

## Report on Rural Camp 2024

### Theme: Various Dimensions of Rural Life and Intervention of NGOs in Riverine Villages of Sundarban in South 24 Parganas

The Rural Camp 2024 was organized by the Department of Social Work, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata at Baikunthapur, from 15.01.2024 to 24.01.2024. The Department collaborated with Child in Need Institute (CINI). A total of 55 students along with faculty members participated in the camp.



For the first 2 days, i.e., 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of January, 2024, orientation programme was organized by CINI in Pailan, for the students, who were taken on visits to panchayat, health and wellness centre and anganwadi centre. There were also interactive sessions organized in Chetna Resource Centre, on Panchayati Raj Institutions and Rural Public Health Structure.

On 17<sup>th</sup> of January, 2024, the students, along with faculty members of the Department and staff members of CINI, left for Baikunthapur, Kultali. Sessions with Upo-Pradhan, Officer-in-Charge, and Block Development Officer were organized in Baikunthapur. The students were taken on field visits to Block Primary Health Centre,



Multipurpose Cyclone Shelter (flood centre), and tiger widows para. The students were also divided into 3 groups and assigned different tasks for their fieldwork. Group 1 was assigned to carry out community survey, Group 2 was assigned to generate awareness about the drowning project started by CINI and Group 3 was assigned to do social resource mapping. The students also visited a local NGO Baikunthapur Tarun Sangha (BTS).

There were informative sessions with local fishermen, fisherwomen, farmers, and elderly person. These sessions were generally kept for the evening. The students, under the supervision of the faculty members, used to gather around the bonfire to have a recapitulation of each day's work and to share their learnings with everyone. The students were also taken to the village haat. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January, 2024, all the 3 groups presented their assigned work. The rural camp came to an end with a vote of thanks.

