



### Promoting 'Clean Hands' for Good Health and Hygiene among TARA Akshar+ Neo Literates

**G**lobal Handwashing Day was celebrated in Gyan Chaupali sessions in Aurai block in Bhadohi district and Jakhaura block in Lalitpur district on 15 October 2019. Global Handwashing Day is an annual global advocacy day dedicated to spreading awareness about handwashing with soap as an easy, effective, and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives.

In Aurai, the District Magistrate (DM) Bhadohi, Rajendra Prasad (IAS) was the chief guest and Chief Development Officer (CDO), Vivek Tripathi was the special guest. The other district officials who were present were BSA, DPRO and District Coordinator, Swachh Bharat Mission. Over 250 TARA Akshar+ neo-literates took part in a rally which was flagged off by the DM who himself along with his officials marched with the women to an assembly area. He was highly appreciative of the magnum and impact of the programme and the difference it has made in the lives of learners. In his address, he explained the importance of Global Hand Washing Day and how diseases can be prevented from washing hands with soap. He asked everyone to take a pledge to motivate their family members and friends to always wash hands properly. Chief Development Officer (CDO) highlighted the benefits of handwashing and appealed everyone to wash their hands with soap before, during and after preparing food, before eating food, before and after caring for someone who is sick, before and after treating a cut or a wound, after using the toilet, after changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet. Additionally, Lifebuoy soaps were distributed to the TARA Akshar+ neo-literates on this occasion.

In Jakhaura, a guest speakers' session was organised to spread awareness on washing hands with soap among 45 TARA Akshar+ neo-literates. The guest speaker session was conducted by Adesh Kumar Srivastava, District Coordinator, National Tuberculosis Control Program, Lalitpur. He stressed on the proper technique to wash hands with soap after blowing nose, coughing or sneezing, after touching an animal, animal feed or animal waste, after handling pet food or pet treats and after touching garbage. Furthermore, the Divisional Commissioner of Jhansi, Subhash Chandra Sharma (IAS); District Magistrate (DM) Lalitpur, Manvendra Singh (IAS); Chief Development Officer, VP Pandey and Chief Medical Officer, Pratap Singh also made a surprise visit to Dailwara to support the initiative.