

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2024-25



**MEGHALAYA BIODIVERSITY BOARD**  
**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA**  
(A STATUTORY BODY SET UP UNDER BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY ACT, 2002)  
Silviculture Building, Lower Lachumiere, Shillong – 793001

Website: <https://megbiodiversity.nic.in>  
E-mail: [secretarymbb@gmail.com](mailto:secretarymbb@gmail.com)



**Mawlangkhar hills , Nongstoin  
PC: Dabianglin Diengdoh**

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## MESSAGE



Meghalaya, often regarded by botanists as the “cradle of flowering plants,” forms an integral part of the Indo-Myanmar global biodiversity hotspot. The State’s remarkable diversity in altitude, topography, soil and climate supports an extraordinary range of ecosystems and species richness. However, this rich biodiversity faces increasing pressures from shifting cultivation, deforestation, unregulated mining and other anthropogenic activities. It is in this context that the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 assumes critical importance, guiding conservation, sustainable use and equitable benefit sharing. Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, established in 2012 following the notification of the State Rules in 2010, remains committed to fulfilling these statutory objectives.

During the financial year 2024–2025, the Board has made notable progress. A total of 6,485 Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) have been constituted across the State, reflecting a strong foundation for decentralized biodiversity governance. While People’s Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) have been prepared for all the BMCs, continuous efforts are being made to enhance their quality and relevance, with 176 PBRs upgraded during the year.

The recognition of community-led conservation continues to be a highlight. The conferment of the State Level Biodiversity Awards 2024 to Paglapara BMC of South West Garo Hills for its exemplary conservation of 74 hectares of forest over five decades, and to Jermanai BMC of Ri-Bhoi District for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, stands as a testament to the strength of community stewardship.

The Board has also actively promoted awareness, capacity building and stakeholder engagement through 27 awareness programmes conducted across various districts. Collaborative initiatives such as the Asian Waterbird Census, implementation of the Indo-German NERAQ project, and pilot projects on aquatic biodiversity, cave ecosystem conservation, and eco-tourism further demonstrate the Board’s integrated approach to conservation.

Recognition at national platforms, including the Geospatial Excellence Award at GEOSMART India 2024, reflects the Board’s commitment to leveraging technology for informed biodiversity management and policy planning.

While significant progress has been made, the need to further strengthen and activate BMCs, enhance participatory documentation, mainstreaming biodiversity and ensure effective implementation of biodiversity provisions remains a priority.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the National Biodiversity Authority, the Government of Meghalaya, esteemed Board Members, Expert Committees, partner institutions and local communities for their continued support and collaboration. Together, we remain steadfast in our commitment to conserving Meghalaya’s invaluable biodiversity for present and future generations.

**Sibhi Chakravarthy Sadhu, IAS**  
**Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya**  
**Forest & Environment Department**  
**Cum Chairman, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board**





## MESSAGE

The Annual Report of Meghalaya Biodiversity Board for the year 2024–2025 has been prepared in accordance with Section 33 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. The report presents a comprehensive account of the Board's activities, achievements and initiatives undertaken towards the conservation, sustainable use and equitable sharing of benefits arising from biological resources in the State.

During the year 2024–2025, the Board expanded its outreach and strengthened institutional mechanisms for biodiversity governance. As of 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2025, a total of 6,485 Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) have been constituted, each with corresponding People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs). Recognizing the importance of maintaining dynamic and accurate biodiversity records, the Board undertook the upgradation of 176 PBRs during the reporting period.

A series of 27 awareness and capacity-building programmes were conducted at the block level in collaboration with local administrative bodies and partner organizations, focusing on key provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. These efforts have contributed significantly to strengthening grassroots awareness and participation.

The Board actively collaborated with National and International institutions under initiatives such as the Indo-German NERAQ project, facilitating community-based conservation of aquatic ecosystems. The successful implementation of pilot projects in Khliehshnong, Lawbah and Umkaber highlights the effectiveness of participatory approaches in biodiversity conservation and livelihood enhancement.

Key initiatives undertaken during the year include the Asian Waterbird Census, conservation programmes for species such as the Clouded Leopard in non-protected areas, and multiple stakeholder consultations, workshops and training programmes involving government agencies, academic institutions and local communities.

The Board's efforts in integrating geospatial technologies for forest survey and biodiversity mapping were recognized with the Geospatial Excellence Award for Environment & Climate Change at GEOSMART India 2024, marking a significant achievement in the application of technology for environmental governance.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Chairman for his leadership and guidance. I also extend my appreciation to the National Biodiversity Authority, the Government of Meghalaya, Board Members, Expert Committees, District Nodal Officer, partner organizations and all stakeholders for their continued support.

Finally, I commend the dedicated efforts of the officers and staff of the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board whose commitment has been instrumental in achieving the objectives outlined in this report.

**Sanwar Mal Swami, IFS**  
**Member Secretary**  
**Meghalaya Biodiversity Board**

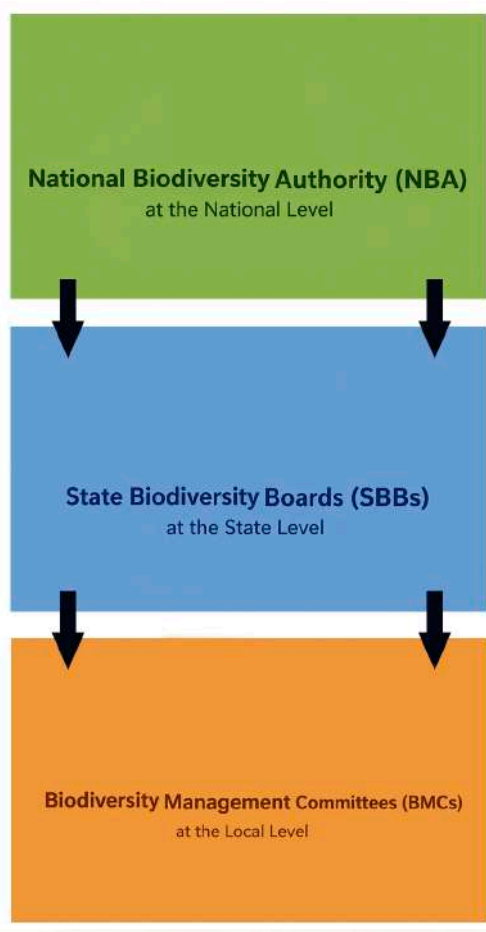


# 1 INTRODUCTION

Biological diversity or biodiversity refers to the variety of life forms on Earth - including the diversity of species, genetic variation within species and the diversity of ecosystems and their interactions. It is fundamental to the functioning of natural systems and provides essential ecological, economic and social benefits. These include ecosystem services such as air and water purification, pollination, climate regulation and soil fertility. Biodiversity can be assessed at multiple scales - from genetic variation within a species to the variety of ecosystems across the planet. Its loss poses serious ecological, economic and human well-being risks. Conserving biodiversity is therefore vital for the health of the planet and for sustaining life.

Growing global concern over biodiversity loss led to the adoption of the *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)* in 1992, which recognizes the sovereign rights of nations over their biological resources. In response, the Government of India enacted the *Biological Diversity Act, 2002*. The Act aims to conserve biodiversity, promote sustainable use of its components and ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of biological resources and associated traditional knowledge.

**Legal Framework for its Conservation:** The Act is implemented through a three-tier structure:



Meghalaya, located within the Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot, is endowed with rich flora and fauna, dense forests, ancient sacred groves, rivers and grasslands. The State is recognized for its high species diversity and endemism. Major biodiversity reserves include the Nokrek Biosphere Reserve, Nokrek and Balpakram National Parks, Nongkhylllem, Narpuh and Siju Wildlife Sanctuaries, along with numerous sacred groves that are integral to the region's ecological and cultural heritage. These areas make Meghalaya a critical region for biodiversity conservation in India.

## **BACKGROUND**

Meghalaya Biodiversity Board (MBB) is a Statutory Body set up under Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and comes under the Forest and Environment Department, Government of Meghalaya, with its Headquarter at Shillong. The Board functions as per the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act 2002, Rules 2004 and Meghalaya Biological Diversity Rules (MBDR) 2010. The Board is dedicated for conservation, sustainable utilisation of bio-resources of the State and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of bio-resources and its associated knowledge.

**Paddy Field, Jowai**  
**PC: Polmingstar Langstang**



## CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD

### THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY ACT, 2002:

In 2002, the Parliament of India enacted the Biological Diversity Act. In line with the goals of UN-Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Biological Diversity Act, 2002 has three objectives:

- ❖ The conservation of biological diversity
- ❖ The sustainable use of its components
- ❖ The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources.

The Act provides a legal framework and envisages a decentralized biodiversity management with a three-tier structure for implementation. The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) is responsible for all matters at the National Level; the State Biodiversity Board (SBBs) are responsible at the State Level and the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) at Local Level. The Act recognises local communities as custodians of biological resources, as well as the traditional knowledge and practices associated with them.

### NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY (NBA):

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) is a statutory autonomous body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India established in 2003 to implement the provisions under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, after India signed the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1992. The NBA with its headquarter in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India delivers its mandate through a structure that comprises of the Authority, Secretariat, SBBs, BMCs and Expert Committees.

### MEGHALAYA BIODIVERSITY BOARD (MBB):

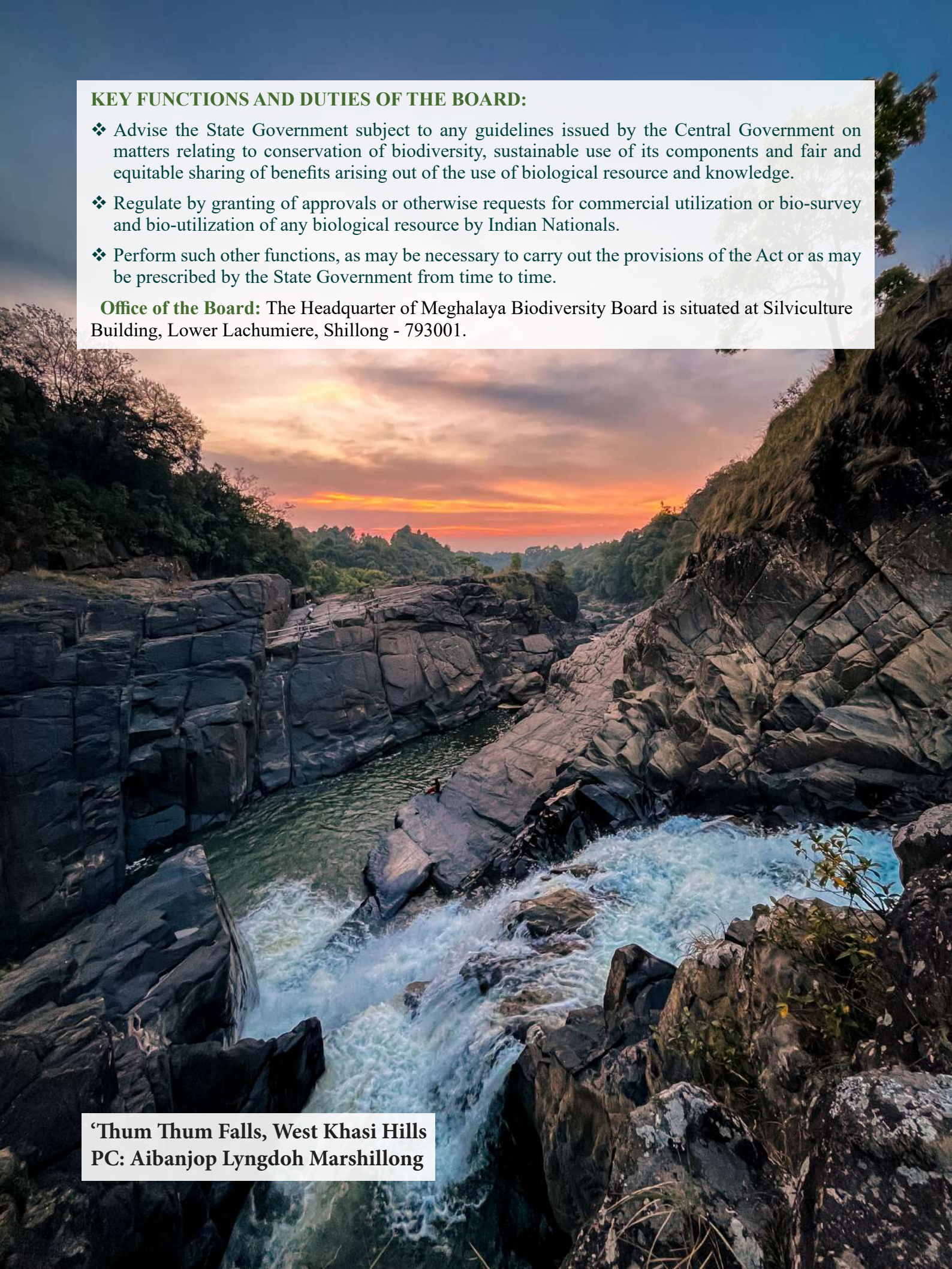
The Board was constituted by the Government of Meghalaya vide Notification No. FOR. 57/2002/Pt/308 dated 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2012 in accordance with Section 22 of the Biological Diversity Act, which states that each State shall establish a State Biodiversity Board. In exercise of the power conferred by section 63 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, which states “Every state government shall make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act,” the Government of Meghalaya, formulated the Meghalaya Biological Diversity Rules (MBDR) 2010 vide Notification No. FOR.57/2002/244 dated 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2010.

