



ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
**MINISTRY OF RURAL
DEVELOPMENT**
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Social Inclusion & Social Development (SISD)

Monthly Newsletter

August 2026

SISD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Recognition for Outstanding Community Mobilisation and Service Delivery



Step Phyrnai VO, Mawkadiang Village, was recognised during the Independence Day celebration in West Khasi Hills for its outstanding efforts in mobilising young mothers and women into Self-Help Groups (SHGs). The VO was also appreciated for its effective service delivery through the Transit Home, highlighting its commitment to supporting women and the community. Khadhynnew Shnong CLF was also nominated in recognition of its commendable contribution to community development and collective action.

Hon'ble Cabinet Minister Shri Timothy D. Shira and Deputy Commissioner Smt. attended the celebration. Hema Nayak, along with other officials and dignitaries.



Convergence Camp in Nohwet Village



A Convergence Camp cum Anaemia testing Camp was organised on 7 August 2026 at Nohwet Village by Tongintei Village Organisation, with guidance from the MSRLS staffs from BMMU Pynursla under East Khasi Hills District.

The camp brought multiple services under one roof, including anemia and NCD screening, RBSK check-ups, MHIS, Aadhaar, PAN, FSSAI, and UDYAM registration, along with animal medicine distribution from the veterinary department. A total of 57 people underwent anemia testing, while several other community members accessed health, documentation, and livelihood-related services.

The convergence of line departments and NRLM community cadres helped make essential services more accessible to the village community.



STRENGTHENING CONVERGENCE: VPRP TAKES GRASSROOTS DEMANDS TO GOVERNMENT SCHEMES



A State-level Joint Meeting between MSRLS and Line Departments was held at the Main Secretariat, Shillong, to discuss the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP) and its integration into the Village Level Development Plan and Line Department schemes.

Chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary, the meeting focused on strengthening convergence to address community demands identified through the participatory VPRP process. A presentation on the VPRP process was followed by the sharing of the VPRP Demand Booklet, outlining demands across key thematic areas.

The meeting marked an important step towards timely redressal of grassroots needs through existing government schemes.

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YOUNG WOMEN LEADING CHANGE IN MAWSYNRAM



An inspiring initiative in Mawsynram Block, under East Khasi Hills District is bringing young women together through Self-Help Groups (SHGs), led by Kong Saintiful, an active woman leader of the Village Organisation (VO).

The initiative reflects strong women's leadership and community mobilisation, with the VO emerging as a "Development Village Organisation" through its efforts to engage and organise the next generation of young women leaders.



FNHW AGENDA DISCUSSION DEMONSTRATED BY SRP AND MSRLS TEAM



A three-day FNHW and Young Women Leadership Programme commenced in Ri Bhoi, focusing on strengthening FNHW practices, young women's inclusion, and the effective documentation of Participatory Review and Action Planning.

At Umkon Village, Mission 1000 Days inputs were shared, with discussions highlighting the importance of including young mothers and young women in community institutions. Mrs. Estray, CLF President,

expressed her commitment to support the formation of young women's groups across all 17 VOs under her CLF.



From Participation to Leadership: Ritalang's SHG Journey



Miss Ritalang Wardkhar, Manager of Ki Kjatsngi Jingkyrmen Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd., Myrdon Cluster, Umsning Block under Ri-Bhoi District shares how her SHG journey has helped shape her personal and professional growth.

Through Step Phyrnai SHG, Ritalang gained access to affordable loans and savings, which supported her education and family. Her SHG membership also opened an employment opportunity through the CLF, leading to her current managerial role.

She credits the SHG platform for strengthening her confidence, communication and leadership skills, while giving her opportunities to contribute to community development.



POSITIVITY AT THE GRASSROOTS: FNHW AND YOUNG WOMEN LEADERSHIP IN KYLLUMLANG VO





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The FNHW and Young Women Leadership Programme at Kyllumlang VO, Thodnongriew village, witnessed strong participation and encouraging community leadership.

The 30-year-old Headman, Mr. Saiborlang, expressed strong support for FNHW, young women's development, and his vision of transforming the VO into a Human Development Organisation. The household survey in the village is also nearing completion.

