

**BALAGHAT – GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT  
ASHA NIVAS**

**Training in RAVADBUNDI**



**In April this year we received a grant from the Scottish Government through Ms. Manuela Colletti of Youth for Economic Justice, Scotland. It was her continuous effort that procured this grant for her. May God bless her abundantly.**

**This project caters to providing business opportunities to women as collectives and individual micro businesses.**

**We visited some villages and slums to ascertain the possibility of conducting this sort of work and zeroed in upon Ravadbundi, Hirapur and Gaurishankar Nagar. The women were initially enthusiastic after our repeated visits and efforts to convince them. Earlier they had been cheated by many people who promised them projects and began some work but within about 4 to six months vanished from the site. So we had to do a lot of ground work to convince them.**

**We offered them incense stick (agarbatthi) making and sewing. Some of the women had made incense sticks before marriage and showed enthusiasm to start this. We conducted trainings in the 3 sites. We tapped new villages and are now working in Danshua and Tekadi too.**



About 6 women have begun sole ownership micro businesses in artificial jewellery, masala making and selling, clothes business and petty shops. We hope to empower more women for micro businesses both in Balaghat and Garratola.

We are grateful to God, Manuela and the Scottish Government for supporting us in this project.



**Training in  
HIRAPUR**

**Training in  
GAURISHANKAR  
NAGAR**