### KEY FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD:

- ❖ Advise the State Government subject to any guidelines issued by the Central Government on matters relating to conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resource and knowledge.
- ❖ Regulate by granting of approvals or otherwise requests for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio-utilization of any biological resource by Indian Nationals.
- ❖ Perform such other functions, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act or as may be prescribed by the State Government from time to time.

**Office of the Board:** The Headquarter of Meghalaya Biodiversity Board is situated at Silviculture Building, Lower Lachumiere, Shillong - 793001.

**‘Thum Thum Falls, West Khasi Hills  
PC: Aibanjop Lyngdoh Marshillong**

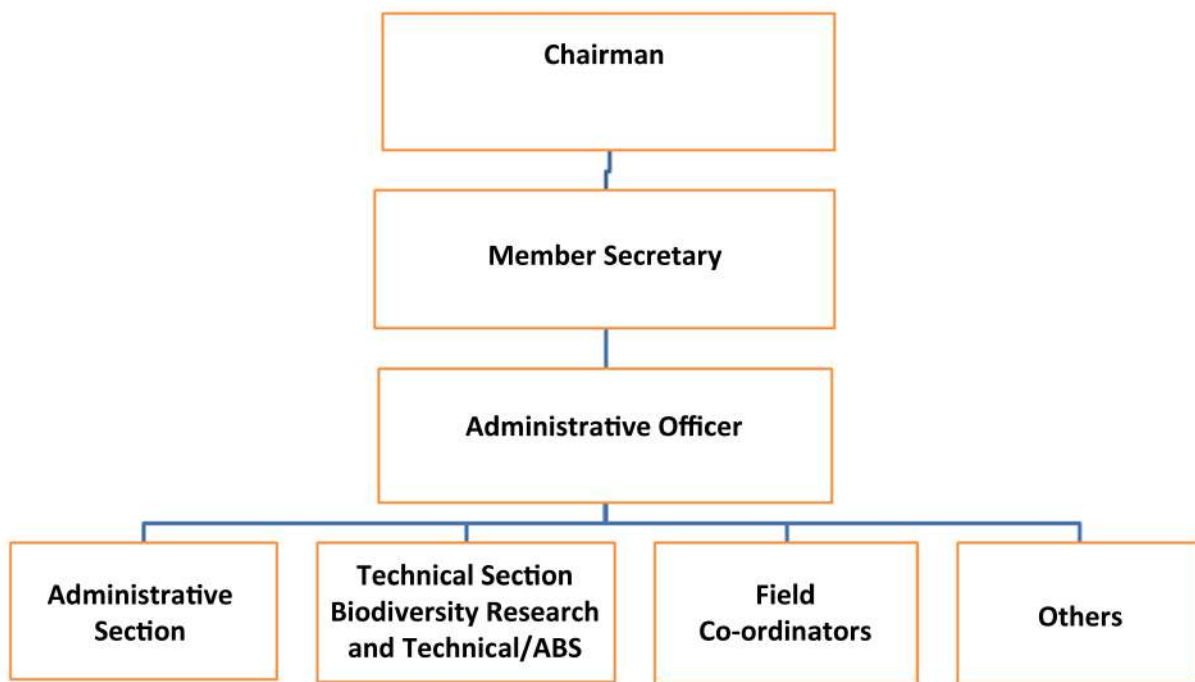


# 3

## COMPOSITION OF MEGHALAYA BIODIVERSITY BOARD

The Board is headed by a Chairman in the rank of Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, holding the charge of Forest & Environment Department. Apart from the Chairman, the Board has five Ex-Officio Members from related Departments of the Government of Meghalaya and five Non-Official Members. The Conservator of Forest (Biodiversity & Development) functions as Member Secretary of the Board.

### ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF MEGHALAYA BIODIVERSITY BOARD



#### Details of incumbents of the following post (Name, Designation & tenure)

<b>Chairman</b>	Shri. P. Bakshi, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya (Forest & Environment) cum Chairman Meghalaya Biodiversity Board. w.e.f 18 <sup>th</sup> August, 2023 till 17 <sup>th</sup> June, 2025.
<b>Member Secretary</b>	Shri. R. Nainamalai, IFS, Conservator of Forest (Development & Biodiversity) cum Member Secretary Meghalaya Biodiversity Board. w.e.f 30 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024 till 3 <sup>rd</sup> November, 2025.

**Non-Official Members (Rule 6 of MBDR, 2010)**

SL. NO	NAME	DESIGNATION
1	Prof. S. K. Barik	Head of Department, Botany, NEHU
2	(L) Shri. K.C.Momin	Retd. Director (Soil & Water Conservation Department), Government of Meghalaya, Shillong.
3	Dr. Natalie W. Kharkongor	Former Associate Professor, IIM, Shillong.
5	Prof. Larisha M. Lyndem	Department of Zoology. Viswa-Bharati, (a central university) Saniniketan, West Bengal, India.
6	Dr. Vincent Darlong	Director Centre for Sustainable Development Studies, Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong

**Ex-Officio Members (Rule 9 of MBDR, 2010)**

SL. NO	DESIGNATION
1	Chief Wildlife Warden, Meghalaya
2	Director, Agriculture Department, Govt. of Meghalaya
3	Director, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, Govt. of Meghalaya
4	Director, Fisheries Department, Govt. of Meghalaya
5	Director, School Education, Govt. of Meghalaya
6	Director, Bio-Resources Development Centre, Meghalaya (Co-opted Member)

**NOTIFICATION**

Dated Shillong, the 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.

No. FOR.57/2002/Vol-II/Pl-1/18 - In exercise of powers conferred under Section 22(1) of the Biological Diversity Act 2002, the Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to re-constitute the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board for the purpose of the said Act consisting of the following members with immediate effect and until further orders:-

1) Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/ Commissioner & Secretary, Forests & Environment Department. - Chairperson.

2) Chief Conservator of Forests/Conservator of Forests in charge of Biodiversity - Secretary.

3) Non-Official Members:- With effect from

a) Prof. S K Barik, Director, CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow. - 28.11.2020

b) Dr. Natalie West Kharkongor, Associate Professor, IIM, Shillong. - 28.11.2020

c) Shri K. C. Momin, (Retd) Director, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Meghalaya. - 28.11.2020

d) Shri Augustus Shemphang Suting, Research Officer, State Council of Science Technology & Environment (SCSTE), Meghalaya. - 12.10.2020

e) Prof. Larisha M. Lyndem, Department of Zoology - Viswa-Bharati (A Central University) Santiniketan, West Bengal, India. - 27.07.2021

4) Ex-Officio Members:-

a) Chief Wildlife Warden, Meghalaya.

b) Director, Agriculture Department, Govt. of Meghalaya.

c) Director, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, Govt. of Meghalaya.

d) Director, Fisheries Department, Govt. of Meghalaya.

e) Director, School Education, Govt. of Meghalaya.

f) Director, Bio-Resources Development Centre, Meghalaya (Co-Opted Member).

The Headquarters of the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board shall be at Shillong.

The functions of the State Biodiversity Board shall be to :-

a) advise the State Government, subject to any guidelines issued by the Central Government, on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources;

b) regulating by granting of approvals or otherwise requests for commercial utilization or bio-diversity and bio-utilization of any biological resource of Indians;

c) perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act or as may be prescribed by the State Government;

d) prepare in such form and at such time in each financial year as may be prescribed, its Annual Report, giving a full account of its activities during the previous financial year, and submit a copy thereof to the State Government.

Sd/-  
(Syed Md A Razi, IRTS)  
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Forests & Environment Department  
\*\*\*\*\*

## **DETAILS OF THE DISTRICT NODAL OFFICERS CUM TECHNICAL SUPPORT GROUP (TSG) IN ALL THE DISTRICTS OF THE STATE:**

The Technical Support Group (TSG) in all Districts of the State was reconstituted vide notification No.FOR.57/2002/Vol-II/Pt-I/26 dated 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 by the Government of Meghalaya for implementation of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

### **Members of the Technical Support Group (TSG):**

- i. Divisional Forest Officer having his office/ jurisdiction in the District nominated by the PCCF & HoFF- District Nodal Officer and Convener.
- ii. Director/Representative nominated by the Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, Govt. Of Meghalaya.
- iii. Director/Representative nominated by the Fisheries Department, Govt. of Meghalaya.
- iv. Director/Representative nominated by the Agriculture Department, Govt. of Meghalaya.
- v. Director/Representative nominated by the Community & Rural Development Department, Meghalaya.
- vi. Officer in Charge /Representative nominated by the Autonomous District Council concerned.
- vii. Officer in Charge/Representative nominated by the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA), Govt. of Meghalaya.
- viii. Officer in Charge/Representative nominated by the Botanical Survey of India, Shillong Centre.
- ix. Officer in Charge/Representative nominated by the Zoological Survey of India, Shillong Centre.
- x. Chief Executive Officer/Representative, Shillong Cantonment Board.
- xi. Chief Executive Officer/Representative, Shillong Municipal Board.
- xii. Two (02) experts co-opted by the Member Secretary, MBB.

### **Duties and Functions of the Technical Support Group (TSG).**

- i. The TSG shall provide technical guidance to the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in the district in the preparation/ upgradation of the Peoples Biodiversity Registers (PBRs). The TSG will also assist BMCs in maintaining, authenticating and validation of the PBR.
- ii. The TSG shall provide technical guidance to the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in the District in the preparation of the Biodiversity Management Plans for their respective areas.
- iii. The TSG shall recommend measures for “Capacity Building” of the BMCs under their jurisdiction and offer their expertise in the training programmes.
- iv. The TSG shall recommend to the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board (MBB), potential areas rich

in biodiversity/ cultural heritage for the establishment of BMCs and/or for their declaration as Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS).

- v. The TSG shall help the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board (MBB) in its negotiations with the individuals/community/other stake holders for the purposes of implementation of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and in awareness campaigns.
- vi. The District Nodal Officer shall nominate a forest staff, preferably in the rank of Forester where school teachers are not appointed/nominated, to function as Secretary to each of the BMCs/ group of BMCs constituted in the District for guiding the BMCs in account keeping and record maintenance.
- vii. The TSG shall meet as frequently as deemed fit but at least once in six (6) months. The Divisional Forest Officer, who is also a member of the TSG, shall convene the meetings in his capacity as the District Nodal Officer cum Convener of the TSG. The TSG is free to devise its own rules/methods for conducting business including determination of the quorum and the decision making process keeping in view the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and applicable Rules.
- viii. The minutes of each meeting of the TSG shall be recorded and submitted to the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board (MBB), by the District Nodal Officer cum Convener of the TSG.

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA  
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS AND ENVIRONMENT  
ORDER OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HOFF: MEGHALAYA

O.O No. 269 Dated Shillong, the \_\_\_ October 2014

In compliance to the Notification No.FOR.57/2002/Vol-I/531 dtd 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 issued by the Government of Meghalaya constituting Technical Support Group (TSG) in every district of Meghalaya, the following officers are hereby nominated to function as 'District Nodal Officers' cum Convener of the Technical Support Group (TSGs).

Sl No	Name of the District - TSG	District Nodal Officer cum Convener
1.	East Khasi Hills, TSG, Shillong	DFO (EKH Wildlife Division), Shillong
2.	West Khasi Hills, TSG, Nongstoin	DFO (WKH Social Forestry Division), Nongstoin
3.	South West Khasi Hills, TSG, Mawkyrwat	DFO (EKH Social Forestry Division), Shillong
4.	East Jaintia Hills, TSG, Khliehriat	DFO (JH Social Forestry Division), Jowai
5.	West Jaintia Hills, TSG, Jowai	DFO (JH Wildlife Division), Jowai
6.	Ri-Bhoi, TSG, Nongpoh	DFO (Ri-Bhoi Social Forestry Division), Nongpoh
7.	North Garo Hills, TSG, Resubelpara	DFO (E&W GH Wildlife Division), Tura
8.	West Garo Hills, TSG, Tura	DFO (E&W GH Wildlife Division), Tura
9.	East Garo Hills, TSG, Williamnagar	DFO (EGH Social Forestry Division), Williamnagar
10.	South Garo Hills, TSG, Baghmara	DFO (BNP), Baghmara (D. sec/lot)
11.	South West Garo Hills, TSG, Ampati	DFO (WGH Social Forestry Division), Tura

(S Kumar, IFS)  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF  
Meghalaya: Shillong.

