

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SNEHALAYA'S JOURNEY

On 8th October 2025, Snehalaya joyfully marked its 25th Anniversary at Social Forum, celebrating a remarkable journey of service to children and the marginalized. The programme was gracefully compered by the Documentation Team. The occasion was blessed by the presence of Fr. Sebastian Kuricheal, Provincial of Guwahati Province, Rev. Fr. Thomas Menampampil, Fr. Joe Prabhu, Sr. Elizabeth Molly and delegates



from the YAR National Conference. Fr. Lukose Cheruvelel, Director, reflected on Snehalaya's inspiring journey and future vision. Children from all homes presented vibrant cultural performances, while alumni shared heartfelt gratitude. The evening concluded with the release of Magazine "Success Stories" and a jubilee feast, celebrating hope, gratitude, and renewed commitment.

ROLE MODELS RETURN TO INSPIRE

On 13th October 2025, Snehalaya Boys' Home, Dhirenpara, organized a motivational interaction session with members of the Assam Care Leavers Association (ACLA). The visit was led by Mr. Kukil Das, CEO of ACLA, in the presence of Vice Chairperson Mr. Montu Kalita. Having once been in similar care settings, the members shared their personal journeys of resilience, independence, and success to inspire the children. They also distributed snacks purchased through their own contributions, reflecting self-reliance and gratitude. The session fostered hope, confidence, and aspiration among the boys, reinforcing the belief that determination and right guidance can transform lives.



EXPLORING SCIENCE AND NATURE

On 16th October 2025, Snehalaya Boys' Home, Dhirenpara, organized an educational and recreational outing for 27 boys and 3 staff members in collaboration with the Leo Club Guwahati. The group visited the Guwahati Planetarium at Lataasil, where the children enjoyed digital planetarium shows, 3D films, and science exhibitions, followed by a visit to River View Park (Sati Radhika Shaanti Udyan), Uzanbazar. The initiative aimed to provide experiential learning and recreation beyond the classroom. The outing enhanced scientific curiosity, encouraged social bonding, and offered joyful exposure, contributing to the holistic development and confidence of the children.



LEARNING BEYOND CLASSROOMS

On 16th October 2025, Jyoti Snehalaya organized a Cleanliness Drive under the theme "Cleanliness, Creativity, and Togetherness" to promote hygiene, responsibility, and teamwork among the children. In the presence of Sr. Beena and Sr. Teresa, the children actively cleaned their immediate surroundings, learning the value of maintaining a healthy environment. Following the drive, a few children prepared puchka, which was shared by all, fostering unity and joy. The children also displayed their creativity by crafting baskets and handbags. The initiative encouraged cooperation, self-reliance, and creative expression, creating a positive atmosphere that left the children confident, motivated, and socially aware.



JOYFUL DIWALI CELEBRATION

On 20th October 2025, Auxilium Snehalaya and Jyoti Snehalaya celebrated Diwali, the festival of lights, with joy and cultural enthusiasm. At Auxilium Snehalaya, the children lit lamps and offered prayers for peace and well-being, while Sr. Holibon added to the celebration by distributing sparklers and phuljhadis, filling the evening with happiness.



At Jyoti Snehalaya, the children prepared colourful rangoli, burst crackers, and shared sweets generously donated by the parents of Krishti Garh, for which they expressed heartfelt gratitude. The celebrations at both homes fostered cultural appreciation, togetherness, and emotional well-being, reinforcing values of gratitude, sharing, and hope while creating joyful memories for the children and staff.

YOUNG HEARTS PAY TRIBUTE TO ZUBEEN GARG

On 21st October 2025, with folded hands and teary eyes, the children of ILA Snehalaya and Jyoti Snehalaya visited the samadhi of Lt. Zubeen Garg at Kamarkuchi, Sonapur, to pay their heartfelt tribute. Standing in silence, their hearts filled with love and gratitude, they offered handmade bags and flowers as symbols of remembrance and softly sang Mayabini, creating an atmosphere of deep emotion and reverence.



