

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
URBAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

Dated, Shillong the 13th October 2026

1. Hon'ble Chief Minister **Shri Conrad K. Sangma** inaugurated the **Meghalayan Age Pavilion** at Ward's Lake, Shillong, in the presence of Hon'ble Minister for Tourism Shri Timothy D. Shira, senior government officials, entrepreneurs, artisans and other stakeholders. Conceived as a platform to showcase the **best of Meghalaya's products, enterprises and experiences**, the Pavilion marks an important milestone in the State Government's efforts to strengthen local entrepreneurship while advancing the Creative Redevelopment of Shillong through vibrant public destinations.

On the occasion, the Director of Urban Affairs formally handed over the Pavilion to the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Meghalayan Age Limited (MAL) for its operation and management.



Meghalayan Age Pavilion, Shillong

2. The inauguration represents an important step in the Government of Meghalaya's broader vision for the **Creative Redevelopment of Shillong** City. As Shillong faces increasing urban pressures and limited availability of land, the Government has adopted an innovative approach to city development by repurposing government-owned land for public use. Through close coordination among departments and institutions, land vested with various agencies is being utilised to create much-needed public infrastructure and livelihood opportunities.

The Creative Redevelopment Plan for Shillong has been appreciated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, as an innovative model for creating public spaces in land-constrained hill cities. The plan has also secured incentives under the **Challenge-Based Funding under Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2025-26** programme.



Meghalayan Age Pavilion, Wards Lake

3. **The Meghalayan Age Pavilion is among the first visible outcomes of this vision.** Developed at a project cost of ₹11.52 crore on a 16,000 sq. ft. site within the Deputy Commissioner's Residence premises, it demonstrates how strategically located government-owned land can be transformed into vibrant public destinations that support livelihoods, entrepreneurship and community engagement.

Several projects are currently at different stages of implementation under the Creative Redevelopment programme. These include the redevelopment of Anjalee Junction, redevelopment of the PWD Complex at Barik, redevelopment and ecological restoration of Ward's Lake, development of a public park on land made available by Raj Bhavan, construction of a Street Food Hub on land made available by the State Guest House, and the Wah Umkhrah Riverfront Development, among others.

The programme also places strong **emphasis on creating organised spaces for vendors.** Dedicated vending infrastructure is being developed at Brightwell Bungalow through land made available by the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, as well as at Barik, Laitumkhrah, Dhankheti and other locations, ensuring better facilities for vendors across the city.



Traditional crafts and locally made products showcased at the Pavilion

4. Managed by Meghalayan Age Limited, the Meghalayan Age Pavilion has been envisioned as a showcase of Meghalaya's enterprise ecosystem, culture and creativity. The Pavilion covers four key areas of the State's enterprise base: food and hospitality, local products, creative enterprises, and contemporary products inspired by Meghalaya's culture and heritage. Together, these offerings provide visitors with a comprehensive Meghalayan experience under one roof:
- **PRIME-supported Enterprises – Sixteen PRIME-supported entrepreneurs** representing sectors such as food and beverages, handlooms and handicrafts, textiles, fashion and lifestyle products, wellness products, agro-based enterprises and other emerging Meghalaya-based businesses.
 - **Meghalayan Age Shillong Store – A curated retail space featuring products from across state**, including handlooms, handicrafts, lifestyle products, wellness products, artisanal products and locally made food products.
 - **Food and Hospitality Zone** – A café and restaurant celebrating Meghalaya's culinary traditions and contemporary food culture. During the programme, the restaurant facility was formally handed over to **Mr. Adonijah Lyngdoh, winner of the Hills on a Plate Culinary Competition**, who will operate the restaurant and kitchen.
 - **Meghalaya Fruit Wine Experience Centre** – A dedicated space showcasing Meghalaya's fruit wine industry, highlighting the work of local farmers, producers and wine makers. The Centre was formally handed over to the **Meghalaya Fruit Wine Makers' Association** for its operation and management.



Meghalayan Age Store showcasing products, crafts and lifestyle offerings from the state



Locally produced fruit wines showcased at the Meghalaya Fruit Wine Experience Centre.

