



# Impact Evaluation of the Project "Establishment of 18 New Youth Training Centres (1st Phase-8 Centres)"

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## Impact Evaluation of the Project "Establishment of 18 New Youth Training Centres (1st Phase - 8 Centres)"

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## **Executive Summary**

In order to evaluate the impact of the 7 NYTC, established during 2004-2007 in geographical regions not covered by 47 YTC, IMED has undertaken this impact evaluation. The primary objective of the evaluation is to assess the changes occurred among the youth as a direct consequence of the training imparted by NYTC. The study team covered the 7 NYTC and 1230 graduates of these training centers and collected relevant information through interviews with the DPC and graduates of these centres. In addition, the study team asked the 16 data collectors to record their daily field observation and also conduct case studies of three successful and three unsuccessful graduates. The information collected through these approaches serves as a basis of this evaluation.

The NYTC offered two courses: three months residential and one month non residential course. It is observed that the enrolment was a function of the availability of funds. The total enrolment was about 80% of the target number. During the three years (2004 – 2007) a total of 4706 were enrolled and among them 3786 (81%) successfully completed the course. Female trainees constituted 17% of the total enrolment.

The budget was found to be inadequate for the training programme. There was no head in the budget for maintenance of equipments and buildings, expenditure on important items. The stipend amount was only nominal, far below the amount required for maintaining a subsistence level of living. The teachers were qualified, trained and experienced.

The project with all manpower was not transferred to revenue budget. Consequently the teachers are frustrated and leading a miserable life. Even then they are running the centers with the hope that one day the YTC will be included in the revenue budget.

Teachers, graduates and community people confirmed that the centers had been very successful. At present the quality is gradually deteriorating due to the facts that the trainers are not able to use teaching aids and modern equipments in the practical classes. The graduates and the teachers confirmed that the training opened big opportunity for self employment. The employment opportunity is very limited for the youth of the country.

The graduates and trainers opined that training alone does not guarantee self employment, because the graduates are from poor or low middle income groups, and they face problems in mobilizing capital required to start a business (self employment). Support from parents and relatives are also required to boost moral support. Those who were fortunate to avail these opportunities are now most successful entrepreneurs. Their monthly income is reasonably high to

maintain a decent living. They are now empowered. Their life skills are helping them to bring about a total change in their socio-economic status.

Those who could not mobilize capital are leading a frustrated life. Most of them are now unemployed, though their life skill is high, they are unable to find a suitable place in the job market. The success and failure stories reveal a true picture of how graduates are finding their places in the world of work.

The evaluation confirmed that the YTC has been playing an outstanding role in

- a. helping the youth to acquire skill and becoming self employed
- b. helping the youth to plan a enterprise, making it profitable and efficient.
- c. creating a sense of self reliant among the trained graduates.
- d. acquiring life skill to meet other challenges and empowerment.
- e. acquiring planning and management skill to effectively and efficiently use their enterprise to increase family income and prestige in the community.
- f. helping the graduates to lead a corporate life.

The strength and weaknesses of the project has been discussed. Based on the findings the team recommends the following for making the project relevant to the underserved youth of this country.

### Recommendations:

The recommends are:

- The country should have a uniform definition of "youth", and that the Department of Youth Development should provide a uniform definition of "youth" for the country
- 2. The relevant organization must ensure availability of baseline data before the start of new projects.
- 3. To upgrade the NYTC and then allow the NYTC to continue imparting training to the unemployed and underemployed youth.
  - Before upgrading NYTC the Department of Youth Development should examine the weaknesses of the project discussed in 2.15 and then undergo a complete overhaul.
- 4. The NYTC project with all its manpower should be placed in the revenue budget immediately.
- 5. More trained teachers are to be recruited.
- 6. Emphasis should be given to three months residential training.
- 7. Fund for the training of trainers should be arranged.
- 8. The YTC should introduce short training courses on motor driving, nursing etc...

- 9. The selection of trade for imparting training at the NYTC should be need based, and the local needs should be given priority.
- 10. The department of youth development should regularly conduct market research to identify the trades having demand at home and abroad.
- 11. Curricula should be flexible to accommodate local needs.
- 12. For self employment within the country the suggested trades are: computer, motor driving: tailoring, nursing, bee culture, mushroom, strawberry and orange cultivation etc.
- 13. For self employment abroad the suggested trades are: motor driving, hotel management, house keeping, plumbing, barber cum hair dressing etc.
- 14. The NYTC should take necessary measures to repair the repairable equipments and machineries, withdraw all non-repairable through replacing by modern ones within a short period.
- 15. Fund for maintenance of equipments, purchasing training aids, training materials should be created.
- 16. The Department of Youth Development should make the loan disbursing process simple, by removing all complexities. The existing disbursing system is full of complexities and is not working well.
- 17. The loan amount should be determined on the basis of the need of the graduate to start self employment in a particular area.
- 18. The existing inadequate stipend amount should be enhanced to enable trainees to maintains a subsistence level of living. Trainees should also make participatory contribution to the total cost of training.

### 5.6 Concluding observations:

If the above recommendations are implemented the training now imparted at NYTC would soon become (a)more relevant to the unemployed youth representing the poor and middle class families, (b) effective in the sense that the centers would be able to impart quality training; (c) efficient in the sense that the cost per trainee would be very low; (d) sustainable in the sense that the demand for training would gradually increase.