



### Vocational Training for TARA Akshar+ Neo Literates

TARA Akshar+, the adult literacy programme, has extended its support to the neo-literates to get Dairy Farming Training by RSETI Bhadohi in Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh. A graduation ceremony was held recently where RSETI Director Shushil Kumar Srivastava awarded certificates to 30 women. Until now, RSETI Bhadohi has provided vocational training to nearly 600 TA+ neo-literates in various disciplines such as Dairy Farming, Tailoring and Stitching, Paper Bag making and Carpet Finishing under IKEA project. More than 70 percent of these women have moved on to establish their own enterprises, utilising the vocational skills they gained during the TA+ programme, ensuring the sustainability of literacy gained.

With this event, the TA+ programme in Bhadohi has finally come to an end where about 8000 women have been made functionally literate so far. This extraordinary achievement has not only impacted lives of these women and their families but also has drawn all-round appreciations from the District Administration of Bhadohi and the other stakeholders for immaculate implementation and engagement of the learners.

Through grit and indomitable spirit, over 238,000 women in the past eight years have transformed their lives with TARA Akshar+. This has not only imparted them with the powerful ability to read, write, and do math but has also changed their life by empowering them with skills and vocational training. In a six-month post-literacy course called 'Gyan Chaupali' women learn about enterprise development, financial literacy, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), banking, legal literacy, health, nutrition, and so much more.

Equipped with literacy, numeracy, and enterprise skills, women across eight states in North India have been empowered to step into leadership roles. TARA Akshar+ has enabled them to achieve what they always dreamt of. Some have become participants in rural development - they are involved in panchayats, village development boards, and rural committees, some have set up their own enterprises and are enabling other women to gain skills and walk the path of entrepreneurship for economic empowerment. Others have gone on to become Self Help Group (SHG) appointees, swachhta grahis, and village chiefs. TARA Akshar+ has been a catalyst in transforming their lives, and creating better livelihoods for all.