Celebration of World Social Work Day by the Department of Social Work, Tezpur University

DATE: 08.03.2025 TIME: 10 A.M

VENUE: MULTIPURPOSE ROOM DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

Introduction

World Social Work Day, observed annually, offers a platform for recognizing and celebrating the role of social work in promoting social justice, community development, and human rights. The day is a global celebration of the contributions of social workers and the essential work they do in improving the lives of individuals and communities. In 2025, the Department of Social Work at Tezpur University hosted a celebration of World Social Work Day with the theme "Intergenerational Solidarity for Enduring Wellbeing." This theme emphasizes the importance of fostering relationships between generations to enhance community well-being and create long-lasting positive change.

The event brought together faculty, students, alumni, and local community members. Through a range of activities, including musical performances, speeches, workshops, and exhibitions, the celebration reflected the values of social work and showcased the department's commitment to intergenerational solidarity. The day's events aimed to highlight the transformative role of social work in fostering collaboration across generations, with the goal of addressing social challenges and promoting holistic, enduring well-being for all community members.

This report provides a detailed overview of the various activities that took place during the World Social Work Day celebration at Tezpur University, focusing on the performances, speeches, workshops, and exhibitions that emphasized the importance of intergenerational solidarity in social work.

A Day-long event celebrated in the Department Of Social Work in Tezpur University:

The celebration of World Social Work Day at Tezpur University was an engaging and vibrant event, characterized by a diverse range of activities that underscored the department's commitment to community service, social justice, and the fostering of intergenerational cooperation. The activities included speeches, cultural performances, workshops, webinar, student and community led stalls and exhibitions, all designed to reflect the core values of social work and promote an inclusive, compassionate, and collaborative society.

1. Introductory Speech by Garniya Gohain (M.A Social Work, 2nd Year)

The event began with a speech by one of our final semester student Garniya. She welcomed all attendees and set the tone for the day by introducing the theme of the celebration "Intergenerational Solidarity for Enduring Wellbeing." In her speech, Garniya emphasized the

importance of intergenerational cooperation and solidarity as essential elements of social work that contribute to both individual and collective well-being.

Garniya spoke about the role of social work in bridging generational gaps, highlighting the need for mutual understanding and support between the elderly and younger generations. She highlighted that social work not only addresses the needs of vulnerable populations but also fosters a sense of shared responsibility and community engagement across age groups. Her speech underscored the significance of social work in creating resilient and sustainable communities, where people of all ages work together to solve social challenges and improve quality of life.

2. Solo Song by Aradhana (M.A Social Work, 2nd Year)

Following Garniya's opening address, Aradhana, a final year student from the Department of Social Work, performed a beautiful solo song that captivated the audience. Aradhana's rendition of the song was not just a musical performance but also an emotional expression that resonated with the day's theme of solidarity and community. The song's lyrics conveyed a message of unity and collaboration, reinforcing the importance of building connections across generations for the collective welfare of society.

Aradhana's performance added a lyrical and reflective dimension to the event, inviting the audience to consider how music can bridge generational divides and foster a sense of shared humanity. Through her singing, she reminded everyone that music, like social work, has the power to bring people together, evoke emotions, and inspire action for positive change.

3. Group Folk Song by the Children of Napaam

A highlight of the celebration was the performance by the children of the Napaam community, who sang the folk song, 'Borluitor Par'. The children's performance was a vibrant expression of their cultural heritage and a beautiful showcase of how intergenerational solidarity can be nurtured through shared cultural practices. The children's voices rang out with joy and energy, and their song conveyed themes of unity, love, and the importance of community ties.

The folk song performed by the children of Napaam was a symbol of the power of collective action and the significance of community engagement in social work. It also demonstrated how cultural heritage can be passed down from one generation to the next, fostering an appreciation of traditions while building stronger connections between the older and younger members of the community.

4. Rabindra Sangeet by Students of Social Work - Raginee, Subhankar, Ananya, Angkita, Puja, Diya and Cynthia

One of the most touching moments of the event was the group performance of *Rabindra Sangeet*, a collection of songs written by the famous Bengali poet and Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore.

