



## **Blind Lead Trust**

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**Registration no. 757-2018**

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### **Background Of The Organization:**

Blind Lead Trust (nnnnnnnnBLT) is an organization registered on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018 as a Public Trust and also it has been registered under the act of the Rights of Persons With Disabilities(RPWDS-2016) on the 26th April in the year of 2022. Its aim is to bring equal opportunities in education and learning for the visually impaired by providing them free training courses, free hostels and to work for the welfare of the visually impaired community. It aims to provide the visually-impaired with jobs, to provide free training courses in an accessible way to the visually-impaired citizens in the state of Meghalaya and across the country. In the state of Meghalaya there are no institutions or organizations which provide free educational training courses and accomodation for the visually impaired, it is only the Blind Lead Trust which does that. The Blind Lead Trust has trustees, staff and fellows who are being trained, learned, to support each other. At present, the organization has an office in Nongthymmai Lawjynriew, Shillong, Meghalaya and a website as well as a Facebook page in the name of Blind Lead Trust as well as Trust Deed. BLT India is a non-profit organization based in Shillong, Meghalaya with the mission to protect the rights of the visually impaired, to also make improvements for their future, to help them to fulfill their dreams, to participate in society and to be more in-reliant and self-sufficient. List of beneficiaries may include – Six (6) Staff, Seven(7) Trusties, and the total beneficiaries are fifty-eight(58) which have benefited from our organization till now.

## **Aims and Objectives of the Organization;**

1. To undertake programmes/projects for the personal development and for the benefit of blind and low vision, including education, awareness, independence and productivity.
2. To undertake programmes/projects for socio-economic development and social integration for the visually impaired community.
3. To promote and propagate awareness and rights of the visually impaired persons.
4. To undertake any other objects of public utility.

## **Introduction:**

Small scale industries are those in which manufacturing, service provision, and production are carried out on a small scale. Small scale industries are made up of small businesses that produce goods or services with the help of relatively limited machines and a small number of workers and employees. The Blind Lead Trust(BLT) is a non-profit organization that specifically focuses on the welfare of the visually impaired or other people with disabilities if needed. Throughout this year the organization has focused to train the visually impaired based on technology such as smartphones and computers but in the year 2021 the organization has started a Broom Project But in the year 2023 the organization has started to renew and work out with the other handicrafts too,where the organization allows the visually impaired trainees to come to do the craft training. The Blind Lead Trust has launch this craft training because it wants to give the opportunity to the underprivileged visually impaired or other which need to be chosen for any type of disabilities with whom we can collaborate. in our state and northeast India especially for those who are unable to educate themselves in school since their parents could not afford to send them to school,it wants that all the visually impaired should be independent to earn their own income.

As to start the craft training The organization had chosen to work out first with the broom product as to begin with the handicraft project, according to its visibility it observed that the visually impaired in our state feel more easy and comfortable to make this product. They knew that it could be

much easier and accessible. This kind of product that the organization has chosen is also suitable for the visually impaired and they do not need a huge amount to set up a business even though a small amount can help them to start their work related to this product. But the problem is affecting how we know whether they have or not their talents which they don't have a better place to access. The organization had taken the steps to expand the project based on this product according to the interest of the visually impaired. Almost all of the visually impaired in Meghalaya make brooms from their villages and towns and come to sell in the rural market of their village, also they come to Shillong city such as markets, schools, offices, banks etc, or if there is any options the government can help to supply the products that is for the future plans that we have so that visually impaired and other people with disabilities do not need to struggle regarding with the marketing supplies. By doing this the visually impaired people are happy since they are able to gain their own income. So, it makes them work better based on their capabilities. Therefore on behalf of the organization we want to expand this trading, to improve more and to increase the marketing of this product. We also want to make this trading quality of the visually impaired to grow and to make it sustainable so that they can take this as their own small practice business in order to make it much easier. The organization is ready to collect the ideas and knowledge based on the experiences of the visually impaired people in order to market according to the quantities and qualities of the product. It will also arrange the prices of this product in a way that can be fit and the people can take more interest so that we can develop and expand this trading. We can also make the availability of online marketing but we exactly do not have any experience or idea on how to sell or deal the products with the good supplies. Through this project we will experience how to deal with merchants in order to make more brooms so that there can be a high demand in the market. It will be a great opportunity for the visually impaired to spend their time in broom making and can fulfill their daily needs according to this generation. By having this project it is a courage to the visually impaired to show up their skill not only for themselves but to the world. So, to make these types of handicraft designs is not a big problem actually in our state because we can get materials or things based on the farmer.

