NEHU PANORAMA

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NEHU HOSTS INTERNAL HACKATHON FOR SMART INDIA HACKATHON 2026

The School of Technology at North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, organized its internal hackathon on September 7th 2026, Monday as part of the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2026. The event saw five teams present innovative, technology-driven solutions addressing pressing real-world challenges.

A total of 30 students—six per team—took part in the competition. Their proposals were evaluated by a panel consisting of Prof. Sirsendu Shekhar Ray, Dr. Pankaj Sarkar, and Dr. Amitabha Nath. The event was coordinated by Dr. Nitin Sahai, the SIH Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for NEHU.

The hackathon commenced with inaugural remarks from. **Prof. Dinesh Bhatia,** Coordinator Entrepreneurship Development Centre, NEHU Shillong, addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of fostering an entrepreneurial mindset among young technocrats. He encouraged students to look beyond textbook learning and focus on creating scalable, impactful solutions that can drive economic and social change.



The program concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Nitin Sahai. He expressed his gratitude to the university administration, the esteemed panel of judges, the participating students, and the organizing team for their collective efforts in making the internal hackathon a success. He also wished all the teams the very best for the upcoming rounds of Smart India Hackathon 2026.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EMERGING TRENDS IN PHYSICS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



The Department of Physics, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, organized the International Conference on Emerging Trends in Physics for Sustainable Development (ICETPSD-2026) from 23–25 September 2026 as part of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Department of Physics, NEHU.

The major themes of the conference included Sustainable Development and Environmental Physics, Materials Science and Functional Materials, Renewable Energy and Energy Storage, Space Science and Technology, Nuclear and Radiation Physics, Lasers and Photonics, Spectroscopy, Computational Physics, Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Luminescence and Phosphor Materials, and emerging areas of modern physics.

ICETPSD-2026 has received participation and research contributions from India and several countries, including the USA, Poland, Serbia and Nepal. More than 100 research papers and abstracts are being presented through invited talks, oral presentations and poster presentations. The conference provides opportunities for participants to interact with eminent scientists and experts, share their research findings, and establish academic and research collaborations.

Furthermore, Students' awareness of how mental health shapes how we think, feel, and act every single day was discussed. She pinpointed that mental and emotional well-being directly correlates with how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices. Suggestions and techniques for practical ways to handle academic burden and related daily stress were also discussed. The Psychologist and her team also conducted a range of mental health-related activities for attendees before the program ended.

The conference formed an important part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Department of Physics, NEHU, marking five decades of teaching, research and academic contributions in the field of physics. It is expected to strengthen scientific collaboration, promote interdisciplinary research and highlight the role of physics in addressing contemporary challenges related to sustainable development.

PROF. SUNIL KUMAR DE UNDERTAKES ACADEMIC AND SCIENTIFIC VISIT TO ROMANIA AND SPAIN

Prof. Sunil Kumar De, Department of Geography, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), and outgoing President of the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG), undertook an important academic and scientific visit to Romania and Spain during September 2026.

As part of his academic engagements in Romania, Prof. De delivered an invited lecture on **"Glacial Lake Outburst Floods in the Himalayan Region: The Recent Nepal Tragedy"** at the Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, on 1 September 2026. The lecture was attended by around 40 participants, including scientists, members of relief and emergency-response forces, and representatives of the media.

In recognition of his contributions to geomorphological research and international scientific cooperation, the **Romanian Academy conferred upon Prof. De a Diploma of Honorary Membership** following the lecture. The academic programme was followed by a two-day field excursion across Transylvania and the Carpathian Mountains, covering the Institute of -Geography Research Station, mud-volcano sites and other geomorphologically significant locations. The field visit facilitated scientific interaction and direct examination of diverse geomorphological processes and landscapes of the Carpathian region.

On 10 September 2026, Prof. De delivered an invited lecture for Master's and Ph.D. students at the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Zaragoza. The lecture was attended by postgraduate students, geomorphologists and faculty members of the University, providing an opportunity for academic exchange on contemporary issues in geomorphology.

The academic engagements in Romania and Spain brought together invited lectures, keynote presentations, field-based scientific observations, interaction with students and researchers, and institutional recognition. The visit contributed to strengthening scientific cooperation and academic exchange between Indian and European institutions in the field of geomorphology.

