



## Women's Leadership Schools

Promoting Women's Participation in Good Rural Governance

Poor literacy levels and socio-cultural restrictions place rural women in India in a disadvantaged position. Women lack awareness of key provisions of government programs, which affects their ability to access public services and demand their legal rights and entitlements.

The Good Rural Governance program at the S M Sehgal Foundation empowers rural women by engaging them in Women Leadership Schools under the *Sushasan Abhi* (Good Governance Now) initiative. A platform is provided for a cadre of 25-30 women leaders in each village who participate in a year-long training program, educating them about their legal and constitutional rights and entitlements and how to use existing accountability mechanisms to avail benefits. Women's Leadership Schools promote "learning by doing" to encourage and equip rural women for meaningful participation in grassroots governance.



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