

PRESS RELEASE



Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 Concludes at Nongstoin, Emphasis on Waste Segregation and Collective Responsibility

Nongstoin, West Khasi Hills | October 15, 2026: The closing ceremony of Swachhata Hi Seva 2026, under the theme “Swachhata Mein Sabhag, Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat,” was held on October 15, 2026, at the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, West Khasi Hills District, Nongstoin. The programme was organised by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner in collaboration with Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0, PMAY-U and CLTC, Nongstoin Town.



Smt. Hema Nayak, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, West Khasi Hills District, attended the programme as the Chief Guest. Addressing the gathering, she emphasised that solid waste management and segregation are no longer merely options but rules that everyone must follow, urging every individual to take the lead in maintaining cleanliness and protecting the environment.

Highlighting the challenges faced by Nongstoin, she pointed out that the growing population, coupled with inadequate manpower and infrastructure, has made it increasingly difficult to manage the rising volume of waste and meet the need for recovery centres. She also stressed that individual behaviour and the lack of personal responsibility in maintaining cleanliness remain major concerns, while acknowledging the efforts of communities that are coming forward to support cleanliness initiatives.

The Deputy Commissioner underlined the need to promote the proper utilisation of wet waste, particularly through kitchen gardens in schools and other community spaces. She called upon line departments, including Agriculture and the Meghalaya State Rural Livelihoods Society (MSRLS), to train farmers, Anganwadi centres and community groups in segregating wet waste and converting it into manure. She observed that proper waste segregation could also attract larger waste recovery companies to collect and purchase recyclable materials, creating potential economic benefits for communities and Self-Help Groups (SHGs).

She appealed to everyone in the district to cooperate in the proper segregation and disposal of waste, stressing that collective efforts and individual accountability are essential to making West Khasi Hills clean and setting an example for others.

As part of the programme, a waste recovery centre was inaugurated at the Office of the Deputy



Commissioner, near Trysem Hall. The centre is intended to facilitate the management and segregation of different categories of waste, including wet waste, dry waste, special-care waste and non-recyclable waste. SRLM volunteers were also provided with hygiene and safety equipment, including boots and gloves, to support their work in

waste management and cleanliness activities.

Delivering the keynote address, Shri S. Marwein, MCS, Additional Deputy Commissioner and Secretary, Nongstoin Town Committee, emphasised that rules alone cannot ensure a clean environment unless individuals make personal responsibility a top priority. He highlighted the importance of proper waste segregation and disposal, noting that everyone contributes to waste generation and must therefore take responsibility for managing waste appropriately. He stressed that collective responsibility and active public participation are essential to maintaining cleanliness and protecting the environment.





During the programme, the following institutions and localities were recognised for their cleanliness and performance:

- **Cleanest Police Station: Mawshynrut Police Station**
- **Cleanest Border Outpost: Langpih Border Outpost**
- **Cleanest Health Centre: Maweit Primary Health Centre**
- **Best Performing Locality: Pyndengrei Dong Tiehrit**
- **Best Performing Office: Nongstoin Town PHE Office**
- **World Painting Competition: Mount Hermon School**

Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana–Urban (PMAY-U), the following beneficiaries were also recognised:

- **Smti. Spilda Kharbani – Mawkhlam**
- **Smti. Wimsilin Tympuin – Siejlieh**
- **Smti. Brilliancy Marwein – Mawkawah**

The programme was attended by Smt. Anju J. Batar, IAS, Assistant Commissioner; Shri S. Marwein, MCS, Additional Deputy Commissioner and Secretary, Nongstoin Town Committee; Shri Isack Momin, MCS, Assistant Commissioner; Smt. C.N.N. Sangma, MCS, Assistant Commissioner; and Shri H. Kharkongor, MPS, Superintendent of Police, West Khasi Hills District. School students, members of various Self-Help Groups and other participants were also present.



The programme concluded with a renewed call for community participation, responsible waste management and sustained cleanliness efforts to realise the vision of a Swachh Bharat and a Viksit Bharat.