

MONTHLY DIGEST

ASSAM

March, 2026



Celebrating 24 years of service rooted in supporting sustainable livelihoods

GRAMEEN SAHARA

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1 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: Under **Project Udyamini**, Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) commenced at CFC Paschimdhuli for participants from Balijuri village.



2 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: A buyer-seller meet and seminar on turmeric was conducted at ARJB Farm, Borihat, Mirza, facilitating market linkages and knowledge exchange.



5 Mar 2026 | Nagaon: At Barhampur Block, Chalchali Gaon Panchayat, interactions were held with two BC Sakhis and one SHG member, where the Mein Pragati initiative and Sakhi roles were explained, along with screening of Pragati Sakhi videos, following which they expressed interest in taking up the role.



7 Mar 2026 | Guwahati: Under **Project SuATI**, organized GIZ, a group of 26 farmers attended a regional conference on natural farming, focusing on sustainable practices and knowledge exchange, where two of Grameen Sahara's project farmers were recognized as **Best Natural Farmers**.



2 Mar 2026 | Nagaon: A field visit was conducted to Juria Block, where six SHG members were engaged in discussions on the **Mein Pragati Programme**. A YouTube video on the Pragati Sakhi model was also screened to build understanding and motivation, following which the participants expressed interest in joining as Pragati Sakhis.



5 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: Under Project Udyamini, a visit to Balijuri was conducted to review post Product Development Programme (PDP) updates and assess the progress of RWEs.



9 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: A GP-level discussion program was organized at Karara GP, where the organization and the Mein Pragati project were introduced and discussed with participants.



10-12 Mar 2026 | Guwahati: A three-day Training of Trainers (ToT) was conducted for Mein Pragati team members to strengthen their capacity for effective project implementation



5 Mar 2026 | Sonitpur: At Mazrowmari GP, meetings were held with Pashu Sakhis, Jiveeka Sakhis, and other stakeholders to discuss initiatives under the CRISIL Foundation's **Mein Pragati** project.



6 Mar 2026 | Kokrajhar: Under **Project SusTAIN**, a training program was conducted at Bashbari, Parbatjhora project site, focusing on plucking techniques, pruning practices, cold weather management, mechanization, and sustainable agricultural practices for STGs, along with practical demonstrations to enhance tea quality and productivity.



6 Mar 2026 | Goalpara: Under Project Udyamini, yarn and accessories for the PDP were distributed among 30 RWEs in Udaypur village, Dudhnoi Block, Goalpara district.



7 Mar 2026 | Sonitpur: At Garaimari village in Naduar Block, discussions were held on the initiatives of the Mein Pragati project in the presence of the CFL field coordinator, along with interactions on existing livelihood activities. The visit highlighted strong potential for scientific goat rearing and vegetable cultivation, supported by the fertile alluvial soils of the Bhoroli River, indicating promising scope for impactful interventions.



11 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: Under Project AKSP, a financial inclusion training session was conducted at Chayani Rani Development Block using audio-visual presentations to enhance participants' understanding of financial services, digital banking, and government schemes.



11 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: An MHM awareness session was conducted at Dhanthola village in Ranjuli block, Goalpara district, as an initiative by Grameen Sahara under the American India Foundation, focusing on menstrual hygiene, safe practices, and breaking social taboos. The session was followed by the distribution of reusable sanitary pads and hygiene products, with participation from over 70 women. The programme led to increased awareness and openness among participants, encouraging informed choices on menstrual health and hygiene. It also promoted the adoption of sustainable sanitary products and strengthened confidence among women to discuss and address menstrual health issues within their communities.



11 Mar 2026 | Guwahati: An exposure visit was organized by the Spices Board India Regional Office in Guwahati. During the visit, participants toured Luit Farm, Khetri, Sonapur and the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, particularly the School of Agro and Rural Technology (SART).



13 Mar 2026 | Goalpara: Under Project Udyamini, yarn and accessories were distributed to RWEs in Gohainburi village, Rangjuli block, Goalpara district. This support marks the start of skill-building efforts to strengthen women-led weaving enterprises in the cluster, prior to product development programme training.



