



**Skill Development Programmes for
young boys and girls of
underprivileged communities**

Implementation Partner : Ritinjali

Vocational Centres

at

Mahipalpur and Kusumpur Pahari

- Vocational programmes started by Ritinjali
 - Cutting, Tailoring & Dressmaking at Mahipalpur and Kusumpur Pahari
 - Certificate in Computer Applications at Mahipalpur
 - Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)
- Affiliated to the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)
 - Students can appear for the NIOS exams twice in April & October.
 - Efforts made to streamline Centres' engagement with NIOS to ensure that books and other essential study materials reach students on time.
- Life-Skills in addition to Technical Skills.
- Mission to integrate young individuals into the workforce.
- Empowers individuals from underprivileged communities.

Certificate in Cutting, Tailoring and Dressmaking at Mahipalpur and Kusumpur Pahari



A view of the Vocational Centre at Mahipalpur

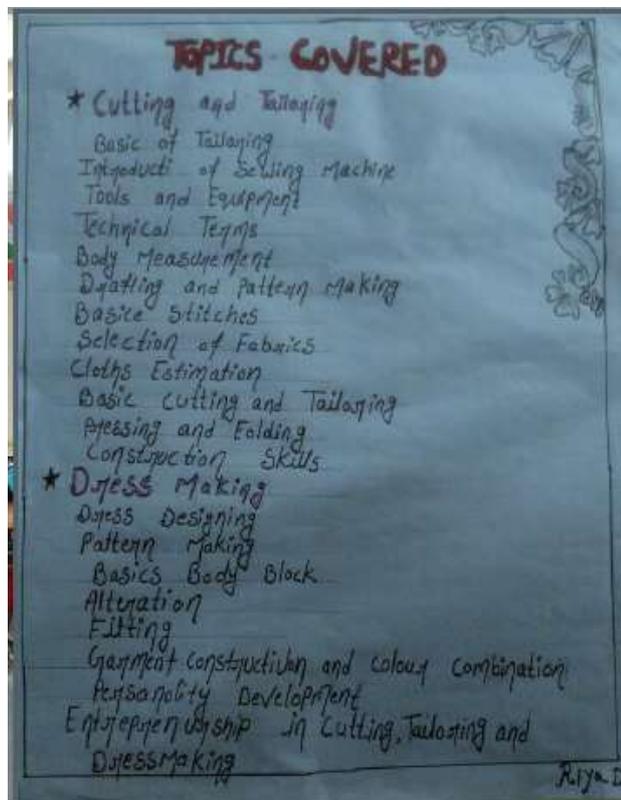


A class in progress at Kusumpur Pahari

- 2 centres at Kusumpur Pahari and 1 centre at Mahipalpur.
- Classes held in two sessions per day – morning and afternoon.
- Total enrolment increased from approx. 90 students to 130 students in all the three centres.
- Students taught both theory and practical aspects of tailoring and dressmaking.
- Students learn the art of cutting, stitching, designing, embroidery and also learn more about measurements and basic skills of dress designing.
- Empowers women to become self-sufficient from the earnings made through stitching clothes against orders.
- Equipped with regular machines, power machines, as well as fashion maker machines.
- In 2015, advanced course also introduced at the centres for all students who want to pursue a career in designing.
- Teachers also assists the students in preparing for the theory exams.
- In 2017, system of monthly rewards showcasing outstanding overall performances was instituted, leading to better student outcomes across centres.
- All the students who appear for the examinations have secured more than 70 per cent and received their Diplomas certified by NIOS, Government of India.



A chart displaying commonly used tools in tailoring



The syllabus chart prepared by a student

Hughes grant helped in upgradation of the infrastructure at the Centres

- During April 2016, three ex-students also received new machines for their exceptional performance in NIOS Exams. Lata, Uma and Neelam from the batch of 2012, 2013 and 2014 received a new machine each.
- Mahipalpur centre equipped with a changing room to enable the students to figure measurements as well as try out their creations.
- Steel cupboard added to store materials and records in a safe manner.
- Equipped with a designer's mannequin for creation of garments
- Annual maintenance contract signed to ensure smooth functioning and required repairs of all the machines.