They later visited the residence of Garima Garg, offering prayers for her strength and peace. Fr. Lukose, Director, along with the Superintendents of both homes, accompanied them. The visit nurtured empathy, cultural pride, and a profound respect for legacy and memory.

A SPECIAL VISIT FROM ROME

On 2nd November 2025, Auxilium Snehalaya was humbly blessed to welcome Rev. Sr. Celine Jacob FMA, Visiting General Councillor from Rome. The little girls warmly received her with a beautiful welcome dance performance, expressing their joy and gratitude. During a one-hour interaction, she gently engaged with the children and staff, appreciating their efforts and encouraging them to grow with courage, faith, and perseverance. Her inspiring words instilled hope and renewed confidence in young hearts. The visit was deeply enriching, leaving a lasting impression and reminding all of the values of humility, resilience, and trust in God's guidance.



EDUCATIONAL EXPOSURE

On 10th November 2025, Ila Snehalaya organized an educational exposure visit for its children to the Guwahati Fisheries Museum cum Aquarium. The visit aimed to enhance the children's knowledge of aquatic life and provide recreational learning beyond the classroom. Accompanied by Sr. Presentation, Sr. Nilima, Sr. Montu and support staff the children explored diverse fish species and marine displays with great curiosity.



The Manager of the Aquarium generously sponsored the entry tickets and provided refreshments such as ice cream and chowmein. The outing fostered environmental awareness, observation skills, and joyful learning, making it a memorable and enriching experience for all.

CELEBRATING CHILDREN'S DAY

On 14th November 2025, Auxilium Snehalaya and Jyoti Snehalaya celebrated Children's Day in their respective homes to commemorate the birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru. At Auxilium Snehalaya, the celebration was graced by Fr. Lukose, Director. This included prayers, cake cutting, and joyful activities. At Jyoti Snehalaya, Sr. Aasha Paul, Former Provincial of the Tezpur Province,



graced the occasion and distributed gifts such as skin care products after vibrant cultural performances. Similar celebrations were happily observed across all five Snehalaya homes, fostering joy, confidence, and belonging while reaffirming the commitment to nurturing young minds and building a brighter future for every child.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE HONOURED BY SCPS

On 20th November 2025, 16 students from Snehalaya and other Child Care Institutions (CCIs) were felicitated by the State Child Protection Society (SCPS) for successfully passing the HSLC and HS examinations. The programme was organized to recognize academic achievement and encourage continued educational pursuit. Fr. Jerbasius Xalxo, Asst. Director of Snehalaya, along with two staff members, accompanied the children during this proud moment of appreciation and award distribution. The recognition affirmed the students' perseverance and the consistent academic support provided by Snehalaya, inspiring them to strive for higher goals and reinforcing the value of education as a pathway to empowerment.



HOLIDAY PICNIC FOR ILA SNEHALAYA CHILDREN

On 26th December 2025, ILA Snehalaya organized a joyful picnic for its children at Spree Walk Saraighat Lake, a newly developed park at Amingaon. The outing aimed to provide recreation and meaningful exposure during the holiday season. Mr. Pradeep, Manager of the Park, generously sponsored half of the children's entry ticket amount and arranged refreshments and lunch. Accompanied by Sr. Presentation and Sr. Nilima, the children enthusiastically enjoyed rides, boating, and the scenic surroundings. The picnic fostered bonding, confidence, and happiness, reminding the children of the value of community support and the importance of balanced growth through leisure and shared experiences.



A DELIGHTFUL OUTING TO ROYAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

On 30th December 2025, the children of Auxilium Snehalaya joyfully visited Royal Global University, Guwahati, for an enriching and memorable outing. Accompanied by Sr. Ruthmoni Murmu and Sr. Holibon, the children were warmly received by the organizing team, who ensured that they felt welcomed and valued throughout the day. The University generously arranged transportation and meals, adding to the happiness and comfort of the visit. The outing provided meaningful exposure, new learning experiences, and moments of laughter and bonding. The day strengthened the children's confidence and aspirations, and we express our heartfelt gratitude to the University team for their kindness and generous hospitality.



