

# Livelihoods (contd.)

A key dimension of these efforts is also the conservation of **local skills**, which are linked uniquely to a culture and a place, involving the use of local materials such as natural dyes, printing patterns and the cloth itself.

**Khamir** is a space for these ideas to come together. It markets rain-fed and organically grown cotton in Kachchh as 'Kala' (see exhibit 5).



*Obtaining indigo from natural dyes.*



*Khamir's shop in Bhuj.*



*Couple Narsimha and Manemma, preparing yarn to make telia rumal, a textile indigenous to Telangana.*



*Left: Dyed warp yarn waiting to be strung on the loom.*

*Middle & Right: Chitki sarees woven with naturally dyed yarn.*

An initiative similar in spirit is **Dastkar Andhra** in the eastern state of Telengana, enabling artisans to pursue the creative use of their hands and minds, in their own homes and in their own time.