



# NEDAN FOUNDATION

## Annual Report

March 2014 – April 2015



NEDAN FOUNDATION  
Ward No 11, Bodofa Nwngwr, Kadamtola, P.O. Titaguri, Dist. Kokrajhar, Bodoland  
Territorial Council (BTC), Assam-783374, Ph # +91 3661 218008  
Email: nedan\_ne@yahoo.co.in  
Facebook: www.nedanfoundation@yahoo.in

## **Background**

Nedan Foundation emerged through a common vision shared by trained Social Work Professionals to work with poorest and voiceless ethnic communities living in the far- flung un-reach villages of North East Region of India. Presently NEDAN directly works in the North East region particularly at Bodoland Territorial Council, (BTC) Assam.

The **mission** of NEDAN FOUNDATION is to promote sustainable development in the North Eastern States of India.

NEDAN's **vision** is to build a society marked by development, equality, peace and respect for human rights for all sections; where youth are involved in all developmental interventions – from bringing about peace to overall holistic and sustainable developmental perspectives and vision.

Its main **objectives** are to innovate and disseminate the means for creating sustainable livelihoods on a large scale, and thus to mobilize widespread action to eradicate poverty and regenerate the environment.

### **Nedan Foundation has Four Thematic Areas of Intervention-**

#### **1. Combating Cross Border Human Trafficking between North East with South Asia**

NEDAN Foundation has been the pioneer in combating cross border Human Trafficking in North East India since 2004. NEDAN Foundation works in North Eastern Region and in the National level through network partnering. The study done by UNODC highlighted Assam as the 2nd highest trafficking zone. Of the four BTAD (Bodoland Territorial Council) districts of Assam three districts namely Kokrajhar, Baksa and Chirang also have the large trafficking reported cases today. Kokrajhar is one of the trafficking hubs known as 6th highest trafficking zone of Assam where highest no. of trafficking takes place. Some areas from Kokrajhar, Baksa and Chirang districts have a large number of trafficking cases as those two districts have remote areas which situates in the border of Bhutan and large numbers of displaced population due to the conflict. From the year 2004 to 2014, NEDAN Foundation has rescued 754 girls from the hands of traffickers.

NEDAN works in other North Eastern Region through network partnering. NEDAN Foundation has been closely working with the statutory body of Assam Government, i.e Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (ASCPCR), C.I.D. Headquarter, Guwahati, Social Welfare Department, Labor Department, UNICEF Guwahati based field office and BTC administration.

## International and National networking on Combating Human Trafficking

Build a strong international and national network on ending modern day slavery, i.e. bringing an end to the vicious cycle of human trafficking. In the two days conclave NEDAN Foundation shared in panel discussion about the victim's reintegration model of Nedan foundation.



## Consultation for the development of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)



NEDAN Foundation works in North Eastern Region and the SAARC Nation through network partnering. As North East India share longest porous border with other South Asian countries, NEDAN since its



inception has been trying to build regional collaboration with SAARC countries in order to build a strong network to fight the case of trafficking. NEDAN has established strong networking with Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar in combating cross border human trafficking. NEDAN has also been advocating with SAARC / SAIEVAC on Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Rescue, Repatriation and Reintegration (RRR). NEDAN in collaboration with Bhutan drafted SOP as standard guideline to combat cross - border human trafficking on RRR principle - Rescue, Repatriation and Reintegration.

## Raid, rescue & Repatriation

NEDAN carry out direct rescue operation along with various students union, police officials and civil society organizations. NEDAN also conduct random checking in the rail line which connects North East with rest of India. Many traffickers are caught from Bongaigaon and Kokrajhar railway station with the help of government railway police. Recently NEDAN Foundation has nabbed and handed over to the police two traffickers hailing from Sibsagar- Assam and from Kokrajhar- Assam.



In the year 2014, NEDAN Foundation with the help of Assam police has rescued 47 minor and adult girls from the evil hands of traffickers and in the year 2015, NEDAN Foundation has rescued 15 minor girls hailing from Kokrajhar, Tezpur, Barpeta,

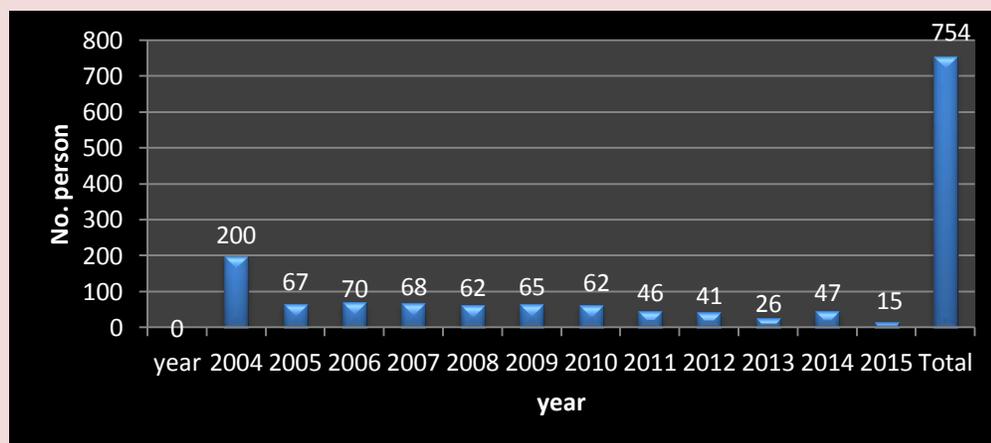


Rangia and Dhubri district of Assam.

NEDAN FOUNDATION along with Police has arrested 21 traffickers and put them in the prison and rescued and repatriated 545 trafficked women and girls in the region.

