Our Goals

We work to bring:

- Full employment: to achieve economic, food and social security
- Self-reliance: economic self-sufficiency and equitable roles in decision making at the inclusive and in collective levels

Our Role

We achieve this by:

- Strengthening local SEWAs by investing in capacity building and execute new programmes
- Developing new SEWAs by identifying and measuring local demands and needs
- Sharing experience and knowledge across various SEWA members, local SEWA teams and public, private, and social organisations
- Building a national SEWA identity to advocate the rights of women across India

Women in the Informal Economy

The informal sector employs over 90% of India's female workforce in unregulated conditions. Despite being the majority in the informal economy, women face the majority of economic and social risks, including inconsistent and low wages, dangerous working conditions, no social security, low rates of education and high rates of poverty.

SEWA Bharat

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SEWA Bharat is a national federation of organisations of women workers from the informal economy.
Programs and Activities

SEWA supports five interconnected development programs that cohesively solve systemic and individual inequalities that women in the informal sector face.

Organising Capacity Building and Advocacy

SEWA Bharat organises communities of women, empowers them as leaders, and helps them form livelihood-based trade committees to bring their concerns and issues to government and media attention. SEWA Bharat helps policy makers create, adopt, and implement strategies to protect informal women workers’ rights.

Livelihood Promotion and Social Enterprise Development

SEWA Bharat creates market linkages for women producers to make their livelihoods sustainable. Women are supported in establishing their own trade committees and cooperatives to give them control and ownership over their products and business.

Skill and Youth Development

To break the cycle of poverty, SEWA Bharat facilitates accessible skill building opportunities for young women and girls through vocational training centers, polytechnic academies, and skill-building programmes that blend technical and soft-skills that are necessary to thrive in the workplace.

Health and Social Security

SEWA Bharat supports the existing government health and social service system and fills in the gaps caused by social and systematic restrictions. SEWA operates community centers that connect women to existing welfare schemes and runs health camps and sessions to identify and refer potential health risks to underserved communities.

Community Led Microfinance

SEWA Bharat invests in its members’ financial literacy so they can be financially independent and empowered. SEWA operates self-help groups, cooperatives, and banking correspondent models that address specific communities’ needs.

Eleven Points of SEWA

SEWA development activities aim to achieve eleven points:

1. Employment  
2. Income  
3. Nutritious Food  
4. Healthcare  
5. Housing  
6. Assets  
7. Organised Strength  
8. Leadership  
9. Self-reliance  
10. Education  
11. Childcare