

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Featuring Second Chance Education (SCE) programmatic highlights and updates in India for the month of July 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.

WHAT YOU'LL FIND INSIDE:

- KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH
- CASE STUDY: BEE KEEPERS
- SCE FEATURED FILM
- SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH





Key Highlights



And the award goes to...



UN Women Internal Peg Snyder and Team Excellence Awards, 21 July 2021

The Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning Programme team in India, wins the Team Excellence Award for Transformative Impact.



Webinar Series

Webinar: Honing Aspiration, Unlocking Potential, 30th July, 2021

A webinar series was organized by PRADAN (Professional Assistance for Development Action), which is the lead implementing partner for UN Women's Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning Programme (SCE) in India. The series titled - 'Honing Aspiration, Unlocking Potential: Creating a New Generation of Equipped Young Women', covered the following questions -

- Are agri-based livelihoods the only option for rural women?
- What if their aspirations are different? What choices do they have?
- Can skill-building and job placements be the pathway for them to express their independence and take greater control of their lives?

The speakers for this series were as follows -

- Kanta Singh, Country Programme Manager, Second chance Education Programme, UN Women India Country Office
- SVS Anupama, Project Coordinator, Aaina (Odisha)
- Lipi Singh, Sewing Machine Operator, Tamil Nadu
- Amit Kumar Thakur, Executive, PRADAN
- Kousari Begam, Mother of Roji Begam (Assistant Nurse, Amritdhara Hospital, Karnal, Haryana)
- Barkha Tanvir, Executive, PRADAN
- Saraswati Maravi, Senior Stewardess, The Bizz Hotel, Rajkot, Gujarat

Let's hear from the experience of our speakers and the young women who chose the alternative path.

Kanta Singh
Country Programme Manager, Second Chance Education Programme, UN Women India

SVS Anupama
Project Coordinator, Aaina

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Key Highlights

Nursing Training



Seven young women (on the left) from Dhenkanal (Odisha) resumed their nursing training programme in July 2021, after the re-opening of training centres in Bhubaneswar. 18 young women (on the right) from Mayurbhanj district in Odisha, joined the Vigyan Bharati training centre (Bhubaneswar) for skill development in Nursing, in July 2021.

Women Group Enterprise Initiatives



Combined milling machine and poultry feed units have been set up in parts (select villages) of Rayagada (Odisha).



NIOS Community Radio Programme, 2nd July 2021

The NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling) community radio programme (via Radio Vahini) streamed live on 2nd July 2021. The session focused on the topic - जलवायु परिवर्तन का महिलाओं पर प्रभाव (The impact of climate change on women), with guest speaker Padmakshi Badoni, Consultant NIOS. In the context of the IPCC report released on 9th August and the growing scientific and physical evidence on Climate Change around the world, this radio programme contributes to the ongoing discourse.

Click on the screenshot to the right and tune in!



Live Streaming - 02.07.2021_Community Programme_जलवायु परिवर्तन का महिलाओं पर प्रभाव





Key Highlights

Tailoring Classes



Women can be seen participating in tailoring practical classes in Nandurbar (Maharashtra).



World Youth Skills Day, 15th July 2021

At the heart of all economies lies a skilled workforce that provides the thrust to the growth engines and secures jobs and livelihoods. These growth centres are often challenged by financial and technological draw backs and most often impacted by economic slowdown. The COVID 19 pandemic in India caused widespread loss of livelihoods (including of migrant workers), business closures and down-scaling. This has impacted not only family incomes but affected the social fabric, alongside putting the vulnerable at risk. The marginalized communities, particularly women, faced greater consequences with diminishing incomes and increasing expenditures, that impacted health, education and social protection.

On Thursday, 15 July, World Youth Skills Day, UN Women India along with UNDP, ILO, UNIDO, UNV, organized a discussion on - 'Skilling for Inclusive and Green Recovery'. The welcome address and remarks were delivered by representatives of all participating UN agencies. Some of the speakers/panelists who participated in the sessions were as follows - Ms. Svati Bhogle, President, Clean Energy Access Network, Ms. Madhu Khetan, Integrator and Programme Lead, at Professional Assistance For Development Action (PRADAN), Dr. Archana Singh, Head CSR and Industry Partnerships, NSDC (National Skill Development Corporation) and Mr. Madan Padaki, Managing Trustee and a Co-founder Head Held High Foundation. The discussion focused on - a) Skills needed for green recovery and just transition to environmentally sustainable economy; b) Opportunities and incentives for women in promoting and accessing decent jobs and livelihoods, including starting green businesses. ***Click on the images below to access the recorded webinar via Facebook and a multimedia story for WYSD 2021!***





The story of an all-women bee keeper enterprise



A group of women started harvesting honey and ensured a steady source of income generation by selling the product in the local market. This group-enterprise has been established, operated and managed by an all women group, under UN Women's Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) Programme in India.