5. Speaking on the occasion, Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Conrad K. Sangma said:

"The Meghalayan Age Pavilion offers a true experience of Meghalaya. From our food and local products to our entrepreneurs, artisans and creative talent, it brings together the many stories that define our State. Our vision is to create spaces that not only generate economic opportunities but also celebrate and showcase the culture, heritage and identity of Meghalaya"



Dedicated stalls for PRIME-supported entrepreneurs

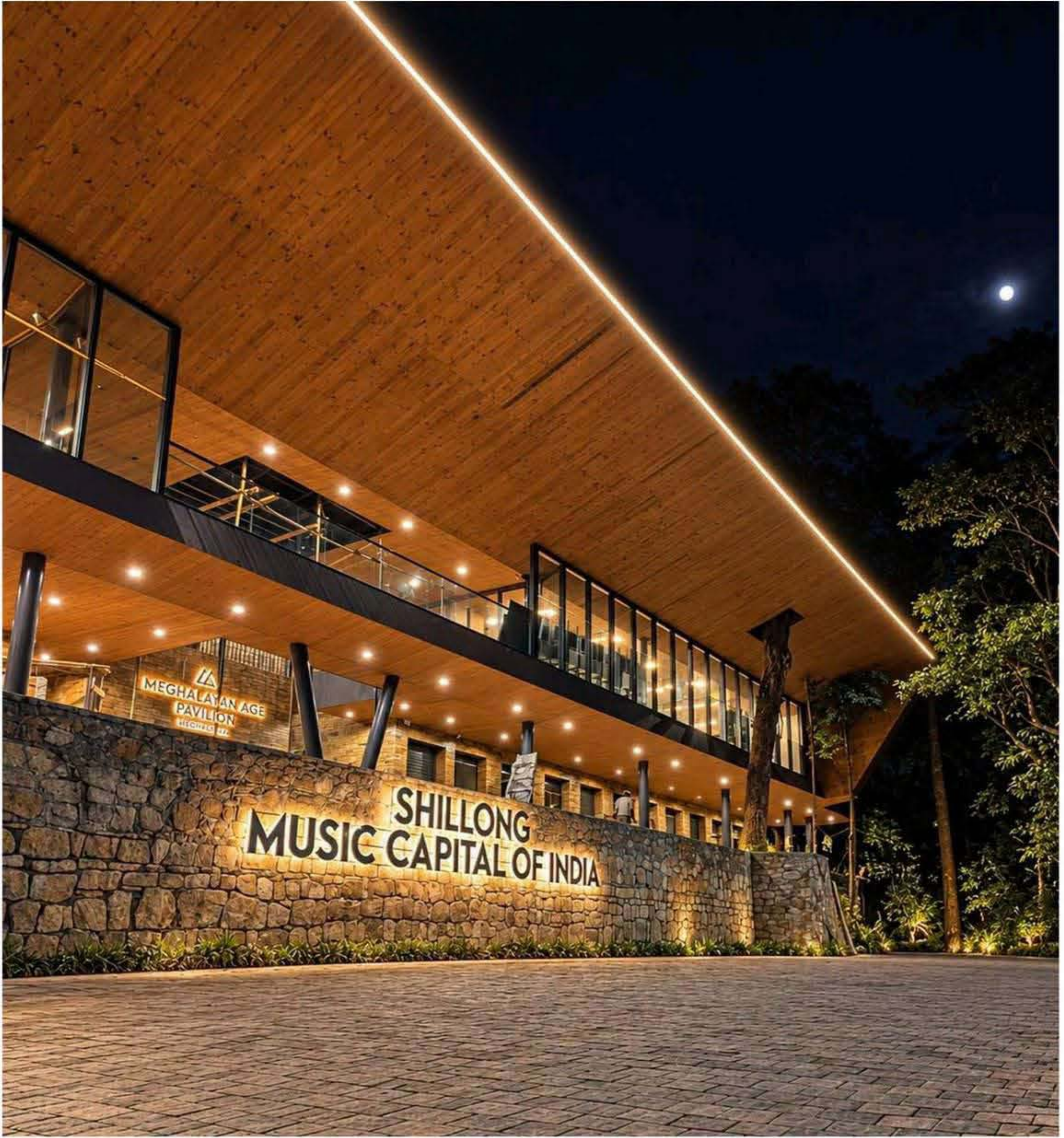
6. The programme included the issuance of sanction letters to sixteen PRIME-supported entrepreneurs who will operate from the Pavilion, followed by interactions between the Chief Minister and participating entrepreneurs. Dignitaries also toured the various facilities within the Pavilion, including the Meghalaya Fruit Wine Experience Centre. The event concluded with a fashion showcase by Daniel Syiem featuring a specially curated Ryndia Collection for the Meghalayan Age Store and performances under the Meghalaya Grassroots Music Project (MGMP), **celebrating Meghalaya's vibrant creative, cultural and entrepreneurial ecosystem.**



Hon'ble CM inaugurating Meghalayan Age Pavillion







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Commissioner & Secretary
Urban Affairs Department