

PRESS RELEASE



Student Rally and Legal Awareness Programme on Prevention of Early Child Marriage Held at Nongstoin

Nongstoin, Feb 6, 2026: In its continuous efforts to spread awareness on Early Child Marriage among school students, the Office of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), West Khasi Hills District, today organised a Student Rally and Legal Awareness Programme at Anderson Higher Secondary School, Nongstoin.



The programme commenced with a student rally from the Anderson Higher Secondary School campus towards Nongstoin Market, during which students carried placards conveying strong messages against early marriage and emphasizing the importance of education. The rally was flagged off by Smt. D.M.K. S. Shadap, Chief Judicial Magistrate, who also sensitised the students on the objective and significance of the rally.



Following the rally, a legal awareness programme was held at the school auditorium. Shri G.J.S. Marngar, ALADC, delivered an informative address on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, highlighting legal safeguards available for the protection of children.



Smt. Myrthong, ALADC, also addressed the gathering and spoke on the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, stressing the importance of education and urging students to refrain from early relationships and focus on their studies. She highlighted that child marriage adversely affects the future of children and is strictly prohibited by law, further stating that marriage or any form of relationship involving children below 18 years for girls and 21 years for boys is illegal.

A representative from the District Child Protection Office (DCPO) briefed the students on Mission Vatsalya, a Government of India scheme aimed at strengthening child protection services and ensuring the safety, care, and well-being of children, especially those in need of care and protection.



The programme concluded with active participation from students, reinforcing the message that awareness and education are crucial in preventing early child marriage and securing a better future for children.