

THE STEP BULLETIN

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HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE QUARTER

- **STEP Academy: Strengthening Communities Through Government Collaboration**
- **Women Leading Change: Communities Thriving through NTL**
 - Sugna Devi's Journey: From Learner to Skilled Professional
- **Celebrating Across**
 - Labour Day Celebration
 - Aajeevika's 21 years of impact and collective action
 - June as PRIDE Month Celebration
- **Building capacity of STEP Team and our youth through meaningful workshops/ sessions and collaborations**
 - Humkadam with STEP team including AI workshops
 - Session on AI for Trainees
 - Self Defence Workshops for trainees
 - Gender Awareness Sessions for trainees
 - Collaboration

From the Editor's desk

Welcome to the July 2026 edition of The STEP Bulletin.

This quarter reflects our belief that meaningful change begins by investing in people. Across Rajasthan, STEP Academy has continued to create opportunities that enable young people and women to build dignified livelihoods while strengthening the communities they call home.

From expanding partnerships with government institutions to promote rural livelihoods, to empowering women and equipping our teams and trainees with future-ready skills, every initiative demonstrates our commitment to creating inclusive and resilient communities.

As Aajeevika Bureau marks 21 years of collective action, we remain committed to ensuring that every young person has access to opportunities, every worker is treated with dignity, and every community is empowered to thrive. We hope this edition offers a glimpse into the partnerships, stories, and milestones that continue to shape our shared journey.

Thank you for being a part of it.

~Purnima Barla & Mona Agrawal
STEP Academy, Aajeevika Bureau



हैंडपंप मिस्त्री प्रशिक्षण

आजीविका ब्यूरो गोगुंदा एवं स्टेप एकेडमी उदयपुर कर रहे आयोजन

युवाओं को मिलेगा रोजगार, पेयजल समस्या का होगा समाधान

पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क
patrika.com

झुमडील, पंचायत समिति फलारिया क्षेत्र की ग्राम पंचायत गुराड के राजेश भाव चौधरीवाड़ा में आजीविका ब्यूरो गोगुंदा एवं स्टेप एकेडमी उदयपुर के संयुक्त तत्वाधान में हैंडपंप मिस्त्री प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम आयोजित कर कुल 22 युवाओं को हैंडपंप भरपूर एवं रखरखाव का कोशल प्रशिक्षण प्रदान किया जा रहा है। प्रशिक्षण का संचालन प्रशिक्षक काकुलाल



हैंडपंप मिस्त्री प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम आयोजित।

पंचायत गुराड, आंजरीली व पानरवा क्षेत्र के बंद पड़े कई हैंडपंप को ठीक करने का कार्य भी किया जाएगा, जिससे ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में पेयजल समस्या के समाधान में सहायता मिलेगी। यह पहल संविधान संदर्भ केंद्र बोधरावाड़ा के मीरा परसिया एवं रामेल मेघवाल के नेतृत्व में संचालित की जा रही है।

संविधान संदर्भ केंद्र बोधरावाड़ा की ओर से जनजाति विकास मंत्री काकुलाल खराड़ी से चांग की है कि जल जीवन मिशन के तहत प्रशिक्षित

युवाओं को जल मित्र के रूप में अवसर प्रदान किया जाए, जिससे स्थानीय युवाओं को स्थायी रोजगार मिल सके। साथ ही उन्होंने मांग की कि प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त प्रत्येक युवाक को पंचायत स्तर पर हैंडपंप मिस्त्री रोल विट्ट उदाहरण कराया जाए। जिससे मिस्त्री प्रभावी रूप से अपनी सेवाएं दे सके। इस प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम से क्षेत्र में पेयजल संकट के समाधान के साथ-साथ युवाओं के कोशल विकास एवं आत्मनिर्भरता को भी बढ़ावा मिल रहा है।

Patrika.com

उदयपुर जिला | 20/06/2026

STEP ACADEMY: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES THROUGH GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION

Strong government partnerships are enabling STEP Academy to drive sustainable community development. Supporting the Government of India's Jal Jeevan Mission, STEP Academy partnered with local administration to train rural youth as Handpump Mechanic-cum-Plumbers across Gogunda, Salumber, Banswara, and Dungarpur, creating livelihood opportunities while strengthening rural water security and improving access to safe drinking water.

Further strengthening this commitment, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Udaipur, conducted a legal awareness session for GDA trainees, introducing them to free legal aid, legal rights, and government welfare services. Together, these initiatives are equipping communities with essential skills, legal awareness, and greater confidence to build resilient, informed, and self-reliant futures.



