Hi Marisa,

With great pleasure we would like to submit you our work report and progress of the Widow’s Project at BGM Chamavilapuram for the month of July 2017. Here we are all keeping fine and hope this letter of ours will find you and your companions in the best of your health and ability. Tramendous remarkable tangible progress are being observed in our three units of tailoring Garments Designing, Pappad production and candle production units with 20 widows trainee beneficiaries each as it attained in full swing. All the widows are cheerful, happy to reach the centres in time since Tailoring and Candle are in one roof whereas Pappad is on a just adjacent building managed by Gilda Pappad trainer due to paucity of accommodation and that the flour for pappad will spread throughout disturbing other units. As we narrates the progress during the month of units.

a ) Tailoring Garments Designing Unit

We are happy to report that as we had explained you earlier this unit is functioning well with 20 widows in two batches each day. The first batch of 10 people will reach the centre at 10 AM and their training starts with opening prayer. As the first batch training be over at 12 pm the 2nd batch will function from 12 PM till 2pm. Both these two batches stay long in other rooms even after the class to finish off their works, read library and career books, periodicals. Tailoring Trainer Smt. Yamuna is very enthusiastic to teach the trainees since they are all energetic, enthusiastic to learn and pick up which are being taught to them. Home works for making mini type of garments either during off time or at their houses is being done which they bring perfectly well for correction. As we have pointed out more than 15 of them posses second hand Sewing Machines at their houses with low price managed by the Teacher. Asst. Teacher Mrs. Nahu is also very efficient working hand in hand.

All the items of work pointed out in June are being practiced by the trainees in hand work, machine and cloth during the month also and additionally Belt body, Saree (Umbrella) Skirt, Uniform skirt, theory, seven types of children’s dresses were taught. For five types of childrens dresses teacher conducted examination and the range of marks scored is 40-46 out of total marks 50. Teacher also taught Embroidary hand work one running stitch out of syllabus in view of aiming for your future works connected with Ashram. The rest will be continued.

b. Candle Making Unit

As described in our earlier letter we, after the training on candle making brought the moulds and wax from Sun Candles, Kuzhithara. The entire group of 20 trainees is devided into four groups of five each with trained group leaders practiced producing candles by themselves for two weeks time and now the four groups started training cum production from Monday till Thursday each group in a day. They are being trained and after two weeks time the produces will be taken to Sun Candles to show them to ensure quality and for further correction. They at that time will bring wax also for further training. This will continue one or two times further and after attaining perfection we will ask to bring 300 kg or more wax or to parcel it to the parcel office at Kattakada. As the finished products will be taken back by Sun Candles this would be an easy regular way of marketing. Local marketing and Sales are also being promoting, a few candles had been sold locally – by this time.

c. Pappad Making Unit

The Pappad Making Unit is functioning well with 20 widows. The whole group is divided into two batches of ten each and is being trained on alternate days. The grinding machine is brought from Coimbatore and since the production of Mixing cum Cutting machine is stopped we are trying to order a machine for making either from Coimbatore or from Madurai. Till then these works are being done manually. We have started making Pappadam and since Mrs. Gilda one of the expert trainer working in this field since 30 years is looking after the quality functions well. From this unit we started sales in small quantities locally and is having high demand. We are planning to make sales in whole sale and retail shops, Kalyana Mandapams, Marriage functions by availing orders.

Library

Our Library has collected 80 books which all the trainees in the three units are making use of it and Mrs. Sara, our social worker is in charge of this library namely “Mahima Grandhasala” . News paper, periodicals, career publications are subscribed. Two children of the trainees having plus two are referred for jobs.

Newspaper (Malayala Manorama daily), career books, periodicals are being subscribed by donations collected which are being read and gained knowledge, apply for jobs in various fields are being made which all of them feel as a new experience, venture and useful for them and to their children.

Self Help Groups

Six Self Help Groups had been formed which are being functioning after the training time and on Fridays and Saturdays.

House Visiting

House visiting programme is being functioning well. All the 20 houses of the trainees in Tailoring is over and guided them properly. Vegetable cultivation had been started at their houses.

Compost pits

Compost pits had been started in 10 houses of tailoring trainees. They have planted Papaya and Moringa at their houses. The trainees use to celebrate their birthdays and other memorable events in the centre.

Outcome

* Provided pucca training which would lead to a sustainable living.
* Provided hope to these hopeless.
* Provided better exposure to their life from out of their four walls of house.
* They are able to use their time fruitfully devoid of idling at house.
* They are getting sharing experience regarding their livelihood matters during leisure time.
* The newspaper, periodicals and other career publishing provide new insight for them in the line of Knowledge and pave way for better career opportunities for them and for their children.
* Our Mahima Grandhasala Library crossed 80 books on collection used by them properly during leisure time and taking at home for better knowledge.

Our Director Mr. K. WILSON is very vibrant to have an overall control, supervision on all activities and is a powerful man governess.

Future Planning

a) To obtain MSME Certificate from Industrial Department, Govt. of Kerala for labelling our products “Mahima Kudumbasree Products”

b) To conduct a Career Visit to see and study the products, career opportunities at “KINFRA” Kazhakkoottom (Menamkulam) Trivandrum, one of the pioneer institution owned by Govt. of Kerala producing all types of Readymade Garments in large scale where more than 3000 people are working in different sections which will be beneficial for our people to have an exposure.

c) The classes regarding Agriculture and Health measures are being arranged to be conducted on holidays as described earlier.

We are much thankful to you and your team for the magnanimous mind and concern towards the poor widows to pave way for their bright future life.

J. ROSBERY

Project Co-ordinator.

Resposta Marisa:

Good evening Wilson and Roseberry,

First of all, thanks for your work. I have been reading carefully your report and there are some questions that I have :

1. Please, can you tell me how much money did you spend till now ? How many ruppes did you receive from Barcelona, it was 7000 € plus 500€ they sent in order to give Wilson back your money.
2. Can you tell me the overall assistance to all the groups (tailoring, papadums, candels) ,
3. how many hours per week do they follow the classes.?
4. Are always the same women in the classes?

**Tailoring:**

. As we have pointed out more than 15 of them posses second hand Sewing Machines at their houses with low price managed by the Teacher. I don’t understand what does it means.

**Papadums:**

Did you see my wasap?