

Vocational Training Center for the Poor Community at Hilly, Khagrachari (VTC) Project

The youths in Bangladesh are underutilized due to lack of their appropriate skills. In Bangladesh very little steps have been taken so far for opening up avenues of skill development for the rural youths, who are generally deterred from entering into public training centres due to lack of academic qualifications and required costs. However, it is commonly recognized that minimum could be expected from the youths unless their technical potential is developed. An important contribution made by Anando in this field is the vocational training for youth resource development program.

Anando has a very well-constructed building under this program. The building is 1,450 square meter long and semi-pucca that has a veranda and six rooms for arranging classes and project administration. The VTC also has 422 square meter open workshop space and a 924 square meter long two-storied full-pucca dormitory that provides accommodation to 30 students including dining hall, bathrooms, toilets, and two guest rooms for visitors. Also, a three storied girl's hotel has been constructed in the VTC and 20 girls are accommodated in the hostel.

During the year 2018, 96 unemployed youth (32 girls' and 64 boys) received one year skill development training in different courses including 3 months internship in the local production shop/ institution/ company. Out of 96 students (Boys-30 & Girls-15), 45 students are provided with hostel facilities as they came from distant places. The scope of utilization of this centre is expanding gradually and Anando has planned for maximizing its further usage.

Table-10: The target and achievement of major activities of Vocational Training Centre (VTC)

Name of Course	Admitted	Appeared in Exam	Passed	Percentage %
Electrical	17	17	17	100%
Mechanical	16	16	16	100%
Electronics	16	16	16	100%
Welding	12	12	12	100%
Tailoring	30	30	30	100%
Total	91	91	91	100%



Youths who have graduated from the VTC of Anando are now confident for their self-employment. Of these, **96** graduates have already got jobs in different workshop/production centres and in company during and after the completion of internship. In addition, **48** graduates built their own workshops.

Case Study:

Joshna Devi Tripura Matiranga Upazilla, Khagrachari

Joshna Devi lived in 20 Km away from Khagrachari. Her husband has doing the business of banana. With the only son, they have lived life in a very hardship. Though her son became eligible to go to school but due to lack of economic capacity, they didn't send him to school. One day she has they have listened bout the Anando vocational training centre and the tailoring training. Joshna Devi has decided to admit into tailoring training after discussing with her husband. She has stayed in the girls' hostel and continued training from January 2017.



After successful completion of tailoring training, she has started to sew the dresses of neighbours and earned monthly average Taka 2,500. She has sent her son to school and start saving some money. After certain duration, she purchased a new sewing machine and opened a shop in her area.

Now, she is earning monthly average taka 10,000 and maintain her family with this money. She has a plan to become more skilled tailoring master and sew the dresses from her areas and beyond. Also, she will give training to the women in her area to develop them as good tailor maser. She expressed her heartfelt gratitude and thanks to Anando and DBL for the training support.

Champa Rani Tripura Khagrachari Sadar

Champa Rani Tripura lived Golabari Union with his poor father. Her father is a sharecropper. Cultivating neighbours lands, they are living with very hardship and poverty. "As her father was not capable to continue the cost of education", her study stopped. So, the dream of Champa to become a government service holder remained invalid. Champa is class five passed drop out girls. She was helping her mother for cooking and after that she goes to the forest to collect fuel wood for cooking.

One day Champa was travelling to collect fuel wood from the forest, she has listened the announcement from the miking about Anando training centre and about tailoring training. She has shared this training offer to her parents. After detailed discussion, her parents agreed to send to the Anando VTC for tailoring training.



As planned, Champa successfully completed the training and get back to her home. Though she has planned to purchase a sewing machine but she don't have economic capacity to do that. As due to lack of capacity, Champa started her job in Your Choice Tailoring shop. After few months of her job she took loan 3,500 taka from an NGO. She purchased a second hand sewing machine. She started sewing others clothes. She is now earning monthly average 5,500 taka from sewing other clothes.

Champa is now a self-dependent woman. She expressed her gratitude to Anando and DLB for their kind support to educate her on tailoring. Champa also wants to become an instructor of Anando is requires.