

Sahyog care for you is working for education of underprivileged women. Many women were illiterate in slums and due to illiteracy they faced many hurdles even in small-small things in their life. This cause inspired the organization and started work in slums for women who are not literate. Sahyog wanted to literate all of them so that they will not face difficulties in their life.

There is a need to improve scenario of women of slum communities. They have generally been found to be the weakest group when compared with others on the matter of elementary literacy. There is need to provide education throughout some innovative way to this particular group; therefore Sahyog introduced the program “Saksharta through Digitalization” in the slum areas of Delhi. By this program all women can get elementary education and to take opportunities to learn computers and also a positive attitude as well.

“The women were enrolled from slums in program with the aims to enhance the literacy through computers”.

The main objective of this Program is to aware about computers as well as to literate them. The project offered training sessions for adult women, catering for about 30 participants in each batches. During the six month program women come for classes all six working days in a week for one and a half hour. During the class we follow curriculum prepared by State Resource Centre (SRC) Jamia Millia Islamia which is up to class 3rd level. We also teach them through digital curriculum prepared by TCS, which run on computers only. After completing this six month curriculum women are able to read and write, they can be able to read news paper even then they are also able to fill daily routine forms like Bank deposit and with drawl forms, railway reservation forms etc. They are able to learn bus route number playing in Delhi.

In beginning, the program was started with only one centre, that times it was very difficult to motivate women to reach and start classes. Volunteer started to take small group meetings, one to one interaction with the women in the community to talk on the importance of education in their life but no one wants to talk on this matter. After some time organization was able to give some overview about the advantages of literacy. After these efforts, some women were ready to join course. Sahyog started one hour daily to teach them from the Hindi alphabets with the help of desktop computers. Computer helped me to learn effective teaching techniques. After some time many hands joint us to teach women as volunteer.

In initial most of the women looked nervous but excited about coming to the classes where all the sessions will take through computers. It seems that their anxiety about using and learning in classes through computers was simply because they did not want to “break” them. However, after 2-3 weeks of hands-on practice, their fears dissipated as they learned that computers are not so easily broken. They also felt more confident and more comfortable to learn their lessons and also participate where their children talked about computers.

At present, we are teaching approx. **6,500 women in 108 centres**. But it’s still on edge because we still feel the need to increase this number to **20,000 women** within next **5 years**. To achieve our goal, we are functioning with women of slums for their consciousness about virtues of literacy so that they can come few steps forward and make their own contribution in this mission.

