

MAHARANI CHIMNABAI STREE UDHYOGALAYA

# **Nari Ki Savari** Wheels of Freedom-License to Drive







## About Nari ki Savari

- Nari Ki Savari: Empowering Women Through Driving Skills is an initiative of Shri Maharani Chimnabai Stree Udyogalaya(SMCSU), Vadodara in collaboration with Cosmo Foundation, the idea was conceived by SMCSU. This project provides training of Two wheeler and Four wheeler driving, along with license acquistion, confidence buildup and softskill development. Additionally, participants receive training from the local traffic police on traffic norms and personal safety guidance from the SHE team. Initially, the project aimed for urban women, but as urban areas already offer multiple opportunities, the program expanded to rural women of Vadodara (Karjan), where Cosmo Foundation has already been serving the people.
- Through Nari Ki Savari, Cosmo Foundation has empowered numerous women by equipping them with driving skills, fostering self-reliance, employment opportunities, and enhanced mobility.

## Orientation

A pre-launched orientation meeting was held with 20 women participants, where they were briefed about the training program, job placements, and future opportunities for entrepreneurship. Her Highness Radhika Raje Gaikwad, founder of this dream project motivated women to break the stereotypes and take up this unique opportunity.



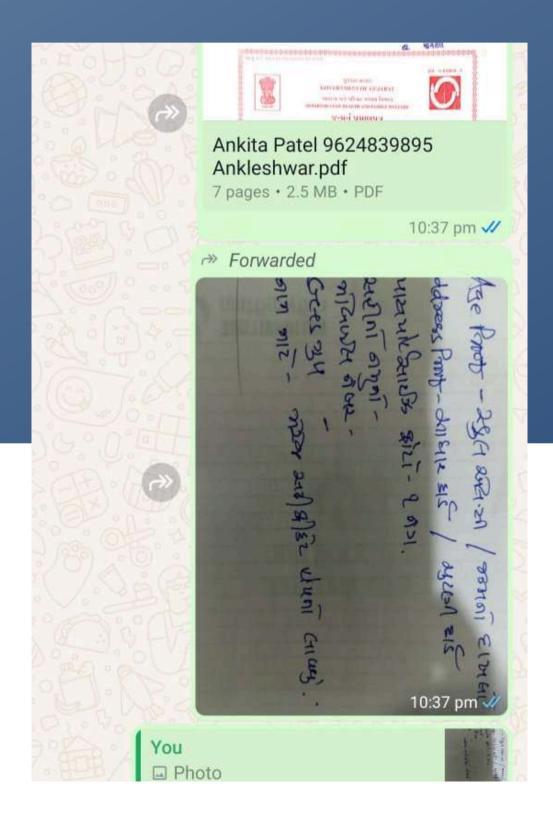


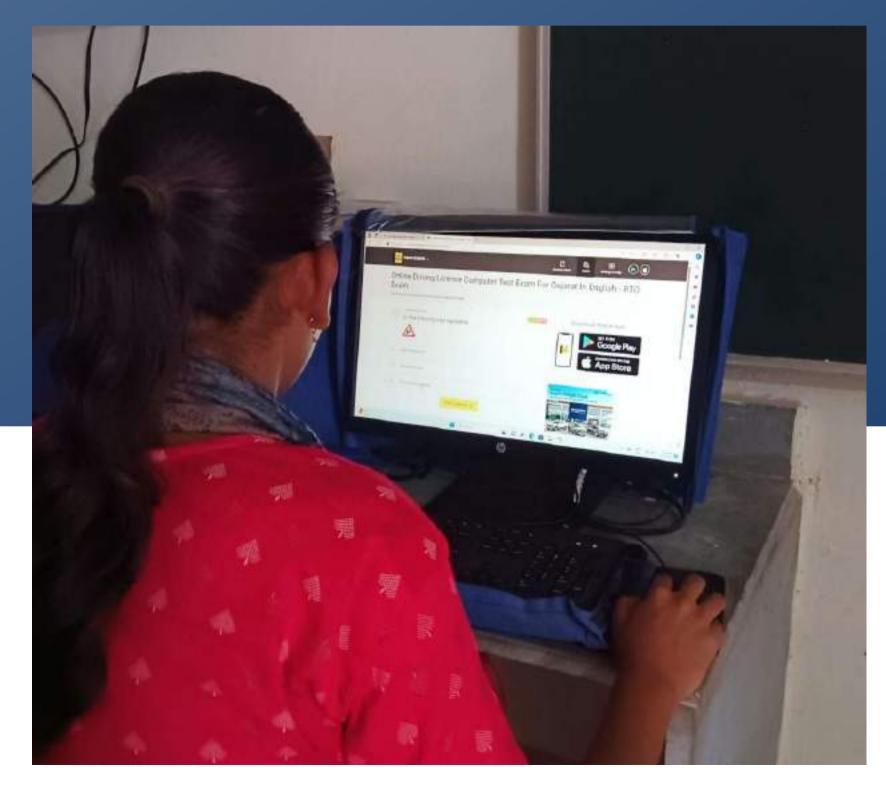
# Practising Driving on the Simulator





# Training for Online Test





#### DIBINAL GUARDO

S This message was deleted 9:46 pm

#### Atin\_Mac\_Cosmo

ગુજરાત રાજ્ય માટે ઓનલાઇન ડાઇવિંગ લાયસન્સ કમ્પ્યુટર ટેસ્ટ પરીક્ષા ગુજરાતી માં ઉપલબ્ધ - આરટી... આરટીઓ લર્નિંગ લાયસન્સ પરીક્ષા ગુજરાત રાજ્ય માટે વાસ. www.rtcexarti.com

https://www.rtoexam.com/gujarat/gu /exam 9.50 pm

આ લિંક પર ક્લિક કરશો તો આપણે લાઇસન્સ ની પરીક્ષા આપવા જાવ તો કેવા પ્રશ્નો આવે તે જાણો 9:50 pm

#### Bdha ae sikhi levu aapre 2 divas ma jaeshu 9:52 pm 🗸

dharmistha cosmo

Ok

A Magaga

9:53 pm

Atin\_Mac\_Cosmo

\_Atin\_Mac\_Cosmo https://www.rtoexam.com/gujarat/gu /exam

આપણે ઓનલાઈન ટેસ્ટ આપીએ તો ૧૫ પ્રશ્નોમાંથી ૧૦ પ્રશ્નો સાચા પાડવા જોઈએ

10:00 pm

100

22 February 2024

Aavti kale bdha ae 10 vage karjan chokdi

# License Secured









|                    | -                                  | STEW.                |               |       |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------|
| 01.144             | GION 201                           | 1062733              | 10            |       |
| 1000               | t No.(Reyn<br>tus validity<br>sity | PARTICIPACIÓN DE CAR | 8<br>1)<br>1  |       |
