

# 'This is about people from all walks of life trying to make life better'

A new movement, led by a young social activist in Navi Mumbai, involves citizens and is gaining momentum and how...

**Indira Rodericks**

For Ranjana Kanti, initiating a movement to get citizens involved in a social cause was something she just had to do. Having being known as a social worker, Ranjana decided, a year ago, that she wanted to start a movement to help change the behavioural patterns of people and their responsibilities towards the country.

She called it India Redefined, and since its launch in April last year, she has enrolled around 40,000 people.

"All one needs to do is log onto our website ([www.indiaredefined-a4c.org](http://www.indiaredefined-a4c.org)) and sign up to be part of India redefined. Of course, not all are active members, but at least we know that a lot many people are aware of their rights and what needs to be done to improve their way of living," she

says.

She believes that around 95 per cent of people do nothing as good citizens, except what is expected of them. "But by networking, we have been able to get to people from all walks of life," she adds.

The movement has travelled to other parts of the country and Ranjana has appointed chapter coordinators to help network and in turn, have more people sign up.



**CONNECTING:** Ranjana Kanti

"There are six projects that my movement is involved in, namely Awaken India, Clean India, Green India, Healthy India, Prosperous India and Happy India.

It may seem like an ambitious project, but the idea is to have common people take an interest in their everyday surroundings, like having well-maintained roads, proper pavements, making sure the garbage is collected and pre-

venting encroachments. I would like every individual to go beyond their own space and look at something that may or may not concern them," she explains.

Since April last year, there have been tons of ideas coming in from people. Ranjana believes that each idea must be given a thought and discussed and seen whether it can be implemented or not.

"I don't want to dismiss any

suggestion from anyone. There are hundreds of ways to make our lives better and each one has a different approach," she states.

Late last year, she was presented an award for the Best Humanitarian Initiative and she takes pride in letting you know that it was very encouraging to be recognised for something you do.

When asked if the move-

ment was akin to a political outfit, she said.

"There is nothing political about India Redefined. But we work with people from all political parties. The main idea is to make Indians aware of their responsibilities and rights. This is not about politics, but about people from all walks of life trying to make life better."

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