Sushmita, the eldest of the daughter in the family, took the lead on learning that her aged father travelled far-off places in search of work. “Post pandemic my family could not even afford two square meals to eat.” Sushmita looked up for NGOs who worked frontline in/post the lockdown for families of migrant labours. Though food insecurity was high, yet Sushmita insisted “I could opt for an immediate aid but I wanted a support which could help me with a viable option in the longer run.”

Within 8 months of her service, Susmita trained and groomed 300+ impoverished students in Orien. “My students could resonate with me since we shared the mutual low-income background while I could empathize with them on how to break the ice ceiling.” Her dedication and passion to teach won hearts of not just her students but her organization, making her win the “Women Empowerment Award” at work and a promotion letter which offered her a CTC of ₹ 216,000 per annum.

At home, she bought a mediclaim policy covering all her family members to inhibit any financial stress during medical emergencies. “Pandemic taught me how critical times are and investing in health was my priority.” What she did next was the talk of her town – “I purchased a laptop in EMI –and a study-table for my sister, and marked it as my first investment in education which is considered unusual for a family like us.”