

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1ST TO 30TH 2024



PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND EMPOWERMENT



MICRO-CREDIT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT



CHILD RIGHTS AND CHILD PROTECTION



HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH PROMOTION

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Name of the Activities/Social Security Schemes	Approx. Numerical Data
Home, Workplace, Relief Camp Visits	69
Identification of Beneficiaries	43
Identification and Registration	63
Meeting with employers	5
Identification of Employers	6
Identification and Registration of Employers	1
Meeting with Domestic Workers for Unionization	1
Meeting with DWs for financial Empowerment	5
Identified New Stakeholders	2
Contacted Employers for Job Placement	26
Formation of DWs Group	1
E-Shram Card Applied	6
E-Shram Card Received	3
Placement	21
Bank Account Applied	1
Bank Passbook Received	1
PAN Card Applied	1
PAN Card Received	1
ABHA Card Applied	46
ABHA Received	30
Death Certificate	1
MSME UDYAM Registration	4

HIGHLIGHTS...!

Observational Visit: There were observational visits by social work students and their respective professors from NEF College and Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati campus on 26 and 27 September, 2024, respectively. As such, the visitors were provided the pre-requisite orientation on CDI, its thematic engagement areas, history, current projects, intervention strategies and many more. The students were also taken on a tour and familiarized about the production, NIOS coaching and tailoring skilling centres. Some of the students ended up purchasing items like handbags straight from the production centre.

Student Social Work Interns: During the one-month reporting period, the student social work interns from ADBU and RGU under the guidance of CDI's staff Ms. Seema, Mr. Nirmal and Ms. Saxena were engaged in a number of interesting activities. They visited the home and interacted with the family of an autistic girl child by the name of Ms. Rupa, also attended a meeting of the domestic workers held in Fancy Bazaar. Furthermore, RGU interns visited and interacted with the founder of Hope Neurodevelopmental Institute and Autism Centre for the purpose of intervening for Ms. Rupa to which they were provided with names of some appropriate rehabilitation centres for the girl. ADBU interns paid a visit to Government Municipal Corporation Office at Lakhtakia and had a brief talk with the officer concerning domestic workers schemes. The interns were also in a few domestic workers meetings where they learned about the enthusiasm of the beneficiaries also what were taught and discussed. They also visited a home of a domestic worker where they observed the home environment and learned about the common struggles they are facing and were involved in data entry training using kobo-collect, following which they were involved in the actual data collection



HIGHLIGHTS...!

Teachers Day Celebration-Cum-Certification Day: On the 5 September, 2024, Teacher's Day was observed by paying homage to all the teachers and leaders that continue to enlighten, inspire and fortify learners to the paths of self-actualization and enlightenment. The day was commemorated across the tea garden belt with the children and other inhabitants, in CDI with the staff and skill trainees, also in the project cities with the staff and beneficiaries. The occasion achieved realization amongst the teachers and educators about the significance of their roles and their continued contributions to the growth and development of the present as well as the upcoming generations. Profound affection and appreciation were demonstrated to them for ever being the valiant, unyielding and empathic north star.

In CDI, the day was simultaneously observed with the anticipated certification day for the 2024 3rd batch tailoring and home management trainees. As such, it was inundated with heartfelt speeches from the director and assistant director and other special invitees for the day. A cultural session also featured where the skill trainees lit up the stage and the faculties of the attendees with their rhythmic performances and soulful renditions. CDI's staff and teachers were bestowed with gifts as a token of gratitude towards their continued service and sacrifices. Additionally, the trainees were also awarded their training completion certificates, a testament to their consistency, perseverance and commitment.



HIGHLIGHTS...!

SUCCESS STORY: Income Generation through Bamboo Shoot Pickle Venture

An SHG group successfully prepared, packaged and sold bamboo shoot pickles, thus, facilitating them to imagine a sustainable enterprise characterized by financial stability. The primary objective of this endeavour was to increase the groups' savings and preparation was done by utilizing the traditional pickle preparation method, thus, ensuring high quality and hygiene. The pickles were then packaged and sold which generated a revenue of Rs. 2500 out of an initial investment of Rs. 800, which means the accrued profit was Rs. 1700. The members of SHGs continue to challenge the status quo and are making steady progress towards an envisioned future where financial stability and high standard of living are the norms.