Nedan Foundation coordinated with National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC, Bhutan) and NCWC, Nepal and KakarbitaMaiti Nepal's Shelter home In-charge, who was in direct contact with NEDAN for the repatriation of survivor sheltering at the RENEW, Bhutan shelter home. The girl's parents were traced in Nepal, than the staffs of NEDAN along with the coordination of Bhutan handed over the girl to Maiti, Nepal after safely receiving the girl from Bhutan police. The staffs of NEDAN met the girl from Maiti, Nepal at Renew Shelter home during the short visit to Renew Home in Bhutan, Thimphu.

### Direct Raid and Rescue Intervention by NEDAN from 2004-2015



The recent Assam state govt. report published on Trafficking of women and Children highlights Assam as source destination state of the entire North East region and six districts of the state are identified as child trafficking hub in the state.

### Reported Missing Children Rapid Assessment Data by NEDAN:

Data Collected from 27 districts of Assam, North East, India										
Heads	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Missing Male child	297	315	323	254	470	302	341	338	292	709
Missing Girl Child	382	369	349	319	419	386	499	475	488	1416
Missing Total Children	679	684	672	573	889	688	840	813	780	2125
Traced Male child	56	101	99	151	177	28	41	130	155	366
Traced Girl child	60	125	118	129	134	41	67	180	245	830
Total Traced Children	125	226	217	280	311	69	108	310	400	1196

This data indicates the grim situation of missing children particularly from displaced areas.

## **Formation and strengthened Trafficked Survivors Network Forum at Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) Assam**

Since the inception of the NEDAN Foundation it was a felt need to set up a forum for the human trafficking survivor's network to decentralize network activities and raise the voices by the survivors collectively in the region. NEDAN supported a group of 26 members to form a Survivors Forum in Bodoland level and later build a larger network in the region.

In BTC level, NEDAN advocated the administration to provide victim's compensation, entitlement rights for those who are associated with NEDAN.

NEDAN is also successful in advocating the state of Assam to provide victim's compensation under State Rural Livelihood Mission.

The survivors themselves who have witnessed and went through the difficulties are now empowered to raise their voice and work to support the other fellow members in the region in a better mode than any other individuals being initiated by NEDAN.

Some of the survivors associated with NEDAN have become the strong Child activists and they have stood for the right of other vulnerable trafficked survivors. Some of them are pursuing higher studies at present under the support of NEDAN.

### **Empowered trafficked survivors**

**Name: Ms. Gwthar Basumatary**

**Age: 25 years**

**Address: Gossaigaon**

**Dist: Kokrajhar**



In the year 2008, Ms. Gwthar was married with a man from Manipur. He was in the force as a SSB driver. They settled together for almost a year in Kokrajhar district. Later Ms. Gwthar found her husband to be deceitful; he had an intention of sexually using his wife before divorcing her. He was never truthful to his wife, in spite of his bad nature, Ms. Gwthar dreamt of leading a happy and successful married life. One year later, her husband got transferred to other state which he took it as an excuse to get rid of his wife lifetime. Her husband always wanted to get rid of Ms. Gwthar because his sole motive was only to use her. On the other hand, the husband's family also never accepted Ms. Gwthar as their daughter in law because of different community and religion. Ms. Gwthar became helpless and was in trauma as her ray of hope faded away. Still she tried every possible ways to get back to her husband but luck did not favour her.

At such a crucial point, the staffs of NEDAN Foundation came across Ms. Gwthar's case and bought her back from the rented house where the couples were living earlier. Ms. Gwthar was given regular

counselling and treatment by NEDAN Foundation. She was motivated to lead her coming days happily by forgetting her past life as a bad dream. Since she is qualified and smart girl, she was offered to work with NEDAN Foundation as a full time field staff of NEDAN so that she becomes finally independent.

**Current status:** At present Ms. Gwthar is one of the most smart and active staff among all the field facilitators of NEDAN Foundation. She earns RS. 8000 every month and she is also providing the needs of her old parents. She also re-enrolled for continuing her further studies. *Ms. Gwthar said "I am very much thankful to NEDAN Foundation for enabling me to lead a good life by forgetting my past incident. I am very much contented because I need not depend on others finally; today I am capable of satisfying my own needs with my own monthly earning."*

**Name:** Ms. Agni Mardi  
**Tribe:** Santhali (Adivasi)  
**Village:** Kerapur  
**P.O.:** Grahampur  
**P.S.:** Tamarhat  
**Dist:** Kokrajhar (BTAD)



Ms. Agni Mardi belongs to the village Kerapur, P.O. Grahampur, P.S. Tamarhat, Dist. Kokrajhar (BTC), Assam. She is an adivasi (Santhal tribe) girl who was lured by the agent from relief camp two years back. They lost their native place during the ethnic conflict in 1998. Since then whole family has been living in the camp. She was taken by the agent with the promise of providing her a domestic work in Siliguri. As per the information provided by her guardians, within few months she was taken from Siliguri to Kolkata owner. During father funeral brother called up to inform her but owner did not allow her to speak. Since then she was not allowed to come home.

Agni's name was being changed to Tina by the new employer.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> February her mother came to NEDAN Foundation, Srirampur information booth centre and called up to Kolkata (23200464) still owner refused to let Agni speak to her mother. Agni has been in their custody for last two years. It is not clear who is the owner, how she is living, with whom she is living etc.

**Current status**

At present she is been integrated with her family members and is working as a field facilitator in NEDAN. Her lifestyle has completely changed after working with NEDAN and she is now capable to look after her family members. She is also one of the strong Child activists.

