



Far from the madding crowd...

Last year in the mid November, while winter was crawling in the harvested fields of Brajaballavpur GP of Bansihari Block one day the teachers of the Krishnabati FP Primary School decided to have an engagement with a few local women of mid 20s age group to converse on a few critical things like community development and self-reliance. At a first glance definitely it is a radical thing that school is shifting its role but the teachers of the School was convinced that they are not by any chance shifting the role rather they are broadening the process of school and trying to radicalize the mandate of a neighbourhood school from merely a space for channelizing instructions to the students to a vibrant community managed learning space for a better and sustainable community.

The assembled ladies were convinced that any external agency or a bank credit can't transform the fundamental condition of their life and living rather if they can conceive and design their own developmental pathway only then their life can be changed.

To be an entrepreneur we need courage rather than money and finance and teachers of the school explained them as vividly as possible that if they can choose a vocation for initiating and carry forward their own entrepreneurial intervention it will be better for them to

organize training process which will trigger an empowered vigor and vitality among them.

The School in collaboration with Third Wave Foundation organized three consecutive training on JUNK JEWELLERY making and marketing process by supporting INR 10,000.00 (approx.) towards the initiative and after completing the CB session all the 25 ,neo-literate ladies (SC-19, ST-1, Minority-5) get convinced that minimum support and usable linkage can create a change dynamism in life.

Three participants named Mamoni Barman, Felani Barman, Madhuri Das establish a village level shop for junk jewellery and other materials which has augmented their supplementary income. Other 10- 12 ladies who were trained are doing individual business and secured their supplementary livelihood to some extent. The peer group has participated in the District level SHG fair and in the counterpart Kolkata fair "SABALA" exclusively on JUNK JEWELLERY.

Though we are to a large extent against the family income based portrayal of livelihoods enhancements but we must not conceal that INR 50,000.00 (approx) they have earned collectively enhanced their confidence and dedication.