CASE STORY: In Dealing with Depression

29-year-old domestic worker, Mrs. Babita Das from Majpara in Rani fell into depression when her alcoholic husband lost his life and left her behind along with their children. Prior to his demise, he was leeching off of Mrs. Babita; he didn't work, also failed to carry out his paternal responsibilities, however he never forgot to demand money for his daily alcohol consumption from his wife. She had expressed her terrible situation during one of domestic workers' meetings, and the staff had counselled the husband but all efforts went in vain. Subsequently, they had a heated irreconcilable disagreement, seeing no other option and a bleak future, Mrs. Babita Das had unceremoniously left the good-for-nothing alcohol obsessed husband to never return. However, the sudden unexpected death of her husband evoked extreme sadness in her that she fell into depression such that the staff rushed to her rescue and provided her the needed counselling and support. However, depression is something that no has no quick remedy therefore, this is an ongoing case, and the end whatever may be, only time will tell.

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Visits to Beneficiaries for Empowerment: Face to face visit, an important tool to monitor the beneficiaries, build rapport and motivate them resulted in:

- **Deliberation:** Deliberation was carried out on working condition and relationship with employer, overall situation, domestic work placement, health, living and family condition and the numbers of domestic workers in the area and the possibility of forming new collectives. Discussion was carried with a domestic worker about her multitasking ability: working and taking care of her family; also, a beneficiary's daughter scholarship was deliberated with the concerned domestic worker, similarly, the current activities and were also advised to keep their group active.
- **Entreaty:** A recently employed beneficiary communicated her desire for a parttime employment as she wasn't satisfied with her current fulltime job.
- **Challenges:** Several challenges were discovered and they are widow domestic workers and beneficiaries with unsupportive alcoholic husband trying hard to make ends meet. It also led to the discovery of the needed assistances.
- **Action Taken:** Names were also collected for e-Shram Card application. Likewise, the domestic who are members of SHGs and skills training beneficiaries were paid a visit wherein their health condition was inquired, mental support provided, and were educated on the method of applying entitlements like health card. Two domestic workers initiating a tailoring enterprise were also met. An employer was met where, he was elucidated on Domestic Workers Movement.
- **Observation:** Several employers were also met where employer-employee situation was witnessed to be pleasant. Additionally, also that most found fulfillment in their work.
- **Inquiry:** Also, query was made on employee-employer relationship and wages, about group functioning encouraging them to take part in activities conducted by the organization.
- **Mobilization:** The beneficiaries were also mobilized for the upcoming activities.



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Interception Project: From the period of September 1 to 30, 2024, the interception team successfully intercepted 25 cases in total. These cases were mainly intervened in Guwahati Railway Station and in collaboration with the Railway Police Department. The highlights include cases like: children escaping from Madrassa and from their parents without any contact details nor ID cards; leaving home after facing physical abuse due to poor school performance, left home in secret to search for employment in Guwahati with the aim to provision supplementary financial aid to family but got lost, got separated from parents during a train journey, dropped out of school and migrating for work without parents' knowledge, failed to deboard and lost the way, lost and out of money while travelling alone back home, escaped from home after being beaten etc. The intercepted possible trafficking victims were effectively reunited with their families.

Placement for Financial Security: 45 domestic workers were successfully ensured domestic work employment in Aizawl City, while 1 domestic was assisted in receiving live in placement in Dimapur. Out of the 45 beneficiaries who received placement in Aizawl, 40 were employed as part time domestic helper, whereas the remaining 5 are working as live in, which is living and working within the employer's household. Out of the 5 live in domestic workers, one was shifted from Shaktisaden Kelsih to FIWDC Peace Home in Aizawl.



