



# Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi

*Organised*

## Community Outreach Training Programme under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

### Report

**Date & Time:** 18 March 2026 | 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Venue:** K. C. Choudhary Memorial Hall, IAEA, New Delhi

**Organized by:** *Indian Adult Education Association (IAEA), New Delhi*

#### **Background & Overview**

The Indian Adult Education Association (IAEA), New Delhi, organized a Community Outreach Training Programme under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan on 18 March 2026. The programme witnessed participation from more than 60 students, research scholars, and academicians from leading universities of Delhi, including the University of Delhi, IPU, and Jamia Millia Islamia. The programme aimed to create a platform for dialogue on innovative strategies for community outreach and grassroots engagement.



#### **Inaugural Session**

The programme commenced with a one-minute silence for world peace. This was followed by a welcome address by **Prof. L. Raja, President, IAEA**, who emphasized the significance of lifelong learning and community participation in achieving inclusive education, in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

**Prof. P. Adinarayana Reddy**, Vice President, IAEA, highlighted the importance of institutional outreach in bridging the gap between academic knowledge and societal needs. Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge, IAEA, elaborated on the objectives of the programme and briefly discussed initiatives related to Community Learning Centres, emphasizing their role in strengthening grassroots education.

### **Key Presentations and Models of Community Outreach**

The programme featured insightful presentations focusing on practical and innovative approaches to community outreach, particularly addressing challenges such as low awareness levels and limited last-mile reach.

A key presentation by **Shri Bhuvan Chadra** and **Shri Anuj Goswami** introduced the **Shiksha for Adults Model by the Shiv Nadar Foundation**. The model emphasises the use of ICT tools to promote adult literacy and awareness among underserved communities. The speakers highlighted the role of digital platforms, in expanding outreach. They also discussed a structured approach involving *planning, preparation, execution, and certification* to ensure effective implementation. The model aims to strengthen last-mile connectivity and enhance participation in the local economy.

Another presentation by **Ms. Shiva Singh from Plan India** focused on a gender-transformative approach to community intervention. She highlighted the importance of



awareness, protection, and empowerment of girls and young women, along with promoting gender equity through community engagement. The use of tools such as storytelling and community-based learning resources was emphasised to improve awareness and participation. The session also briefly highlighted the **The Birds and Bees Talk (TBBT)** programme, focusing on awareness generation and behavioural change at the community level

Overall, the presentations highlighted the importance of inclusive, participatory, and technology-driven approaches in strengthening community outreach and achieving sustainable development. The interactive nature of the session encouraged active participation, with attendees raising several questions and engaging in meaningful discussions.

### **Valedictory Session**

Concluding remarks were delivered by **Smt. Nishat Farooq**, who shared her experiences of community outreach, highlighting practical challenges and learnings from the field and **Dr. V. Mohankumar**, who appreciated the active participation and encouraged continued engagement in community initiatives. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by **Shri Suresh Khandelwal**, followed by certificate distribution and high tea.

### Programme Coordination

The session was effectively coordinated and moderated by **Shri. Vivek Kumar Chahar**, Research Scholar, University of Delhi. Technical support was provided by **Shri. Kripal Singh Mehra**, Programme Associate, with active participation from **Shri. Sanjay**, Research Officer and **Ms. Neha Gupta**, Documentation Officer, IAEA, contributing to the smooth conduct of the programme

### Recommendations and Way Forward

1. The programme decided to explore various other models of community outreach at both national and international levels.
2. The tool developed by IAEA, under the guidance of **Prof. L. Raja, Prof. K. Parthasarathy, Prof. Rajesh, Dr. Nishat Farooq, and Mr. Suresh Khandelwal**, was planned to circulate among 41 universities and departments of Adult Education and feedback was incorporated by **Mr. Vivek Kumar Chahar**.
3. A pilot study will be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the tool, followed by strengthening and intensifying community-based interventions.

### Some glimpses of the event