Neelam with the new machine

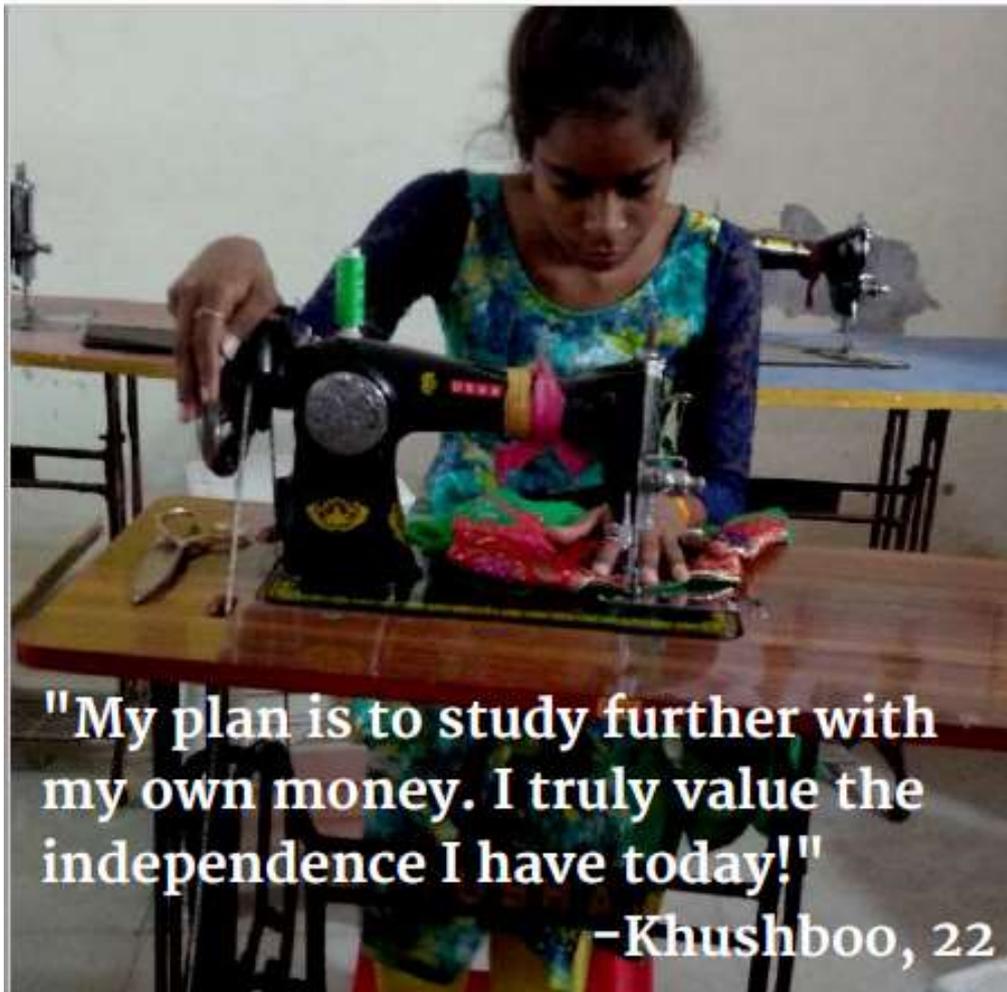


Girls with the new fashion maker

Kusumpur Pahari :

- A toilet built for the girls and the teachers to ensure that students learn the importance of toilets and spread awareness about the same in their households.
- Equipped with 4 Hand machines, 2 Foot machines and 1 Almirah
- Teacher with Masters in Social Work (MSW) hired for the Cutting, Tailoring and Dressmaking Centre at Kusumpur Pahari
- New roof added providing respite from rain water seepage
- 12 new stitching machines purchased to replace the old machines.