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Collaboration for intervention: Several external stakeholders that are integral to the success of CDI's works were approached with the primary aim of intervening for the beneficiaries and they are: the CSC centre in New Lamka where the staff inquired about MGNREGS scheme, however, were told about the unclarity in funding due to the prevailing situation, Madam Lesley from children's welfare for possible future collaborations, District Hospital where query was undertaken about health card for the domestic workers, yet, discovered that things were in a limbo owing to the present crisis. Apart from these, the Municipal Office, the Economic and Statistical Office, Food and Civil Supplies department and Health Department.

Domestic Workers Group Meeting: The activities described below were carried out during the continuous meetings.

Discussion: The continuous group meetings witnessed discussions on domestic workers' fresh registration, social security schemes, the upcoming group tasks, their work environment, making of appointment with the employers for staff-employer face to face meeting, the importance of group meeting and its agenda, placement hub and wages etc. Besides, the method of record-book maintenance, the upcoming group meetings, their importance, forthcoming fund-raising programmes and the significance of capacity building programmes also featured. Furthermore, two new domestic workers' collective were established.

Motivation: The members were encouraged to stay connected with one another and maintain the bond, and also stimulated to apply for the existing social security schemes.

Challenges: It was found that the primary challenge was the ongoing ethnic conflict in Manipur resulting in their inability to carry out their work smoothly.



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100 Days Special Awareness Campaign: The staff and beneficiaries of Kohima took part in a sensitization campaign called “100 Days Special Awareness Campaign” organized collectively by District Administration, SANKALP- District Hub for Empowerment of Women, BBBP and CDI on 3 September, 2024. The beneficiaries were educated on Acts such as The Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment at the Workplace Act (PWSHWA), 2013; The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA), 2005 and the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act (ITPA), 1956. The resource person for the day was Ms. Thejasenou Vitsu, an advocate from T and A Law Chamber in Kohima. 36 beneficiaries exceedingly benefitted from the sensitization campaign.

Schemes and Entitlements: Several essential schemes and entitlements were applied and procured for the beneficiaries and these are e-Shram Card, bank passbook and account, death certificate, MSME Udyan registration, ABHA card and PAN card. The obtained entitlements aid in ensuring that the domestic workers receive the needed government welfare services which augment the varied aspects of their well-being. Some of these are needed for official documentation and identification purposes while the rest are schemes to safeguard the well-being of the beneficiaries.

Retrospective Meeting for Missio: A retrospective meeting where project reflection and planning were undertaken for the Missio’s anti-human trafficking project and special inputs were also provided by the field staff was held in CDI on 22 August, 2024. The session provided a candid examination of the project's current status, highlighting both accomplishments and challenges. Through this collective reflection, the team was able to identify areas for improvement, address obstacles, and align activities to ensure desirable successful outcomes.



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Anti-Human Trafficking Activity

- **Bi-Annual Mobilization Events on Social Issues (1 to 15 Sept.):** This activity was striven on September 1 and 10, 2024 in Udalguri and Kokrajhar districts of Assam, respectively. The beneficiaries were sensitized about health, hygiene and migration through an awareness campaign. The programme resulted in the gathering collective support for social issues like education, safe migration, health and nutrition.
- **Interface Meeting with Education Officials and Service Providers (1 to 15 Sept.):** This programme was endeavoured at Kandabil in Chirag on September 1, 2024. The interface meeting brought to the forefront several pressing concerns that are plaguing the society, including the high dropout rate of students, migration, and social issues. The discussion revealed that many students were dropping out of school due to lack of access to quality education, poverty, and family pressures. The meeting also highlighted the issue of migration, where many families were forced to leave their homes in search of better livelihood, leading to social isolation and disruption of community networks.
- **Quarterly joint meeting of VVC, Women's Group and Youths (1 to 15 Sept.):** This particular meet up occurred at Uttar Nagdolbari on September 1, 2024. The outcome of the quarterly joint meetings between Village Vigilant Committees, Women's Groups, and Youth Forums was the strengthening of community resilience and responsiveness to local needs. The meeting fostered open communication, trust, and collective problem-solving thus, enabling community leaders, women, and youth to share ideas, discuss challenges, and plan joint initiatives. As a result, the community was better equipped to address pressing issues such as health awareness, education, and environmental conservation, ultimately leading to a more responsive and resilient community.



