

Annual Report

April 1, 2014- March 31, 2015

Priscilla Centre (PC) works with destitute women, widows, orphans, divorcees and school dropout girls by providing them skills training and livelihood opportunity in tailoring, weaving, embroidery, handcraft work, food processing etc in different states of North East India. The aim is to provide livelihood opportunity and through this many of them have been able to support their families and lead a better life.

Priscilla Centre believes in preserving and promoting the indigenous North East handloom and handicraft and that is what it has been doing since its inception. The products made under the livelihood programme have traditional base which are contemporarily designed and have a good market.

PC is registered under the Society's registration Act, 1860. The headquarter is situated in Guwahati, Assam from where all coordination work and networking are done. Centralised marketing outlet also functions here.

PC has set up a Production unit in all its project/centres known as Self Sustainable Income Generating Activities Project (SIGAP) where the training graduates engage in production work. These items are then sold in the PC outlet in Guwahati, Imphal (Manipur) and Peren (Nagaland). And in other platform such as TRIFED exhibition, Delhi Haat, and also bulks order from NABARD, NEDSSS, and other Civil Society organisations.

Registration:

PC is registered under the Society's registration act XXI of 1860. The registration no. is KAM/240/k/36 of 2001-0.

Our headquarter is in Guwahati, Assam where the central administration, coordination and networking are handled.

How we work: This year, PC developed Minimum standard of Operations, all the interventions are guided by this standards. The interventions are now categorised into Residential training centre, Non-residential training centre, employment centre and Home based employment. The projects are also reported based on this category.

Residential Training Centre				
Centre Name	Place	No. of participants	Issue	Vocational training
Lydia Centre	Peren, Nagaland	15	School dropout girls, destitute women and disabled girls	Tailoring, weaving and knitting
Priscilla Home	Churachandpur, Manipur	6	School dropouts, HIV positive women, CSWs and substance addicts	Tailoring, weaving training, Night Shelter, Nutritional supplement and counselling
WeCare Centre	Irong, Manipur	8	School dropout girls, destitute women	Tailoring, embroidery work, soap & dishwash soap making, bead work and wire basket making
SIGAP & ALTDC	Guwahati	21 girls (SIGAP) 17 girls (ALTDC)	School dropout girls	Tailoring and basket making from waste paper



Girls at work in SIGAP, Guwahati



Non-Residential Training Centre				
Centre Name	Place	No. of participants	Issue	Vocational training
Khonsaigaon	Maligaon, Assam	10	school dropout girls and destitute wine brewer women	spinning raw silk cocoon, weaving and advocacy
Lydia Tailoring Centre	Nagaon, Assam	14	school dropout girls, destitute women	Tailoring



Spinning work at Khonsaigaon Project, Assam

Employment Centre				
Centre Name	Place	No. of participants	Issue	Vocational training
Tabitha Compassion Care Centre	Imphal, Manipur	22	HIV+ widows	tailoring and embroidery work
Life Care Centre	Pallel, Manipur	8	Destitute & HIV+ widows	cane and bamboo craft, food processing, weaving.

Home based Employment Centre				
Centre Name	Place	No. of participants	Issue	Employment
Grace Ministry	Mon, Nagaland	50	Widows	weaving and candy making, yam and mushroom cultivation
Grace Centre	Tamenglong, Manipur	10	Widows	2 cake baking and other bakery items production 8 women were provided interest free loans for micro enterprise
Patian project	Phillangkata, Meghalaya	7	Destitute women	making products like tea coaster, table mat etc from jute



Gooseberry candy making at PC Mon, Nagaland

TRAINING AND CONSULTATIONS CONDUCTED BY PRISCILLA CENTRE:

Organisational Development (OD) programme: A one day OD programme was facilitated by Director of PC for the Womens' Association of Manipur Baptist Convention on 19 March 2015. Another consultation was proposed to review its vision and mission along with their activities plan. The date is fixed for August 20, 2015.

Partners Consultation programme: Nagaland Partners' consultation was held on May 9-11, 2014. 14 people attended the programme. Manipur partners' consultation programme was organised with the Local Partners on March 21, 2015 in Imphal (Manipur). 21 people attended the program.

Skill Enhancement for Instructors: It was held from July 31- August 4, 2014. 13 instructors and wardens from different centres attended. They were given time to share the challenges and achievements. PC's senior Instructor conducted one session on "good practices of an Instructor". The participants were encouraged by learning from her experience.

Capacity Building & Retreat for Partners' Staff: Training on Project Management was conducted from July 7-10, 2014. It was held in Kohima, Nagaland. 12 partners' staff attended the training. Ms. Genevafa Behphat, Project Manager- Capacity Building, NEDSS (North Eastern Diocese Social Forum) was the facilitator.



Partner Staff training

Awareness Programs on Social issues and Environment:

- a. Two days workshop was held for community leaders from July 18-19, 2014 in Namdulong, Imphal. 39 leaders attended the workshop.
- b. Three days workshop was held in Bordal, Nagaon from October 12-14 2014. 51 women from three different villages attended.
- c. Two days program was organised in Jorhat in partnership with PC Nowgong on May 9-10, 2014. While discussion social issues like discrimination, exploitation, abuse and trafficking, the participants acknowledge that though these were prevalent in the community, they never thought of helping them.
- d. Two days program was organised in Ranibari, Guwahati on May 20-21, 2014.
- e. Two days workshop was held for youths of Guwahati from August 14-16, 2014 in Social Forum, Guwahati. 21 youths attended the workshop.

Exposure visits: Seven SIGAP Participants went for an exposure visit to Darjeeling and Sikkim for 7 days in the month of March 2015. They were able to observe the local market there and learn about different locally made handicraft item through two companies. They also had a refreshing time see the beautiful nature.

Widows' camp: there has been an increase in number of widows in Manipur due to various social problems and so PC and one of its partner, PC Tamenglong organised Widows' camp on June 19-21, 2014. This program was attended by 24 widows and most of them were below the age of 35. The Resource person was Mrs. Ruth Singson, she draw a lot of her teaching from her own experience as she was widowed at a young age of 30.

Awareness program in MON: Awareness programme was conducted on 23 and 24 March 2015 in Partnership with PC Mon.

PC Partners Meet: PC Partners Meet was held from October 15-20, 2014. It was co-hosted by PC Udalguri. Ms. Roz Brain, Counsellor and Professor was the resource person. 46 participants attended.



NETWORKING WITH GOVERNMENT AND NON GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

The support and recognition of the Govt at the project level has improved further as they continue to get support from them.

- i. PC Peren: Two of the trainees got full scholarship from the District Urban Development Agency, Government of Nagaland for their training expenses. LPP
- ii. PC Khongsaigaon: Two speed machines were provided by Government.
- iii. PC Mon: invited two Government officials as resource persons for the program participants in Mon town.

Sl no	Government officials	Availed	Date
1	District Welfare Officer	Old age pension form	August 2014
2	District Horticulture Officer	Mushroom cultivation training	October 2014

- The District Welfare Officer provided 14 Widow's Pension Form to the program participants. Using this form they will be able to access pension in the coming days.
- After being motivated by the women leaders, the women of Aboi village formed an SHG, which has taken off quite well. They have opened bank account and it will soon be registered as a group.
- The Horticulture Officer, Government of Nagaland promised to distribute mushroom seeds for them to grow.