

SODES NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER, 2026

Empowering Communities Through Digital Literacy,
Financial Inclusion & Technology and promote
sustainability for socio-economic development



Piplantri Model: A Vision for Holistic Village Development

SODES IN ACTION

SODES President Dr. Dinesh Tyagi recently visited Piplantri to understand and promote its inspiring model of holistic village development—an approach that can be adopted by Panchayats across the country.

Piplantri, under the visionary leadership of former Sarpanch Shri Shyam Sunder Paliwal, has demonstrated how environmental conservation, water management, and the empowerment of the girl child can come together to transform a village into a greener, more sustainable and self-reliant community.

At the heart of the Piplantri Model is the practice of planting 111 trees for every newborn girl, turning the celebration of a daughter's birth into a lasting contribution to nature. Alongside this, the village has focused on water conservation, girls education and empowerment, environmental protection, and sustainable development.

The philosophy is beautifully captured in the words: “ना घर से लाऊंगा, ना घर ले जाऊंगा!”—reflecting a commitment to living responsibly and leaving behind a better environment for future generations. The Piplantri Model reminds us that when every daughter, every tree and every drop of water is valued, a village can create its own pathway towards prosperity and sustainability. SODES believes that this model can inspire Panchayats across India to build greener, empowered and self-reliant rural communities.



SODES President Dr. Dinesh Tyagi's Inspiring Visit to SHINE NGO, Hyderabad

SODES IN ACTION

Dr. Dinesh Tyagi, President of SODES, recently visited SHINE NGO in Hyderabad, where he engaged with residents of the SHINE Old Age Home, women beneficiaries, and trainees at the Skill Development Centre.

During his visit, Dr. Tyagi took a keen interest in understanding SHINE's initiatives in women empowerment, skill development, digital inclusion, and senior citizen care. His interaction with beneficiaries and the dedicated SHINE team provided an opportunity to exchange experiences and ideas focused on creating greater social impact.

His valuable guidance, encouragement, and inspiring presence motivated the entire SHINE family. The visit was a meaningful occasion for beneficiaries and team members to interact with a leader whose work in public service and digital governance continues to inspire communities.

The visit reaffirmed the importance of collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and collective efforts towards building inclusive and empowered communities.



AI & Robotics Learning Session in Surat, Gujarat

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SODES member Rita Gajera conducted an engaging AI & Robotics learning session in Surat, Gujarat, introducing students to the exciting world of emerging technologies. The session focused on developing curiosity, creativity, and practical understanding of Artificial Intelligence, robotics, and digital innovation.

Participants explored the fundamentals of robotics and AI through interactive learning and practical activities, helping them understand how technology can be applied to solve real-world problems. The session encouraged students to think innovatively, develop problem-solving skills, and gain confidence in exploring technology.

Through such initiatives, SODES continues to promote digital literacy, technology education, and future-ready skills among students and communities, helping bridge the digital divide and inspire the next generation of innovators.



Bringing Digital Skills to Rural Women in Tamil Nadu

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

As part of its efforts to strengthen digital inclusion in rural communities, SODES Member N. Vainkatesh organized a Digital Literacy Camp for the women of Sri Renugambal Self-Help Group (SHG) in Tiruvannamalai district, Tamil Nadu.

The programme created an interactive learning environment where participants explored the practical use of smartphones, internet services, digital payments, UPI, QR codes, and online banking. The session also highlighted the importance of cyber safety and responsible digital practices, helping women recognize potential online scams and protect their personal information.

For many participants, the camp offered an opportunity to become more comfortable with digital tools and understand how technology can support their financial activities, communication, access to information, and day-to-day needs.

Through initiatives like these, SODES is working at the grassroots level to bridge the digital divide and ensure that rural women are not left behind in the country's digital transformation.



Digital & Financial Literacy Programme Empowers Rural Women in Karauli, Rajasthan

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SODES Member Vikram Saini conducted a Digital & Financial Literacy Programme for rural women in Karauli, Rajasthan, with the aim of improving their confidence and awareness in using digital technology and financial services.

The programme focused on practical knowledge of smartphone usage, digital payments, UPI and QR codes, online banking, government digital services, and basic financial safety. Participants were also made aware of common online frauds, OTP scams, suspicious links, and the importance of protecting their personal and banking information.

The initiative provided rural women with valuable skills to access digital and financial services more independently and safely. By promoting digital inclusion and financial awareness, SODES continues to empower women and strengthen digital literacy across rural communities.

