

TRAVELLERS' UNIVERSITY

52

PARINDEY
FELLOWSHIP

6 FELLOWS | 18 WEEKS | 52 STORIES

journey towards livelihoods of
intentional living and lifelong learning
for a sustainable, equitable, and just world



The Fellowship

The 52 Parindey Fellowship is an 18 weeks long programme for youth exploring alternative livelihood paths and dreaming of a sustainable, equitable, and just world. It is a leadership journey designed and co-created by the fellows and Travellers' University.

The fellowship will serve as an immersive on-ground learning experience for the fellows to explore alternative livelihoods (Alivelihoods) by travelling, living with and documenting the life journeys of Alivelihood practitioners (Parindeys) engaged in socially and ecologically conscious pursuits. It will provide them with practical understanding in the domain areas of their interest (such as Conservation, Education, Waste Management, etc.). It will create avenues for their personal growth as the fellows will lead a journey of self-exploration, helping them understand ground realities, shaping their worldviews, and paving a way to take affirmative actions.

The fellowship envisions to educate youth about the various alternative livelihoods (Alivelihoods) by documenting best practices, sharing pathways to pursue them, providing access to a network of mentors, and creating a space for dialogue among the masses.



Alivelihoods are livelihoods that have the ability to regenerate our planet and make the one pursuing it feel alive, joyful and content. It shifts the pattern from extraction and consumption of resources to conservation and regeneration of resources.

A growing number of youths today are looking for livelihood opportunities that are both personally fulfilling and planet-centric at the same time. They feel responsible not just for themselves but also for the whole ecosystem around them and want to have a healthy and sustainable relationship with the same.

We see that there is a need for organized information on Alivelihoods along with the personal stories of individuals who are successfully sustaining themselves, serving as role models. The stories of these eco-conscious livelihoods that are relatable and rooted in the local context are essential to inspire the youth, and serve as pathways to support them to pursue Alivelihoods of their choice.

Alivelihoods

This programme, thus, envisages to bridge this gap between the Indian youth's desire to work for the emerging needs of the planet and the knowledge and support system required to pursue the same, by documenting the personal journeys of the Parindeys and various aspects of their Alivelihoods, and to make them available to the youth. It will act as a catalyst in making Alivelihoods more visible and acceptable among the youth, preparing a foundation for them to pursue Alivelihoods.



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Travellers' University

Travellers' University is a learning community to support individuals who are interested to travel and learn to deepen their knowledge and understanding of themselves and the world, and are looking for alternative choices in Education. It is a platform to nurture curious minds, encourage questions and push one's thought process by giving them exposure to traditional knowledge systems, a plethora of sustainable solutions available, varied philosophies, ideologies, and realities.

It is for individuals to venture outside their academics and work-life to engage with questions that perturb them and work together to find their answers. One can leverage old wisdom, live those experiences, carry out their own experiments and combine them with today's technical knowledge to expand their horizons. At Travellers' University, we believe the whole Universe is a learning ground and that experiences invoke one's innate curiosity which is fundamental for one's education.

**Learning
Journeys****Workshops****Travelsations****Travel
Learner****Transition
Programs****Fellowships**Know more: <https://www.travellersuniversity.org>

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Have a look at the criteria to apply!

- Age 18-30
- In the pursuit of Alivelihoods
- Interested in experiencing Travel as a pedagogy for learning
- Looking for a fun, challenging, and immersive learning experience
- Action-oriented with a willingness to apply their writing/video making skills

Eligibility

Here is a list of some of the Alivelihoods domains the fellow may explore:-

- **Learning & Education** (alternate learning initiatives, farm schools, forest schools, unschooling, place-based education, community libraries, etc.)
- **Media** (community media, independent media, media for social and ecological justice, etc.)
- **Food Systems** (natural and organic farming, permaculture, agroecology, agribusiness, etc.)
- **Sustainability, Conservation & Regeneration** (biodiversity conservation, miyawaki forest making, eco-architecture, etc.)
- **Health & Nutrition** (medicine-free life, healing, mental and physical wellbeing, etc.)
- **Waste Management** (solid waste, e-waste and bio-waste management, composting, bio-enzymes, etc.)
- **Traditional crafts & skills** (weaving, pottery, natural dying, etc.)
- **Pedagogies for Social change** (art, theatre, activism, etc.)
- **Energy & Technology** (prosthetics, renewable energy, makerspace, etc.)

Domains



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1

Read this brochure completely and fill the application form.
Link - <http://bit.do/52PFapplication>

Online interaction with TU team members.

2

3

Let's begin flexing our muscles.
We will send you a small task/exercise to do.

Further interaction with the team to find a mutual fit.

4

5

Welcome to our tribe!!!

