

Women Come Together in Chirang to Re-build the Community Ties

Chirang, Assam: IGSSS has organised a recreational event for the women affected by ethnic conflict in Assam on January 17, 2014. The event provided a platform to the women to express their feelings through various fun filled activities which were aimed at rebuilding community relationship. Women from both Bodo and Muslim communities participated in this event. The event was a fusion of folk dance and music and games such as kabbadi, athletics, tug of war and musical chair.

The event helped the women to have a welcome break from their routine chores. It was a forum for them to

look beyond the hardships and sadness of the past and take steps to weave the strained relationship. IGSSS intervention aimed specially at women from both strife torn communities and bring them together to establish an environment of cohesiveness.

During July 2012, an ethnic conflict broke between the Bodo and Muslim community that left thousand dead, displaced and led to irreparable damage of life, livelihood and property. Even though it is just two years since the conflict, life is far from being normal as the two warring communities still maintain a distance from each other.



Top left: Women from both communities are enjoying themselves on a folk song

Top Right: Winners of activities were encouraged

Bottom Left: Girls playing Kabbadi

IGSSS Organises Health Camp for Cyclone Phailin Affected Families in Odisha

Kendrapara, Odisha: IGSSS along with its partner NGO VARRAT organised an emergency medical health camp for 200 people in the villages of Kendrapara district in a response to fast spreading water borne diseases which is still rampant in some districts post cyclone. The medical camp also looked at sensitizing people about prevention of water borne diseases and hygiene and sanitation practices. Around 112 patients were provided with free medical checkups and medicines.

Cyclone Phailin which made landfall in the south of Gopalpur in Odisha on October 12, 2013, left thousands of people homeless and displaced. As fallout, the health and hygiene of the affected communities are completely neglected making people fall easy prey to water borne diseases.



A Slum Level Forum Formed for Unorganised Sector Workers in Faridabad

Faridabad, Haryana: A slum level forum was formed comprising of volunteers from three slums of Faridabad to take up the issues of forced evictions in the slums. Unorganized sector workers such as domestic workers, construction workers and factory workers who stay in the slums of Faridabad came together and attended a training programme organised by IGSSS under its Home Initiative.

The training programme focused on disseminating awareness on Rajiv Awas Yojana, a scheme that proposes construction of about two million houses across the country to make India slum free. It

envisages affordable housing for the urban poor, living in slums. Furthermore, the participants were provided awareness about the rights of domestic workers, right to food and right to education.



Perspective Development Consultation on Livelihood Issues in Varanasi

Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh: A state consultation meeting was organised towards understanding the livelihood issues in Uttar Pradesh by SAREL network supported by IGSSS. The consultation was attended by likeminded organisations, social activists and scholars across the state. During the one day deliberation topics such as current livelihood pattern prevalent among women in the eastern Uttar Pradesh, livelihood challenges and economic perspective, gender and livelihood were discussed. Opinions on enhancing the livelihood opportunities for women in the backward region were also put forth. This meeting was organised

to plan the way forward concerning livelihood interventions in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

