

Progress Report (July-2025 to Sep-2025)

Shri Bhuvneshwari Mahila Ashram



Project Name: Digital Empowerment Hub

Quarterly Progress data: July to Sep 2025

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Project Details

Project name	Digital Empowerment Hub Uttarakhand
Location	Uttarakhand
Project No.	Digital Empowerment Hub
Reporting period	July 2025 to Sep 2025
Report compiled by	Project Head & Team
Date submitted	08/10/2025

Summary

Background of the Project

The Government of India's *Digital India Programme* aims to transform the nation into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. Digital and financial literacy are critical enablers of socio-economic development, particularly in geographically challenging and underserved regions such as the hilly districts of Uttarakhand. These regions often face significant barriers in accessing information, digital tools, and formal financial systems, making targeted interventions essential for inclusive growth.

To address this need, **SHRI BHUVNESHWARI MAHILA ASHRAM (SBMA)**, in collaboration with **AADHAAR – An Association for Development, Harmony and Action Research**, has launched a structured initiative titled “**Digital Literacy – Phase 1.**” Under this Programme, SBMA aims to provide 20-hour digital and financial literacy training and certification to **1,000 individuals** in the districts of **Tehri Garhwal and Chamoli**, focusing on communities that are often left behind in digital advancement.

The training targets individuals between the ages of **16 and 60 years**, with a focus on marginalized groups, including women, youth, Scheduled Castes (SC), minorities, persons with disabilities (PwDs), and economically disadvantaged families. Participants will be equipped to confidently navigate digital platforms, access online public services, utilize digital financial tools, and enhance their employability in a rapidly digitizing world.

This initiative is part of a larger vision to empower **5,000 individuals** over one year across hilly districts, with Phase 1 focusing on the first 1,000 beneficiaries. By equipping participants with essential digital competencies—such as computer literacy, safe internet use, e-governance access, and digital financial tools—the project seeks to enable informed participation in the digital economy, improve access to government services, and create pathways to better livelihood opportunities.

This initiative represents a step toward reducing the digital divide and enabling inclusive development in aspirational districts. It aligns with the broader objective of fostering digital inclusion and sustainable community empowerment in Uttarakhand's rural and hilly regions.

Activities and Outputs

Activity 1: Registration/ enrolment of Beneficiaries

Status	Ongoing
Objective	To empower local communities through digital and financial literacy
Activity dates	Planned: July to Sep Actual: July 2025
Progress	<p>The Digital Literacy – Phase 1 initiative is underway across multiple districts of Uttarakhand, focusing on empowering individuals through digital and financial literacy training. As of the current reporting period, 1612 beneficiaries have been registered from seven centers, with 791 individuals successfully certified.</p> <p>In Chamoli and Tehri Garhwal—the two primary districts under Phase 1—training has been conducted actively, registering 167 beneficiaries and certifying 108 participants, marking steady progress toward the Phase 1 target of 1,000.</p> <p>Expansion into additional districts such as Haridwar, Pauri, Almora, Rudraprayag, Dehradun, Pithoragarh, and Himachal Nahan has begun. While Haridwar is showing notable engagement, with 683 certified out of 1445 registered, other locations are in early stages, with training planned or ongoing.</p> <p>Efforts are focused on outreach, mobilization, and strengthening training infrastructure to increase certification rates and move toward the larger objective of reaching 5,000 beneficiaries.</p>

Outputs created	<p>Quantitative Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Registered Beneficiaries: 1445 individuals across 8 districts. • Total Certified Participants: 683 individuals successfully completed training and certification. • Districts Covered: 8 (Chamoli, Tehri Garhwal, Haridwar, Pauri, Dehradun, Pithoragarh, Almora, Nahan). • Training Hours Delivered: Approx. 20 hours per participant for certified beneficiaries. <p>Qualitative Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced digital confidence among rural and marginalized populations. • Participants are now capable of using UPI, mobile banking, and e-governance platforms. • Increased awareness of cybersecurity, online safety, and digital payments. • Women, youth, and SC/ST communities actively participated, promoting inclusive digital growth. • Feedback indicates improved employment readiness and access to government schemes through digital tools.
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Activity 2: Examination of Beneficiaries

Status	Ongoing
Objective	To assess the outreach, registration, and certification status of beneficiaries across various centers in Uttarakhand and identify areas for improvement and strategic focus.
Activity dates	Planned: Aug 2025 Actual: Aug & Sep 2025
Progress	The examination activity was initiated in Aug 2025 and covered eight centers across Uttarakhand, with data collected on registration and certification status. The data compilation and preliminary analysis have been completed. Notable progress has been made in identifying centers with high conversion rates (from registration to certification) as well as those requiring targeted interventions to meet their training and certification targets.