| Orea of<br>Vehicle | Ciede                              | Assued by            | Date of Issue | Vonic |
| _                  | HCMIDS                             | -                    |               | M     |
| +                  | LMN                                | 4134                 | 17-11-2936    | -     |
|                    |                                    |                      |               |       |
| mengency           | Cortact No.                        | IDer:                |               |       |
|                    |                                    |                      |               |       |







## **Driving Transformation at Work-Preeti Lalvani`s Story**

Preeti Lalwani, a resident of Vadodara, faced profound challenges when her husband was diagnosed with cancer. The family's savings were depleted by his medical treatments, leaving Preeti to shoulder the responsibilities of the household alone after he passed away. As the primary breadwinner, she navigated the difficulties of supporting her children while managing her own grief and uncertainty.

SHE Team, enhancing her confidence and independence. secure a stable income.

a working woman.

Preeti's story stands as a powerful testament to resilience, illustrating the profound impact of skill development on women's empowerment. "All roads are open for me," she proudly declares, expressing her deep gratitude to the Cosmo Foundation for enabling her to reclaim her life and fulfill her responsibilities.

#### Preeti Lalwani, Vadodara

Before, Preeti worked as a saleswoman in marketing. However, the constant need to switch between auto-rickshaws, vans, and private vehicles hindered her ability to reach clients effectively. Family obligations further restricted her capacity to take on additional work.

Everything changed when Preeti enrolled in the Cosmo Foundation's driving training program, Nari Ki Sawari. Through this initiative, she learned to operate a four-wheeler and successfully obtained her RTO driving license. Alongside driving skills, she also received self-defense training from the

With the support of the Cosmo Foundation, Preeti applied for a car loan and mastered the administrative tasks necessary for purchasing her vehicle. This was a pivotal moment in her journey; not only did it symbolize her newfound independence, but it also provided her with the means to

Today, Preeti works for Swiggy as a food delivery driver, a role that perfectly aligns with her skills and new-found freedom. "I can now explore the vastness of the world, reaching places I couldn't before, and earn a good income to support my children," she shares.

