

*HUNAR-SE-ROZGAR “REALISING THE DREAMS OF DIFFERENTLY ABLED AS WELL”.*

The institute of Hotel Management, Hyderabad under the auspices of Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India has been conducting Hunar-Se-Rozgar programme to the unemployed and unskilled youth and has so far trained about 500 candidates in Food Production and Food Service areas and is going to open up for House-men and Bakery courses also.

As a special initiative mooted by Sri Jayesh Ranjan IAS, Secretary A.P. Tourism and Chairperson of IHM, Hyd., the institute has drawn and trained youth who are differently abled. About 15 orthopaedically challenged were trained and about 10 more are currently being trained along with 20 hearing-impaired under the Hunar-Se-Rozgar programme. Some of the candidates belong to outside Hyderabad and are provided accommodation and food during the course period.

Some hoteliers have already employed these candidates and the feedback given by them has been very encouraging.

Recently the institute held a meeting of HR managers of hotels to showcase this and also to sensitise them. Sri Jayesh Ranjan chaired the meet and requested hoteliers to absorb these candidates not as an obligation. He mentioned that these people were focussed and turnout as much as an able bodied. What hoteliers needed was a mental preparation than any physical investment. He also mentioned that these people would stick to the job and give the best to the organisation. This was very well received and opened up avenues at more hotel properties.

Enclosed are articles / news reports published in The Hindu News paper of 15-06-11 and 20-06-11 for your information.

- Madhu Sudhana Rao P.

*The following pages comprise of the paper coverage picked up from The Hindu e-paper dated 15-06-2011 and 20-06-2011 on the Hunar se Rozgar for the differently abled at IHMCT, Hyderabad:*

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### **Hospitality sector jobs for unemployed youth**

Staff Reporter

HYDERABAD: Unemployed youth from all over the State are being trained and placed free of cost by hotel management institutes under 'Hunar Se Rozgar', a skill development programme launched by the Ministry of Tourism.

In its second year now, the programme has placed several underprivileged youth in reputed hotels and restaurants. "The hospitality sector has the potential to employ more people than the more famous IT sector.

"This is an effort by the government to help economically weaker sections and create a huge pool of talent for the growing hospitality sector," said Jayesh Ranjan, Secretary, Tourism of the Youth Advancement, Tourism & Culture Department.

The fully-funded programme trains people between 18 and 28 years of age who have passed a minimum of eighth standard, in a six-week-long Food and Beverage Service course or an eight-week-long Food Production course.

Students are also are paid a monthly stipend of about Rs. 2000.

"The government spends a minimum of Rs. 5,000 on each person for their training, uniform, and accommodation, if required. Last year, 400 students were trained and picked up by several hotels. Students are also trained in tailor-made courses such as housekeeping, security, and gardening, based on industry needs," said S. Sudha Kumar, Principal, Institute of Hotel Management.

The programme is being undertaken in several government and private hotel management institutes of the State, including the Institutes of Hotel Management in Tirupati and Medak.

It also provides certificates to skilled persons in the industry who have been employed without a certificate after conducting a test.

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### **A new support system for differently abled persons**



**High hopes: Differently abled students of the Institute of Hotel Management (IHM) take a cooking class. — Photo: Surya Sridhar**

Pavithra S. Rangan

HYDERABAD: She walks precariously balancing the weight of her entire body on one leg, but with a smile that assures a concerned onlooker that she is confident of her act.

In the 15 of the 21 years she has lived, Prema has gracefully learnt to carry the burden of her leg – rendered dysfunctional by a polio attack.

Donning a black and white chequered uniform, a cap, and an apron and accessorised with pleasing ways, she is one of the 30 physically challenged youth who have been trained by the State and employed by some of the finest hotels and restaurants in the city.

Ironically, Prema is unsuccessful in being able to bear the brunt of her family and village. “I was made to feel guilty to have two square meals a day and my smallest desires were answered by spiteful remarks. When the ‘Hunar Se Rozgar’ programme came to my village, I left because I wanted to be independent. My family did not give me even the bus fare for my travel, they only swore at me,” she said.

Her voice trembled and tears filled her eyes.

The ‘Hunar Se Rozgar’ is a fully funded training programme initiated by the Ministry of Tourism, to provide employment to underprivileged rural young in the growing

hospitality sector.

Prema has now been placed after training, with three other physically challenged people, Radha, Ashok, and Suresh at the Inner Circle, a business hotel in the city.

#### Dedication

“While some faculties of the differently abled people do not function, their other faculties are sharper than an average person. They barely get distracted while at work and their dedication is commendable,” said Jayesh Ranjan, Secretary to the Government, Ministry of Tourism.

Aditya Park, Novotel, Lemon Tree, and Taj Banjara are among the hotels which have employed orthopedically challenged as well as hearing and speech impaired persons in varied departments like housekeeping, kitchen, store, bakery, butchery, etc.

#### Efficient workforce

“They work very efficiently and their sense of loyalty is unmatched. The training they undergo at the Institute of Hotel Management is also very good,” said Pankaj Saxena, General Manager, Aditya Park.

Employers of several hotels are satisfied with the quality of their work and their loyalty ensures that the hotel saves on costs of re-recruiting and re-training.

“Their lives are changing on being employed and they are becoming increasingly confident. We are even undergoing training to be able to communicate to them better,” Abhijeet Srivastav, Assistant Vice President of Lemon Tree, which has recruited eleven persons.

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