

Internship Title: Intern - Gammadda Initiative

Location: Colombo, Sri Lanka

Period: Summer 2022

Overview of Gammadda Initiative and Internship Description

GAMMADDA; AN INITIATIVE FOR THE PEOPLE BY THE PEOPLE

Gammadda, loosely translating to the “heart of the village” was born from the idea of connectivity. Of bridging the political, economical, religious and cultural divide to find those truly in need. After years of broken promises from successive Governments, News 1st began the Gammadda initiative and it has become not just a word, but a symbol of hope of an entire nation. In all of Sri Lanka’s history, this is the largest ongoing humanitarian initiative TODAY.

Rural Sri Lanka is an enigma. Over 35,000 villages, cross-divided into a myriad administrative regions ranging from 09 Provinces to 14,000+ GS Divisions. Each village, each locality, has its own endemic challenges. Understanding these issues is a profound undertaking that requires an investment in time, and hard miles. The uniqueness of Gammadda is, it listens to the people first. This is our core strength. We walk for thousands of miles each year, spending time with the people. Listening to their problems but equally importantly, to their solutions. It is learnings gleaned out of these experiences that we use to as the foundation of our rural development projects.

Internship Description

- Coordinate ongoing projects with correspondents and the liaise with the Saviya establishments
- Monitor the progress of Gammadda Projects and make progress and evaluation reports
- Coordinate the commencement and implementation of new projects.

Requirements

- Basic knowledge on project coordination and monitoring
- Willing and able to travel to project locations – If the student is location based.
- A good team player.
- Organizational Skills – ability to liaise with translators and correspondents.
- Excellent Analytical Skills.
- Be respectful of Cultural / Religious Practices.
- Attention to Detail.
- Maintain Confidentiality.
- Excellent Time Management skills.
- Available 30-35 hours per week for a period of 8-10 weeks between June and August 2022.

Remote Based Option

Project 1 - Climate Change – Impact on Agriculture, Health, Economy and Livelihood

Project/ Research Details	
<i>Host Request (specific, general, or both)</i>	<p>Climate Change – Impact on Agriculture, Health, Economy and Livelihood</p> <p>Background: Climate change in Sri Lanka is an important issue, and its effects threaten to impact both human and natural systems in Sri Lanka. Climate change also threatens the island's biodiversity, including its marine ecosystem and coastal coral reef environments. Sea-level rise due to climate change has the potential to affect the overall abundance of endemic species. Sri Lanka's coastal regions, such as the Northern Province and the Northern Western Province, are considered major hotspots and extremely vulnerable to climate change.</p> <p>In Sri Lanka, in November and December the monsoon rains affect the Northern Province yet in 2021 we have seen that the monsoon rains have affected the North-Western Province as well. The residents in Puttlam and Chillaw are living and seeing Climate change taking place at a rapid pace. Northwest has experienced constant rain throughout the year, and they have suffered extreme flooding and landslides leaving many dead, injured or displaced.</p>

	<p>Task: Devise a comprehensive plan, to overcome or minimise the effects of climate change and enforce preparedness for climate adversity. Prepare a strategy for mitigation and adaptation of the effects of Global Change. Obtain the opinions of multiple stakeholders and formulate a series of measures and recommendations that can be undertaken to arrest this situation. You may include policies, laws, regulations, conventions, which have been used in other jurisdictions/internationally.</p> <p>Focus on: Overcoming the Health, Economic, Livelihood and Agricultural impact on people and livestock due to the Climate change effects and the flooding and landslides due to constant and continuous rain.</p>
<p>Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student must be sensitive to cultural and religious diversity. • Organizational skills - should be able to liaise with translators, district correspondents. • Good Time Management skills • Attention to detail • Analytical skills • Maintain confidentiality and privacy of the people they interact with. • Ability to work remotely on Indian Standard Time (IST) Be empathetic. • An interest in Sustainable Development, Environmental Protection and Disaster Management • Previous experience in research on Environmental topics will be an added advantage.

Project 2 - Domestic and Child based violence in developing countries

Project/ Research Details	
<p><i>Host Request (specific, general, or both)</i></p>	<p>Domestic and Child based violence in developing countries</p> <p>Background – Sri Lanka having recognized Domestic Violence as a separate and distinct cause of action under Legislature, still witnesses a grave increase in reported and unreported cases of domestic violence.</p> <p>Abuse constitutes physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person affecting people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels irrespective of age, race, sexual orientation, religion, or gender.</p>

	<p>There is a staggering increase in children made used for pornography, prostitution, and child labor over the years and especially during the Covid 19 pandemic.</p> <p>Task – Devise a plan and strategy to identify the victims of all forms of domestic violence who doesn't come forward to report such incidents for whatever reasons, get physical, mental, and social help in a way they are comfortable.</p> <p>Focus – Mainly on children and women who are being abused or subject to continuous violence and are unable or unwilling to come forward or report such incidents.</p>
<p>Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student must be sensitive to cultural and religious diversity. • Organizational skills - should be able to liaise with translators, district correspondents. • Good Time Management skills • Attention to detail • Analytical skills • Maintain confidentiality and privacy of the people they interact with. • Ability to work remotely on Indian Standard Time (IST) • Be empathetic. • Previous experience in research on sensitive sociology topics will be an added advantage. • Passion to explore topics with stigma, analyze and present them in an impactful manner.

Eligibility

Open to all 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year Brown Undergraduate Students