


# Progress report (15 September-12<sup>th</sup> December)

## SITCO Traditional embroidery training cum production centre

### Mithi District Tharparkar

#### Indigenous & Traditional Embroidery

Training Centre Mithi-Tharparkar




Indigenous and traditional embroidery of Sindh has been practiced in rural areas of Sindh and is deeply rooted in the cultural heritage of Sindh. Thari embroidery is unique form of hand embroidery and is famous around the world due to its vibrant colours, intricacy of stitches uniqueness.

Mithi is district head quarter of Tharparkar at a distance of approx: 225 kilometres from district Hyderabad. Tharparkar is the main hub of art and crafts. The communities living in Tharparkar comprises of Thakurs, Maharaj, Maheshwaris, Meghwars, Bheels, Rabaris, Sutar, Lohanas, Memon, Khaskeli, Junejas, Bajeeer and Janjis.

#### Meghwar Community:

Meghwar community is one of the refine embroiderer communities, have their own unique style of embroidery, different motifs, patterns that give them a visual identity. These craftswomen have been stitching their own garments and decorating them with surface ornamentation for centuries and have mastered the skills of colour and compositions. Traditionally, these embroideries were largely meant for personal use and dowry or gifts. Meghwars are the main practitioners and producers of these indigenous embroideries. SITCO patronized this unique hand embroidery work so as to keep this indigenous practice alive and bring a variety of products in urban markets.




#### About Embroidery

Training Centre

SITCO established embroidery training cum production centre in Mithi to revive the old age stitches of the meghwar community and alleviate the poverty of indigenous craftsperson of Thar. The centre enrolled 20 craftswomen who are working under the supervision of Master craftswoman. They are producing and replicating the traditional and indigenous embroidery designs. The main stitches practiced include Soof, Kacho, Pakko, Mukko, kharak, Kambiri, and hurmitch. Taking references of old age indigenous embroidery designs from the museum collection of SITCO's archives'. SITCO procure material accordingly; trace the given designs with colour scheme.

SITCO field coordinator supervises the craftswomen to produce embroidery surfaces with quality assurance. Product development team at SITCO then convert the surfaces into the marketable products. A new range of products includes bags, clutches, cushions, chaddars and shirts bring out from this centre and are available at SITCO display centre. A total of 262 embroidery surfaces were produced. The centre is fully supported by SITCO, bearing rent, instructor salary, trainee stipend and other operational cost. SITCO facilitate the artisans to participate in various exhibition arranged by SITCO and provides an opportunity to artisans to participate in other exhibitions throughout Pakistan.



SITCO Embroidery training centre Mithi resumed its activities from 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020 after Covid - 19 lockdown. An extension in time was already approved due to Covid pandemic. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase with the same group/batch of artisans continued for the period of 3 months, from 15-September to 12 December 2020.

In this phase artisan produced the replica pieces of indigenous embroideries. Took design reference from old age embroidery pieces. Field coordinator procured raw material and distributed to the artisan. Artisans traced the designs and produce these pieces in these three months.



## Progress (Sept – Dec 2020)

S: No	Reference Image	Produced	Product info	Quantity	Duration	Remarks
1			Bujki	20 pcs	1.5 mnths	All completed
2			Cushions Pani work	20 pcs	20 days	All Completed
3			Applique' cushion	20	10 days	All Completed
4			Neckline Gajj	20	25 days	Still in process