



# FASCE INDIA

Fransalian Agency for Social Care and Education

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## From Director's Desk

In a world constantly striving for progress, the empowerment of women stands as one of the most transformative forces of change. It is not just a matter of justice or equity. It is the key to unlocking the full potential of our communities, our economies, and our future.

Women empowerment is about giving voice to the voiceless, opportunity to the underrepresented, and freedom to those whose choices have been limited for far too long. It means ensuring that women have the education, resources, and rights they need to live with dignity, contribute meaningfully, and lead confidently.

Across every corner of the globe, women are rising, leading movements, innovating in science and technology, transforming education, and reshaping political landscapes. Yet, many still face challenges rooted in age-old biases, economic disparity, and social restrictions. As storytellers, educators, and change makers, we have a role to play in this journey. By highlighting powerful female voices, supporting inclusive narratives, and fostering environments that celebrate equity, we contribute to a culture where women are seen not as exceptions but as equals.

The present edition of the news letter is packed with numerous activities to uplift the poor women of the society. The trainings on livelihood management such as mushroom cultivation, detergent making, organic farming, food processing etc have deepened the knowledge of our self help groups in how to generate income for self sustenance and they have been further strengthened by capacity building programs organized in different SHGs' geographical area.



As I present to you this first Newsletter of FASCE India of the year 2025, I warmly invite you to continue supporting our mission of transforming lives, communities, and society by reaching out to the poor and marginalized. Your generous collaboration and unwavering support make this journey possible. In the words of St. Teresa of Kolkata, "Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love." So let us commit ourselves doing those small things with great love. May God bless you abundantly!

**Fr Antony Kattathara MSFS**  
**DIRECTOR, FASCE INDIA**

# EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

## Training on Mushroom Cultivation

**Narengi:** An intensive training on mushroom cultivation was conducted in two locations: Hatishila on January 18, 2025 and Ghaguwa (Majkuchi) on January 25, 2025. The sessions were led by Ms. Chaya Kalita, Programme Coordinator.

The training began with a theoretical session where Ms. Chaya provided an in-depth explanation of the mushroom cultivation process. She covered essential topics such as the different types of mushrooms, their environmental requirements and the steps involved in growing mushrooms. Following the theoretical session, a step by step process of mushroom cultivation was demonstrated. Participants at both locations actively engaged in the demonstration, showing great interest in the practical aspects of the cultivation process. The training was a success, providing valuable knowledge and skills to the SHG members.



**Chapar:** A training program on mushroom cultivation was successfully conducted in Pakka Line for the SHGs on February 26, 2025. Ms. Minor Alom led the training session. She provided comprehensive insights into the world of mushroom cultivation, covering topics such as the basics of mushroom growth, preparation of mushroom beds and techniques for maintaining optimal growing conditions. The session was interactive, with hands-on demonstrations and practical experiences that allowed participants to gain firsthand experience in mushroom cultivation.



## SHG exposure visit

An exposure visit was organized for the members of SHGs on February 15, 2025 at Koya Kujiya Block, Kokrajhar. The primary objective of the visit was to provide the SHG members with an opportunity to gain new experiences, broaden their knowledge and promote community learning. A total of 192 SHG members participated in the event, representing different groups from various localities. At the end of the day's activities, lunch was provided for all participants.

## SHG exposure visit



### **Awareness on Social Issues on Alcoholism:**

An awareness program focused on the social issue of alcoholism was conducted in Pakka Line on February 23, 2025, to sensitize the local community about the adverse effects of alcohol abuse and its consequences. The session was led by Mr. Marcus Demta, who served as the resource person for the program.

Mr. Marcus provided valuable insights into the widespread impact of alcoholism on individuals and communities. He spoke about how alcoholism affects not only the physical and mental health of individuals but also harms family structures, disrupts social harmony and strains public health resources. He stressed the need for awareness and prevention strategies, offering practical solutions for both individuals and families. The event brought together a diverse group of community members, including residents of various age groups, social backgrounds and occupations.



