## THE TIMES OF INDIA

## Educated tribal women empowered as 'Sanginis' to assist growth in community

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MUMBAI: For this small population of educated tribal women from various padas in Aarey in the western suburbs of Mumbai, it is an opportunity to feel empowered and to contribute towards helping their community grow.

With the assistance from Adani Foundation which launched "Meri Sangini-Meri Margdarshika" project on Saturday, these women are set to become change makers.

It was only few months back that Adani Electricity had brought light to the homes in several padas which were deprived of electricity for past several decades. And now the Foundation was creating and nurturing women leaders from the community, who can then become changemakers. Meri Sangini, Meri Margdarshika' will be implemented in Tilak Nagar and Aarey Colony on a pilot basis.

"As a Sangini, the community volunteers will be given knowledge and skills through trainings to act as per counsellors and advisors. Sanginis will work on social issues like domestic violence, while acting as a bridge to connect the people with the government agencies and schemes," said Sushama Oza, director, Adani Foundation.

"We also observed that there are close to 400 schemes of state government as well as Central government available for citizens of India and not many are aware about this. Through Sanginis, we want to create awareness about these schemes and let people take benefit of these schemes. Our Sanginis will explain women from Mumbai about the schemes and who are

eligible, what documents that would be required and how to fill the physical form and where to submit and in which department," she added.