

Guwahati NGO Helps Skill Reverse Migrant Workers in Goalpara



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Guwahati: A Guwahati NGO has teamed up with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to impart Skill Development Training of Reversed Migrants in Tribal Development Fund Project Area of Rongjuli Block, at Mariampur, Goalpara on 15th Sept 2020.

Some 50 selected trainees and Gaon Burahs, and villagers of the Rongjuli Block participated at the Bosco Reach Out program.

Invited guests included Mr. Rajkumar Y Meitei, District Development Manager, Kumar, Lead Bank Manager, Goalpara district and Mr. S .K . Karmakar, Branch Manager, AGVB, Dhupdhora .

The returnee migrant workers in the project area are mostly unskilled labour who work on contractual basis like daily wage earner without any dignity and self confidence which presented them as most vulnerable group in COVID 19 lockdown situation.

“The project initiative will help to reduce the skill gap between the available skills and desired skills while focusing on economic, infrastructure and technical development,” says Executive Director of Bosco Reach Out Fr. Jayaprakash Anthonimuthu.

The project consists 3 courses – two courses on carpentry and one course on pickle making conducted in one month for a total of 90 trainees comprising 97% from ST community and 33% female trainee.

Goalpara district saw return of about 400 returnee migrant workers from Kerala, Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Arunachal Pradesh, and Meghalaya where they were working in textile industry, leather industry, construction company, coal industry as unskilled labour in contractual basis. They are from age group of 23-40 years and their educational qualification is from class VIII passed to 12th passed.

Rongjuli block is well known for its carpentry works. While, pickle making is selected for availability of local fruits and minor fruits in the project implementing area. These local fruits are mainly Amlakhi, Outenga, Bagari, Kordoiitenga, Silikha, letuku, poniol, amora (Assamese name) which are available in each household in their homestead garden.

The project aims to provide employment in the homes of migrant workers who lost their job during the lockdown through bank credit linkage, to promote self employment which can create employment for others and to prevent future migration towards big cities and urban areas.

Mr. Rajkumar Y Meitei, District Development Manager, Goalpara explained the concept of skill development and the initiatives of NABARD. He explained that the project can generate employment opportunity in both ways as job seeker and job creator. The migrant labour and prospective employees need to acquire skill and knowledge to gain employability.

Mr.Santosh Kumar, Lead Bank Manager, Goalpara district explained the importance of bank credit linkage for skilled trainees to establish their microenterprise with correlating the Prime Minister dream project Atmanirbhar Bharat and go vocal for local which implies self-reliant India' or 'self-sufficient India.

Mr. S .K. Karmakar, Branch Manager, AGVB, Dhupdhora explained that after their targeted skilled development training, bank will provide credit linkage as per their requirement with expectation of loan repayment.

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