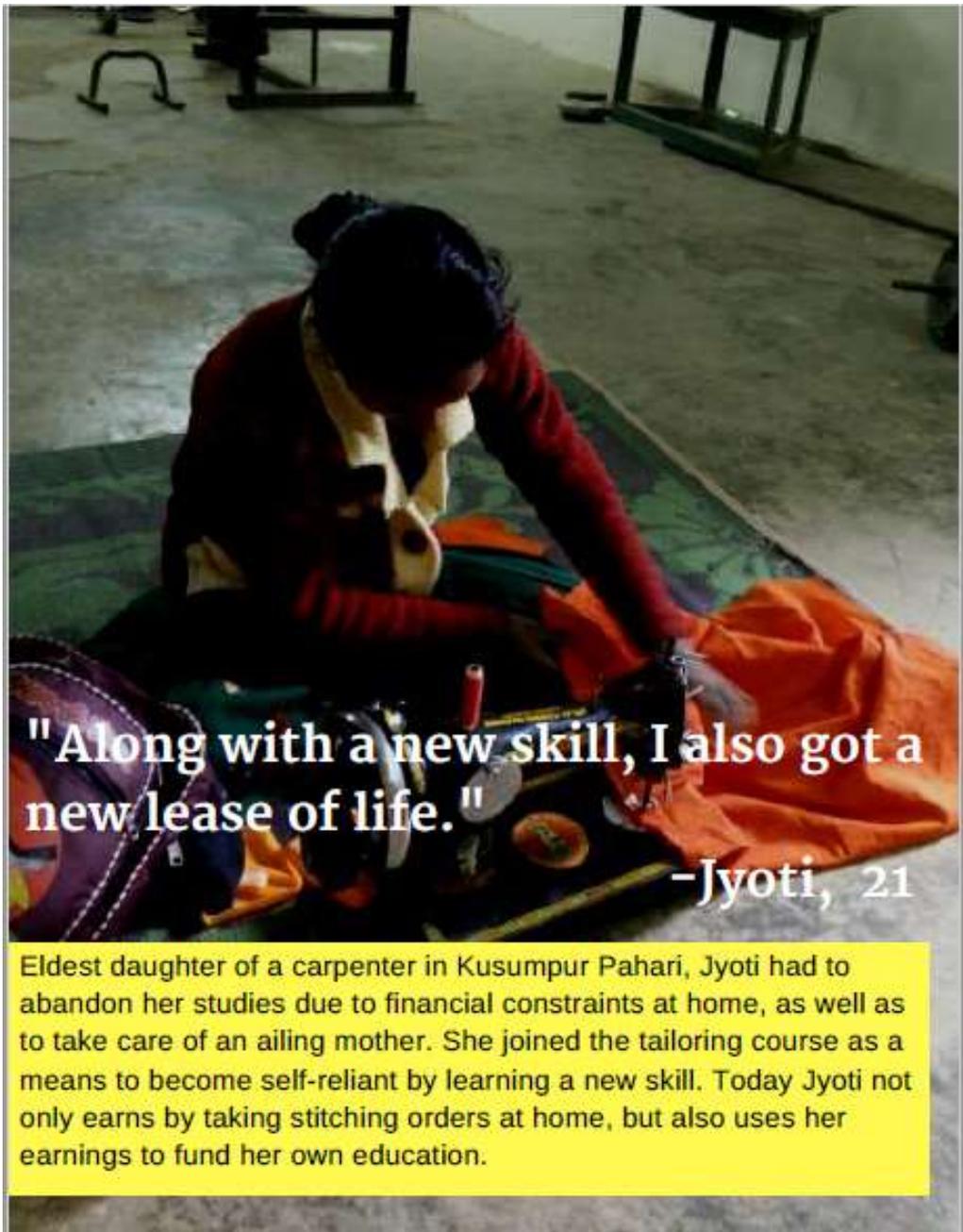




"My plan is to study further with my own money. I truly value the independence I have today!"

-Khushboo, 22

Daughter of a vegetable vendor in Mahipalpur with three brothers, Khushboo had to put up a fight to defend her rights to education and independence from an early age. Her fighting spirit saw her through graduation, during which time she joined the tailoring centre to learn dressmaking. Being a dedicated learner and hard-worker, Khushboo picked up the nuances of tailoring in no time, and today, supports her family by taking orders at home and teaching tailoring at Ritinjali's Nathupur Centre.



"Along with a new skill, I also got a new lease of life."

-Jyoti, 21

Eldest daughter of a carpenter in Kusumpur Pahari, Jyoti had to abandon her studies due to financial constraints at home, as well as to take care of an ailing mother. She joined the tailoring course as a means to become self-reliant by learning a new skill. Today Jyoti not only earns by taking stitching orders at home, but also uses her earnings to fund her own education.

Computer Applications at Mahipalpur

- Course work has been split over a period of 1 year
 - basics of computers and office applications in part 1
 - computer designing and programming in part 2.
- Two dedicated teachers along with a weekend expert train students in this course.
- Exams are conducted twice a year for the NIOS Certifications and every year more ~ 50 students appear for these exams.
- In April 2016, teacher with Master in Computer Applications hired for the Computer Centre
- Students, who typically joined the class with almost non-existent computer operating skills, are introduced to the workings of the computer, starting right from the basics and slowly moving up to more complex operations such as Microsoft Excel, Word, Powerpoint presentation making, surfing the internet etc.