MEMO No: MFC-1/4/2014-10524-6-2. dt 12-11-20

Copy to:

- Principal Secretary (Forests & Environment), Govt. of Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information.
- Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information.
- All Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Meghalaya Shillong for kind information
- All Chief Conservators of Forests, Meghalaya, Shillong, for kind information.
- All Conservators of Forests, Meghalaya Shillong for kind information.
- All DFO's, Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF  
Meghalaya: Shillong

**ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR**  
**NOTIFICATION**  
Dated Shillong, the 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.

**No.FOR.57/2002/Vol-II/Pt-1/26** - In pursuance of the decision of the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board in its meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2021, the Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to reconstitute the Technical Support Group (TSG) in all Districts of the State for the implementation of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 with the following members, with immediate effect and until further orders.

**Members of the Technical Support Group (TSG).**

- Divisional Forest Officer having his office/jurisdiction in the district nominated by the PCCF & HoFF - District Nodal Officer and Convener.
- Block Development Officers/his representatives of all Districts in Meghalaya.
- Director/Representative nominated by the Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, Govt. of Meghalaya.
- Director/Representative nominated by the Fisheries Department, Govt. of Meghalaya.
- Director/Representative nominated by the Agriculture Department, Govt. of Meghalaya.
- Director/Representative nominated by the Community & Rural Development Department, Meghalaya.
- Officer in Charge/Representative nominated by the Autonomous District Council concerned.
- Officer in Charge/Representative nominated by the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA), Govt. of Meghalaya.
- Officer in Charge /Representative nominated by the Botanical Survey of India, Shillong, Center.
- Officer in Charge/Representative nominated by the Zoological Survey of India, Shillong, Center.
- Chief Executive Officer/Representative, Shillong Cantonment Board.
- Chief Executive Officer/Representative, Shillong Municipal Board.
- Two (02) experts co-opted by the Member Secretary, MBB.

**Duties and Functions of the Technical Support Group (TSG).**

- The TSG shall provide technical guidance to the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in the district in the preparation/upgradation of the Peoples Biodiversity Registers (PBRs). The TSG will also assist BMCs in maintaining, authenticating and validation of the PBR.
- The TSG shall provide technical guidance to the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in the District preparation of the Biodiversity Management Plans for their respective areas.
- The TSG shall recommend measures for 'capacity building' of the BMCs under their jurisdiction and offer their expertise in the training programmes.
- The TSG shall recommend to the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board (MBB) potential areas rich in biodiversity/cultural heritage for the

## EXPERT COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

Meghalaya Biodiversity Board provisionally reconstituted three (3) State Level Expert Committees under Rule 13 (1) of the Meghalaya Biological Diversity Rules, 2010 to assist the Board for the purposes of the Biological Diversity Act and Rules as under:

- i. Expert Committee on “Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS)”
- ii. Expert Committee on “Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)”
- iii. Expert Committee on “Research Studies”


<b>OFFICE ORDER</b>	<b>2. Expert Committee on "Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)"</b>
<p><b>Sub: Re-constitution of the Expert Committees of Meghalaya Biodiversity Board under Rule 13(1) of Meghalaya Biological Diversity Rules 2010.</b></p> <p>In supersession of the earlier order constituting Expert Committees vide letter No. SBB.1/2012/BoardMeetings/1965-2001 dated 14-05-2013, No. SBB.1/2012/BoardMeetings/1965-2001 dated 14-5-2013, O.O. No. 2 dated 17-11-2016 and O.O. No.3 dated 22-03-2017, the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board hereby re-constitutes the following three (3) State Level Expert Committees with immediate effect under Rule 13 (1) of the Meghalaya Biological Diversity Rules 2010 to assist the Board for the purposes of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Rules.</p> <p><b>1. Expert Committee on "Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS)"</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chief Wildlife Warden or his nominee, Meghalaya, Shillong – Chairman.</li> <li>2. Member Secretary, MBB/Representative nominated by Member Secretary, MBB.</li> <li>3. Director/Scientist in Charge, Botanical Survey of India, Shillong.</li> <li>4. Director/Scientist in Charge, Zoological Survey of India, Shillong.</li> <li>5. Shri. Tambor Lyngdoh, Mawphlang Village, East Khasi Hills.</li> <li>6. Dr. K. Upadhyya, Asst. Prof. (Botany) College of Technology, NEHU.</li> <li>7. Dr. K. Chaudhary, Asst. Prof. (Botany), Lady Keane College, Shillong.</li> <li>8. Dr. Wympher Langtang, Asst. Prof. (Botany) St. Anthony's College.</li> <li>9. Dr. Ester Jones Marbaniang, Principal, Goodwill College, Laitumkhrah.</li> <li>10. Two (02) experts co-opted by the Member Secretary, MBB.</li> <li>11. Two (02) District Nodal Officers co-opted by the Member Secretary, MBB.</li> </ol> <p><b>Terms of reference:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The BHS Committee shall look into the matters concerning BHS and OECM (Other effective area-based conservation measures) in Meghalaya.</li> <li>2. The BHS Committee shall propose sites for BHS and OECM in Meghalaya.</li> <li>3. The BHS Committee shall guide and assist the Board in conducting survey and documentation (flora and fauna) of the proposed BHS sites.</li> <li>4. Assist the BMCs/BHS Monitoring Committees in utilizing the BHS fund for conservation and sustainable use of bio-resources.</li> <li>5. The Committee will meet as per requirement of the Board.</li> <li>6. Look into any other related issue as directed by the Board.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shri. Pyngbiang Singh Nongbri, IFS (Retd.), CCF, Meghalaya – Chairman.</li> <li>2. Member Secretary, MBB/Representative nominated by Member Secretary, MBB</li> <li>3. Prof. D. Syiem, Biochemistry Department, NEHU.</li> <li>4. Prof. H. Kayang, Botany Department, NEHU.</li> <li>5. Director/Representative, North East Slow Food &amp; Agro-biodiversity Society (NESFAS), Shillong.</li> <li>6. Manager, Meghalaya Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium, Directorate of Agriculture Building, Cleve Colony, Shillong.</li> <li>7. Advisor (Law) nominated by Advocate General, Govt. of Meghalaya.</li> <li>8. Chief Operating Officer/Representative, Meghalaya State Rural Livelihoods Society, Dhankehi, Shillong.</li> <li>9. Dr. S. G. Christopher, Assistant Director (Piggery), AH &amp; Veterinary Department, Shillong.</li> <li>10. Two (02) experts co-opted by the Member Secretary, MBB.</li> <li>11. Two (02) District Nodal Officers co-opted by the Member Secretary, MBB.</li> </ol> <p><b>Terms of reference:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The ABS Committee shall look into the matters concerning ABS and its implementation in Meghalaya.</li> <li>2. Assist the Board in conducting Workshops and Awareness Campaigns for ABS awareness and its implementation.</li> <li>3. Guide and assist the BMCs in utilizing the ABS monetary and non-monetary benefits for conservation and sustainable use of bio-resources.</li> <li>4. Assist the Board in identifying the "Chain of Custody" of biological resources that attracts the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.</li> <li>5. The Committee will meet as per requirement of the Board.</li> <li>6. Guide and assist the Board on legal matters related to implementation of ABS.</li> <li>7. Look into any other related issue as directed by the Board.</li> </ol>

**Expert Committee on "Research Studies"**

1. Prof. S.K. Barik, Director, CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow – Chairman.
2. Member Secretary, MBB/Representative nominated by Member Secretary, MBB.
3. Prof. Naitale West Klorkongor, Associate Prof., IIM, Shillong.
4. Dr. C. S. Rao, Dept. of Botany, St. Anthony's college, Shillong.
5. Prof. (Retd.) B.K. Tiwari, NEHU.
6. Dr. K. Upadhyya, Asst. Prof., College of Technology, NEHU.
7. Dr. Vincent T. Darling, Zoologist, Director Centre for sustainable Development Studies, Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong.

**Terms of reference:**


1. The Committee on "Research Studies" shall evaluate the project reports of the Project Assistants of the Board and the external projects sponsored by the Board.
2. Assist the Board in selection of topics on the proposed research studies to be taken up by the Board.
3. The Committee will meet as per requirement of the Board.
4. Look into any other related issue as directed by the Board.



(Sd/-) A. Azeem, IRTS  
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Forests & Environment Department &  
Chairman, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, Shillong

No.SBB.1/Board Meetings/Pt-II/2020/7935-7936 Dated Shillong, the 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2022

1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya, Shillong for information.
2. The PCCF & HoFF, Meghalaya, Shillong for information.
3. The Principal Secretary/Commissioner & Secretary to Govt. of Meghalaya, Department of Agriculture/Law/Horticulture/Fishery/Planning (for MBDIA)/Vet & AI/ CR, RD for information and to facilitate the nominations concerned.
4. The Secretary, National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai for information.
5. The Secretary, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, Shillong for info. & necessary action.
6. The Joint Secretary Forests & Environment Department for information.
7. All expert committee members for information & necessary action.
8. Files of MBB concerned.



(Sd/-) Syed Md. Vaseem, IRTS  
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Forests & Environment Department &  
Chairman, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, Shillong



**Pale Grass Butterfly (*Pseudozizeeria maha*)**  
**PC: Janaibakor Jana**

# 4

## MEETINGS OF THE BOARD FOR THE YEAR 2024-2025

TWO BOARD MEETINGS WERE HELD DURING THE YEAR 2024-2025:



24<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting



25<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting

## OTHER MEETINGS OF THE BOARD:

### 1. State Level Quality People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) Evaluation and Monitoring Committee:



(8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the State Level PBR Evaluation and Monitoring Committee)

### 2. Meeting With The Member Secretary and Non-Official Members of Kerala State Biodiversity Board on their visit to Meghalaya:



**3. Meeting with few BMC Members and officials from Meghalaya Biodiversity Board in the presence of Dr. Achuta N. Shukla, Additional Director/Scientist-E, CS-III (Biodiversity Division), Ministry of Environment, Forest And Climate Change Government of India on his visit to Meghalaya:**





**Wahniangleng, Myllem  
PC: Mercyful Khongmuid**



## BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES (BMCs)

Under Section 41 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Rule 23 of the Meghalaya Biological Diversity Rules, 2010, every local body is mandated to form a Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC). The BMC is responsible for conserving biodiversity, promoting sustainable use of bio resources, ensuring equitable benefit sharing and documenting local biodiversity, including habitats, landraces, local varieties and traditional knowledge.

BMCs play a vital role in decision-making and both the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) and State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) must consult them on matters related to biological resources. They are also empowered to collect fees from individuals or organizations accessing biological resources for commercial purposes within their jurisdiction.

As per the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023, Section 41(B) states “The composition of the Biodiversity Management Committee shall be such as may be prescribed by the State Government:

Provided that the number of members of the said Committee shall not be less than seven and not exceeding eleven”. The Chairperson is elected from amongst the members of the Committee in a meeting to be chaired by the headman of the local body.

### OFFICE OF THE BMC

The BMC will function from the office premises to be provided by the local body.

### TENURE OF THE BMC

The tenure of the BMC will be five years / co-terminus with the tenure of the local body however, the existing BMC will continue to operate, until a new committee is constituted.

### ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BMCs

The BMCs would, in addition to the preparation of the People’s Biodiversity Register (PBR), participate in ensuring:

1. i) Conservation and sustainable utilization of biological resources.
- ii) Eco-restoration of the local biodiversity.
- iii) Proper feedback to the SBB in the matter of IPR, Traditional Knowledge and local
- iv) Biodiversity issues, wherever feasible and essential feedback to be provided to the NBA.
- v) Management of Heritage Sites including Heritage Trees, Animals/ Micro organisms etc., and Sacred Groves and Sacred Water bodies.
- vi) Regulation of access to the biological resources and/ or associated Traditional Knowledge, for commercial and research purposes.
- vii) Sharing of usufructs arising out of commercial use of bio-resources.

- viii) Conservation of traditional varieties/breeds of economically important plants/animals.
- ix) Biodiversity Education and Awareness building.
- x) Documentation, enable procedure to develop bio-cultural protocols.
- xi) Sustainable Use and Benefit Sharing.
- xii) Protection of Traditional Knowledge recorded in PBR

- 2. Prepare and Maintain PBRs:** BMCs are responsible for preparing, updating and validating People’s Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) in consultation with local communities. These registers record access to biological resources, traditional knowledge, fees collected and benefit-sharing details.
- 3. Advisory Role:** BMCs provide advice on matters referred by the State or National Biodiversity Authority and maintain data on local traditional healers (Vaidis, Hakims and others) who use biological resources.
- 4. Manage Local Biodiversity Funds:** As per Section 43 of the Biodiversity Act and Rule 24 of the Meghalaya Rules, BMCs are to manage local biodiversity funds for conservation, sustainable use and socio-economic development.

