

गून्ज..
GOONJ.. a voice, an effort

DIGNITY DIARY

Issue #74

Rahat

GROUND REPORT

WE ARE THERE.. NEED YOU TOO!

To Do Your Bit.. [Click here](#)

From April till third week of October 2025, Goonj has extended its disaster response operations across **85+ districts in 21 states**, including Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and more.

With local teams, partners, volunteers, we reached flood and other disaster-affected families with **55,000+ need based kits** with essential materials.

The Goonj Way: Building a Resilient Response

Relief must go beyond survival. We reach out with immediate relief to affected people and continue to stand with communities long after media attention fades, enabling their rehabilitation and long-term resilience. Through a barter system between urban surplus and rural efforts and wisdom, families are recognized for their contributions and rewarded with Family Kits — not as charity, but as appreciation for their efforts.

STORIES FROM THE GROUND



Sawdesh Nagar village, South Tripura district, Tripura: Under Goonj's Cloth for Work (CFW) initiative, the community came together to prepare 3,000 rubber sapling pouches. In a village often affected by floods and landslides, they used locally sourced roots and pouches. The saplings will be nurtured for the next few months, after which they will be planted around the village, adding to the green cover and securing future income through rubber production.



Kaladhungi Bandobasti village, Nainital district, Uttarakhand: In this hill village, women identified the need for a small bridge. Through Goonj's CFW initiative, the community built a bridge with shramdaan (collective effort), restoring safe passage and reconnecting the village.





Gorhar village, Hazaribagh district, Jharkhand: When heavy rains turned the only village road into a stretch of potholes and danger, the people decided to act together. They repaired the road with shared effort, turning a risky route into a safe passage. Their effort reinforced their sense of community.



REFLECTION FROM OUR TEAM MEMBER - SHIV B. SHARMA

I was part of the relief work in Punjab, and I witnessed moments that will stay with me forever. People who had lost almost everything still welcomed us with warmth and kindness. A mother drying her children's books in the sun, an elderly man rebuilding his broken wall, and children laughing beside a half-broken house — every moment reminded me of what true strength looked like.



This experience reminded me that real relief work isn't just about providing things — it's about listening, connecting, and standing beside people with humanity.

*This journey became more than just relief work — it became a reflection. A reflection on how fragile life is, how powerful unity can be, and how deeply connected we all are. **To read more, [click here](#)***

Glimpses From The Field:



The Way Forward

With Goonj's **Societal Alliance for Resilience and Response to Disasters (SARRD)** framework, we aim to bring together diverse stakeholders, center rehabilitation around community decision making and action to build a sustainable, dignified societal response to climate emergencies. With Alliance Goonj is also nudging for proactive resource commitment, enabling structured, rapid responses instead of fragmented, reactionary intervention.



Join the SARRD Journey: <https://goonj.org/sarrd/>

We are there.. Need you too!

Urgently needed:

- Dry ration and ready-to-eat food
- Clothing (all age groups including new undergarments)
- Tarpaulins and mosquito nets
- Sanitary pads and general medicines
- Utensils, slippers, umbrellas, blankets and school material
- Raincoats, Toiletries
- Solar lights, torches and batteries



1. Drop off material surplus at [Goonj Offices](#) & [Community Dropping Centres](#)

2. Monetary contributions are vital for transport and essential supplies

[Contribute here](#)

Expand Your Impact

- [Organise](#) a collection camp in your community, office, or school
- [Contribute](#) through your organisation

Initiate Payroll Giving in your organisation for employees to stand with affected communities. To start a micro-site, write to us at mail@goonj.org or [contribute here](#)

Any Questions?

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