Outputs created	<p>Quantitative Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Beneficiaries Registered: 1612 • Total Certified Students: 791 <p>Top Performing Centers (by Certification Rate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haridwar: 53% (390 out of 742) • Pithoragarh: 62% (54 out of 87) • Nahan (Himachal Pradesh): 47% (199 out of 427) <p>Underperforming Centers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almora: 13% (13 out of 103) <p>Qualitative Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beneficiaries at successful centers reported improved skills, better employability, and satisfaction with course delivery. • Challenges at underperforming centres included lack of awareness, accessibility issues, and dropouts due to seasonal migration. • High-performing centres such as Haridwar and Pithoragarh demonstrated strong community outreach and consistent follow-up by staff. • Several centres expressed the need for enhanced support materials and refresher training for facilitators. <p>Centre-wise Data:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Haridwar, Uttarakhand – 742 registered, 390 certified 2. Pauri, Uttarakhand – 5 registered, 0 certified 3. Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand – 0 registered, 0 certified 4. Dehradun, Uttarakhand – 81 registered, 27 certified 5. Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand – 87 registered, 54 certified 6. Almora, Uttarakhand – 103 registered, 13 certified 7. Nahan, Himachal Pradesh – 427 registered, 199 certified 8. Tehari -167 Registered, 108 certified
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Results

Indicator	Target	Result in (Reporting period)	Status
Finalization of training centres	NA	08 District	Still on Going
Mobilization to enroll digital literacy beneficiaries	NA	08 District	Still on Going
Registration of candidates in the reporting period	6000	1612	Still on Going
Overall registration of candidates (entire project period)	6000	2361	Still on Going
Certification of candidates in the reporting period	6000	791	Still on Going
Overall certification of candidates (entire project period)	6000	1014	Still on Going

Project center-wise beneficiary details are as follows: -

S.NO	Name Centre	State	Total Beneficiaries Registered	Total Certified Students	Remarks		
1	Chamoli	Uttarakhand	136	56	Target -1000		
2	Tehari Garhwal	Uttarakhand	31	52			
1	Haridwar	Uttarakhand	742	390	Target -5000		
2		Pauri		Uttarakhand		05	0
3		Almora		Uttarakhand		103	13
4		Dehradun		Uttarakhand		81	27
5		Pithogragh		Uttarakhand		87	54
6	Nahan	Himachal Pradesh	427	199			
Total			1612	791			

Challenges and Lessons Learned

Challenges	Lessons Learned
Difficult terrain and remote village locations made access and mobilization difficult.	Need for decentralized training centres and local trainers to reach remote areas efficiently.
Intermittent electricity and poor internet connectivity.	Offline content, flexible scheduling, and use of battery-powered devices improved training continuity.
Weather-related disruptions delayed sessions.	Advance planning and buffer time should be built into the training calendar.

Plan for Next Quarter

Bullet points.

- **Village-Level Mobilisation:** Community mobilisation activities will be intensified at the village level to increase awareness and participation.
- **Opening of New Computer Centre:** A new training center is planned to be established to expand outreach and improve accessibility in remote areas.
- **Certification Target:** The project team aims to achieve **50% certification** of total registered beneficiaries in the next quarter.
- **Case Study Documentation:** Around **05-10 case studies** will be collected to capture real-life impact stories and showcase progress.
- **Monitoring & Support:** Regular follow-up and support sessions will be conducted for enrolled participants to improve engagement and completion rates.
- **Community Engagement:** Enhanced coordination with local leaders, volunteers, and stakeholders for effective implementation and sustained impact.

Appendices

Case Studies /Testimonial : -

1. Testimonial by Jayendra Singh, Tehri Garhwal

My name is Jayendra Singh, I am 26 years old and I am from Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand. I have completed my intermediate education and recently enrolled in the Basic Online Digital Literacy program conducted by CHAD Foundation with support from Capgemini and SBMA, conducted in our village.

Before this course, while I was using mobile, I did not know basic of computer.

Through the training, I gained a basic understanding of computer hardware like keyboard, mouse, and CPU, and software tools such as browsers, folders, and mobile apps. I also learned how to access online services—like submitting forms, searching for information, and making digital transactions—using both mobile and computer.

I also encouraged my sister, Bineeta (age 19), to enroll in the course. We must know the basics of the devices and services we use. It is important that she knows how to be safe from scams that many in our area have fallen prey to.

This program and certificate has opened new possibilities for both of us. I am grateful to CHAD Foundation, Capgemini, and SBMA for making this learning accessible to youth like me.



2. Testimonial by Siddharth Sharma, Dehradun

I am Siddharth Sharma, 28 years old, from Dehradun, Uttarakhand. I hold a graduate degree in music and recently participated in the Basic Online Digital Literacy program organized by CHAD (Collective Human Action for Development) Foundation, supported by Capgemini and SBMA.

This course has given me a clear understanding of the fundamentals of computer hardware and software. I learned how to navigate digital tools, use essential applications, and access online services through both mobile and computer. From filling out government forms to making secure digital payments, the training helped me become more confident in the digital space.

Importantly, the course also taught me how to stay safe online—how to recognize scams, protect my passwords, and avoid fraudulent links. I have also received a certificate for the course. I sincerely thank CHAD Foundation and its partners for this valuable opportunity.



Here is Glimpse of Benefecaries Mobilization and Registration