### CONSTITUTION OF BMCS:

The cumulative tally of BMCs constituted till 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2025 was 6485. The number of BMCs formed in all the Districts of Meghalaya is tabulated below:

District	Number of BMCs constituted till 31/03/2023	Total number of BMCs constituted during the year 2024-2025	Total number of BMCs till 31/03/2025
East Khasi Hills	878	-	878
South West Khasi Hills	316	-	316
West Khasi Hills	875	1	876
Ri-Bhoi	616	-	616
East Jaintia Hills	164	-	164
North Garo Hills	522	-	522
West Jaintia Hills	293	-	293
East Garo Hills	503	-	503
South West Garo Hills	475	-	475
South Garo Hills	704	-	704
West Garo Hills	1129	-	1129
Municipal Board	09	-	09
<b>Total</b>	<b>6484</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6485</b>



*Anish Singh*

**Weisawdong Falls, Sohra  
PC: Mr. Anish Singh**



## MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE BMCs

### STATE LEVEL BIODIVERSITY AWARD:

State Level Biodiversity Award was awarded on the occasion of the International Day for Biological Diversity to the following BMCs and Individuals:

#### Best Biodiversity Management Committee:

Paglapara BMC, Zikzak C&RD Block, South West Garo Hills District, won the State Level Biodiversity Award 2024 under the category ‘**Best Biodiversity Management Committee**’ for maintaining and conserving on their own 74 hectares of Forest Reserve since 50 years in a sustainable and equitable manner. The village Local Body for Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) has made efforts in effective management and conservation of the biological resources in an equitable and sustainable manner. The BMC has been very vigilant in keeping the Reserve Forest safe by restricting the overuse of Resources of the Forest. Anyone having been found guilty using the Forest Resources without Prior Permission had to pay certain penalties. A person if found guilty would have to pay a penalty of one bull, 50 kg rice, Rs 5000/- and 5 kg sugar. Until now, seven numbers of individuals have given the penalties for non compliance to the rules of the Forest.



**Biodiversity Conservation and sustainable use of Biological Resources:**

Jermanai BMC under Umling Block, Ri-Bhoi District won the State Level Biodiversity Award 2024 under the category “**Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable use of Biological resources.**” EC Members of Jermanai BMC spearhead efforts to conserve biodiversity by implementing strategies such as expanded plantation area, habitat restoration, species protection and sustainable resource management. They work closely with community members and local authorities to develop and implement conservation plans tailored to the village’s unique ecological landscape.





**Silver-eared mesia (*Leiothrix argentauris*)**  
**PC: Antony Grossy**



## PEOPLE'S BIODIVERSITY REGISTER (PBR)

The People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) is a register containing comprehensive information on the available biological resources (flora and fauna), their medicinal uses and Traditional Knowledge associated with them as mandated by the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. Through a collaborative effort involving the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs), Local Communities and Technical Support Groups, the PBRs are prepared to serve as a vital tool for conservation and determining access and benefit sharing. By systematically documenting the availability and uses of local biological resources, PBRs empower communities to take charge of their natural heritage, fostering sustainable management and conservation practices. As a legal document, the PBR supports local ownership claims and safeguards Traditional Knowledge against bio-piracy, while also promoting development planning that is both ecologically sustainable and socially justifiable. Therefore, PBR play a pivotal role in preserving biodiversity for future generations and advancing sustainable development by valuing and recognizing the importance of community knowledge. This approach not only protects the environment but also ensures that the benefits derived from biological resources are shared equitably, supporting the well-being of local communities.

The People's Biodiversity Register preparation involves community-driven steps like free listing, where local community document biological resources (Flora and Fauna); Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) mapping, which creates map highlighting resource locations; and transect walks, where community members observe and record resources in different ecological zones. These steps help document local biodiversity, identify conservation areas, and inform sustainable resource management practices.

The custodians of the PBR are the respective BMCs, and hence permission from the concerned BMC as well the Board will be required to access it. Meghalaya Biodiversity Board is actively assisting the BMCs in the up-gradation of their respective PBRs. The upgraded PBR will then be scrutinized and validated by the State Level People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) Quality Evaluation Monitoring Committee that has been constituted and duly notified by the State Government vide Notification No. FOR/CC/10/2016/Pt/212 dated 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 consisting of seven members before handing them over to the respective BMCs.

The total number of BMC constituted by Meghalaya Biodiversity Board till date is 6485 and subsequently prepared their respective PBRs. However, these PBRs require up-gradation to ensure an accurate and effective documentation of the available resources. The total number of PBR upgraded during FY 2024-2025 is 176.

**LIST OF PBR UPGRADED DURING THE FINANCIAL  
YEAR 2024-2025**

SI No	NAME OF THE BMC	BLOCK	DISTRICT
1	Lailyngdoh	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
2	Amsarim	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
3	Krangpamptdong	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
4	Amlarem	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
5	Amshipai	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
6	Shmia Shyang	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
7	Pamtadong	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
8	Ammutong	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
9	Padu Mawsku	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
10	Padu Bah	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
11	Mawngap	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
12	Amkhloo Pamtbuh	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
13	Jaralood	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
14	Amtasam	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
15	Pdengshakhap	Amlarem Block	West Jaintia Hills
16	Mawpun Kshaid	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
17	Nongsder	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
18	Umeit	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
19	Umiam	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
20	Umroi Madan	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
21	Mawtneng	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi

SI No	NAME OF THE BMC	BLOCK	DISTRICT
22	Mynsain	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
23	Pynthor	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
24	Umshaproh	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
25	Nongrim ladew	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
26	Tyrsha	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
27	Mawshrieh	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
28	Liarbang	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
29	Moiambei	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
30	Sohliya	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
31	Palwi	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
32	Mawshut	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
33	Khlawblei lumpohwin	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
34	Lum mushi	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
35	Lumsohpieng	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
36	Umden umbathiang	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
37	Umtangling	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
38	Lumrit	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
39	Lumsohphoh	Bhoirymbong Block	Ri Bhoi
40	Laitmawsiang	Khatar Shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
41	Kyrdemkhla	Khatar Shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
42	Mawkma	Khatar Shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
43	Mawbeh	Khatar Shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
44	Madanlyngdoh	Khatar Shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills

SI No	NAME OF THE BMC	BLOCK	DISTRICT
45	Umtyngar	Khatar Shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
46	Mawlyndiar	Khatar Shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
47	Tyniar	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
48	Thangtim	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
49	Mawthawtieng	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
50	Phong	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
51	Mawlyngad	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
52	Mawmang	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
53	Khrang	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
54	Myiong	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
55	Mawsohmad	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
56	Khrohiawhiar	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
57	Nohshut	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
58	Mawthuli	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
59	Wahsohra	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
60	Diengsong	Khatar shnong Laitkroh	East Khasi Hills
61	Madanrwan	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
62	Niawkmai	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
63	Lakadong	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
64	Tongkiad	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
65	Iooksi Kyanmynsar Thlongmoo	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
66	Iooksi Iapkhla	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
67	Umdienglieng	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills

SI No	NAME OF THE BMC	BLOCK	DISTRICT
68	Kyrwen	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
69	Priang	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
70	Sahsniang A	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
71	Sahsniang B	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
72	Tum Tum	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
73	Madankynsaw	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
74	Mulieh	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
75	Laskein	Laskein Block	West Jaintia Hills
76	Laitlum	Mawkynrew Block	East Khasi Hills
77	Thynroit	Mawkynrew Block	East Khasi Hills
78	Laitkyrhong	Mawkynrew Block	East Khasi Hills
79	Mawsna	Mawkynrew Block	East Khasi Hills
80	Khliehasem	Mawkynrew Block	East Khasi Hills
81	Umsham	Mawkynrew Block	East Khasi Hills
82	Khwad	Mawkynrew Block	East Khasi Hills
83	Lynshing	Mawkynrew Block	East Khasi Hills
84	Shyrtham	Mawkynrew Block	East Khasi Hills
85	Nongpyrdi	Mawkynrew Block	East Khasi Hills
86	Laitjem	Mawphlang Block	East Khasi Hills
87	Smit	Mawryngkneng Block	East Khasi Hills
88	Mawkathein	Mawryngkneng Block	East Khasi Hills
89	Ur Masi U Joh	Mawryngkneng Block	East Khasi Hills
90	Laitkseh	Mawryngkneng Block	East Khasi Hills

SI No	NAME OF THE BMC	BLOCK	DISTRICT
91	Umphrup	Mawryngkneng Block	East Khasi Hills
92	Umiew Maw u Sam	Mawryngkneng Block	East Khasi Hills
93	Jyntah	Mawryngkneng Block	East Khasi Hills
94	Umtngew	Mawryngkneng Block	East Khasi Hills
95	Umphyrnai	Mawryngkneng Block	East Khasi Hills
96	Oragitok (New)	Rongram Block	West Garo Hills
97	Romba Adingre	Rongram Block	West Garo Hills
98	Arbella Chidekge (New)	Rongram Block	West Garo Hills
99	Silchotchigre	Rongram Block	West Garo Hills
100	Chiwategre	Rongram Block	East Garo Hills
101	Chokhagre	Rongram Block	West Garo Hills
102	Asimagre (New)	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
103	Pakwakgre	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
104	Rangmalgre Songgital	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
105	Rongsakgre	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
106	Mangrugre	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
107	Bawegre	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
108	Songmagre (New)	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
109	Dinajekgre	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
110	Tongbolgre (New)	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
111	Chiading	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
112	Dilma debrakgre	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
113	Dilma ampanggre	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills

SI No	NAME OF THE BMC	BLOCK	DISTRICT
114	Dilma Rimtongre	Samanda Block	East Garo Hills
115	Mawsmmai	Shella Block	East Khasi Hills
116	Nohkalikai	Shella Block	East Khasi Hills
117	Mawmluh	Shella Block	East Khasi Hills
118	Kutmadan	Shella Block	East Khasi Hills
119	Ummulong	Thadlaskein	West Jaintia Hills
120	Demthring	Thadlaskein	West Jaintia Hills
121	Moodymmai	Thadlaskein	West Jaintia Hills
122	Mookyndur	Thadlaskein	West Jaintia Hills
123	Borkusi (mawthlen)	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
124	Borkhatsari	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
125	Madanheh	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
126	Nalapara	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
127	Lalumpam	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
128	Nongagang	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
129	Dhangang	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
130	Umtham	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
131	Umwang them	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
132	Khmar	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
133	Umshakait	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
134	Purduwa	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
135	Tomonpoanglong	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
136	Himpala	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi

SI No	NAME OF THE BMC	BLOCK	DISTRICT
137	Mawryngkang	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
138	Umsekhlieng	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
139	Kynton phanram	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
140	Umpyrdong	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
141	Umshit	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
142	Ryndhi	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
143	Mawkhla	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
144	Umta nongthymmai	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
145	Umta rim	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
146	Mawkangi	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
147	Umklai	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
148	Pahambir lum	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
149	Pahammardoloi	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
150	Umbuda	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
151	Mawroh	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
152	Umjarasi	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
153	Mawtnum	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
154	Pahamriniai	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
155	Umdihar	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
156	Sarigang	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
157	Sohlait rim	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
158	Nartap	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi

SI No	NAME OF THE BMC	BLOCK	DISTRICT
159	Lumkya	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
160	Langpohdon	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
161	Umsawnongkharai	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
162	Rongmesek	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
163	Pahampdem	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
164	Pahamdumu	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
165	Nongrim jymie	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
166	Bleishah	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
167	Mawlong sepngi	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
168	Jermanai	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
169	Korstep	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
170	Umrangksai	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
171	Lumbyrhing	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
172	Pahamrioh lum	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
173	Umlyngkdait	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
174	Umphing	Umling Block	Ri Bhoi
175	Umsiaw	Umsning Block	Ri Bhoi
176	Thad	Umsning Block	Ri Bhoi

**BMC MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THE PBR PREPARATION/UPGRADATION WHICH INCLUDE PRA EXERCISE, TRANSECT WORK AND FREE LISTING OF THE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**



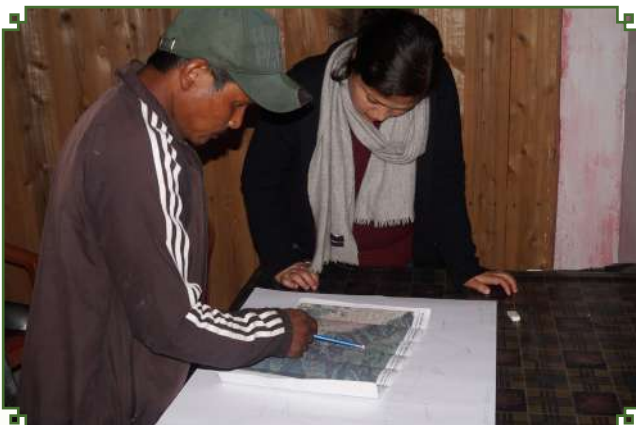
**(Domsokhai BMC, Ranikor Block, South West Khasi Hills)**



**(Mawmluh BMC, Shella Bholaganj Block, East Khasi Hills District)**



(Nohkalikai BMC, Shella Bholaganj Block, East Khasi Hills District)



(Kutmadan BMC, Shella Bholaganj Block, East Khasi Hills District)

## **SIGNING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU) BETWEEN MEGHALAYA BIODIVERSITY BOARD, NORTH EAST SOCIETY FOR AGROECOLOGY SUPPORT (NESFAS) AND THE NATURE CONSERVANCY CENTRE (TNC)**

The Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, North East Society for Agroecology Support (NESFAS) and The Nature Conservancy Centre on the 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 to support community based conservation efforts in Meghalaya. This landmark collaboration aims to empower and provide Technical support to Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) to upgrade their People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) and also provide capacity building to the BMCs for the implementation of the Biological Act, 2002, thereby fostering collective conservation initiatives that benefit both the environment and local communities. By bringing together these key stakeholders, the partnership highlights the crucial role of collaborative governance in preserving Meghalaya's rich biodiversity and indigenous knowledge. Activities related to conservation, restoration and improved management of natural resources will also be taken up. The event underscored the importance of supporting community-led approaches to conservation, recognizing the intricate relationship between the State natural heritage and the traditional practices of its indigenous communities. Further, the 'Training Module for People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs)' was also launched on the same day. This training manual is a valuable resource for the preparation of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs), a crucial tool for documenting and conserving the state's rich biodiversity.



