As silt gradually choked Muthupet's tidal canals, traditional fishing declined, and livelihoods suffered. The work started by Concern India Foundation in July 2023 on this coastline was more than just a mangrove project; it was the restoration of livelihoods, inspiring community ownership

Sankar's extraordinary commitment has earned him much recognition, but his greatest reward, as our champion working alongside Concern, is seeing the mangroves flourish.

His story is a powerful reminder that lasting environmental change begins with individuals who choose to act and communities that come together to protect what matters most.

Together, champions like Sankar and Concern India Foundation are creating a sustainable future.



One restored ecosystem – creating a legacy that will endure for generations.

Home Again: Pramila Devi's Story of Resilience



When disaster took everything, compassion gave this family the strength to start over.

For Pramila Devi, a 50-year-old widow from Dharali village in Uttarakhand, 5th August 2025 will forever remain the day her world came crashing down.

A catastrophic flash flood swept through her village with terrifying force. Within moments, it washed away her home, destroyed everything the family owned, buried their one-acre apple orchard under thick silt and claimed the life of her eldest son, the family's main source of strength and support.

Left with two grieving sons, no home to return to and no livelihood to depend on, the family faced an uncertain future.

At their darkest hour, Concern India Foundation rallied around the family, offering immediate relief with rations, mattresses, blankets and essential supplies

Over time, our support extended towards setting up a safe transitional shelter in a secure location, giving the family a space to heal and begin again.

Today, the mid-term shelter stands as a symbol of resilience. It protects the family as they rebuild their lives, serving as a secure space for their livestock and harvest long after they move into a permanent home.

From Barren Land to Bountiful Harvests

The transformation is perhaps best captured in the words of farmer Ranga Swami from Kengalapura Palya (a beneficiary of this intervention):

"For nearly ten years, my land lay barren. Today, I grow two crops, and the income has helped me build a better future for my family. This support has truly changed my life."



For years, farmers across six villages in Karnataka's Tumkur district watched their land lose its productivity. Erratic rainfall, declining groundwater levels and severe soil erosion turned once-fertile fields barren, forcing many families to rely on a single crop or abandon cultivation altogether. With each failed harvest, livelihoods became more uncertain, and hope began to fade.

In April 2023, Concern India Foundation launched the Integrated Watershed Development Project to restore both the land and the livelihoods that depended on it. Through a three-year intervention that included bund construction, groundwater recharge, soil and water conservation, and the promotion of sustainable farming practices, degraded farmland began

to recover. Soil moisture improved, groundwater levels were replenished, and precious rainwater was retained where it was needed most.

Today, the transformation is visible across the landscape. Fields that once lay dry are flourishing once again.

Farmers who once struggled to cultivate a single crop are now harvesting two crops each year, increasing agricultural productivity, improving household incomes and strengthening food security. With greater financial stability, families are better able to invest in their children's education and build more secure futures. More than restoring farmland, the project has restored confidence. It has renewed farmers' belief that the land they have nurtured for generations can once again sustain their families—and continue to do so for generations to come.

Ayush's grades were never a doubt; HIS OPPORTUNITY WAS

For Ayush Nandu Pawar, talent was never in question, but financial constraints threatened to stand in the way of his dreams.

A determined student, he scored 96.6% in SSC, 87% in HSC, and a 96 percentile in MHT-CET. Fuelled by his passion for food quality and innovation, he went on to complete his B.Tech in Food Science and Technology with an outstanding CGPA of 9.42.

Behind these achievements was a family working extremely hard to support his education, and the young man was aware of the weight placed on them.

"Concern India Foundation's scholarship made my educational journey possible," says Ayush. "Without this support, achieving my goals would have been extremely difficult." Free to focus wholeheartedly on his studies, Ayush has now earned a seat in the M.Tech in Food Engineering and Technology Programme at ICT (Institute of Chemical Technology), Mumbai, one of India's leading institutions in the field. His story is proof that when the right support meets the right determination, dreams don't just survive; they thrive.



SSC (10th)	96.6%
HSC (12th)	87%
Entrance Exam	96 percentile
BTech	CGPA 9.40
Postgrad Entrance	All India Rank 1075

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Beyond Giving: Creating Meaningful Employee Engagement

Corporate social responsibility is most impactful when employees become active participants in creating change. Through volunteering, mentoring, environmental initiatives, and community interactions, employees gain a deeper understanding of social challenges while contributing their time and skills to meaningful causes.

Together, we can create opportunities that inspire people, empower communities, and build a culture of giving that extends far beyond the workplace.

Activities

- SanDisk: Sustainability activities featuring upcycled paper notebooks and planters made from recycled plastic bottles.
- Dolby Laboratories: Employees handcrafted bookmarks for children from nearby schools.
- Dolby Laboratories: Science in Action – a hands-on STEM activity making science fun, interactive and engaging.
- Sentiss Foundation: Small-group mentoring sessions on confidence building, interview skills, career guidance and personal development.
- Marsh Global: Employee volunteering across cities; school wall painting, bird feeder making and creative art activities with children and communities.

Welcoming our new members to Concern

1. Srishti Gupta
2. Elsa Carvalho
3. Bhargavi Pange
4. Mansi Shah
5. Dhananjay Sanas

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