

PRESS RELEASE



CM-ELEVATE Supports Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Development in Meghalaya

JENGJAL, West Garo Hills, October 22: Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma on Thursday said the state government was combining infrastructure development with targeted livelihood initiatives to improve economic opportunities for farmers, entrepreneurs, artistes and local communities.

Speaking at the CM-ELEVATE: Celebration of Entrepreneurship programme at Jengjal, the Chief Minister said investments in roads, healthcare, education and administrative



infrastructure must go hand in hand with initiatives that directly improve people's livelihoods. He highlighted schemes such as FOCUS+, CM FARM+, PRIME and SEED, which support farmers, entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Sangma said the government was also promoting value addition, market linkages and tourism-based enterprises, including homestays, to create sustainable income opportunities. He

cited the example of entrepreneurs receiving exposure to international marketing and branding practices to expand their businesses.

During the programme, 628 entrepreneurs received sanction orders and cheques under nine CM-ELEVATE schemes covering agriculture, tourism, livestock farming, small businesses and homestay development. Across the state, more than 4,500 entrepreneurs have been approved under the initiative, with financial assistance sanctioned to support their ventures.





The Chief Minister also remotely inaugurated 14 Common Facility Centres and 12 warehouses constructed under CM-ELEVATE to strengthen business infrastructure and support local enterprises. In addition, 171 waste collection vehicles, comprising electric and petrol-powered vehicles, were flagged off for Village Water and Sanitation Committees across the five Garo Hills districts.



Emphasising the importance of entrepreneurship, Sangma said government assistance must be matched by the commitment of beneficiaries to build sustainable businesses and make productive use of the opportunities provided.



The programme was attended by MLAs Mehtab Chandee A. Sangma, Ian Botham K. Sangma, Sanjay Sangma, Albinstone Marak, Rupert Momin, Pongseng Marak and Jimmy Sangma, along with entrepreneurs, self-help group members and district officials.