

## Hosanna Vocational Training (Western Maharashtra, India)



*Teacher explaining cutting patterns June 2017*

This project ended in December 2017 and an evaluation was conducted in March 2018. What was learnt?

Outcomes: The purpose of the project was to provide opportunities for vulnerable youth through education and vocational training. The project provided access to courses in tailoring and computing. The original design had other courses but no participants took these up and the project was subsequently varied to only offer courses in tailoring and computing.

Out of a target of 25, a total of 24 tailoring participants have completed this course. Out of a target of 15, a total of 13 participants have completed the computing course. Some have started working and some want to go ahead with advanced computer courses.

From the data and meeting with tailoring course participants, the project has resulted in participants improving their income.

Impact: All of the 13 computer students have gained good skills, confidence and now have the purpose to go ahead in life.

All the tailoring course graduates have been able to either earn some income from sewing garments for their neighbours and friends or sew their/family clothes.

At a meeting where 90% of the tailoring participants were present at least 80% of the participants got up to explain how the tailoring classes had helped them. The participants spoke of gaining sewing skills, which enabled many to earn some income by sewing for neighbours and friends and able to work from home. This was important for the Muslim women as they were restricted from working outside the home. The participants also mentioned that they were able to sew for their own family which saved money. The participants spoke of gaining more confidence.

The income from sewing does vary from graduate to graduate depending on the business brought to them and their skill. Monthly income could be INR1,000 to INR3,000 (approximately AUD\$20 to AUD\$60). The charge for sewing a blouse (material supplied) was approximately INR150 (A\$3), a skirt (including the material) was INR700 (A\$14). Sewing clothes for themselves and family is a saving and also helps with their self-confidence and dignity.

**Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd.**

PO Box 341 Torrensville Plaza SA 5031

ABN: 30 455 408 814 Freecall: 1800 467 222

Phone: (+61) 08 8352 3466 Fax: (+61) 08 8234 5373

Email: [info@gmp.org.au](mailto:info@gmp.org.au) Web: [www.gmp.org.au](http://www.gmp.org.au)



To put this into context, all the participants rented and the average rent was approximately INR2,500 (A\$50) per month. Their new income from their sewing skills was a major contribution to the family's income. This has also given the participants (mainly women) confidence and dignity within the family.

### Next Step

Due to the positive results and demand arising from of the first project the second project began mid 2018 with basic tailoring and basic computing for new participants and also more advanced classes in tailoring and computing for those who have mastered the basics.

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