

# NEWSLETTER

**Updates of the Week**

8th August 2024



**THE MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT (MEGHA-LAMP)**



**THE MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (MEGLIFE)**



**PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA**



**SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA**



**INSTITUTE OF NATURAL RESOURCES (INR)**



**FARMERS' COLLECTIVIZATION FOR UPSCALING OF PRODUCTION AND MARKETING SYSTEMS (FOCUS)**



**THE MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY (MBMA)**



**THE MEGHALAYA BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MBDA)**

# MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT



RF \* INRM \* ISC-ED

*Megha***LAMP**  
Meghalaya Livelihoods Access to Market Project  
In Partnership With IFAD

## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

### Highlights of Inspections and Meetings.



On August 7, 2024, Shri Shivansh Awasthi, IAS, Deputy Commissioner of East Jaintia Hills, Khliehriat, along with Shri Shiv Malviya, IAS, Assistant Commissioner of EJH, and MLAMP staff, conducted a field visit to four IVCS (Sohkymphor, Byrwai, Jalyiah, and Iengskhem). During the visit, they interacted with IVCS members about management practices, business activities such as CMC, Processing Units, Cold Storage, and Farmers Markets, and discussed the issues and challenges faced by these organizations.



The Annual General Meeting was held on August 6, 2024, at Nongduh IVCS, with the IVCS Incharge, IVCS Manager, Chairman, Secretary, IVCS members, and the Headmen of the Village present. The agenda included: highlighting the key points from the previous AGM of 2023, reading the Audit Report for 2023-24, reviewing activities under Nongduh IVCS, electing MC members from the neighboring village of Mawriang, discussing the business plan of the IVCS, and addressing issues related to computerization, dry rations, and overdue loans, as well as outlining future plans.



A Special General Meeting (SGM) was conducted on August 6, 2024, at Myllat in the Pynursla block, with Smt. L. Rapthap, S.C.O., and Shri D. Warjri, J.C.O., from the ARCS office, East Khasi Hills, Shillong, in attendance. The agenda focused on appointing a new Chairman and Secretary for the Btinlangti IVCS Ltd. Additionally, the 2nd batch of the Financial Literacy Program (FLP) was held on the same day, aiming to enroll more members, depositors, and lenders in the IVCS.

## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Inspections and Meetings.



A workshop for the Field Demo Plot was conducted on the August 6, 2024 at SCSTE Hall, opposite MBDA Office, Shillong. The event was attended by RPM, KJR, INRM nodal persons, field engineers, and technical assistants. We interacted with the IVCS in-charges from each district to discuss the provision of water storage tanks and drip irrigation systems for each demo plot. The team from ISC&ED and Procurement, as well as the SPMU team, were also present.



An inquiry conducted at Pydengkhah IVCS with ARCS & DPMU team EKH on August 6, 2024.



An Annual General Meeting (AGM) was conducted on August 3, 2025, by the Mookyniang IVCS, with Shri S. Lyngdoh, JCO, and Smt. M. Syngkon, DPM, in attendance. The agenda covered the following items: reporting on the Financial Report for 2023-24, adoption of the Deposit and Credit Policy, presentation of the Business Plan for 2024-25, and the election of the Vice-Chairman and Treasurer.

## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights from Recent Field Visits and Training Programs



Nangrime IVCS Ltd. and Rajasimla IVCS Ltd. from NGH, in collaboration with CSE Foundation and the Sericulture Department, have sent six of their members for a weeklong Training on Tailoring & Dress Making. The training began on 29th July and will conclude on August 3, 2024. Conducted in batches, this is the first batch, with plans to train additional participants in subsequent sessions. Trainees who successfully complete the program will be eligible to establish an enterprise and receive a grant for sewing machines.



As part of the Cross Learning Programme, a team from DPMU-NGH, along with members of IVCS under Megha-LAMP from North Garo Hills, went on an exposure visit to West Garo Hills District on August 2, 2024. They visited MEGHFARM and Rengsinpara IVCS Ltd. under the Tikrikilla C&RD Block. At MEGHFARM, the team explored the Food Processing Unit and Prime Hub, while at Rengsinpara, they visited the Farmer's Market site and the Bakery Units.