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- **Quarterly joint meeting with VVC, Mahila Group and Youth Forum(1 to 15 Sept.):** The quarterly joint meeting between Village Vigilant Committees, Women's Groups, and Youth Forums carried out at Habibasti on September 10, 2024 led to a significant strengthening of community resilience and responsiveness to local needs. Through open communication, trust, and collective problem-solving, community leaders, women, and youth shared ideas, discussed challenges, and planned joint initiatives to address pressing issues like health awareness, education, and environmental conservation. This collaborative approach empowered the community to respond effectively to its needs, ultimately resulting in a more resilient and responsive community.
- **Joint meeting with VVC, Mahila Samiti and Youths (15 to 30 Sept.):** During the several meetings undertaken between 15 to 30, September, 2024, topics such as safe migration, health, hygiene, education, nutrition, migration, tuition centres, drop out and the interconnectedness of the existing issues were discussed. There were desirable outcomes like, the beneficiaries adopting a healthier lifestyle, better performance of the tuition centres, supportive and collaborative attitude towards education, motivational enhancement towards studies, deeper insights into trafficking, significance and potentiality of income generating activities, migration patterns and understanding of the interconnected of the issues like drop out, migration, trafficking and poverty.



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- **Mobilization for Skills Training:** The community mobilizers in the tea garden belt visited the homes of the beneficiaries, the parents and drop out girls who had no interest in pursuing their education and where vulnerable to job migration and human trafficking. The visits were done to recruit the young girls for CDIs residential skills training programme with the primary goal of empowering them leading to financial independence and enhancement in their well-being and quality of life. The other purpose was to prevent them from becoming victims of human trafficking.
- **Bi-Annual Interface with Education officials and service providers(15 to 30 Sept):** In the Annual Interface meetings which are conducted with stakeholders like NGOs, village headman, village educated persons, children and parents saw the discussion mostly centred on education, Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Act 2009, safe migration, maintenance of migrant's registers and smooth functioning of tuition centres. Education was taken up in every meeting leading to increased community engagement, awareness surrounding children's education, enhanced participation amongst parents and community folks. In the conducted RTE Act programme in which the resource person was Mr. Philip Bara, a government's L.P. School teacher, the children were enlightened on the Act and they were directed to dedicate at-least one hour to studies every-day. Furthermore, skills training was also one of the topics where they were told about its important and further informed that there would a group meeting on safe migration and skills training next. In one of the meetings, a village headman exhorted about the critical significance of education, a potent instrument against poverty and its negative implications in its inexistence. Education was prioritized in his speech and presented as a single solution against all existing problems.



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Programme on Women's Domestic Safety and Wellbeing: To augment the safety and well-being of women at home, especially the vulnerable domestic workers where home is their workplace, a programme on women safety was organized where "The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005" was covered on the 20th September, 2024. The programme was carried out in collaboration with Mizoram State Legal Services Authority and Women and Child Development Department, where the beneficiaries were educated on the concept of domestic violence, and its types inclusive of verbal, physical, sexual, emotional and psychological. Other significant aspects of the Act such as protection orders, residence orders, monetary relief, custody orders, counselling and support services were extensively visited.

Solidarity and Direct Intervention: Solidarity was expressed by visiting a sick and bedridden domestic worker and counselling a beneficiary undergoing personal and family related issues, also by attending a condolence programme for Mrs. Chongloi, a beneficiary who died in a tragic accident; a visitation to a hospital where Mrs. Sara Dilme was enduring an emergency operation and domestic worker Mrs. Joyonti who was unwell for quite some time at her home in Nitwatgre, Tura. On the other hand, direct intervention was provided to those in need and for online NIOS enrollment, phone number linkage to Aadhaar Card, searching for rental housing, contacting employer for placement purposes, court assistance to a domestic violence victim and ensuring a beneficiary's monthly salary by visiting a bank and opening an account. Moreover, direct assistance was made available through the resolution of a beneficiary's bank related issues and the preparation and submission of KYC forms. Additionally, a domestic worker was aided in approaching District Legal Service Authority to address property rights issue and One Stop Centre was paid a visit to follow-up counselling referral case post a case study and enrolled a beneficiary in a shelter home.



