

# **Project Proposal to Ashraya**

## **Relief Organisation for Handicapped (ROH), Hindupur, Andhra Pradesh**

### **Vocational Training in silk weaving for the youth with disabilities**



#### **1. Organization Context**

Relief Organisation for Handicapped (ROH) (H.No. 17-6-13, New Hasnabad, Hindupur-515201, Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh, India. Phone: +91-8556-225052, Email: [roh\\_hdp@rediffmail.com](mailto:roh_hdp@rediffmail.com), Website: [http://roh\\_hdp.tripod.com](http://roh_hdp.tripod.com)). It is a registered organization under Societies Act XXI of 1860 with District Registrar in the year 1993. It is also exempted for tax under 80G and have the facility of receiving foreign contributions through FCRA registration. Mr. Nimton a visually impaired person by birth struggled in life for being disabled and poor. In the face of the problems and lack of opportunities he went on to do M.A. Litt. with gold medal and became Principal for School for the blind. Mr. Nimton along with Mr. Abshalam with a vision to promote equal opportunities and empower the lives of marginalized sections established ROH. ROH works in a span of 100 villages in Hindupur area and in the coastal villages of Prakasam district. The activities of the organization involve persons with disabilities as core target group while women and children are covered for education and income generation activities. The organization employs 25 members of staff including those at its branch office in Chirala. The major activities are inclusive education for children with disabilities, income generation trainings, self-help groups, healthcare programmes. Through its activities the organization touched about 650 disabled persons and additionally 500 persons through informal services like facilitating concessional services etc. The annual budget of the organization for 2005-06 was 5 million in which 15% from government sources, 75% from various funding agencies (domestic and international) such as GiveIndia, AID, Edukans etc. and 10% from local sources. 70% of the funds are spent on developmental activities and remaining towards administration, salaries etc.

#### **2. Project Context**

Disabled persons face limitation in getting employment as many of them drop out of school at their early age or lose interest in continuing further education after 10<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> because of poverty, mobility problems and lack of cooperation and improper course structures. As a result their options for employment get diminished due to lack of qualification and they settle for menial jobs. Hence there is focus on self-employment and vocational trainings that will not only embolden them with skill but also enriches knowledge on collecting resources for self-employment.

Weaving sarees from silk yarn is an artistic expression of the skill that rural weavers exhibit on account of their inherited profession. It occupies a distinct and unique place in Indian economy, besides being the largest generator of non-farm rural employment. Hindupur which lies in drought-hit Anantapur district with menial agricultural income, has many households working on family profession of weaving supported by people who cultivate silk worms, mulberry (feed for worms). It is one of the hotspot of silk-sarees weaving providing direct and indirect employment to about 7000 families topping in market share in the country besides the ranks of Kanchipuram, Chirala, Dharmavaram etc.

The industry employs people with little or no education and spins out large amount of income to the families through handloom and powerlooms aided by liberal policies of government. However true to the impression in the community that disabled people are not suitable for work, this industry also doesn't employ much of them, in some cases sparsely employed by virtue of being the family member. Hence as the things stand, skill training, support for self-employment, finding niche in the marketing aspects will make disabled persons also to vie in this sector with others. Being major source of livelihood, it has scope for employing disabled persons with little or no education and get subsidized support with government's pro-active schemes. Persons with partial blindness, moderately physically handicapped and hearing impaired can be trained in these skills. A monthly income for labour work stands at Rs. 100 per saree with an operational capacity of 40 sarees a month in powerloom and 500 per saree in handloom with 8 sarees a month correspondingly.

Considering the scope and viability of this activity it is proposed to setup training facility in powerloom and handloom for training the youth with disabilities from poor families and enhance their livelihood opportunities.

#### **3. Project Objectives**

- a. To set-up one unit of powerloom and handlooms each
- b. To provide employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and provide stable earning environment in the weaving sector

#### 4. Project Expenditure Summary

*a. Capital Expenditure (please note that most of the equipment have been purchased already through a previous grant)*

#	Equipment Description	Total in Rs.
1	Powerloom unit – 6 machines in one unit @ 65,000 a machine (as used commercially)	3,90,000
2	Handloom unit – 6 compartments @ 10,000 for each compartment	60,000
<b>Totals</b>		<b>Rs. 4,50,000</b>
		<b>\$10,000</b>

The source for purchase of capital equipment is from agencies based in Bangalore and handlooms assembled locally.

*b. Recurring Expenditure (Annual)*

#	Description of Item	Amount (Rupees)
1.	Salary for Instructors @ Rs. 4,000/- per month for 3 persons for 6 months	72,000/-
2.	Raw material (Silk yarn, Jari etc. from Twisting units) @Rs. 10,000/- per month for 6 months	60,000/-
3.	Power cost for powerlooms and other consumables @ 4000 x 6 months	24,000/-
	Rent for training centre @ 2000 x 6 months	12,000/-
<b>Total Amount (per Year)</b>		<b>Rupees 1,68,000/-</b>
		<b>Dollars \$3,733</b>

#### 5. Impact Summary

The training centre will train 20 persons with disabilities including women in the categories of partial blindness, hearing impairment and orthopedically handicapped. The training content will be designed in consultation with leading weaving industries in Hindupur. The duration of the training will be for 6 months followed by support for placement and financial facilitation for next 6 months. After graduating from the training programme, candidates will be supported for availing credit support through banks or other subsidized schemes. The average monthly income for the trained candidates would range from 4000-5000 in case of employment in existing industries or in excess of 6,000 depending on operational capacity when self-units are setup.

#### Support Expected

- **Capital Expenditure:** 100% \$10,000 on Day 1
- **Recurring expenditure:** 100% of \$3,733 for 2 years
- By the end of Year 2, ROH will sustain the programme by raising contributions and support from government and other agencies.

#### 6. Monitoring Requirements

- Invoices of purchases made towards capital expenditure from best price suppliers mutually agreed upon between ASHRAYA and ROH
- At least 20 trainees complete the training with a certificate given by ROH
  - A minimum of 20-30% of the trainees will be females
- Trainees will develop business plans for availing credit support following the training
- Job placements to trainees in commercial outlets already functioning in urban areas
- The facility will also be utilized for commercial purpose with the trainees as well as graduated trainees to enhance the visibility of the centre and trainees.