The group includes - Babli Devi, Rangila Devi, Dharmshila Devi, Sarita Devi, Poonam Devi, Ganga Devi, Priyanka Kumari and Asha Kumari. They are residents of Ajitpur Harpur village of Pirapur Panchayat in Bandra Block, Muzaffarpur district (Bihar). Their families have been identified as BPL (Below Poverty Line) families.

Prior to the launch of SCE programme in Muzaffarpur, the women worked as temporary farm hands. After the launch of the SCE programme, these women were selected as beneficiaries, through a survey conducted by AKRSP (Aga Khan Rural Support Programme - India) at the village level.

The women had often contemplated about setting up a group bee-keeping and honey harvesting initiative. However, due to lack of funds, technical skills as well as other know-how, they had to put their plans on hold.

As part of UN Women's SCE programme, they received financial and technical support as well as skills training from partner organizations PRADAN (Professional Assistance for Development Action) and AKRSP. PRADAN is the lead implementing partner and AKRSP is a consortium partner for UN Women's SCE programme in India.

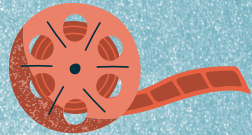
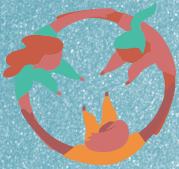
As part of the training, the women were taken for exposure visits. They even received expert advice from scientists belonging to Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK). They also received guidance in order to link their produce with the markets and sell at profitable rates.





AKRSP played a crucial role at the village level in order to support these women in acquiring the equipment for bee keeping. As a combined result of the women's enthusiasm and the continued support provided by partner organizations, the women successfully established their Bee Keeping and Honey Harvesting enterprise. They started selling their produce at the rate of INR 300 per kilogram of honey and also started making profits through this enterprise. In the very first year they collectively earned a total profit of INR 334000. As a next step, they also started exploring whole sale markets/vendors for their next produce, following which they were linked with the Dabur Company.

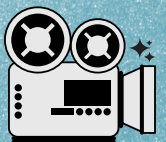
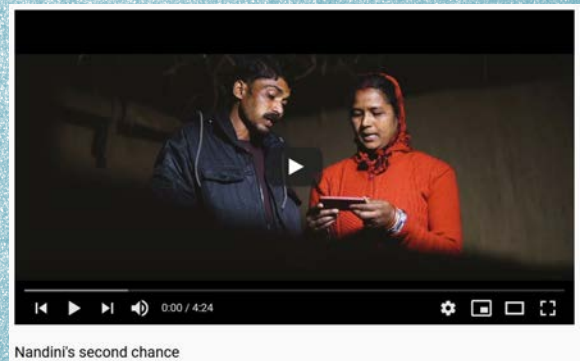
This success story indicates that through the SCE programme as well as the grit and determination of these women, their lives changed for the better. This story also proved to be an impetus and a guiding example to other women/female groups/ SHGs, to collectively start group enterprise units. The story indicates a change mechanism with measurable positive results under the SCE programme.

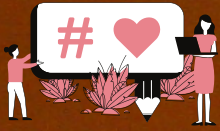


SCE Featured Film

Meet Nandini, who went on to set up her own Plant Nursery, against all odds and risks involved. Here's presenting her journey as a Vocational Learner with UN Women's Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) Programme in Odisha (India).

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 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 inter-sectional burdens. ***Watch another film in the series by clicking the screenshot to the right.***

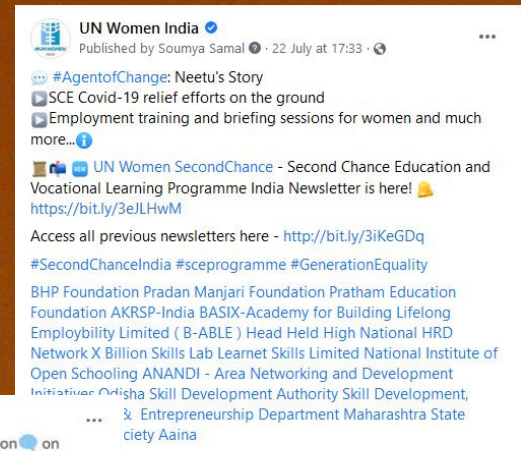
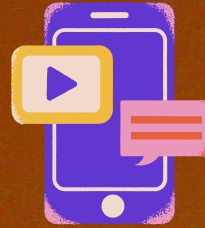




Social Media Outreach



Over 50k Impressions on Twitter with 700+ engagements and a reach of over 10k on Facebook, for the month of July 2021.



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THANK YOU!

