

# Grassroots Imprints: Looking India in the Eye

Grassroots Imprints: Looking India in the Eye, a thoughtfully curated exhibition, was organized by SRUTI at Travancore Palace, New Delhi, from April 17 to 19, 2026. The exhibition attracted an impressive footfall over the three days, drawing visitors from across the city alongside SRUTI Fellows and associates.

Attendees explored eight thematic multimedia galleries centered on pressing social issues, while participating in engaging dialogues, interactive sessions with grassroots leaders, and dynamic cultural performances and evening discussions.



*In pictures above:  
The magnificent Travancore Palace, a collage of desi seeds*



*In pictures above: Students session in progress*

Over the three days, the exhibition offered an immersive exploration of India's grassroots realities through multimedia galleries that traced SRUTI's journey and highlighted themes of community engagement, education, youth leadership, water-forest-land rights, Panchayati Raj, and social inclusion. Together, the exhibits showcased the transformative work of communities and grassroots collectives across the country.

Students from schools and colleges across Delhi-NCR participated in curated workshops led by SRUTI Fellows and mentors, gaining valuable insights into contemporary social challenges, community-led initiatives, and pathways to social change. Interactive sessions with grassroots leaders encouraged critical reflection and meaningful dialogue, creating a dynamic space for learning and exchange.



*In pictures (above): Interactive sessions with students in progress*

A defining feature of the exhibition was its commitment to foregrounding syncretic and inclusive cultural expressions often overlooked in mainstream narratives. The evening discussions further enriched these conversations by exploring diverse people's models of social change, reflecting on the human cost of denied rights and dispossession, and reaffirming the importance of nurturing India's shared cultural heritage, diversity, and inclusion.

Together with the galleries and cultural performances, these dialogues created a vibrant space for reflection on justice, representation, democratic participation, and collective action.



*In pictures: Glimpses from the evening performances*

The concluding day witnessed the launch of the inaugural L. R. Sarin Lifetime Memorial Award, conferred in absentia on Pradip Prabhu in recognition of his profound and enduring contribution to social change.

A sharp, satirical performance by Sanjay Rajoura and Rahul Ram brought the three-day event to a memorable close.



*The first LR Sarin award being announced*

Grassroots Imprints successfully created a space where diverse voices, experiences, and ideas converged, fostering meaningful conversations on justice, inclusion, democratic participation, and social transformation. The overwhelming response from visitors reaffirmed the enduring relevance of grassroots perspectives in shaping a more equitable and democratic future.



*In pictures (Clockwise): Visitors immersed in the exhibition, a panel discussion underway, products made from scrap at display*