



ENHANCING UNDERSTANDING OF RI & CCSE IN MAWLYNDUN VILLAGE



Mr. Daisinlung Sebastian Kamsuan, Project Coordinator, NE SBC Alliance, addressing the audience about Routine Immunization and Climate Change.

Mawlyndun, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya, India – In a significant step towards community engagement, a cultural programme was held on 14th June 2024 at 7:00 pm in the picturesque village of Mawlyndun, Pynursla Block. Organized in collaboration with St. Edmund's College, Social Work Department, and the NE SBC Alliance, this event was part of the Rural Practicum for Master of Social Work students. The programme aimed to raise awareness on vital issues such as Routine Immunization (RI) and Climate Change and Sustainable Environment (CCSE) through engaging performances and informative talks.

Mr. Daisinlung Sebastian Kamsuan, Project Coordinator for the NE SBC Alliance, served as the resource person for the evening. Addressing a diverse audience of approximately 250 individuals, including grandparents, parents, youth, and children, Mr. Kamsuan underscored the importance of RI and CCSE.

Objective and Rationale

The primary objective of the programme was to sensitize the village community on the importance of routine immunizations and environmental stewardship. Many villagers, particularly in rural areas, remain unaware of the critical role that immunizations play in preventing diseases and the necessity of preserving their natural surroundings. The programme sought to bridge this knowledge gap and encourage the community to participate actively in health and environmental conservation efforts.

Key Learnings and Outcomes

Integrating RI and CCSE discussions into the cultural celebration proved to be an effective strategy.



Incorporating RI and CCSE key messages during Community Cultural Night, Mawlyndun

The audience, gathered to enjoy performances and participate in community dances and songs, was in a receptive and attentive mood, making it an opportune moment for the awareness talk.

1. **Understanding Routine Immunization (RI):** Attendees were educated on the importance of RI in preventing childhood diseases such as measles, polio, and diphtheria. They were informed about the local health centres where these immunizations are available and encouraged to ensure their children are fully vaccinated.
2. **Environmental Stewardship:** The villagers gained insights into the significance of preserving their natural environment. Emphasis was placed on promoting greenery, protecting local flora and fauna, and adopting sustainable practices to combat climate change. The community was encouraged to become good stewards of nature, recognising the vital role they play in maintaining ecological balance.

Occasion

The cultural night, hosted by the Master of Social Work students of St. Edmund's College, provided an ideal platform for this community outreach initiative. The blend of cultural celebration with educational discourse ensured high engagement and impactful communication.

Conclusion

The community awareness talk on Routine Immunization and Climate Change and Sustainable Environment successfully imparted essential knowledge to the residents of Mawlyndun. By leveraging cultural events to disseminate important health and environmental information, the programme demonstrated an innovative approach to community education. This initiative not only enlightened the villagers but also fostered a sense of collective responsibility towards health and environmental sustainability.

The NE SBC Alliance, in partnership with St. Edmund's College, continues to strive for holistic community development through such impactful collaborations.