Life, Livelihood & Liberation

BAKDIL BULLETIN

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MONTHLY **NEWSLETTER**

Birthday Celebration of our Beloved Director & Secretary, BAKDIL, Rev. Fr. Benoy Joseph

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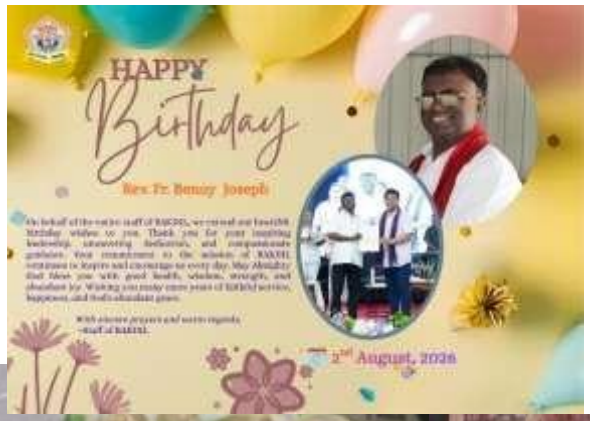


The BAKDIL family gathered with gratitude and joy to celebrate the **59th Birthday of Rev. Fr. Benoy Joseph, Director & Secretary of BAKDIL**, at the BAKDIL Head Office, Chandmari, on **3rd August 2026**.

The celebration commenced with a prayer led by **Sr. Riya**, thanking God for the gift of Fr. Benoy's life and dedicated service to the organization. This was followed by a welcome song by the office staff. **Mr. Francis A. Sangma, Chief Programme Manager**, warmly welcomed everyone and highlighted the significance of the occasion.

As a mark of love and appreciation, the office staff felicitated Fr. Benoy with a traditional **Garo Chingbera**. The Centre Manager of BTC Walbakgre also shared the centre's achievements and expressed sincere gratitude for Fr. Benoy's inspiring leadership, guidance, and constant support.

The celebration continued with the cake-cutting ceremony and the singing of the birthday song. In his message, **Rev. Fr. Benoy Joseph** thanked Almighty God for the gift of life and expressed his heartfelt appreciation to the BAKDIL staff and everyone who has been part of his journey. He encouraged everyone to value time management and maintain a healthy balance between dedicated work and enjoying life, inspiring the staff through his own example.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by **Mr. Rakseng Marak, Deputy Director of BAKDIL**. The celebration ended in a spirit of joy, fellowship, and gratitude as the BAKDIL family offered their heartfelt prayers and best wishes for Fr. Benoy's good health, happiness, and many more years of fruitful service.

Meghalaya Early Child Development Mission (MECDM)

The Facilitator of Baghmara conducted an awareness programme for parents on **8th August 2026** at United Baptist Higher Secondary School, Baghmara, with the gracious presence and support of Ma'am Gamrangchi.
The programme aimed to create awareness and encourage active parental participation. The parents participated enthusiastically and responded positively during the discussions. A practical demonstration was also conducted to provide hands-on understanding of the topics discussed.
More than **50 participants** attended the programme, and their active participation contributed greatly to its success.

A monthly review meeting cum training on the **1,000 Days Mission** was conducted for facilitators by **Programme Managers of Shillong and Garo Hills** at the **BAKDIL Office on 18th August 2026**. The session was led by **Ma'am Naina Warjri**, with the support of **Ma'am Gamrangchi Arengh**. The Program Manager explained the mission and its objectives in detail. After the formal session, Ma'am Neyna interacted with the facilitators, addressing their questions and clarifying key points. The training helped strengthen their understanding and preparedness for community mobilization and delivering the training. The Program was ended with a vote of thanks by Fr. Benoy Joseph, Director and Secretary of BAKDIL.

On 28th August 2026, the Bakdil team conducted an Awareness Program on the First 1000 Days, Brain Wiring, Teenage pregnancy and Early Marriage at Christ King Hr. Sec. School at Kharkutta Parish with a total participant of 246 students.

Manos Unidas (LPF)

The **Manos Unidas Project** recently implemented by BAKDIL is running smoothly. Beneficiaries from all 10 parishes are actively planting saplings of Vietnam jackfruit and Rambutan. These fruit trees will provide long-term economic benefits and contribute to improving the livelihoods and financial well-being of beneficiary families in the future.

