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The European Union



**FVTRS  
Wishes You  
a  
Very Happy  
New Year**

## FVTRS Delegation Visits Australia



At the computer section in Lake Ginniderra College

A three-member delegation comprising Mr Albert Joseph, Mr Felix D'Souza and Mr C P Nicholas visited various institutions and interacted with skill providers in Melbourne and Canberra during a 10-day visit to Australia from 20 to 30 October. They also held discussions with officials in the Department of Education, Employment and Work Relations (DEEWR) in Canberra.

**'A plumber is a much sought-after person in Australia than a medical doctor'**

**'We had the stigma attached to Skill Training 15 years ago, but is no more now' say Australians**

The delegation could also interact with educational institutions that have incorporated VET in their main curricula. The visit ended with them attending the National Job Conference organised by JobsAustralia - a network of various job providers. The CEO of JobsAustralia, Mr David Thompson, facilitated the visit.



FVTRS Delegation with DEEWR Team in Canberra

## Foreign Delegations Visit FVTRS

### NI-MSME Hyderabad Facilitates

Two foreign delegations from 27 countries visited FVTRS for an interaction on its activities on 19 October and 18 December 2010. The visits are facilitated by the Ministry of MSME through NI-MSME, Hyderabad. They focused on 'Providing Alternative Livelihood Opportunities for Poor and Entrepreneurship Development through Micro-finance' and 'Women's Empowerment' while touring India. Thirty-seven participants took part in the discussions.



The First Team on 19 October

Interactive sessions were held with FVTRS team on skill training needs of school dropout youth in India over the years. The prevailing situation in terms of the high rate of school dropouts, social security aspects of unorganised sector, huge skill gap, demand and supply of skilled hands in Indian market, EDP and underscoring inclusive approach, study and research to promote employment opportunities to underprivileged youth were the major points that the delegates sought information on.

Delegates also wanted to know the procedures followed for project selection, funding and capacity-building programmes, stakeholders' involvement, certification, stipend to trainees, and related issues. The documentary film 'Not Born to Burn' produced by FVTRS was shown. The delegations suggested FVTRS should also address the issue of school dropout rate, and form cooperatives for the trained employed hands with an employment cell.



The Second Team on 18 December

## Project Coordinators' Meet

### 'Intra-Partners Facilitation on Learning and Sharing'

FVTRS has been organising regular Project Coordinators' Meets to improve the training delivery, to strengthen the partnership with implementing partners, and to monitor the progress of project implementation. It facilitates mutual learning and sharing among partners that improve project delivery mechanisms and to impact on meaningful engagement with stakeholders and for sustainability in initiated measures in the long run.



Kolkata Meet held on 23-24 November

Three such workshops were organised for partners of east, northeast, and west in Kolkata, for southern region partners in Alleppey (Kerala) and for northern region in Lucknow. Project coordinators having the pivotal role to play in training delivery, made presentations focusing on their experiences, lessons learnt and challenges on projects they handle.

In all, 129 coordinators from 95-partner organisations from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh,



Alleppey Meet held on 3-5 December



Lucknow Meet held on 14-15 December

Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal converged at these three places for the exercise.

Presentations highlighted types of trades, youth trained, trainers' competencies, training methodology, curriculum, certification, employment status, mobilisation of government resources, and challenges faced during the meets.

Specific sessions on Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP), generic skills, trade diversification based on FVTRS' Australia visit, reporting and documentation, and on roles and responsibilities of project coordinators were dealt by Mr. Felix D'Souza, Programme Manager and Mr C P Nicholas, Project Monitoring Officer of FVTRS.



Partner Presentations at Alleppey Meet

Participants visited skill training centres of beautician and mobile-phone repairing run by Alleppey Diocesan Charitable and Social Welfare Society, Alleppey. A visit to the Agriculture Fest at Kottayam organised by Kottayam Social Service Society was undertaken to interact with members of self-help groups and beneficiaries of FVTRS partners. They exhibited both agro and non-agro products and show-cased their skills in various fields as well. Fr Michael Veticattil facilitated the programme.



Agriculture Fest at KSSS, Kottayam

### Governing Board and PSC Meetings

Governing Board and Project Selection Committee (PSC) meetings were held at Bangalore on 3 November. PSC has approved 20 project proposals including seven under EU-supported project for a sum of Rs. 93 lakh.

### Promotional Consultations

A Promotional Consultation workshop was organised at Seva Kendra at Kolkata on 25 November. Thirty participants attended the programme mainly from Krishnagar district, West Bengal. Dr P Basak presented a paper on generic skills.

Another Promotional Consultation Workshop was organised at Kannur on 6 December. Twenty-two participants from NGOs along with church leaders from northern Malabar took part. Fr Romace Antony, Director, Kerala Social Service Forum facilitated the consultation.



