

QUARTERLY GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of **AJAGAR SOCIAL CIRCLE**



BACKYARD POULTRY TRAININGS — STRENGTHENING LOCAL LIVELIHOODS

A series of one-day backyard poultry trainings were delivered across the cluster (Pandoba, Kongkaipar, Markula) in May 2025. Trainers covered breed selection, housing and management, feeding, vaccination schedules, basic healthcare and marketing of eggs/meat. Practical demonstrations and interactive sessions helped women and youth gain low-cost techniques to turn poultry into steady household income. Follow-up support included medicine/feed distribution and a three-dose vaccination drive in June.



NATURAL FARMING & WINTER PADDY SUPPORT

On 22 May a Natural Farming awareness session in Pandoba Garopara introduced bio-intensive raised beds, vermicompost, zero tillage and natural pesticides. On 28 June, a winter paddy training at Markula (led by the District ADO) covered land prep, seed selection, nutrient & water management, IPM and harvest best practices. As part of the Samridhi Ek Prayash project, ploughing services began 25 June and assisted 125 farmers (2 bighas each) to ensure timely sowing and better yields.

Quick highlights & follow-ups

- Awareness camp on Climate-Smart Agriculture with SELCO Foundation — 20 May.
- Good-quality fish seed distributed — 21 May (19 farmers) and feed again on 19 Jun.
- Winter paddy seeds (PAN-804) distributed to 125 farmers — 27 May.
- Poultry medicine/feed distribution — 2 Jun; poultry vaccination doses: 9 Jun, 16 Jun, 23 Jun.

SHIPINI SAMRIDHI – AJAGAR SOCIAL CIRCLE

Natural Dye: hands-on Eri-yarn training

A two-day natural dyeing workshop at Ajagar Valley Academy taught 20 weavers practical techniques using onion leaf, sal bark and tea to dye Eri yarn. Participants learned mordanting (alum, iron), dye-bath preparation, colour control and sustainable post-dyeing care – ready to apply natural dyes to increase product value.



Credit & MFI Awareness

Two sessions (Pandoba & Kuruabhasa) reached 53 weavers and covered MUDRA, PMEGP and micro-loan procedures, documents and responsible use. Many participants want to apply for finance to scale weaving units.



UPI & Digital Transactions

Digital finance trainings (Dairong and others) trained 33 participants on UPI/mobile banking, registration steps and fraud prevention to enable transparent, quick payments.



Weavers' Cooperative Meeting

A general meeting at Ajagar Valley Academy drew 165 weavers and established the cooperative Kopahi Ajagar Shipini Samabay Somiti; leaders and a 22-member executive body were selected.

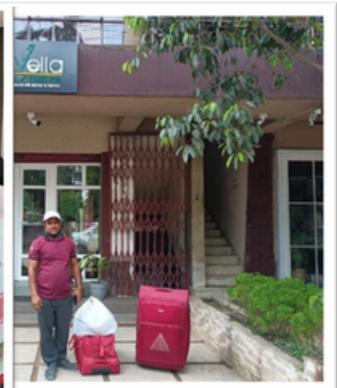


QUICK HIGHLIGHTS

- **Interventions completed (Q1):** Natural Dye (1, 20 pax); Credit trainings (2 sessions, 53 pax); UPI training (1, 33 pax); Cooperative meeting (1, 165 pax).
- **Solar / infrastructure:** Solar lights completed in all Jacquard-loom demonstration units; 62 weavers' solar light setup request sent to SELCO Foundation.
- **Admin:** Cooperative registration paperwork ready to submit to registrar.



SOME MOMENTS OF WEAVING ACTIVITIES



MARKET LINKAGE VISIT – GUWAHATI



SPRING FESTIVAL: Colours, crafts and community spirit

School grounds buzzed with colour and sound as Ajagar Valley Academy hosted its annual Spring Festival, bringing students, teachers and families together for an afternoon of music, dance and handicraft stalls. Photos show children performing a lively folk dance while proud parents line the walkway, and a row of stalls selling handloom scarves and natural-dyed yarns. Organizers said the event highlighted local crafts and gave learners a chance to showcase projects from the term.

NO TOBACCO DAY: Students take a stand for health

On No Tobacco Day, students and staff staged an awareness march through the campus and held an interactive session on the harms of tobacco use. Photographs capture groups carrying hand-painted placards and a teacher demonstrating healthy alternatives to tobacco habits; a youth pledge board shows dozens of signatures promising to stay tobacco-free. The day combined facts, drama and peer-led messages to make health education memorable.



ORIENTATION PROGRAMME: New students welcomed with hands-on tours

Newcomers and their families joined the Academy for a warm orientation program that mixed campus tours with hands-on demos of the school's textile and natural-dye labs. Photos show small groups being guided through workshops and instructors explaining equipment; smiling parents took notes while children tried a simple loom. The programme aimed to ease transition into the term and introduce practical learning opportunities.

