

# CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAMME

## **Adult Education**

For Gandhi, adult education means not only to teach illiterate to read and write but also to open their minds to the vastness and greatness of their country. As the villagers sometimes know nothing about their country except their own villages, Gandhi wanted to develop and broaden their vision and wanted them to know about the rich and magnificent cultural heritage of their country. Gandhi's adult education means, true political education of adult by word of mouth so that they can know that foreigner's presence is due to their own weaknesses and ignorance of power they possess to get rid of it. Through this programme, Gandhi aimed at generating this awareness in them.

## **Upliftment of Women**

In his mission of Swaraj, Gandhi needed the cooperation of women, kisans, labourers and students. So, he had planned to work amongst them through constructive programme, which was a concrete plan to generate awareness in them and get their support in the freedom struggle. He believed that the movement cannot succeed without the active participation of women. The movement of 1930-32 generated unprecedented awareness in women. It was only due to Gandhi's efforts that women came out of their houses for the first time in the history and participated in the Indian political struggle. Gandhi wanted to give women equal status as of men. He believed that men should consider themselves as women's friends and co-workers and not as their masters. He clarified that men are responsible for the suppressive state of women by custom and law. He said, "In a plan of life based on non-violence woman has as much right to shape her own destiny as man has to shape his". Gandhi wanted to change customary and legal status of women in order to put them on an equal footing with men.