

PRESS RELEASE



Chief Minister Inaugurates Synod College Building and Various MCH Facilities, Launches Key Development Projects in West Khasi Hills

Nongstoin, West Khasi Hills | October 15, 2026: Meghalaya Chief Minister Shri Conrad K. Sangma today visited Nongstoin as part of the West Khasi Hills District Golden Jubilee year celebrations, inaugurating the newly constructed Synod College building, its library and interactive smart classrooms, before proceeding to the Mother and Child Health (MCH) Hospital building to inaugurate various facilities within the building and launch key development initiatives.



At Synod College, the Chief Minister emphasised that education is fundamental to societal progress and highlighted the Government's efforts over the past eight years to rethink, reimagine and restructure the State's education system, from grassroots to higher education. He spoke about the rationalisation of schools from approximately 14,000 to 11,500 and the expansion of higher education institutions across the State.

He informed that education received the highest budgetary allocation, amounting to ₹3,500 crore out of the State's annual budget of ₹30,000 crore. He also highlighted the release of nearly ₹400 crore in scholarships over the preceding 12 months, underlining the Government's commitment to improving educational opportunities.



Comparing education to a tangled headphone wire, Shri Sangma said systemic challenges must be addressed patiently, one knot at a time, while carrying all stakeholders along. He assured the Synod College Governing Body of the Government's support in addressing the institution's needs and challenges. He also acknowledged the contributions of Rev. S.S. Majaw and the Presbyterian Church towards education and the welfare of society.



At the MCH Hospital building, the Chief Minister spoke about the CM Connect programme, describing it as an important platform for participatory democracy that enables citizens to directly raise grievances and bring public concerns to the Government's attention. He informed that the programme had been recognised as a best practice, with the Prime Minister's Office asking him to present it to other Chief Ministers across the country.





Recalling the CM Connect interaction held in Nongstoin in September, he said the long-pending MCH project had been brought to his attention during the programme. Coordinated efforts involving the Health Department, medical officers, district administration, Finance Department and the Chief Minister's Office subsequently helped move the project forward. He congratulated the Health Department, the local MLA and the people of Nongstoin on this achievement.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the long-standing demand for improvement of the Sohpiam–Nongstoin road, which was raised during CM Connect. He informed that more than ₹20 crore had been sanctioned for the 6.84-km road project, which includes road shoulders, footpaths and drainage. He urged the Public Works Department and the contractor to maintain quality standards and requested the Deputy Commissioner and the local MLA to monitor the work.



During the programme, the Chief Minister laid the foundation stones for the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) building at a cost of ₹12.63 crore, the West Khasi Hills District Golden Jubilee Garden and the Sohpiam–Nongstoin road project. An ambulance donated by IDBI Bank was handed over to the Health Department, and the land donor for the MCH project was felicitated in recognition of the contribution towards healthcare infrastructure.



Reflecting on the district's 50-year journey, Shri Sangma expressed hope that the Golden Jubilee would mark the beginning of a defining period for Nongstoin and West Khasi Hills District, with further development and meaningful changes for the people.



The programme was attended by Shri Methodius Dkhar, Cabinet Minister and MLA, Mawshynrut; Shri Gabriel Wahlang, MLA, Nongstoin; Shri R.G. Momin, MLA, Rambrai; Shri Sampat Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya; Smt. Hema Nayak, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, West Khasi Hills District; Shri H. Kharkongor, MPS, Superintendent of Police, West Khasi Hills District; Smt. D. Sohliya, DM&HO; Smt. Anju J. Batar, IAS, Assistant Commissioner; medical officers and other dignitaries.