

# INCLUSION

E-newsletter | March 2021



Dear all,

Join us as we honour the strong, inspiring women at Oasis India!

## #BreakTheBias

Gender bias and discrimination has always existed in our society, but Women's History Month has taken on a new meaning in recent years as we continue to celebrate so many women breaking stereotypes and overcoming challenges to pursue their dreams.

**What bias are you breaking in your family or community? Our staff and women from the community answer.**



# INTERNATIONAL Women's Day

BREAK THE BIAS



*Nu Lamting*  
MANIPUR, NORTHEAST

[www.oasisindia.org](http://www.oasisindia.org)

"I've learnt to be an independent woman through my life experiences and struggles. As my children grew up, they settled with their family and after my husband left me I survived on my own. I had to take care of my grandchildren as well! This experience taught me the most important part about being courageous and standing up not just for myself but for others too. I struggle to meet my monthly expenses. Farming is my only source of income and I have my grandchildren solely dependent on me. I had to learn to manage my expenses along with their schooling. This gave me the motivation to start every new day afresh and wake up with a hope that I don't struggle just for myself and the struggle is going to be fruitful one day."

*Nu Lamting, Manipur*

[Read Here](#)





The hair project teaches hair dressing skills to help rebuild lives broken by trafficking, sex trade and extreme poverty. In this video, the team speaks about the issue of human trafficking, how the hair project started and how it is paving the way for several young women in Mumbai.

*Watch the videos in the link below.*

**The Issue Of Human Trafficking**

**The Hair Project - How It Started**



Kousalya, 25, was part of our 6-month vocational tailoring course in Kalyanapuram,

Chennai. She joined the programme to learn something during her free time, but little did she know that this was going to fuel her passion for designing. Kousalya was at the top of her class, learning quickly and a proactive student, always wanting to learn more. After completing the course, Kousalya continued to drop by the centre and ask questions about the different designs that she was attempting back at home.

Kousalya's husband, an auto driver, was very supportive of her dreams and bought her a sewing machine to begin her small business. She began stitching and her customers grew by word of mouth! She says, "I realised that many people were coming to me after being recommended by a satisfied customer. So I learnt that if I don't overcharge and do work that is satisfying to the customers, then many more people will come to me. "

Kousalya did not always have this support from her extended family. She says, "My own family spoke wrongly of me for attending classes and did not respect me. Now, as they see my growth, they come to me with clothes to stitch. I am able to walk confidently knowing that I am doing something useful with my life. "

The past few months have been very difficult for Kousalya and her husband, but she says that this tailoring skill has helped her. She says, "After my husband's accident, for over a month, he did not have any income. We survived on the money that I got from stitching. My husband smiled at me when I told him that my income would be enough to pay off some of the bills. Even though he did not say it, I knew that he was proud of me. "





ConnectFor is a non-profit organisation that seeks to contribute to the developmental sector by facilitating engagement of the volunteering community, building capacity, and creating value added services for NGOs. For a session called Bloguary, Revathy Sreenath, a volunteer wrote a blog for Oasis India on – “Skills and technology needed to combat cyber trafficking in this post COVID era.”

[Read article here](#)



Priya was struggling in school. She hated the crowd and wanted to stay in the quiet and comfort of her home. Her father was very worried about her lack of motivation to learn and her fear of speaking to people as it was a great obstacle for her academic growth.

Things slowly changed when Priya joined our basic computer course in Nalasopara, Mumbai. At the centre, she learnt about the different career options that are available and was inspired to become a banker. Then she realised that to work in a bank, she needs people management skills and her biggest fear was talking to people. The life skills sessions and the presentation classes helped her break out of her shell. Priya became confident in speaking up and started studying well too! Priya's father was very emotional watching her speak boldly in class and even in public!

This transformation may be small for many of us, but for girls like Priya, who have lived all their lives in small boxes, unable to break free; this is a huge confidence booster.

**TODAY YOU CAN HELP**

**RESTORE** *dignity & hope*

Oasis



**GIVE TODAY**

[www.oasisindia.org](http://www.oasisindia.org)

**RECREATE** *dreams and lives*



**REBUILD** *the lives of vulnerable women & children*



Help women like Kousalya and Priya achieve their full potential by joining our 500 club.

Your contribution will help restore dignity and hope for the victims of human trafficking, recreate dreams and lives, and rebuild the lives of vulnerable women and children in India.

**Give Today**





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