



ENLIGHTENED INDIA FOUNDATION

Annual Report

2021-2022

Establishment & Leadership Capacity Building



Registered Trust | Founded on 15 February 2021

Operational Region: Himachal Pradesh

Message from the President

The year 2021–22 marked the beginning of Enlightened India Foundation’s journey from intent to action. What started as a small, community-rooted effort evolved into a structured attempt to reimagine how education, leadership, and skills can be nurtured in rural settings.

This year was primarily focused on learning—learning how communities respond, how young people lead when trusted, and how low-cost, locally anchored models can create meaningful engagement. Our early work in Slate Godam and Rakkar villages reaffirmed a simple belief: when adolescent girls are trained and supported, they become powerful agents of change for their communities.

Establishing our first training and learning centres, identifying and mentoring young women leaders, and piloting educational and sports activities helped us build a foundation rooted in practice rather than theory. This early phase also taught us the importance of patience, consistency, and trust-building—values that cannot be rushed in rural ecosystems. We learned that lasting change comes not from one-time interventions, but from sustained presence and empowerment of local leadership.

The year also strengthened our understanding of programme design in resource-limited settings—how to work with shared infrastructure, create cost-effective learning formats, and build systems that communities can continue independently. The enthusiasm of children and the leadership potential of our first youth leaders made it clear that even small models, when executed with sincerity, can unlock deep transformation.

I extend my gratitude to our youth leaders, community members, and well-wishers who believed in this vision during its earliest phase. This report captures a formative year—one that shaped our approach, values, and long-term commitment to women-led, community-driven development.

Smita Choudhary

President

Enlightened India Foundation

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About Enlightened India Foundation

Enlightened India Foundation is a grassroots nonprofit organisation registered as a public trust in 2021. The Foundation works with rural and tribal communities to improve access to education, life skills, and leadership development through women-led, community-rooted and low-cost scalable models.

Operating primarily in Himachal Pradesh during its initial years, the organisation focuses on building local capacity by training adolescent girls and young women as educators, mentors, and facilitators. This women-led approach strengthens community ownership while creating real leadership pathways for rural youth.

Programmes are designed to be practical, inclusive, and rooted in the realities of village life—implemented through Panchayat spaces, community learning centres, and locally supported learning environments. The Foundation prioritises shared resources and peer-led learning to ensure access even in low-infrastructure contexts.

Rather than delivering services as an external provider, Enlightened India Foundation prioritises decentralised leadership and community participation—enabling villages to sustain and expand learning initiatives independently over time. The organisation combines on-ground learning with documentation, surveys, and local insights to strengthen programme quality and inform future scaling.

Vision

Rural communities where girls and young people lead learning, resilience, and social change.

Mission

To strengthen rural India through women-led, community-rooted education and life skills initiatives that are practical, affordable, scalable, and informed by evidence from the ground.

Founded: 15 February 2021

Legal Status: Registered Public Trust

Primary Focus Areas: Women Empowerment, Education, Digital Literacy

Operational Regions (2021–22): Kangra District, Himachal Pradesh

Approach: Women-led, community-driven, low-cost education models

NGO Darpan Unique ID: UP/2022/0314311

Year One: Establishment & Training (2021–2022)

The first year of Enlightened India Foundation focused on building strong foundations for community-led education. This phase prioritized programme design, youth leader training, and the establishment of initial learning spaces in rural villages of Kangra district, Himachal Pradesh. Rather than rapid expansion, the emphasis was on preparing local adolescent girls to independently deliver educational, digital, sports, and leadership activities within their own communities.

Key Focus Areas During 2021–22

- Designing core educational, digital literacy, sports, and leadership programmes
- Training adolescent girls as youth leaders and facilitators
- Establishing the first training and learning centre in Slate Godam village
- Initiating supervised activities with small groups of children
- Conducting the first community-based educational camp

Learning Spaces Established

- A training centre in Slate Godam village, used for youth leader preparation and supervised sessions
- A community-run learning space in Rakkar village, supporting daily educational and sports activities



A training session in progress at Slate Godam village centre

Programme Design & Youth Leader Capacity Building

The year 2021–22 marked the foundational phase of Enlightened India Foundation's work, focused on designing core programmes and building local leadership capacity. Rather than scaling activities prematurely, the organisation prioritised training adolescent girls from rural communities to independently lead education, sports, digital literacy and leadership initiatives within their villages.

Core Programme Areas Designed

- Foundational learning support in Mathematics, English, and Science
- Introductory digital literacy using child-friendly coding platforms
- Sports and physical development with emphasis on boxing and self-defence
- Leadership and confidence-building activities for adolescent girls

Youth Leader Identification & Training

During this period, five adolescent girls from different villages were identified based on interest, commitment, academic strength, and leadership potential. These youth leaders underwent structured training in academic facilitation, digital tools, sports instruction, and community engagement. Training combined classroom-style learning with hands-on practice and supervised facilitation of small children's groups.



