



PRESS RELEASE



Ri-Bhoi CFC to Promote Banana Fibre Processing and Value-Added Products

MDoNER-NECTAR Conducts Machine Trials at Banana Fibre CFC

Umsiang CFC to Promote Value Addition of Banana Fibre and Agricultural Waste

Nongpoh, September 21, 2026: The initiative to promote and develop the production of handicrafts and other products made from banana fibre and banana-based materials in Ri-Bhoi has raised hopes that the sector could receive greater opportunities for growth through the Ri-Bhoi Common Facility Centre (CFC) located at Umsiang in Ri-Bhoi District.

With the objective of gathering information and gaining a closer understanding of the facility and its activities, our team visited Umsiang to assess the present status of the CFC and learn more about the work associated with the facility.

However, upon reaching the site, it was learnt that the Ri-Bhoi Common Facility Centre is still under preparation and has not yet been formally opened to the public. Several works related to the development of the facility are still underway, including road improvement and other necessary infrastructure works, which are currently in progress.

As the CFC is still in the process of being prepared for its formal inauguration, comprehensive information regarding its activities and functioning could not yet be obtained.

The initiative is being funded under the PM-DevINE scheme, with support from the Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region (MDoNER).

The CFC will focus on processing discarded banana pseudo-stems plant material that is often treated as agricultural waste into value-added products, including fibre, liquid fertiliser, vermi-compost and bio-degradable paper.

According to information gathered over the past few days, the Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region (MDoNER), in collaboration with the North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR), has conducted trials to test the machines at this CFC.