

**Minutes of Conference Call  
May 31<sup>st</sup> 2007**

**Attendees:**

Santhosh Padmanabhan  
Preethi Narayanan

**The Cloth's Unit**

Porkodi the VT & OT unit coordinator was not available to discuss the progress of the unit so we spoke to another volunteer.

The Cloth Bag unit has been doing tremendously well and has shown continuous improvement for the past 2 months. The embroidery designs have been done outside and stitching is done by the Banyan residents.

The unit has been in contact with National Institute of Design (NIFT) to help the residents with new innovative designs which will attract customers and also help them compete in the market

**The Café'**

They are also planning to open a Café' similar to the one in Kilpauk. This Café' is also for visitors and they are basically aimed in increasing job opportunities among the residents and also make money in the process.

**Vizhuthugal**

Registering Vizhuthugal as a Self Help Group in going on. The number problems faced by the residents are usually assisted by a social worker to solve them. One of the remarkable thing of this conference call was when the volunteer expressed their recent attempt in solving a problem by themselves rather than wait for their social worker to assist them.

One of the residents child had to be released form the government care center so that the child can join school in his mother's hometown. But the government authorities refused to release the child on the ground that mother has to be accompanied by the social worker to establish the mental soundness of the mother in taking care of the child. But resident did not budge and eventually 3 kids has been released by the authorities.