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### Problem Statement

"India ranks 173 out of 181 countries globally in female labour force participation. Some experts opine that this is one of the biggest levers to thrust India's GDP per capita significantly forward. However, the challenges towards fixing this outcome aren't simple.

How would you go about understanding and solving for them? Try to devise a solution in the form of a service or product that would help curb this issue."

#### Why this PS?

- Alarming statistics
- Burning issue
- Better accessibility of users
- Prior knowledge / experience

# Empathise

Surveyed **41 Women** across India majorly from Nashik, Bhopal & Baramati

#### Stakeholders:

- Female Community
- Family Members, Relatives
- Government
- Company Coworkers
- Society

#### Sample set chosen:

- 21 Unemployed (Housewives)
- 12 Employed/Small Businesses
- 8 Family members

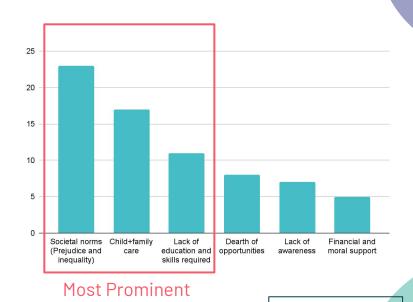
#### Methodology

- Prepared a thorough questionnaire based on our understanding of the problem
- The questions were specific yet open ended, neutrally phrased and encouraged elaboration
- Met some stakeholders in rural and urban areas, and talked to some of them on phones
- Took notes, recorded the conversations,
  listened them again more thoughtfully

## Define

### Major Problems Identified:

- Societal norms (Prejudice and inequality)
- 2. Child+family care
- 3. Lack of education and skills required
- 4. Dearth of opportunities
- 5. Lack of awareness of schemes
- 6. Financial and moral support



### Ideate

#### **Women Community Platform**

- Provision of employment opportunities and skill training
- Elevation of women's willpower and self confidence
- Unification in solving emotional, economical, societal crisis
- Information exchange and knowledge transfer
- Trustworthy network and secure system

#### **Awareness Programmes**

- Literate people educating the illiterate
- Prevention of early child marriages
- Acknowledgement of Government schemes, policies
- Multisectoral Collaboration

#### **Child Care Support System**

- Local Child Care Centres
- Run by local women
- Engagement of housewives, providing job opportunities



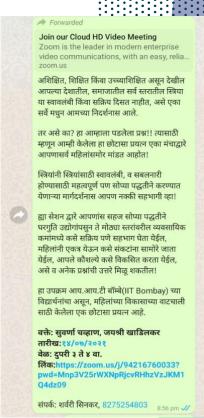
## Prototype

#### Methodology:

- Forming a local women
  community via WhatsApp
- Publicizing of awareness session
- Encouraging women to team up and start businesses



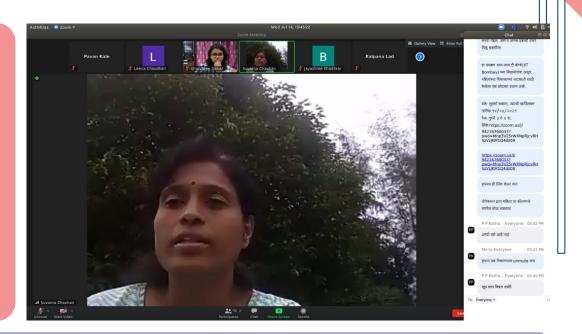
Conducted a 1.5 hr online session for spreading awareness, networking, community building and was attended by 40+ women



### **Test**

#### **Session Response**

- Active participation
- Overwhelming response
- Willingness to participate, and form community
- Validated our solution through feedback



Analysed the feedback and the responses and ideated the next iteration

## Future Plans



- Developing and refining the platform (a mobile application)
- 2. Partnering with Government NGOs, and other activists
- 3. Launching the platform, spreading awareness, and joining in more and more women on to the platform
- 4. Initiating skill training program
- 5. Bringing in Job Opportunities by involving Industries, and Companies
- 6. Monitoring and Sustaining the community, encouraging discussions, collaborations, information exchange, knowledge transfer

## Final Thoughts

We have prepared a **detailed summary report** which has proper documentation of our attempt to solve this problem. You can find the documentation <u>here</u>.

It was hard to summarise all our efforts in 5-8 slides, hence we are also attaching this report. We sincerely request you to go through it.

Finally we would like to thank ShARE for providing us with this opportunity. We really enjoyed working on this competition, and we are proud and happy that we could contribute towards women empowerment.

THANK YOU!