

Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
North Eastern Council Secretariat, Shillong
Date: 10th November, 2025

Press Note for Meghalaya, October, 2025

1. NESPARKS: VISIT OF ISRO CENTRE BY 6TH BATCH OF NE STUDENTS

A group of 106 students from the eight North Eastern States visited the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Centre in Bengaluru on 30th and 31st October, 2025, as part of the North East Students' Programme for Awareness, Reach, and Knowledge on Space (NE-SPARKS), funded by the North Eastern Council & state governments.



The 6th Batch of Students comprising 106 students (out of selected 800 meritorious students) from 8 NE States with one State Coordinator each visited ISRO Centres, Bengaluru on 30th & 31st October, 2025. The delegates from NER were led by Sri Richard L Jongte, Deputy Adviser (IPR), NEC and officials from North East Space Application Centre (NESAC), Umiam.



NESPARKS (North East Student's Programme for Awareness, Reach, and Knowledge on Space) is a joint venture of NEC/MDoNER, NESAC, ISRO & NE State Governments.





Under NESPARKS, 800 meritorious students from eight NE States are scheduled to visit ISRO Centre, Bengaluru to instill inspiration and motivation in young minds of the North East. The 7th & 8th batches are expected to visit ISRO Centre in November & December respectively.

2. COMPLETED PROJECT(S) DURING OCTOBER, 2025

2.1 Promoting Sustainable livelihood in North East India: The Cane and Bamboo Cluster Development Project.

The Cane and Bamboo (CAB) Project was implemented in two phases. The first phase, launched in August 2013, was executed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in collaboration with the North Eastern Council (NEC), the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), and the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), with NECBDC providing technical support. Phase I established five clusters, while Phase II, initiated in 2017, added 11 new clusters—covering a total of 16 clusters (two in each of the eight Northeastern states). Some additional potential clusters were also adopted under the project. The total expenditure incurred amounted to ₹9.19 crore. The project was completed on October 8, 2025.

Project Objectives:

- Organize bamboo artisans and producers into Cane and Bamboo Associations.
- Promote a market-driven approach for domestic markets through product development, design standards, and quality certification.
- Facilitate appropriate technology transfer and skill development for the cane and bamboo industry.

Key Outcomes:

- 1,992 artisans from rural communities across the Northeast were trained and organized into 31 Cane and Bamboo groups, ensuring sustainable livelihoods.
- 107 training programmes were conducted to enhance market-oriented product development skills.
- Tools were uniformly distributed across all clusters, improving production capacity.
- Artisans participated in 15 trade fairs, achieving total sales of ₹5.54 lakh.
- 5–6 categories of products—such as furniture, baskets, and household items—were developed.
- 15 Common Facility Centres (CFCs) and marketing showrooms were established to support aggregation, value addition, and marketability.

3. PROJECT MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION

On October 17, 2025, in line with the commitment to ensure effective implementation and quality monitoring of developmental projects, NEC Officials conducted an on-site inspection of the ongoing Construction of Road from Shillong City to Umroi Airport (Length – 14.28 km), Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya under NESIDS (Roads) Scheme. The cost of the project is Rs. 50.00 crores.

The project is being closely monitored to ensure adherence to quality standards, timely completion, and optimal utilization of resources. Such regular inspections demonstrate the proactive approach of the North Eastern Council in overseeing project execution and ensuring that developmental benefits reach the intended beneficiaries.

4. FUND RELEASES FOR MEGHALAYA UNDER SCHEME OF NEC (SONEC) DURING OCTOBER, 2025

The North Eastern Council Secretariat announces significant fund releases of for various developmental projects in Meghalaya during the month of October 2025, reinforcing the

government's commitment to accelerating growth and infrastructure development in the North Eastern Region.

Sl. No.	PROJECT NAME	AMOUNT
1	Support of (1.5T) MRI Machine at Tura Civil Hospital, Meghalaya	₹ 5,01,75,000
2	Proposal of Identified Block for providing key identified services under 30 PC component at Mawshynrut C7RD Block Meghalaya	₹ 94,50,000
3	North East Student Program for Awareness, Reach and Knowledge on Space (NESPARKS)	₹ 1,15,12,000
4	Rural Eco Tourism in Garo Hills (East Garo Hills, West Garo Hills and South West Garo Hills) Meghalaya	₹ 31,29,608
	Construction of SeinraijJowai community Hall cum recreation centre Building at Dulong, West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya	₹ 1,04,00,000
TOTAL		₹ 8,46,66,608

5. FUND RELEASES FOR MEGHALAYA DURING OCTOBER, 2025 UNDER NESIDS(ROADS)

To ensure smooth implementation of road connectivity works, NEC has released a total of ₹22.90 Cr under NESIDS (Road) during October, 2025, out of which an amount of ₹17.90 Cr is for Up-gradation/ Improvement of Borkhat-Sonapur road (L-39.59 Km) in the state of Meghalaya and an amount of ₹5.00Cr is for Construction of Major Bridge including immediate approaches over river Umngot on Jongksha-Kharang-Diengleng-Nongjrong- Moodymmai-Wahiajer road (Length- 0.11 Km).