The group, consisting of Subhankar, Raginee, Puja, Ananya, Cynthia, Diya, and Ankita, performed a well-known Rabindra Sangeet named "Ogo Bideshini" that echoed themes of human connection, unity, and the universal values of compassion and care.

The performance of Rabindra Sangeet was an expression of both cultural and emotional depth. The students sang with passion, and the music touched the hearts of the audience, bringing together diverse members of the community through the shared experience of music. This performance highlighted the role of the arts in social work, as music can act as a tool for fostering understanding, building empathy, and connecting generations.

4. Speeches by Community Members of Jahaj Ghat, Noorbari Tea Estate, and Parmaiguli

The celebration also featured speeches from several community members from different regions, including Jahaz Ghat, Noor Bari, Tea Estate, and Parmaiguli. These community leaders shared their experiences and insights into how social work initiatives have helped foster intergenerational solidarity and community development in their areas.

• Jahaj Ghat: Community leaders from Jahaz Ghat spoke about how social work programs have brought together the youth and the elderly in their community. The speakers were Munmi Bora, Member of ICDS & Jitusmita Barman, Member of ICDS. Through collaborative efforts, the community has been able to address issues such as healthcare access, economic empowerment, and environmental sustainability. The leader emphasized how intergenerational programs have strengthened relationships between different age groups and contributed to a more cohesive community.

NoorbariTea Estate: Madhab Bhumij, (Tea Labour Union, President), a representative from the Tea Estate spoke about how the older generation of workers passed down traditional knowledge of tea cultivation to the younger generation. At the same time, younger members of the community have helped improve the living conditions and health infrastructure in the area, thus benefiting the older generation. This collaborative relationship has fostered a strong sense of solidarity across generations.

• Parmaiguli: The speaker, Hamida Begum, Member of SHGs highlighted the success of the first Self-Help Group (SHG) set up in the community. This initiative, which brought together both young and elderly women, has significantly improved the economic situation of many families. The SHG has created a platform for knowledge exchange, allowing younger women to gain financial independence while the older women offer wisdom and guidance.

These speeches were not only an opportunity for community leaders to share their experiences but also a powerful demonstration of how social work has helped bridge generational divides, empowering both the youth and elderly to collaborate toward common goals.

5. Solidarity Song Workshop by Dr. Namami Sharma

Dr. Namami Sharma, a faculty member in the Department of Social Work, conducted a singing workshop aimed at showcasing the therapeutic benefits of music in social work. The song themed 'A Song to Remember' The workshop emphasized the importance of music as a tool for emotional expression, healing, and community building.

During the workshop, participants were encouraged to engage in group singing exercises that focused on themes of solidarity and community. Dr. Sharma explained how music can help individuals overcome emotional challenges, foster empathy, and strengthen relationships across generations. The interactive session was well-received by the attendees, who experienced firsthand how music can be an effective tool in promoting mental health and emotional well-being.

6. Webinar with keynote speakers namely Ms. Sultana Resmin and Mr. Bhrigu Barthakur

Ms. Sultana Resmin is a renowned social worker and advocate for human rights. With extensive experience in the development sector, she has worked tirelessly to promote social justice, equality, and inclusivity. Her expertise lies in designing and implementing programs that address the needs of marginalized communities, particularly women and children and Mr. Bhrigu Barthakur is a distinguished social entrepreneur and expert in community development. He has dedicated his career to creating sustainable and scalable solutions for social and environmental challenges. With a strong background in social work and community engagement, Mr. Barthakur has successfully led initiatives that promote intergenerational solidarity, social cohesion, and community resilience.

On the occasion of Social Work Day, the Department of Social Work, Tezpur University, hosted a virtual event that brought together social work professionals, students, and community leaders from across the globe. The keynote speaker, a renowned expert in the field of social work, delivered a thought-provoking speech on the theme "Intergenerational Solidarity for Enduring Well-being." With conviction and passion, the speaker emphasized the need for intergenerational solidarity in achieving enduring well-being. The speaker's words painted a vivid picture of a society where age is not a barrier, but a bridge that connects people across generations.