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Manos' SHG Meetings: At the empowering meetings, discussion was undertaken on initiating income generating business on traditional wrap-around clothing, ideas brainstormed for methods aimed at incremental groups' efficacy, the upcoming programmes, seed money re-imburement, the constituting pilot funding agreement prior to signature gathering, effectiveness of skills training, advantages of seed money, its present progress and about initiating livelihood business with the imbursed start-up capital. Strategies to augment group income and a session on effective communication skills was also taken up. Importance of bank account, social security schemes and SHG groups too were amongst the deliberated topics. A comprehensive review was undertaken on the recently concluded staff capacity building training held at CDI, also during which a detailed plan and timeline were worked out to flawlessly execute the upcoming programmes. Apart from these, training provisioned on book-keeping.

Furthermore, a decision to start a small firewood and food processing business was reached. They were educated on online mobile banking along with its pros and cons; guided on financial management, book keeping and feedback taken on the benefits of being a part of the collective. Besides, the staff learned about a beneficiary utilizing the capital fund to prepare and sell cream buns, donuts and other lucrative food items.



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Kamrup's SHGs Group Meetings: During the meetings with Kamrup's SHG groups, the following activities were undertaken:

- **Discussion:** Discussion was carried out on seed money and income generation activities, side effects of mobile phone usage, future plans and current working status, employer-employee rapport, physical and mental health issues, methods of scheme application, future plans regarding seed money, family issues, skills training, health camp, tactics to earn extra income, augmentation of start-ups' outreach, net banking and its implications, mobile scams, importance of bank account, about meeting employers, SSS, livelihood related topics, health camp and its benefits, start-ups profits and losses and marketing.
- **Education:** The beneficiaries were education on the seed money criteria, time management for livelihood activities, group experience as an effective coping mechanism and self-care, the necessity of support and connection.
- **Awareness:** The domestic workers were sensitized on social security schemes like ABHA Card, digital literacy, undesirable impacts of mobile banking, women related topics, personal hygiene and method of utilizing washing machine, flush toilets etc., health and menstrual hygiene, and online transaction: its pros and cons.
- **Action Taken:** Several measures like collection of bank details for seed money, assistance for transferring seed money instalment, updating seed money record, distribution of ABHA card application forms and obtainment of signatures in the declaration forms. Furthermore, the beneficiaries budget diaries were carefully inspected. The next two months instalment as well as strategic planning were achieved regarding seed money.



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- **Motivation:** They were inspired to meditate on a daily basis for optimum mental health, also encouraged to work in groups and to learn about banking.
- **Information:** Important information shared on the data and time of the next skills training, also knowledge and ideas about earning extra income through seed money.
- **Enquiry:** Investigation was performed on the progress of current livelihood activities, of legal documents and their workplace situation.
- **Feedback:** The beneficiaries' opinions and views on the recently held housekeeping and food preparation trainings were taken.
- **Correction:** The needed alterations and Assamese translation were performed on domestic workers' diary.
- **Training:** The staff made effort to mobilize the beneficiaries for the upcoming training to be held in CDI on the 21st September.



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Capacity Building Training: A two-day capacity building training was endeavored at CDI for the staff of Manos Unidas and Global Fund for Women from 9 to 10 September, 2024. The basic intention behind the training was to evaluate the projects' progress and make necessitated adjustments for increased effectiveness and efficiency. The exercise witnessed a summary presentation of project activity, target, objective and achievement. SWOT analysis was also conducted to deal with the projects' weaknesses and threats. The most important outcome of the exercise was elimination of non-impactful activities and inclusion of new activities for both the projects: budgeted and non-budgeted. Additionally, the training covered topics like effective communication, conflict resolution, methods to identify and address abuse and harassment, about domestic workers and their rights, income generating activities and many more.

