## **LINKAGE PADA Update**



Every sewing student creates a pattern book of doll sized clothes. They are taught how to resize for whatever garment size is needed.

My name is Priya. I'm a ninth grader and I asked if I could take the sewing class during my summer holiday. I am an academic "topper" having won several competitions regionally. My parents are farm laborers. I have two



sisters.

The class's youngest student and graduating mom.

A proud display of talent and skills.



This is Priyanka and her son. She had polio and cannot work in the fields. "Thanks for the program and assistance to purchase a machine."



I grew up around a sewing mom and observed her as a boy evaluating the sewn seams on homemade garments and toys. At our graduation gatherings each student brings to me their pattern book and sewing samples. With a critical eye and abundant praise I evaluate their new found skills.

Stats: Program inception: 2018

Graduates: 115

Hours training per student: 400 Sewing machines purchased: 67

Currently all graduates receive a stipend of 35% toward the cost of a new machine. Then a bank loans the remaining 65% with their graduation certificate as collateral.

New machines cost \$100.

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Field Notes from Rajupalem, AP, India Murray msmeck@msn.com

Samples from a graduate's pattern book.

