

## **CASE STUDY**

### **Ashiyana Self Help Group**

**Azamnagar, Shitla**

Village Azamgarh is situated about 3 kilometres east of NH 12 near the railway line. All families living in the village are Muslim. Males of these families work as labourers (agriculture and other areas), while the females are responsible for household jobs. The primary sources of income of the residents of Azamgarh are agriculture, animal husbandry, sheep rearing and goatry.

The village has a secondary school. Concrete road links the village to the mainstream of the city. Drinking water facilities are available in the village. Despite the availability of all these facilities there is a lack of means of transportation and proper hygiene and sanitation, resulting from poor drainage system due to which dirty water from the houses collects on the streets. Although the village has a school, there is a lack of proper education.

Due to the efforts of CECOEDECON a meeting was organized with the women of the village on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The focus of this meeting was on making the participants aware about the NABARD scheme, the advantages of Self Help Groups (SHGs), credit linkages as well as other government schemes. Other local concerns of the women were also discussed. The discussion helped in motivating the women to set up an SHG.

Ashiyana SHG was formed by 15 women. Each member of the group deposits Rs. 100 as savings every month. The SHG opened a bank account in Punjab National Bank on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and till November 2013 the group had savings of Rs. 25,000. The group also has an internal loaning of Rs. 20,000. The group has unanimously appointed



Jakiya Bano as President and Samina Bano as Treasurer.

After the formation of the SHG, the members started a cottage industry. They make bags for companies like Woodland. Working together has resulted in an improved economic status of the members.

The members of the SHG also organize meetings to discuss each other's concerns, and try to resolve their problems collectively. They also inform each other of women related government schemes and discuss their health issues. The most outstanding thing about this SHG is that the members use the interest accrued from their bank savings in paying school fees of the underprivileged children and other social causes.



Before the formation of the SHG the status of girl child education in the village was very poor. But after the formation of the SHG, the members realised the importance of education and after discussing the issue in their meetings they started sending their daughters to the school. This motivated other women of the village who also followed suit.

After becoming linked to the SHG the women have developed a better understanding on a wide range of issues which has brought about a positive change in their thinking and behaviour. They have become stronger both socially as well as economically. As a result of the growth of these women other women of the community have also been motivated to form SHGs.

**Details of the Members:**

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>BPL/Others</b>	<b>Occupation/enterprise</b>
1	Jakiya Bano	President	-	Cottage industry
2	Samina Bano	Vice President	-	Cottage industry
3	Sakina Bano	Member	-	Animal husbandry
4	Tehjib Bano	Member	BPL	Stitching
5	Khushrid Bano	Member	State BPL	Grocery Store
6	Taj Bano	Member	-	Poultry
7	Khatu Bano	Member	-	Animal husbandry, Goatry
8	Sajida Bano	Member	-	Cottage industry
9	Chamiya Bano	Member	-	Animal husbandry
10	Jainab Bano	Member	-	Animal husbandry, Poultry
11	Mehraj	Member	-	Goatry
12	Baby Bano	Member	-	Animal husbandry
13	Heena Bano	Member	-	Cottage industry
14	Saira Bano	Member	-	Cottage industry
15	Amreen	Member	-	Cottage industry