**Name- Mrs. Sonima Boro**  
**Age-20 years**  
**Address- Sorolpara**  
**Dist- Kokrajhar, Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC).**  
**Assam**



Mrs. Sonima hails from the remotest forest village which falls under Titaguri block in Kokrajhar district. The village situates in the Bhutan border. She was being trafficked in the year 2009 by her own aunt named Ms. Anjali Basumatary who hails from Kokrajhar district of Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC), Assam and migrated to Jalpaiguri district in 2001. The trafficker made a fake nepali passport for Ms. Sonima and trafficked her to Kuwait.

Mrs. Sonima's parents approached NEDAN FOUNDATION in the year 2010 and narrated the incident that has happened with her daughter. NEDAN FOUNDATION took the help of Assam Police traced Ms. Anjali in the year 2012 and was arrested. At present she is under the bar at the Kokrajhar Jail. NEDAN FOUNDATION worked with Ministry of Home, Govt. of India and Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, Govt. of India to rescue and repatriate Mrs. Sonima Boro and hand over to the parents. Finally in the year 2013 in the month of November Mrs. Sonima was rescued from Kuwait and brought back to India. She was first handed over to her parents and after a week she was brought to the Training Centre of NEDAN FOUNDATION for providing counseling and vocational training.

#### **Current Status**

Mrs. Sonima is reintegrated back with her family in Aflagaon. And recently with her parents consent she got married with a man from Romanpara, Kokrajhar. She will be a part of NEDAN and as she already underwent vocational training at the training centre of NEDAN, she can take up any of NEDANs livelihood project supported by NEDAN Foundation to the drop out tribal girls belonging from the most vulnerable background. She is also one of the strong activists of NEDANs Trafficked Survivor Forum. Now she is leading a happy life and is free from the vicious cycle of being trafficked.

**Name: Ms Nirmala Baskey**  
**Age: 19**  
**D/o: Shri. Simon Baskey**  
**Village: Kerapur, Srirampur**  
**P.O: Grahampur**  
**P.S: Gossaigaon**  
**Dist: Kokrajhar, BTC, Assam**



Ms. Nirmala was lured from the relief camp of Srirampur under Kokrajhar district to Siliguri when she was 10 years of age. From Siliguri, she was trafficked to Guwahati and engaged into domestic labor. She was rescued in the year February 2012.

In the year 2013, she joined NEDAN as the office assistant. She worked with NEDAN for a month. Than after a month i.e. on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2013 she tried to escape to Delhi. The staffs of NEDAN caught her on the half way and brought back to the office and talked with her parents. After interaction with her parents is has come to the notice that a lady who is the neighbor asked them to send Ms. Nirmala along

with her neighbor for the better job and promised to return her back after few months of stay at Delhi. But her mother did not allow. ***“We might be poor but I won’t allow my daughter to go far place”*** says her mother. At the no permission granted from her parents, Mrs. Nirmala without informing them planned to escape again to Delhi.

But fortunately the staffs of the NEDAN Foundation could stop her on the half way.

She turned very aggressive when she could not move to Delhi. She was then provided counseling. After few days of counseling she came back to the normal stage and on inquiry she was ready to take up a vocational training. NEDAN enrolled her at the AUXILIUM CONVENT for vocational training (Embroidery) which was 3 months residential course. She was enrolled for the training from 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2013. She has completed 3 months embroidery course and 6 months tailoring course supported by NEDAN.

**Current Status:** At present she is been repatriated in NEDAN. She was the office support staff at NEDAN and monthly she earned Rs. 3000/-. As Nirmala already underwent vocational training through NEDANs livelihood project to young girls and women belonging to the poorest of the poor and vulnerable communities, NEDAN will support her in opening her own tailoring shop. With the consent of parents, Mrs. Nirmala got married with a man of her choice.

**Name: Mrs Hashina Bewa**

**Age: 18 years**

**Fathar’s name: Amjhad Ali**

**Husband’s name: Late Mostaky Ali**

**Address: vill: Nawarbita (Dotma),**

**Dist: Kokrajhar Btc,(Assam)**



Mrs. Hashina Bewa is 18 years old young lady, resident of Nawarbita (Dotma) under Kokrajhar district. She has one daughter who is three years of age. At very young age she got married with Md. Mostaky Ali, resident of Nagaon district. But after one year, unfortunately her husband passed away due to suffering from severe fever. Since Mrs. Hasina was solely dependent on her husband’s income to sustain her needs and her daughter needs, it was really hard for her to raise her single child due to lack of earning. So, she moved to her father’s house and was taken care by her father. Later the burden of raising both the daughter and grand-daughter became heavier, so Mrs. Hasina travelled all the way to Delhi to earn her monthly income. After reaching Delhi, she was trafficked by one of the neighbor who promised to provide her job. She was sold off to the pimp and was kept in the brothel where she was forced to serve 10-15 clients per day.

Her health deteriorated, loose hope of reaching back to her native place. At last somehow she escaped from the brothel.

After reaching her native place, the village questioned her morality, tried to outcast Mrs. Hasina from the village. She was looked down by the villagers and was treated very badly. At such a point of time, NEDAN Foundation provided her medical treatment, taken to psychiatrist. She was in the deep trauma as she was unable to forget the abuses she went through in the brothel. With the continuous effort of NEDAN Foundation, she regained her normal life.

**Current Status**

She was supported by NEDAN Foundation to run her own enterprise to be economically independent. At present, she is no more dependent on her parent's income because she earns and saves some amount monthly by herself and looks after her own child and daily needs. Now she is leading a dignified life.