VO President Mrs. Blistina and Secretary Mrs. Felisha committed to organising all 137 potential young women into SHGs by 30 September 2026. The programme was attended by BPM, CC and VO EC members. Key FNHW messages linked to Mission 1000 Days were shared, reinforcing the importance of nutrition, care, and healthy practices at the grassroots.



EMPOWERING MOTHERS, MOBILISING YOUNG WOMEN: FNHW AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN WJH



The FNHW, Young Women Leadership and Human Development Programme held in West Jaintia Hills (WJH) on 6–7 August included a DMMU-level review and programmes across three villages: Padi Bah in Amalarem (Iaphyrkatlang VO), Mihmyntdu (Iakrehlang VO), and Wadieibha VO.

The programmes focused on the Mission 1000 Days, pregnancy care and counselling, Baby Showers, early and exclusive breastfeeding, and the 45 counselling points for proper breastfeeding. The activities also marked World Breastfeeding Week and emphasised mobilising young mothers and young women into SHGs.

A total of 28 lactating mothers and 19 pregnant women participated, alongside VO leaders and SHG members, reflecting strong community engagement and commitment to maternal and child well-being.



FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION: IALAMSHAPHRANG LEADS THE WAY



An action-oriented FNHW programme in Ialamshaphrang village, Wapung Block, East Jaintia Hills, brought together over 50 women for a focused session on the Mission 1000 Days.

The VO, which has 27 SHGs across 330 households and 100% institutional deliveries, committed to key actions including early pregnancy registration, Kangaroo Mother Care, pregnancy counselling, VHSND participation, high-risk pregnancy follow-up, SAM child monitoring, and mobilisation of young women and left-out families into SHGs by 30 September 2026.

The programme highlighted the power of community-led commitments to turn FNHW knowledge into meaningful behaviour change.



CELEBRATING MOTHERHOOD, STRENGTHENING THE FIRST 1,000 DAYS



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A Baby Shower and Mission 1000 Days programme was held in Jalyiah village, Wapung Block, East Jaintia Hills, with around 60 women, including 11 pregnant mothers, participating. Leaders from two VOs and the CLF Secretary also attended.

The Mission Team provided counselling on ANC, balanced diet, safe delivery, colostrum feeding, birth spacing and exclusive breastfeeding.

Following the programme, both VOs committed to documenting FNHW actions in their monthly minutes and organising SHGs for young mothers and young women above 18 years, recognising the opportunity to strengthen their leadership, financial literacy and communication skills.



BUILDING SKILLS FOR THE FIRST 1,000 DAYS



Ryntihlang VO, Thangbuli, West Jaintia Hills, conducted a Mother Skills Workshop under Mission 1000 Days, bringing together 76 community members, including pregnant and lactating mothers and men.

The session covered maternal nutrition, ANC, exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding, Early Childhood Development and early stimulation, including the five domains of child development and early warning signs.

A Baby Shower was also organised for 13 pregnant mothers, with each receiving a nutritious food basket.

The workshop strengthened community awareness and practical skills to promote healthy growth, prevent malnutrition and support child development during the first 1,000 days.



FROM FEAR TO CARE: COMMUNITY SUPPORT SAVES A NEWBORN



A newborn from Ambari village, Rerapara Block, suffering from severe neonatal jaundice, was brought home after the mother left the hospital against medical advice due to concerns about phototherapy, financial constraints, and limited support at home.

The case was promptly flagged by the attending doctor. During a home visit, BFS-SISD Shri Sengnal R. Marak, along with CGHA Smt. Ronilish T. Sangma and VO leaders Smt. Bipulla D. Sangma (President) and Smt. Nanditha Sangma (Secretary), counselled the mother on the seriousness of neonatal jaundice and the safety and importance of phototherapy.

Following the intervention, the mother agreed to return to the hospital for continued treatment. Financial assistance was provided through the Vulnerability Reduction Fund (VRF), while transportation was arranged through the CM-SMS vehicle.

The case demonstrates how timely counselling, community leadership, and coordinated support can help vulnerable families overcome barriers and ensure access to essential healthcare.

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STRENGTHENING POP CHANGEMAKERS FOR COMMUNITY ACTION



A 5-day residential onboarding training was conducted for 58 PoP Changemakers under the ML-SAY Programme, with 29 participants each from Mylliem and Sohiong Blocks.

