

MALSAWM

A Newsletter of Centre for Community Initiative



TMI Resumes Academic Session

After a refreshing winter break, **The Malsawm Initiative (A School for Children with Special Needs)** resumed its academic session on January 13, 2025.

The classrooms are once again buzzing with energy as students eagerly return, ready to embark on a new year of learning and growth.

With smiles and enthusiasm, they look forward to exploring new opportunities, mastering new skills, and building friendships. We wish the students and staff a productive, joyful, and successful academic year ahead!

Heartfelt Thanks to Siamsinpawlpi JHQ Delhi



We extend our heartfelt thanks to **Siamsinpawlpi JHQ Delhi** for visiting The Malsawm Initiative and engaging in a meaningful interaction session with our students.

Your visit was truly inspiring and enriched both our students and the visiting team. We look forward to more opportunities for mutual learning and collaboration. **Thank you for your support and encouragement!**

Meet our student



Khumlalven @ Venven, is a remarkable young man who joined The Malsawm Initiative in 2011. Born with Cerebral Palsy, he has consistently shown resilience despite his mobility and motor skill challenges. Venven actively participates in group activities, often playing leadership role among his peers and the younger students.

One of TMI's brightest students, Venven has consistently excelled academically, achieving top grades throughout his studies. He successfully completed Level 'C' (equivalent to Class VIII) through Open Basic Education (OBE) and is currently pursuing Class X under NIOS.

Beyond academics, Venven is a gifted singer. His talent has earned him invitations to several events, including the **State Level Kut Celebration 2022**. Venven's dedication, talents, and achievements continue to inspire everyone at TMI.

CCI TDF NABARD Team Conducts First Field Visit of 2025

CCI TDF NABARD team conducted two field visits to the **BAISF project** in **Behiang Cluster, Singngat Sub-Division**. The first visit, from Jan 15–17, focused on touring farm sites, engaging with farmers, and holding meetings to assess progress and address their concerns. During the second visit, on Jan 26–27, the team, including Managers, worked on forming the **Village Project Committee (VPC)** and strengthening connections with the farming community. These visits reflect CCI's commitment to promoting **sustainable farming practices and empowering farmers** in border areas through collaboration and support.



Parent Support Group Election, Fundraising Planning

The **Parent Support Group (PSG)** at The Malsawm Initiative recently held its election to strengthen collaboration and leadership among members. The elected leaders are:

- **President: Buongnu Pa** (*Lalnghaklien*)
- **Vice President: Tyson Pa** (*Seilenmang Singson*)
- **Secretary: Caleb Pa** (*Zonunmawia*)
- **Assistant Secretary: Siemsiem Pa** (*Laljem*)
- **Finance Officer: Liansiam Nu** (*Ngaisuanching*)
- **Treasurer: Thianhoih Nu** (*Remmawi*)

At TMI, parents address each other by their child's name followed by "Pa" or "Nu," meaning Father or Mother, creating a unique bond and sense of community.

This dedicated platform empowers parents of TMI students to actively participate in fostering a more inclusive and supportive school environment.

As their first initiative, the newly elected PSG organized a **Charity Dinner in aid of The Malsawm Initiative** on January 25, 2025, at YPA GHQ Hall, Hiangtam Lamka. The event supported the school's mission of providing quality education and care to children with special needs.

We are excited to see the positive changes and contributions our new parent leaders will bring to TMI!

TMI Staff Revise Functional Assessment Form

The dedicated staff at The Malsawm Initiative recently undertook a revision of the Functional Assessment Form. This essential tool plays a vital role in understanding the individual needs, strengths, and progress of each student. The updated form is designed to ensure a more comprehensive and personalized approach to education and care, aligning with TMI's commitment to empowering children with special needs.

Through this enhancement, TMI continues to prioritize tailored support and effective strategies to foster growth and inclusion for every child.



Evolution and Development of CCI

Centre for Community Initiative (CCI) has come a long way, evolving from informal gatherings of concerned parents to a recognized leader in community services. This grassroots effort grew into a formal organization, expanding its reach and ensuring compliance with regulations. Today, CCI is a premier organization in the region, dedicated to community development and inclusion.

As CCI continues to grow, CCI has prioritized comprehensive organizational development, focusing on leadership and capacity building for its staff. The Founder Director's participation in Wipro Foundation's Organization Design & Development Fellowship has been a significant milestone in this journey.

To enhance its impact, CCI is developing a customized Management Information System (MIS) and Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) mechanisms. These tools aim to streamline operations and ensure that programs effectively meet the community's needs.

CCI's evolution is a testament to the power of grassroots movements to create lasting change. Through its focus on innovation, organizational development, and responsive program design, CCI continues to make a significant impact in the region.



Advancing Inclusive Education in Mainstream Schools

As part of the Inclusive School Programme under the **Making Education Accessible for All (MEAL)** project, supported by the Wipro Foundation, the MEAL team recently took a significant step forward. Following permission from the CEO, ADC/CCpur, the MEAL Coordinator and ISP/MEAL Coordinator met with Mr. H. Paokhothang, Inspector of Schools, ADC/CCpur, to discuss the program's implementation in mainstream primary co-ed schools.

During the meeting, the Inspector of Schools selected two Upper Primary Schools under the Churachandpur Block to pilot the initiative and promptly issued an order for their inclusion. This marks a vital milestone in creating a more inclusive education system and ensuring that every child has access to quality education.

The Hello Project – Shaping Sound Into Speech

In collaboration with CCI, **.Monks** is in the process of developing an AI powered text-to-speech application to provide non-verbal speech-impaired children and people their own voice. The project will use voice recognition technology to simply record their sound, and its tone and texture into a microphone. AI will analyse the sound and convert it into vocalization in the user's voice with fully articulated speech at the input of text. It will be a one-time capture to convert their sound into vocals and use it to communicate with their families & friends.