Working with Swiggy has not only offers her financial stability but also a sense of purpose and accomplishment. She navigates the bustling streets of Vadodara with confidence, delivering food orders efficiently while connecting with her community. This role has allowed her to engage with various neighborhoods and customers, enhancing her social network and increasing her visibility as

## From Anganwadi Worker to Confident Entrepreneur: Parul's Journey with CF

Parul Patel, a resident of Por village, once worked as an Anganwadi worker, dedicating her time to the well-being of children in her community. When she transitioned to a new opportunity as a pottery maker at a nearby company. However, the distance from her village to the company posed a significant challenge.

Each day, Parul had to navigate long, uncomfortable journeys in overcrowded buses and rickshaws, making her commute not only physically exhausting but unreliable. Parul found herself at a crossroads, unsure of how to sustain her job while balancing the demands of travel.

Her turning point came when she discovered the Nari Ki Sawari initiative, a unique program by Cosmo Foundation aimed at empowering rural women by teaching them how to drive. With determination, she dedicated herself to the training, mastering the skills required to drive a four-wheeler. After weeks of diligent practice, she successfully passed her driving exam and proudly received her driver's license.

Today, she secured a loan to purchase her own four, allowing her to travel effortlessly to and from her workplace. She enjoys the freedom of driving her own car, giving her control over her time and energy.

Beyond the practical benefits, learning to drive has given Parul a sense of empowerment and confidence. She now takes pride in her ability to manage her job and her household without the stress of transportation holding her back.

Parul's journey is a testament to how life-changing initiatives like Nari Ki Sawari by Cosmo Foundation can be. From struggling with daily commutes to driving her own vehicle, Parul's success story is one of resilience, growth, and empowerment which continues to uplift women like her across rural India.

#### Parulben Patel, Por, Karjan







## Reviving Dreams: Ila's Journey from Helplessness to Empowerment

Ila Vasava, a dedicated woman from Kurali village, once found herself in a challenging position. She and her husband ran a small tea stall at Kurali Chowkdi, supplying tea and snacks to 6 to 7 companies in the nearby industrial area. Their daily routine involved delivering tea three times a day to these companies, and though the business was humble, it was their main source of livelihood. But life took a difficult turn when her husband suffered a severe diabetic attack that led to surgery, making it hard for him to continue his part in the business. Ila, who had also been working as a BalMitra with Cosmo Foundation, suddenly found herself juggling the responsibilities of managing the household, looking after their children, and running the tea stall—all while coping with her husband's health issues. The struggle of balancing everything, paired with the challenges of relying on public transportation, left her feeling helpless. Without a way to efficiently deliver tea, their small business began to falter. That's when Cosmo Foundation's Nari Ki Sawari initiative changed IIa's life. Enrolling in the program, Ila learned to drive, mastering everything from basic driving skills to advanced traffic rules and strategies. She diligently completed the course, acquired her driving license, and gained a skill that not only revived their tea business but transformed her entire life. Now, with her newly acquired driving abilities, Ila can personally deliver tea to companies on time, ensuring that the business runs smoothly despite her husband's condition. "Learning to drive has allowed me to become the backbone of our business and household," Ila shared. "I can support my husband, manage our deliveries, and still take care of my family." Ila's determination and resilience have helped her take on two roles at once-business partner and Balmitra. "Cosmo Foundation has changed my life completely," she says. "They taught me skills I never thought I could learn, and their support has made me self-sufficient. I'm grateful beyond words for the opportunity to grow and for their continued dedication to empowering women like me."

Ila has not only strengthened her family business but also become an empowered woman, embracing her new role with strength and talent.

#### Ilaben Vasava, Village: Kurali, Karjan

## Driving Her Destiny: Urvi Patel's Journey to Independence

Urvi Patel, a resident of Bharuch, holding an MBA and working as an HR professional in Ankleshwar. Her daily travel from Bharuch to Ankleshwar was far from easy. Initially, she and her husband would travel together as they both worked in the same area. However, when her husband's job required him to move frequently, Urvi was left to navigate the busy streets of Ankleshwar on her own, relying on rickshaws and other forms of public transport.