On the August 2, 2024, a field visit to the Megagre Ginger Processing Unit in Samanda Block, funded by FOCUS, MOVCD, and MLAMP, was conducted today with the Deputy Commissioner and officers from the Horticulture Department. The FPO Chiganchinggre, which has 500 members and is managed by a board of directors with Mr. Sengbath Sangma as CEO, is overseeing the construction of the unit. The vendors have delivered the slicer, solar dryer, washing tray, and washing vet machine. The office and godown have been constructed under MOVCD. The Horticulture Department has completed the ginger plantation, featuring varieties such as Karbi, Mahima, Nagaland Nadia, Nadia Orissa, Varada, and local varieties, planted across Dikagre, Dilma Kawak, Chiading, Ampanggre, Kawakgre, Watregre, Suchitra, and Tongbolgre. The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the activities undertaken by the FPOs and participated in an interactive session with the community, addressing issues related to electricity, water, and road connectivity in the adjoining villages of Megagre.

## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights from CM Elevate, CM Connect, PWD Works, and Departmental Review



The District Administration, in collaboration with MBMA, DCIC, and the Horticulture Department, held the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony at Mellim, Reraara Block, SWGH. The ceremony was presided over by Shri Conrad Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya. In his speech, the Chief Minister highlighted the many opportunities this Centre will provide to the local community. The facility will serve as a Multi-Facility Centre, Honey Processing Unit, and Training Centre, offering various value chain opportunities and value-added products to support local livelihoods.

The Mellim Area Bee Keepers' Society will operate this Multi-Facility Centre, with the Horticulture Department, DCIC, and MBMA working collaboratively to provide the essential support needed for the success of the programme.



The DPMU, NGH attended a meeting with the District Administration and various government departments to discuss several key issues. The agenda included reviewing the progress of loan disbursements under CM Elevate, addressing grievances raised through CM Connect to ensure they have been resolved by the departments, assessing the status of PWD works, and conducting a department-wise review.

## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights from Training Programmes, Meetings and Installation of a Distillation Unit



A one-day orientation cum training session for SPs (Credit Linkages) was held for the SPs of 17 IVCS at the Mini Secretariat, Resubelpara, NGH. Shri Rakban Sangma, BM of the MCAB Mendipathar Branch, and Mr. Jebil M. Sangma, Manager, RF, SGH, served as the resource persons for the day.



The DPMU-NGH held a meeting with the Managing Committee of Gairong IVCS Ltd., Kharkutta C&RD Block, NGH to discuss loan overdue issues and loan repayment.



Distillation Unit installed at Bolmedang, Kharkutta Block, NGH under Aroma Mission.

### A video of Nongduh Food Processing Unit is out on YouTube channel.

Scan the QR code below or click on the link to watch the full video

<https://bit.ly/3AhnYBL>

OR





# MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood  
Improvement through Forest  
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)





## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

### Field Enquiries and IVCS Formation



On July 25, 2024, an officer from the Cooperative Society of West Jaintia Hills District, along with the Block Project Manager of Thadlaskein Block, conducted a field enquiry in Mynkrem village. That same day, a re-sensitization program for forming IVCS was held at the Kosichora cluster with the Resubelpara BPMU team. Additionally, on August 1, 2024, a meeting was held in the Chachat Abri IVCS Cluster, which included Arengdo and Rangsa villages, to discuss the formation of IVCS. Furthermore, on July 26, 2024, an IVCS enquiry, accompanied by the SCO from the cooperative department, was conducted in Thangrain, Laskein block.

### Water Tank and Community Halls in Laitmynsang and Sasatgre Villages



Installing a water tank and constructing a community hall in Laitmynsang Village, and also building a community hall in Sasatgre Village.

### First weeding activity



The initial weeding started in Sasatgre, Marakapara, Anogre, and Renchagre, all located within the Rongram block of West Garo Hills.

## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENCHANCEMENT PROJECT

### "IFS and Forest Officials Assess Laitmysang Plantation"



On August 6th, 2024, IFS Officers and Forest Department officials from Chhattisgarh visited the plantation site at Laitmysang Village, Mawkynrew Block. They reviewed the physical records maintained by the Village Plantations Implementation Committee (VPIC) and were briefed on how these records are digitized using the Appverse platform.

### Forest Management Plan Training for MegLIFE Staff



A training program on Forest Management Plans (FMPs) for Village Community Forests (VCFs) from the Garo Hills Region under the MegLIFE project took place at Anogre Village, led by the Centre of Excellence, MBMA, on August 6, 2024. The training aimed to enhance the capacity of staff and VCFs to implement technology and develop 500 FMPs in MegLIFE villages, promoting scientific and sustainable forest management practices for the project villages and the state overall.



# Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Areas in Meghalaya (MegARISE)



---

 PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA
 

---

**Highlights of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Exercise Umiew Catchment**


On July 25 & 26, 2024, a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and Transect walk was conducted in Pombot Village, Myllem Block, East Khasi Hills District. The event had 35 attendees, comprising of community members, community leaders, Self-Help Group representatives, Catchment Management Unit (CMU) staff and State Project Management Unit (SPMU) staff. The PRA's objective was to identify and prioritize community needs for future planning and development initiatives introducing and explaining the PRA's purpose and methodology and encouraging active community participation.

**Highlights of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Exercise Umiew Catchment**


On 1st & 2nd August 2024, PRA exercise was conducted at Demthring Village falling under Myllem Block. During this exercise the team also used various tools such as Social Map, Resource Map, Seasonal Calendar, Trend Change Map, Land ownership, SWOT analysis. The program saw active participation of the village members of different age groups. And on the second day i.e. 2nd of Aug 2024 using the PRA Tools for capturing the data such as Venn Diagrams, Historical Timeline, Ownership map. The team also completed Transect Walk to understand on the overall resources available, challenges faced and aspirations of the communities. It was also been found that some of the prioritized activities by the communities are 1. Water Harvesting Structure 2. Afforestation 3. Protection Wall 4. Water Storage and 5. Irrigation canal

---

---

 PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA
 

---

**Highlights of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Exercise Ganol Catchment**


On 30th July 2024, the Ganol Catchment started its first PRA exercise at Mandal Nokat, Samanda block, East Garo Hills. A total no. of 52 participants attended including community members, SHG, School Teachers, Nokma, VEC members on the first day . The team also facilitated PRA with sketching of various maps such as social map, resource map, trend change, seasonal calendar, ownership map, daily activity clock etc . Whereas on 31st July 2024 , the Ganol Catchment team along with SPMU team continued with PRA exercises and completed transect walk to about 2 km towards the Nokrek foothill of Mandal Nokat Village. During the transect walk , the team check on the valuable insights into the local geography, resources, and potential for various livelihood activities such as agroforestry, SALT , Apiculture and so on . Also explored the village and its surroundings to understand the community's current practices, challenges, and opportunities.

---

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Highlights of Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) First Contest Umiew Catchment



On 27th July 2024, Umiew Catchment Management Unit along with the SPMU team organized Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) for the youths and community of Pombot Village under Myllem Block. The “One Earth” drawing competition and the “On Nature” storytelling contest engaged children, youths and the community of the village. The drawing competition, it was wonderful to see that the participants of different age groups participated, allowing them to express their creativity on the theme “One Earth”. Whereas storytelling contest on “On Nature” was a brilliant idea, as it helps the youths to show their narrative skills while also fostering a deeper connection to the natural world. The gift hampers and the cash prizes for the winners were given which indeed, is the first field level experiences conducted FPA. The date of the second FPA contest was also informed to the community, scheduled on the 10th August 2024 at Pombot Village Community Hall. Kong Thriedsilian L. Nongbet, the oldest resident of the village at 85 years old and belonging to the fourth generation, actively participated in the story telling competition. Her involvement is both motivating and inspiring. This highlights the rich history and strong community spirit of Pombot Village, emphasizing the active involvement of even its oldest residents.

## PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

## Highlights of Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) First Contest Ganol Catchment



On August 1, 2024, the inaugural FPA Contest was held in the Ganol Catchment area of Mandol Nokat village, Samanda Block, East Garo Hills. The event began with a drawing competition for children and teenagers under 17 years old. This was followed by a storytelling contest featuring seven participants, including the village's eldest resident, 103-year-old Shri Chan G Momin. The wide-ranging participation across age groups and the community's enthusiasm for sustainable development demonstrated a strong sense of unity. This cohesion suggests that the village has the potential to become a high-performing community under the project.

