

“Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together.” – Woodrow Wilson



The Mitra Bulletin

October to December 2025

WHY MITRAJA?

Mitraja's origin is from a collective reflection of a few friends

If friendship can help us overcome personal struggles, can it also serve communities in need with genuine support and guidance, as a friend does?

VISION

Our vision is to empower marginalised communities through transformative education that nurtures both hearts and minds, builds self-awareness, leadership, creativity, and the capacity to make informed choices. We envision youth becoming active changemakers who can claim their rights, access opportunities, and create socially impactful livelihood opportunities and enterprises by addressing local challenges. Through community-led, climate-resilient, and sustainable development, we aspire to build communities that thrive in harmony with nature.

This belief gave birth to Mitraja — “Mitra” meaning Friend and “Ja” meaning Origin.

MISSION & APPROACH

At Mitraja, friendship is more than a bond — it is a value. We work closely with youth spaces like the Youth Club. By building local leadership and ownership, we create a safe space for the community, especially youth, to participate in the process of youth empowerment. We impart practical education and co-create viable local opportunities that enhance the community's socio-economic and ecological needs and solve the most urgent problems that affect youth and the community as a whole.



STARTING WHERE CHANGE MATTERS MOST

Sidhabari, Goalpara, became Mitraja's first community journey — home to migrant and daily wage families facing livelihood insecurity, limited access to health and education, and ongoing intergenerational social and economic vulnerability. **Despite these challenges, the community showed strong local leadership and collective spirit.**

Starting with Sidhabari Village, believing that lasting change begins where the need is greatest, and communities are ready to lead it.



STARTING WITH UNDERSTANDING

At Mitraja, understanding the problem comes before designing solutions.

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Community Meeting at Sidhabari



Hearing the Voices, Understanding the Needs

Although a few team members come from the same community and are familiar with the local context, the team closely engaged with community members to understand ground realities and the deeper causes of long-term deprivation. This helped build an evidence-based understanding for designing meaningful interventions.

Learning from Experiences

Experienced practitioners and experts were invited to share insights and help deepen the understanding of local issues.



Dr. Razdan, Assistant Professor ,TISS Visit

Growing Together

Mitraja strengthened its learning journey through various workshops, conferences, and partner engagements to build meaningful action. The initiative is also among 20 youth-led initiatives from Northeast India supported by Bosco Institute under the Youth Involve Node Fellowship. Mitraja's team member Fridoshi Islam also represents Assam in the prestigious Systems Thinking Fellowship by SELCO Foundation, strengthening Mitraja's learning and systems approach.



Community Radio workshop, Aizwal, Mizoram



YI first Learning event ,Jorhat

Mitraja Foundation is registered under Section 80G. Donations are eligible for tax exemption.