



PRESS RELEASE



Clarification for the Press Release regarding “Tracing the Roots”

With reference to the **Press Release issued on September 1, 2026** at the launch of “**Tracing the Roots**” in Tura, the Chief Minister’s Office clarifies that the figure of 75 scholars refers to the indicative research pool for the initiative and is not a fixed number; it comprises scholars, academicians and researchers from within the State and outside, working in collaboration with universities and research institutes, and does not mean that all of them will travel abroad, as international fieldwork will be undertaken only by smaller, specialised teams where the research requires it.

The initiative remains open to wider participation, and scholars, institutions and community knowledge-holders who wish to contribute are welcome to be part of this effort as it grows. “Tracing the Roots” is the State Government’s initiative, implemented by the Department of Arts and Culture, to study and document the origins and historical movements of the Khasi, Jaintia and Garo peoples through historical research, oral traditions, linguistics, archaeology, archival study and allied scientific methods. Oral traditions will be preserved as heritage in their own right, while historical conclusions will rest on evidence examined through established academic methods, with findings placed in the public domain through scholarly publications, digital archives and educational resources.