ONE DAY EDUCATIONAL FIELD VISIT TO ICAR, UMIAM-MEGHALAYA



A one-day educational trip to ICAR (NEH) Region was organized by Department of Geography, NEHU under the supervision of Dr. Chandrakanta (visit in-charge). Special thanks to the Head- Prof P. K. Ryngnga, Department of Geography (NEHU) for understanding the need of the students and encouraging the students for this educational visit.

The students visited the ***ICAR Research Complex for North Eastern Hill (NEH) Region, Umiam, Meghalaya***, to gain practical knowledge about agricultural practices, organic farming, horticulture, livestock management, poultry farming and modern agricultural machinery. The visit provided an opportunity to observe various farming activities directly and to understand -



-how scientific techniques are applied to improve agricultural production and promote sustainable farming in the North-eastern region.

During the visit, we first observed the agricultural fields where organic and sustainable farming practices were followed. Different crops such as soyabean, groundnut and millet were grown in the fields. We learned about their cultivation and management practices. Millet was particularly interesting because it is a hardy crop that does not require intensive care and can be maintained with comparatively fewer inputs. This makes it suitable for sustainable farming.

After this, we visited the horticulture section, where we observed fruit crops such as local mandarin and guava. The guava plants were comparatively short but produced a large number of fruits. We were also introduced to the process of grafting in guava. In grafting, a suitable plant portion is cut and joined and then secured using grafting plastic. We learned that grafting can help in propagating desirable characteristics and improving fruit production. We were also informed about the possibility of combining desirable characteristics through plant propagation and breeding techniques.

The next part of the visit was the poultry and chick-rearing unit. Before entering the poultry farm, we were asked to sanitize our footwear by placing our shoes in a *potassium permanganate solution* as a biosecurity measure to prevent the spread of infections.

Inside the unit, we observed different poultry varieties, including *Srinidhi*, *Kadaknath* and *Vanaraja*. Srinidhi is an improved rural poultry variety and can produce around 150 eggs per year under backyard conditions. Kadaknath is a black-coloured indigenous bird of Madhya Pradesh, known for its black meat and high market demand, and it produces around 110 eggs per year. Vanaraja is an improved dual-purpose variety used for both meat and egg production. It is comparatively larger in size and can produce around 150 eggs per year.

Finally, we visited the agricultural machinery section, where different machines and implements used in cultivation were demonstrated. We observed tractors and equipment used for land preparation, sowing and planting. Rice-transplanting machinery was also demonstrated, which places rice seedlings in rows at regular spacing. Other seeders, planters and power-operated agricultural implements showed how mechanization can reduce labour requirements and improve the efficiency of farming operations.

Overall, the visit was an informative and valuable learning experience. It provided practical knowledge about crop cultivation, integrated farming, organic manure and vermicomposting, horticulture, grafting, livestock and poultry management, and agricultural mechanization. It helped us understand the practical application of agricultural techniques and the importance of sustainable and scientifically managed farming for the development of agriculture in the North Eastern region.

NEHU Panorama Wishes NEHU Employees A Healthy And Heartiest Retirement Life



1. Prof.Bhagirathi Panda,Department of Economics.
2. Shri London Ch. Sangma,Driver,Administration-II(Transport).
3. Shri Alexander M.Umlong,MTS(Peon),Finance Department

A Glimpse Of Meghalaya : Iew Luri Lura



"Iew Luri Lura," or 'The Market of Chaos' or 'The Animal Market', is located in the heart of Meghalaya. A fascinating legend has been passed down through generations. It tells the tale of a mystical marketplace called Ka Iew Luri-Lura, where animals would gather to trade and socialise in a bygone era when they possessed the gift of speech. This ancient meeting place is said to be near the village of Mawlyngbna, close to the Bangladeshi border. The legend describes a time when animals would converge at this site, leaving impressions on the rocks resembling their footprints. These weathered impressions are considered a poignant reminder of a distant past when humans and animals shared a peaceful coexistence, their footprints forever etched in the rocks.

According to the legend, the animals banished the dog from their midst after it was accused of selling excrement. From that day on, the animals began living among humans. The story goes that the animals' feet still carry the scent of fermented beans, which they trampled upon during their final gathering. This lingering aroma allowed dogs to track and hunt other animals, forming an unlikely bond between humans and canines. The village of Mawlyngbna remains famous for this enchanting tale, with the remnants of Ka Iew Luri-Lura serving as a poignant reminder of a forgotten era when animals and humans shared a special connection.

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