

FEBRUARY 2021



Monthly Newsletter

Featuring Second Chance Education (SCE) programmatic highlights and updates in India for February 2021.



What is Second Chance?

In 2018, UN Women initiated the development of the Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) programme that would provide marginalized women who have lost out on an education with pathways to employment through a tailored learn-to-earn approach. The ongoing programme is aimed at empowerment of the most marginalized women who, owing to poverty and gender-based discrimination, have been denied access to opportunities at an early age.

The programme undertakes a holistic approach to empowerment using the pathways of learning, employment and entrepreneurship. The SCE programme enables and offers women opportunities to (1) re-enter into formal education, (2) undertake vocational education and (3) receive entrepreneurship training and skills and (4) potential employment. SCE offers a comprehensive solution by adopting a holistic approach, leveraging partnerships at all levels, using innovative pedagogies and finance to achieve its objective. SCE is being implemented in 12 districts across 4 states of India - Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan, covering 200 villages.

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- Key Highlights of the month •
- Partner in Focus •
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- Social Media Outreach •





Key Highlights



IN THE NEWS

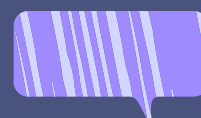
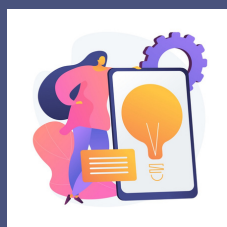
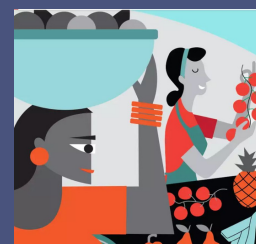


The 24th of January 2021, marked both the International Education Day and the National Girl Child Day. An opinion piece titled - 'Indian education's new digital wave after COVID left behind women', by **Nishtha Satyam, Deputy Representative, UN Women India**, was featured online by ThePrint - a digital news platform. The article delves into how COVID-19 made India challenge years of classroom learning for over 32 crore students, but women still lack access to the internet and online classes. ***Click on the image to the right to access the article.***



Women's Entrepreneurship

The Women's Entrepreneurship Cell under the Skill Development, Employment and Entrepreneurship Department (SDEED), Government of Maharashtra shall focus on increasing inter-departmental coordination and support for women's entrepreneurship, increasing women's representation in start-up and business ecosystem and building national and international linkages for women's enterprises and providing necessary mentoring and training support. This is envisaged to be done through financial assistance, entrepreneurship training, enterprise incubation and acceleration, partnership building and enterprise clubs promoted in colleges and universities for female students. Chaired by the Secretary (SDEED) and anchored within the Maharashtra State Innovation Society, the Women's Entrepreneurship Cell will comprise of 5 members in total, of which one permanent member is a UN Women representative. **A letter (dated 1st February 2021) addressed to Ms. Kanta Singh, Country Programme Manager, Second Chance Education (SCE), UN Women India, from Dr. Suvarna Kharat, Joint Secretary, SDEED, Government of Maharashtra acknowledges the UN Women SCE team's support in setting up the Women Entrepreneurship Cell under SDEED, Government of Maharashtra.**

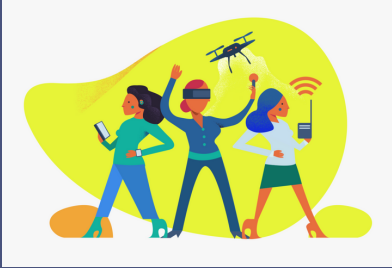




Key Highlights



Training Activity



Girls at the UN Women's SCE WEH (Women Empowerment Hub) in Mankhurd, Mumbai, started their DRA training with Alter Ego, in February 2021. Each girl was given a smartphone and headphones to learn and the class began with a comprehensive introduction to the training activity.



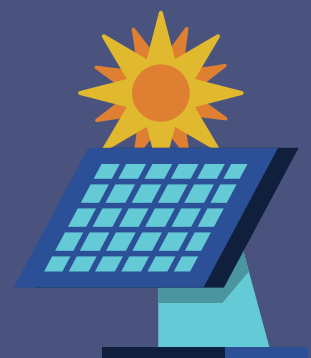
NIOS Learners



Approximately, 420 NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling) Learners completed their exam in January 2021.