Distribution of Fencing rolls and compost:

To ensure the proper growth and protection of the plants, three rolls of fencing and one packet of compost were distributed to each beneficiary. The compost will help improve soil fertility and provide essential nutrients for healthy plant growth. The fencing will protect the young saplings from grazing animals and other possible damage. Through the provision of compost and fencing materials, the beneficiaries are better equipped to maintain their plantations and ensure the survival and healthy growth of the saplings. This support will encourage beneficiaries to take proper care of the plants and strengthen their commitment to the initiative.

Micro Enterprise Promotion Programme (MEPP)

On 6th August 2026, SHG groups were mobilized and provided with awareness on various government financial schemes, including the PMEGP scheme, KCC, and MUDRA loans. The awareness programme focused on explaining the benefits, eligibility criteria, and application procedures of these schemes. The members were encouraged to make use of the available financial support to start new businesses, expand their existing enterprises, and strengthen their income-generating activities. Such awareness will help SHG members access suitable credit facilities and promote sustainable business activities for improved household livelihoods.

80th INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION'26

On 15th August 2026, the BAKDIL Office extends its warmest wishes to all citizens of India on the joyful occasion of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the 80th Independence Day of our beloved nation.

To mark this auspicious day, BAKDIL Training Centre, Walbakgre, celebrated with pride and patriotism by hoisting the National Flag. Trainees and community members of BTC came together to express their joy and gratitude, celebrating the spirit of freedom, unity, and peace.

May the blessings of the Feast of the Assumption and the spirit of Independence Day fill our hearts with faith, hope, peace, and patriotism.

Meghalaya State Rural Livelihood Society (MSRLS)

On **15th August 2026**, as India celebrated its **80th Independence Day**, Self-Help Group (SHG) members from **Remikkang Cluster Level Federation, Sengwat Cluster Level Federation, and Nisoa Cluster Federation**, under the **MSRLS Project**, participated in the Independence Day celebration at **Dadenggre**.

As part of the celebration, the SHG members set up stalls showcasing a diverse range of locally produced and traditional items, including **traditional dresses, handmade articles, fruits, vegetables, and other products**. The exhibition provided an opportunity for the members to showcase their skills, hard work, and entrepreneurial spirit.

The visiting VIPs toured the stalls and expressed their appreciation for the remarkable progress and achievements of the SHGs. Their encouragement highlighted the growing contribution of SHG members towards livelihood promotion, self-reliance, and community development.

As a gesture of love and respect, the Federation members also presented gifts to the VIPs in recognition of their dedicated service to the people and the nation.

The celebration was a proud and meaningful occasion, reflecting the spirit of Independence, unity, women's empowerment, and community-led development.

A three-day **VO and SHG Detailed Bookkeeping Training** was organised at **Selsella Block & Dadenggre Block, West Garo Hills** under the **NRLM Project**. The training focused on proper maintenance of books and registers, financial transactions, savings and loan records, cashbook, ledger, and documentation.The programme strengthened participants' practical bookkeeping skills and promoted transparency, accountability, and effective financial management among SHGs and VOs.

Intensified Malaria Elimination Programme (IMEP)

Health Awareness Camps Held in Rongara Block

As part of the ongoing health awareness and malaria prevention activities, the Rongara IMEP Team (BAKDIL) organized a Health Awareness Camp on **17th August 2026** at **Taidang Kama Village**, **under the Rongara PHC**. The programme was attended by the Doctor, ANM, AF and SW from Rongara PHC, along with the RBSK team.
The health camp aimed to provide free health check-ups, early detection of diseases, and basic treatment to the villagers. An Information, Education and Communication (IEC) session on malaria was also conducted, covering its causes, signs and symptoms, and preventive measures. Villagers were particularly encouraged to use Long-Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) regularly and to cooperate with Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) in their households, both of which are provided free of cost under government health programmes. During the camp, 26 Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs) were conducted, along with 45 blood slides, which were collected/performed by the Field Supervisors (FS) for malaria screening.

