

# CONNECT



## OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MISSION FOUNDATION MOVEMENT



### Research Report on “Bal” (Taro) Released by Health Minister

Health and Family Welfare Minister Pi Lalrinpuui released a research report titled “Research on Phytochemical Constituents & Galactagogue Properties of Colocasia esculenta (taro) and Determination of its Nutritive Value” at her office chamber on 10th September. .

In her remarks, the Minister expressed appreciation that such a scientific study had been conducted on Bal (taro), a food deeply rooted in Mizo culture. She commended the researchers for their efforts and noted that taro is not only an important part of Mizo tradition but also possesses diverse nutritional benefits, which are now scientifically established through this study. She also mentioned that the findings would be valuable in packaging and marketing taro-based products by highlighting their nutritional value.

Mission Foundation Movement Executive Director Pu Lalramchuanzela chaired the programme and presented a brief project report, while Project Investigator Mercy Lalrempuii presented the technical report.

It was mentioned that Bal (taro), a staple among the Mizo people, is not only a healthy food but also known to increase breast milk production in mothers. This prompted Mission Foundation Movement to initiate a scientific study on it. The research was undertaken during 2022–2023 under the Support to Tribal Research Institute Scheme of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, implemented through the Social Welfare & Tribal Affairs Department. The study was conducted intensively for one year by the faculty and research team of Laithangpuui College of Pharmacy, with collaboration from Mizoram University and Mizoram Food Processing.



## Assistant Electrician Trainees Receive Certificates from LESDE Ministeri

A certificate distribution ceremony for 30 trainees who successfully completed the Assistant Electrician training at Operation Kingdom Ministry (OKM) Home, Phunchawng, was held today.

Pu Lalnghinglova Hmar, Minister of Labour, Employment, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (LESDE), graced the event as the Chief Guest and presented Completion Certificates to the trainees. The Minister also donated a Cement Mixer to OKM for use in its activities.

The programme was chaired by Pu John Tanpuia, Director, LESDE, while Pu Lalramchuanzela, Executive Director of Mission Foundation Movement (MFM), presented a brief training report.



In his speech, the Minister commended the trainees for their dedication and urged them to use their newly acquired skills productively. He expressed concern over the growing number of young people in homes and jails who lack livelihood opportunities and emphasised the need for them to realise their potential and rebuild their lives. He added that the Government is actively promoting skill development through various initiatives, including schemes under the Mizoram Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board. He also encouraged the residents of OKM to focus on recovery and reintegration into society.

LESDE Director Pu John Tanpuia, in his remarks, stated that the Government is continuously working to expand employment opportunities both within and outside the state for skilled youth. Pi Lalruatpuii, Home in-charge, expressed her gratitude to the Government and MFM for their continued support, noting that many of the residents at OKM possess great potential and talents. She appealed for ongoing cooperation to help them overcome their challenges.



## Social Welfare Minister Inaugurates Hulhliap Training Centre

Social Welfare, Women & Child Development Minister Pi Lalrinpuii inaugurated the Hulhliap Training Centre at Dawrpui Vengthar on 1st September. The programme was chaired by Pi Lalzarmawii, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, SW&WCD Department, while Dr. Lalhriatzuali Ralte, IAS, Special Secretary (In-charge), LESDE & Member Secretary, Hulhliap-SSC, presented a report on the establishment and progress of the Hulhliap Centre.



According to the report, the Short Stay Centre was initially launched at Synod Revival Camping Centre, Sihphir Neihbawi, with three training batches completed so far. In Batch 1, 256 trainees were enrolled and 116 successfully completed the training. Batch 2 had 544 enrollees, of whom 248 completed the course, and Batch 3 had 212 enrollees with 170 completing the training.

The new phase of training includes trainees from both Batch 1 and Batch 2, with a total of 80 participants enrolled — 34 in Assistant Electrician, 28 in Aluminium Fabrication, and 18 in Food Processing courses. Additionally, four graduates from the previous batches will be sponsored to attend the Discipleship Training Centre for biblical studies.

In her speech, Minister Pi Lalrinpuii expressed hope that the new training centre would open greater opportunities for the participants. She encouraged the trainees to make the best use of this opportunity, stating that skills in electrical work, fabrication, and food processing are in high demand and would enable them to earn a sustainable livelihood. She added that in the food processing sector, there are growing opportunities for processing and packaging local Mizo products.



## **NABARD Nabskill, GDA Course Inaugurated by NABARD General Manager**

Free GDA course under NABARD Nabskill was inaugurated on 17th September at the MFM Complex, Durtlang, by NABARD General Manager, Mrs. Pankaja Borah.

The programme was chaired by MFM Director, Mr. R. Vanlalzauva. Project Coordinator, Mr. H. L. Rinawma, presented the project report, stating that under this course, a batch of 30 trainees will undergo training in GDA. All trainees will also be accommodated in the hostel for the duration of the three-month training free of cost. The project is sponsored by NABARD NABSKILL and implemented by MFM.



## **Youth Wellness Campaign Launched at Electric Veng**

Youth Wellness Campaign, jointly organised by the Mission Foundation Movement (MFM) and the Electric Veng Branch YMA, was launched on 20th September at the Electric Veng YMA Hall.

The programme was chaired by Pu C. Lalrokhuma, Vice President of Electric Veng YMA. Pu R. Vanlalzauva, Director of MFM, and Tv. Lalchhandama, Project Staff, delivered short speeches during the event. A special awareness session was held focusing on the importance of physical, spiritual, and mental well-being, along with discussions on key issues faced by young people today, such as anxiety, stress, and depression. A total of 80 youth and adolescents from the locality attended the programme.