Enterprise: Solar Dryers by Chaitanya

One of the components on which **Chaitanya** is working with UN Women's SCE Programme is Enterprise. Under this component, the proposal for Solar Dryers has been initiated. It began within the Kajgaon block (in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra), with the support of Science for Society, Aurangabad as well as UN Women India. The implementation stage required mobilizing local women. Regular awareness drives, interventions and other forms of outreach enabled **Chaitanya** to clarify any queries and potential challenges on the field. Candidates were shortlisted through village meetings and survey. A total of 30 solar dryers were distributed.





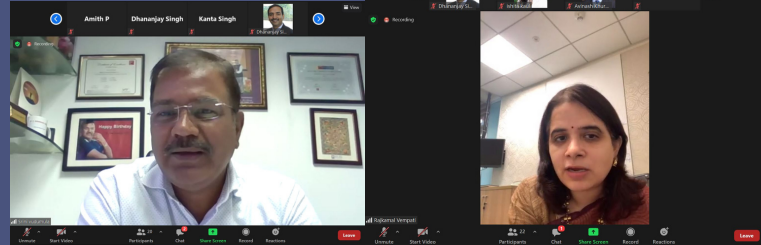
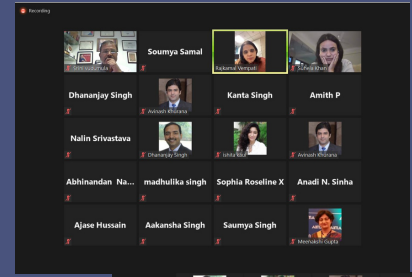
Key Highlights



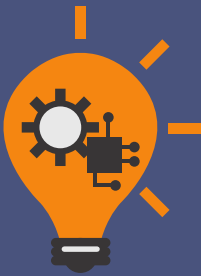
Round-table Discussion



The NHRDN (National HRD Network) and UN Women India, roundtable online discussion with BFSI (Banking, Financial Services and Insurance) Sector, on 23rd February 2021, highlighted critical issues of women's participation, representation, identity and the existing gendered lens.



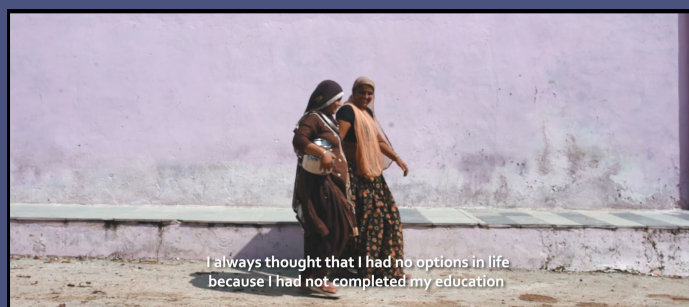
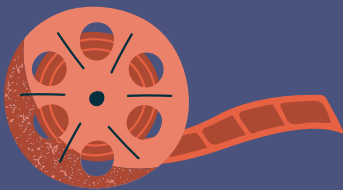
WISE Incubation Centre



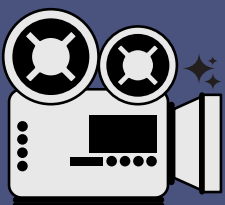
Smt. Sujata Saunik, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of General Administration, Government of Maharashtra, and Smt. Dr. Suvarna Kharat, Joint Secretary, SDEED, Government of Maharashtra, acknowledge the support provided by UN Women, for the Inauguration of WISE Incubation Center at SNDT Women's University, Mumbai. ***Click on either of the screenshots to the right to watch the recorded webinar***



SCE films...



