

# Entrepreneurship & skills training to empower women

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Varanasi: The Adani Foundation, in association with UP Handicrafts Development and Marketing Corporation Limited, and Khadi Village Industries Board, has launched an entrepreneurship development programme for women at Sewapuri in Varanasi.

The programme will act as a catalyst for the social and economic empowerment of skilled womenfolk and benefit more than 1,500 rural women engaged in various income-generating activities.

Skill development training will be imparted to 1,500 women in four special trades, i.e., uniform stitching, shoe, sweater, and incense stick making, by a team from the Adani Skill Development Centre for three months.

The training will help women develop their potential and learn skills in the trade domain of their specific interest.

The programme will motivate women to form self-help groups (SHGs) that will help them become financially independent and self-reliant. After the formation of SHGs, women will be trained in vignette credit and thrift activities, followed by bookkeeping, business planning, and market linkages.

The women-led manufacturing units will create a value chain and will be provided support for entrepreneurial activities like risk management, fraud management, product advancement, tie-ups with marketing agencies and line departments, branding.

The programme will create an ecosystem of sustainability and empowerment of skilled women entrepreneurs.

Training in sewing machine operation and business skills has started for 69 women who are learning to stitch uniforms and bags. Besides, 131 women have enrolled in two batches to learn incense stick making.

Khadi and Village Industries Board, Lucknow, and Union Area Development Committee, Varanasi, have provided their building and campus for the training programmes.