Last date to apply: July 25th, 2021

Apply here: <http://bit.do/52PFapplication>



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About us

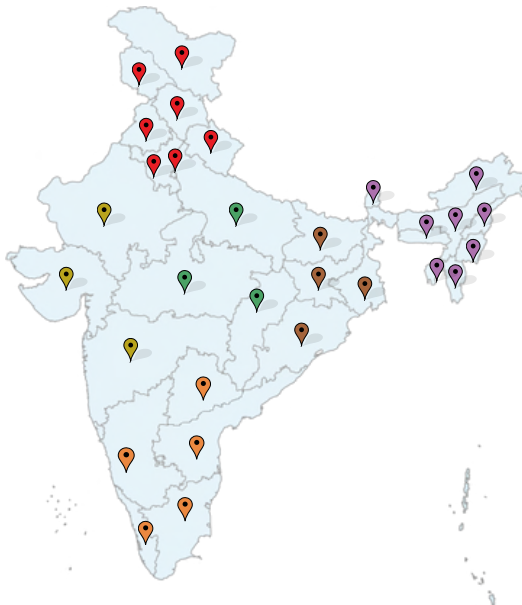
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- Fellows will choose the region and domain for their exploration.
- The 6 regions are South, West, North, East, North-East & Central
- Each fellow will visit 8 Parindeys each to learn and document their journey and Alivelihood practices.
- Fellows will immerse themselves at each location for 7-10 days. After understanding the local ecosystem, the story will be captured in 3 mediums - text, photographs, and video.* Each story will be documented before travelling to the next location.
- Fellows will share the learnings with the local community and support in disseminating this information to other youth groups and institutions in India.

Fellow Journey



* We are not looking for proficient skill levels for video shooting and editing. However, an interest and willingness to learn both are what we deem important, as capturing and presenting stories in video format is a chief element of the fellowship. There will be learning sessions during orientation for the same.



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During Fellowship

- Hands-on learning of domain-specific Alivelihoods
- Interactive sessions with thought leaders and experts
- Skill Building workshops - writing, photography, and video making
- Social Media Engagement



Learning Processes:

- Daily Journal writing
- Weekly check-in
- Community interaction on Alivelihoods
- Video making
- Writing and publishing a book

Growth Areas:

- Self-awareness
- Collaboration
- Risk-taking Ability
- Self + Collective Leadership
- Interconnectedness



- Mentorship opportunity for the fellows based on their interest areas by the TU team and the Parindeys
- Connect to a larger community working on [Alternatives](#)
- Handholding support in developing their project idea into action

After Fellowship



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**Publication
(4 weeks)**

4

Final editing and consolidation of the researched stories and fellow journey

**Reflection
(1 week)**

3

Collective reflection on the impact of the journey

**1 Fellow
8 Alivelihoods
18 weeks**

**Travel
(12 weeks)**

2

Fellow travels to 8 destinations, staying at each location for 7-10 days, interviewing and documenting the life and work of the Parindeys

**Orientation
(1 week)**

1

Co-create the guiding principles for the group, Skills based workshop and interaction with experts in the area

The Orientation is scheduled to commence on September 11th, 2021.

Why is the fellowship called 52 Parindey?

The 52 Parindey Fellowship is based on a gap-year project, 52 Parindey, where our co-creator documented 52 stories in a year. 52 represents the number of weeks in a year, and Parindey translates to birds in English, which loosely captures the essence of innovators we intend to learn from.

If I do not speak or write in English, can I still apply?

Yes. We have the ability to accommodate English, Hindi and Malayalam at this point. This ability is merely a reflection of the linguistic capacity of the TU team, and not an indicator of the prominence of any particular language. You may reach out to us to discuss the feasibility of the same.

What support will I get from the team while on the field?

We anticipate you would need support in planning, designing and meaning-making. We will have two weekly calls with you. One, to check-in on logistics and solve any problem that arises. Second, a community sharing space for fellows to share reflections, challenges and creative solutions. Additionally, you will have resources shared by us that will guide you in daily reflection and meaning making.

Do I get financial assistance during the course of the fellowship?

Fellows will receive an overall stipend of Rs. 40,000 to take care of their travel, food and accommodation. We encourage our fellows to experiment with their relationship with money in the course of identifying their needs and managing them in a minimalist way. A part of this amount will be raised by the fellow, with the assistance of TU.

Why fundraising?

We believe fundraising is an important skill to have for our fellows. It will enable them to co-create, have accountability towards their learning journey and help them to support themselves for their future projects.

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Who is going to arrange food and stay?

Food and stay will be arranged by the fellow. We encourage you to explore life beyond the transactional economy and develop the relationship with local people (parindeys and community members) in the course of managing your food and accommodation, and if possible, earn it by offering the labour of love. As Gandhi said, "*shram ke bina shiksha kaisi?*"

How to dress appropriately for the local context/culture?

India is a country of diverse cultures. As travellers, we believe we need to respect the local context, and that often includes adapting ourselves. In order to do that, we encourage you to avoid anything that could be deemed fancy or gain unnecessary attraction considering the respective local cultures.

How do you address safety while on travel and on the field?

Safety is a topmost priority for us and we should not engage in anything that is unsafe for the fellow, both physical and psychological. We would rely on the community vetting process and the individual's instincts to determine whether the place is safe or not. Please be aware that the fellowship does require you to travel to remote places, and as a general rule, we limit our local travel till sunset. However, an individual's sense of safety varies depending on gender identity, prior travel experiences, etc. We are committed to working with the fellow in understanding their thresholds and co-creating conditions to ensure safety.

How will Covid-19 impact the fellowship?

We are living in an evolving relationship with Covid-19, with things changing at a fast pace. We are keeping a close eye on the Covid-19 and plan to respond to the situation proactively as it unfolds. The safety and wellbeing of fellows are of paramount importance to us, and we will prioritize the same in making any decisions for the fellowship. The timeline we have decided is based on today's reality, and it may change as and when the situation evolves. Together, with the fellows, we will take decisions based on the on-ground information that we have at any particular time of the fellowship.

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PROGRAMME PARTNERS