### **Statement of the problem:**

The organization has faced lots of circumstances on how to set up handicraft projects for the visually impaired since it is a small organization which needs support from other institutions, government offices

or companies where it has to manage by itself on how to start this project with its small finances. The organization doesn't want to give up because it observes that most of the visually impaired have great skills to do the handicraft work. The organization saw that the visually impaired have their skills but without proper knowledge and encouragement they never come up to the conclusion to achieve the particular goal. The organization wants to help them by giving them some tasks to do where they can financially support themselves and they can live their life depending on themselves rather than to depend on others, but we have done our best to fulfill the needs of the visually impaired related to promote their handicraft skills and to expand this project since we have various obstacles and lack of financial support. The organization had started a Broom Project for the visually impaired so that they can earn something in their life rather than being idle at home. Even though we have already started this project, we have lots of difficulties on how to run this project smoothly. The organization could not get a perfect hostel for the visually impaired beneficiaries to come to stay and do their training comfortably since we need to separate the hostel between boys and girls to save the trainees, by having a separate hostel the organization can get more beneficiaries and it can expand this project.

We bought a broom from Mawiong stock, apart from that we also bought materials such as plastic, hacksaw, knives etc. To make the broom. As to start this handicraft training, in order to teach the trainees the organization had rented one house in Nongthymmai which contained three rooms. This house that the organization had rented is too small and it cannot keep more brooms and there is not enough space to take more trainees actually. If we could not get a perfect hostel for the trainees and a good place to store the brooms it would damage and not be suitable to buy in the market. Having said that, we may change the location of the trainees center as per convenience. The organization also faced difficulty since it is unable to market the products and how to advertise and make some attractions to the pupils. So, we do not get any solution based on how to deal with this matter. Unfortunately if we cannot move ahead to increase the economy of this product we will not be able to pay off the rent of the house as it is so costly and also we have to pay the salaries of trainers and staff in the organization. On behalf of the organization we cannot market this product throughout the year in the state only because the people used to buy only one or two products in a year and they will use them throughout the year so it will take time for the customer to finish their brooms, definitely there will be a problem for the visually impaired as they depend on it. The organization has worked hard to expand this project so that it can help the visually impaired but if we cannot retail this product in the market there will be a great loss, it will not only affect the organization but especially to visually impaired who work hard day by day to

earn for their livelihood. Our organization needs support from the government, NGOs and other departments of the society to help us to gain something on how to help visually impaired people to fulfill their needs, especially to develop their skills and talent of becoming a leader in their life. Our main idea is on how to make and sell more products in order to promote more trades for the people with disabilities. Absolutely, we will not let the visually impaired to just depend on others but we shall enforce them that they should overcome obstacles and fight various drawbacks and to gain independence in their life. The visually impaired do not obtain any job just like the sighted people who always get a good job. So through this project we can assure them that this is the only basic way of living, courage and give them a good opportunity to practice work. According to the visibility of the organization it always sees that the visually impaired face many challenges and difficulties to deal with the society as most of the people in the society ignore them as they are visually impaired and no one wants to work with them. But the problem arrived because they were totally blind persons. It is very difficult for them to travel across and all of the areas, not only that, they are unable to reach out to various places which are far away from Shillong and also other places to Shillong to carry along with their products. At the same time, they went to markets to sell their products. There are a lot of comments by the public like why these kinds of people have to do such things and even some of them used to say that the words which the visually impaired do not want to hear discouraged them to stand on their own feet. So, if society does not allow for the visually impaired to pursue their trades with their own capability, then how can we expect something to be included in the society? So, the main problem was the transportation which is very difficult and not accessible for them. And also some people are trying to take advantage of the visually impaired in the markets just because they know that they cannot see this problem though it's made the visually impaired to feel sad. The organization wants them to feel free to work according to their capabilities, especially to use their talent and to teach other visually impaired so that they can lead by themselves and choose their own path.

### **Project Scope Planning:**

The organization had a plan related to the ideas and solutions on how to search the ways and means based on how to make our trading sustainable and how to market the product to assist the visually impaired. The plan that the organization have are:

- (1) to make it as a practice to search connections and how to deal with online marketing.
- (2) how to supply our products in our own state, across the country and even in the whole world.

(3) to make it a practice on how to search the ways and means for up till what level we are being successful for the procedure that we made and what is needed, we can also find ways even with the other procedures too.

(4) We also want to teach how to supply the products in every market for instance such as groceries, stationery shops, hotels, restaurants etc. we want to do this both online and offline.

(5) We also have a plan to advertise our products so that people can be aware and recognise the products to provide as practice for the trainees. Through our plans, people who work in offices, hotels, restaurants, and shops can order products from the cellars the other suppliers used to do. In our journey we will also try to work out with the other plans from time to time on how the trainees or we can supply our products, to partnership and also what kinds of skills related to these types of tasks. That means after the training. If the government also wants the products we can discuss with them as an option.

### **Outcomes:**

If any visually impaired beneficiaries come to do the training in our organization we shall train them on how to make brooms and they will also know related to our plans and syllabus that we have organized and set in a proper manner. Maybe the organization will take it as a practice on how to cope up with various difficult situations and it will teach the beneficiaries according to our syllabus that we have set. After the beneficiaries have completed the course according to the syllabus that we have organized, They will get a certificate and they can also obtain skills and ideas related to handicraft through all these they can gain from their own income. The organization will not only provide certificates and knowledge towards the beneficiaries but it will also teach them on how to deal with their marketing, how to be able to calculate and manage with their products and how to understand related to the profit and loss of their products, what are their outcome and income bases how they can sustain their financial for how to know that their money are being used by them etc. The organization will teach the beneficiaries according to the modern technologies that they use such as smartphones, computers and ios. The organization will teach according to its capabilities on how to benefit the trainees. If the visually impaired beneficiaries are being trained under our organization it will also guide them on how to do the communication skills related with how to deal with their customers, how to attract them and in what manner they should pack their products to the customer, etc.