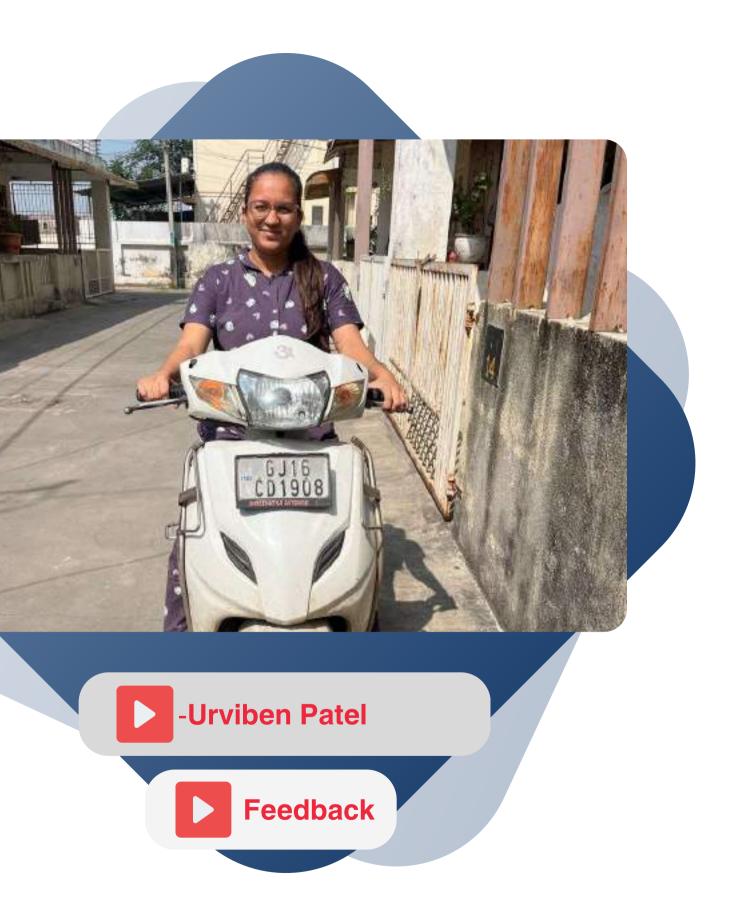
The daily routine of changing vehicles and battling traffic became overwhelming. Visiting various companies as part of her HR responsibilities was becoming harder, and the thought of quitting or switching jobs crossed her mind more than once.

That's when Urvi discovered Cosmo Foundation's Nari Ki Sawari initiative, which trains women to drive and empowers them to achieve independence. Determined to take control of her commute and career, Urvi enrolled in the program. With dedication, she learned to drive, and after successfully passing her exam, she proudly received her driving license.

Today, Urvi's life has transformed. She now drives her own car to work, confidently managing her HR duties and client visits across Ankleshwar. The convenience and independence that come with owning her vehicle have given her a newfound sense of freedom.

"I'm incredibly grateful to Cosmo Foundation for giving me this opportunity," Urvi shares. "Thanks to Nari Ki Sawari, I can now manage all my duties independently, traveling to Ankleshwar GIDC without relying on anyone." Urvi's story is a powerful example of how the right support and determination can turn daily struggles into a journey of independence and success. With Cosmo Foundation by her side, she has turned her challenges into triumphs.

#### **Urviben Patel, Bharuch**





## **A Journey of Independence and Growth: Bhumikaben Patel's Story**

Bhumikaben Patel, from a small village - Kolyad (18 kms from Karjan), once faced immense challenges due to the lack of transportation options. Every day, she would spend hours waiting by the highway for a ride, which was time-consuming and frustrating. The absence of auto rickshaws only made things worse, affecting both her daily routine and her ability to support her family.

Her husband, who works as a school van driver, often had to take sick leaves due to his health treatments. Each time this happened, his salary was reduced, putting further strain on the family's finances. Bhumikaben, determined to make a difference, enrolled in the Nari Ki Sawari program by Cosmo Foundation, where she learned to drive both four-wheelers. With utmost support of CF team she gave online exam of driving licence, physical test and passed it in first attempt.

"I used to waste so much time waiting for transportation, and when my husband got sick, it became even harder for us to make ends meet. But now that I've learned to drive, I not only help with household tasks but also assist my husband in picking up and dropping off students," says Bhumikaben.

With both of them driving, they've been able to manage their responsibilities more efficiently, balancing work and family life equally. Bhumikaben's ability to drive has made her a valuable partner in her husband's school transportation business, and together, they are planning to take it a step further. "We're now planning to work in two or three shifts, rotating between us. With both of us able to drive, we can take on more students and increase our income," Bhumikaben explains.

