

Hindustan Zinc Champions Grassroots Women Leadership Through Sakhi Project



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35 Trained Community Field Coordinators Deployed Across Rajasthan and Uttarakhand

Over 27,000 Women Empowered Through Self-Help Groups

Udaipur | In a progressive step towards strengthening community-led development, Hindustan Zinc (NSE: HINDZINC), the world's largest integrated zinc producer, has taken a significant leap through its flagship women empowerment initiative Sakhi. The company has deployed 35 trained Community Field Coordinators (CFCs) across six districts of Rajasthan and Uttarakhand, aiming to reinforce women-led grassroots institutions and catalyze rural transformation.

These Community Field Coordinators, all women from within the Sakhi ecosystem, have been meticulously trained in leadership, planning, time management, and mobilization skills. Their mission: to serve as trusted catalysts and connectors — strengthening self-help groups (SHGs), ensuring smooth village-level operations, facilitating access to government entitlements, and fostering a sustainable culture of community ownership. Powering a Movement: Sakhi's Expanding Reach At the heart of this initiative lies the Sakhi Project, implemented in partnership with the Manjari Foundation. Over the years, Sakhi has built a robust network of nearly 2,100 Self-Help Groups comprising more than

27,000 rural and tribal women. These SHGs serve not only as vehicles of financial inclusion but also as platforms for social awareness and livelihood development.

The Sakhi model rests on three foundational pillars:

Financial Inclusion – Promoting savings, credit linkages, and entrepreneurship.

Social Awareness – Raising consciousness on issues like domestic violence, menstrual health, child marriage, and gender equity.

Livelihood Development – Skilling women for income-generating activities and market linkages.

Beyond economic empowerment, the initiative's social outreach arm, Sakhi Uthori, addresses critical social challenges. It has reached over 3 lakh individuals, including 20,000+ school students, sensitizing communities on pressing gender and health issues.

Stories of Transformation: From Homemakers to Community Leaders The deployment of CFCs is not just about coordination — it's about inspiration. Many of these women have transformed their own lives through the Sakhi movement and now guide others on the same path.

Take Pooja Chouhan from Sunariya Kheda. Once a homemaker confined within her household, today she stands tall as President of the Sakhi Samriddhi Samiti, Dariba, mentoring scores of women on their journey to financial independence and self-reliance. Similarly, Mamta Kunwar from Debari began her journey as a tailor and Lekha Sakhi (Bookkeeper). Through years of dedication, she rose to become the Federation Manager of Sakhi Prerna Samiti, now mentoring more than 10 SHGs and leading local development efforts in her village.

These leaders exemplify the transformative power of community-based interventions and act as mentors to the newly deployed 35 CFCs.

Anchors of Change: CFCs to Lead the Next Phase The 35 CFCs, mentored by senior leaders like Pooja and Mamta, will act as village anchors. Their roles encompass:

Supporting SHG operations and governance

Enabling smooth access to social and economic entitlements

Identifying and resolving group-level challenges

Building the next generation of rural women leaders

This structure ensures that every village institution has a trained, local hand guiding its operations and growth.

Hindustan Zinc's Holistic Vision for Community Development The Sakhi initiative is part of Hindustan Zinc's larger CSR vision of inclusive, sustainable development. The company's community outreach programs span across:

Education

Healthcare

Water and Sanitation

Women Empowerment

Environmental Sustainability

Livelihood Enhancement

Collectively, these programs touch the lives of over 2.3 million people in more than 2,300 villages.

By investing in platforms like Sakhi, Hindustan Zinc is not merely initiating change — it is

enabling communities to become architects of their own future.

“Empowering women at the grassroots is not just about giving them opportunities — it’s about trusting their potential to lead,” said a company spokesperson. “Our Community Field Coordinators are the embodiment of this belief. They are not just field staff — they are changemakers.”

वेबसाइट पर प्रकाशित सामग्री एवं सभी तरह के विवादों का न्याय क्षेत्र जयपुर ही रहेगा।

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