

Some of our Activities

World Environment Day 2018: Celebration and Sapling Distribution Programme



On the occasion of World Environment Day, 5th June 2018, the Multiform Development Foundation, Nagaon, Assam, organized a meaningful and impactful environmental initiative by distributing 500 tree saplings to school students and local residents of Jajori, Nagaon. This program was undertaken with the objective of promoting environmental awareness, encouraging community participation in conservation efforts, and fostering a sense of responsibility toward nature. The initiative reflected the Foundation's strong commitment to environmental protection and its vision of building a greener and more sustainable future.

World Environment Day serves as a global platform to raise awareness about environmental challenges such as deforestation, climate change, and pollution. By choosing this significant day to conduct the sapling distribution drive, the Multiform Development Foundation effectively highlighted the importance of individual and collective action in protecting the environment. School students and community members were actively involved, making the initiative both educational and participatory in nature.

The distribution of 500 saplings was accompanied by awareness sessions that emphasized the importance of tree plantation and long-term care of the saplings. Participants were informed about how trees play a vital role in maintaining ecological balance by improving air quality, conserving biodiversity, preventing soil erosion, and regulating climate. Special emphasis was placed on the message that planting a sapling is only the first step; while nurturing and protecting it is essential to ensure its survival and long-term benefits.

School students were a major focus of the program, as they represent the future custodians of the environment. By engaging young minds, the Foundation aimed to instill environmental values and encourage eco-friendly habits from an early age. Students were motivated to plant saplings in their school premises, home gardens, and nearby open spaces, and to take personal responsibility for watering and protecting them. This approach helped develop a sense of ownership and pride among children, reinforcing the idea that small individual actions can lead to significant environmental impact.

Local residents also actively participated in the initiative, strengthening community involvement in conservation efforts. Awareness was created on how tree plantation can enhance the beauty of surroundings, improve living conditions, and contribute to overall well-being. Participants were encouraged to view trees not just as natural resources, but as essential partners in sustaining life and ensuring a healthy environment for future generations.

The initiative successfully combined action with awareness, ensuring that the saplings distributed would be cared for and nurtured. By promoting collective responsibility and long-term thinking, the program contributed to environmental sustainability at the grassroots level.

Overall, the World Environment Day 2018 sapling distribution drive stands as a commendable example of proactive environmental action by the Multiform Development Foundation. Through the distribution of 500 saplings and effective awareness creation, the Foundation took a significant step toward promoting a greener environment, inspiring community participation, and reinforcing the importance of environmental stewardship. Such initiatives play a crucial role in shaping sustainable communities and protecting the planet for generations to come.

Ensuring Hygiene and Dignity: Swachh Bharat Mission Activities in Nagaon (2019–2020)



In the years 2019 & 2020, the Multiform Development Foundation, in collaboration with the Public Health & Engineering Department (PHED), Nagaon, implemented an important sanitation initiative focused on the construction of 580 Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs). This program was undertaken with the objective of improving sanitation infrastructure at the household level while simultaneously promoting hygiene awareness and healthy living practices within the community. The initiative aligned with broader public health goals aimed at eliminating open defecation and enhancing the overall quality of life in both rural and semi-urban areas.

Access to safe and hygienic sanitation facilities remains a critical challenge in many communities, often leading to the spread of waterborne and sanitation-related diseases. By supporting the construction of IHHLs, the initiative directly addressed this issue by ensuring that households had access to private, safe, and functional toilet facilities. The availability of individual household latrines significantly reduced dependence on open defecation, thereby minimizing environmental contamination and health risks, especially for women, children, and the elderly.

Beyond physical infrastructure development, the initiative placed strong emphasis on behavior change and awareness creation. The Multiform Development Foundation actively worked with community members to educate them on the importance of proper utilization and regular maintenance of IHHLs. Awareness sessions, group meetings, and door-to-door interactions were conducted to explain how consistent toilet use contributes to better health outcomes, dignity, and safety. Special focus was given to promoting handwashing with soap after toilet use, safe disposal of waste, and overall cleanliness around households.

The collaboration with the Public Health & Engineering Department, Nagaon ensured technical guidance, quality construction standards, and effective implementation. PHED provided expertise in design, construction, and monitoring, while the Foundation played a key role in community mobilization, beneficiary identification, and awareness generation. This coordinated approach helped ensure that the latrines constructed were not only structurally sound but also accepted and used by the households.

The initiative also contributed to social and environmental benefits. Improved sanitation reduced the incidence of common illnesses such as diarrhea, cholera, and other infections linked to poor hygiene. Cleaner surroundings enhanced the living environment, while increased awareness fostered a sense of responsibility among community members to maintain sanitation facilities. Women and girls particularly benefited from improved privacy, safety, and dignity, which positively influenced their daily lives.

