

MARCH 2021



Monthly Newsletter

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

Featured Inside

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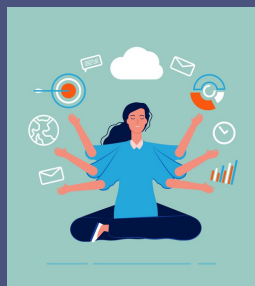




Key Highlights



Training Programme



A two-day refresher training programme was conducted with the joint efforts of UN Women, PRAN and PRADAN with the rural women entrepreneurs of Gaya District in Bihar. The objective of the programme was to facilitate the creation and empowerment of women entrepreneurs in adapting to the 21st century digital technologies and thereby assisting in improving their livelihood. The programme covered topics on Digital Literacy, Basics of Smartphones, Basics of Entrepreneurship, Digital Livelihood, Smartphone as a Tool for Business, and Online Safety and Responsibility.



FLIGHT Initiative



UN Women in partnership with Prosus (the global consumer internet group of Naspers) launched the FLIGHT initiative, on International Women's Day, 8th March 2021. FLIGHT (Funding and Learning Initiative for Girls in Higher education and skills Training) is a new higher education and employment initiative for marginalised women and girls in India. The programme will focus on women and girls in the state of Maharashtra. By concentrating efforts and interventions, the initiative aims to create a network of graduate young women who will be role models, as well as creating supportive local communities, thereby increasing support and reducing drop-out rates. ***Click on the image below to watch the launch video***



UN Women India Published by Hootsuite · 8 March ·

On #InternationalWomensDay2021, Prosus Group and UN Women India, are pleased to announce the FLIGHT initiative, a new higher education and employment initiative for marginalized women and girls in India. The three-year partnership will support women and girls to overcome barriers by accessing higher education and gaining skills that will allow them to participate in India's digital economy. Learn more <http://unwo.men/ZfFB50DSG1L>



The father of our nation, Mahatma Gandhi, said;
"Be the change you wish to see in the world"

VIMEO.COM
Prosus FLIGHT - International Women's Day
Prosus launches 'Prosus FLIGHT' education and employment initiative for margin...





Key Highlights



#AmplifyingHerVoice



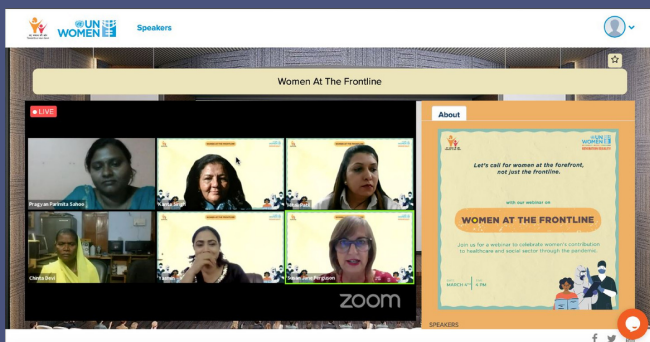
The Amplifying Her Voice Global Summit Series (International Women's Day, 2021), was produced by The State of Women Institute and Women Investing in Women Digital. UN Women leaders from around the globe were invited to come together to share their greatest achievements and most pressing challenges over the past year and how participants who joined the global summit could engage with their ongoing programs and initiatives. The global audience included leading women stakeholders from the blockchain and cryptocurrency industry, pioneers in artificial intelligence, private equity, venture capital, banking, fintech, consumer, start-ups, and leading NGO's. **Ms. Kanta Singh, Country Programme Manager, Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) Programme India, UN Women, was a part of the panel of speakers.**



Women at the Frontline



The 'Women at the Frontline' webinar was part of UN Women's International Women's Day Webinar Series 2021, in collaboration with Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. COVID19 has drastically changed the old-world order. India's 2.7 million community-based workers have stepped up as frontline responders in their community, at great risk to themselves. The pandemic has focused our attention on the burden faced by women workers, compounded by their domestic responsibilities. The objectives of the webinar were - a) To highlight the exemplary role of women at the frontline, b) Reiterating the need for the lasting contribution to sustainable development by demonstrating women's participation and leadership. **Ms. Susan Ferguson, Country Representative, UN Women India, delivered the welcome address and the concluding remarks. The panel was moderated by Ms. Kanta Singh, Country Programme Manager, Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) Programme India, UN Women.**





Key Highlights



Ladies in the front seat...



Women learn how to drive autorickshaws as part of the **Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) Programme in Gaya (Bihar, India)**. This initiative has begun, with support from our partner organizations PRADAN (Professional Assistance for Development Action) and PRAN (Preservation and Proliferation of Rural Resources and Nature).



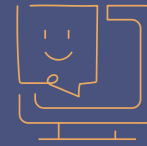
Solar Hatchery

As part of UN Women's Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) programme in Rayagada district of Odisha (India), solar hatchery units have been set up as a group enterprise activity.