The confidence to drive on highways and manage her time efficiently has not only boosted her self-esteem but also improved her family's financial situation. "I am seen in a new light in my village. We now plan to invest in another car to expand our business. Cosmo Foundation has truly guided us toward a brighter future," Bhumikaben shares proudly. Bhumikaben's journey is a testament to the transformative power of learning a new skill. With the help of Nari Ki Sawari, she has gained independence, earned the respect of her community, and improved her family's livelihood. Bhumikaben Patel, Village: Koliyad, Karjan

### **Driving Her Family Forward: Kailash Parmar's Story**

Kailashben Parmar, a residence of Khandha village - Karjan is a dedicated Balmitra and English Trainee Teachers at Cosmo Foundation, contributing to both the CGVK and BEP programs in Khandha Primary School. Her husband works as an auto rickshaw driver, transporting passengers and students from village to village. However, his health issues, particularly recurring kidney stones, have led to surgeries that often leave Kailashben as the sole breadwinner for their family. Balancing her husband's health challenges, her children's education, and her own job responsibilities, she found herself overwhelmed but determined to improve their situation.

Realizing the need to enhance her skills to better support her family, Kailashben was excited to learn about the Nari Ki Sawari project offered by Cosmo Foundation. She enrolled with the dream of owning a car and becoming a proficient driver, not only to assist her husband but to pursue her passion for driving too.

Through the program, Kailashben acquired essential driving skills, successfully cleared her driving exam, and obtained her license. She also learned to operate a three-wheeler auto rickshaw, which significantly enhanced her family's income potential. "Today, my driving skills have helped my husband arrange more fares, and our income has risen," she remarked.

She can now commute independently to different villages in Karjan for work-related meetings, saving her precious time and energy. Moreover, she efficiently manages the school drop-offs and pick-ups for other students of her village while balancing her husband's schedule, ensuring a stable and dedicated service for their villagers in Khandha.

With deep gratitude, she concludes, "I thank Cosmo Foundation for recognizing my abilities and empowering me to become self-sufficient."

#### Kailashben Parmar, Khandha, Karjan



#### **Kailashben Parmar**





## **Breaking Barriers: How Meenakshi Took the Wheel of Change**

returned home," Meenakshi shared. need for evening trips.

"By preparing food on time, we can all sit together and eat properly," she explained, highlighting the joy of family bonding that she previously struggled to maintain. Moreover, Meenakshi can now assist her children and neighbors when they need to go somewhere urgently, eliminating the reliance on her husband for transportation. Meenakshi is profoundly grateful for the opportunities that Cosmo Foundation has provided for women like her. "It is a very bearable situation now. I do not have to wait for my husband to come home for my work," she emphasized. Through the support and training from Cosmo Foundation, Meenakshi has not only gained the ability to drive but has also empowered herself and her family, enriching their lives and enhancing their wellbeing. "I am very thankful to Cosmo Foundation for thinking of us women," she concluded with heartfelt gratitude.

#### Meenakshi Padhiyar, Village: Khandha, Karjan

Meenakshi Patiyar, a dedicated woman from Khandha village, leads a simple yet fulfilling life with her family. She works as Balmitra in Cosmo Foundation and her husband works in a company. Along with it they together they care for five cows and buffaloes. However, the daily task of sourcing grass for their livestock posed significant challenges, especially after a long day at work. "It was difficult to go to the farm after 6 o'clock when my husband

Her life took a transformative turn when she enrolled in the driving program - Nari ki Sawari offered by Cosmo Foundation. She acquire 4 wheelers driving skills and based on it learned to drive an autorickshaw too. "Learning to drive has made my work so much easier," she said. With her newfound skills, Meenakshi now owns an auto rickshaw, allowing her to independently manage her daily tasks. She can travel to the farm with her own vehicle and bring back food for her cows and buffaloes in the afternoon, avoiding the

## Driving Transformation at Work: Dharmishthaben's Journey

Dharmishtha Prakada, a dedicated resident of Mangrol village, has been a Balmitra with Cosmo Foundation for six years. Her exceptional performance and dedication earned her a promotion to cluster coordinator, where she manages multiple responsibilities across the villages of Mangrol and Karjan. However, the demands of her role required extensive travel, often involving changing 2 to 3 public transport options. This led to delays and drained her energy, challenging her ability to set an example as a leader.

Determined to improve her situation, Dharmishtha enrolled in the Naari Ki Sawari project by Cosmo Foundation, where she learned to drive four-wheelers. Thanks to dedicated training and access to the Cosmo Foundation computer lab, she successfully passed her online driving license exam. "The guidance and resources provided by Cosmo were invaluable," she shares.

Now, Dharmishtha drives her own car confidently, saving time and energy while navigating both villages and highways. Her newfound skills have transformed her life; she earns greater respect and dignity from her in-laws and community. "I am immensely grateful to Cosmo Foundation for empowering me with skills that have changed my life," she concludes, embodying the essence of empowerment and resilience.