Overall, the construction of 580 Individual Household Latrines during 2019–2020 represents a significant step toward sustainable sanitation and public health improvement in Nagaon district. By combining infrastructure development with hygiene awareness and community engagement, the initiative ensured long-term impact and behavioral change. Such efforts play a vital role in improving community well-being, reducing health risks, and raising living standards, demonstrating the importance of integrated approaches to sanitation and hygiene development.

Helping Hand Programmed for Weaker Sections During COVID-19 Pandemic (2020)



During the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic in the year 2020, the Multiform Development Foundation undertook a vital humanitarian initiative aimed at supporting impoverished and economically weaker communities. The sudden outbreak of the virus and the subsequent lockdowns severely affected livelihoods, especially for daily wage earners, informal workers, and low-income families. Recognizing the urgent need for both immediate relief and preventive awareness, the Foundation focused on distributing essential food items while simultaneously educating people about proper handwashing and hygiene practices. Through this initiative, a total of 180 economically weaker families were directly benefited.

The food distribution component of the program was designed to address the immediate challenge of food insecurity. Many families faced shortages of essential supplies due to loss of income, restricted movement, and disruption of local markets. The Multiform Development Foundation provided food items such as rice, pulses, cooking oil, and other daily necessities to ensure that vulnerable households could meet their basic nutritional

needs during the crisis. These relief efforts helped reduce hunger and stress among families who were struggling to survive under extremely difficult circumstances.

Alongside material support, the initiative placed strong emphasis on health awareness, particularly on proper handwashing practices. At a time when misinformation and fear were widespread, educating communities about simple yet effective preventive measures were crucial. Foundation volunteers demonstrated correct handwashing techniques, explained the importance of using soap and clean water, and emphasized frequent handwashing as a key method to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Awareness messages were delivered in simple language so that people of all age groups could easily understand and adopt the practices.

The integration of food relief with hygiene awareness made the initiative more holistic and impactful. While food distribution addressed immediate physical needs, hygiene education helped build long-term protective behavior within the community. Beneficiaries were encouraged to maintain cleanliness not only for COVID-19 prevention but also to protect themselves from other infectious diseases. This approach helped strengthen community resilience and promoted healthier living conditions during and beyond the pandemic period.

Special care was taken to ensure that the distribution process followed safety protocols such as maintaining physical distancing and avoiding overcrowding. Volunteers used masks and practiced hygiene measures, setting an example for the community. This responsible approach reinforced the importance of collective effort in combating the pandemic.

Overall, the 2020 COVID-19 relief initiative by the Multiform Development Foundation played a significant role in supporting vulnerable families during a time of crisis. By benefiting 180 economically weaker families, the program provided essential food security and empowered communities with life-saving knowledge on hygiene and handwashing. The initiative reflected the Foundation's commitment to social responsibility, compassion, and community well-being, demonstrating how targeted relief and awareness efforts can make a meaningful difference during public health emergencies.

Community Outreach Programmed with APDCL: Electricity Bill Collection and Payment Awareness



In the years 2022 and 2023, the Multiform Development Foundation, Nagaon, Assam in collaboration with Charaibahi ESD, APDCL undertook a significant awareness initiative focused on promoting the timely payment of electricity bills and highlighting the importance of saving electricity. This program was designed to address both behavioral and knowledge gaps within communities regarding responsible energy consumption and financial discipline related to electricity usage.

The primary objective of the program was to educate consumers about the importance of paying electricity bills on time. Many households, particularly in semi-urban and rural areas,

often lack adequate awareness of how delayed payments can lead to penalties, service disruptions, and long-term financial burdens. By explaining billing systems, due dates, and the consequences of non-payment in simple and accessible language, the program helped consumers better understand their responsibilities. This awareness not only empowered households to manage their finances more effectively but also strengthened trust and transparency between consumers and the electricity distribution company, APDCL.

Equally important was the focus on energy conservation. With rising energy demands and increasing pressure on power infrastructure, the program emphasized the need for efficient and mindful electricity usage. Community meetings, interactive sessions, and awareness drives were conducted to explain practical energy-saving techniques, such as switching off unused appliances, using energy-efficient lighting, and avoiding power wastage during peak hours. Participants were encouraged to see electricity not as an unlimited resource, but as a valuable asset that must be used wisely for long-term sustainability.

The collaboration between Multiform Development Foundation and Charaibahi ESD, APDCL ensured that both social development and technical expertise were effectively combined. While the foundation played a key role in community mobilization and communication, APDCL provided technical insights, accurate information, and institutional support. This partnership helped bridge the gap between service providers and consumers, fostering a sense of shared responsibility toward energy management.

The initiative also contributed to broader social and economic benefits. Timely bill payments improved revenue stability for the utility provider, enabling better maintenance of infrastructure and uninterrupted power supply. For consumers, improved awareness led to reduced electricity bills through conservation practices, easing financial stress on households. Over time, such behavioral changes can contribute to reduced energy demand, lower carbon emissions, and enhanced environmental sustainability.