Youth Leaders attending digital training session at Slate Godam village centre

Early Implementation & Community Engagement

With core programmes designed and youth leaders trained, the latter half of 2021–22 focused on supervised implementation. Youth leaders began facilitating small-group activities with children in their villages, applying their training in real community settings while receiving continuous guidance and support. This phase helped test programme delivery in real village conditions and ensured that methods remained practical, child-friendly, and locally acceptable. It also marked the beginning of consistent community participation in learning beyond school hours.

Practical Training with Children

Youth leaders conducted regular learning and activity sessions with small groups of children in Slate Godam and Rakkar villages. Activities included foundational academic support, introductory digital learning exposure, sports-based engagement, and confidence-building exercises. These sessions allowed youth leaders to translate training into practice while strengthening community trust. They also developed hands-on skills in managing mixed-age groups, maintaining discipline with empathy, and adapting sessions based on children's learning levels. Over time, these interactions helped establish the centres as safe and trusted community learning spaces.



Youth leaders conduct foundational computer science and coding sessions—mentoring younger facilitators while introducing children to hands-on digital learning.

Supervised Educational Camp

A week-long supervised educational camp was organised in Slate Godam village, engaging over 50 children from the community. The camp was jointly planned and executed by five adolescent female youth leaders as part of their first large-scale practical leadership exposure. Under guidance, they designed a structured week of activities that blended academic learning with creativity, sports, and life skills.

Children participated in English communication sessions, Mathematics and Science classes, foundational digital literacy, and sports activities. To ensure broader engagement, art competitions were held alongside group-based learning games. The camp also included dance presentations by children, encouraging confidence and public participation. The youth leaders not only facilitated sessions but also appointed and guided younger activity leaders to coordinate different components smoothly. They maintained communication with parents and community members throughout the week to encourage sustained participation and ensure that children attended regularly.

This camp marked a key milestone in the Foundation's early journey—demonstrating that with training and support, adolescent girls can independently manage community learning initiatives and mobilise meaningful village-level participation.



Snapshots from our supervised education camp in Slate Godam—art activities, girls' sports sessions, cultural dance presentations, and joyful moments of community learning led by trained youth leaders.

Financial Overview (FY 2021–22)

The financial year 2021–22 marked the establishment phase of Enlightened India Foundation. During this period, the organisation operated without external institutional funding and relied entirely on founder contributions and internally generated revenue to establish programme infrastructure, training capacity, and community learning spaces. All expenditures during this year were directly linked to programme delivery, capacity building, and the establishment of sustainable community-based centres.

Sources of Funds

During the financial year 2021–22, Enlightened India Foundation was supported through internal contributions from the founding members and training Revenue, generated through mathematics faculty training services. No government grants or institutional funding was received during this period.

Source of Income	Amount (₹)
Mathematics Faculty Training Fee	54,000
Founder Member Contributions	1,20,000
Total Income	1,74,000

Expenditure Details

Expenditure during FY 2021–22 focused on creating functional learning environments, compensating teaching staff, and enabling programme activities for children and youth leaders.

Expenditure Head	Amount (₹)
Infrastructure & Initial Setup	40,000
Slate Godam Centre Rental	36,000
Mathematics Faculty Salary	54,000
Academic Support Materials	8,000
Sports Equipment	5,000
Travel & Miscellaneous Expenses	12,000
Total Expenditure	1,55,000

Explanation of Key Expense Heads

- **Infrastructure & Initial Setup:** Includes basic furnishing, learning materials, and setup costs required to establish the Slate Godam training centre.
- **Centre Rental (Slate Godam):** Monthly rental expenses incurred to maintain a dedicated learning and training space for youth leaders and children.
- **Mathematics Faculty Salary:** Honorarium paid to a subject faculty responsible for training adolescent girls in mathematics and academic facilitation.
- **Academic Support Materials:** Includes notebooks, stationery, printed learning resources, and basic educational supplies for children.
- **Sports Equipment:** Purchase of low-cost sports materials used for daily physical activities and self-defence training.
- **Travel & Miscellaneous Expenses:** Covers local travel for programme coordination, community outreach, and incidental operational costs.

Financial Position & Carry Forward

At the end of the financial year:

- Total Income: ₹1,74,000
- Total Expenditure: ₹1,55,000
- Closing Balance: ₹19,000

The closing balance of ₹19,000 was carried forward to the subsequent financial year (2022–23) to support programme continuity and early expansion activities. The Foundation maintains statutory financial records and undertakes annual independent audits. Audited statements are available separately.

Expenditure decisions were aligned with programme priorities and approved by the governing members. No personal remuneration was drawn by founding members beyond approved programme-related expenses.

Commitment to Transparency

Enlightened India Foundation is committed to maintaining transparency, fiscal discipline, and responsible utilisation of resources. Financial disclosures are an integral part of the organisation's accountability to communities, partners, and stakeholders.