Facilitated by Ma'am Evangelica, Project Leads, District Leads, Block Leads, and Cluster Coordinators, the training focused on strengthening the Changemakers' understanding of their ground-level role in engaging and supporting households.

The training recorded 100% attendance, with participants demonstrating active participation, commitment, and discipline throughout all sessions.



POP CHANGE MAKERS ORIENTED FOR ML- SAY



A five-day Program Orientation Training for Poorest of the Poor Change Makers (PCMs) under the ML-SAY Project was conducted in Bhoiymbong, Ri Bhoi District, from 10-14 August 2026.

Facilitated by the The/Nudge Institute and Sol's Arc, with support from the State Head and BPM, the training focused on the ML-SAY project, PCM roles and

responsibilities, and key processes for supporting vulnerable households.

The interactive sessions encouraged active participation and field-level experience sharing. The programme concluded successfully, with strong engagement and enthusiasm from all participants.



EMPOWERING THROUGH LEARNING: PWD EXPOSURE VISIT



An exposure visit was organized for 12 Persons with Disabilities (PwD) participants from Laitkroh Block, East Khasi Hills, to Wapungskur Village, Khliehriat Block, East Jaintia Hills to learn practical vermicomposting techniques from Kong Kyrsew.

Organized in collaboration with SELCO Foundation and PRIME Meghalaya, the visit provided hands-on learning and an opportunity to exchange experiences. The participants' enthusiasm, curiosity, and active engagement throughout the visit reflected their eagerness to turn learning into action within their communities.



BLCC FORMED FOR VPRP-GPDP INTEGRATION AT ADOKGRE



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A Block Level Coordination Committee (BLCC) for VPRP–GPDP integration was successfully constituted at Adokgre C&RD Block on 19 August 2026 at the Block Office Building.

The programme was attended by the Block Development Officer (BDO) and representatives from various Line Departments. The orientation highlighted the BLCC’s objectives, roles, and responsibilities, with a focus on strengthening coordination between Block officials, Line Departments, and Community-Based Organisations.