**Name: Ms. Chameli Murmu**

**Age: 17 years**

**Father's Name: Mr. Subhal Murmu**

**Mother's Name: Mrs. Reeta Soren**

**Vill: Borali Sonapur**

**Dist: Kokrajhar, Pin: 783370**

**P.O.: Kachugaon**



Ms Chameli Murmu is 17 years old girl. She is studying in class 12 at N.N. Brahma Junior College, Kachugaon. Chameli did her schooling from Kachugaon Girls School. She has one elder brother named Lakhiram Murmu, appeared in H.S. final year at N. N. Junior College, Kachugaon. Her family background is very poor. Her father is a cultivator and mother is a house wife. Her father used to cultivate in their own small plot of land and earned money but in 1996, Bodo – Adivasi conflict they left their village and shifted to Kachugaon relief camp. After that her father's income went down and was not enough to fulfill their children's needs. And so, her father and brother went back to his own village to cultivate and somehow he managed to pay admission fees for his son up to class 12<sup>th</sup> and to her daughter up to class 11<sup>th</sup>.

Staffs of NEDAN met her family and decided to provide for her livelihood support. A detail case study has been made. Her admission fees have been given and future expenses will be supported too.

**Current Status**

She is been enrolled in 12<sup>th</sup> standard by NEDAN Foundation in the month of May, 2014. Future expenses will be supported too. Ms Chameli is one of the smartest and courageous girls amongst all the adolescents being supported by NEDAN. Through the continuous motivation, support, guidance and counseling, Ms. Chameli is now fully empowered and able to raise voice for her rights and also about the issues of adolescents living in relief camps. She also actively participated and spoke on the child rights in the consultation "Participatory Communication" organized by the Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights.

**Name: Ms. Rubina Sheikh**  
**Age: 15 years** **Father's Name: Shri. Kismat Sheikh**  
**Mother's Name: Smt. Bebika Sheikh**  
**Address: Hindi School (Hanuman Mandir)**  
**Kokrajhar, BTC, Assam**



Ms. Rubina is the native of Kokrajhar, BTC, Assam. She appeared her 10<sup>th</sup> exam and still waiting for her board result to continue her studies. Her father belongs to the Bihari community and mother is Bodo. She has one sibling (boy) who is currently in standard VI. The background of Rubina's family is very poor. Her father works as driver. Ms. Rubina was left all alone with no proper guidance and she fall prey in the eyes of evil traffickers. She was targeted by the people who will accompany them in the sinful act. At such young age she fell into the wrong path of life. Earlier she also worked as child sex worker and was addicted to intoxicants.

**Current Status:**

She is been re- integrated for her higher education through the support given by NEDAN. Ms. Rubina appeared metric exam in the beginning of 2015. Now she has become fully empowered and able to raise voice for her rights and justice. She is provided with regular counseling, guidance and treatment. She successfully managed to come out from a horrific cycle of abuse which involved being beaten and raped up to several times. Due to the constant and earnest effort of NEDAN and her willingness, Ms. Rubina never relapsed again to her old habits and now she is leading a drug free life.

**Name: Ms. Sajoni Besra**  
**Age: 21 years**  
**Qualification: B.A 4<sup>th</sup> semester**  
**Address: Joypur- Karigaon**  
**Dist: Kokrajhar, BTC- Assam**  
**783370**



Ms. Sajoni comes from a poor family, her parents work as a daily wage labourer to sustain their livelihood. Her parents were unable to support Ms. Sajoni's expenditure for continuing her studies, so she was at the verge of quitting her studies. At such a crucial time, one of the field facilitator of NEDAN Foundation received the information about Ms. Sajoni's case from the villagers and NEDAN took the necessary steps.

**Current status:** Now she is being supported by NEDAN Foundation to continue her further studies. Through the help of NEDAN Foundation, Ms. Sajoni appeared her B.A 4<sup>th</sup> semester. Once she loose her hope of completing her further studies but with the help of NEDAN Foundation, her aspirations of becoming a qualified and dignified lady in her village turn in to reality. Ms. Sajoni will be a part of NEDAN Foundation's full time field facilitator after appearing her exam. Ms. Sajoni says ***"I wish to be a literate person, hold a dignified job and earn a good salary so that i can uplift my parent's living standard and help my younger siblings in their studies."***

## 2. Creating alternative livelihood

Nedan Foundation started the initiative of combating cross border Human Trafficking in North East India in 2004. There are large numbers of trafficking cases from the North East region and Assam is the second highest trafficking zone. There are also lots of trafficking cases from Kokrakjar, Udalguri, Baksa and Sonitpur. For which Nedan also took the initiative of raid rescue and repatriation. Gradually working on this need for alternative livelihood was felt for the survivors as well as for the high vulnerable girls' potential of being trafficked. There for identifying the need for alternative livelihood Nedan started this initiative with the establishment of Weaving Destination livelihood campus in 2008. At present Nedan Foundation support various livelihood Programmes like vegetable vendor, Self supportive business, Tailor Shop, Livestock Farming etc. Apart from that Nedan Foundation also provide vocational courses on tailoring, beautician course and computer classes as a part of Income Generating programme/ creating alternative livelihood.

### Weaving Destination:

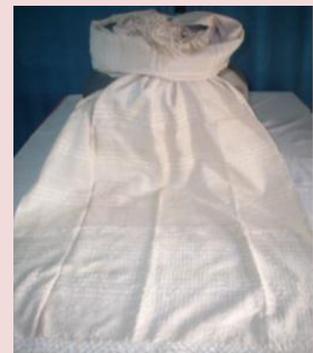
The Weaving Destination Livelihood Campus was established in 2008 by NEDAN FOUNDATION (NEDAN) and today it's being recognized as an income generation programme for the vulnerable tribal women. Weaving Destination (WD), a weaving production unit, has been started as social enterprise in the Bodoland Territorial Council in the State of Assam, North East, India, which is a post-conflict area as well as prone to flooding. WD has been set up by involving vulnerable indigenous women including women living with

HIV, survivors of human trafficking and female migrant returnees who are highly vulnerable to re-trafficking, social exclusion and impoverishment. WD capitalizes and enhances the inherent inborn skill of Bodo women in weaving, and is committed to convert traditional weaving skills into income- earning opportunity for women and girls.