**(Signing of MoU between MBB, NESFAS and TNC)**





**Nohkalikai Falls, Sohra**  
**PC: Amandame Lywait**



## ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING (ABS)

Notice for Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) in Meghalaya: In compliance with the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004, MBB published a public notice in the Meghalaya Guardian dated October 28, 2022, regarding the implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) mechanisms in the State.

All commercial users involved in the utilization of biological resources from Meghalaya are hereby requested to submit a formal intimation to the Board using the prescribed Form-I and Form-A, along with an application fee of ₹5,000 (subject to revision from time to time). The submission must be made within three months from the date of issuance of this notice.

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA**  
**MEGHALAYA BIODIVERSITY BOARD**  
 (A STATUTORY BODY SET UP UNDER BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY ACT, 2002)  
 Silviculture Building, Lower Lachumiere, Shillong – 793001

### NOTICE

The Biological Diversity Act has come into force in India in 2002. The main objectives of the Act are – conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and associated knowledge.

As per section 7 of the Act, read with rule 17 of the Meghalaya Biological Diversity Rules, 2010, accessing bio-resources and associated traditional knowledge of the State of Meghalaya for commercial utilization requires prior intimation to the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board. Section 55 (2) of the Act further provides that whoever contravenes or attempts to contravene or abets the contravention of the provisions of Section 7 or any order made under section 24 (2) shall be punishable with imprisonment of a term which may extend to three years, or with fine which may extend to five lakh rupees, or with both.

Therefore, in compliance to the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 & Rules, 2004 commercial users involved in utilization of bio-resources in Meghalaya are requested to intimate the Board in specified format (Form-I & Form - A) along with application fee of Rs. 5000/- or as revised from time to time within three months of issuance of this notice.

Please visit – <http://meghbiodiversity.nis.in>, <http://nbaindia.org> for further information or clarification, if any.

MIPR No.1218  
Dt 27/10/22

*Sd/-*  
Member Secretary  
Meghalaya Biodiversity Board



**Pitcher Plant (*Nepenthes Khasiana*)**  
**PC: Abu Hang Samuel**



## PUBLICATIONS OF THE BOARD

During the Financial Year 2024-2025, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board published two Posters on Biodiversity and one booklet titled 'Exotic ornamental Plants cultivated in Meghalaya':



1. World Cup Insect (Preserve the 'Niangtaser' before it becomes Extinct)



2. Waterbirds seen in Umiam Lake and its Catchment Area



3. Exotic Ornamental Plants Cultivated in Meghalaya



**Reserve Forest, Lawsohtun  
PC: Khrawjingmut Kharmalki**



## ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD

### INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (IDB) CELEBRATION- 2024

The International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) was commemorated by Meghalaya Biodiversity Board (MBB) on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2024 on the theme **‘Be part of the Plan’** at U Soso Tham Auditorium, State Central Library, Shillong, by involving Government officials from various Line Departments, School and University Students, BMC Members, Media and Stakeholders with an aim to promote and increase understanding and awareness among the public on biodiversity conservation.

Shri P. Bakshi, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Forest and Environment Department and Chairman of the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board (MBB), delivered the keynote address. Shri R.S. Gill, IFS, PCCF & HoFF, Meghalaya, and Shri S.M. Sahai, IFS, PCCF (Wildlife & Biodiversity), emphasized the critical importance of ecosystems and biodiversity in their address.

Addressing the gathering as Chief Guest, Shri D.P. Wahlang, IAS, Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, underscored the importance of biodiversity and the State rich ecological heritage within the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot. He called for collective action under the theme “Be Part of the Plan” and highlighted the successful constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) across the State, along with ongoing preparation and upgradation of People’s Biodiversity Registers (PBRs).

Dr. D Evanoreen Ann Khongwir, Scientist, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board gave a brief presentation on the activities and glimpses of the Achievements of the Board.

On this occasion, two posters on biodiversity viz: **‘Waterbirds seen in Umiam Lake & its Catchment Areas’** and **‘World Cup Insect’** along with one booklet on **‘Exotic Ornamental Plants Cultivated in Meghalaya’** was also released by the Chief Guest and other dignitaries.

The Best Biodiversity Management Committee Award (BMC), 2024 was given to Paglapara BMC, Zikzak C&RD Block, South West Garo Hills, Meghalaya. Jermanai BMC, Umling C&RD Block, Ri-Bhoi District received the State Level Biodiversity Award 2024 - under the category - **‘Best Conservation and Sustainable use of Bio-resources’**. Award of Appreciation to the DNOs was also presented for their dedication and conservation work done for conservation of biodiversity in the State.

On the occasion, prizes were awarded to winners of various competitions, including a photography contest on the theme *“Explore, Capture and Share the Rich Biodiversity of Meghalaya,”* a quiz competition conducted in collaboration with St. Anthony’s College, Shillong, and a short film competition (open category) organized by Shillong College in collaboration with the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board. The programme also featured screening of the award-winning short film *“Shattered Reflections: Meghalaya’s Rivers in Distress.”*

The IDB 2024 celebration was also observed at various Districts by the District Nodal Officers (Biodiversity) of the State by involving BMC Members, School Students/Universities and other stakeholders by organizing various activities in conjunction with Mission Life in order to create awareness among the public at large for biodiversity conservation.



(Chairman of Paglapara BMC receiving the best BMC Award 2024 by Shri. R S Gill, IFS PCCF & HoFF)



(Shri. S.M Sahai, IFS (PCCF) (Wildlife & Biodiversity) distributing Prizes to the winners of Quiz Competition)



(Motivational speech by a member of Jermanai BMC)



(Shri. S.M Sahai, IFS (PCCF) (Wildlife & Biodiversity) distributing prizes to the winners of Photography Competition)



(Speech by the Chief Guest, Shri. D. P. Wahlang, IAS, Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya)



(Release of booklet 'Exotic Ornamental Plants Cultivated in Meghalaya' by the Dignitaries)



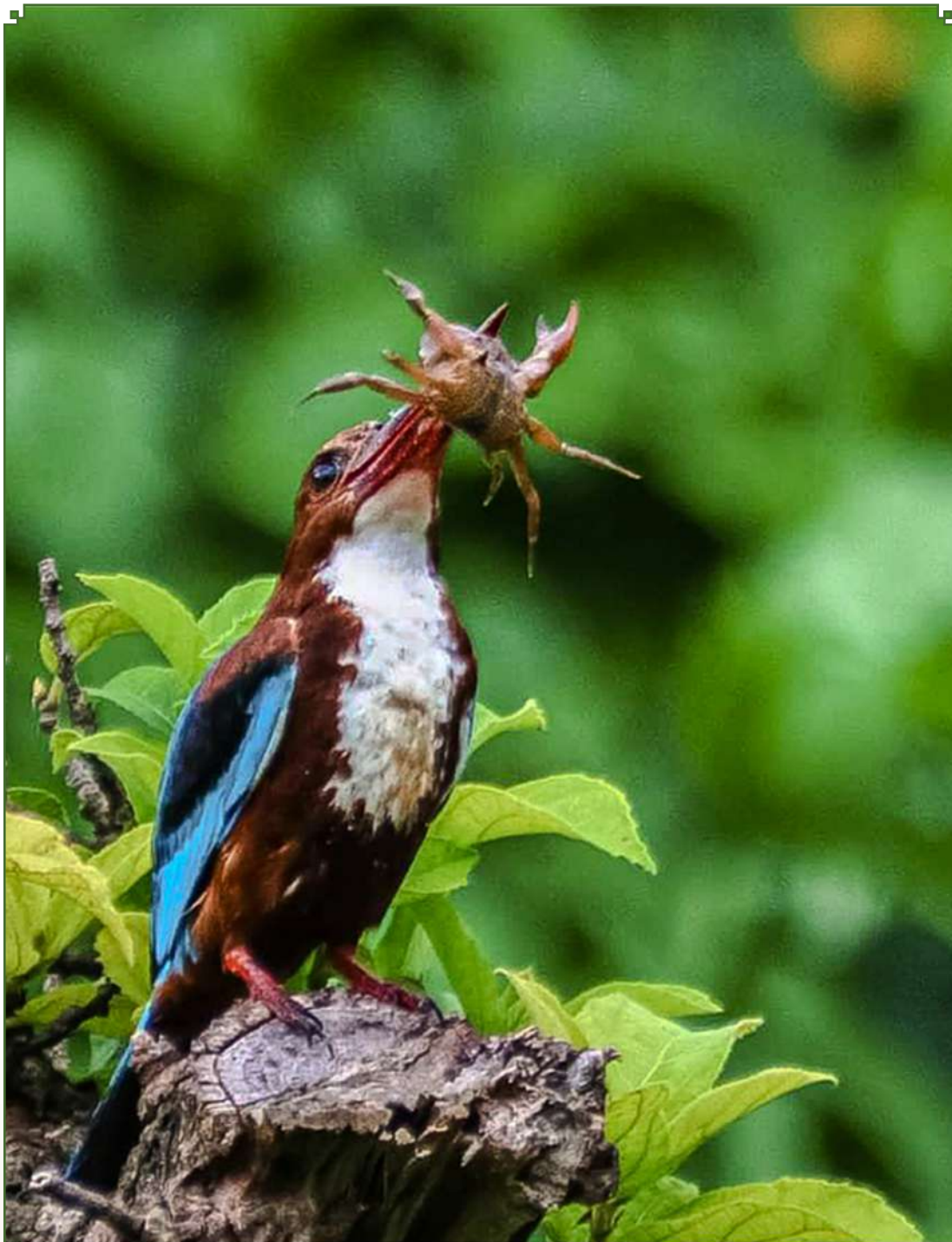
(Dignitaries releasing the posters during IDB celebration)

## PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Online Photography competition conducted by Meghalaya Biodiversity Board on the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity, 2024.

Theme: 'Zoom into the Biodiversity of Meghalaya'.

