

## NAVCHETNA BAKERY – LIVELIHOOD GENERATION DANTEWADA (CHHATTISGARH)

**In a nutshell:** The Navchetna bakery is run exclusively by women who were trafficked and rescued, and members of transgender and differently abled community.

**Nodal agency:** District administration, Dantewada, Chhattisgarh

The district administration in Dantewada, Chhattisgarh is working towards providing inclusive employment opportunities for the vulnerable groups. Navchetna is a one-of-a-kind bakery that employs women who were trafficked and rescued, transgenders, and those who are differently abled – the district administration hopes to chart a new course with this initiative in Chhattisgarh's Dantewada.

The aim is to provide employment to vulnerable groups that does not constrain them to a routine job yet makes them self-sufficient. The Navchetna bakery supplies bread and other items to hotels and government-run canteens, as well as explore other markets.

### Highlights

- Confluence of modern baking skills and local produce.
- Ragi bars to millet brownies, a bakery with flavours of Dantewada.
- Set up at an initial cost of about ₹10 lakh, the bakery is equipped with high-end machinery.
- Ragi nutrition bars with local produce.

### Impact

- The bakery sells items which were previously unknown in the district.
- The administration is constantly upskilling these women towards model bakery skills with local produce. Earlier, any baked item in Dantewada had to be sourced from Jagdalpur, which is over 85 km away, but now the district has their own place to bake.
- The baked goods are packaged and supplied across the State and even outside.

The Navchetna bakery is working on providing both the services as well as the items that were not known in the district so far. The district is working on providing basic flavours and are experimenting with mahua, moringa and local jaggery flavours. They are also planning to use millet and other grains to make bread and brownies.



Navchetna Bakery in Dantewada