Weaving Destination produces hand-woven silk and cotton products using traditional patterns. They include silk scarves, runners, handy crafts, cotton fabrics and garments for individual and industrial use. Additionally, Weaving Destination, using the profits from the sale of their products, runs IT training centre for vulnerable indigenous young girls who are highly prone to trafficking.

WD currently employs 43 women and girls for weaving, stitching as well as tailoring and aims to establish itself within national and international markets for their weaved patterns and various products. Weaving Destination's business unit, while preserving the traditional Bodo motifs, colours and weaving techniques, is attempting to design products to suit the local, national and international market.



This initiative was appreciated by 'The Melting Pot Social Innovation Incubator' for reaching out the market accessibility in Scotland and UK Award, UK' given to Weaving Destination Livelihood Model of NEDAN. The Melting Pot Award was one more step of reaching vulnerable tribal women economic development goal of NEDAN. The award has enhanced in starting of the online selling opportunity of the tribal women finished product produced in UK. This indigenous woman made exclusive products of hand-woven finest organic Eri silk and high chemical free cotton fabric are promoted online in a small way ([www.etsy.com/uk/shop/WeavingDestination](http://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/WeavingDestination)) from Melting Pot WD UK online office amongst the larger international communities in Europe. Weaving destination has also tie up with govt. India, tribe shop, NETFI hut, Thailand gift shop, Edinburg. Recently Weaving Destination website ([www.weavingdestination.com](http://www.weavingdestination.com)) was launched in UK on International Women's Day 2015. A store was also launched in the Library of textiles, Nottingham, UK.



Six women, mothers of trafficked survivors and school dropout, from Runikhata under Chirang district were supported by Nedan Foundation. A group was formed, in these model 12 thousand has been deposited in the joint account of their group as cash credit seed money. From that money members of the vegetable vendors group access as cash credit with limited amount of money to carry out day to day business in the local market. The cash credit taken by vegetable vendors are returned after the selling of the vegetables in the daily market. The cash credit borrowed from the joint account is credited in account again and the profit made out of it is part of their benefit. The entire management is managed by the women of the group itself like record keeping, accounting etc. only mentorship, evaluation and assessment are done by the NEDAN



Mother of a trafficked survivor, Mrs.RebekaShekh is the only source of income in her family. So in order to rehabilitate her daughter as she could again continue her studies Nedan Foundation supported Mrs.Rebeka as a vegetable vendor.



### **Young Women Entrepreneurship Initiatives**

Mrs. Nita Basumatary, mother of trafficked survivor from Pathgaon under Kokrajhar district was supported by Nedan Foundation to pop up her tea stall. She is the only source of income in her family. Her two daughters solely depend on her as they lost their head of the family 10 years back. Because of the support provided by Nedan Foundation, now somaina's mother can support her daughters in their studies as well as could able to run her family smoothly.



Mrs. Hasina Bewa from Nawarbhita, Dotma, Kokrajhar, a trafficked survivor was also supported by Nedan Foundation to set up a shop in her locality. As she also lost her husband at a very young age Hasina Bewa and her daughter used to depend on her father economically. But after the setup of the shop she could able to stand on her own feet and became independent now.



### **Provided technical support to Renew, Bhutan in replicating Weaving Destination (WD) to Renew Bhutan**

Nedan's team visited Renew Secretariat, Thimphu, Bhutan, the main purpose of the visit was to support Renew Secretariat in replicating Weaving Destination model. The two Organizations agreed upon signing MoU for providing technical support to the RENEW in replicating the Weaving Destination's model. Weaving Destination provided training to three Master Trainer from Renew Secretariat to enhance their weaving technically.



### **Impact created**

550 direct and indirect beneficiaries, women comprising of trafficked survivors, domestic worker returnees and vulnerable women started earning and supporting their children education through the Livelihood support at Weaving Destination Livelihood Campus.

**Name: Laimwn Brahma( name changed)**

**Fathers name: Jiten Brahma**

**Address: Kochugaon**

**District: kokrajhar**

**Education: V standard**

**Total family members: 8**

Laimwn Brahma, 26 years, is a native of Kochugaon under Kokrajhar district. She dropped out of school at class five because of poor financial background as her father Mr. Jiten Brahma was a wage laborer. They lived hand to mouth. Therefore Laimwn was kept as a domestic worker in different houses from her childhood as soon as she dropped out. She was paid very less because of which when she realized that it's not going to make her life secure she decided to leave that job and start in a different way.

One day in search of job she reached Nedan Foundation. After conversation knowing that she knows weaving she was referred to Weaving Destination. After appointed in WD on 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2011 her life

took a new turn. It brought a silver lining in her life. Now she earns Rs 4500 to Rs 7000 per month. Laimwn is now happy that she is independent and leading a life of dignity and supporting her family and her brothers in their studies.

Laimwn says, *“I never enjoyed such a warm and friendly environment before like Weaving Destination. Now I have lots of friends in WD as well as I am also earning in WD which has built a special bond with WD”.*

**Name: Mainao Basumatary (name changed)**

**Fathers name: Mego Basumatary**

**Address: Shantipur**

**District: Chirang**

**Education: IX**

**Total family members: 6**

Mainao Basumatary belongs from the most vulnerable area of village Shantipur under Chirang District. Shantipur is near to Bhutan Border which has made the place most vulnerable to trafficking and displacement. Mainao was a drop out student of Class IX standard. Being a skilled weaver and drop out was supported by Nedan Foundation in Livelihood programme as she didn't want to continue her studies. Therefore she was appointed by Nedan Foundation in Weaving Destination as Weaver. Mainao joined WD on 25<sup>th</sup> of Sep. 2012 at the age of 20.