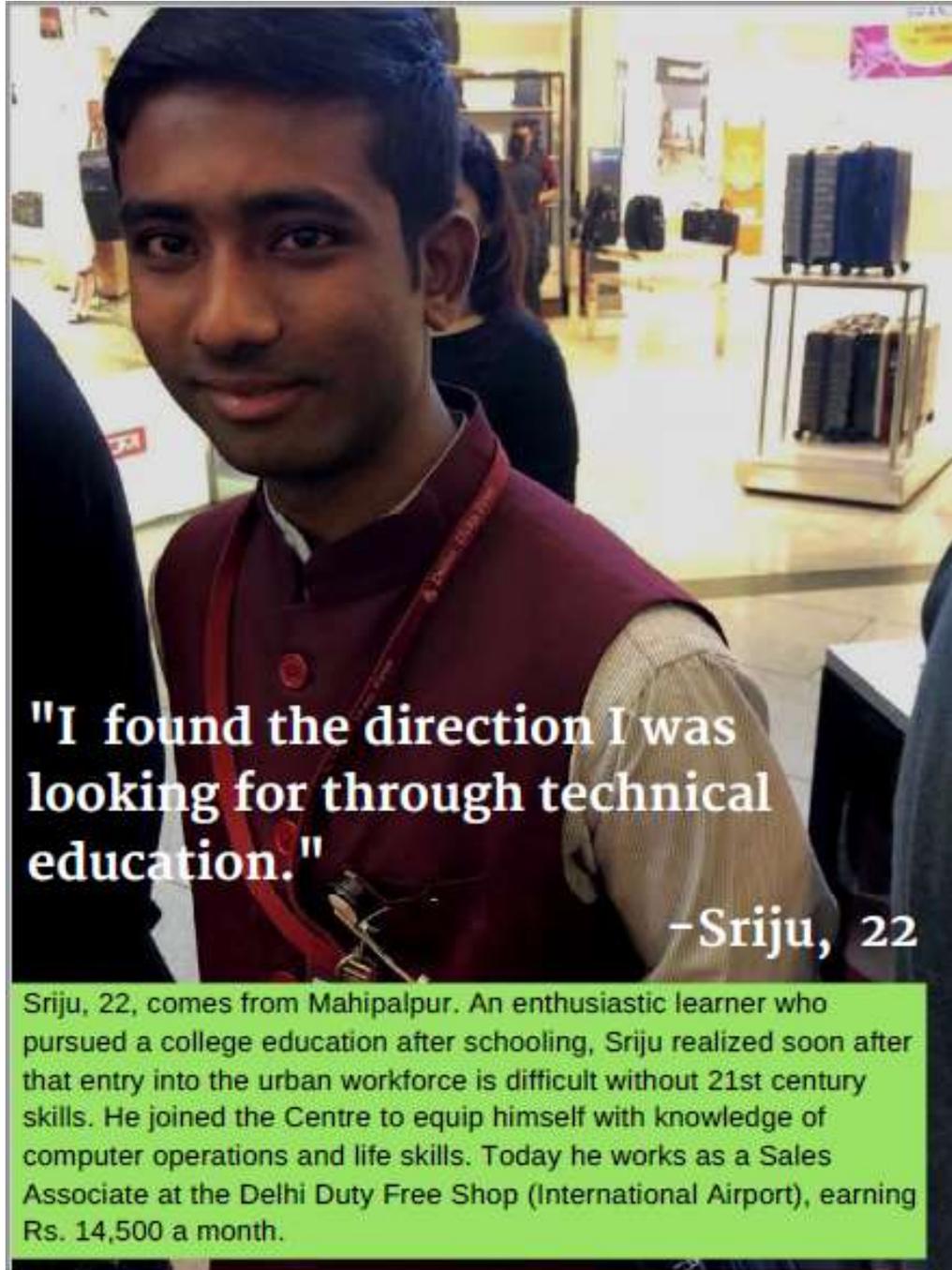


class in progress at the Computer Centre in Mahipalpur



Hughes grant helped in upgradation of the infrastructure at the Computer Centre

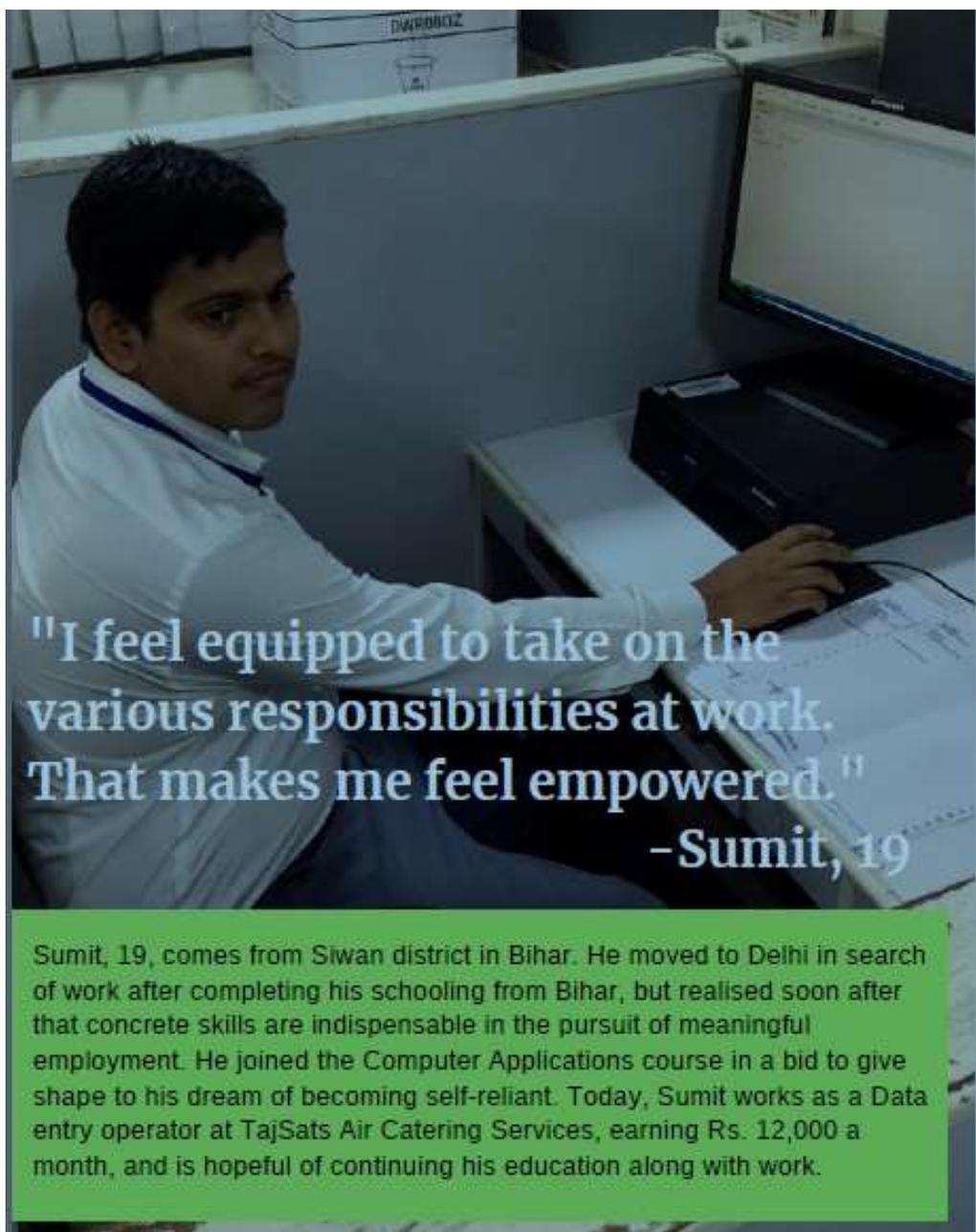
- Older machines were incompatible with latest software versions.
- New machines were equipped with faster processors, RAM and other software.
- Newer versions of software ensured that the courses are compatible with the market demands and students are able to find better opportunities.
- An annual maintenance contract ensured that the systems ran smoothly at the centre throughout the year.
- Sesert cooler added to the centre to keep the classroom cool in the summers.
- Centre received three laptops and a printer as donations, which helped in accommodating the ever increasing number of students at the centre.
- Set of new books bought to add to the existing stock of books for the students' reference in the classroom.
- 20 new books and 7 softwares such as Turbo C, SQL, anti-viruses, Photoshop, Windows OS etc and 12 DVDs bought for the Computer Centre.
- 5 new computer systems added.
- Old UPS systems replaced by 10 new systems.