A virtual interactive session with alumni from the Department of Social Work and other respected social work professionals was another highlight of the event. The session provided an opportunity for students and faculty to engage with experienced social work practitioners, gaining valuable insights into the practical applications of social work in addressing social challenges. Moreover, the alumni shared their personal experiences of working in the field, discussing the impact of

intergenerational programs, community outreach, and the role of social workers in promoting social justice. The session was an informative and inspiring conversation that helped students understand the broader scope of social work and the many ways it can contribute to building a more inclusive and resilient society.

6. Photo Exhibition by the Students of Social Work

The students of the Department of Social Work, primarily led by the second year students, presented a photo exhibition as part of the celebration. The photo exhibition featured creative and informative photos of fieldwork in different settings of Social Work.

The photos highlighted case studies and personal stories of the different fields of social work. It was a valuable learning resource for both students and faculty and provided an opportunity to reflect on how social work can be a bridge between different stakeholders.

7. Group Dance by the Children of Harijan Colony

A vibrant and lively group dance performed by the children of Harijan Colony brought a sense of joy and celebration to the event. The children, who are involved in various social work programs, performed a traditional dance that symbolizes unity, hope, and the collective spirit of community. They performed the Sattriya Dance, a traditional Assamese folk performance which captivated the audience. The children belonging to a backward community performing a traditional Assamese dance form at a platform like Tezpur University shows one of the progressive aspects of community growth.

Exhibition of Handmade Products and Food Stall

The exhibition of handmade products and food stalls was organized by the students of Social Work and community members in Tezpur University. The event aimed to provide a platform for the participants to showcase their creative skills. The objective of the exhibition was to promote the creative skill of the students and community members.

Types of Products:

The exhibition featured a wide range of handmade products, including:

- Handicrafts
- Art and paintings
- Food Stalls
- Vegetable Stalls

Outcome:

The exhibition was well-attended and received positive feedback from the visitors. The participants were able to showcase their creative skills and the event provided a platform for them to engage with each other and with the visitors. The exhibition of handmade products and food stalls was a

successful event that provided a platform for the students and community members to showcase their creative skills. The event was well-attended and received positive feedback from the visitors.

Visuals of the event:

The event was a vibrant showcase of talent and creativity, featuring a diverse range of activities. The program commenced with an introductory speech delivered by students of Social Work, setting the tone for the day's festivities. This was followed by a series of captivating performances, including a solo song by students of Social Work, a folk song by community children, and a rendition of Rabindra Sangeet by students of Social Work. Community members also shared their thoughts and experiences through speeches. Additionally, a singing workshop was conducted by faculty member Dr. Namami Sharma, and virtual interactive sessions were held.

The event also featured a stall and exhibition showcasing handmade products and local cuisine, jointly organized by students and community members.





The post-lunch session on the occasion of World Social Work Day in the Department of Social Work, Tezpur University, was a vibrant celebration of community spirit and entrepreneurship. Students and community members came together to set up an array of colorful stalls, each showcasing their unique offerings. The stalls included a mouth-watering food stall, a fresh vegetable stall, and an assortment of handmade products such as pickles, handicrafts, and exquisite earrings. The event provided a platform for local artisans and entrepreneurs to showcase their talents and sell their products, promoting economic empowerment and social inclusion. The atmosphere was filled with excitement and joy, as students, faculty members, and community members mingled, shopped, and celebrated the spirit of social work.



The event was a resounding success, bringing together students and community members in a celebration of creativity, culture, and community spirit. The diverse range of activities and performances showcased the talents and skills of the participants, while also fostering a sense of unity and cooperation. The event demonstrated the power of collaborative efforts and community engagement, and served as a testament to the importance of promoting social cohesion. Overall, the event was a memorable and enriching experience for all involved, and will surely be remembered for a long time to come.