Overall, the 2022–2023 awareness program stands as a successful example of community-centered intervention. By reaching approximately 5,950 beneficiaries, the initiative not only improved knowledge and practices related to electricity usage and payment but also laid the foundation for long-term behavioral change. The program demonstrated how collaborative efforts between development organizations and utility providers can promote responsible energy use, financial discipline, and sustainable development within communities.

Enhancing Digital Literacy: Free Skill Development Program by Multiform Computer Institutions (MCI)



Since 2016, the Multiform Development Foundation, Nagaon, Assam has been consistently implementing a Free Computer Education Program, aimed at empowering disadvantaged and marginalized groups, particularly poor women, Scheduled Castes (SC), and Scheduled Tribes (ST). Recognizing the growing importance of digital literacy in today's world, the foundation has taken proactive steps to bridge the digital divide and provide equitable access to computer education for those who might otherwise be left behind in the rapidly evolving technological landscape. This initiative is executed through its subsidiary, the Multiform Computer Institutions (MCI) one of unit Multiform Development Foundation, which serves as the primary training platform for delivering structured and effective computer education programs.

The Free Computer Education Program is designed to equip participants with essential computer skills, including familiarity with hardware and software, word processing, spreadsheets, presentation tools, internet usage, and basic troubleshooting. The training

also introduces students to digital communication tools and basic understanding of software applications relevant to modern workplaces. By providing such knowledge, the program aims not only to improve digital literacy but also to enhance employment opportunities for participants. In an era where computer proficiency is often a prerequisite for even entry-level jobs, the program helps marginalized communities compete more effectively in the job market, access government schemes, and engage with digital services.

Over the years, the program has reached a significant number of beneficiaries. Since its inception in 2016, approximately 490 students from poor families have received training through this initiative. The program specifically targets economically disadvantaged individuals, ensuring that financial barriers do not prevent access to critical skill development opportunities. Among these beneficiaries, a notable proportion comprises women, enabling them to gain independence and improve their employability.

The program also emphasizes inclusion of individuals from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, who often face systemic socio-economic disadvantages. By providing free access to technology education, MDF aims to reduce social inequities and create opportunities for these communities to thrive in the digital economy. The curriculum is carefully designed to be beginner-friendly, ensuring that participants with little or no prior exposure to computers can learn effectively and gain confidence in their abilities.

A key feature of the program is its practical, hands-on approach, which ensures that participants not only understand theoretical concepts but can also apply their skills in real-world contexts. MCI facilitates interactive sessions, exercises, and projects that simulate workplace scenarios, enabling students to develop problem-solving skills and adaptability. This method of experiential learning significantly enhances retention of knowledge and prepares participants for diverse employment opportunities.

Beyond technical skills, the program also promotes digital awareness, including responsible internet use, cybersecurity, and online ethics. In today's interconnected world, understanding safe and responsible usage of technology is as important as learning operational skills. Participants are encouraged to explore online learning resources, access government services digitally, and utilize information technology for personal and professional development.

Through this initiative, the Multiform Development Foundation has successfully contributed to empowering marginalized communities, reducing the digital divide, and fostering socio-economic development. By providing disadvantaged individuals with the tools to navigate the digital landscape, the program not only enhances employment prospects but also promotes self-reliance, confidence, and lifelong learning.

In summary, since 2016, the Free Computer Education Program run by MDF through Multiform Computer Institutions (MCI) has played a transformative role in the lives of approximately 490 students from poor families, particularly women, SC, and ST communities. By combining practical training, digital literacy, and socio-economic empowerment, the program has made significant strides in creating an inclusive and skilled workforce capable of participating fully in today's technology-driven society.

Community Health Initiative: Free Medical Camp across Hojai, Nagaon & Morigaon Districts



In the year 2024, Multiform Development Foundation, Nagaon, Assam, in collaboration with officials from the Health Department of Hojai, Nagaon, and Morigaon districts in Assam, successfully organized a series of health camps aimed at improving access to healthcare services for local communities. These camps were designed to reach underserved populations, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas, where access to timely medical attention is often limited due to factors such as distance from healthcare centers, financial constraints, and lack of awareness about available services. Through this initiative, MDF demonstrated its commitment to the holistic development of communities by not only focusing on education, livelihood, and skill development but also prioritizing the health and well-being of the population.

During the health camps, a total of 2,100 people benefited from free medical check-ups, which included general health assessments, blood pressure monitoring, blood sugar testing, and consultations for common ailments. These check-ups were conducted by qualified doctors, nurses, and paramedical staff who volunteered their expertise to ensure accurate diagnosis and appropriate medical advice. In addition to the diagnostic services, the camps also provided free medicines to patients, ensuring that those in need received immediate

relief without bearing any financial burden. This comprehensive approach helped bridge the gap between the community and essential healthcare services.

