



### Vocational Training for Bedside Assistant's Job to women in Chhattisgarh

**B**efore COVID-19, DA provided vocational training programs for Sewing Machine Operator, Domestic Data Entry Operator and Assistant Beauty Therapist in classroom mode. However, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the trainings were put on hold. During that time DA and FICCL had a detailed discussion on strategy to maintain learning and skill building trainings for women and youth during COVID-19 pandemic.

The demand for healthcare workers is high amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and it also keeps on increasing every year. A lot of the jobs in the sector such as home nurse and bedside assistants require minimum qualification. Thus, examining the current practices, DA undertook preparations to enter into healthcare sector with stimulated discussion on the need for accelerated innovation in online learning and the delivery of skills training. Under the Women Empowerment project, two batches comprising a total of 50 women have been under training for Bedside Assistant course. This training in the health care sector is focused on the care of individuals especially bedridden patients and elderly persons, so they may attain, maintain, or recover optimal health and quality of life. Besides this, Bedside Assistant dispenses the medicine; keeps the patient records and operates the medical equipment along with the routine duties. The two months bedside assistant course commenced in September 2020 with 50 women beneficiaries in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh. The training is being conducted by Vishwas Social Welfare Society.

They bring together a wealth of delivering qualitative training and workshops in the healthcare sector and offer expertise in minimising risk in a healthcare setting through proven knowledge of clinical and patient safety programs. First, students are trained with the basics and later they are exposed to practical training through on-the-job training (OJT).

Around 100 of trained health workers are placed in COVID care centres in Chhattisgarh and earning a monthly salary starting from 7000 to 16000 per month. These DA-trained Bedside Assistants are overjoyed to be able to assist patients at such a vital moment.