**Target group:** Underprivileged and illiterate visually impaired.

## **GOAL:**

The main goal of the organization are:

1. To promote the underprivileged visually impaired and other PWDs who are in need in developing their handicraft skill.
2. To enhance the trading quality for the visually impaired and others.

## **OBJECTIVE:**

- To implement handicraft work for the visually impaired that can benefit them.
- To train the visually impaired who came from underprivileged backgrounds.
- To promote and help the visually impaired on to expand their trading skills.

## **Budget:**

These are the estimations for the budget and expenditure regarding this project.

1. House rent Rs 20,500/ per month. The total in a year Rs 246,000/-
2. Electricity Bills 1,200/ per month. So, the total in a year RS 14,400/-
3. Food contribution of the students Rs 2,000/ each trainee so then if 10 trainees Rs 20,000/.so, 10 trainees are expected in one barge. So, the total in the year Rs 240,000/-
4. Salary of the trainer Rs 12,500/ per month. The total in a year Rs 150000/-
5. Salary of the Warden Rs 9,500/ per month. So, the total in a year Rs 114,000/-
6. Office purpose to perform various tasks which will direct or deal according to this project. Rs 8,000/ per month. So, the total in a year Rs 96,000/-
7. So, the total here is Rs 860,400/

The expenditure for one time purchase which we require at least once and a year are:

1. Broomcorn for 5 quantals, 3 quantals number one and 2 quantals number two. So , the total amount Rs 52,000/-
2. Plastic Thread, Rs 300/ per KG and requires 20 KG. so, the total Rs 6000/-
3. Bamboos: There are three types of bamboo which are traditional bamboos so that it will not affect the environment if we make the handicraft. 5500/ per one time and three times in a year is needed to buy. So, the total amount Rs 16500/-
4. Knife: Rs 150/ per one knife. Require 5, the total Rs 750/-
5. Knife Stone: Rs 450/ require 3 in a year total Rs 1350/-
6. Dustbin: 80/ require 5 dustbins and the total Rs 400/-
7. Electric Kettle: Rs 1400/-
8. LED Bulbs: Rs 1360/ for 8 Bulbs.
9. Hacksaw: Rs 3000/ for two types of hacksaw.

10. Bed: Rs 750/ per each bed. Require 10 beds the total Rs 7500/-  
 11. Mattress: Rs 850/ per each. Require 10 mattresses and the total Rs 8500/-  
 12. Website designer by the (Shillongitude Company) Rs 49000/- blindlead.in  
 13. The total is Rs 147760/  
 14. Therefore, the total of all the budget are Rs 1008,160/-

**Name of the trainee:**

| <b>sln.</b> | <b>Name</b>        | <b>Address</b>                            | <b>Disability</b>      | <b>Contact</b> |
|-------------|--------------------|---|------------------------|----------------|
| 1           | Joine Dkhar        | Jalilah East Jaintia Hills Districts      | Blind                  | 8837096459     |
| 2           | Mary Kyndait       | Kremmyrsiang West Jaintia hills Districts | Blind                  | 8974050816     |
| 3           | Joshila Makdoh     | Umkei Ri -Bhoi Districts                  | Blind                  | 6009799737     |
| 4           | Ram Suiam          | Shangpung West Jaintia Hills Districts    | Difficulty in speaking | 6009233167     |
| 5           | Viness Pale        | Namdong West Jaintia Hills Districts      | Locomotor              | 9233205156     |
| 6           | Kynsaibor Wankhar  | Malki East Khasi Hills Districts          | Low vision             | 9774699232     |
| 7           | Maxwell Kharmujai  | Sohryngkham East Khasi Hills Districts    | Difficulty in Speaking | 8729875633     |
| 8           | Meban Shabong      | Laitlyngkot East Khasi Hills Districts    | Difficulty in Speaking | 8974926863     |
| 9           | Shimti Mawlong     | Mairang Eastern West Khasi Hills          | Blind                  | 7629887457     |
| 10          | Junepol Warkhyllaw | Sohryngkham East Khasi Hills Districts    | Difficulty in Speaking | 6909218880     |

**Conclusion :**

The Blind Lead Trust organization would like to conclude that through these projects we can promote persons with visual impairment by ensuring that there shall be good opportunities for them to develop



their lives by securing a bright life and independent future. We hope that it can sustain and also help the visually impaired overcome the obstacles which they are facing in their day-to-day lives. We can inspire and encourage the underprivileged visually impaired especially for those who are illiterate to spread and show to the world who they are and in which way they perform their daily duty to earn. We also wish that our organization will grow further in achieving a goal and bring a change in the society.