The health camps also served as a platform for health education and awareness. Participants were informed about preventive measures for common diseases, personal hygiene, nutritional practices, and lifestyle modifications to maintain long-term health. Sessions on maternal and child health, immunization, and disease prevention were conducted to empower community members with knowledge that could improve the overall health standards of their families. This focus on awareness is particularly significant in rural areas, where lack of knowledge often contributes to the progression of preventable diseases.

The collaborative effort between MDF and the health department officials ensured efficient organization and smooth functioning of the camps. From registration to consultation, the process was managed systematically to cater to a large number of participants within a short period. The involvement of district health authorities from Hojai, Nagaon, and Morigaon also ensured that patients requiring further medical attention were referred to appropriate government hospitals or specialty centers for treatment, thus creating a continuum of care.

By providing free medical services, the initiative also had a positive socio-economic impact. Many of the beneficiaries were daily wage workers, small farmers, and individuals from low-income households who would otherwise have faced financial strain in accessing healthcare. The availability of free medicines and consultation not only alleviated immediate health concerns but also reduced economic stress, enabling families to allocate resources to other essential needs.

Overall, the health camps organized by the Multifarm Development Foundation in 2024 exemplify a proactive and community-centered approach toward public health. By combining medical check-ups, free distribution of medicines, and health awareness activities, the initiative contributed significantly to promoting health and well-being among local residents of Hojai, Nagaon, and Morigaon districts. Such interventions play a crucial role in building healthier communities, ensuring timely access to medical care, and fostering a culture of preventive healthcare, ultimately enhancing the quality of life and resilience of the population.

Promoting Sustainable Agriculture: JCI-Supported Jute Farming Awareness Drive Hojai & Nagaon District (2025)



In the year 2025, the Multiform Development Foundation (MDF), Nagaon, Assam in collaboration with the Jute Corporation of India Limited (JCI), Regional Office Nagaon, undertook a series of awareness and outreach programs in Hojai and Nagaon districts of Assam aimed at promoting sustainable jute farming practices and supporting local jute farmers. These initiatives were designed to address both the economic and technical challenges faced by jute cultivators in the region, while also highlighting the potential of jute as a sustainable cash crop with significant socio-economic benefits.

The primary objective of these awareness programs was to equip farmers with knowledge of improved cultivation techniques to enhance yield, quality, and profitability. Farmers were educated on the advantages of using certified jute seeds, which are more resistant to diseases and pests and produce higher fiber quality. Emphasis was placed on adopting crop rotation and soil management practices to maintain soil fertility and prevent nutrient depletion, ensuring long-term sustainability of jute cultivation.

Another key aspect of the program was integrated pest management (IPM), which encourages the use of eco-friendly pest control methods, reducing dependence on chemical pesticides while effectively managing pest infestations. Farmers were trained on identifying common jute pests, understanding their life cycles, and applying preventive measures. These practices not only protect the crop but also contribute to environmental sustainability, aligning with the growing global emphasis on eco-friendly agriculture.

The programs also emphasized economic awareness. JCI ensured that farmers were well-informed about the Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government of India for raw jute, thereby empowering them to make informed decisions regarding the sale of their produce. Farmers were guided on proper grading, storage, and marketing practices to maximize their returns and avoid exploitation by intermediaries. By connecting farmers directly with institutional buyers like JCI, the initiative helped create a more organized and reliable market link for jute growers in Assam.

To further motivate farmers and highlight the versatility of jute and JCI participated in various exhibitions across Assam, showcasing a wide range of jute-based products, including bags, handicrafts, and household items. These exhibitions not only demonstrated the economic potential of jute beyond raw fiber sales but also created awareness about eco-friendly alternatives to plastic products. Farmers were able to see the value addition opportunities for jute, inspiring them to explore new avenues for income generation.

The outreach programs were conducted in a participatory manner, encouraging farmers to ask questions, share experiences, and adopt best practices. Demonstrations, hands-on training sessions, and interactive discussions ensured that technical knowledge was effectively transferred to the farmers. By combining agricultural education, market awareness, and product promotion, these initiatives aimed to improve both the productivity and profitability of jute farming in Hojai and Nagaon districts.

Overall, the collaboration between Multifarm Development Foundation, Nagaon, Assam and JCI in 2025 significantly contributed to promoting sustainable jute farming, enhancing farmer awareness, and supporting the rural economy in Assam. By integrating modern cultivation techniques, eco-friendly practices, and market-oriented strategies, the program strengthened the jute sector while empowering farmers to achieve long-term economic stability and sustainable agricultural development.