One Day Village Wise Business Plan Development: This activity was endeavored at Kandabil in Chirang on September 1, 2024 with the primary purpose of introducing self-sustainable business ideas to the beneficiaries. It was a comprehensive event that guided the collectives in drafting a business plan for their collective ventures. The sessions covered market research, competitive analysis, product/service development, marketing strategies, financial projections, and operational planning. They were sufficiently acquainted with the all the concepts taken up throughout the sessions and were in a position to more effectively deal with the demands of initiating and implementing self-sustainable business ventures. Another similar was held on 28 September, 2024 for VVC and Mahila Samiti where they were educated on the concept of entrepreneurship, market analysis and financial literacy. The initiative has enabled participants to identify local resources and skills that could be transformed into viable business ventures.



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Income Generating Activities (IGA) in the Tea Garden Belt: The following activities have been conducted under income generating activities (IGA) programme in the tea garden with the aim of achieving incremental effectiveness:

- **The Revolving Fund System:** The Community Mobilizers met with the Income Generating Groups to discuss the start-up fund and the process for returning previously provided financial assistance. During the MISSIO Phase I of the project, an amount of RS 25,000 was allocated to the IGA groups across five districts. It was agreed that these funds should be returned, allowing other groups to access similar opportunities. This approach is intended to create a revolving financial assistance system that will benefit all vulnerable groups within the community.
- **Signing IGA agreement, Paper Works and Preparation of Action Plan:** The signing of the IGA start-up agreement took place at Khultungpara and Saharpur in the Kokrajhar District to establish the structural system for the revolving fund among the groups. The paperwork for the startup fund for the groups has been completed. According to the terms, each group is required to submit a business plan, agreement letters, and the bank account details of their members.

Manos Tailoring: The tailoring trainees under Manos Unidas were skilled in sewing bloomer pants, school shirts, umbrella frock, divided skirt, jumpsuit, blouse, skirt, coat, Aline frock, salwar, kameez and Patiala pants. They also learned to use fitted blouses and coats, along with servicing and maintaining sewing machines.



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Entrepreneurship Concept and Opportunities: On the 24 September, 2024, the staff of Manos Unidas in Tura carried out an event called “entrepreneurship concept and opportunities”, which was presided over by the resource person by the name of Mrs. Julinda Marak. The event encompassed such topics as entrepreneurship fundamentals, business planning opportunities in entrepreneurship, book keeping and financial management, budgeting, cost management and growth strategies. It was conducted with the aim of achieving self-reliance and business sustainability knowing that knowledge in financial management is a pre-requisite to successfully plan, initiate, implement and ensure sustainability of start-ups.

Housekeeping and Food Preparation Training: Effective skills trainings were conducted across Kamrup district and Tura situated in Assam and Meghalaya. On the **18 September, 2024**, paper bag making training programme was undertaken at Padumbori from 12 to 2.30 p.m. CDI’s staff Miss Hiramoni Das was the resource person and the training began with an introductory note about the organization, staff and trainer, along with the objectives, the associated benefits and the available lucrative business options. Utilizing strategic and sequential theories and practical demonstrations, the trainees were taught about the material names, the systematic process of making paper bags and the method of preparing homemade glue. Post which, the participants themselves successfully made the bags, the outcome of intense observation and enthusiastic participation. Following which business knowledge was shared and discussed, like the market condition, the price, profit and loss concepts and their possibilities. 51 domestic workers partook. The needed seed money was also transferred to each of the beneficiary’s account. Another training that was carried out on 18 September was on food safety and hygiene practices in the food preparation segment and first aid, child and elderly care in the housekeeping segment. It was organized in Tura with the domestic workers to augment their competency and improve their bargaining power.



