the ant

Quarterly Newsletter



Inside the Issue

FAMILY DAY

On 7th January the ants came together for a picnic by the banks of the river Aie to celebrate Family Day.

p. 03

WINTER CAMP HELD

With the aim to expand the purview of gender dialogues to different sections of the society, project AVAHAN conducted a Winter Camp with the youth of Chirang. p. 03

DAUGASAR IN THE NATIONAL FRISBEE TOURNAMENT

Daugasar Group from Patabari represented Assam in the National Frisbee Tournament in Bangalore - 28th Feb to 1st Mar. p. 04

NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The National Science Day is an opportunity to exclusively popularise the everyday application of science & technology to develop scientific temperament among children.

On February 28th, 13

Middle English Schools under project LEAP observed the Day by organising quiz competitions, poster making, model demonstrations, etc.





IAS TRAINEES' VISIT

A group of 18 IAS trainees spent a day with the ants as a part of their NGO exposure on 20th January. After the introduction and briefing of the ant's work they were off to the field areas of Colouring the Rainbow, LEAP and also to Aagor weaving unit to understand the nuances of grassroots level work. On their return they had a tour of Udangshri Dera and lunch thereafter. The post lunch session named "Spectrum of Development" was headed by Enakshi Dutta, enriched by personal anecdotes it covered the working of NGOs, Strategies, Accountability and the difference between Social Action and Social Reform. The house was open for queries after the session. There was an interesting exchange of ideas between the ants and the trainees regarding the strategies to combat and resolve societal issues. The event also left behind a strong message of the abundance of talent and qualification in the social sector who are not lured by money or power.

GIRL ICONS' RESIDENTIAL TRAINING

From 6th to 10th March, 36 Girl Icons from Udalguri and Chirang participated in the Residential Training at Udangshri Dera, the ant campus. It was aimed to equip the Icons with information and skills to enhance their leadership and to guide the peers for the next 6 months. In the course of 5 days they traversed through concepts, strategies, movies, craft and planning. The first day was about reflecting on the previous 6 months; on the second day they engaged with "Gender Discrimination" and measures to take charge of one's life when faced with. The third day was about identifying the difference between career and vocation and celebrating the Women's Day. The fourth day acquainted the Icons with Rights and Laws to pursue their dreams and to safeguard themselves. It was followed by enumerating the perks of responsibly handling money. As the Icons left Udangshri Dera, they had a thoroughly made action plan for the next six months, along with their bag packs







Continues...

FAMILY DAY

Our staff from Chirang, Udalguri and Guwahati with their families celebrated the day with incessant exuberance. While some lent their hands to chop vegetables and prepare food, others were busy flying Frisbees and playing songs. And then we danced till the flavours emanating from the food blanketed our nostrils. We sat down with hot food on the plates that we had got from home and ate together like one big family.



TRAINING OF PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Training of partner organizations-5
days training "IDeA Training on
Education" was organized by IDeA for
its partner organizations. The
training was held from 11th to 15th
Feb at UD, the ant campus. 30
participants from 7 partner
organizations working on the
education of children attended the
training. Refresher training is being
planned.

Learning outcomes-

 Participants learned effective and innovative ways of teachinglearning methods

With the training, partner organizations are better equipped to use joyful TLM with the children



Continues...

WINTER CAMP HELD

From 14th to 16th Feb, 25 participants from 9 clusters took part in the residential camp. Continuation of the Summer Camp, the camp's focus this time was on Human rights. Considering the feedback of the previous camp, the focus was on outdoor activities this time. The participants performed street plays in Koilamoila, Kajalgaon and Shantipur weekly markets on "Domestic Violence and its impact on Children".

THE ETHICAL TEA PARTNERSHIP

For the year 2020, IDeA signed an agreement with the Ethical Tea Partnership (ETP) to build the capacity of the Community Development Forums (CDFs) formed by ETP in the two tea gardens of Behora and Bukhial of Golaghat and Jorhat districts of Assam. The assignment comprises workshops, training, monitoring visits in the gardens and provides support to the ETP team for strengthening the CDFs. A two-day workshop on participatory methods and a colloquium with the managers were held in January and March respectively.

Continues...



NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY

Only four schools out of the 13 received assistance by the project whereas others were equipped to organise it by themselves. Mallipara ME School stood out in with its emphasis on the functioning of household materials. The students brought solar lamps, gas cylinders, pressure cookers, torch lights etc. Later the uses, working and material used in its production were explained to the children.

Continues...



FRISBEE TOURNAMENT

Daugasar was among the 16 teams from across the country that participated in the tournament. 17 players accompanied by the Project Coordinator of Colouring The Rainbow and their Community Youth Mentor travelled to the Gopal Sports Academy, Bangalore. Daugasar became the first team from Assam to play in the Nationals of Ultimate Frisbee. The tournament became an opportunity for the players to travel beyond their state and to acquaint themselves with the bigger stage.



UNDERSTANDING ISLAM

IDeA organized a two-day workshop on 'Understanding Islam and the Status of Women' in collaboration with Muslim Women Forum (MWF), India. 38 participants were from the ant, it's project areas, IDeA partners & from MWF. Headed by Syeda Hameed, ex-member Planning Commission, the session focused on critically analysing the common misconceptions regarding Islam. On 20th Feb, MWF also led the Charcha Café at NE-thing in Guwahati.