Empowering Artisans: ITDP Toolkit Distribution by Development Commission (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, GoI



ARUNACHAL FRONT
ARUNACHAL | NORTHEAST

WWS Upper Siang Jengging Block members sensitised on cyber slavery, digital arrest, cyber bullying, various scams

JENGGING, Oct 11: In observance of National Cyber Security Awareness Month, the Police Station Jengging organised a Cyber awareness programme under the guidance of Deputy SP (Hq) G Sakter, A.P.S., and the overall supervision of Lt SP Upper Siang, Token Saring, A.P.S.

In the first phase of the initiative, members of the Women Welfare Society, Upper Siang – Jengging Block, were sensitised about the importance of maintaining good cyber hygiene. The session covered crucial topics such as Cyber Slavery, Digital Arrest, Cyber Bullying, Cyber Stalking, Identity Theft, Phishing, Fake Loans Scams, UPI Scams, Sextortion, ATM Frauds, and Social Engineering At-

Participants were also encouraged to follow 'Cyber Dost', an initiative of the Ministry of Home Affairs to spread cyber safety awareness, and were advised to report cyber-related crimes through the Cyber Crime Helpline No. 1930 or the official portal cybercrime.gov.in.

The programme was well-received and concluded successfully with active participation of the APFWS Jengging Block.

Improved toolkits distributed among artisans

ZIRO, Oct 11: An Improved Toolkit Distribution Programme (ITDP) was organised by the North East Multipurpose Development Society (NEMDS) & Multiform Development Foundation, Nagaon, Assam, sponsored by the Development Commission (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India.

In this programme, 50 nos. of cane & bamboo and 50 nos. of wood carving artisans received toolkits under the initiative to promote traditional woodcraft and support rural artisans.

The programme was attended by Oji Perme, Deputy Commissioner, Lower Subansiri district, Ziro, Tq. Jayanta Singh, Assistant Director (H), HSC, Itanagar, and Dashant Rana, HPO, Regional Office, Guwahati.

The dignitaries distributed the toolkits to the participating artisans and encouraged them to continue their craftsmanship with innovation and dedication.

Jharkhand Police arrests cybercriminal from Manipur

GUMLA, Oct 11: Jharkhand Police arrested a cybercriminal from Manipur, an officer said on Saturday. The police took action after a written complaint was filed at Gumla police station by

ICAR-KVK Jangding organises launching

Improved Toolkit Distribution Program (ITDP) was successfully organized on 10 October 2025 by the Multiform Development Foundation, Nagaon, Assam, with sponsorship from the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. The program was implemented as part of the Government's ongoing initiative to strengthen traditional handicrafts by providing modern and improved tools to artisans, thereby enhancing productivity, quality, and sustainability of their craft.

The ITDP focused on supporting 50 wood carving artisans, who were provided with improved toolkits specifically designed to meet the practical needs of traditional woodcraft. Wood carving is a time-honored craft practiced by skilled artisans, particularly in rural and tribal regions, and plays a vital role in preserving cultural heritage while generating livelihood opportunities. However, many artisans continue to work with outdated or inadequate tools, which limits efficiency and affects product quality. This program aimed to

address these challenges by equipping artisans with better tools that enable precision, durability, and ease of work.

The distribution program was graced by the presence of eminent dignitaries from the administration and handicrafts sector. Smt. Olive Parme, Deputy Commissioner, Lower Subansiri District, Ziro, attended the event and highlighted the importance of empowering rural artisans through such welfare-oriented schemes. She emphasized that handicrafts are not only a source of income but also a representation of cultural identity, and supporting artisans directly contributes to inclusive rural development.

Shri Jayanta Singh, Assistant Director (Handicrafts), HSC, Itanagar, addressed the artisans and explained the objectives of the Improved Toolkit Distribution Program. He highlighted how access to better tools can significantly improve craftsmanship, reduce physical strain, and help artisans meet market demand more effectively. He also encouraged artisans to adopt improved techniques while maintaining the traditional essence of wood carving.

The program was also attended by Shri Dushant Rana, HPO, Regional Office, Guwahati, who interacted with the artisans and motivated them to utilize the provided toolkits efficiently. He stressed the importance of innovation, quality improvement, and consistency in production to enhance market reach at both national and international levels. He further informed the artisans about various government schemes related to training, marketing assistance, exhibitions, and financial support available under the handicrafts sector.

During the program, the dignitaries formally distributed the improved toolkits to the participating artisans. The toolkits were carefully selected to suit the specific requirements of wood carving activities, enabling artisans to improve detailing, finishing, and overall quality of their products. The distribution ceremony created a sense of encouragement and confidence among the artisans, who expressed gratitude for the support extended by the Government of India and the organizing agency.

Overall, the Improved Toolkit Distribution Program proved to be a meaningful step toward strengthening traditional woodcraft and uplifting rural artisans. By providing improved tools and institutional support, the program not only enhanced the working conditions of artisans but also contributed to skill sustainability, income generation, and preservation of traditional craftsmanship. The initiative reinforced the commitment of the Ministry of Textiles and the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) toward inclusive growth and long-term development of the handicrafts sector.