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On **21 September, 2024**, a residential training was held at CDI where the beneficiaries were systematically educated in preparing commercial jams and pickles. While Ms. Arbina Nasrin gave an introduction to the programme and Mr. John Gautam Rabha took a session on home management, it was the resource person Mr. Munindra Das who disseminated knowledge on the preparatory method of apple jam and garlic, ginger and chilli mixed pickle. The experiential and theoretical procedure was met with success as the beneficiaries were completely knowledgeable by the end of the training session. An icer-breaking session was carried out at the end to conclude the programme. The **26 September, 2024** witnessed a training session on emergency helpline number, house cleaning, personal protective equipment (PPE) and fast-food preparation where the trainer for the day was Mrs. Minakshi Goswami. The trainees were skilled in making Momo which is a hit street food in India, another item was Samosa, not only a popular street snack but a common food item in almost every celebratory event and an indivisible part of the cuisine heritage of India. It was a strategic move on the part of CDI in skilling the staff in preparing these items and success is assured. It was a motivative, planned and successive theoretical and experiential journey where 51 participants participated with great interest. The anticipated training programme on Mushroom Cultivation was endeavored on **26 September, 2024**, which was done under the guidance and supervision of Ms. Ritmatchi Marak, an expert in sustainable agricultural and mushroom farming. The covered topics under this training was types of mushrooms suitable for local cultivation, substrate preparation, method of maintaining optimal growth condition and the harvesting techniques. The training was highly interactive with participants engaging in hands-on demonstrations, mushroom beds preparation and discussion of post-harvest management practices.



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Employer Visits: An employer by the name of Mr. Asraful Ahmed, an advocate at Guwahati's High Court was visited where the staff enlightened him about CDI, its history, working areas, objectives and activities. He was also sensitized on domestic workers' rights, the existing minimum wage, work categories, pay slip, paid leave and many more. A printed magazine called "Forge On" depicting domestic workers and CDI's weeklong efforts for mass movement and support was also handed over to the employer. The meeting was fruitful as the domestic who by the time hadn't been granted a paid leave was given right away.



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Shelter project Tuition Centres: In the shelter project regular tuition centres, the children were supervised and instructed on Assamese, English, Mathematics and Table, Science, reading, Hindi, Environmental Science, and general knowledge along with fruits and flowers oral drills. Moreover, the children were involved in supplementary undertakings such as games and rhymes, drawing competition, physical exercise and sports: the most noteworthy being a football derby between Arnibil and Dihira Basti. Teacher's Day was memorably commemorated with the children, teachers and staff, it gave the children an opportunity genuinely express their gratitude to their teachers. Moreover, a monitoring visit was undertaken to monitor the functioning of the centres like Doomni Milan Samaj Centre, Madhapur Centre Shelter, Borengajuli Tea Estate Tuition Centre and Dimakuchi 11 No. Tea Estate Tuition Centre. Community advisory board was also established in Dharamjuli Tea Estate and Borangjuli Tea Estate Tuition Centres. The children too prepared for half-yearly examination. A guardian meeting was also held at Jitpur village to ensure regular attendance.



Missio Tuition Centres: Missio Tuition Centres, spread across tea gardens in major districts of Assam such as Chirang, Kokrajhar, Udalguri and Baksa provisioned instructions to the beneficiaries on subjects such as English, Math, Assamese and Painting, including additional activities comprising of creative, visual and performing arts. Awareness on social issues, cleanliness and health was also provided. The total number of registered students stands at 2,419, but the attendance fluctuates due to a variety of factors including village, weather, community and sporting events. As a result, it is challenging to maintain a precise headcount of students, making it difficult to pinpoint the exact figure. Furthermore, the field coordinator visited the tuition centre located at Khasiapathar in Udalguri district on September 10, 2024 to assess the attendance of both the children and the teacher.

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Furthermore, the tuition centres were not active in the second half of the month due to the celebration of Karam festival, a significant cultural and religious event that celebrates the harvest season, characterized by cultural activities such as dancing and music fostering community bonds, respect and continuation of the people's cultural heritage.



