

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES (CDI)

Monthly Newsletter
May, 2025

THEMATIC FOCUS

- 1) Promotion of Women's Rights and Empowerment**
- 2) Child Rights and Child Protection**
- 3) Economic Empowerment through livelihood promotion**
- 4) Youth Empowerment through Skill Development**
- 5) Healthcare and Health Promotion**
- 6) Environmental care and Sustainability**



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Numerical Data Information

- ❑ 115 Domestic Workers identified and registered
- ❑ 6 cities involved
- ❑ 51 group meetings held
- ❑ 23 domestic workers visited at workplace/home
- ❑ 7 employers met
- ❑ 41 Domestic Workers assisted with placement
 - ❑ 4 full-time
 - ❑ 37 part-time
- ❑ 2 health cards applied
- ❑ 3 bank accounts opened
- ❑ 10 e-shram cards received
- ❑ 11 PAN cards applied
- ❑ 5 PAN cards received
- ❑ 2 ration cards applied
- ❑ Child Club Orientation: 262 participants
- ❑ International Labour Day: 486 participants
- ❑ Mother's Day Observations: 391 participants
- ❑ Interface Meetings: 56 participants
- ❑ Active Tuition Centers in May: 54 centers

Promotion of Women's rights and their Empowerment

Fostering Self-Reliance Through SHG Engagement in Yadahalli

On 15th May 2025, staff members Nagaveni and Ms. Shobha conducted a Self-Help Group (SHG) meeting in Yadahalli village, Mysore. The meeting saw the participation of 60 community members and focused on strengthening SHG operations, promoting collective decision-making, and exploring opportunities for livelihood enhancement. The enthusiastic involvement of the participants reflected a strong commitment towards self-reliance and sustainable community development.



Strengthening Alliances for Domestic Workers' Rights

Networking meetings with local groups, government departments, and community stakeholders were held to promote the rights of domestic workers. These aimed to strengthen support systems, raise awareness, and build collaborative efforts for better working conditions, legal aid, and overall empowerment.

Promotion of Women's rights and their Empowerment



State-Level meeting on Domestic Workers' Rights

State-level meetings were conducted with representatives from the Labour Department, Social Welfare Department, like-minded NGOs and CSOs, and the local administration to advocate for dignified and improved working conditions for domestic workers. The discussions focused on key issues such as the implementation of minimum wages, the establishment of a welfare board, and the legal recognition of domestic work as formal labour. These platforms also provided opportunities to share best practices, highlight gaps in the existing framework, and collectively push for inclusive policies that uphold the rights and well-being of domestic workers.

Observation of International Labour Day & Mother's Day 2025

On May 1 and 11, 2025, International Labour Day and Mother's Day were observed in child-friendly villages to empower children and guardians through awareness and celebration. The events helped participants, including VVCs and women's group members, recognize their value, build confidence, and foster a sense of pride. Six HSLC and HS students from Udalguri were felicitated as role models, highlighting the importance of education and consistent effort.



Promotion of Women's rights and their Empowerment

Empowering Domestic Workers Through Legal Literacy

The program empowered domestic workers by enhancing their legal awareness and ensuring they understand their rights under Indian law. Through free legal aid provided by DLSA, workers received support to combat exploitation, abuse, unfair conditions, and issues like unpaid wages. Additionally, assistance was offered for obtaining essential employment documents, such as contracts, to secure their rights and improve access to justice.



Building Grassroots Leadership Among Domestic Workers

Leadership and capacity-building training was provided to group leaders to strengthen their ability to guide and support domestic worker groups. The training focused on facilitation skills, conflict resolution, and inclusive leadership. Leaders were also equipped with knowledge in basic bookkeeping, accounting, and financial literacy to manage group finances effectively and foster transparency and trust within the groups.

Child Rights and Child Protection



NIOS Enrollment for Marginalized Children

CDI has enrolled a total of 19 students for the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) course for the new academic year. Among them, 17 students have enrolled in the Secondary level and 2 in the Senior Secondary level. These students come from various districts across Lower Assam, particularly from tea garden communities. This initiative is aimed at supporting continued learning opportunities for children and adolescents who were unable to complete their education through the formal school system, empowering them to pursue their academic and career aspirations.

Empowering Young Girls Through Safe Migration Awareness

Awareness sessions on safe migration and anti-trafficking were conducted with young girls in local schools to help them understand their rights and avoid risks such as exploitation, trafficking, or unsafe labor conditions. The sessions emphasized the importance of legal migration pathways—like proper visas, work permits, and contracts—to ensure their safety and protect their rights. By being informed, the girls are better equipped to make safe decisions, access fair employment, and seek support when needed, ultimately contributing to their financial security, empowerment, and the well-being of their families and communities.



Child Rights and Child Protection

Orientation of Child Club Members

Recognizing that children are the foundation of the future, CDI organized orientation sessions to build their awareness on critical issues such as education, child marriage, migration, and human trafficking. These sessions aimed to empower children with knowledge beyond textbooks, helping them become confident, informed, and resilient individuals less vulnerable to exploitation. The following figures highlight the reach and impact of these programs.



Tuition for Children

In May, only 54 tuition centers remained active due to student exams. Despite this, tutors continued to follow a weekly routine that included sessions on migration, school dropouts, and human trafficking, along with extracurricular activities like sports, singing, and dancing. The students have shown noticeable improvement, becoming more disciplined, attentive, and punctual in their classes.



Child Rights and Child Protection

Interface Meetings with Educational Stakeholders

On May 17th and 26th, 2025, interface meetings were held in Baksa and Kokrajhar, bringing together students, guardians, educational officials, and service providers. With 56 participants, the sessions facilitated knowledge sharing and strengthened collaboration on education and related services.



Shelter Project: Steady Progress in May

Regular classes continued under the Shelter Project in May, supporting children with academics and life skills. Several children appeared for their exams, reflecting their growing confidence and dedication. The project remains committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all.

Micro-credit and Entrepreneurship Development



Poultry Farming Training for Domestic Workers and Marginalized Women in Imphal

A training program on poultry farming, with a focus on broiler chicken rearing was conducted in Imphal City to support domestic workers and marginalized women in developing sustainable livelihood skills. The training covered key aspects such as poultry care, feeding practices, disease prevention, and basic business management.

Designed to promote self-employment and income generation, the initiative aimed to enhance the economic resilience of women from vulnerable backgrounds. The active participation and enthusiasm of the attendees reflected their strong interest in exploring poultry farming as a viable livelihood option.



Skill Promotion through Vocational Training

Skill training sessions are currently underway in Imphal and Tinsukia, where trainees are being equipped with practical knowledge in security services, tailoring, and bag making. These trainings aim to enhance the employability and self-reliance of participants, especially youth and women from vulnerable communities. By building skills in diverse trades, the initiative is paving the way for sustainable livelihoods and increased economic independence across both regions.



Skill Promotion through Vocational Training



Skill Development in Tailoring for Young Women's Empowerment

As part of CDI's skill development initiative, a group of 9 young girls from different parts of the Northeast have enrolled in a 4-month tailoring course. The training focuses on building foundational skills in stitching, pattern-making and garment finishing. Upon successful completion of the course, the trainees also get an opportunity to further enhance their skills through advanced training at the CDI Tailoring Unit. This initiative aims to create pathways for sustainable livelihoods and economic empowerment, particularly for young women from marginalized communities.