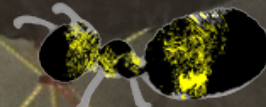


# the ant

*(10th February 2023)*

# M O N T H L Y NEWSLETTER







## the ant Welcomes Netaji Basumatary as the New Executive Director

As the ant enters into 22nd year of its existence, Dr. Sunil Kaul, passed on the flagship of Executive Director of the ant to Netaji Basumatary. Hailing from Rowmari, Chirang, the home of the ant, Netaji officially joined the position on 1st January, 2023. A postgraduate in Social Work from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, and the ex-Regional Head of the Indo-Global Social Service Society (IGSS) in Guwahati, he has been working in the development sector for the last 22 years. “As I am joining this position, I hope that we all will work together as a family, and please never hesitate in approaching me for any support for your work.”

### Visioning Exercise with Project Coordinators for Community Media

On 17th January, the Community Media Unit (CMU) of the ant organised a workshop to discuss about the role of the CMU with the coordinators of different programmes, and how they can support each other in realising their visions. Pinky Brahma Choudhury, one of the Founders of the media unit of Samaj Pragati Sahayog (SPS) facilitated the workshop by guiding the participants to map out protocols and guiding principles for smooth collaboration between the CMU and the different projects. She emphasised, “The role of community media should be to empower communities on the margins of development through participatory video productions.”





## Exposure Visit by MOULD

An exposure trip was organised by the MOULD (Making Opportunities and Uplifting Lives at Deosiri) team to Pabhoi Greens in Biswanath and Debojit Barman Fish, Seed & Piglet Producer and Supplier Unit at Nankarbhaira in Nalbari district. 14 staff members from the ant and two farmers from the ant project area learnt about nursery management, urban gardening, bio-pesticides, vermicompost, apiculture, etc. at Pabhoi Greens. Pig and fish farm management such as different types of vaccines available to treat diseases concerning pigs were informed to the participants at Debojit Barman's farm.



## Training of Newly Recruited Teachers for Remedial Learning Centres (RLCs)

the ant provided basic training to 17 newly recruited teachers for project SHIKSHA. It was a three days training starting from 22nd January, 2023. Two facilitators from project LEAP (Learning Ecosystem Augmentation Programme) conducted sessions on basic language development, basic arithmetic, storytelling, learning outcomes, classroom management, joyful learning, etc. These 17 teachers will teach the children of class 3 to 5 at 17 Remedial Learning Centres (RLCs) in Udalguri.



## Five Youths from Bengtol and Deosiri Attended GTP Youth Camp

The "Go to the People Youth Camp" organised by YuMetta Foundation from 6th to 11th January, 2023 at Don Bosco Skill Development Institute, Tezpur was attended by five youths working with our Friends Across Barriers (F.a.B) project. The camp was organised for youth who wants to bring positive changes in the society. The youth were given training on discovering their inner values and capacities through games, role playing sessions, sessions on mental health, etc.



## Mushroom Cultivation Training in Kuklung

On 21st January 2023, 8 women farmers and 5 men farmers were given training on oyster mushroom cultivation at No. 4A Sonapur village in Kuklung. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chirang provided the mushroom kits for the training. Last year, the staff members of the livelihood project in Kuklung had received a training on the steps to cultivate mushrooms, which they shared with the farmers in this training.



## Ultimate Disk Coaches' Training

Training of 35 young coaches (19 girls and 16 boys) from Ultimate Disk Coach Forum has started from 20th January, 2023 at Rowmari, Chirang. Michael Brenner, a gold medalist at the Ultimate Disk World Championship has arrived from the United States to train these budding players on the rules and techniques of the Ultimate Disk game. The training will be held across four areas – Rowmari, Deosiri, Kuklung and Basugaon, across Chirang till 26th March.

## Dialogue on the Constitution with Special Reference to Women's Rights

On the occasion of 74th Republic Day, the ant organised a programme on the Constitution at Deosiri, Chirang with students and village stakeholders. The programme included a dialogue session on the Constitution with special reference to women's constitutional rights, and a quiz and essay competition was held for the students of Deosiri M.E. School.



## National Girl Child Rights Day

On 24th January, 2023, adolescent girls and their parents were engaged in a session and discussion on the "Beti Padhao, Beti Bachao" Scheme, on the occasion of the National Girl Child Rights Day. The discussion largely focused on improving the quality of life for girl children, and on exploitation and discrimination faced by them. During the session, the girls also participated in body mapping exercise to learn to distinguish between good touch and bad touch.



# What's Happening at IDeA?



## Workshop on Library Management and Facilitation

A three-day workshop was held from 5th January, 2023 to 7th January, 2023 on Library Management and Facilitation at the ant Rowmari campus. During the workshop, five IDeA partner organisations and the ant staff members were introduced to different fun-filled activities for library engagement. The participants were also equipped with tools to organise, and maintain a library collection, plan community library sessions, etc.

## Training on Youth Resilience Manual

A four-day residential training on Youth Resilience Manual was conducted by IDeA in collaboration with Save the Children team in Guwahati from 24th to 27th January, 2023. Members from all partner organisations of F.a.B (Friends Across Barriers) project were trained on engaging with youth. They were equipped with tools to enhance young people's decision-making, communication skills, and to help them manage their interpersonal relationships and emotions.



### Upcoming Activities

One Billion Rising Campaign

### New Family Members

We welcome our new ants Jamuna, Babita, Romila, Sunu, Simangsa, Mon, Ganesh, Bharati, Mohit, Ram Bahadur, Anima, Mathias, Rohit, Abed, Rangjalu, Rajila, Twinkle and Netaji to our family.