Fr Antony facilitating the Kannur Consultation



Kolkata Consultation

### Finance Team Visits West Bengal

Mr Vittal Rao, Auditor and Mr Eldhose Alias, Finance Officer, FVTRS visited three projects in Kolkata, Nadia and Howrah districts of West Bengal from 25 to 29 October. They reviewed documents of formation, legal compliances, audited financial statements, book-keeping control system and organisation and management systems.



PSC Meeting in Session

### Panchayat Presidents Attend Workshop on Vocational Training

Presidents from seven panchayats and ward members attended the day-long workshop on vocational training at Santhigram, near Kovalam, Kerala on 16 November 2010. The occasion was used to distribute certificates to the trainees who have completed the training in various trades. The newly-elected ward members were felicitated on the occasion. Mr Pankajakshan from Santhigram facilitated the workshop.



Mr Albert Joseph Felicitating a Panchayat Leader at the State-level Workshop on Vocational Skill Training at Tiruvananthapuram

### CII 4th Global Summit, Mumbai

Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) Mumbai unit organised a Global Skill Summit on 29 and 30 November at Mumbai which was attended by stakeholders from industry, corporate, business, educational and civil society organisations. Guests included delegates from Australia, United States and Ireland. FVTRS too attended the summit. Presentations and discussions by and large focused on areas where skilled hands could be catered to the organised sector. Participants expressed concern over the fact that successful indigenous entrepreneur models that emerged in the country over a period of time was not recognised and given due importance.



At the CII Summit, Mumbai

### EU Auditors Visit FVTRS

Mr Shailendra Mathur and Mr Girish Ahuja, Auditors from European Union, New Delhi visited FVTRS from 22 to 25 November for 'On the spot checking mission' of the EU-supported project 2007-09. They interacted with staff concerned and verified documents related mainly to accounts and reporting.

### MDP Training at IRMA

Ms Arpana Bharti, Documentation Officer attended the three-day management development programme (MDP) on 'Data Management Skills' from 7 to 9 December 2010. Ms Diviana Nayagi G, Secretary, Programme and Ms Usha R, Project Monitoring Officer, FVTRS underwent a four-day MDP on 'Enhancing Managerial Effectiveness' from 14 to 17 December.

Both these programmes were conducted by the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA), Anand, Gujarat.

### Project Related Information

#### Project Monitoring and Pre-Assessment Visits

Mr C Nicholas and Ms Usha, Project Monitoring Officers undertook monitoring visits to four projects and pre-assessment visits to nine projects in the States of Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala and West Bengal during the quarter.

#### New Proposals Received

Sixty-five projects proposals were received in the quarter. Out of these, 15 proposals are from EU-supported project operational areas.

#### Fund Released

Rs. 66 lakh has been released for various projects during the quarter.

### Miscellaneous

#### Research and Study

Draft policy paper on 'Research and Study' has been developed by Dr P Bask which is being finalised for application by prospective stakeholders.

#### Block Placement

Two MSW students on Community Development - Ms Krithika B P and Ms Ledfinaro Tsudir - from Christ University, Bangalore are currently undergoing training at FVTRS on a three-month placement as part of their curriculum.

#### Interim Auditing

Half-yearly interim auditing of FVTRS and EU projects has been done and the report submitted.

#### Forthcoming Publication

### Appropriate Alternatives - A Micro Perspective on Skill Development for School Dropout Youth

Study done by Research and Analysis Consultants (RAC) for FVTRS

## EU- Supported Project on 'Vocational Education and Training for Vulnerable and Marginalised Groups in India'

### Youth Convention at Shillong

Rejuvenating the enthusiasm of 197 youth through his presentation, 'Make future as you dream', Mr Rajen Das, Principal of Rafael Academy and resource person from Siliguri, West Bengal drove home the importance of acquiring skills for school dropout youth. The occasion was the Youth Convention on 'Skills and Vocational Training as an Alternative Career Option', organised by Dimapur regional team on 15 October under the aegis of Indian Catholic Youth Movement at St Anthony's Higher Secondary School premises, Shillong, Megalaya. He emphasised on measures to make 70 per cent young population of the country skilled and thereby worthy for employment through vocational education training (VET) and promotion of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Emerging Indian economy, industry and allied sectors will require a huge number of skilled persons, he added, based on the statistics and the document 'Vision 2020'.



Mr Rajen Das at Shillong Convention



Some Participants of the Youth Convention at Shillong

Mr Balakrushna Panda, Asst. Project Manager, Mr Prashanth R B, Central Documentation Officer, Bangalore; Ms Akokla Imsong, Regional Manager and Mr Raju Teron, Documentation Officer, Dimapur took sessions on FVTRS' focus on school dropout youth, and importance of soft skills, and on problems of youth in the north-east region.