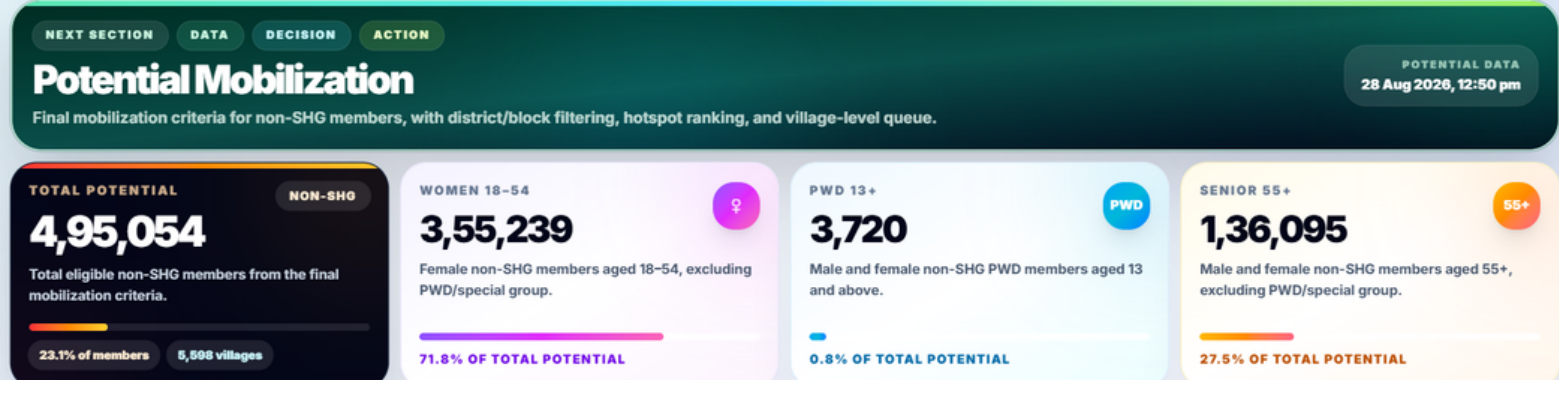
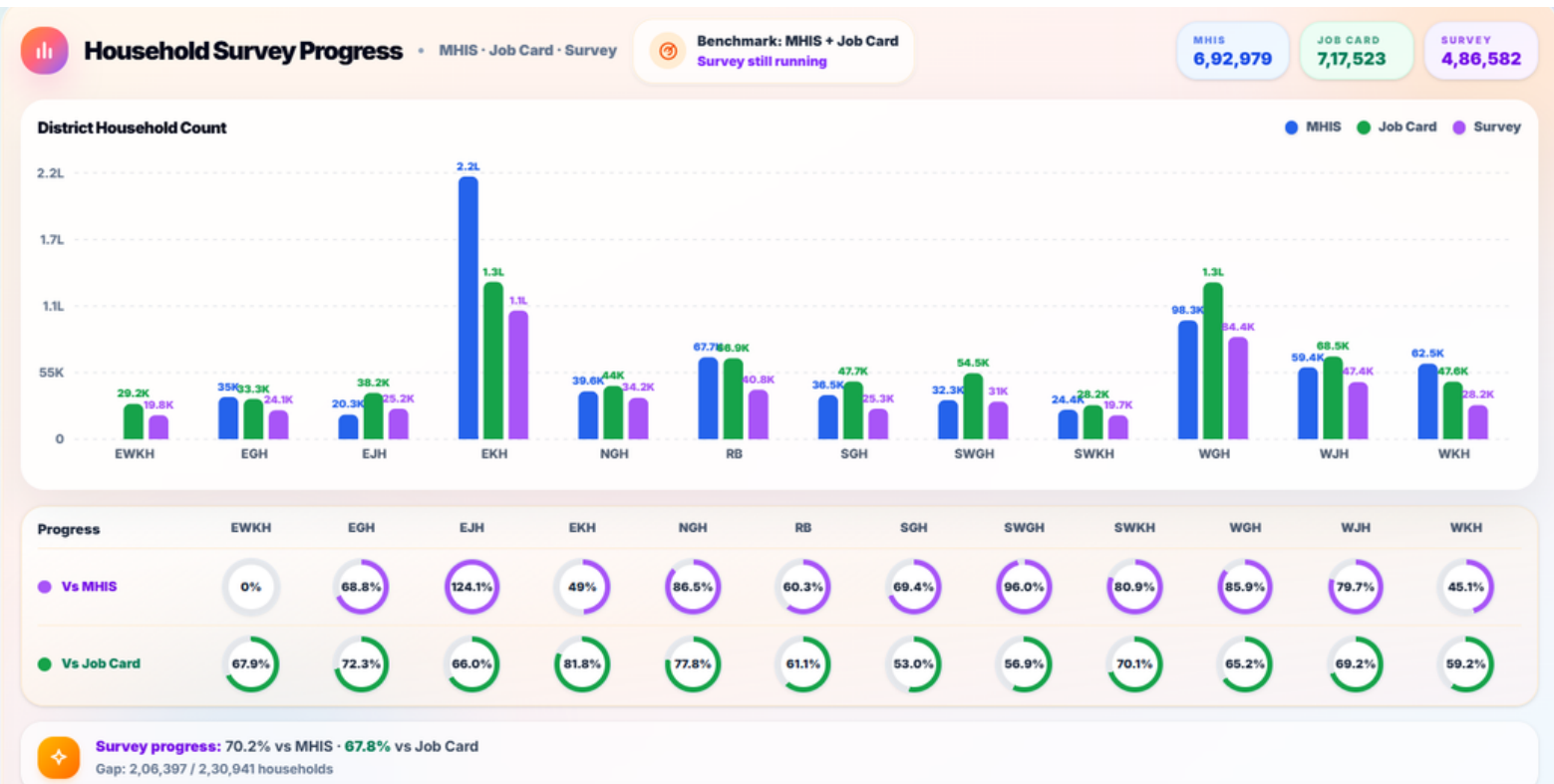
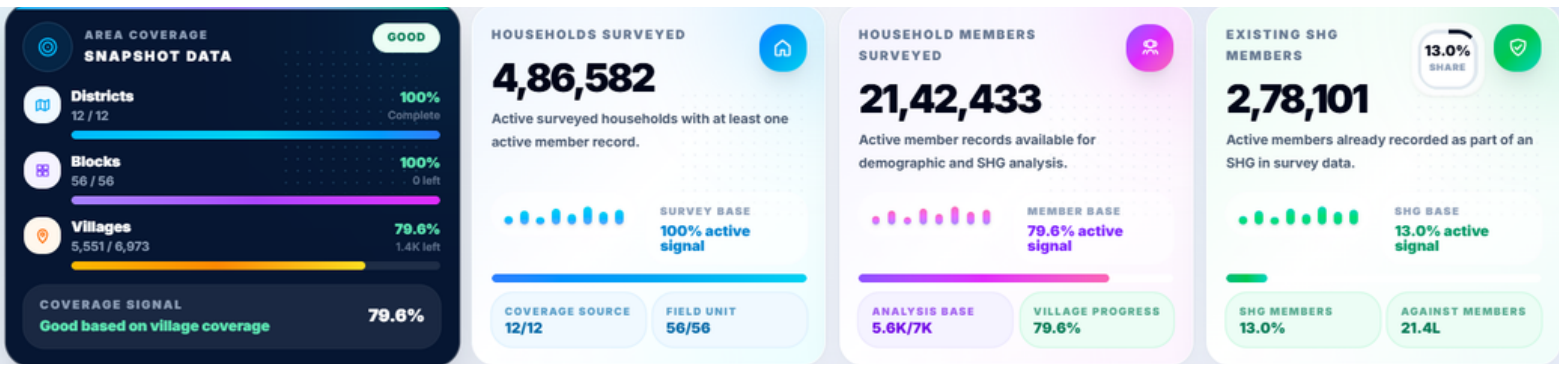
Outcome: The BLCC was successfully constituted, strengthening convergence and collaborative implementation of community priorities under VPRP–GPDP.



