

Wireless Women for Entrepreneurship and Empowerment: Making women Independent and Self Sufficient

Wireless Women for Entrepreneurship and Empowerment program boosts women ICT micro social enterprise and entrepreneurs supported by wireless Internet in 4 backward locations across India. The programme contributes towards an enabling Internet environment and Internet for gender inclusion and women empowerment. The programme aims at promoting Internet based social enterprise and entrepreneurship among women as change makers. The program is supported by 'Wireless for Communities' (W4C), a joint initiative of Digital Empowerment Foundation and Internet Society.

Wireless Women for Entrepreneurship and Empowerment Program has been launched in three districts of India in February 2014. The program has been launched in Chanderi, Tura and Ranchi. 10 women have been identified from each of these districts and provided with basic IT tools to set up their entrepreneurship ventures. The program will focus on their wholesome computer training and a consequent specialization in their desired industry. Ultimately, every woman entrepreneur will be assisted to initiate her own venture for community benefit under the W2E2 program.

Amongst the chosen women are: -

Sayyada Kausar – Sayyada is a resident of Chanderi and is 11th pass. She does stitching and weaving for a living. In future she wants to learn how to design and sell by using Computer and Internet. She

dreams to be in sync with the rest of the world and use advance technology to assure a bright future for herself.

Irfana Bano- Irfana is a teacher in an Aanganwadi School in Chanderi. She is looking at this opportunity to become digitally literate and use computer for official data collection in future. She aspires to take her learning further by teaching computer to all the children in the area. She dreams of the time when children will not have to use books and notebooks for their studies but will be able to do everything digitally.

Shanu Jain- Shanu Jain is a graduate in Computer Applications. She already has a basic knowledge of computer. Through this programme she wants to enhance her knowledge and understanding about computer design. She wants to learn designing clothes with the use of advanced designing software and later run a designing centre.

Sona Devi- Sona Devi is a teacher in Ranchi. After being fully trained on computer she wants to run a computer literacy centre for people in the area.

Jyoti Kachap- Jyoti runs a piggery and vermicin compost centre for her livelihood. She looks at this programme as a boon. She believes by using computer and other ICT tools doing business and managing her work will become much easier for her. She is very keen on learning marketing and data management on computer and implementing the same for her business. She wants to know about and learn from about the market scenario all over the world.

These are the dreams and aspirations of 5 among the 30 identified women who will benefit themselves with W2E2 programme. In the next edition we will introduce a few more future entrepreneurs.