---

 PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA
 

---

**Highlights of Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) Second Contest Umiew Catchment**


On the 3rd Aug 2024 another Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) first contest held at Demthring Village, under Myllem Block, EKH. The activities of FPA contest were Drawing Competition for Group 1: Participants under 13 years old and Group 2: Participants aged 13 to 16 years. And for the Storytelling Competition, the Community members shared stories, including the establishment of the village and the migration of cranes to their Village . Few of the youngest participants were Deimebanjop, Adriel, Seone, and Delvyn (5 years old) demonstrated the enthusiasm and sincerity to engage in the program.



# SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA (SLM)



## SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA

Review and Strategic Planning for the Sustainable Land Management, Meghalaya



A meeting was held at the Office of the Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project (SLM) with Smt. Sangeeta Agarwal of the KfW Development Bank to review the status of the project, deliberate on bottlenecks impeding progress, and develop action plans for moving forward. The meeting was chaired by Smt. Isawanda Laloo (IAS), Project Director, SLM. Also present were Shri. Gunanka D.B. (IFS), Member-Secretary, Bio-Resources Development Centre (BRDC); Shri. Augustus Suting, Addl. Project Director (APD), SLM; Shri. Jun Momin, Deputy Project Director (DPD), SLM; Shri. Debashish Rudra, Chief Financial Officer, Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA); nodal officers from the Directorate of Horticulture (DoH), the Meghalaya State Rural Livelihoods Society (MSRLS), and BRDC; and the PMU and IMC teams.

---

## SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA

---

### Workshop Highlights Progress and Plans for Sustainable Infrastructure and Irrigation



A Workshop on Infrastructure & Irrigation Facilities under the Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project (SLM) was held at the State Convention Centre, Shillong for the district teams of the Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA). Discussions centered on the project's status and action plans for the next few months to ensure proper implementation. Present were Shri. Augustus Suting, Additional Project Director, SLM, Shri. Joshi Tuisim, Project Coordinator, SLM, the IMC, and the State Project Management Unit and District Project Management Unit teams.

---



# Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)



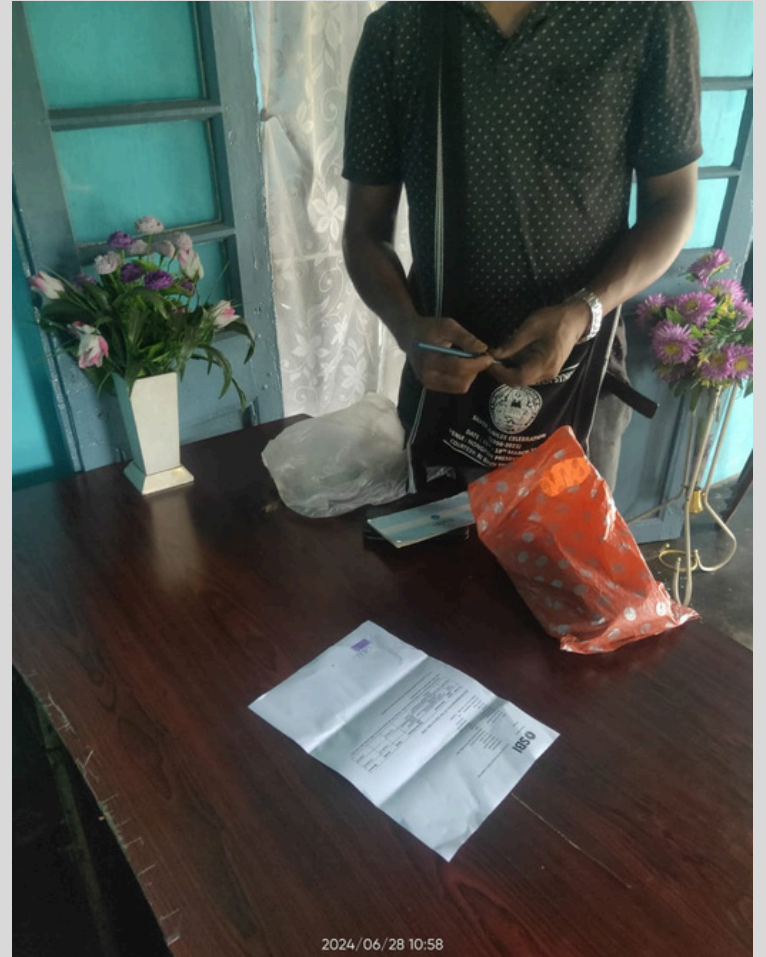
PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

"Site Inspection Visits and Meetings by GFA"



2nd year PES activities carried out by Dubagre community

SNIPPETS



Green Field Associates (GFAs) are presently in the process of collecting application forms and utilization certificates, demonstrating their active involvement in gathering comprehensive information from applicants.