Outcomes, Learnings & Way Forward



A junior youth leader engages her peers in practical coding exercise at Slate Godam centre.

Key Outcomes Achieved

During its first year of operation, Enlightened India Foundation successfully transitioned from concept to structured on-ground implementation. The Foundation established core community infrastructure, trained local women youth leaders, and delivered multi-skill learning activities for children through a low-cost, community-led model.

Key outcomes achieved during 2021–22 include:

- Established two functional community learning spaces:
 - ✓ A dedicated training and activity centre in Slate Godam village
 - ✓ A community-run learning space in Rakkar village
- Women-led youth leadership established:
 - ✓ 5 adolescent girls trained as youth leaders in:
 - Academic facilitation (Mathematics/Science/English support)
 - Foundational digital literacy & beginner coding facilitation
 - Sports & self-defense fundamentals
 - Group coordination and leadership delivery

- Children engaged through year-round learning and activity programmes:
 - ✓ 70+ unique children reached through supervised educational activities and pilot camps
 - ✓ 50+ children regularly engaged in structured sports activities (every alternate day)
 - ✓ 30+ children engaged daily in indoor learning spaces (reading, art, indoor games)
- Digital literacy delivery:
 - ✓ 60+ children introduced to foundational digital literacy using shared devices and low-resource training methods
- Flagship event milestone:
 - ✓ Organised the Foundation's first supervised educational camp (50+ participating children), enabling youth leaders to gain hands-on facilitation experience
- Female participation remained consistently above 60%, reflecting strong community trust and early adoption of girl-led programming.

Programme Delivery Metrics

- 600+ hours of structured youth leadership training delivered to adolescent girls across multiple skill domains.
- 135+ structured sports and physical development sessions conducted (2 hours each alternate-day engagement across villages)
- 200+ community learning sessions delivered (reading, art, indoor games and collaborative learning at Slate Godam & Rakkar)
- 180+ foundational digital literacy sessions conducted (basic computer awareness + coding exposure across both villages)

Challenges Encountered

- Limited financial resources restricted the pace of expansion and the ability to invest in stable infrastructure.
- Dependence on a single training centre increased vulnerability to local disruptions and logistical barriers.
- Absence of formal partnerships constrained access to schools and public institutions for structured outreach.
- Limited equipment and shared digital resources created constraints in scaling computer-based learning across villages.

These challenges informed the organisation's shift toward community-led centres and decentralised operations in the following year.

Organisational Learning



Foundational learning in action across villages—girls practising coding at Slate Godam, and children engaging in art and digital activities at the Rakkar community centre.

The first year offered several critical insights that shaped the organisation's future direction:

- **Local leadership is scalable:** Training adolescent girls as facilitators significantly increased reach while maintaining community trust.
- **Low-cost models are effective:** Shared resources and community spaces enabled impactful programming without high infrastructure costs.
- **Practice-based training is essential:** Youth leaders learned most effectively when given responsibility under supervision rather than classroom-only instruction.
- **Community ownership strengthens sustainability:** Programmes embedded within village structures showed higher participation and continuity.

Way Forward (2022–23)

Building on the establishment phase, the organisation planned to:

- Transfer programme delivery responsibilities fully to trained youth leaders
- Expand daily activities across multiple villages
- Establish additional community-run centres
- Reduce direct operational dependence on central infrastructure
- Focus the organisation's role on facilitation, supervision, and capacity building

These priorities guided the implementation and scale phase in the next financial year.

Testimonials & Community Voices

Community voices that shaped our journey

Priyanka | Youth Leader

“Joining Enlightened India Foundation during its first year gave me an opportunity that I had never imagined. The training sessions helped me strengthen my confidence and skills—not only in academics, but also in leadership, sports, and working with children. I learned how to guide younger students, organise learning activities, and take responsibility within my community. Most importantly, I realised that girls like us can become leaders when we are trusted and supported. This training phase shaped my mindset and later helped me take up bigger responsibilities within the Foundation’s village programmes.”

Vaishali | Youth Leader

“My experience as a youth leader trainee in the first year of Enlightened India Foundation was deeply motivating. Through regular training, I learned how to speak confidently, work as part of a team, and support younger children in learning activities. The Foundation encouraged us to participate in sports, use digital learning tools, and develop discipline and responsibility. Before this, I had never thought that I could teach or guide others. This year helped me believe in myself and showed me that rural girls can also build skills and contribute to their village in meaningful ways.”

Ananya | Junior Youth Leader, Slate Godam Centre

“Being a Junior Youth Leader at Enlightened India Foundation gave me responsibilities I had never imagined at my age. Since the centre was rented from my family, I also helped in daily monitoring and ensuring the learning space remained active and organised. I learned foundational coding and digital skills and gradually started supporting other children and teaching my peers as well. During the education camp, I assisted the senior youth leaders in managing activities, helping younger children, and ensuring sessions ran smoothly. This experience helped me become more disciplined, confident, and motivated to learn and lead.”

Enlightened India Foundation

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