#### Dharmishtha Prakada, Village Mangrol, Karjan









## **Driving Towords a Future: Sakera's** journey of overcoming Societal Norms

Sakera Malek, young 22 years old girl, a resident of Kanbha village faced significant challenges while pursuing her education and work opportunities. With her college located 14 kilometers away, she often spent a considerable amount of time traveling back and forth. "It was difficult for me to reach on time for meetings, training, or even extra work," she recalls, feeling the pressure of juggling her studies and responsibilities. In her Muslim community, where women traditionally do not drive, Sakera felt constrained by societal norms. Many of her peers were unable to access transportation independently, limiting their opportunities for growth. However, her perspective shifted dramatically when she learned about the driving training (Nari ki Sawari - A four wheeler driving course) offered by the Cosmo Foundation. Having faith on Cosmo Foundation from more a decade her parents allowed her to pursue this training. "The driving lessons we received made all my work easier," she shares, highlighting how the program not only taught her driving skills but also instilled a sense of confidence.

Through the Naari Ki Sawari initiative, Sakera learned to drive both two-wheelers and fourwheelers, ultimately earning her license. "Thanks to the Cosmo Foundation, I can go to college by car without fear," she expresses gratefully, emphasizing the freedom and independence she has gained.

Now, Sakera confidently drives to college, attends meetings, and engages in training sessions without the fear of relying on public transportation. Her journey symbolizes empowerment, breaking barriers, and challenging societal norms even belonging from Muslim community. Sakera's story proves that with the right support, women can drive their futures forward, redefining their roles in society and fostering a culture of independence and self-sufficiency. Her gratitude towards the Cosmo Foundation reflects the profound difference that access to education and resources can make in the lives of women striving for a better tomorrow.

#### Sakera Malek, Village: Kanbha, Karjan

## Fire on Wheel : A story of Karishma Baig

Karishma, have been working as a computer teacher at the Foundation in Choranda village for the past two years. I had to travel to nearby villages to take classes, which was challenging due to our village being very interior and me being from a Muslim community, making it difficult for me to learn to drive. We didn't have access to transportation, and after the lockdown, the only means of transportation, the train, was also stopped. Joining the Women's Project by Cosmo Foundation, I received two-wheeler training and learned many traffic rules. Being a girl, no one paid attention to my license, but thanks to the Cosmo Foundation's Women's Empowerment Project, I got my license. Now I can easily travel to other villages for classes and training.

Karishma Baig, Village: Choranda, Karjan



#### Karishma Baig

#### Feedback

15



## Flying Rani on two Wheeler: Humera's Story

Humera Pathan from Joranda village. I work as an English and computer teacher at the Cosmo Foundation. Initially, I was sent to another village for training, but due to the interior location of our village, I faced a lot of difficulties in commuting. There are no transportation facilities available, and it was not possible to travel back and forth from home every time. I was worried that I might have to quit my job, but during that time, I got the opportunity to join the Cosmo Foundation's "Nari ki Sawari" project. Under this project, I received complete training in two-wheelers, and I also learned many traffic rules. Additionally, I received training for the license process and online exams at the RTO, which was also provided by the Cosmo Foundation. I passed the RTO exam and obtained my license. I am extremely grateful to the foundation for this support."

Humera Pathan, Village: Choranda. Karjan



## Driving Change: Smriti's Journey to Empowerment and Balance

Smriti, a Union Bank Ioan m was recently transferred, leav in-laws and two children—or became a constant juggling a Her job, located in a remote through unreliable public tran work, which not only put her j punctuality or quit. Even thou stuck and stressed.

That's when she discovered Nari Ki Sawari, women by teaching them to drive 4 wheelers. in the program. With dedication and support her exam, and received her license in no time. Today, Smriti confidently drives herself to w once threatened her job. Not only has she become more efficient in managing her house car's daily service and maintenance, which he allows me to pick up and drop off my children to Smriti's work efficiency has significantly implifocus on her responsibilities. "Thanks to Cos My commute is no longer a burden, and I can rely on others. I save time, manage everyth gratefully.

Smriti's story is a powerful testament to how Cosmo Foundation's Nari Ki Sawari initiative empowers women to overcome their daily struggles and take control of their lives.

Smriti Belani, Vadodara

Smriti, a Union Bank loan manager from Bihar, faced numerous challenges when her husband was recently transferred, leaving her to manage everything on her own. Living in Karjan with her in-laws and two children—one of whom is 6 years old and physically challenged. Smriti's life became a constant juggling act between her demanding job and her household responsibilities.