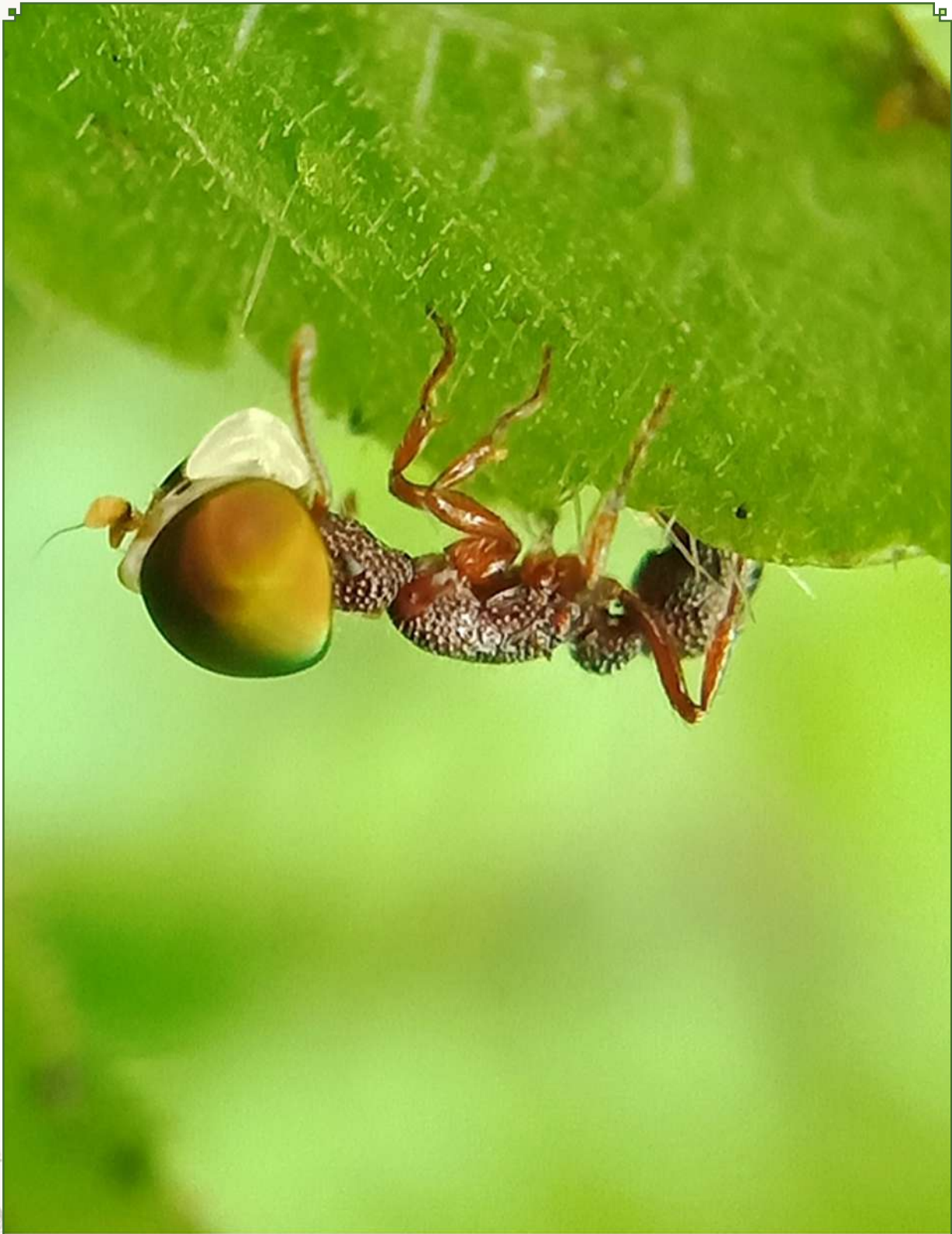
### WINNERS OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



**1<sup>st</sup> prize (Photography Competition)**  
**Tengsal M. Sangma**



**2<sup>nd</sup> prize (Photography Competition)**  
**Anurag Koch**



**3<sup>rd</sup> prize (Photography Competition)**  
**Lucas Pohti**



**Consolation prize (Photography Competition)  
Unsabet Skhem Hoojon**



**Consolation prize (Photography Competition)**  
**Abu Hang Samuel**

## GLIMPSES OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, 2024 CELEBRATED IN OTHER DISTRICTS OF MEGHALAYA:

**I. Kmwamrum, Mawsynram Block, East Khasi Hills:** The International Day for Biological Diversity was observed in Kmwamrum, Mawsynram Block, East Khasi Hills District by the Protection Range Khasi Hills Wildlife Division with active participation from the BMC members and school students.



(Celebration of IDB by the Office of Protection Range Khasi Hills Wildlife Division Kmwamrum, Mawsynram Block, East Khasi Hills District)

**II. Nongstoin, West Khasi Hills District:** An awareness programme was organized by the District Nodal Officer (Social Forestry), Nongstoin, West Khasi Hills, with active participation from the BMC members and school students.



(Celebration of IDB in Nongstoin, West Khasi Hills District)

**III. Jaintia Hills District, Jowai:** As part of the International Day for Biological Diversity 2024, the Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Social Forestry Division, Jaintia Hills, Jowai, and the Range Forest Officer, Social Forestry Range, Khliehriat, along with school students, participated in the celebration by organizing a cleaning drive and tree plantation programme.



(Celebration of IDB in Jaintia Hills District, Jowai and Range Forest Officer, Social Forestry Range, Khliehriat along with the School students.)

## AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS:

Twenty Seven awareness campaigns were conducted by MBB during the year 2024-2025 at Block Level in different Districts of the State on provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 in collaboration with the Office of the Block Development Officers concerned and NGOs. The list of various awareness campaigns conducted at different places are as follows:

Sl. No	Date	Location	Block	District
1	23/04/2024	SURE Office	Jowai	West Jaintia Hills
2	24/04/2024	NESFAS HQ	Laitumkhrah	East Khasi Hills
3	25/04/2024	Khwenng Community Hall	Bhoirymbong	Ri Bhoi
4	17/06/2024	Pormawlai	Mawshynrut	West Khasi Hills
5	26/06/2024	Pongkung Community Hall	Mawsynram	East Khasi Hills
6	08/08/2024	Nongwah Community Hall	Mawphlang	East Khasi Hills
7	09/08/2024	Laitryngew Community Hall	Shella Bholaganj	East Khasi Hills
8	05/09/2024	Kongripara Anganwadi Centre	Umling	Ri Bhoi
9	06/09/2024	Domsohkhai	Ranikor	South West Khasi Hills
10	16/09/2024	Songsak Block Office	Songsak	East Garo Hills
11	26/09/2024	Riangkhain	Mawshynrut	West Khasi Hills
12	27/09/2024	Pormawlai	Mawshynrut	West Khasi Hills
13	28/09/2024	Pormawlai	Mawshynrut	West Khasi Hills
14	01/10/2024	Mawtneng	Bhoirymbong	Ri-Bhoi
15	10/10/2024	Saipung Block Office	Saipung	East Jaintia Hills
16	17/10/2024	Baghmara Block Office	Baghmara	South Garo Hills
17	25/11/2024	Pormawlai Village	Mawshynrut	West Khasi Hills
18	11/12/2024	Sohkha Mission Community Hall	Amlarem	West Jaintia Hills
19	28/01/2025	Pahambir Community Hall	Umling	Ri Bhoi
20	31/01/2025	Lum Nehru Park	Umsning	Ri Bhoi
21	08/02/2025	Riangmaw and Riangdem	Mawshynrut	West Khasi Hills
22	18/02/2025	Office of the Meghalaya Integrated Mountain Development Initiative (MIMDI)	Umsning	Ri Bhoi

Sl. No	Date	Location	Block	District
23	27/02/2025	Seminar Hall, State Central Library	Shillong	East Khasi Hills
24	14/03/2025	PyndengMawlieh Community Hall	Mawshynrut	West Khasi Hills
25	19/03/2025	Chokpot VEC Functionaries Meeting Hall	Chokpot	South Garo Hills
26	20/03/2025	Rongram Block Office	Rongram	West Garo Hills
27	22/3/2025	Riangmaw	Mawshynrut	West Khasi Hills

**FEW PICTURES OF THE AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS:**



(Khweng Block Office, Umsning Block, Ri-Bhoi District)



(Baghmara Block Office, South Garo Hills District)



(Domsokhai, Ranikor Block, South West Khasi Hills)



(Mawtneng, Bhoirymbong Block, Ri-Bhoi District)



(Pahambir, Umling Block, Ri-Bhoi District)



(Nongwah, Mawsynram Block, East Khasi hills District)



(Chokpot Block, South Garo Hills District)

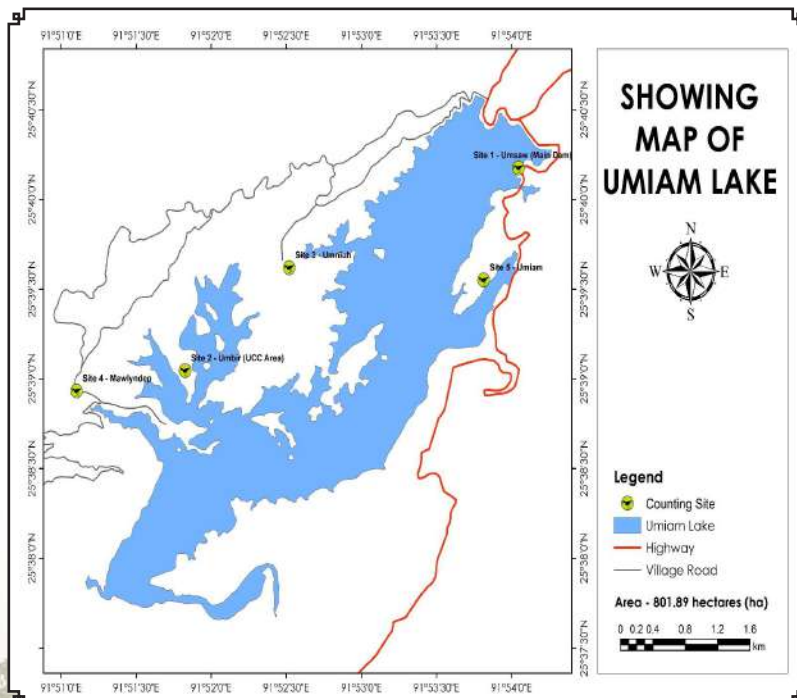


## ASIAN WATERBIRD CENSUS

The Asian Waterbird Census 2024 was conducted in collaboration with the Khasi Hills Wildlife Division of the Forest Department on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2024. The Census was simultaneously carried out at five (05) sites *viz.* Umsaw, Umbir, Umniuh, Mawlyndep and Umiam, thereby covering the wetland areas of Umiam Lake, Ri-Bhoi District, with the support and guidance from professional experts, Technical staff of Meghalaya Biodiversity Board and from the Forest Department. The BMC members also participated enthusiastically during the exercise. The experts who guided during the entire exercise were Smti. H. Lato, IFS, DFO Social Forestry Division, East Khasi Hills, Shillong; Shri. M. Kharsyntiew, MFS, Assistant Conservator of Forests; Dr. Dipankar Lahkar and Shri. Pranjal Deka, Aranyak, Assam. During the exercise a total of 155 waterbirds comprising of 13 species were identified and counted.



**(Participants during the Asian Waterbird Census 2024)**



**(Umiam Lake Map showing the counting sites)**

**FEW IMAGES OF WATERBIRD SPECIES SIGHTED**



**Great Crested Grebe**



**Little Egret**



**Great Cormorant**



**Grey Heron**



**Red-wattled labwing**



**Little Grebe**

## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2024

World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated annually on 5th June to raise awareness and encourage actions for environmental protection. The WED 2024 campaign focuses on land restoration, desertification and drought resilience under the slogan “*Our land. Our future. We are #Generation Restoration.*” In India, the celebrations were closely aligned with Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), which promotes both individual and collective actions towards environmental sustainability. The International Day for Biological Diversity 2024 was also linked to this initiative.

To mark this occasion, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board organized a series of events from the 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 to 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 wherein BMCs, Schools, Colleges, NGOs and Institutions across the state are engaged in carrying out various activities. A total number of 199 activities were successfully carried out. The activities include tree plantation, cleaning drive, awareness program, rain water harvesting, drawing competition etc. The details of all the activities have been uploaded in MeriLife portal.

Meghalaya Biodiversity Board in collaboration with Botanical Survey of India also organized an Awareness Program cum Tree Plantation in Sohrarim BMC on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June, 2024.

### **Moments from World Environment Day:**

The Department of Zoology, St. Anthony’s College, Shillong, in collaboration with the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, organised a World Environment Day Programme (IntellectXchange) with the theme “Our Land, Our Future.”





(BMC members from different Blocks participated during the World Environment Day Programme)

**Awareness Programme cum Tree Planting Campaign-Plant4 Mother Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam:**

Meghalaya Biodiversity Board (MBB) in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, organised an Awareness Programme cum Tree Planting Campaign as part of the Plant 4 Mother Campaign on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of August, 2024. The program was organized in Nongwah BMC (Mawphlang Block) and Laitryngew BMC (Shella Bholaganj Block), East Khasi Hills District. This occasion was attended by the BMC Members of Nongwah and Laitryngew, school students, teachers and members of the community.



(Awareness Program at Nongwah Community Hall)

**Tree Plantation and Awareness Programme was organised by the Laitryngew Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) as part of the World Environment Day celebration.**



**MISSION LiFE: LIFESTYLE FOR ENVIRONMENT:**

Mission LiFE, which stands for Lifestyle for Environment, is a global initiative launched by India to promote sustainable living and climate-conscious behavior. It was introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at COP26 in Glasgow in 2021 and officially launched with UN Secretary-General António Guterres in 2022.