*“Now I am Happy to stand on my own feet and became independent and I could also support my family and my brothers and sister in their studies. So I have decided to keep on staying in WD”.*

**Name: Sarola Brahma (name changed)**

**Fathers name: Tarun Basumatary**

**Address: Banugaon, Bonorgaon**

**District: Kokrajhar**

**Education: VII**

**Total family members: 6**

Sarola Brahma is a native of Banugaon, Bonorgaon under Kokrajhar District. She married off to an unemployed youth at a very young age when she was only 12 years. After having two daughters Sarola's Husband realized that now they need more income to run their family as Sarola was the only source of income as she managed it though wage labour at neighboring household in the village. So Sarola's husband left for Bangalore in search of job. Several years past but she didn't get any news from him neither he returned home. One day after 7 years he returned home and not finding Sarola he went to her parents' home where he requested her to return home but Frustrated Sarola didn't turn back thinking at the time of need he didn't support her now after several years he asked her to return to him. Then he took their two daughters along with him and remarried to another girl. Sarola being once again

left alone and depressed she moved out of her parents' home to lead an independent life and to move out of that chapter.

Sarola came to WD in search of Job like others and was appointed in WD on 6<sup>th</sup> of Feb. 2010. Sarola is now 32 Years and having a happy an independent life. She now earns Rs. 7000 to Rs 8000 per month and also saving her income in Women's Bank made available for the weavers. She is now happy to lead an independent life and could able to come out of bad time she suffered.

According to Sarola she used to work as a weaver in other weaving center but she was not satisfied regarding the pay, accommodation and working environment. But after joining WD she liked it and she is happy.

**Name: Nirola Brahma( name changed)**

**Fathers name: Girish Brahma**

**Address: Maoriagaon, Naigaon**

**District: Kokrajhar**

**Education: VIII**

**Total family members: 6**

Nirola Brahma joined weaving Destination on 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2010. She was from a very poor family background and married off to an unemployed youth. After a year their married life didn't work well and got separated at the age of 25 years. After separation she used to live with her parents and siblings. At that time she was in trauma due to separation and how to bring up her daughter now being a single parent and no means of livelihood.

After the few months of her separation she came weaving destination in search of job. Weaving destination being a home for vulnerable and destitute women, knowing Nirola's condition appointed her in weaving destination as a weaver. After her joining and stay in WD along with other weavers she could able to came out of her trauma and started earning. She used to send her income to her parents to fulfill the needs of her daughter which was looked after by them. She now earns Rs 7000 to 8000 per month and supports her daughter in her education who stays at boarding.

She is now happy that she could able to stand on her own feet and supporting her daughter in her studies.

### **3. Child Protection and RTE amongst the displaced population**

Under Child Protection NEDAN foundation covered at 5 locations i.e Baganpara, Shikarpur, Kachugaon Bazar, Dotma/ Nawarbhita and Titaguri / Duramari. In that, all 5 locations there has been already set up DICs (Drop-In-Centre). In all 5 locations the profiling of the children list, school dropout, out migration

list were carried out by the field facilitators. Home visit were also conducted to meet the parents to find out the school dropout children. Some of the children were placed as domestic servants in the village were also identified and meet the parents to motivate them in order to enroll the children in the schools. The attempt would also be carried out to provide bridge course among those children

### **Formation of CPCs(Child Protection Committee) and their role in the village**

In all 5 locations NEDAN foundation has strong and security forces of CPCs (Child Protection Committee) to observe and noticed all the children in the village. In each CPCs there are 15 members including both male and female. CPC plays a major and vital role in protecting and enhancing the child mind and attitudes or any case of the children in every 5 locations. CPC has some norms and acts as accordingly their resolutions in the village.



Even the villagers can't deny the power of the CPC. They act as the major role on the issues of child marriage, child labour, child trafficking and any violations of the child rights. In every month in every location CPC's members have organized the meeting of initiate and update profiles of each child accessing program at identified locations. After the formation of CPCs it has brought a little bit renaissance and changes towards the child cases in the identified village. Today the role of CPC has become more active and spread after conducting their training at the village level as well as at the district level.



### **Orientation on Child Protection & RTE with duty bearers**

Concerned Government officials of social Welfare Department, SSA Department, child protection officer and the labour office were invited in the programme. A healthy discussion took place on regards to protection of the children from child trafficking, child labour and about providing free and compulsory education.

## Impact created

### Successful advocacy story of Duramari ME School



After the conflict of 2012, between the Bodo's and Muslim the entire Duramari (Muslim) villages totally burned down and destroyed. At the same time they have lost their own property and need to have displaced and they deprived of their own human rights and dignity. At the same time Duramari ME Madrasa School was also totally burned down and destroyed where students have faced with many difficulties problems and as a result most of the students

became dropped from the school, forced to work as a child labor in the village and also started to migrate to different places. It is the children who have mostly suffered in that incident.

While the UNICEF project started from 2014 at Duramari it became very strong and consciousness amongst the community people. Now in Duramari village they have strong CPC & SMC members for safeguarding the rights of the children. Child protection committee's members are the strong and play a vital role in protecting the rights of the children. Any issues of the child are look by the child protection committees in the area. CPC members have the key responsible for child development and SMC members are the responsible for maintaining schoold evelopment.

After the visiting of Mr. VedPrakash Gautam to Duramari area some community members, CPC members and SMC members became strong and active in the village. Mr. Rahim Ali, Head Master of Duramari ME Madrasa School did not provide mid-day meal to the student earlier. So all the CPC and SMC member's altogether complained to DEEO regarding of not providing mid-day meal system to the students. Now after complaining to the DEEO the mid-day meal system is regularly provided to the student in Duramari ME School.