On **18th August 2026**, the Rongara IMEP Team (BAKDIL) organized another Health Awareness Camp at **Halwa Atong Village, under the Rongru A.Sim Sub-Centre**. The programme was attended by the ANM and MLHP. An IEC session on malaria was delivered by the IMEP team along with Mr. Jenistone Marak from Rongara PHC, highlighting malaria prevention, early detection, and the importance of seeking timely treatment.
The participants also received free health check-ups and medicines as part of the programme. These community-based initiatives helped strengthen awareness about malaria prevention and encouraged villagers to make use of available government health services.

Bilkona Primary School

Health Camps Conducted in Chokpot Block

As part of the ongoing IMEP-III health awareness and community outreach activities, the **Chokpot IMEP Team (BAKDIL)** successfully organized a Health Camp on **25 August 2026** at **Bilkona Primary School**, in coordination with **Sibari PHC** and **Ramchenga Sub-Centre**. The programme was attended by the Medical Officers (MOs) and their team from Sibari PHC, ANM from Ramchenga SC, MTS, SI, MHIS team, and other health personnel. More than 100 community members participated in the health camp and benefited from the services provided.

The following day, on **26 August 2026**, the Chokpot IMEP Team (BAKDIL) conducted another **Health Camp at Gasuapara Bazar** in collaboration with the **Sibari PHC Medical Team**. The programme received an enthusiastic response, with more than 100 people from Gasuapara and nearby villages participating.
The camp was attended by a dedicated team from Sibari PHC, comprising three Medical Officers, a pharmacist, MTS, ANMs and ASHAs. The programme included IEC sessions on important health issues, including malaria, mental health, dental care, and common seasonal diseases. The sessions focused on promoting awareness, prevention, early identification of health problems, and timely treatment.
The medical team provided free health check-ups and medicines to the participants. Community members actively interacted with the doctors and health workers, discussing their health concerns and seeking clarification on various health-related issues.
The successful organization of these camps strengthened community awareness and encouraged people to seek timely healthcare services while promoting healthier practices at the community level.

Gasuapara Bazaar

SKILLS MEGHALAYA (MSSDS)

On **7th August 2026**, an orientation programme was conducted at **BAKDIL Training Centre, Zikzak**, for trainees enrolled in the **Fashion Designer** and **Food Processing** training programmes. During the orientation programme, the trainees were introduced to the details and objectives of both training courses by the respective Master Trainers. The sessions covered important aspects of the training, including the **training schedule and timings, course benefits, tools and equipment to be used, practical sessions, and other relevant information** to help the trainees understand the overall structure of the programmes.

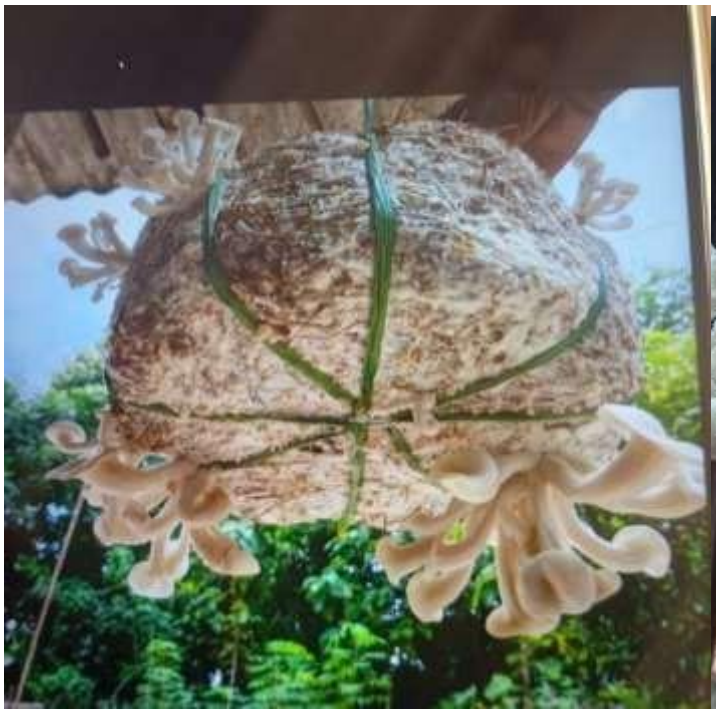
The **Fashion Designer training programme is scheduled to commence on 10th August 2026**, while the **Food Processing training programme on 13th August 2026**.

