

PRESS RELEASE



Meghalaya Government Hands Over Land for Holiday Inn Resort in Tura, Marking the State's Sixth Five-Star Project in the Pipeline

Tura, February 11, 2026: In a significant boost to tourism in Garo Hills, the Department of Tourism, Government of Meghalaya, on Tuesday marked a key milestone in the State's hospitality expansion with the land handover ceremony for the upcoming Holiday Inn Resort, Tura, to be managed by InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG).



The project, awarded to InterContinental Hotels Group under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, will see the redevelopment of the existing Polo Orchid property into a five-star resort in Tura. With an investment of ₹ 130 crores by IHC where ₹ 44 crores is capital grant from the Government, the first five-star hotel in Tura and Garo Hills is expected to strengthen high-value tourism infrastructure in the Garo Hills region.





In 2020, the State did not have a single five-star hotel. Today, Meghalaya has two operational high-end hotels — Courtyard by Marriott, Shillong and Vivanta by Taj. Three more premium projects are in the pipeline, including Aurika by Lemon Tree Hotels, Holiday Inn Resort, Sohra, and the Taj Umiam Resort and Spa. The sixth five-star project in Tura is expected to enhance Meghalaya's positioning on the national and international tourism map, particularly by opening up Garo Hills as a premium destination.



Emphasising the project's role in the State's broader economic vision, Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Meghalaya, said, "It is a great moment for us. Hotels are part of a larger infrastructure." He added, "Development is about building an ecosystem and investing in every sector. In 2019, I had come up with a

target which I called Mission 10, where I said we will go for a \$10 Billion economy. When we took over the government, we were at less than \$4 billion, today, we are almost touching \$7 billion." He also gave a presentation on the 10 Opportunities and 10 Guarantees that anchors Mission 10, the state's strategic roadmap.

He added, "This is not just a 5-star hotel, we are talking about the larger growth story of Tura, Garo Hills and Meghalaya. We are laying the foundation stone today of the future, to see where Garo Hills and our State will take forward. It is our duty to create that vision, so that we can see our State going to the goal of becoming a \$150 billion economy by 2047."

The Hon'ble Chief Minister further stated that the State will benefit through a revenue-sharing arrangement under the project. He added that 90 per cent of non-managerial positions and 50 per cent of managerial positions will be reserved for local residents, significantly boosting employment opportunities in the region.



Shri Timothy Shira, Tourism Minister, Government of Meghalaya, termed the event as an important journey for tourism in Meghalaya. “Tourism is one key economic driver of the state. Today, we are handing over the land to InterContinental Group.” The minister stated that Garo Hills has the potential to emerge as eco-tourism destination, adding

that 70 per cent subsidy under Chief Minister’ Meghalaya Homestay Mission will ensure that homestays continue to flourish.

Garo Hills, known for its verdant landscapes, deep gorges and rich indigenous cultural heritage, has long been regarded as an off-the-beaten-track destination. The new resort will not only generate local employment and improve ancillary economic activity, but also create fresh investment opportunities in the region.