Her job, located in a remote village 30-35 kilometers from Karjan, required a daily commute through unreliable public transport. Smriti relied on buses and rickshaws, often arriving late to work, which not only put her job at risk but led to an official notice asking her to either improve her punctuality or quit. Even though her family owned a car, Smriti couldn't drive, leaving her feeling

That's when she discovered Nari Ki Sawari, an initiative by Cosmo Foundation that empowers women by teaching them to drive 4 wheelers. Determined to change her situation, Smriti enrolled in the program. With dedication and support from Cosmo, she quickly learned to drive, passed her exam, and received her license in no time.

Today, Smriti confidently drives herself to work, eliminating the transportation challenges that once threatened her job. Not only has she saved her position at the bank, but she has also become more efficient in managing her household and caring for her children. "I take care of my car's daily service and maintenance, which helps me stay on top of things," she shares. "It also allows me to pick up and drop off my children from school, making life much easier."

Smriti's work efficiency has significantly improved as she now arrives on time and can better focus on her responsibilities. "Thanks to Cosmo Foundation, I feel self-sufficient and in control. My commute is no longer a burden, and I can manage everything on my own. I no longer have to rely on others. I save time, manage everything myself, and feel self-sufficient."" Smriti says

## Driving Toward a Future: Sundarben's Journey of Resilience and Independence

Driving Toward a New Future: Sundarben's Journey of Resilience and Independence Sundarben, a resident of Baroda and a mother of two, faced unimaginable challenges when her husband, the family's sole breadwinner and a washerman, passed away. With no source of income, Sundarben was left uncertain about how she would provide for her children. The weight of responsibility fell on her shoulders, and the future seemed overwhelming.

At this critical point, Sundarben learned about Cosmo Foundation's Nari Ki Sawari program, an initiative designed to empower women by teaching them how to drive. Determined to create a better future, she enrolled in the program and quickly acquired driving skills. This newfound ability opened up a world of possibilities for Sundarben, transforming not only her outlook but also her laundry business.

Now, with the ability to drive, Sundarben can personally pick up and deliver clothes for her clients, making her services more efficient and reliable. She proudly shares, "My old clients have gained more trust in me because of my eagerness to learn and grow. I've been getting more work, and as I started commuting to different areas, I gained more clients and orders too."

Sundarben plans to take out a loan to purchase her own car, which will allow her to further expand her business and secure a stable income for her family. "I didn't know how I was going to support my children after my husband passed away," Sundarben says. "But thanks to Cosmo Foundation, I've learned to drive, and it has opened so many new doors for me. I can now manage my work and take care of my children on my own."

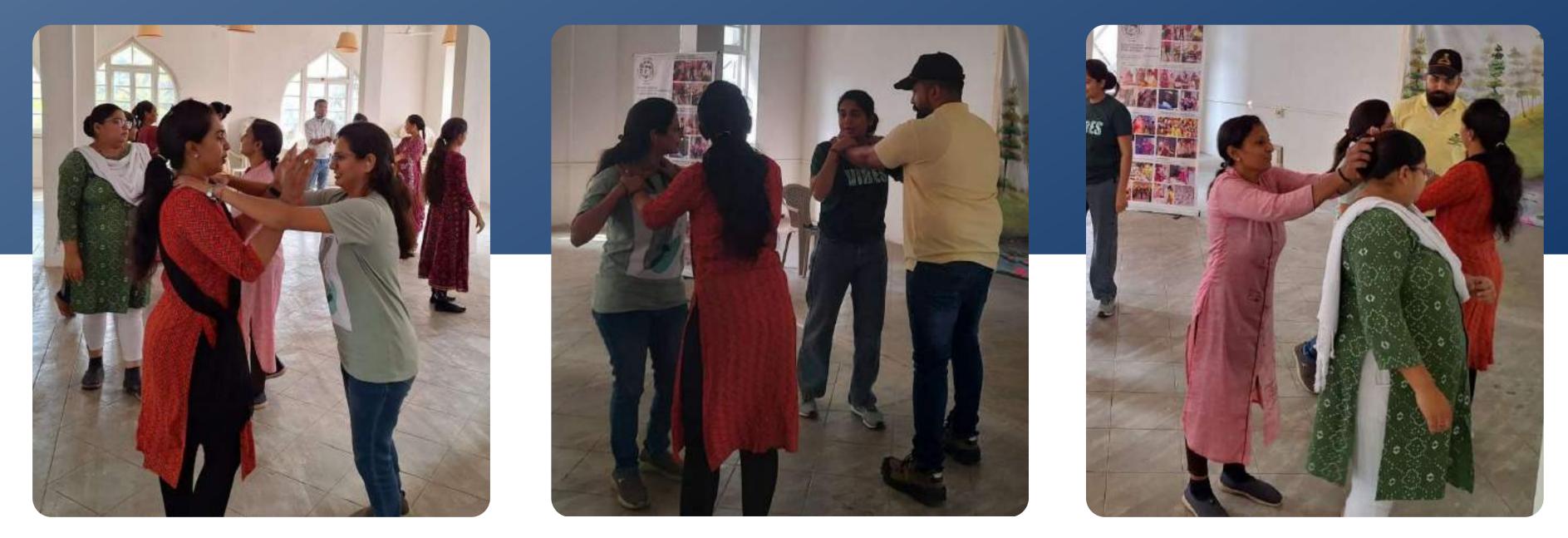
With a brighter future ahead, Sundarben's story is a testament to the power of the Nari Ki Sawari program, which has enabled her to turn her life around. "Cosmo Foundation is truly a guiding light for me. Thank you for teaching me such a valuable skill during my crucial hour of need."