### **Awareness on Social Issues on Trafficking**

On February 24, 2025, an awareness program was organized in Guna Line to address the critical social issue of human trafficking. Mr. Wahid Hussain, was the resource person who delivered an informative presentation, highlighting the gravity of the issue and its impact on individuals, families and communities.

He also explained the various forms of trafficking, including human trafficking, child trafficking and organ trafficking. Mr. Wahid presentation was engaging and interactive and he used real-life examples and case studies to drive the importance of the issue. The participants were educated and empowered to take action against trafficking and to report any suspicious activities to the authorities.



## Training on Food Processing

On March 9, 2025, a training on food processing was successfully conducted in Chapar Tea Estate, facilitated by Ms. Begum Jasmin Ahmed as the resource person. A total of 106 participants attended the session.



Ms. Begum introduced the participants with the basics of food processing, emphasizing hygiene practice, the use of fresh and local ingredients and the techniques to preserve the nutritional value of food. She demonstrated the preparation of various fast food items and meals that are simple to make and market. Participants had the opportunity to practice the skills learned, and the session also covered essential topics such as packaging, marketing and starting of small food business.

## Capacity Building on Organizational Management

A capacity building on organizational management was held in Hatishila, for the SHGs on March 13, 2025, led by Ms. Chaya Kalita, Programme Coordinator. The programme was attended by 95 participants who actively engaged in the learning process.

Ms. Chaya began the session by explaining the crucial role of management in ensuring the smooth running of SHGs. She highlighted that good management practices are key to building trust, promoting efficiency and sustaining the long term growth of the groups. The importance of planning was stressed, as well-planned groups are more likely to meet their goals and overcome challenges. The significance of strong leadership and clear communication within the group was discussed, highlighting that a good leadership fosters cooperation and ensures that all members clearly understand their roles and responsibilities. Following the session, participants engaged in several activities aimed at enhancing their teamwork and skills. The workshop was an informative and empowering experience for all the participants.



## Training on Detergent Making

**Chapar:** On March 13, 2025, training on detergent making was conducted in 7 No. Line, for the SHGs. 65 members attended the training programme, with Mr Anowar Hussain as the trainer.

The workshop began with an introduction to detergent making, where Mr. Anowar explained the various types of detergents and the raw materials involved in the production. He emphasized the importance of using eco-friendly and affordable ingredients to create effective products. The basics of detergent production, including ingredients, mixing techniques and packaging were covered. The event was a success, empowering participants with the knowledge to start small detergent businesses and contribute towards their economic development.



**Hatishila:** A training programme on detergent making was successfully conducted for the SHGs at Hatishila on March 27, 2025. The training was facilitated by Mr. Igwaheung, Assistant Project Coordinator. The training employed a hands-on approach, where participants actively involved in the detergent making process. The Training was interactive and participatory, with all participants actively engaging in the detergent making process. The SHG members demonstrated a keen interest in learning and were enthusiastic about starting their own detergent making business.



## Training on Organic Farming and Vermicompost

To provide the SHG members with essential knowledge and practical skills for adopting organic farming techniques, a training on organic farming and vermicompost was held in Barunitara- PT II on March 16, 2025. The session was led by Mr. Minar Alom, with a total of 51 participants. Mr. Minar thoroughly demonstrated all the necessary requirements for setting up an organic farm, including the selection of appropriate crops, organic pest management and the importance of using natural fertilizers. He also provided a detailed explanation of the steps involved in creating and maintaining a vermicomposting system, showcasing the process of composting organic waste using earthworms to produce high-quality compost for enriching the soil. The session was engaging and interactive, with participants actively participating in discussions and gaining valuable insights into implementing these practices in their own farming activities.



