

## Women Empowerment Through Skill Training

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**“When women participate in the economy everyone benefits”**

– Punjab Skill Development Mission

*Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) a placement linked Skill Development scheme of Government of India with vision of transforming rural poor youth into an economically independent and globally relevant workforce which can bring a ray of new hope to the rural youth of Punjab. Mandate enrollment of 33% female candidates is providing golden opportunity to 4,950 women candidates to enhance their skill and show their hidden potential to the world.*

Punjab Skill Development Mission (PSDM) is committed to roll the red carpet of employment opportunity for the youth of Punjab. State mission is implementing various skill development schemes under PPP mode in collaboration with central government. The mission is headed by Smt. Bhawna Garg (IAS), an engineering graduate from IIT Kanpur who topped the civil services exam in 1998 and completed her higher studies from Princeton University is a role model and inspirational personality for the youth of Punjab especially for the women candidates. She’s working as Secretary Employment Generation & Training, Secretary Technical Education & Industrial Training and Mission Director cum Member Secretary Punjab Skill development Mission, Govt. of Punjab.

Moreover 7 state mission manager positions like State Project coordinator, Mobilization manager, Quality manager, Training and Development manager, Placement manager, Assessment and certification manager, Project appraisal Manager and 15 District manager positions are headed by women power that are playing an important role in ensuring the progressive growth of the state mission.

PSDM is implementing various skill development schemes i.e DDUGKY, PMKVY, NULM, BoCW, etc. in the state and thus providing equal opportunities to the female candidates of Punjab.

- **DDUGKY** – Out of 4,835 trained and 1212 appointed candidates, 1596 and 400 women are in wage employment.
- **NULM** – Out of 10,000 trained and 2500 placed candidates, 3300 and 825 women are in wage or self-employment.
- **Asian Development Bank assisted Skill Development Programme** - 2000 candidates in trades like Phulkari, Punjabi Jutti, Dari/ Khes, Wood Inlay, Crochet, Fabric Painting and Terracotta in different districts of Punjab including Patiala, Fatehgarh Sahib, Bathinda, Sangrur, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, S.A.S. Nagar and Sri Muktsar Sahib.
- **Capacity Building under the Border Area Development Programme** – Candidates belonging to the Border districts e.g Ferozepur, Tarn Taran, Fazilka, Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Pathankot.

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- **PMKVY** - Likely to be launched in Mar- April 2018.  
“When women have monetary power it is a way for others to see them as equal members of society”

– Punjab Skill Development Mission

Women achieve more self-respect and confidence by their contributions to their communities and Ms Mandeep Kaur has proved this, a girl from remote village in the border area of Punjab where hardly women go out for work. Her father is a farmer and sole earner of the family.

**Mandeep** was always an ambitious girl from childhood and completed her Bsc in Economics but like any other traditional family her parents were looking for a suitable groom right after her study. However she has a dream inside and determined to achieve the goals.

She came to know about DDU-GKY scheme – PSDM programme during campaign in her town named Patti. She immediately grabbed the opportunity and enrolled for the course and rest is History.

After successful completion of the course she got an opportunity at Tech Mahindra, Mohali and made the whole DDU-GKY – PSDM proud becoming the best performer consistently for last 3 months. Now she is earning 5 figures salary (CTC Rs. 10,417 /-) and became competent enough to support her family financially.



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(Around 200 women trainers are employed as English, soft skill, B&W and SMO Trainer in the state)

**“Vocational Education is a tool to empower the poor households”**

– Punjab Skill Development Mission



**“Women are the real Architect of the society”**

**A Spirit to Excel**

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While the government is working towards bringing economic prosperity in the State, operating multiple skilling courses across the sectors and creating job opportunities, it is important for our young generation to act responsibly. We need to understand 'I am responsible for myself'. We cannot leave ourselves, our capabilities at the whims of fate or luck when we cannot do anything about it. Rather we must focus on what is in our hand - our efforts. And our efforts have to be with our 100% involvement and in the right direction, at the right time and with a sharp cutting edge.

In the year 1999, a small-town Punjabi girl hit the news headlines nationwide. Brought up in the small town of Kapurthala, in a lower middle class family, eldest among the four daughters of a junior engineer of public works department of Punjab government, I became the youngest IAS officer in the country. It was an overwhelming moment for me and my family and an inspirational story for many youngsters especially the girls.

I take this opportunity to share with my fellow being that my focus in life has never been on success. Early in my school days, I learnt to stay focused on myself – to equip myself with the best of subject knowledge and skills, consciously exercise control on how I spend my time, and always endeavour to increase productivity and efficiency. A round, lethargic teenager, I disciplined myself into yoga and daily physical exercises. I have always collaborated with my fellow competing students, set standards and worked to rise above them.

I wish and pray that while the government endeavors to reach out and afford equal opportunity to our youth towards education, skilling and employment; each one of our young boys and girls explore and live life to its full potential, imbibe a spirit to challenge their selves and excel in all their pursuits.

Best Wishes,

**Bhawna Garg, IAS**

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<http://youtu.be/OkJcaBdYfyo> "Bridging the Skill Gap | TEDxSRMUWomen"