### Entrepreneurs' Convention

To introduce budding young entrepreneurs to the world of entrepreneurship and to motivate them to



Entrepreneurs' Convention, Hyderabad

venture in setting up their own enterprise, a one-day Entrepreneurs' Convention was held on 28 December at ALEAP (Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of Andhra Pradesh), Industrial Estate, Hyderabad. Thirty-four trainees from four partner organisations of FVTRS' EU-supported project attended. Ms K Rama Devi, CEO, ALEAP inaugurated the workshop and spoke about possibilities of running an enterprise; passion for starting one's own enterprise, the grit, determination and perseverance to go all the way. Mr Ajay Babu, Coordinator, ALEAP delved on the schemes and loans available from the government and other sources to start an enterprise.

The testimony of a class 6 dropout provided impetus when she narrated her struggles to start an enterprise and how she currently runs a business with a turnover of Rs. 84 lakh per annum.

### Youth Convention at Hyderabad

Nine partners of FVTRS' EU-supported project sent 84 youth from southern region to the Boys Town in Hyderabad for a one-day Youth Convention. The objective of the convention was to emphasise on the need for acquiring skills to lead a dignified life.

Bro Devasia, Director, Boys Town inaugurated the convention. Mr Ignatius, faculty member, Boys Town took a session on motivation, highlighting the need for hard work and putting in continuous effort to cast away hurdles and obstacles. Mr Sreenivas, a magician, kept the group enthralled by mind boggling magic tricks in the afternoon.

An exposure visit to the ITI training centre was organised to give direction and new enthusiasm to the youth.



Youth Convention, Hyderabad

The European Union



EU-SUPPORTED PROJECT

### Trainees' Maiden Exposure Visit

An exposure visit was organised for school dropout youth of Mon district, Nagaland to RILUM Foundation for Sustainable Development, Smit village that is implementing project supported by FVTRS. Dimapur team coordinated the visit on 15 October along with the youth convention. They came out of their hometown for the first time and learnt the benefit of acquiring skills.



Visit to RILUM Foundation, Smit village, Shillong

### SMEs Benefit from Guwahati Expo

The 15-day long 10th International Guwahati Expo-2010 was held from 29 October to 12 November at Maniram Diwan Trade Centre, Guwahati, Assam. FVTRS partners from north-eastern States of Assam, Nagaland and Tripura displayed their products and articles made of bamboo and rubber seeds, other handicraft and apparels.

The event witnessed participation from countries like Bangladesh, Bhutan, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Organisers and participants shared that the expo was significant for handicrafts and apparel-based small and micro enterprises (SMEs) as it provided the opportunity to promote their products and, consequently, their sectors even among the foreign buyers.

Ms Chinmayee Subash, Project Manager, Ms Akokla Imsong, Regional Manager and Mr Raju Teron, Documentation Officer, Dimapur, of the EU-supported project were present on the opening and closing days.



At the Fair

### European Union Workshop for VET Partners in Bhubaneswar

**Workshop was attended by officials from Labour, Rural and State Government Ministries**

In an effort to strengthen the ties and to plan for the future, the EU organised its first partners' workshop at Bhubaneswar on 9 and 10 December 2010. The workshop was inaugurated by Mr P R Saha, Principal Secretary, Labour, Government of Orissa in the presence of Ms Ellen Pedersen, Head Project Operations from EU Delegation Office, New Delhi. Interactive sessions with stakeholders such as government officials, representatives of the Ministries of Labour and Employment, Rural Development, and of NABARD, the National Skill Development Corporation, and IGNOU were conducted in skill development.



EU-VET Workshop, Bhubaneswar

All nine partner-agencies attended and highlighted their areas of work. The workshop did a stock-taking exercise of its erstwhile activities on the progress made, areas of cooperation and exchange of exposure visits. Thirty-five participants attended the workshop.

The workshop was coordinated by Ms Anasuya Gupta from EU and Mr Subhankar from Welthunger Hilfe, New Delhi.

### Orientation for Partners

Two orientation workshops for new partners of the EU-supported project were organised at Alleppey and Kottayam on 3-5 and at Lucknow on 14-15 December. Twenty-one partners from 17 partner-organisations attended from southern, northern and north-eastern regions. These workshops provided a platform to share experiences from the respective VT projects for the marginalised and vulnerable sections.

Sessions on processes, procedures and monitoring aspects as practised by FVTRS were conducted to ensure better clarity among the partners in their future tasks. Roles and responsibilities of Coordinators of VET projects were explained. Partners shared the progress of the projects, based a ten-point template used on the occasion.

Exposure to ongoing programmes at Alleppey Diocesan Charitable and Social Welfare Society was also organised during the workshop where participants interacted with trainees of Beautician and Mobile Repairing courses.



Orienting Partners at Alleppey

A boat journey from Alleppey to Kottayam and participating in the exhibition at Kottayam where some of the partner organisations displayed their products added flavour to the Alleppey workshop.