The third successful story is re constructed of school with the help of community people within few months. This all are successful story for Duramari's community after visiting the Child Protection Specialist from Guwahati Assam.

#### 4. Promoting Higher Education tribal displaced girls-ending the cycle of violence

We strongly believe that all children and adolescents should have the opportunity to unlock their full potential in life. NEDAN work with local communities for the development of children to improve their access to education, child rights, health and protection need in emergencies and post conflict. Adolescent is a period of formative and dynamic transitions, when young people take on new roles, responsibilities, and identities. It is a period of life full of basic changes and young people attempt to achieve autonomy from their parents/guardian. Adolescent also marks cultural transitions through tradition. At the same time, for many it is the transitions to work. During this period, health behavior that will last long into adulthood can be strongly influence as during adolescents values are firm and vocational skills is developed. Gender norms, notions about appropriate sexual behavior, and awareness of such issues are shaped during adolescents. The region is devastated with various forms of conflict for many decades. Long ethnic conflict has drained away peace and prosperity of the states. In this conflict, thousands of people in region have lost their houses and living in the temporary camps. The people in the states live with fears and suspicion. The conflict situation enhances the vulnerability of ethnic groups and exposes them to worst forms of violence including sexual exploitation, school drop outs, trafficking and HIV/AIDS. Among all the sections of the society, children and youths are the worst sufferers. These ethnic groups are as it is vulnerable the conflict situation makes them further vulnerable and victims of worst forms of violence. In order to make the tribal girls and women free from such inhuman acts, trafficking and other forms of vulnerability, NEDAN Foundation initiated to provide Survivors' Support Services through alternative Livelihood initiative in source districts of Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) Assam, to impart IT Educational skills to survivors of trafficking and Adolescent girls who are high risk of trafficking at Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) Assam and to promote higher education amongst the potential and trafficked survivors girls and drop out Adolescent Girls to support in livelihood.

#### **Imparted Information Technology (I.T) skills learning space for Higher Secondary drop out highly vulnerable potential girls who are high risk of trafficking:**

Through IT skills, identified school and college drop– out girls,



trafficked survivors and vulnerable girls were well equipped with the basic knowledge of computer application.



Certificates were issued to the qualified girls after the completion of 1 month basic course. The trainees were also imparted English voice learning through I.T in order to compete with others for employment at Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC). The I.T Skills substantiated the trainees for getting job in Bodoland Territorial

Council. BTC hires only employees equipped in computer knowledge for 3rd grade and 4th grade jobs, so, NEDAN trained them according to the requirement and they are eligible for the mentioned jobs.

**Promoted higher education support to drop out girls, high risk of trafficking, living in displaced camps.**

Out of 20 targeted girls for promoting higher education, NEDAN supported and re-enrolled 44 girls to various educational institutes within Kokrajhar district of Assam belonging from low financial background and also those were trafficked survivors, likely to be trafficked and dropped out from schools and colleges. The girls were provided with admission fee, year round exam fee, text books, uniforms and other study materials.



The initiative of promoting higher education for highly potential vulnerable girls, rescued trafficked survivors and returnee girls from the source districts of Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) has not only provided Education Avenue but also made collectivization of voices for their rights.



The girls are now educated, empowered and they are able to raise voice for their rights after having an opportunity to reenroll in educational institutes.

NEDAN has been able to build strong linkages with various educational institutes to lend solidarity in supporting by providing available admission seats and mentorship provision for our 44 girls enrolled at various educational institutes within Kokrajhar district of Bodoland Territorial Council, Assam.

**Providing supplementary coaching classes at the Internally Displaced Population areas highly vulnerable to trafficking**

NEDAN also provided supplementary coaching classes for the HSLC candidates of January -2015 at the 4 areas in order to prevent the students from dropping out and clearing their HSLC exams. The 4 centres are established at Nowerbhita under Dotma Block, Duramari under Titaguri Block and Baganpara under Kochugaon Block and in Weaving Destination Campus Anthaigwla, Kokrajhar



The following subjects were taught- Math Science and English per days a week.

### Formation of Adolescents Club

Till date, 20 adolescents club have been formed in different locations comprising of 350 adolescents altogether. Keeping in mind that adolescents residing in such areas are the most vulnerable section in the society, NEDAN imparted them about issues of human trafficking, life skill education, importance of education, sexual and reproductive health – consequences of unsafe sex, HIV/AIDS, prevention of health problems, reproductive health, menstruation cycle, child marriage, health effects of early marriage, decision making skills and coping with stress/ emotions were discussed.



### Impact created

**Minaki Brahma**  
**Year-18, Female**  
**Vill- Sonapur**  
**Stayed in Sonapur Relief Camp**  
**Ph. no.-8011335794**  
**C/O- Jadab Chandra Brahma**



Minaki is a HS Final Candidate. Due to Conflict of 2014, she and her family had to stay in Sonapur Relief Camp and for that she can't concentrate in studies in camp, for that she was brought to Weaving Destination Campus run by NEDAN Foundation, NGO to take her HS Final examination peacefully with the concerned of her parents and senior people of their respective area. She has two siblings; she is the eldest and 1 younger brother studying in class 7. Her father is a teacher and her mother is a housewife.

***"I thought my education had come to an end because of the Dec. 2014 conflict. My books were burnt down as well as all our other belongings. But with the help of NEDAN Foundation I am able to take my HS examination and I am sure that I will pass my HS examination and I will do my degree with the help of NEDAN Foundation and I will be teacher one day"*** said Minaki.

