

**HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA**

PRESS NOTE

Dated Shillong, the 26th May, 2025.

The Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of Meghalaya, convened a review meeting with the Medical Expert Committee (MEC) today, the 26th of May, 2025 to assess the state's preparedness for COVID-19 in view of emerging national trends.

The meeting, chaired by Shri. Sampath Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary and Development Commissioner, Health & Family Welfare, was held in his office chamber and included senior health experts and representatives from key government and private institutions across the State. A presentation was made by the State surveillance officer, Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) highlighting the COVID-19 trends in Meghalaya from 2020 to May 2025, current vaccination status, and public health response systems in place.

It was mentioned that no confirmed COVID-19 cases have been reported in the state this year so far, but the need for heightened surveillance through increased testing and preparedness was accorded. All government and private health facilities have been directed to assess and strengthen their COVID-19 response readiness, including oxygen availability, critical care infrastructure, and protocols for monitoring and managing Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI), Influenza-like-Illness (ILI) and fever cases.

Instructions have also been issued to revisit inventories of essential drugs and ensure functionality of testing centres across districts. The Principal Secretary urged for a proactive and preventive approach, emphasising the importance of monitoring ILI/SARI/fever trends, especially in high-footfall areas like markets and public institutions.

Health institutions have also been asked to review and update their internal SoPs and revisit effective protocols from past COVID-19 waves. The department reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining vigilance, avoiding public panic, and working closely with medical experts and institutions to ensure community safety.