ENVIRONMENT DAY: Green actions on campus

Environment Day at Ajagar Valley Academy featured tree planting, a campus clean-up and a composting demo led by senior students. Images show students planting saplings in a designated green patch, volunteers collecting litter, and a small compost corner where kitchen waste is being layered for decomposition. The activities emphasized simple, repeatable actions that classrooms can continue throughout the year.





LEAD

Plant Clinic Inaugurated at Chaygaon

Farmers in Chaygaon now have a one-stop hub for crop health solutions. The Plant Clinic, launched on 10 June 2025, will diagnose pest and disease issues and provide eco-friendly remedies, linking farmers with experts for timely guidance.

HIGHLIGHT

INM & IPM Trainings

Five sessions (Apr–May) trained farmers in biochar, vermicompost and biopesticides. Field demos boosted adoption of eco-friendly practices.

5 SESSIONS

Seed Preservation Training

Scientific storage, natural seed treatment, and safe post-harvest handling to improve grain quality (Apr & May).

2 SESSIONS



Environment Day Observed

Tree planting, campus clean-up, and dialogues on cutting chemical use in farming.

5th JUN



Exposure Visit – Umswai Valley

On 30–31 May, farmers from Hatigaon & Chutki explored successful natural-farming models.

23 FARMERS



Certified Paddy Seeds Distributed

On 16 Jun, Ranjit & Bahadur varieties issued for Kharif, encouraging natural cultivation.

20 FARMERS



QUICK NEWS

- **Orientation on Plant Clinic (12 Jun):** How to file cases, documentation & expert linkages.
- **PoP Training on Sali Paddy (25 Jun):** Nursery raising, organic inputs and pest control.
- **DFO Field Visit (20 Jun):** Reviewed progress; explored forestry convergence.
- **DLSC Meeting (5th May):** District-level NMNF planning at the DC office.



Rebuild North East: From Guwahati to Virtual Collaboration

On 11 February 2025, Rebuild's North East partners convened in Guwahati, bringing together 18 organizations and 35+ leaders for a day of wellbeing practices, thematic discussions on livelihoods, health, child rights, and education, and a shared commitment to meet regularly. To carry this momentum forward, the network held its first virtual gathering on 22 May 2025, a three-hour Zoom session that revisited collective goals, co-created shared values, and explored non-programmatic capacities to strengthen collaboration. Together, these gatherings reinforced solidarity and laid the foundation for sustained regional action.



QUICK HIGHLIGHTS –

- 18 partner organizations & 35+ leaders came together in Guwahati to co-create regional strategies.
- Wellbeing circle opened the day, with indigenous self-care practices setting a reflective tone.
- Livelihoods group called for farmer schools, stronger cooperatives, and handloom/eri silk value chains.
- Health & child rights sessions flagged mental health gaps, high dropout rates, and the need for culturally sensitive reforms.
- Future commitment: partners pledged biannual gatherings, quarterly online catch-ups, and joint funding proposals.

In partnership with **Rebuild India** INDIA FUND

– Strengthening communities across the North East. –

Grassroots Democracy in Action: Jal Jeevan Mission Gains Momentum in Goalpara Through Community Engagement

Fostering Dialogue at the Community Level

At Barkhata Nalbari, villagers gathered under a tented setup for a community-level meeting, where PHED officials explained the technical details of the piped water supply scheme. Residents asked questions and learned how the project would work in their locality, turning it into their water system rather than just a government initiative.



Strategizing at the Cluster Level

At Barkhata PT3 cluster-level meetings brought together groups from several villages. These outdoor sessions enabled different committees to share successes, discuss common issues like water pressure, and learn from each other's experiences, while officials reassured them of continued support.

The Cornerstone of Community Contribution

During the meetings, households agreed to contribute funds or labour to maintain their water schemes. This practice, often documented through receipts, created both a financial base for repairs and a psychological investment in protecting the infrastructure, ensuring sustainability beyond government intervention.



Building a Sense of Ownership

Across Goalpara, meetings emphasized that the Jal Jeevan Mission belongs to the people themselves. Participants were urged to protect the infrastructure, report leaks, and ensure fair use, instilling a sense of responsibility that will sustain the scheme for generations.



Ensuring Sustainability Through Monthly Tariff Collection

As part of strengthening local ownership of the Jal Jeevan Mission, households in Nagaon have begun contributing through monthly tariff collections. This practice, carried out by Village Water & Sanitation Committees, ensures funds are available for routine maintenance and operator support, creating a reliable financial base for sustaining piped water supply systems.



In collaboration with **P.H.E.D Goalpara, Assam**

Organized by: **Ajagar Social Circle – JJM Project**



AJAGAR SOCIAL CIRCLE



Together, We Move Forward

As we wrap up this edition, we celebrate the people and partnerships that make progress possible. Every gathering, every training, every initiative adds to a shared journey of resilience and hope. With community voices at the heart of our work, we look ahead to building stronger, sustainable futures together.



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