#### Sundarben Dhobi, Vadodara



## Training on Personal Safety by SHE Team

Self-Defence Training for Women Drivers 20 women who were enrolled in a four-wheeler driving course under the Nari Ki Sawari program at Maharani Chimnabai Stree Udhyogalay participated in a week-long self-defence course. The one-day workshop was organized by SHE Team (Women Police Team).

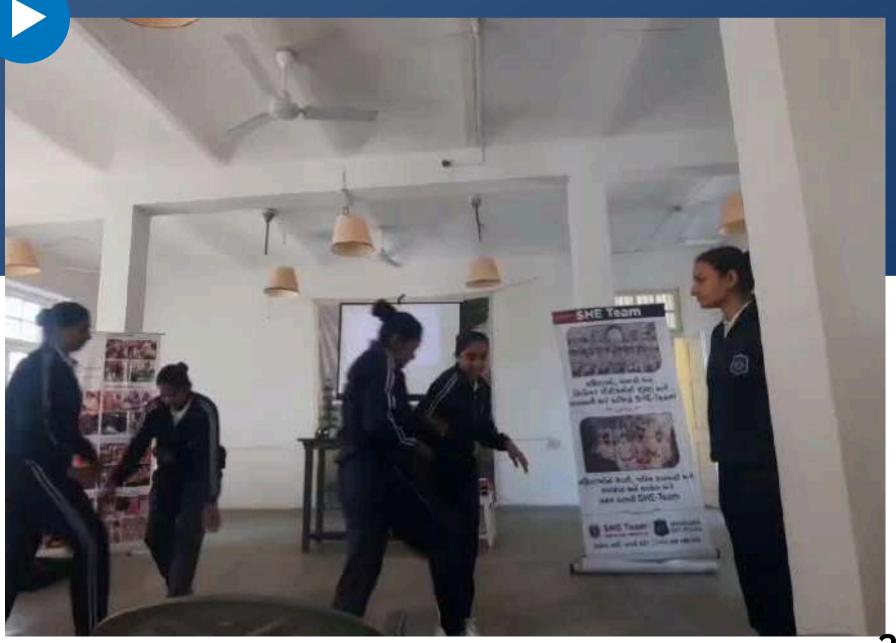


## Training on Personal Safety by SHE Team

The one-day workshop was organized by SHE Team (Women Police Team) to equip women with essentail safety skills, boosting their confidence and empowering them to handle reallife situations, fostering a sense of security and empwermentin the community.





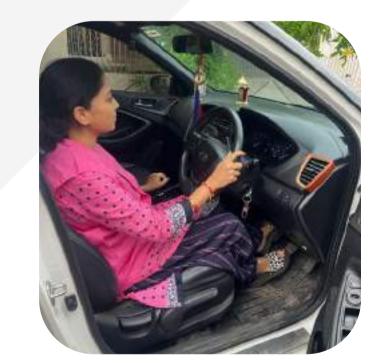


## **License Details**

#### AcquiredTwo 18 wheeler License Women Four wheeler License 8 Women **Under process**

Women were also given training for the online exam for the License acquistion through Cosmo Foundation's special E- service center.











### **Acquired Four** wheeler License





## Connect with us.

 $\searrow$ 

**Email** cosmo\_foundation@yahoo.in



Website

www.cosmofoundation.in



Social Media cosmofoundation/