The orientation programme provided the trainees with a clear understanding of what to expect from the upcoming training and helped prepare them for active participation in their respective courses.

The Driving-cum-Mechanics Training Programme was formally inaugurated on 22nd August 2026 at BAKDIL Training Centre, Tura. The programme is funded by the Meghalaya Skills Development Society (MSSDS) and implemented by BAKDIL, with a total of 90 trainees to be trained in three batches. The inaugural programme was graced by Shri Valentine Hembrom, DPM, West Garo Hills, MBMA, as the Chief Guest, in the presence of Rev. Fr. Benoy Joseph, Director & Secretary of BAKDIL, and the BAKDIL staff. His presence and words of encouragement provided valuable motivation to the trainees as they begin their journey towards acquiring practical skills and improving their employment and livelihood opportunities. The training aims to equip young participants with practical knowledge and skills in driving and basic automobile mechanics, preparing them for employment and self-employment opportunities. Wishing all the trainees a successful and enriching training journey.

Both Theory and Practical classes of Electricians Training are conducting for the trainees at Spark Hills, Songsak, East Garo hills.

Micro Enterprise Development Programme (MEDP)



Under the Micro Enterprises Development Programme (MEDP), training on Scientific Mushroom Cultivation and Vermicomposting was conducted for the beneficiaries to enhance their knowledge and skills in sustainable livelihood activities.

After successful completion of the training, mushroom spawns were distributed among the beneficiaries to support them in starting their own mushroom cultivation. The beneficiaries have actively applied the knowledge gained during the training and have started cultivating mushrooms at their respective locations. At present, the mushroom crops are growing well.

Centre for Financial Literacy (CFL)-RBI

A **Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Campaign and Financial Awareness Programme** was held on **28th August 2026** at **Chachatgre, Samanda Block, East Garo Hills**.

The programme was facilitated by the Branch Manager of MCAB and SBI, Williamnagar, along with the CFL staff, who interacted with the participants and provided valuable information on various financial and social security initiatives.

The key topics discussed included Kisan Credit Cards (KCC), Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Education Loans, Cyber Crimes and Cyber Safety, Social Security Schemes, and Crop Insurance, among other financial services and awareness-related issues.

Around 50 participants attended the programme, including the local Headman, school teachers, and SHG members. The interactive session provided participants with an opportunity to understand various banking facilities, government schemes, and the importance of financial awareness and responsible financial practices.

BAKDIL

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Established in 1987, BAKDIL is a registered non-governmental organization headquartered in Tura, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya. Dedicated to the sustainable development of indigenous communities, BAKDIL works across 24 blocks, reaching nearly 20,000 farmers and their families. Our initiatives span health, education, agriculture, women empowerment, disaster response, micro-finance, entrepreneurship, and skill development. With a committed team on the ground and in the office, we deliver holistic, community-driven support to the most marginalized populations.

MOTTO:

"Ensuring Life, Livelihood & Liberation"

Ongoing BAKDIL Projects

- Integrated Tribal Development Program (ITDP - IV & V)
- Micro Entrepreneurship Development Program **(MEDP)**
- Springshed based Watershed Development Program
- Micro Enterprises Promotion Program (MEPP)
- National Urban Livelihood Mission **(NULM)**
- National Rural Livelihoods Mission **(NRLM)**
- Management of 5 Government AAM Primary health Centers **(PHC)**
- Social Welfare Department, South West Garo Hills (Short term Trainings)
- Livelihood Programme for Farmers **(Manos Unidas**
- Intensified Malaria Elimination Project (IMEP-III)
- Meghalaya Early Childhood Development Mission **(MECDM)**
- **Dairy Farm** at Mebon Rongse
- Financial Literacy **(FLC)**
- Meghalaya State Skill Development Society
- **(MSSDS)**
- **FARM-IV**

Training Centres of BAKDIL

- BAKDIL Training Center, Walbakgre
- BAKDIL Training Center, Baghmara
- BAKDIL Training Center, Dadenggre
- Spark Hills, Songsak
- BAKDIL Training Center, Zikzak.

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