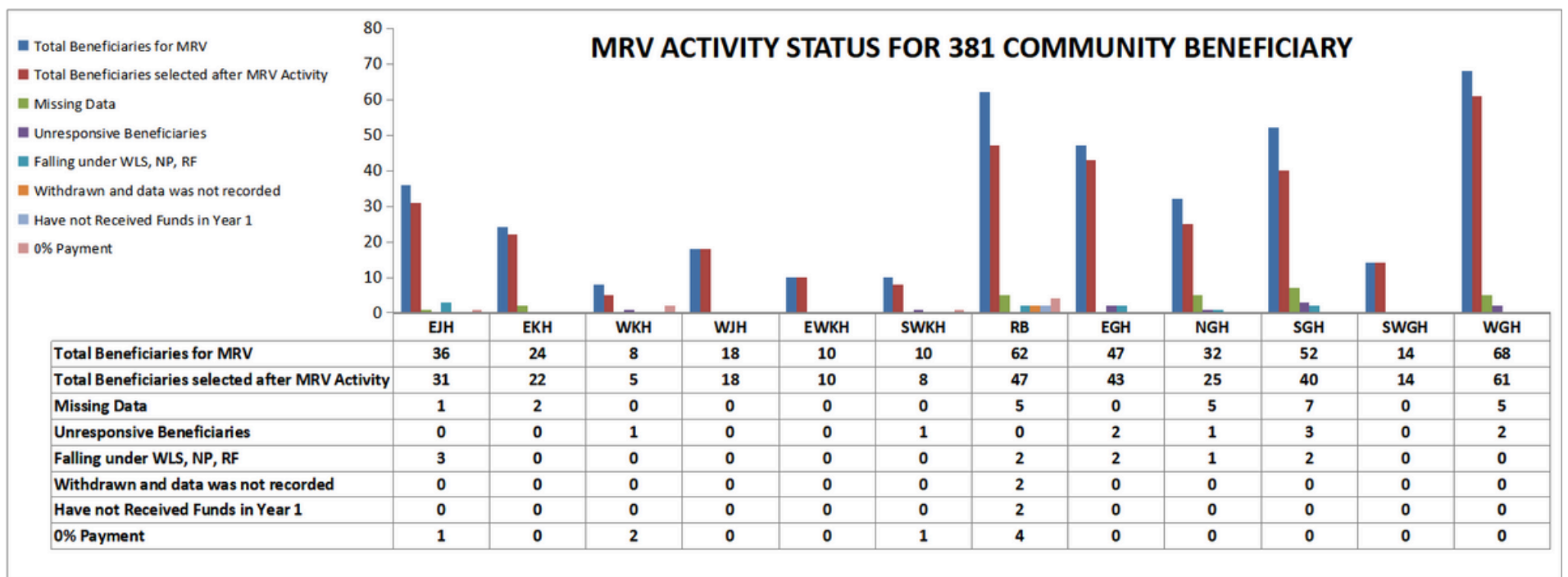


Meetings are underway with beneficiaries of the payment for ecosystem services scheme. The sessions encompass guidance on effective fund utilization and timely submission of Utilization Certificates (UC).

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

MRV ACTIVITY FOR TOTAL 381 COMMUNITY BENEFICIARIES

District	Total Beneficiaries for MRV	Total Beneficiaries selected after MRV Activity	Missing Data	Unresponsive Beneficiaries	Falling under WLS, NP, RF	Withdrawn and data was not recorded	Have not Received Funds in Year 1	0% Payment
EJH	36	31	1	0	3	0	0	1
EKH	24	22	2	0	0	0	0	0
WKH	8	5	0	1	0	0	0	2
WJH	18	18	0	0	0	0	0	0
EWKH	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
SWKH	10	8	0	1	0	0	0	1
RB	62	47	5	0	2	2	2	4
EGH	47	43	0	2	2	0	0	0
NGH	32	25	5	1	1	0	0	0
SGH	52	40	7	3	2	0	0	0
SWG	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
WGH	68	61	5	2	0	0	0	0
STATE TOTAL	381	324	25	10	10	2	2	8



Knowledge Management  
knowledge.mbda@gmail.com

## FOLLOW US ON

