

Report on
Skill Development Training Camp
Organised by
Dr. Ambedkar Chair, Tezpur University
In collaboration with
Chandraprabha Saikiani Centre for Women's Studies and Department of Social
Work, Tezpur University
8th March – 15th March 2020
Venue: Harijan Colony, Tezpur

With an intention to orient and impart skill training among the adult female residents of Harijan colony, Tezpur, a training camp was organised by Dr. Ambedkar Chair, Tezpur University in collaboration with Chandraprabha Saikiani Centre for women's Studies, and department of Social Work, TU. The duration of the camp coincided with the celebration of Women's week, i.e., 8th March – 15th March 2020 where few brief sessions were held after seeking the consent from the beneficiaries. The sessions were a part of a modest exercise to orient adult female residents of the colony about self-empowerment and to instil the feeling of their self (economic) worth. These sessions were focussed on imparting skill training among the females which could be utilised as a tool for their economic well-being and associated escalated social status. As this was first initiative of its own kind in the colony, prior information was sought about the interest (of the residents) and also about the availability of the resource persons to impart such skills. Apart from this, aspect of financial input was carefully looked upon to minimise the financial incidence on the beneficiaries. After some informal communication, two skills were identified for which training camp could be conducted.



These included, stitching and fungiculture for which two resource persons have kindly agreed. Raw materials in consultation with the resource persons were arranged for the conduct of the training sessions by Ms. Maya Rani Borah and Mr. Ganga Ram Dahal for stitching and fungiculture (Mushroom cultivation) respectively.

In total four sessions were done whereby skill of stitching as well as of having mushroom cultivation at their own household was imparted to 35 trainees who agreed to become part of this exercise. Due to paucity of time and resources there could be single session on mushroom cultivation in which the resource person introduced about the concept of mushroom cultivation and about its usefulness in terms of economic revenue with a meagre amount of investment. Hands on training was provided for the selected skills to make the beneficiaries aware about the skills imparted.



The intention was to build confidence among the attendees to perform the task on their own. Apart from this, a task of finishing the assignment of making handbags was given to the attendees on the basis of a sample bag. Through this, their actual interest towards the stitching would be known. And to everyone's surprise many of the trainees could successfully finish the task with an outcome of beautiful hand stitched bags which were put on display on the occasion of public lecture organised by Chandrababha Saikiani Women's Studies Centre, TU.

The trainees/beneficiaries with the help of this exercise, were informed about utilisation of the skill towards economic as well as social liberation.



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