

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES (CDI)

Forthnight Newsletter
Feb 16-28, 2025

THEMATIC FOCUS

- * *Promotion of Women's Rights and their Empowerment*
- * *Micro Credit and Entrepreneurship Development*
- * *Child Rights and Child Protection*
- * *Skill Promotion through Vocational Training*
- * *Health care and Health Promotion*
- * *Care for Environment*



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Key highlights

- **Identification and Registration of 125 Domestic Workers** through door-to-door approach.
- **48 Group Meetings** held to foster solidarity, share challenges, and promote collective advocacy for better working conditions.
- **68 Home Visits** to live-in domestic workers to ensure their safety and address any issues at their workplaces.
- **Leadership Training** for 15 group leaders, equipping them with skills in financial management, conflict resolution, and group facilitation.
- **Placement Assistance** provided to 27 domestic workers to secure fair, legal, and stable employment opportunities.
- **Linkage to Social Security Schemes** for domestic workers, including assistance in obtaining 6 bank account, 12 ration cards, 10 e-shram cards, and 15 PAN cards.
- **38 Domestic Workers** received health-related counselling
- **3 Orientation Programs for Children** conducted, reaching a total of 92 participants, to raise awareness about education, human trafficking, and self-protection.
- **8 Joint Meetings with Village Vigilance Committees, Women's Groups, and Youth Groups** organized, engaging 191 participants to discuss child rights, migration, and community-based solutions.
- **6 Interface Meetings** held with 140 participants to connect children, parents, and educational service providers, enhancing access to resources and support.
- **9 Programs** conducted, reaching a total of 244 participants, focusing on community-level collective meetings and discussions on economic empowerment and market opportunities.
- **2 Programs** organized, benefiting 80 participants, aimed at building leadership skills, fostering youth engagement, and promoting safe migration through knowledge and education.

Promotion of Women's rights and their Empowerment

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Efforts to uplift women included various activities aimed at empowering domestic workers across multiple states. Domestic workers were identified and registered, gathering essential personal details, employment terms, and specific skills. Counseling sessions were conducted to address key issues such as women's health, domestic violence, and job-related challenges, focusing on the well-being and legal rights of workers. Additionally, group meetings were held to create a platform for shared experiences, fostering solidarity and collective advocacy for better working conditions.



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In the reporting period, **collective meetings** were held across multiple districts. These meetings provided a platform for community members, including women, to engage in discussions on local issues such as migration, education, and economic opportunities. While these meetings addressed various community concerns, they also fostered a participatory environment where women's voices were heard, contributing to decision-making processes affecting their local communities.



Child Rights and Child Protection

To ensure the protection of children and encourage their educational development, several initiatives were implemented in the reporting period. These included orientation programs to educate children on the importance of education, the risks of human trafficking, and methods to protect themselves from exploitation. Additionally, joint meetings with Village Vigilance Committees (VVC), Mahila Groups, and Youth Groups were organized to discuss social issues affecting children, including migration, health, and hygiene. These meetings emphasized the collective responsibility of the community in safeguarding children's rights and well-being.

Under the project, SHELTER, regular tuition centers are being continued in Udalguri and Baksa districts of Assam. These centers aim to provide continued education and support to children, ensuring they have access to quality learning opportunities. The tuition centers are part of a broader initiative to promote child protection by helping children stay in school and avoid the risks associated with child labor or trafficking. These educational sessions are designed to strengthen children's academic skills while promoting their overall well-being and safety.



Health Care and Health Promotion

Health care and well-being were key aspects of the initiative across multiple project areas. Home visits were conducted to ensure the safety and well-being of live-in domestic workers, addressing concerns related to health, safety, and working conditions. Domestic workers were also linked to social security schemes, including e-shram cards, PAN cards, and bank accounts, providing access to healthcare services and financial security. Additionally, counseling sessions were held to address various health concerns, including physical, mental, and reproductive health.

On February 24 and 26, 2025, entitlement camps were organized in Laksmipur A Block and Subansiri Village. These camps were aimed at connecting community members with various government health and other schemes and assisting them with personal documentation, including updating their AADHAR details and voter enrollment. These initiatives were designed to ensure that individuals have access to essential services and can fully participate in civic and health-related processes.



Health Care and Health Promotion

On 27th February 2025, an awareness program on personal hygiene was held at Shantipur, Mirza under the GFW Project in Guwahati. The program benefitted 17 domestic workers. The focus was on educating women about key aspects of personal hygiene. The session was interactive, allowing participants to openly discuss their concerns, and the speaker advised them to consult gynecologists instead of self-medicating. The program created a comfortable space for participants to engage and share intimate issues, ensuring the session's success in promoting better hygiene practices.



Micro-credit and Entrepreneurship Development

A key focus of this reporting period was supporting local entrepreneurship through collective meetings in the community. These programs aimed to create awareness about the potential of microcredit and sustainable entrepreneurship practices. The meetings fostered discussions on local market opportunities and how individuals, especially women, can access microfinance to enhance their livelihood opportunities. In Tura and Guwahati, a total of 177 domestic workers were trained on various income generation activities as part of the microcredit initiative. The training included skills such as detergent making, phenyl making, toilet cleaner making, Dish wash making and handicraft production, dry fish making etc. These activities were aimed at empowering domestic workers to generate additional income and improve their financial independence. The training provided valuable skills, enabling participants to explore new avenues for entrepreneurship and better livelihood opportunities.



Skill Promotion through Vocational Training

The new hope project emphasized empowering domestic workers through skill development, with a focus on leadership training and capacity-building activities. These initiatives were aimed at preparing domestic workers to take on leadership roles, advocate for their rights, and manage group finances. By strengthening these skills, the project hopes to enhance the employability and self-reliance of domestic workers, enabling them to secure fairer, stable, and well-compensated employment.

As part of efforts to reduce migration and promote local leadership, two skill development programs were conducted under Missio Project. These programs were designed to empower the youth with leadership and entrepreneurial skills, contributing to their overall development. By providing practical skills and education, these sessions inspired young individuals to become active contributors to their communities and local economies.