Children's Club Orientation: To familiarize the children about the roles of children's club, motivate them to attend tuition centres on a regular basis and educate them about the significance of education, several children's club orientations were carried out in the Tea Garden Belt. It resulted in heightened understanding about the club's objectives, goals and activities. There was improvement in communication and teamwork among the members and they got an opportunity to learn about each other's collaborative roles and responsibilities. Subsequent meetings enhanced their awareness about human trafficking, migration, health, cleanliness and hygiene and education significance. It was emphasized that they attend tuition regularly, be obedient towards their parents and make effort to strengthen the clubs.

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NIOS Coaching Centre: In CDI's residential NIOS coaching centre, the students of class 10 were instructed on subjects such as home science, painting, English, data entry operations, basic computing, Assamese, Hindi. On the other hand, the senior secondary students were imparted on data entry operations (632, 336), Hindi, home science, painting, sociology and English. The centre currently boasts of 32 students in aggregate. The organized co-curricular activities include social work, sports and other competitive events like debate, singing and dancing, among others. In spite of the reported slow and gradual learning curve, the students are progressing towards the desired direction. It is necessary to mention that those with English background are finding it easier than those without. Home science is being taught by Sir John, painting by Sir Nirmal, English by Ms. Bokali, basic computing and sociology by Ms. Sibani, Assamese by Sr. Anima, Hindi by Sr. Valeri and data entry operations by Sir Charles, respectively.

Moreover, the students have started their Tutor Market Assignments (TMA) for subjects like English, Data Entry Operations, Home Science, Hindi, Sociology and Painting, among others. Some curricular activities like singing and dancing competition are being organized during weekends. It is unfortunate to note that some students are finding it difficult to learn Assamese, Hindi and English, however, they are trying their best, giving is not an option for them, they are committed and determined. The teachers are properly encouraging and guiding them.



HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH PROMOTION

Sensitization Programme on HIV/AIDS-Cum-Health Screening: On 11 September, 2024, the staff and beneficiaries of Kohima participated in a sensitization programme-cum-health screening organized collectively by Nagaland User Network (NUN), Sampurna Suraksha Kendra (SSK), Naga Hospital Authority; NUN IT, Jakhama and Mobile ICTC. The beneficiaries were educated on the harmful effects of HIV/AIDS along with the importance of hygiene. The programme facilitated the beneficiaries in gaining enough knowledge about the sickness and have empowered them sufficiently to take up all necessary preventive measures and also seek timely medical attention if and when the need arises. In the free health check-up, the beneficiaries were specifically screened for blood sugar levels, blood pressure and HIV/AIDS.

Residential Health Camp: An eye camp was organized in CDI on 13 September, 2024 with the primary purpose of detecting eye refractive errors and cataracts. The initiative was endeavored in collaboration with ERC, Down Town Hospital, Guwahati. As such the camp started at 10.30 a.m. and ended at 2.30 p.m. CDI's tailoring and home management skill trainees, the administrative staff, drivers and the cooks, among others actively participated in the eye screening camp in which they were screened for the above-mentioned eye defects along with their blood pressure. 10 of the partakers received optical glasses at reasonable prices, while some of them were given medicines at free of cost. Most importantly two trainees viz., Ms. Jill Daimary and Ms. Rose Teropi aged 18 and 20, respectively received free referrals to Down Town Hospital in Guwahati for a more specialized treatment. The day witnessed participation from 59 satisfied beneficiaries.



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Health Camp in Tura: On 20 September, 2024, health camp was organized at Ranggira in collaboration with DM and HO, specialists from Tura Civil Hospital; TBHV, district TB centre; DTC STLS, MO ARTC, dental surgeon, counselor and ADBU students. Awareness, education, free screening and medicines were provided to the participants. As such, the attendees were educated on the prevention, management and importance of early diagnosis concerning HIV/AIDS. Awareness was disseminated on Tuberculosis inclusive of its preventive and treatment strategies, also the prevention and recovery options related to drug addiction were extensively covered. Dental health professionals underscored the importance of oral health and provided tips for maintaining good dental hygiene. All the attendees were tested on HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (TB), were screened for eye defects for which corrective eyeglasses were distributed to those found to be suffering from specific eye problems. Furthermore, medications were provided at free of cost for the various discovered common ailments.

