

## **Village Level meeting**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2011**

**Venue: Don Bosco youth Centre, Laitumkhrah, Shillong**

### **Participants:**

**Organized by: North Eastern Regional Domestic Workers' Movement –  
Meghalaya Region**

**Supported by: Action Aid & International Food security Network**

The North Eastern Regional Domestic Workers' Movement (NERDWM) under the banner of Peoples' Rights Forum – Meghalaya has conducted a legal awareness programme on right to food campaign, Ms. Fenella Lyngdoh Nonglait vice chairman of the Meghalaya state Law Commission was the chief guest of the day, the gathering was also enlighten with the presence of shri. Saito Basumatory, North East coordinator, Right to Food Campaign.

Addressing at the gathering, Ms Fenella Lyngdoh Nonglait expresses displeasure that domestic workers were not recognized as labour force in the state, they neither enjoy different wages compared to their skill level; they are compelled to work at the house of the employers without prior wages.

Shri. Saito Basumatory, enlighten the workers with the fresh survey which will be conducted by the Central Government and Planning Commission for the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, he further said, "there are no existing laws anywhere which puts domestic workers in the BPL Category", he also educated the gathering with regard to the **Proposed Automatic Exclusion Criteria and Proposed Automatic Inclusion Criteria for the BPL Census 2011**, he also added that domestic workers should be careful when the census will be carried out this year, he also added that there should be a provision for night survey since many of the poor people work during the day time, citing the example he also said that in the last survey which was conducted in the year 2002 most of the BPL families were left out, he also said that workers should take keen initiative regarding the upcoming survey and to get aware with the developmental schemes provided by the Government.

The meeting was finally winded up with a vote of thanks by Smti. Evangeline Shangpliang, animator NERDWM.

### **Impact of the meeting:**

- Domestic Workers were encouraged to take interest in the upcoming BPL Survey.
- They were very happy to know about the exclusion and inclusion criteria for the BPL census.

- Workers were ready with the census to be carried out this year.