**Jyoshna Begum**  
**Age-16yrs**  
**Vill- Nowerbhita**  
**C/O- Ajjal Hoque**  
**Ph no.-8011387503**



Jyoshna is a HSLC candidate from Nowerbhita. She was affected by 2012 conflict. She has 8 siblings 1 elder brother, 2 elder sisters, 3 younger brothers and 1 youngest sister; she is in the 4<sup>th</sup> place among the

siblings. Her elder brother and elder sisters got married and her 3 younger brothers are at class 4, 2, 1 and her youngest sister is an Aganwadi worker. Her father is a carpenter and mother is a housewife.

***“After the conflict of 2012 I lost hope for studying future because we have big family so my father can’t effort for my study, but with the help of NEDAN Foundation I got the chance of giving back my HSLC examination and I got supplementary coaching class in math, science and English. I was taken for consultation on participatory communication in Guwahati on 15 Dec. 2014 , where I got certificate. And now with the help of NEDAN my pursuing computer course under IT (INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY) and I will do future study with the help of NEDAN Foundation and become a teacher in future” said Jyoshna***

**Gaodang Dwimary**

**18 years**

**Village: - Bhaoraguri**

**Stayed in New Basbari relief camp.**

**C/O:- Soben Dwimary**



Gaodang Dwimary is a HSLC candidate from Bhaoraguri. Her village was destroyed in 2014 conflict. For that every villager and her family need to be shifted in relief camp in New Basbari. As her study was affected by the conflict she was brought to Weaving Destination Campus to take her HSLC examination. She has 6 siblings. She is in 4<sup>th</sup> place among the siblings. 2 elder sisters, 1 elder brother, 1 younger brother and 1 youngest sister. Her both elder sister got married and elder brother is a drop out at class x and her younger brother & sister studies at class X and class VII. Both parents are cultivator.

***“I totally lost my hope for future studies as the conflict affected our place very badly. My books, dresses and many more where burnt down. But with the support of NEDAN I was brought in weaving destination campus in Anthaigwla, I was given all the required materials and I am able to give my HSLC examination in a peaceful environment and definitely I will pass and I will do future study with the help of NEDAN Foundation” said Gaodang.***

## 5. Providing Transit Centre for rescued and repatriated girls.

*Shelter Home*, an initiative of NEDAN Foundation was started from the year 2008. The Home is a safe haven for the children in need of care, protection and support. It provides residential program for those children in need of care and support, coming from poorest tribal family background and gives them a peaceful environment for the individual growth and development. The Shelter Home also has a provision for temporary stay to trafficked survivors, relief victims till they attempt to get back on their feet or make major transition. The shelter Home start its journey with 10 children and today it has increased in manifold with large number of children and increasing every year.



Shelter Home is located in a residential area which takes only 5 minutes from Kokrajhar town. It has been located in such a place, so that it is easily accessible to all the schools. The students staying in the shelter home go for regular classes. And after class they get coaching on subjects like math, science, English and history.

With the history of rescuing and repatriating survivors from different parts of North East and metro cities of India, NEDAN Foundation since its inception has rescued and repatriated 754 women and girls from the region.

The need of the Shelter Home was felt and conceived in the process of restoring the children back to their home as the child needs to be kept in a safer place till the time of repatriating back home.

Shelter Home in times of emergency provides temporary shelter to many survivors as the trafficked survivor attempt to get back on their feet or make a major transition in their lives. NEDAN Foundation since its establishment has acted as a transit home for the trafficked survivors in need of care and protection.



Figure 1 Intervention by NEDAN foundation (2004-2014)

The Home has provision for 30 children. The home is run with its own resources. The children learn to lead relatively independent life before being integrated to the families. A separate dining hall, recreation and reading facilities are provided.



Children are constantly under the supervision of a guide who provide guidance, monitor children's behavior and help identify and work with children who need further psycho-social support. The staff tries to ensure that the children do not feel it as just an institute, but a home away from home.



The children go for regular classes, dropped and picked by the campus driver. After the class the children receive IT training. And in the evening, games, activities are given



which help them to open up. The activities provide a safe space in which they can release feelings of pain, sorrow, stress and helplessness.

Individual and group counseling is given to the children on regular basis. The Home has a counselor who looks after the well-being of the children both emotionally and academically. The counselor is available to talk one-on-one with the children. This lets the children know we care about their feelings and well-being.



### ***An Opportunity to the Homeless Girls through Education***

Nedan also took the initiative of providing residential shelter to 100 plus students appearing for HSLC and HS examination. Those students were the victims of ethnic conflict of December 2014 due to which their studies were stagnate and ultimately their future was in blur.

The children were brought from different relief camps and kept in NEDAN's Halfway Destination Home where already 15 children were supported by the Foundation. The children were given regular counseling and kept under a supervisor. At first stage it was difficult to deal with the children as they still had that trauma in their mind. Regular activities, interactions helped them to open up. The candidates were given special classes on English, Math and Science so that they can succeed in the upcoming

examination. Along with the coaching, guide books, copy, geometry, clip board etc. were also provided for proper studies and clearing their examination.



### Impact created

### Testimonies



**“I come from a poor family. My mother works as a vegetable vendor and supports our family. It is from 2014 I have been staying in the Destination Home. All my needs, studies and tuition fee is given by NEDAN. I am very lucky to get this opportunity. I will study hard and become a police officer”, said by Rubina**

**“I totally lost hope of appearing my HSLC examination. My books and other belongings were all burnt. But now with the support of NEDAN I got shelter and could able to appear in my exam and now I am confident of passing my examination”. Said Ringkhansri**



**“My name is Somaina. I study in class IX. My mom runs a tea shop. But the income is not enough to help us in our study. I am thankful to NEDAN as only through it I could be enrolled in class IX and continue my study staying in shelter home”.**

## MAP OF BODOLAND TERRITORIAL COUNCIL (BTC)