The core idea of Mission LiFE is to encourage individuals to adopt simple yet meaningful changes in their daily lives to reduce waste and protect natural resources. Instead of a “use-and-dispose” culture, it promotes “reduce, reuse, and recycle.” By making small choices—like saving electricity, reducing plastic use, conserving water, or using public transport—everyone can become a “Pro-Planet Person.”

Mission LiFE reminds us that climate action is not only the responsibility of governments but also of individuals. Together, through conscious lifestyle choices, we can create a healthier, greener, and more sustainable planet for future generations.



**(BMC members along with the Villagers participating in a cleaning drive and tree plantation during the celebration of World Environment Day)**

## PEER TO PEER LEARNING VISIT OF KERALA BIODIVERSITY BOARD TO MEGHALAYA:

Meghalaya Biodiversity Board facilitated a one-week Peer-to-Peer Learning visit with the Kerala State Biodiversity Board to various Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in East Khasi Hills. During this programme, the BMC members of Phlangwanbroi and Sohrarim, along with students from the Chief Minister Youth Centre (CMYC), participated in the Peer-to-Peer Learning Exchange Programme. The group also visited Mawlynnong and Dawki.



(Site visit to Mawlynnong and Dawki , East Khasi Hills District)

## PROJECTS DURING THE YEAR 2024-2025:

### CAPACITY BUILDING AND SUPPORT TO BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES (BMCS) IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FIELD-BASED PILOTS

**Project title: “Protection and Sustainable Management of Aquatic Resources in the North Eastern Himalayan Region of India (NERAQ)”**

The Indo-German project “*Protection and Sustainable Management of Aquatic Resources in the North Eastern Himalayan Region of India (NERAQ)*” was implemented under the bilateral cooperation between the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). The project aimed to promote climate-resilient management, conservation and sustainable use of aquatic ecosystems in the northeastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur and Nagaland.

In Meghalaya, **Meghalaya Biodiversity Board (MBB)** served as the anchor Institution, collaborating with the Department of Fisheries, Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), local Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) and village Dorbars to implement field-based activities. The project undertook capacity-building programs for BMCs and stakeholders, emphasizing participatory approaches, traditional knowledge integration and livelihood-oriented conservation. Three pilot projects were successfully implemented.

#### 1. Khliehshnong Pilot Project – Shella Bholaganj Block, East Khasi Hills

**Title:** “*Preservation and Conservation of Indigenous Snakehead Species and Development of Aqua Park.*”

##### **Key Outcomes/Achievements:**

- Conservation of **indigenous Snakehead (Dohthli)** and associated aquatic species.
- Creation of an **Aqua-park and Visitor Interpretation Centre** near Nohkalikai Waterfalls.
- **Stakeholder training** in scientific fish management and maintenance of assets.
- **Awareness generation cum training** through youth and community engagement programs.
- **Video documentation** of traditional knowledge related to aquatic diversity.
- Establishment of **visitor-friendly fishing zones** to support sustainable tourism.

Activities undertaken by Khliehshnong BMC



## 2. Umkaber Pilot Project – Mawphlang Block, East Khasi Hills

**Title:** *Creation of a Fish Sanctuary in Mawlariang Stream (Wah Um Bah)*

**Key Outcomes/Achievements:**

- A comprehensive **aquatic biodiversity assessment** was done in collaboration with ZSI Shillong, documenting **106 faunal** and **45 floral species**.
- **Community sensitization programs** on conservation and eco-tourism.
- **Fish Sanctuary Development:**
  - A total of 7 (**seven**) **traditional fish aggregating devices** using locally available boulders and stones was constructed.
  - **Mahseer (*Neolissochilus hexagonolepis*) fingerlings** were released into the stream.
- The establishment of the fish sanctuary now serves as a **breeding and feeding ground** for indigenous fish, helping restore ecological balance and supporting local livelihoods.



(Fish Sanctuary in Mawlariang Stream)

### 3. Lawbah Pilot Project – Mawsynram Block, East Khasi Hills

**Title:** *Conservation of Cave Ecosystem and Promotion of Sustainable Cave Eco-Tourism*

#### **Key Outcomes and Achievements:**

- Strengthened conservation of Mawpun Cave through targeted efforts involving the BMC and the community to protect its unique ecosystem and associated biodiversity.
- Comprehensive assessment and documentation of cave biodiversity within Mawpun Cave.
- Enhanced capacity of 30 local youths in conducting cave nature trails and promoting eco-tourism, in collaboration with the Meghalaya Adventures Association (MAA).
- Development of a community-led Cave Management Plan to ensure ecological protection, responsible tourism and sustainable livelihood generation.



(Meeting with the BMC Members of Lawbah BMC)

## CLOUDED LEOPARD CONSERVATION PROJECT

**Project title:** Project “Conservation of Clouded Leopard in Non-protected Areas in Meghalaya”

The project was funded by Panthera in collaboration with Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, Small Wild Cat Conservation Foundation (SWCCF), Eastern Himalayas Marble Cat Project and the Indian Youth Biodiversity Network (IYBN) – Meghalaya Chapter, with the aim of protecting and preserving the habitat of this majestic species through long-term community engagement.

An awareness programme-cum-inauguration of the project was organized at Pormawlai, Mawshynrut Block, West Khasi Hills. The event witnessed active participation from the Pormawlai Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC), along with four neighbouring BMCs namely, Riangmaw, Nongdaju, Riangkhain and Iawnaw.

As part of the programme, a statue of the Clouded Leopard was unveiled in Pormawlai village and IEC materials on the conservation of Wild Cat species were distributed. The event was also attended by Dr. Jim Sanderson, Program Manager for Wild Cat Conservation, Dr. Giridhar Mala, Member of the IUCN Cat Specialist Group.



(An awareness programme-cum-inauguration of the project at Pormawlai, Mawshynrut Block, West Khasi Hills)

## **“Forest Survey and Mapping for Meghalaya Reserve Forest Using Hybrid Approach (Airborne Sensor/Helicopter/UAV) to Analyze Carbon Financing and Phyto diversity Map**

The Govt. of Meghalaya through Meghalaya Biodiversity Board has sanctioned a project on **“Forest Survey and Mapping for Meghalaya Reserve Forest Using Hybrid Approach (Airborne Sensor/Helicopter/UAV) to Analyze Carbon Financing and Phyto diversity Map”** in collaboration with North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) as a second party to implement the project.

Meghalaya is the first State in India to adopt aerial surveys using helicopter and UAV-mounted high-resolution LiDAR and hyperspectral sensors to enhance carbon sequestration analysis, biodiversity mapping and sustainable forest management across 29 Reserve Forests in Meghalaya, covering an area of 633.73 sq. km.

### **BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT**

- The carbon asset and the carbon capture capacity of the whole forest area of Meghalaya may be evaluated and used in the international carbon market.
- Species based carbon capture map will help allocate what species should be planted in afforestation section to increase carbon capture of the state.
- The phyto-diversity heat map thus prepared will enrich the on-going exercise of preparing inventory of biological resources of the State.
- Once completed Meghalaya will be the first State in the country to map out forest characteristics, carbon capture and detailed species mapping with new and advanced technology.
- Data from this project can also be used for:
  - (i) Data from LiDAR can also be used for watershed management and planning
  - (ii) Helps in forest fire management planning.
  - (iii) Afforestation planning.

### **GEOSPATIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE**

MBB and the project implementing agencies NECTAR and Garuda UAV Soft Solutions Pvt Limited were honoured with the prestigious Geospatial Excellence Award for Environment & Climate Change at the GEOSMART India 2024 conclave, held in Hyderabad. This recognition showcases the Meghalaya Government impactful work in empowering communities and promoting environmental sustainability. The creation of a comprehensive forest database and improved demarcation will facilitate better forest management and informed policy decisions.

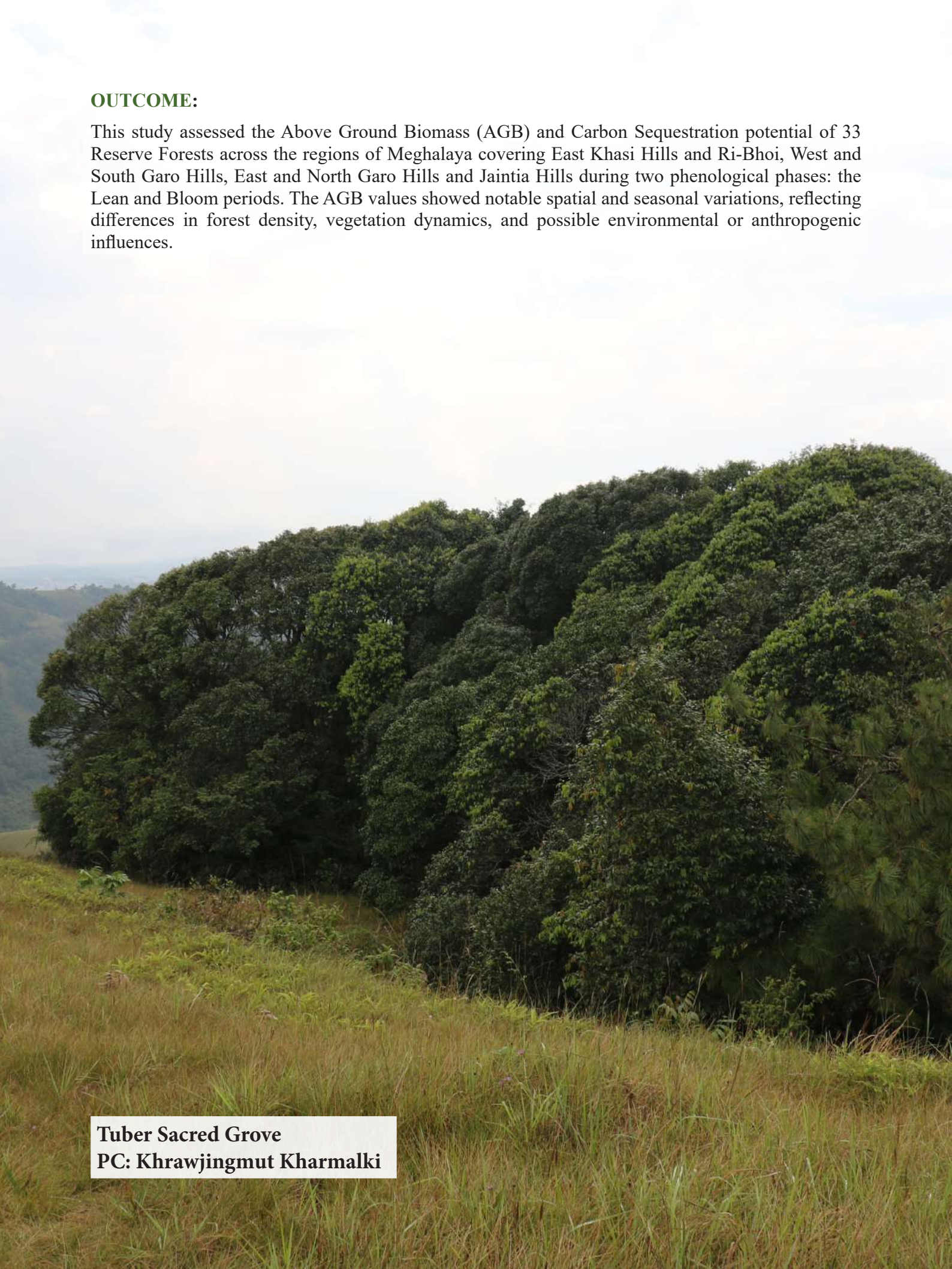
### **SCOPE OF THE PROJECT**

With the objective of undertaking comprehensive forest carbon reserve and species mapping of forest areas, the project was prepared using airborne LiDAR, drone LiDAR, drone photogrammetry, and hyperspectral technology for the entire reserved forest area of Meghalaya. Once implemented in the field, these interventions not only facilitated mapping of forest species and analysis of carbon sequestration in the forests of Meghalaya, thereby enabling calculation of the state’s carbon finance potential, but also supported assisted natural regeneration of forests. The major activities and deliverables under the project scope were as follows:

- Airborne LIDAR/Drone Lidar/ Drone Photogrammetry Survey:
- Hyperspectral Survey
- Cloud Platform and Dashboard:
- Operations and Development Support (Integrated Intelligent Drone Data Management (IIDD) Platform)
- Training and Support

## **OUTCOME:**

This study assessed the Above Ground Biomass (AGB) and Carbon Sequestration potential of 33 Reserve Forests across the regions of Meghalaya covering East Khasi Hills and Ri-Bhoi, West and South Garo Hills, East and North Garo Hills and Jaintia Hills during two phenological phases: the Lean and Bloom periods. The AGB values showed notable spatial and seasonal variations, reflecting differences in forest density, vegetation dynamics, and possible environmental or anthropogenic influences.