16 Mar 2026 | Jirang: Work has commenced on a diversion-based irrigation system in Nagaon project village under the Jirang cluster. The initiative is expected to improve water access and strengthen climate-resilient farming in the community.



17 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: Under Project AKSP, a procurement visit was conducted in Chholi village under Chayani Rani Development Block, where 39 kg of black pepper was purchased from a beneficiary by Pratishruti Pure Agro Private Limited. The produce has been safely stored at the company facility, strengthening market access for local growers.



19 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: Under the MEIN Pragati programme, a field visit was conducted to Business Correspondent Sakhi in Hajo block to review her work and community outreach. The visit highlighted the growing role of women in expanding doorstep financial services in rural communities.



16 Mar 2026 | Udalguri: A training on sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices for STGs combined practical and field-based learning on organic pest management and scientific plucking methods. Participants prepared "Brahmastra," an organic pesticide, and gained hands-on guidance on adapting plucking techniques to different pruning cycles for better tea yield. The sessions helped strengthen farmers' confidence in adopting safer and more sustainable tea cultivation practices.



19 Mar 2026 | Sonitpur: The Sakhi interview process initiated in consultation with CLF representatives, with nearly 37 candidates participating in the selection process. The panel-led interviews marked an important step toward strengthening community-level support. The process also reflected strong collaboration between community institutions and project teams in identifying local women leaders.



19 Mar 2026 | Goalpara: A field visit was conducted in Madang village and nearby areas under Rangjuli Block, Goalpara district, to assess how the yarn bank is supporting RWEs in easier access to raw materials. The team also visited RWE homes to review product quality and understand progress in home-based weaving enterprises.



19 Mar 2026 | Udalguri: The Project Sustain team visited a beneficiary's farm to provide guidance on compost pit preparation and the use of organic matter before introducing earthworms for vermicomposting. During the visit, the team also reviewed the organic tea garden and advised immediate organic pest management to address a minor red spider mite attack ahead of the plucking season.



23 Mar 2026 | Namsai: Under **Project HRIDAY**, the Namsai team visited Mabira village to conduct the baseline survey and complete the formation of the Village Development Committee (VDC). The visit marked an important step in strengthening community participation for project planning and implementation.



26 Mar 2026 | Namsai: The Namsai team completed VDC formation at Adiningro and held coordination meetings with local institutions in Piyong Khampti and Piyong Singpho for upcoming VDC formation. Discussions with community leaders helped strengthen local participation and readiness for the next phase of project implementation.



24 Mar 2026 | Namsai: The team completed the Village Development Committee (VDC) formation at Alubari village and conducted the baseline survey. This marked an important step in building community ownership for upcoming project activities.



24 Mar 2026 | Dima Hasao: An awareness and mobilization programme was conducted in Upper Retzawl under NABARD supported FSPF programme, engaging over 50 members from existing Self Help Groups (SHGs). The team shared the project's objectives and also visited the village spring area to assess improvements needed for community water resources.



26 Mar 2026 | Udalguri: Sustain team visited Sadhubasti to distribute vermicompost bags to beneficiaries. The team also demonstrated proper application methods to improve plant growth and maintain long-term soil health.



24 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: An AIF Menstrual Health and Hygiene Awareness session was held in Amtola village, Chhaygaon block, with the participation of over 40 women and adolescent girls. Reusable sanitary pads and hygiene products were also distributed, encouraging open conversations around safe menstrual health practices. The session helped build awareness and confidence among participants to prioritise their health and well-being.



26 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: A training under the SuATI project, supported by GIZ, was held in Kahua, Chhaygaon on post-harvest management, traditional storage, and community seed banks. The session improved farmers' awareness of better storage practices and encouraged active participation in sustainable agriculture.



26 Mar 2026 | Dima Hasao: Key informant interviews were conducted in Haflong with officials from NABARD and the Agriculture Department to understand ongoing schemes, opportunities, and challenges in project implementation. The insights gathered will contribute to the baseline study for the THT and NABARD-supported projects.



28 Mar 2026 | Kamrup: The Namsai team conducted the baseline survey at Adiningro and completed VDC formation at Piyong. A staff review meeting was also held to discuss progress and plan the next phase of implementation.