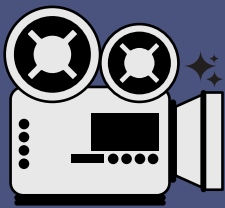
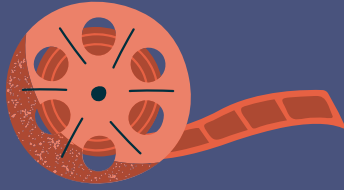




Key Highlights



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 second film in the series by clicking the image on the top.***

Partner in Focus

HEAD HELD HIGH FOUNDATION



Head Held High (HHH) is a Civil Society Organisation working towards eradicating poverty. Through a multi-pronged approach using Make India Capable (MIC) and Global Action on Poverty (GAP) initiatives, the agency strives to eradicate rural poverty in India. MIC is a core initiative of HHH that transforms the lives of poor and illiterate villagers and makes them capable for work, entrepreneurship and further education. In 6-8 months, a rural youth with no schooling is transformed into an extraordinary person, capable of work and ready to fit into a professional environment. UN Women's ongoing Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) 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. UN Women has partnered with HHH under the third component to replicate HHH's successful entrepreneurship model in the SCE programme states. Under the MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) one MIC center has been established in Rayagada, Odisha (India) where 30 women and girls are undergoing training.



The images above show products made by trainees at the Antarprena Centre (MIC), in Rayagada (Odisha, India).

Roji's Story...



Roji Begum belongs to a socio economically weak household, hailing from Koratbangama village in Bahadurganj block of Kishanganj District. Her father is a daily wage earner, and her brother works as a tailor. The family has no means to establish any form of financial security. Roji's father often falls ill and her brother is mostly out of work. Owing to financial constraints, Roji had to discontinue her studies. She started doing domestic chores and also started working as a hired field hand to support her family. A mentor working with UN Women's Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) programme, visited Koratbangama village as part of a mobilization drive. Roji was curious and wanted to learn more about skilling and employment. She subsequently visited the nearest SCE Women Empowerment Hub.



Roji went on to participate in orientations as well as concept sharing and information sharing sessions with the training partner, i.e., the Himalayan group which has a Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU GKY) centre (based in Sirmour District, Himachal Pradesh). Roji and others, came across examples of other women who had undergone training at this centre. This proved to be a huge source of inspiration, as Roji began to identify with these women. With a strong sense of determination to make a difference in her life, Roji later discussed her future plans with her family. Her family was initially apprehensive about her plans and the community members were also against the idea of sending a young girl alone to another state. Field staff from PRADAN (UN Women's lead partner for the SCE programme in India) also visited her family and shared all necessary information about the training course. Roji's family finally agreed to send her to Himachal Pradesh.

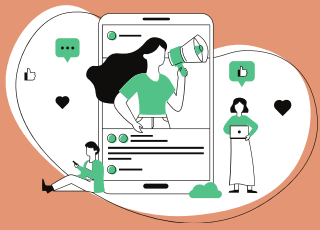


On 15 February 2020, Roji left for Himachal Pradesh along with four other women. The women were happy with the campus infrastructure and their surroundings, which enabled them to seamlessly start their respective training programmes. In March 2020, the Government of India announced complete lockdown due to COVID19. By this time, the women were trained to make masks and PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) Kits and they had earned a decent income from the same.



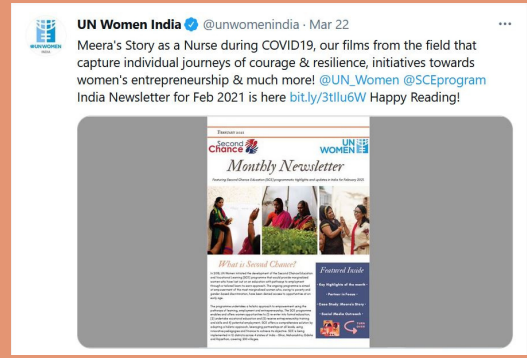
Their happiness at finally being able to earn and support their families was unparalleled. When the lockdown restrictions were lifted, Roji and the other women, travelled back to their villages. Roji was now a different person, whose perspective in life had long changed. When the training centre reopened, Roji wanted to return in order to continue with her training programme. However, her family wanted her to get married instead; Roji put her foot down and went back to college. She now also supports the mobilisation process on the ground, through video call and supports the SCE team in motivating other women from her village. She is our 'Agent of Change'!





Social Media Outreach

Over 27K Impressions on Twitter with 600+ engagements and a reach of over 4K on Facebook, for the month of March 2021.




Follow our global social media platforms..

 Twitter [@SCEprogram](https://twitter.com/SCEprogram)

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 LinkedIn [SCEprogram](https://www.linkedin.com/company/SCEprogram)

 Also visit our learning platform
<https://india.mylearningpathway.org/en>

