

## Pankaj Awchat (21)

Mobile-shop owner in Butibori

***"The Technical School gave me the skills and confidence to open my own shop."***



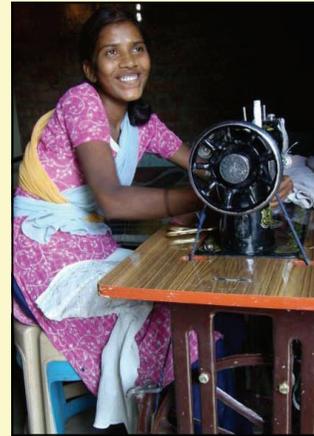
Pankaj Awchat is only 21 years old, and yet he is already running his own mobile shop. In 2006, Pankaj participated in the Ecumenical Sangam's 6-months Electrical Training Course and started his business immediately afterwards. Offering electrical rewinding of mobiles and selling mobile hardware the young entrepreneur is now earning up to Rupees 4,000 per month.

## Sunandha Durhve (19)

Home Tailor in Borkhedi

***"Since I have my own income as a Tailor I feel much more respected by my family."***

At the age of 17, Sundandha was bitten by a snake while working in the fields. As a consequence, half of her foot had to be amputated and now she is only able to work in a seated position. In 2007, Sunandha attended the Sangam's 1-year Sewing and Tailoring Course. In the same year she started her own Tailoring business at home with the help of a loan for a Sewing Machine from the Sangam. Working as a Home Tailor, Sunandha has a stable and comfortable source of income.



# Sangam's

## *Skill-building Programmes*

### TECHNICAL SCHOOL TRAINING SEWING AND TAILORING CLASS



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## About Ecumenical Sangam

Founded in 1993, the **Ecumenical Sangam** is a non-profit Health and Community Development Organisation aiming to empower the poorer sections of society through the provision of **healthcare, education, awareness raising and long-term skill-building activities.**

In Bamhani village, 35 km south of Nagpur, the Sangam runs a Base Centre which includes a Training Centre for Technical and Sewing Classes, a Kindergarten and a Rural Health Centre.



Through the Base Centre and three Sub-centres in Shedeshwar, Gondwananagar and Narayanpur, the Sangam is working in **45 villages** south of Nagpur.

## Sewing and Tailoring Class

In order to provide rural women with an alternative to the low-income daily field work, the Ecumenical Sangam runs **government-recognised** Sewing and Tailoring Classes in the Bamhani Base Centre.



During the 1-year course, participants learn how to stitch up to 30 designs. Since 1995, **325 girls** have completed the training, of which many have now set up **small businesses in their own village.** Reaching out to the more remote villages, the Ecumenical Sangam is running 6-months Sewing Classes in all the three Sub-centres.

## Technical School

The Technical School in Bamhani Base Centre at present provides technical education for young adult males from the villages.

The **boys between 15–25 years** can choose between a 6-months course in House-Wiring & Motor-Rewinding and a 1-year course in Two-Wheeler-Repairing.

On successful completion of the particular course, the students receive a **government recognised certificate** which enables them more easily to obtain jobs.



Since 2004 the Sangam has trained **more than 140 boys**, who are now mostly working in local factories. Others have opened their own technical business.