PRE-NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



On 31st December 2025, 135 children and 15 staff members from Snehalaya Boys' Home Dhirenpara, Ila Snehalaya, Auxilium Snehalaya, Jyoti Snehalaya, and Snehalaya Centre for Child Rights participated in a Pre-New Year celebration hosted by Royal Global University, Guwahati. The programme aimed to provide Joyous exposure and community bonding. The children enjoyed a special screening of "The Lion King", a guided campus tour, and a shared meal. Fr. Jerbasius Xalxo, Asst. Director, was present along with staff members. The celebration fostered happiness, social inclusion, and aspiration, leaving the children inspired by the vibrant academic environment and strengthened in confidence and hope.



**CHILD FRIENDLY
GUWAHATI**

CFG NEWS

INTERNATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY



In October 2025, the International Day of the Girl Child was observed across CFG-1 and CFG-2 centres in Guwahati to promote gender equality and awareness of girls' rights. On 11 October, CFG-2 marked the day across 12 community-based centres where children from vulnerable communities participated in interactive awareness sessions, motivational talks, drawings, slogan writing, and group discussions guided by Social Educators and the Coordinator. Similarly, on 13 October, CFG-1

observed the day across Clusters 1, 2, and 3 through drawing competitions, child-led speeches, and discussions on girls' education, safety, early marriage, and equal opportunities. Nearly 468 children actively participated, many girls confidently shared their views for the first time. The programme strengthened awareness, encouraged leadership among girls, promoted respect, equality, and a more gender-sensitive learning environment.



CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION

On 14 November 2025, Children's Day was gleefully celebrated across all Child Friendly Guwahati centres to honour childhood and commemorate the birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru. CFG-1 organised celebrations across Clusters 1, 2, and 3 in over 20 communities, where 438 children from migrant and economically vulnerable families participated in cultural performances, games, quizzes, sports, and art activities, along with discussions on child rights and dignity.



CFG-2 marked the day through educational outings to Shradhanjali Kanan and National Science Centre Guwahati. Accompanied by Social Educators, the Rescue Officer, Cluster Coordinator, Documentation Officer, Sr. Mariam (Project Manager), and the Project Coordinator from ESAF Foundation, children enjoyed a day of exploration, learning, and joyful participation.

CHILD RIGHTS WEEK OBSERVANCE

Child Rights Week was observed from 17 to 22 November 2025 across all CFG Centres to strengthen awareness on child rights, protection, and collective responsibility. Activities were conducted not only at CFG centres but also in nearby communities, streets, and neighbourhoods to reach a wider audience. Children, parents, Child Parliament members, social educators, CWPC members, and community stakeholders participated actively. The observance



included rallies, street plays, poster-making, quizzes, and group discussions focusing on education, child labour prevention, safety, hygiene, and reporting mechanisms. Children played a leading role in advocacy, confidently sharing messages with the community. An approx. total of 1000 participants were reached, fostering increased community awareness and shared accountability for child protection.



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DIWALI CELEBRATIONS

Diwali celebrations were organized across all CFG centres from 17 to 20 October 2025, engaging children from all Clusters in a happy and inclusive manner. The activities aimed to promote cultural understanding, creativity, emotional wellbeing, and a sense of belonging among children from diverse backgrounds. Children participated in diya decoration, group rangoli making, speeches, storytelling, and cultural sharing through songs, dances, and poems. Educators adapted activities to available resources while maintaining a common festive spirit. Around 850 approx. children participated in total. The celebrations transformed centres into safe, happy spaces, strengthening teamwork, emotional bonding, and feelings of inclusion, especially for children from stressful home environments



CAPACITY BUILDING ON POSH AND LEADERSHIP

A one-day capacity-building workshop on PoSH and Leadership was conducted on 31 October 2025 at Snehalaya, Paltanbazar, with 20 social workers, 3 cluster coordinators, 4 office staff participating. The training aimed to strengthen professional ethics, leadership skills, emotional intelligence, and understanding of the PoSH Act, 2013, essential for effective child protection work. Through interactive sessions on leadership, workplace ethics, and emotional intelligence, participants reflected on real field experiences, professional boundaries, documentation, and stress management. Group discussions and case studies enhanced teamwork and problem-solving. The workshop fostered empathy-driven leadership, ethical conduct, emotional balance, and renewed commitment to accountability and child safeguarding across all centres.



UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOUR AND EMOTIONAL CHALLENGES

A full-day capacity-building training was conducted on 28 November 2025 in Guwahati to enhance social workers' understanding of children's behavioural and emotional challenges. The programme aimed to promote trauma-informed and child-centred responses by reframing challenging behaviour as a form of emotional communication rather than misconduct. 29 participants from CFG-1 and the rescue team attended the session, facilitated by Ms. Pallabi Das, PhD Scholar (Psychology), Gauhati University.



Through conceptual inputs, audio-visual learning, case-based group work, and reflective discussions, participants explored child development, trauma, parenting styles, and practical strategies for emotional validation and regulation. The training strengthened empathy, ethical caregiving, and emotionally responsive field practice.

CWPC TRAINING PROGRAMME

A one-day CWPC Training Programme was conducted on 18 December 2025 at the Snehalaya, Paltanbazar, bringing together CWPC members from 14 centres. Facilitated by Fimthanglien Keivom, Coordinator, Child Protection, the training aimed to strengthen CWPCs as frontline child protection mechanisms. The sessions focused on roles and responsibilities of CWPC members, key provisions under child labour laws and the Juvenile Justice Act, rescue and reporting procedures, and effective conduct of CWPC meetings. Through interactive discussions and experience-sharing,



participants enhanced their understanding, coordination, and confidence to respond to child protection concerns in a timely, child-friendly, and accountable manner at both centre and community levels.

CFG STAFF TRAINING

A one-day staff training on Trauma-Informed Care and Counselling Skills was conducted on 19 December 2025 at the Snehalaya, Paltanbazar, for CFG-1 staff members. Organised by Snehalaya and facilitated by Ms. Nafisa Ahmed, Psychologist and Counsellor (RCI Registered), the programme aimed to strengthen understanding of trauma and its impact on children's emotional and behavioural development. Using participatory methods, the training covered identification of trauma indicators, principles of trauma-informed care, and basic counselling skills.



The Rescue Department also participated the session. Through discussions, role-plays, and case-based exercises, 28 frontline staff enhanced their ability to respond empathetically, reduce re-traumatisation, and provide calm, child-centred support to children in distress.

CFG PRE-CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

On 23rd December 2025, Snehalaya Child Friendly Guwahati, cheerfully celebrated Pre-Christmas at the Don Bosco School Field, Panbazar, Guwahati, bringing together children from CFG-1 and CFG-2 clusters. The celebration was graced by Fr. Alex Mathew, SDB, Principal of Don Bosco School, Guwahati, who shared encouraging words with the children. Fr. Lukose Cheruvalel, Director of Snehalaya, delivered a meaningful message on the significance of Christmas and the birth of Baby Jesus. The programme featured vibrant dance and singing performances, showcasing the children's enthusiasm and talents. The children also prepared handmade Christmas cards for all staff members. The celebration concluded with a shared meal, fostering joy, unity, and gratitude.



RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Between October and December 2025, the CFG Rescue Team-led by Coordinator, Child Rescue, Ms. Huiem Zeena and Asst. Coordinator, Child Rescue, Anurag Paulmicky Bilung in collaboration with DLTF and local authorities, successfully rescued 42 children (38 boys and 4 girls) from child labour and child rights violations across various areas of Guwahati, including Noonmati, Dispur, Sonapur, Bhootnath, Pandu, Bamunimaidan, Dhirenpara, Ganeshpara, Datalpara, Azara and Narengi. Following rescue operations, the children were presented before the CWC and temporarily placed in an Open Shelter. Subsequently, 41 children were safely reunited with their families and 1 boy placed at SOS Village, Borjhar, ensuring their protection and rehabilitation. This coordinated effort highlights the CFG team's ongoing commitment to ending child labour and safeguarding children's rights.



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