

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES (CDI)

Monthly Newsletter
October, 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

Entitlement / Document	Number
PAN Card Applications	18
E-Shram Applications	3
Aadhaar Applications	3
Bank Account Opened	1
PAN Cards Received	1
Birth Certificates Received	1
Education Scholarships (Children of DWs)	19

Promotion of Women's rights and Empowerment

Capacity Building of Group Leaders

Leadership training was conducted for group leaders, general secretaries, and treasurers across all six cities. The sessions focused on leadership skills, meeting facilitation, financial literacy, bookkeeping, banking processes, and conflict resolution. The training strengthened group governance and promoted unity, accountability, and collective action among domestic workers.



Home and Workplace Visits

Project staff conducted 31 home and workplace visits to domestic workers. These visits focused on ensuring the well-being, safety, and rights of live-in workers, addressing concerns related to wages, working hours, safety, and mistreatment, and supporting workers who required assistance with registration.

Promotion of Women's rights and Empowerment

Meetings with Employers

The project team held one-to-one meetings with 13 employers across six cities. These interactions focused on promoting fair wages, reasonable working hours, rest periods, safety standards, and worker registration. Employers were encouraged to support domestic workers' access to social security schemes, fostering healthier and more respectful work environments.



Placement Assistance

A total of 21 domestic workers received support for part-time placement. The initiative aimed to connect workers with employers who follow fair labour practices. Staff identified job opportunities, matched workers based on skills and preferences, and ensured placements that offer legal, safe, and dignified working conditions.

Promotion of Women's rights and Empowerment



Legal Awareness Programme

In collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), a legal awareness programme was organized to empower domestic workers with knowledge of their rights. Participants were informed about free legal aid, labour laws related to wages and working hours, and support available in cases of exploitation or abuse. The programme also emphasized the importance of legal documentation to formalize employment and protect workers' rights.

Promotion of Women's rights and Empowerment

Meeting with the Labour Minister, Government of Mizoram

The Aizawl team met with the Labour Minister of Mizoram and the Deputy Director, Labour Department to discuss key challenges faced by domestic workers, including low wages, lack of social security, and absence of legal safeguards. The team urged the government to strengthen policy interventions, improve scheme implementation, and establish mechanisms that ensure dignity and fair working conditions for domestic workers across the state.



Interface Meeting with Education Officials and Service Providers

An interface meeting was organized on 24th October 2025 at Ashur Line, Kokrajhar district, with the participation of 83 community members, local leaders, and service providers. The session was facilitated by advocates Mr. Ronald Ekka and Mr. Madhab Upadhyay, who provided information on free legal aid services available through the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) and discussed various government schemes. The meeting strengthened collaboration among stakeholders and enhanced community awareness on accessing legal and welfare support services.



Promotion of Women's rights and Empowerment

Awareness on Social Security Schemes and Entitlements

Awareness meetings on social security schemes were organized across all six project locations—Aizawl, Champhai, Churachandpur, Dimapur, Imphal, and Kohima. Domestic workers were informed about pensions, health insurance, unemployment benefits, and other entitlements. The sessions highlighted the importance of registration in formal systems to ensure legal protection, social inclusion, and access to essential welfare benefits.



Promotion of Women's rights and Empowerment

Community Awareness on Safe Migration and Human Trafficking

On 25th and 26th October 2025, awareness programmes were conducted at Subansri Community Hall, Baksa and RC Colony, Lakhura, Kokrajhar, reaching 56 participants. The sessions covered safe migration, prevention of human trafficking, labour laws, education systems, health and hygiene, and business development, empowering women to make informed decisions and actively participate in community development.



Economic Empowerment through livelihood promotion

Skill Training on Housekeeping

Skill training programmes were conducted in Kohima and Dimapur, benefitting around 200 domestic workers. The sessions, facilitated by Mr. John Gautam Rabha, Skill Trainer, CDI, focused on practical housekeeping skills such as waste management, table setting, room and bed arrangement, safe cleaning techniques, and workplace safety. The training aimed to enhance work efficiency and improve employability.



Economic Empowerment through livelihood promotion

Planning and Proposal Development for Business Collectives

On 8th October 2025, district-level business collectives from Tusgo, Dimakuchi, and Udalguri met to plan upcoming business ventures. The group decided to lease one bigha of tea garden land, and a detailed proposal was prepared outlining costs, projected income, and profitability.



Strengthening District-Level Business Collectives

The Baksa District Level Business Collective met on 31st October 2025 at Subansri Community Centre to promote community development, women's empowerment, and local economic growth. Discussions focused on strengthening Village Vigilant Committees (VVCs) and Mahila Samitis through capacity building, resource mapping, and linkages with government schemes.



Financial Inclusion and Banking Procedures

A meeting with DLBC Chirang members was held on 16th October 2025 at the district office to discuss bank account opening procedures, documentation requirements, and financial management to support smooth business operations.

Child Rights and Child Protection

Orientation of Children' s Club Members

An orientation programme was organised on 25th October 2025 at Soslapara, focusing on education, anti-human trafficking awareness, regular school attendance, sports, and health and hygiene to support holistic child development.

Children' s Education Support

Interaction sessions with tuition centre teachers were held on 14th and 26th October 2025 in Udaguri and Baksa districts to discuss teaching strategies, student engagement, and methods to improve learning outcomes.

Tuition Centre and House Visits

Tuition centre visits were conducted on 8th October 2025 at Hatkhola and Khutiline to assess the teaching environment and student participation. A house visit on 15th October 2025 addressed issues of tuition irregularity and encouraged consistent attendance.



Child Rights and Child Protection

Skill Training for NIOS Students

During October month 2025, NIOS students at CDI received hands-on training in making rosaries and artificial flowers. The training aimed to enhance creative and vocational skills, encouraging self-reliance and opening opportunities for income generation. Through this initiative, students were introduced to practical skills that can support livelihood options alongside their education.

Education and Co-curricular Engagement

During October 2025, Project Shelter continued its regular tuition classes, providing children with consistent academic support in a safe and nurturing environment. Alongside studies, engaging co-curricular activities such as art and drawing, group games, storytelling, and interactive learning sessions were organised, making learning enjoyable and participatory. These activities helped children build confidence, creativity, and social skills and also encouraged to grow holistically.



Youth Empowerment through Skill Development

District-Level Capacity Building Programme

A two-day capacity-building programme was conducted on 14th and 15th October 2025 at the Centre for Development Initiatives, involving 34 executive members of collective groups. The training focused on business proposal development, financial literacy, leadership skills, and knowledge sharing to strengthen collective leadership.



Quarterly Youth Counselling Session

On 29th October 2025, a Quarterly Youth Counselling Session was organised at Subansiri Community Hall, facilitated by Mr. Anil Kujur, Lecturer, Gyanphit Degree College, Nikashi. The session guided youth on education, career planning, and personal development.



Individual Youth Counselling for Skill Development

On 4th October 2025, individual counselling was provided to a college dropout student from Bamunjuli Tea Estate, encouraging enrolment in a tailoring course as a pathway to skill development and future employment.

Youth Empowerment through Skill Development



Field Visit with Women and Youth

On 11th October 2025, a visit was made to Kherline village to engage with women and youth on income-generating activities (IGA), education, and skill development opportunities, with the aim of strengthening economic independence and informed life choices.