WOMEN LEADING CHANGE: COMMUNITIES THRIVING THROUGH NTL

STEP Academy, Aajeevika Bureau has empowered 13,684 women through training in non-traditional trades, including plumbing, masonry, and logistics and other non-traditional trades. With certification and placement support, women are securing sustainable livelihoods, achieving financial independence, and challenging gender stereotypes—emerging as skilled professionals who are transforming their communities and shaping a more inclusive workforce.



SUGNA DEVI – BREAKING STEREOTYPES, BUILDING FUTURES

After successfully completing STEP Academy's Centering training in June 2026, Sugna Devi transformed her life by building skills in a trade traditionally dominated by men. As the sole breadwinner following her husband's prolonged illness, she embraced the opportunity to strengthen her family's future. Her daily wages increased from ₹300 to ₹500, improving household income and supporting her children's education. Today, Sugna is a confident skilled professional whose journey reflects the transformative power of women's empowerment, proving that access to the right skills and opportunities can create lasting economic and social change.

~Lokesh Patidar

CELEBRATING ACROSS:



AAJEEVIKA'S 21 YEARS OF IMPACT AND COLLECTIVE ACTION

Celebrating 21 years of Aajeevika Bureau is a tribute to the resilience and determination of migrant and informal workers, communities, and partners who have shaped this journey. Over the years, we have expanded access to skills, livelihoods, legal aid, social security, and workers' rights, creating opportunities for thousands. As we mark this milestone, we renew our commitment to building a future where every worker is respected, protected, and empowered.



PRIDE DAY AT STEP ACADEMY, UDAIPUR

Pride Day at STEP Academy, Udaipur brought together trainees and team members to celebrate diversity, inclusion, and belonging. Through meaningful dialogue and shared experiences, the event challenged biases, strengthened empathy, and reinforced a culture of respect. More than a celebration, it reflected our commitment to creating safe, inclusive spaces where every individual is valued, empowered, and free to thrive with dignity.



RAISING LABOUR'S VOICES FOR COLLECTIVE CHANGE ON LABOUR'S DAY

This May Day, workers across urban and rural communities united to champion dignity, equality, and labour rights. Through rallies and awareness campaigns, worker collectives in Banswara, Kherwara, Salumber, Gogunda, Dungarpur, and Sayra strengthened collective action, inspiring safer workplaces, fair opportunities, and a more inclusive future for every worker.

BUILDING CAPACITIES THROUGH HUMKADAM



Building impactful programmes begins with empowered teams. As part of Humkadam, STEP Academy's capacity-building platform, field teams participated in two focused learning sessions. The first centred on the Annual Action Plan (2026–27), training quality, and centre-level innovations, while the second introduced Artificial Intelligence and Prompt Engineering. Together, these sessions strengthened team capabilities, encouraged innovation, and enhanced the skills needed to deliver high-quality training and greater community impact.



Preparing Youth for an AI-Driven Future

STEP Academy's commitment to future-ready skills, Ms. Shriya Rao from SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Chennai during her internship at STEP Academy delivered interactive sessions on Digital Literacy, Basic AI, and Emerging Technologies. The sessions strengthened trainees' digital confidence, enhanced workplace readiness, and inspired them to embrace technology as a catalyst for lifelong learning and career growth.



Uplifting Confidence Through Self-Defence

A Self-Defence and Personal Safety session equipped women trainees under the GDA programme with practical safety skills, situational awareness, and the confidence to respond to real-life challenges. More than self-protection, the session fostered resilience, independence, and informed decision-making, empowering participants to navigate both the workplace and everyday life with confidence.



Gender Awareness Sessions

During April–June 2026, STEP Academy conducted 20 gender awareness sessions, reaching 478 trainees. Through interactive discussions, youth explored gender equality, mutual respect, equal opportunities, and positive workplace behaviour. The sessions encouraged inclusive thinking, challenged gender stereotypes, and strengthened participants' confidence to build respectful, equitable workplaces and communities.

Advancing Rural Youth Pathways Through Collaboration



STEP Academy and PRADAN strengthened their partnership to expand access to skill development and employment opportunities for rural youth. A Youth Employment Fair in Bharja village connected young people with career counselling, skill training, and placement information, resulting in strong community participation and new registrations. Supported by STEP Academy's continuous technical mentoring, the collaboration has enhanced local youth mobilisation efforts, creating stronger pathways for skills, employment, and sustainable livelihoods in underserved rural communities.

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