Handicraft Promotion through DDW Program – Ministry of Textiles, GoI Initiative



বাক্সাৰ শিলবাৰীত হস্তশিল্পৰ কৰ্মশালাৰ শুভাৰম্ভণি



গণ অধিকাৰ সেৱা, মুছলপুৰ, ২৬ অক্টোবৰ ৪ ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ বহুশিল্প মন্ত্ৰালয়ৰ অধীনৰ হস্তশিল্প উন্নয়ন আয়তনৰ সহযোগত আৰু মাল্টিফৰ্ম ডেভেলপমেণ্ট ফাউণ্ডেচন, অসমৰ উদ্যোগত শনিবাৰে বাক্সা জিলাৰ শিলবাৰীৰ সমৰ্থীৰি সংঘত ডিজাইন আৰু প্ৰযুক্তি বিকাশৰ এক হস্তশিল্প কৰ্মশালা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। ২৫ অক্টোবৰৰ পৰা অহা ২৩ ডিচেম্বৰলৈ ৫০ দিনীয়া কাৰ্যসূচীৰে অনুষ্ঠিত হ'বলগীয়া এই কৰ্মশালাৰ শুভাৰম্ভণি কৰে হস্ততাৰ আৰু বহুশিল্প বিভাগৰ শালবাৰী মহকুমাৰ পৰিদৰ্শক নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ খণ্ডৰ বড়োৱে। তেওঁ উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠানত অংশগ্ৰহণ কৰি হস্তশিল্পৰ প্ৰতি আগ্ৰহী শিল্পীসকলক উদ্ভূতন আৰু নিষ্ঠাৰে নিজৰ কাৰুণ্য অধ্যাত ৰাখিবলৈ উৎসাহিত কৰাৰ লগতে পৰম্পৰাগত হস্ত শিল্পকলাৰ সৰ্বক্ষণ আৰু প্ৰসাৰৰ প্ৰতি গুৰুত্ব দিবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনায়। তেওঁ লগতে কয় যে এই প্ৰশিক্ষণৰ অন্তত প্ৰশিক্ষাৰ্থীসকলে লাভ কৰা আৰ্টিচিয়ান কাৰ্ডৰ জৰিয়তে ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয়-আন্তৰ্ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় পৰ্যায়ত অনুষ্ঠিত যিকোনো হস্তশিল্পৰ প্ৰদৰ্শনীত বিনামূলীয়াকৈ অংশগ্ৰহণৰ সুবিধা লাভ কৰিব। তদুপৰি প্ৰশিক্ষাৰ্থীসকলে বেবেকৰ জৰিয়তে মুদ্ৰা লেনাৰ বাবেও অগ্ৰাধিকাৰ পাব বুলি উল্লেখ কৰে। উল্লেখ্য যে এই কৰ্মশালাত জিলাখনৰ মুঠ ৩০ গৰাকী প্ৰশিক্ষাৰ্থীক নিজৰ ডিজাইন আৰু কাৰিকৰী দক্ষতা বৃদ্ধিৰ বাবে দোতৰা বাদ্য শিল্প নিৰ্মাণৰ ওপৰত প্ৰশিক্ষণ দিয়া হ'ব। উক্ত উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠানত মাল্টিফৰ্ম ডেভেলপমেণ্ট ফাউণ্ডেচনৰ সঞ্চালকদ্বয় জিতু বৰা আৰু কুমু বৰা, ডিজাইনাৰ হস্তশিল্প পৰেশ ভূঞা, মুখ্য প্ৰশিক্ষক-বাসুদেৱ চন্দ্ৰ বৰা, স্থানীয় সমাজকৰ্মী মেঘৰ বড়ো, জিলাক-বামতৰীৰ লগতে কে যাবাৰীকীও বিনিস্তি ব্যক্তি উপস্থিত থাকে।

Design and Technology Development Workshop (DDW) Program organized by the Multiform Development Foundation, Nagaon, Assam, is a noteworthy initiative aimed at strengthening traditional handicraft practices through systematic skill development and design intervention. The workshop was conducted for a duration of 50 days, from 25 October 2025 to 23 December 2025, at Silbari in Baksa District under the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR), Assam. The program was sponsored by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, reflecting the Government's continued support for the preservation and modernization of India's rich handicraft heritage.

This DDW program specifically focused on the training and upgradation of skills of 30 musical instrument artisans, with special emphasis on the traditional string instrument Dotor. Dotor is an integral part of Assamese and folk musical traditions and holds cultural significance across rural and tribal communities. However, due to limited access to design innovation, improved tools, and market exposure, many artisans face challenges in sustaining their craft as a viable livelihood. The workshop was therefore designed to address these gaps by blending traditional craftsmanship with modern design and technological inputs.

