

## Emergence of Digital Study Hall at Destination Girls' Home

NEDAN Foundation took initiative to build skills on Information Technology in order to make the tribal adolescent girls equip in modern technology as in today's world it is a need of an hour. With that aim in mind, NEDAN initiated imparting IT skills to identified school and college drop-out girls and hence launched Information Technology on 5th of July/ 2014 and imparted one month free summer course to the most vulnerable girls. This was further extended to three months, six months courses.



Keeping in mind the Chief Minister of Assam vision in building "Digital Assam" in the line of "Digital India Programme" to transform Assam into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy; NEDAN's idea of imparting IT skills among the underprivileged adolescent tribal girls has gained more momentum. NEDAN has therefore determined to impart IT skills to at least 40 underprivileged girls a year.



The initiation of Digital Study Hall is to reach out all deprived children and survivors of human trafficking, riot and conflict related displaced children. This initiative will provide better learning and community based recovery and reintegration of mainstreaming girls in Destination Girls' Home. It will be open

learning space for children who are at various hardships such as trauma, fear, distress, disorders to overcome.

NEDAN Foundation is the pioneer in combating human trafficking in the region. As a right based institute, NEDAN has involved with various kinds of activities required for protection of children such as rescue and repatriation of trafficked survivors, creating alternative livelihood for survivors and potential girls, training and capacity building of uniform personals, strengthening cross border vigilance committee members, building youth forces as trafficking safety net and promoting higher education as early prevention of girls trafficking.

Destination Girls' Home is registered under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, Govt. of Assam. In Destination Girls' Home, NEDAN Foundation gave space to the trafficked survivors, domestic workers rescued and dropout girls who were highly vulnerable of being trafficked. The home serves as complete recovery and reintegration for the residents of the Home till the age of 18. Besides, transit centre provides temporary shelter for the rescued girls by the police and Childline (1098) with the provision for 10 bedded.

To equip the children of Destination Girls' Home with digital world, NEDAN has set up Digital Study Hall. The Foundation Stone of Digital Study Hall was laid on the auspicious occasion of Assam State Child Protection Day on 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 by Mr. M.P. Sharma Deputy Commissioner of Kokrajhar along with children participation. And it was also inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner of Kokrajhar along with the dignitary of UNICEF, Assam and children participation from different places from Kokrajhar. This initiative shall deal exclusively with the children who are more likely to vulnerable due to various issues and hardships to protect them by providing this space of learning to overcome vulnerability.



The Digital Study Hall will provide online learning opportunities for the children of Destination Girls' Home and access the available resources for learning and excelling IT skill and building self confidence. It shall act as web repository that would collect education contents, and connect learners and teaching staff across time and space, so staff in urban schools and volunteers (potentially from overseas) can contribute in a way that allows them to make flexible time and location commitments. These components would enable a wide variety of digital education "workflows", such as lecture capture and replay, homework, collection and feedback, question-answer sessions. This system will solve end-to-end education problems.



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NEDAN could fulfill this dream with the profound support from some prominent well wishers. They are none other than Mrs. Bina Rani and Mrs. Sumitra Mishra from iPartner, UK. Their constant technical and financial support has enabled Destination Girls' Home in Kokrajhar to set up Digital Study Hall through which the most aspiring of underprivileged girls being fulfilled.

Digital Study Hall is also for After Care girls. As the underprivileged tribal adolescent girls could stay at Destination Girls' Home only till the age of 18 years but still they can avail the benefits of Digital Study Hall even after graduating from it. This would thus enhance the never-ending learning process through capacity building and skill up-gradation, to make these underprivileged girls digitally equipped to face the modern competitive world.

# Snap Shots



Group picture from Foundation Day of Digital Study Hall



Group picture from Inauguration of Digital Study Hall