The Folklogue team visited SCE programme locations in Rajasthan, Odisha, Maharashtra and Bihar, in 2019. Through our collaboration with Folklogue Studios, we bring you a series of brilliant first person narratives and short films. These are stories of women, who are 'agents of change' within the UN Women's Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) Programme in India. The main purpose was to generate awareness on the fact that women and young women may have lost their chance to be in school/university, and/or may not have had the chance to enhance their skills through vocational training due to multiple and intersectional burdens. ***Watch the first film in the series by clicking on the image on the top***





Partner in Focus

LEARNET SKILLS LIMITED

"In light of COVID-19, UN Women India's Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) programme was looking to focus on effective action which involved upskilling and training nurses in government and private hospitals across the country with special focus on SCE States - Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan. Learnet Skills has adopted a unique approach for the online training program for Nurses and Nurse Assistants on COVID-19 management through - a) Strengthening the current healthcare delivery system through effective stakeholder engagements, b) Maximum outreach, visibility and accessibility of the program using various digital platforms and c) Building the capacity of the healthcare professionals to combat COVID-19 by being equipped with knowledge and procedures". - Ms. Kanta Singh, Country Programme Manager, Second Chance Education Program, UN Women India

Considering the COVID-19 situation, Learnet Skills and its technical partner Generation India Foundation designed an upskilling program to capacitate the nurses on pandemic management leading to effective and timely patient handling while ensuring their own safety at work. The program is delivered through digital mode leading to accessibility, standardization and scalability of the project.

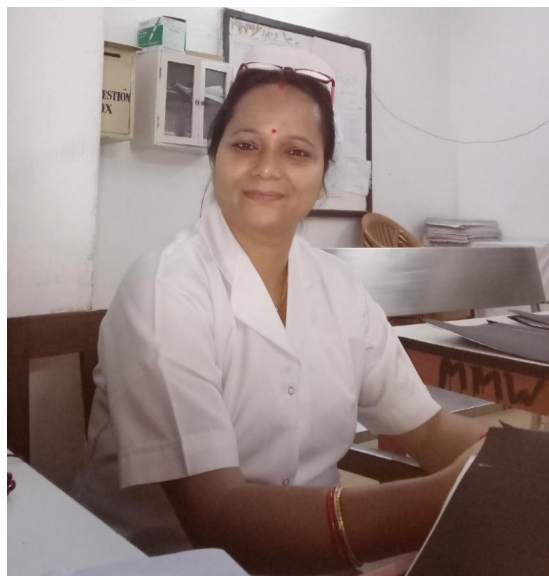


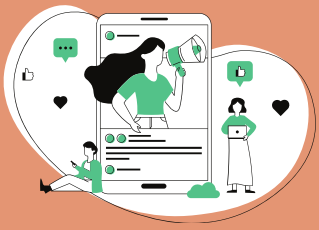
Meera's Story...



Warm and affable, Meera Patti has been working for more than 26 years as a Nurse. She hails from Rourkela, Odisha and has completed her diploma in General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) followed by a bachelor's degree in general nursing. She has been in-charge of the Covid-19 ward and associated intensive care unit at Ispat General Hospital in Rourkela, since March 2020, and has been witness to the struggles of the affected patients. Meera has battled the virus from close quarters and has shown great strength while treating and handling patients.

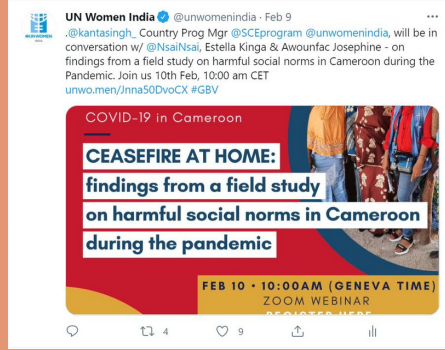
Learnet's team provided the orientation about the training program (**Upskilling of Nurses and Nurse Assistants on COVID-19 Pandemic Management**) and facilitated the registration process such that the nurses do not face any hassle while undergoing the training. Meera shared that since they had long working hours, she would study the course modules after her duty hours. She would stay up at night and complete the course modules. She shared her knowledge from the training program on appropriate usage and disposal of (Personal Protective Equipment) PPE Kits etc., with the doctors and other staff. Meera believes that the training program has given her a perspective towards management of patients and their attendants during these uncertain times. Having realized the applicability and relevance of the training program to everyday work, she encouraged her colleagues to register for the course.





Social Media Outreach

Over 13000 Impressions on
Twitter and 369 Engagements
with the content/posts.




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<https://india.mylearningpathway.org/en>