Throughout the training period, artisans were provided with intensive hands-on training covering various stages of Dotora making. This included selection and seasoning of raw materials, improved carving and shaping techniques, precision in tuning and sound quality, surface finishing, durability enhancement, and aesthetic refinement. The program also introduced artisans to new design concepts while ensuring that the traditional identity and cultural essence of the Dotora were preserved. Emphasis was placed on product standardization and quality control to make the instruments suitable for broader markets.

The inaugural function of the workshop was marked by the presence of several eminent personalities from the fields of handicrafts, administration, and social service. Shri Nizwm Khungur Boro, Inspector, Handloom & Textile, Salbari, Government of Assam, attended the function and encouraged the artisans to take full advantage of government-supported programs for skill development and income generation. He emphasized the importance of traditional crafts in preserving cultural heritage and strengthening the rural economy.

Shri Paresh Bhuyan, Designer (Handicrafts), played a key role in guiding the artisans on design innovation and market-oriented product development. His inputs helped artisans understand changing consumer preferences and the importance of contemporary design integration. The workshop also benefited from the expertise of Shri Babul Chandra Roy, Master Craft Person, who shared his practical knowledge and experience, ensuring effective skill transfer and hands-on learning.

The presence of Shri Membor Baro, Social Worker, highlighted the social impact of such programs in empowering artisan communities, while Shri Tilak Basumatary, Assistant Teacher, underlined the role of education and awareness in preserving traditional musical instruments for future generations.

The closing program of the Design and Technology Development Workshop (DDW) was attended by Mr. Pankaj Yadav, CTO, HSC, Gauripur, from the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Gauripur, Dhubri, Assam. During the programme, he interacted with the trained artisans and appreciated their efforts in successfully completing the Dotora making training. Mr. Yadav elaborated on various schemes and initiatives of the Handicrafts sector, including financial assistance, tool kits, marketing support, and skill upgradation programs provided by the Government of India. He encouraged artisans to actively participate in these schemes to enhance production, improve livelihoods, and achieve sustainable growth.

Overall, the DDW Program at Silbari proved to be a valuable platform for enhancing skills, improving product quality, and boosting the confidence of musical instrument artisans. By strengthening Dotora craftsmanship and creating opportunities for sustainable livelihoods, the workshop contributed significantly to the development of the handicrafts sector in Assam and the BTR region.

National Handicraft Week 2025 celebrated at Nalbari, Assam



বালা মুগকুছিত হস্তশিল্প সপ্তাহ উদযাপন



গণ অধিকাৰ সেৱা, মুছলপুৰ, ১৫ ডিচেম্বৰ ৪ হস্তশিল্প সপ্তাহ-২০২৫ উপলক্ষে আজি নলবাৰীৰ বালা মুগকুছিত গাঁৱত এক কাৰ্যসূচী ৰূপায়ণ কৰা হয়। নগাঁৱৰ মান্দিফৰ্ম ডেভেলপমেণ্ট ফাউণ্ডেচনৰ উদ্যোগত আৰু ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ বস্ত্ৰ মন্ত্ৰালয়ৰ উন্নয়ন আয়ুক্ত (হস্তশিল্প)ৰ সহযোগত অনুষ্ঠিত এই কাৰ্যসূচীত জি আই টেগপ্ৰাপ্ত অসম গৌৰৱীৰ জাপি শিল্পৰ শিপিনীসকলক উৎসাহিত কৰাৰ লক্ষ্যৰে শিল্পী কাৰ্ডে সুবিধা, প্ৰডাক্ট মাৰ্কেটিং, মুদ্ৰা ঋণ, বিভাগে প্ৰদান কৰা শিল্পী বীমাৰ সুবিধা আদিৰ বিষয়ে আলোচনা কৰা হয়। এই কাৰ্যসূচীত মান্দিফৰ্ম ডেভেলপমেণ্ট ফাউণ্ডেচন, অসমৰ সঞ্চালক জিতু বৰা, বালা মুগকুছিত জেবি জাপি উদ্যোগৰ স্বত্বাধিকাৰী দিপক বৈশ্যা, ৭নং দক্ষিণ নলবাৰী গাঁও পঞ্চায়তৰ সভানেত্ৰী পম্পী কলিতা প্ৰমো উপস্থিত থাকে।

National Handicraft Week 2025 was celebrated with enthusiasm and cultural pride on 14th December 2025 at Bala Mugkuchi, Nalbari, Assam. The event highlighted the rich traditional craftsmanship of Assam, with a special focus on the Geographical Indication (GI) product, the Assam Japi, crafted from cane and bamboo. Organized by the Multiform Development Foundation, Nagaon, Assam, in collaboration with the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, the program served as a platform to honor the skills of local artisans and provide them with essential resources to enhance their livelihood and preserve their heritage.