"I found the direction I was looking for through technical education."

-Sriju, 22

Sriju, 22, comes from Mahipalpur. An enthusiastic learner who pursued a college education after schooling, Sriju realized soon after that entry into the urban workforce is difficult without 21st century skills. He joined the Centre to equip himself with knowledge of computer operations and life skills. Today he works as a Sales Associate at the Delhi Duty Free Shop (International Airport), earning Rs. 14,500 a month.



"I feel equipped to take on the various responsibilities at work. That makes me feel empowered."

-Sumit, 19

Sumit, 19, comes from Siwan district in Bihar. He moved to Delhi in search of work after completing his schooling from Bihar, but realised soon after that concrete skills are indispensable in the pursuit of meaningful employment. He joined the Computer Applications course in a bid to give shape to his dream of becoming self-reliant. Today, Sumit works as a Data entry operator at TajSats Air Catering Services, earning Rs. 12,000 a month, and is hopeful of continuing his education along with work.

Life skills sessions

- Workshops by external resource persons on leadership, development, goal-setting, time-management etc.
- Art workshops by Indian and Bhutanese artists.
- Placement talks by industry mentors.
- Field trip to Agra etc.
- In house competitions on public speaking, poster-making, essay writing, technical skills quizzes etc. fostered a healthy spirit of competition amongst the students, while motivating them to continue honing their skills.
- Monthly in-house movie screenings of topical importance and competitions.
- Participation in seminars on renewable energy sources, teachings of great thinkers.
- Celebration of International Women's Day by the International Youth Centre.
- Participation in National Youth Day celebration in public speaking, painting, flower pot decoration competition, themed on Swami Vivekanand's life and his principles.
- Volunteers conducted sessions on a wide range of topics such as human rights, gender bias, methods of maintaining hygiene, breast cancer awareness, art integrated learning etc.
- More than 200 hours of intensive theatre laboratory, through games, activities and reflection sessions, aimed at empowering the students to realise their self-worth and achieve back their confidence in pursuing their dreams.



IMPACT

In 2017-18,

- Total women and young adults impacted 204
- Students impacted through Computer Education 80
- Students impacted through Tailoring cours 124
- Students who have gained self-reliance so far 50
- Students continuing education 82