While Mr B K Panda, Asst Project Manager and Hyderabad team attended the Alleppey workshop, Ms Chinmayee Subash, Project Manager and the Documentation Officers from Dimapur and Jodhpur regions attended the Lucknow workshop. Mr Felix D'Souza and Mr C P Nicholas, Project Monitoring Officer, FVTRS coordinated both the workshops.



... and at Lucknow

### Familiarisation Visits

Three regional teams went to BRGF districts at Bongaigaon, Barpeta, Hailakandi, Kokrajhar, Morigaon in Assam, Shillong in Meghalaya; Bharatpur, Chittorgarh, Dausa, Jhalawar, Jalor, Sirohi in Rajasthan; Shivpuri, Sheopur in MP; and Medak in AP on familiarisation visits to NGOs during the quarter. Ms Chinmayee Subash visited three organisations in Bhopal in November.

### Monitoring and Pre-Assessment Visits

Four projects in Andhra Pradesh were visited for monitoring by Mr B K Panda along with the Hyderabad regional team. Sixteen projects in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh were visited for pre-assessment during the quarter. Visits were

conducted by Ms Chinmayee, Mr B K Panda from Bangalore; Mr Ankur Kachhwaha, Regional Manager, Jodhpur; Mr D Nageshwar, Regional Manager and Mr Raghuvier, Documentation Officer from Hyderabad in different trips.

## National Skill Conference

India International Centre  
New Delhi

January 10 and 11, 2011

*“Get Linked to Improvise Skill Training Interventions”*

Organised by FVTRS  
in partnership with  
National Institute for Open Schooling  
and supported by  
The European Union and Misereor

### Forthcoming Events

1. Market Fair with DIC, Jodhpur on 2-12 January
2. National Skill Conference at New Delhi on 10-11 January
3. Partners' Meet at New Delhi on 12 January
4. Accredited Partners' Meet at NIOS premises, Noida on 13 January
5. Staff Educational Tour to Agra and New Delhi on 14-15 January
6. Promotional Consultations at Guwahati on 2 February and at Bhopal on 2 March
7. Entrepreneurs' Convention at Guwahati on 4 February
8. Youth and Entrepreneurs' Convention at Jodhpur on 9-10 February
9. Promotional consultation at Mysore in February
10. TNA at Guwahati on 3 February and at Bhopal on 3-4 March
11. Community College Inauguration at Kottayam Social service Society on 19 February
12. Governing Board meeting of FVTRS on 2 March
11. RTI Convention at Shillong on 10-12 March

## From the ED's Desk

A plethora of skill-related summits and conferences are a regularly happening today in the country by a patterned stream of stakeholders like FICCI, CII and the Planning Commission. Why this sudden spurt of consciousness on skill training is as intriguing as whether we are heading towards a 'skill crunch'! A very pertinent question that was asked during a recently-concluded Skill Summit in Mumbai was 'what about the lot of the unorganised sector's needs' are taken care in these summits where the focus was conspicuously focused on the organised sector's needs to sophisticated machines and organised industrial needs. How the young India which is composed of 88 per cent school drop-out youth will participate in the grandiose scheme of '500 million skilled people by 2020' is a mute question. The ministries and corporations meant for the task should broaden and diversify the plans of execution without a myopic and biased view about the private and NGO sectors.

Skill debates are often happening in the country based on the 'demand' dimension in the globalised world. It is sad that this school of thought is not admitting the enormous amount of young people in the country who were denied primary and secondary school education by design. In the first instance the window to the outside world through primary school education was shut to them. The skill debate, therefore, should emanate from this need to find an expression of this opportunity-starved underprivileged youth through a skill-based job rather than speaking in a language to take benefit from the emerging opportunities. If we continue to speak in the former tone, it is like we are not recognising the potential of our people, but the potentials of only an external situation and influence.

Albert Joseph



At the Fair in Guwahati

### Circular From DGE&T

#### GOOD NEWS FROM DGE&T – VT Sector Opens Up

Excerpts from Circular dated 20th/22nd September, 2010

'The council approved the proposal of opening of new ITIs/ITCs by companies like sole propriety, private/public limited, registered under companies act, societies & trusts registered as per act, and promoters of SEZs, etc. Council also approved that these organisation could also set up Trainers' Training Institutes as per rules and Act.

'Government of India has accepted the above proposal for implementation. Henceforth, companies like sole propriety, private / public limited, registered under companies act, societies & trusts registered as per act, and promoters of SEZs, etc. are permitted to open ITIs/ITCs as well as Trainers Training Institutes and seek affiliation from NCVT.'

*For more informatios, please contact DGE&T or refer the website at [www.dget.nic.in](http://www.dget.nic.in).*



VT Trainees at a College in Canberra



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