The program began with a warm welcome extended to the attending dignitaries, artisans, and local community members. Among the prominent attendees were Sri Jitu Borah, Director of Multiform Development Foundation, Assam; Dipak Baishya, Owner of J.B. Japi Udyog, Bela Mugkuchi; and Pompi Kalita Baishya, President of 7 No Dakhin Nalbari Gram Panchayat. Their presence reflected the strong support from both governmental and non-governmental bodies for the promotion of traditional handicrafts in Assam.

A major highlight of the event was the distribution of the Artisan Card among the cane and bamboo craft practitioners. The Artisan Card, an initiative by the Ministry of Textiles, serves as an official recognition of artisans and provides them with multiple benefits, including access to financial assistance, insurance coverage, and marketing support. During the program, delegates explained the advantages of the card, emphasizing how it can help artisans avail Mudra Loans for business expansion, artisan insurance schemes for social security, and enhanced opportunities for marketing their products at both national and international levels.

The program also included interactive sessions where artisans could discuss their challenges and seek guidance on modern marketing techniques, product diversification, and innovation while maintaining the authenticity of their traditional craft. The discussions underscored the importance of blending creativity with tradition, ensuring that the Assam Japi, an iconic symbol of Assamese culture, continues to thrive in contemporary markets. The delegates

encouraged artisans to pursue excellence with dedication and innovation, reinforcing the significance of preserving their unique craft for future generations.

In addition to practical support, the event fostered cultural awareness and pride among the local community. Through the celebration, participants gained a deeper appreciation of the craftsmanship, skill, and heritage behind the Assam Japi. The program also facilitated networking among artisans, entrepreneurs, and policymakers, creating opportunities for collaborations, exhibitions, and wider recognition of Assam's handicrafts.

Overall, the National Handicraft Week 2025 at Bala Mugkuchi was not only a celebration of artistry but also a concerted effort to empower artisans, strengthen their livelihoods, and promote the rich cultural heritage of Assam. By combining governmental support, organizational guidance, and community engagement, the event successfully highlighted the significance of traditional crafts and the enduring legacy of the Assam Japi, ensuring that this timeless craft continues to shine in the modern era.

Chaupal Interaction with Handicraft Artisans for GI Craft at Nalbari, Assam With Reginal Director NER



On 24th December 2025, a meaningful Chaupal interaction was organized at Nalbari with handicraft artisans associated with the Geographical Indication (GI) product, the Assam Japi. The programme was led by Hara Kanta Baro, Regional Director, Handicraft, NER and aimed at strengthening awareness, promotion, and preservation of this iconic Assamese craft.

During the interaction, artisans shared their experiences, traditional techniques, and challenges related to production, marketing, and livelihood generation. The Assam Japi, a symbol of Assamese cultural identity and heritage, is traditionally handcrafted using bamboo, tokou leaves, cloth, and decorative motifs. The discussion emphasized the importance of GI recognition in protecting the authenticity of the craft and ensuring fair economic opportunities for artisans.

Hara Kanta Baro encouraged artisans to maintain quality standards, adopt innovative marketing strategies, and utilize digital platforms for wider outreach. He also highlighted the role of GI tagging in preserving indigenous knowledge and preventing imitation products in the market. The Chaupal created a collaborative platform for dialogue between officials and artisans, fostering confidence among local craft communities and promoting sustainable development of Assam's traditional handicraft sector.

Awareness programme interaction with Handicraft artisan at Anjaw District, Arunachal Pradesh



An awareness and interaction programme with handicraft artisans was organized at Anjaw District, Arunachal Pradesh on 6th, 7th, and 8th March 2026. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from nearly 280 artisans belonging to different villages and tribal communities of the district. The initiative aimed to promote traditional handicrafts, strengthen artisan livelihoods, and spread awareness about government schemes and financial support available for the handicraft sector.

During the programme, artisans showcased a wide range of locally handmade products that reflected the rich cultural heritage of Arunachal Pradesh. These included bamboo and cane crafts, handwoven textiles, traditional garments, woodcraft items, decorative household articles, and indigenous tribal handicrafts. The interaction sessions encouraged artisans to discuss traditional production methods, raw material availability, design improvement, packaging, branding, and market access for their products.

Various issues faced by artisans were also discussed in detail. Participants highlighted challenges such as lack of proper marketing facilities, transportation difficulties in remote areas, limited access to modern tools, irregular income opportunities, and insufficient awareness about government welfare schemes. Experts and officials provided guidance on skill development, product diversification, and participation in exhibitions and trade fairs to improve business opportunities. Special emphasis was given to financial literacy and entrepreneurship development through schemes such as Mudra Loans. Artisans were informed about loan facilities for starting or expanding small businesses.