## Training of Candle Making

A comprehensive training on candle making was conducted on March 18, 2025 in Aklu Line for the SHGs to equip them with essential skills in the craft. The session, led by Ms. Anamika Deka started with an introduction to candle making, followed by a detailed, step-by-step demonstration. Ms. Anamika covered important topics including the different types of wax, wicks, moulds and fragrances. She also showcased the processes of melting wax, adding scents and safely pouring the mixture into moulds. The event was a success, benefiting 150 participants by fostering creativity and providing valuable skills.



## Training on Organizational & Financial Management

FASCE India organized two training programs on Organizational and Financial Management for Self-Help Group (SHG) members, held on March 20th and 21st, targeting members from Ekrabari and Forest Gate respectively. Led by Fr. Nibin James, Associate Director of FASCE India, the training aimed to empower rural women by enhancing their understanding of SHG operations. Key topics included financial management best practices, the importance of maintaining members' passbooks, and fostering team building and cooperation within groups. The training saw enthusiastic participation from 135 women SHG members, equipping them with essential skills to manage their groups effectively.



## Training on Goatery

On March 22, 2025, training on Goatery was held in Chapar, to enhance the knowledge the skills for successful goat farming, led by Mr. Dipankar Adhikay, an experienced trainer in animal husbandry, as the resource person. He covered the topics including goat breeding, nutrition, housing, health management, milk and meat production, and farm profitability. The session was a success, providing valuable insights for improving goat farming practices and ensuring long-term sustainability. 20 goats/kids were provided to 10 SHGs. A total of 130 participants attended the session, making it a well-attended and impactful event



## PROMOTION OF CHILD RIGHTS

### Exhibition on Magh Bihu by Adolescent Club

Magh Bihu, also known as Bhogali Bihu, is one of the major festivals celebrated in Assam, marking the end of the harvest season and the beginning of the New Year. On this occasion, an exhibition was organized by the adolescent club of FAsCE India, where they showcased varieties of Assamese homemade delicacies like pithas, ladus and other sweets that are prepared during the Bihu festivities. In addition, the exhibition also displayed the craft items and art gallery prepared by the students.



### Capacity Building Programme for Teaching Staff

On March 13, 2025, FAsCE India organized a comprehensive one-day capacity-building program for its teaching staff at Narengi. Led by Fr. Nibin James, Associate Director of FAsCE India, the session aimed to enhance educators' skills and knowledge in innovative teaching methodologies, promoting engaging and interactive learning experiences.



The program focused on strategies to make learning fun and accessible for students while emphasizing the pivotal role teachers play in shaping young minds and instilling values essential for becoming responsible citizens. A total of 15 teachers actively participated in the program, benefiting from expert insights and interactive discussions. This initiative underscores FAsCE's commitment to empowering its educators and delivering high-quality education.

## Exhibition by Adolescent Club

The Adolescent Club of FAsCE took part in Annual Garo Sobha by organizing exhibition from February 21 to 23, 2025. The exhibition attracted a wide audience, showcasing a diverse collection of homemade delicacies, including pithas, ladus, pickles and more. In addition to food, the exhibition also included a variety of art and craft items, including beautifully handcrafted items and vibrant paintings.



## Training Session on Children's Parliament

On March 7, 2025, a training session on forming a Children's Parliament was conducted for children of FAsCE Supplementary Education, Narengi, led by Fr. Nibin James. The training focused on the role and significance of Children's Parliaments in promoting child leadership, participation, and civic engagement, discussing key aspects such as formation, structure, and the roles and responsibilities of child leaders. The session aimed to empower participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to establish and manage effective Children's Parliaments, fostering democratic values and child empowerment.



## Capacity Building for Office Staff

On 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025 A capacity building programme for the staff of FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre was conducted in Narengi, facilitated by Dr. Mukut Kalita, Assistant Professor, Vidya Bharti College. The main objective of the training was to enhance teaching capabilities through interactive sessions on key topics such as the role of teachers, multi-grade teaching, student progress monitoring, National Curriculum Framework principles, and strategies to improve student and teacher talking time, ultimately equipping teachers with valuable insights to create a better learning environment.



## MAJOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS

### International Women's Day:

**Narengi:** International Women's Day, a global celebration of women's empowerment and solidarity, was observed at Narengi on March 9, 2025, under the theme "Accelerate Action".



The program was graced by the esteemed presence of Fr Sabu Francis, MSFS, Provincial of Guwahati Province, as the chief guest. In his address, Fr Sabu extended his warm congratulations to all the women present, acknowledging their invaluable contributions to society and stressing on the importance of empowering women and to create a more inclusive and equal society for women. The event also included vibrant dance and drama performances by women, showcasing their incredible talents and creativity. A significant highlight of the celebration was the award ceremony for the best SHGs, wherein two SHGs were honored and awarded for their outstanding achievements.

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Fr. Nibin James, Associate Director, FAsCE India, who expressed gratitude to all the participants, attendees and all those who contributed to the success of the event.

**Chapar:** International Women's Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Chapar on March 8, 2025. The event was organized to recognize and honor the contributions and achievements of women in the community. The program included cultural performances, such as songs, dances and skits, which showcased the talent and creativity of the women. The event was a success, and it served as a platform to promote women's empowerment and celebrate their achievements.



## National Girl Child Day

On January 24, 2025, the FASCE Supplementary Education in Narengi observed national girl child day marked by the theme “**Empowering Girls for a bright Future**”. The students were reminded about the significance of the day, raising awareness on promoting the rights, welfare and education of girls, while also addressing the issues such as gender equality and empowerment of girl child. A short video was shown, based on the concept of good touch and bad touch emphasizing the importance of self- awareness and speaking up against any kind of abuse and harassment.



## Republic Day

Every year, all the FASCE Supplementary Education Centres celebrate Republic Day honoring the significance of our Constitution and the values of democracy, equality and freedom. This year, the occasion was observed with great enthusiasm in the centres of Narengi, Hatishila and Bongaon. The day's events included hoisting of the national flag, followed by inspiring patriotic performances by the students.



## National Science Day

On February 28, 2025, the FASCE Supplementary Education Centre in Narengi celebrated national science day to educate students about the significance of science and the historical importance of the Raman Effect, which earned C.V. Raman the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930. The students were introduced to Raman's life and work through a video presentation, highlighting how his discovery impacted various fields like chemistry, biology and material science. The session emphasized the legacy of Indian scientific research and encourages students to explore the wonders of science.



## National Safety Day

To promote safety awareness among students, the FASCE Supplementary Education Centre, Narengi, observed national safety day on March 4, 2025. The day's events focused on educating students about essential measures to ensure their well-being. Through interactive sessions and activities, students were reminded of critical safety protocols, including emergency evacuation procedures, fire safety and road safety. The activities conducted emphasized on the importance of safety in daily life and encouraged students to develop safe habits.



## PROMOTION OF HEALTH

### Medical Camp

A free medical camp was organized in Choibari, chapar on February 16, 2025, with the goal of providing essential healthcare services to the local community. The camp was staffed by two doctors and two nurses, offering general health check-ups, blood pressure tests, medication and health counseling. Around 110 people, including elderly and children, benefited from the services provided. The camp successfully addressed to the health needs of the community, highlighting the importance of health and preventive care.



The session delved into various mental health issues, exploring effective ways to overcome them and strategies for maintaining good mental well-being. Key takeaways included practical tips on self-care, stress management, and fostering a supportive environment.

## DISTRIBUTION OF BLANKETS

The blanket distribution was successfully carried out in the villages of Hatishila, Ekrabari, Suwaliluka, Sampathar, Killingkok, Bongaon and Bonda. One blanket was given to each family in these villages. The distribution was organized with the help of local volunteers, community leaders and FAsCE Staff who assisted in distribution of the blankets efficiently to all the households.



*The happiest people I know  
are those who lose themselves  
in the service of others.  
— Gordon B. Hinckley,*

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