Such grassroots initiatives play an important role in creating a digitally confident, financially aware, and empowered rural India.



Cyber Security Awareness Camp at Government College, Athner

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SODES Member Satish Thakare organized a Cyber Security Awareness Camp at Government College, Athner, District Betul, Madhya Pradesh, to promote awareness about the growing risks of cybercrime and online fraud among students and the local community.

During the session, participants were introduced to essential cyber safety practices, including creating strong passwords, identifying phishing attempts, protecting personal information, using digital payment platforms safely, and avoiding suspicious links, calls, messages, and online offers. Special emphasis was placed on staying alert against UPI fraud, OTP scams, fake websites, social engineering, and other common forms of cybercrime.

The camp encouraged students to become responsible and informed digital citizens and to share cyber safety practices with their families and communities. Through such awareness initiatives, SODES continues its efforts to build a safer, more digitally aware rural India.

The programme was an important step towards strengthening cybersecurity awareness among young people and empowering them to use digital technology confidently and responsibly.



Plastic Free Day Observed at Bagdogra, Darjeeling

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

On 1st September 2026, SODES Member Saikat observed Plastic Free Day at Bagdogra, Darjeeling, West Bengal, with a community-focused cleanliness drive aimed at reducing plastic pollution in the local environment.

As part of the initiative, plastic waste and other discarded materials were collected from nearby areas and properly cleaned. The activity highlighted the importance of keeping public spaces clean and encouraging responsible waste management practices within the community.

Through such grassroots activities, SODES encouraging communities to reduce plastic use, prevent littering, and contribute towards a cleaner, greener and healthier environment.



Operation Shuddhi Launched in Deogarh, Odisha

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

With the support of AVRO Recycling, SODES is taking another important step towards building cleaner, healthier and more sustainable communities through the launch of its first Operation Shuddhi project in Deogarh, Odisha.

The initiative has been spearheaded by Asit Kumar Sahu, a SODES Digital Entrepreneur, with the aim of encouraging community participation in responsible waste management. Under Operation Shuddhi, plastic waste will be collected from local communities and diverted from streets, public spaces and the surrounding environment.

The project seeks to create greater awareness about the harmful impact of plastic waste while promoting responsible disposal, recycling and sustainable everyday practices. By involving local communities, SODES aims to transform environmental awareness into meaningful action at the grassroots level.

Operation Shuddhi represents SODES' continued commitment to creating cleaner villages and communities and contributing towards a greener, healthier and more sustainable India.



DIVANSHI, MOGA, PUNJAB

SUCCESS STORY

Divanshi, a B.Com student from Moga, Punjab, is strengthening her digital skills through the SODES Digital Library. As a student pursuing higher education, she understands the growing importance of basic computer knowledge for academics, employment, and everyday life.

Through her regular learning at the SODES Digital Library, Divanshi is gaining practical knowledge of basic computer operations and developing greater confidence in using digital tools. The accessible learning environment and availability of computer facilities have provided her with an opportunity to learn at her own pace and build skills that can support her future academic and professional journey.

Expressing her gratitude to SODES, Divanshi shared that *“the Digital Library has given her a valuable platform to improve her computer skills and become more confident in the digital world.”*



SAIKAT *Dey*

SODES
DIGITAL
CHAMPION
OF THE MONTH

Bagdogra, West Bengal

Saikat Dey, a dedicated Digital Entrepreneur from Bagdogra, West Bengal, began his journey with SODES in 2024 with a clear vision—to bridge the digital divide and make essential digital literacy, banking services, technology awareness, and skill development accessible to people in rural communities.

Through the SODES Digital Literacy and Digital Library Program, Saikat has been actively contributing to the empowerment of villagers by helping them understand and confidently use digital technologies in their everyday lives. His efforts have particularly benefited women, senior citizens, Self-Help Group (SHG) members, students, and other community members, enabling them to access digital services and opportunities with greater confidence.

Beyond digital literacy, Saikat has played an important role in community mobilisation and awareness initiatives. He actively encourages local residents to participate in programmes related to cybersecurity awareness, digital safety, social responsibility, skill development, and responsible use of the internet. He also supports aspiring students by facilitating access to the internet and digital learning resources, helping them pursue education and develop skills for a better future.



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@ www.sodes.in

8130247610

✉ info@sodes.in



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