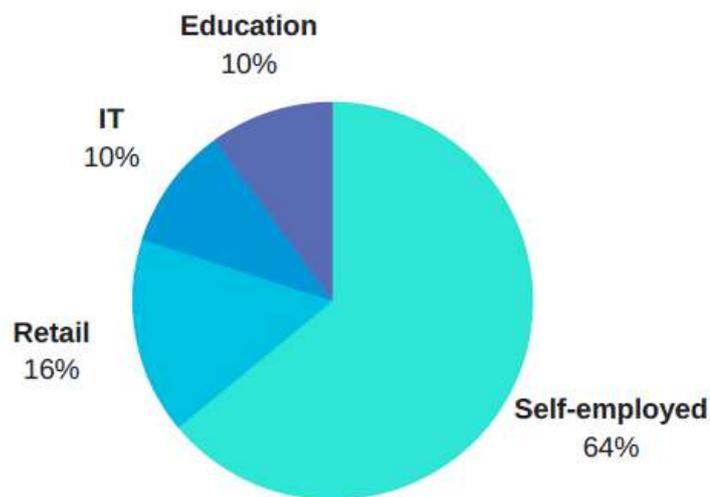


Fig: Visual representation of students placed in various industries

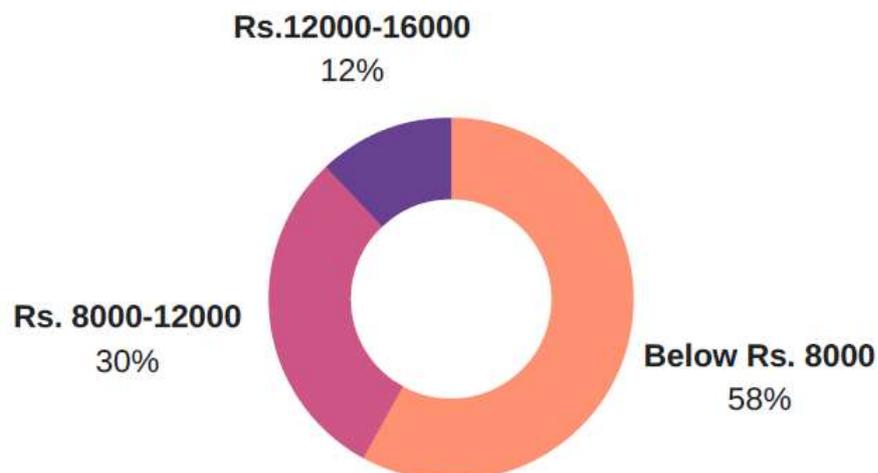


Fig: Visual representation of the salaries of students employed

In 2018-19,

- Total women and young adults impacted 169
- Students impacted through Computer Education 52
- Students impacted through Tailoring course 117
- Students who have gained self-reliance so far 28
- Students continuing education 51

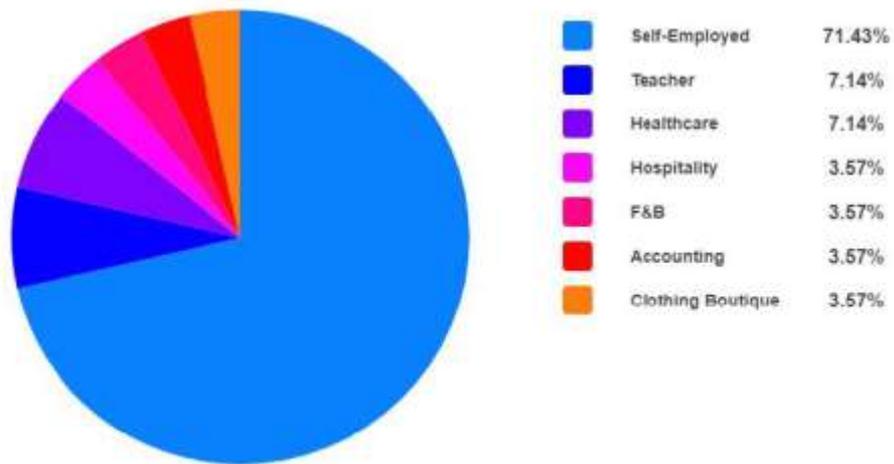


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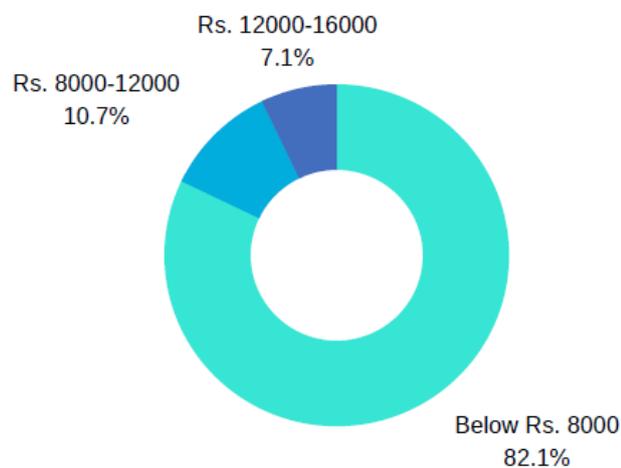


Fig: Visual representation of the salaries of students employed

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)

Empowers semi-educated women and young girls by training them to become primary school teachers and early childhood care professionals.

- 1 year programme, based on NIOS syllabus.
- Caters to about 30-40 women and young girls.
- Main objective to develop
 - understanding of foundations of pre-school education
 - understanding among learners about growth and development in early childhood (0-6 yrs.).
 - skills to manage an Early Childhood Care and Education Centre and gain knowledge of working effectively with parents and community for education of pre-school children
- Combination of theory and practical skills.
- Hands-on teaching.
- Experience through internships.
- Improved quality of teaching..
- Care for children in communities
- Class mostly composed of students who have completed schooling and graduation.
- Sizeable number of students pursuing further education.
- Class is equally divided between students who are married and those who are unmarried.

