

MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL SECRETARIAT, SHILLONG
DATED, 5TH AUGUST, 2025

PRESS NOTE FOR MEGHALAYA- JULY, 2025

VISIT OF ISRO BY 3RD BATCH OF STUDENTS UNDER THE NORTH EAST STUDENTS' PROGRAMME FOR AWARENESS, REACH, AND KNOWLEDGE ON SPACE (NE-SPARKS) PROGRAMME

The **NE-SPARKS** Programme is an initiative launched by ISRO, NEC and State Governments of North Eastern region. This programme was conceptualized following the directives of the Honourable Union Home Minister and President of the NESAC Society, Shri Amit Shah, during the 12th meeting of the NESAC Society.



As part of this programme, total 800 students in 8 batches (100 students per batch) from eight states of NER visit ISRO Centres in Bengaluru. The visit of the third batch was successfully conducted on July 24-25, 2025.



On the first day of their visit, students explored the facilities at ISTRAC and IDSN. During these visits, they engaged with senior scientists, gaining valuable insights into the intricacies of deep space communications.



On the second day, the students visited URSC, where they received an overview of satellite integration and testing processes. The visits concluded with a trip to the Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium, where students watched a film on the Gaganyaan mission, offering them a glimpse into India's ambitious Human Space Programme.

COMPLETED PROJECTS DURING JULY, 2025

Setting up of Bio-Curcumin Extraction Unit at Lashkein Block, West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya

The project, titled "*Setting up of Bio-Curcumin Extraction Unit at Lashkein Block, West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya*", with an amount of ₹ 1.50 crore under Schemes of NEC has been completed on 08th July, 2025. The project will provide sustainable livelihood and income opportunities to Lakadong turmeric farmers of West Jaintia Hills by targeting to meet the demand for value added product of Lakadong Turmeric in the domestic market and seeking to tap the export potential as well. To establish a plant for conversion of 200 kgs dry turmeric per day to oleoresin, powder, curcumin and biocurcumin capsule. The project has created direct employment for 12 persons who are working in the Factory regularly. A total of 15 Collective Marketing Centres (CMC) have been aggregated having 600 members in total and supply raw/slice Lakadong Turmeric to the Processing Centre. Lakadong Trumeric Farmers annual income hav increased from Rs. 50000/- to Rs. 60000/- annually in the last two years. Annually more than 100MT of Raw Lakadong Turmeric has been processed as slice, powdered and oleoresin extraction.

FUND RELEASES FOR MEGHALAYA DURING JULY

Sl. No	Name of Projects	Releases Amount During July
1	Construction of Patient Lodging and Staff Quarters (Type -III & IV) at Mawdiangdiang near NEIGRIHMS, Shillong	₹ 1,46,88,000
2	Proposal of identified Block for providing key identified service at Langdongdai Village, Mawshynrut Block, West Khasi Hills Meghalaya	₹ 44,32,000
3	Construction of Indoor stadium at Mdan Tukhon, Jongksha, Meghalaya	₹ 1,30,06,000
Total		₹ 3,21,26,000

It is worth mentioning that during the 1st quarter of 2025-26, Meghalaya's tourism sector has also seen significant developments with new projects receiving funding and other projects reaching completion. Two remarkable projects are *Construction of Tourism Infrastructure at Laitlyngkot (Lamlyer) in East Khasi Hills District* project which aims to develop comprehensive tourism infrastructure, including a resort with facilities such as a spa, adventure activities, a playground for children, an approach road, beautification, and landscaping. The goal is to provide a space where tourists can spend quality time with their families and friends, significantly contributing to the overall tourism

development of Meghalaya and the *Construction of Tea Boutique and Eco-tourist Lodge at Umsning, Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya*, completed on June 13, 2025. This project is designed to promote tea growers in the state and region, create employment opportunities for youths, serve as an educational center, accommodate visiting tourists, and assist in tea marketing efforts.

NEW PROJECT APPROVED TO CENTRAL / REGIONAL AGENCIES DURING JULY

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Project Cost
1	Production and Dissemination of High-Quality Narrative Driven Video Content through Digital Platform	₹ 2,77,51,000

NEC ALSO RELEASES FUNDS TO CENTRAL / REGIONAL AGENCIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EAST REGION DURING JULY

Sl. No.	Name of Projects/Events	Amount Released
1	Establishment of Banana Tissue Culture Facility in the North East India	₹ 1,18,25,000
2	Empowering marginalized women of Sixth Scheduled Areas through Life Skill Education	₹ 94,00,000
3	Promotion of Commercial Bamboo Plantation in the North East India	₹ 1,81,46,000
4	Promotion of Arecanut Plantation integrated with Turmeric in the North Eastern Region of India	₹ 74,85,000
5	Integrated Development of Kokborok and Literature through Research oriented Studies and Appropriate Documentation	₹ 83,75,000
6	Promotion of Avocado Persimmon and Blueberry Orchards in the NER of India	₹ 49,90,000
7	NEC Merit Scholarship	₹ 17,58,000
8	Establishment of food Processing Units in Assam, Manipur and Meghalaya	₹ 1,28,94,000
9	Establishment of Kiwi orchard in North Eastern Region of India	₹ 2,09,13,000

10	Promotion of Agarwood Plantation in NER of India	₹ 80,00,000
11	Establishment of Stabilized Interlocking Block Making Enterprises in North Eastern States	₹ 94,03,222
TOTAL NEC REGIONAL / OTHER AGENCIES		₹ 11,31,89,222

NEC is committed to strengthening infrastructure, cultural preservation, and economic development in Sikkim and the North Eastern region as a whole. These funds were released to support a range of sectors, including tourism, agriculture, human resource development, and Health infrastructure. The NEC remains firmly committed to the timely disbursement of funds to ensure the smooth and prompt implementation and completion of development projects in Meghalaya.
