



Development with Excellence

Date Release:

24/02/2024

PRESS RELEASE

CDOT and Grameen Foundation India Honor 12 Women BC Agents at Jazbe ko Salaam Event

Center for Development Orientation and Training (CDOT) and Grameen Foundation India (GFI) came together to honor 12 exceptional women BC agents at the Jazbe ko Salaam event. These agents were recognized for their outstanding contribution and achievements in different categories, including Best Bank Sakhi Award, Digital Nari Award, and Highest Transactions Award. The event was held at the Hotel Chanakya in Patna and was attended by representatives from CDOT and GFI. Some dignitaries like Mr. Rahul Kumar (CEO, Jeevika), Mr. Vijay Kumar (Deputy Zonal Manager, PNB), Mr. Chintan Ganguly (GM, DBGB), Mr. Arif Abbas (LIC), Mr. R R Kalyan (Executive Director CDOT) and Mr. Piyush Singh (Director; Digital Finance, Grameen Foundation India) graced the occasion and honored the success of Female BCs through giving them trophies and mementos under different categories.





Award Winners:

1. Keerti Award for highest transaction – Ruby Kumari from Bhojpur
2. Ubharta Sitara Award for Best New BC – Jyoti Kumari from Rohtas
3. Lifetime achievement Award for best long time working BC – Sulochana Devi from Bhojpur
4. Parakarmi Award for highest Non-CICO Product – Priyanka Kumari from Kaimur
5. Best Bank Sakhi Award for Highest CICO Product - Babita Kumari from Bhojpur
6. Shining Star Award for highest SSS – Rini Kumari from Buxar
7. Sab Ki Chaheti Award for maximum Customers – Kavita Kumari from Aurangabad
8. Atma Nirbhar Award – Pinku Kumari from Nawada
9. Samruddhi award for best BC over 40 yrs. of age – Punam Kumari from Nawada
10. Best Youngest High-Performance Award - Rakhi Kumari from Nawada
11. Sahyogi Award for best Loan recovery – Sinki Bharti from Nawada
12. Digital Nari Award – Jyoti Kumari from Nawada



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GFI and CDOT have been working on testing and implementing interventions for improving the viability of BC agents and include more women BCs in the network in Bihar under the BEADS Project since 2020. The project introduced new micro-savings products, low-cost customer awareness methods, change management, and the use of innovative technologies to empower customers and agents, especially women. The Jazbe ko Salaam event was an extension of this initiative, aimed at recognizing and honoring the contributions of women BC agents.

According to RR Kalyan, CEO of CDOT, "The BC network has been a game-changer in the banking sector, particularly in rural areas, where it has helped to bridge the gap between the unbanked population and the formal financial system. However, the majority of BC agents are men, and women are often excluded from this network due to social, cultural, and economic barriers. The BEADS project has been working to address this gap, and the Jazbe ko Salaam event is a testament to the success of this initiative."

Echoing similar sentiments, Piyush Singh, Director, Digital Finance, Grameen Foundation India, said, "We are delighted to honor these exceptional women BC agents who have broken through gender and social barriers to make a meaningful contribution to their communities. Through the BEADS project, we have been working to create a more inclusive and sustainable BC network, and we are committed to continuing such efforts to empower more women and drive financial inclusion across the country."

The event also saw the participation of several stakeholders, including BC agents, representatives from partner organizations, and other dignitaries, who applauded the joint efforts of the Grameen Foundation and CDOT.

The Jazbe ko Salaam event was a testament to the power of inclusive development, highlighting the importance of recognizing and rewarding the efforts of women BC agents who have made a difference in their communities.

About CDOT:

Began in the year 2000, the Centre For Development Orientation and Training (CDOT) works for the unreached community through meaningful intervention. It is currently operative in 8 states with a primary focus on Micro Credit, Financial Inclusion, Solar, Sanitation, Livelihood, Agriculture Development, and skill training.

About GFI:



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Grameen Foundation India, a unit of US-based Grameen Foundation, is a not-for-profit organization that specializes in designing and implementing innovative programs to help the poor access finance, livelihood opportunities, and health and nutrition information. GFI addresses demand- side and supply- side barriers through scalable models, the use of technology applications, and innovative partnerships. GFI's agriculture programs provide solutions to the problems that confront smallholder farmers every day—whether that is access to finance, farm inputs, weather information, technical information for farm and production management, or markets.

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