IMPACT

- Total number of women and young adults impacted 27
- No. of students to gain full-time employment 6
- No. of students to gain part time / self employment 2
- No. of children reached out to through ECCE students 300

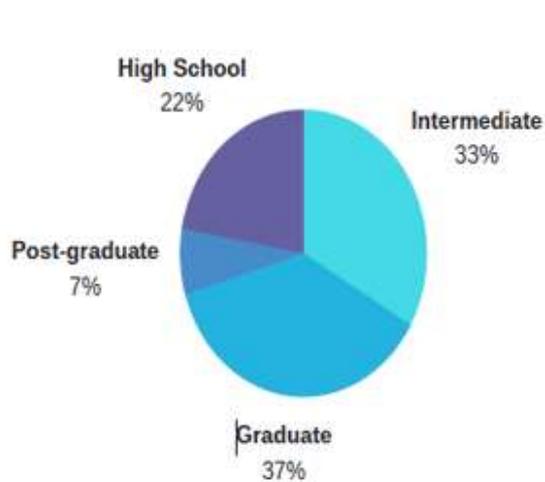


Fig: Visual representation of students' educational levels

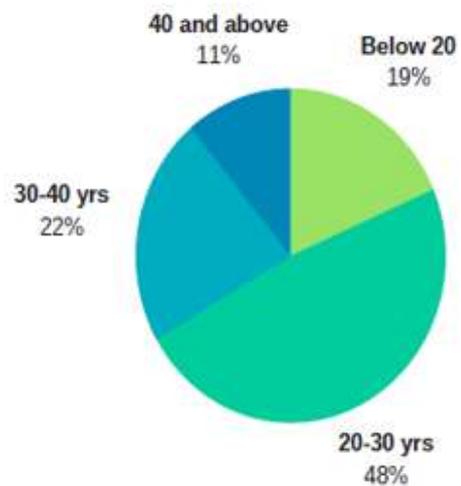


Fig: Visual representation of the age groups of students

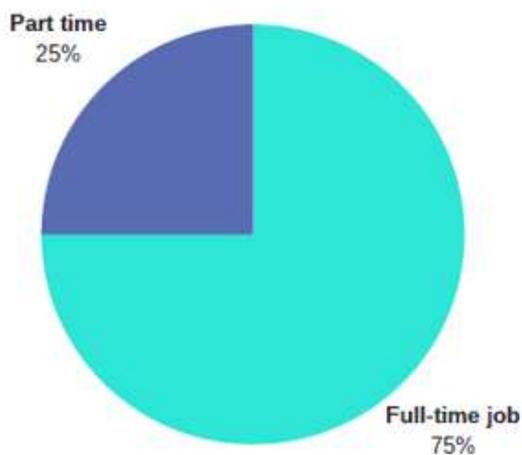


Fig: Visual representation of status of students vis-a-vis employment

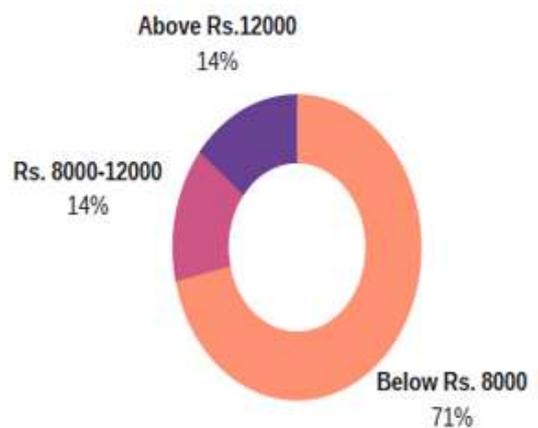


Fig: Visual representation of the salaries of students employed



"My journey has just begun. I will make sure I cross many more milestones."

- Komal, 28

Komal's family moved from a small village in Uttar Pradesh to Delhi in search of better opportunities. She completed her schooling from a government school in the city. Her desire to become self-reliant brought her to the ECCE centre, where she learnt the skills that are required to ensure learning in a classroom. Her hard work yielded results in the NIOS exams in which she scored 87%. Komal works as a primary section teacher at G.D Goenka School today, earning Rs. 21,000 per month. She is also pursuing a B.Ed degree alongside work and hopes to become a government school teacher in the near future.



**"I have come so close to realising
my dream to become a teacher!"**

— Jyoti, 19

Jyoti comes from a low income family in Mahipalpur. After completing her schooling, she joined the ECCE course. But her parents were completely against her getting any kind of further education or training, and wanted to send her to the village. She could complete the course with consistent follow up and intervention by her teachers. In this process, she gained confidence and knowledge to be a skilled teacher. Once the income prospects through home tuitions began, her parents' resistance also mellowed down. Having battled the tough restrictions on her mobility, Jyoti is now working as a teacher at the Dalil Ekta Learning Centre, and giving private tuitions to 17 children, earning Rs. 5000 per month. She is also pursuing a Bachelors' degree from open university.