The Project: SEWA Rural has started various programmes for women empowerment like Nursing, Lab assistant, tailoring training programme, garment making, microcredit and saving programme. In 1980 we had started our work from hospital. It was difficult to get professionals like doctors and nurses, lab technicians etc to work in rural tribal area. We have started nursing and lab assistant training for local tribal girls from nearby rural area with the aim of women empowerment but we didn’t have hostel, class room facilities for them.

In 2016 we received support from Gujarat Tea Processors and Packers Limited towards promoting women empowerment, as a part of CSR project for establishing a Vocational Training Centre for Women / MahilaTalim Kendra (“Training Center”).

Objective: The objective of this project is to promote women empowerment in the local populace (of Jhagadia) by imparting vocational education and trainings in various fields, particularly, for those less privileged girls/women hailing from tribal, rural and economically weak background, which will provide them social and economic independence and freedom.Areas of vocational training cover hospital nursing, laboratory technician training, stitching and garment making, basic computer education, self-defense, awareness about sexual harassment, personality development, health and nutrition and other formal and non-formal education.

Infrastructure: Under this project, a fully equipped four storied building has been constructed at the campus of “Shardakunj Housing Society” of SEWA Rural Staff, Jhagadia, which serves as a dedicated Training Centre as well as a hostel accommodation for the girls. This Centre houses class rooms, skill lab, nutrition lab, computer lab, library, hostel accommodation for stay of about forty girl students as well as quarters for the faculty and warden. The total area of this Training Centre admeasures approx. 10,400 sq. ft. The Centre is well furnished with training equipments and hostel furniture & fixture. Other modern infrastructure includes big overhead water tank, rainwater harvesting bore well, solar panels for hot water & electricity and walking track too. The faculty includes doctors form various fields like Gynecology, Pediatrics, General Medicine and Ophthalmology, social work for imparting training in hospital nursing and laboratory technician skills. In addition, other paramedical staff like OT Incharge, Nursing Incharge, Hospital Administrator, Maintenance Supervisor and Health training Supervisors also joins in taking various sessions. Training classes and sessions are conducted at the MahilaTalim Kendra, whereas the trainees come to SEWA Rural’s hospital for having practical sessions and live training. Extracurricular activities like early morning prayer, yoga, exercise, late evening sports, reading etc., are also the part of trainees’ routine life at this Centre.

Impact: Since 2016 total 57 girls completed their training as nursing assistant and 14 as Laboratory assistant. 337 completed tailoring, 106 computer, 986 self defense Training and > 30000 were provided health awareness.

Mobile School Van: Further, an Educational Mobile Van donated by the Gujarat Tea Processors and Packers Limited to SEWA Rural under this project has also enhanced the speed, efficiency and scope of imparting educational and vocational teachings by SEWA Rural to the girls and boys studying in primary schools of around 16 villages, >2000children every year in local area
within the distance of 25 to 30 kms. Such teachings include imparting basic education through stories, songs and sports; experiments on math and science using easy methods and educational equipments; and conducting classes on basic values of life and celebrating festivals.