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Household Survey Progress, August 2026



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Progress from April–July to August 2026

The Household Survey recorded continued progress in August 2026, with improvements in household coverage and member enumeration compared to the April–July reporting period. Households surveyed increased from 4,46,401 to 4,86,582, while household members surveyed increased from 19,80,409 to 21,42,433. Potential mobilisation also increased from 4,50,327 to 4,95,054, reflecting strengthened outreach and identification of community members.

Outcome: August recorded positive growth in survey coverage and potential mobilisation, strengthening the database for community-level planning and targeted interventions.

HOUSEHOLDS SURVEYED

4,46,401 → 4,86,582
+40,181

POTENTIAL MOBILISATION

4,50,327 → 4,95,054
+44,727

EXISTING MEMBERS

2,61,742 → 2,78,101
+16,359

MEMBERS SURVEYED

19,80,409 → 21,42,433
+1,62,024

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FNHW Monthly Focus – September 2026

September brings a renewed focus on Food, Nutrition, Health & WASH (FNHW), to facilitate uniform and effective implementation of FNHW activities across all levels, a structured plan has been developed for module roll-out, the agenda to be discussed during the weekly SHG meetings, and the inter-departmental events and campaigns to be undertaken during the month.

The detailed plan provided below will serve as a common reference for the Mission and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), facilitating coordinated implementation, consistent messaging, and effective monitoring of FNHW interventions across the State.

INTER- DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS / CAMPAIGNS	FNHW MODULE TO ROLL OUT
- POSHAN MAAH Campaign (MoWCD) - Mission 1000 Days - Nutritious recipes demonstration - Anemia Testing Camps	- ANC - Maternal Nutrition - Diet Diversity - Anemia - Malnutrition & 1000 Days - Newborn Care - Infant & Young Child Nutrition - PDS & THR - Agri-Nutri Garden

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FNHW Agenda for SHG Weekly Meetings in September 2026

Week	Theme	Key Discussion Points
Week 1	Exclusive Breastfeeding & Infant Feeding	Exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months, correct breastfeeding practices, danger signs in newborns
Week 2	Child Immunization & Growth Monitoring	Routine immunization schedule, growth chart, weight monitoring, early identification of malnutrition
Week 3	Complementary Feeding & First 1000 Days	Complementary feeding after 6 months, diet diversity, feeding frequency, importance of first 1000 days
Week 4	Prevention of Childhood Illness	Diarrhoea management (ORS & Zinc), pneumonia danger signs, when to seek treatment