**Tuber Sacred Grove**  
**PC: Khrawjingmut Kharmalki**

# 11

## TRAINING PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

### 1. Dissemination Workshop- North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR):

Dissemination Workshop for all Forest Officials on Forest Survey and Mapping for Meghalaya Using Hybrid System to Analyze Carbon Financing and Phyto Diversity Heat Map & Provisions of the BD Act (Amendment) 2023 was conducted by Meghalaya Biodiversity Board on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2024 in collaboration with North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) & Garuda UAV.



(Highlights from the Workshop on Forest Survey and Mapping)

**2. Capacity Building Workshop cum Awareness Programme for the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in Meghalaya for Implementation of Small Grants Programme OP7 conducted by Meghalaya Biodiversity Board in Collaboration with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), North East Region:**



(Glimpses of the Capacity Building Workshop cum Awareness Programme)

**3. Nature Guide Training Workshop: Empowering Women and Elevating Ecotourism organised by National Commission for Women in collaboration with Meghalaya State Women Commission, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, Eco Development Society and Tourism Department, Government of Meghalaya:**



(Glimpses of the Nature Guide Training Workshop)

**4. Stakeholder Consultation Workshop for the Revision of the Meghalaya State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan organised by Meghalaya Biodiversity Board in collaboration with Foundation for Ecological Security (FES) through the Indo-German Bilateral Cooperation Project “Protect and Sustainable Management of Aquatic Resources in the North Eastern Himalaya Region of India” (NERAQ):**



(Glimpses from the Stakeholder Consultation Workshop)

**5. Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Promoting Entrepreneurship among Indigenous Women of NER Based on NTFT organised by National Commission for Women and in Collaboration with Meghalaya Biodiversity Board:**



(Glimpses from the Regional Capacity Building Workshop)



**Living root Bridge, Kongthong**  
**PC: Ardaemiki Kso**

## Audit Report 2024-25

The Audited Account Statements for the year 2024-2025 are shown below:

**Meghalaya Biodiversity Board**  
**Silviculture Building: Lower Lachumiere: Shillong**

**Balance Sheet As At 31.03.2025**

<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Assets</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>Capital Fund Account</b>		<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
Opening Balance	14397641.36	As per Schedule 'C'	720808.00
Add: Surplus for the year	<u>2044246.00</u>		
	16441887.36		
<b>GRANT FUND:</b>			
<b>1. National Biodiversity Authority:</b>			
Opening Balance	1296997.00	<b>Cash at Bank</b>	
Add: Received during the	<u>2709600.00</u>	SBI A/c No. 32375460838	46583199.36
	4006597.00	SBI A/c No. 40087138394	213153.50
Less: Utilised During the Year		<b>Cash in Hand</b>	0.00
(Schedule 'A')	<u>2829050.00</u>		
	1177547.00		
<b>2. State Plan</b>			
Opening Balance	121832418.50		
Add: Received during the	<u>8238570.00</u>		
	130070988.50		
Less: Utilised During the Year			
(Schedule 'B')	<u>100173262.00</u>		
	29897726.50		
<b>Total Rs.</b>	<u><u>47517160.86</u></u>	<b>Total Rs.</b>	<u><u>47517160.86</u></u>

Place: Shillong  
Date: 06.01.2026  
UDIN: 26063463G4G WJUV7758

In terms of our report of even date  
for Amit O P Sharma & Co.  
Chartered Accountants



*Amit Sharma*

(Amit Sharma)  
Proprietor  
Membership No:063463

## Audit Report 2024-25

**Meghalaya Biodiversity Board**  
**Silviculture Building: Lower Lachumiere: Shillong**

**Receipts And Payments Account For The Year Ended March 31st, 2025**

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>To Opening Balance:</b>		<b>By National Biodiversity Authority Expenses:</b>	
<b>Cash at Bank:</b>		As Per Schedule A	
SBI A/c No. 3237546083	136625636.36	a) Revenue Expenses	2829050.00
SBI A/c No. 4008713839	<u>126621.50</u>	b) Capital Expenses	<u>2829050.00</u>
<b>Cash in Hand:</b>	15764.00	<b>By State Plan Expenses:</b>	
		As Per Schedule B	
<b>To Funds Received</b>		a) Revenue Expenses	100173262.00
Grant In Aid Received From National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai	2709600.00	b) Capital Expenses	<u>69100.00</u>
			100242362.00
		<b>By Closing Balance :</b>	
From State Government	5400000.00	<b>Cash at Bank:</b>	
From Meghalaya age Limited	175000.00	SBI A/c No. 32375460838	46583199.36
National Commission for Women	1508545.00	SBI A/c No. 40087138394	<u>213153.50</u>
From GIZ Project	1155025.00		46796352.86
		<b>Cash in Hand:</b>	0.00
<b>To Other Income:</b>			
Bank Interest			
SBI A/c No. 32375460838	2064923.00		
SBI A/c No. 40087138394	3909.00		
Sale Of Book	82741.00		
<b>Total Rs.</b>	<u><u>149867764.86</u></u>	<b>Total Rs.</b>	<u><u>149867764.86</u></u>

**Income And Expenditure Account For The Year Ended March 31st, 2025**

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Amount</u>
To National Biodiversity Authority Expenses:		By Grant in Aid received from National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai	2829050.00
As Per Schedule A			
a) Revenue Expenses	2829050.00	Funds Received from State Government	100173262.00
		Sale of Book	82741.00
To State Plan Expenses:			
As Per Schedule B		<b>By Bank Interest:</b>	
a) Revenue Expenses	100173262.00	SBI A/c No. 32375460838	2064923.00
		SBI A/c No. 40087138394	3909.00
To Depreciation	107327.00		
" Surplus (Excess of Income over Expenditure)	2044246.00		
<b>Total Rs.</b>	<u><u>105153885.00</u></u>	<b>Total Rs.</b>	<u><u>105153885.00</u></u>

Place: Shillong

Date: 06.01.2026

UDIN: 26063463 GVGWJV7758



In terms of our report of even date  
for Amit O P Sharma & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

*Amit Sharma*

(Amit Sharma)

Proprietor

Membership No:063463

## Audit Report 2024-25

### Schedule Forming Part Of Financial Statements 31.03.2025

#### Schedule A National Biodiversity Authority Expenses 2024-25

Sl No	Particulars	Amount
1	Salary	1387800.00
2	Arrears	49800.00
3	Expenses On Celebrating International Day For Biological Diversity	299348.00
4	Expenses On Celebrating World environment Day For biological diversity	34472.00
5	Reimbursement to staff for expenses for awareness program	16180.00
6	Reimbursement to staff for expenses for International yoga day	10000.00
7	Maintenance of website	131450.00
8	Expenses on PBR upgradation	900000.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2829050.00</b>

#### Schedule B State Expenses 2024-25

Sl No	Particulars	Amount
A)	Salary component:	
	a) Salary	3222160.00
	b) Wages	190132.00
		3412292.00
B)	Non Salary Component:	
1.	Allowance	
	a) Travelling	149480.00
2.	Office Expenses	
	a) Honorarium and sitting fee	354600.00
	b) General Expense	508681.00
	c) POL	54648.00
	d) Vehicles Expenses	49900.00
	e) Bank Charges	118.00
	f) Audit Fees	59000.00
		1026947.00
3.	Office Equipment ,Furniture & Maintenance	
	i) Purchase of :	
	a) Monitor and accessories	69100.00
		69100
4.	Minor Works	
	a) Reimbursement to staff BHS	41900.00
	b) Excess amount pertaining to BHM	8471.00
		50371.00
5.	Major Works :	
	a) Awareness Programme for Biodiversity Management Committee	260278.00
	b) Financial assistance to Shillong College	100000.00
	c) Expenses on NCW workshop for women(state)	1465143.00
	d) BMC start up fund	40000.00
	e) Expenses on State level workshop(state)	185573.00
	f) GIZ project	1601650.00
	g) International Day for Biodiversity	344112.00
	h) Expense on Indian society of plant genetic resources	100000.00
	i) Advance payment to state of mind productions	271728.00
	j) Installments for nectar project	90551928.00
	k) Expenses on PBR upgradation	613760.00
		95534172.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100242362.00</b>



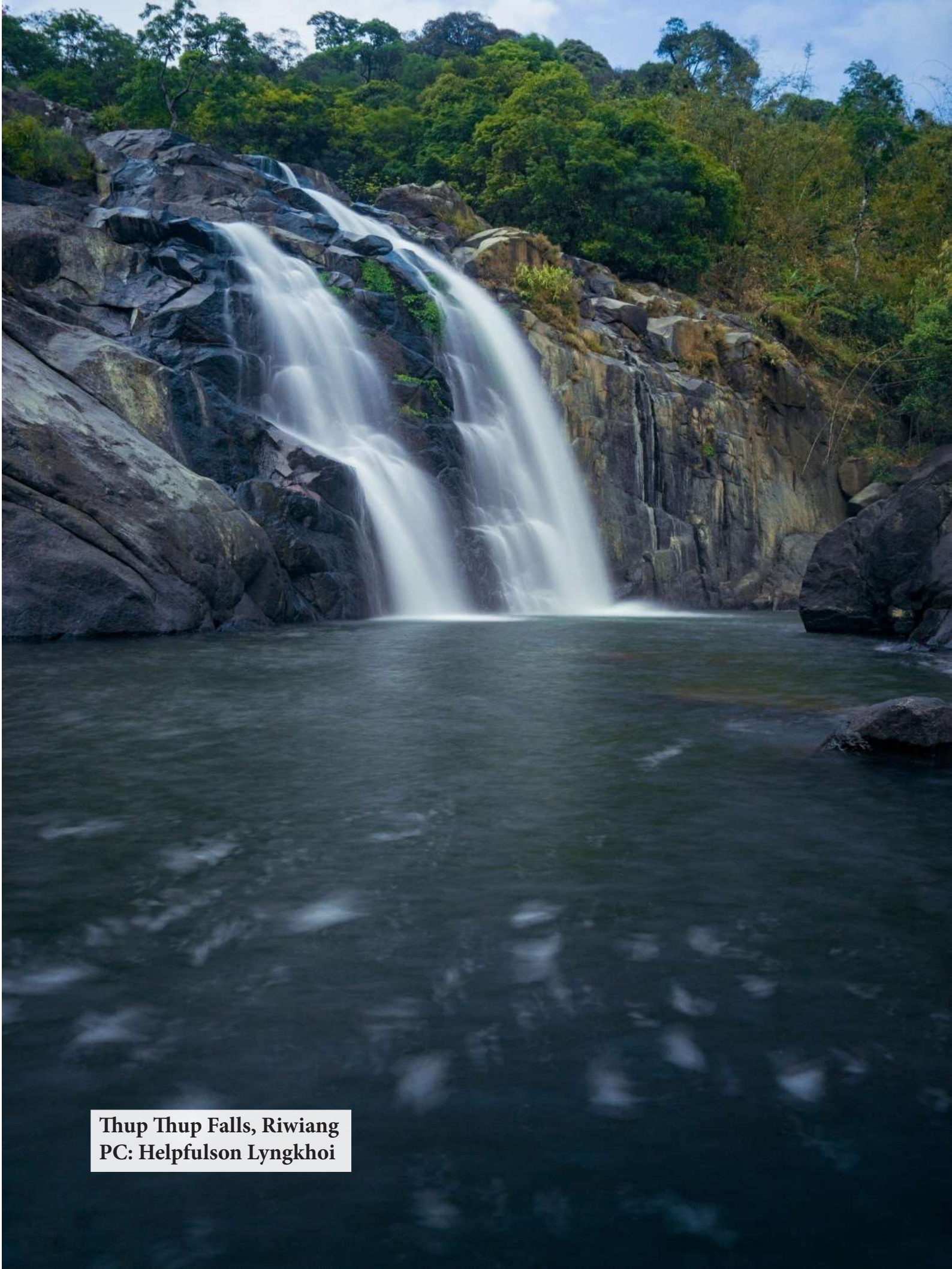
**Audit Report 2024-25**

Schedule Forming Part Of Financial Statements 31.03.2025

Schedule C: Fixed Assets

Sl No	Particulars	Gross Block			Depreciation			Net Block	
		As on 01.04.2024	Addition during the year		Sale during the year	Total	Rate	Amount	As on 31.03.2025
			Before 30th Sept	On or after 30th Sept					
1	Furniture	393846.00	-		0.00	393846.00	10%	39385.00	354461.00
2	Computer & Peripherals	48544.00		69100.00	0.00	117644.00	20%	16619.00	101025.00
3	Office Equipments	153804.00	-	-	0.00	153804.00	15%	23071.00	130733.00
4	Books	15306.00	-	-	0.00	15306.00	40%	6122.00	9184.00
5	Vehicle	147535.00	-	-	0.00	147535.00	15%	22130.00	125405.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>759035.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>69100.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>828135.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>107327.00</b>	<b>720808.00</b>





**Thup Thup Falls, Riwiang**  
**PC: Helpfulson Lyngkhoi**