6. CENTRAL & REGIONAL AGENCIES: MULTI-STATE INITIATIVES

The North Eastern Council (NEC) also releases funds to central & regional agencies for implementation of various projects, supporting cultural and academic events benefiting the entire North Eastern Region amounting to ₹ 14,88,46,684/-.

Sl. No.	Name of the Projects	Amount
1	Development of Multi-Disciplinary Training Cum Resource Centre, Shillong, implemented by NERCORMS	₹.2,70,65,000
2	Deepening of Scientific Research on 5G use cases for solving challenges of society, implemented by NERCORMS	₹. 2,82,01,237
3	Value addition of Naga Chilli and other spices crops for market readiness through vacuum drying technology in Assam and Nagaland, implemented by NERCORMS	₹.45,60,000
4	Organic Tropical Fruit Tamenglong, Manipur, implemented by NERCORMS	₹. 1,14,98,000

5	Establishment of High-Tech Horticulture Nursery with tissue Culture Facilities in NE India, implemented by NERCORMS	₹. 1,18,25,000
6	PADMA DOREE-Fusion between Eri-silk of North East & Chanderi Silk of Madhya Pradesh, implemented by NEHHDC	₹ 3,74,88,973
7	Tissue Culture Facility for production of Disease free planting material of citrus, implemented by NERCORMS	₹ 57,35,000
8	Multi Agriculture Horti Activities in Manipur and Meghalaya, implemented by NERCORMS	₹ 88,84,800
9	Investigation of Barriers associated with Bamboo Processing Industrial Sector on Mizoram and Proposal of Strategies using TOWS-AHP approached for its improvement, NIT Mizoram	₹ 11,14,500
10	Pilot Project on cane Nursery and Plantation in NER (Assam, Mizoram & Tripura) implemented by NECBDC,	₹ 49,00,000
11	Ashtalakshmi Darshan - Youth Exchange Programme, all NER States	₹ 6,05,24,780
12	Production and Dissemination of High-Quality Narrative Driven Video Content through Digital Platform, implemented by NERCORMS	₹ 69,38,000
13	Setting up of animal feed production units in the North East India, implemented by NERCORMS	₹ 50,00,000
14	An Information Repository of Products, Producers and Entrepreneurs of North East India, implemented by NEDFi	₹ 77,56,381
15	Investigation of Resource creation for Bengali to Meitei Mayek Script conversion for Manipuri Language Research, implemented by NIT Manipur	₹ 9,00,000
16	Large scale Saffron cultivation in North East States, implemented by NECTAR	₹ 93,04,250
17	She friendly programme- Installation of Sanitary Napkin Incinerator in 20 Higher Secondary Schools/Colleges in Shillong	₹ 3,00,000

All these projects are being implemented in all corners of the North East Region.

7. EVENTS (NON-PROJECTS) SUPPORTED BY NEC DURING OCTOBER, 2025

In addition to project-based initiatives, the North Eastern Council (NEC) has supported a range of non-project events and programmes aimed at promoting academic exchange, cultural enrichment, scientific innovation, and regional development across the North Eastern Region. These events encompass international conferences, capacity-building programmes, expos, seminars, and cultural festivals that align with the Council's broader objectives of fostering knowledge sharing, skill enhancement, and sustainable growth. NEC has sanctioned a total amount of ₹ 64,73,694 for supporting such events (non-projects) during the month.

8. VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK- 2025

The North Eastern Council observed the Vigilance Awareness Week 2025. The week-long observance commenced on 27th October, 2025 with the Integrity Pledge, administered by the Secretary, NEC, Sri Satinder Kumar Bhalla at the Auditorium of NEC Secretariat, in the presence of NEC Officials.



On the second day, observance of Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 continues with rally, followed by various other activities.



Observed annually during the last week of October, Vigilance Awareness Week seeks to promote active participation from all sections of society in combating corruption. The initiative aims to enhance public understanding of the causes and consequences of corruption while fostering a culture of integrity.
