

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT

MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG

Press Communiqué

21st January 2026, Shillong : Today, Lok Bhavan, Meghalaya, celebrated the Statehood/Foundation Day of **Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, and Daman & Diu** in a solemn and vibrant ceremony marked by cultural pride and the spirit of national unity.

The event was graced by Shri C.H.Vijayashankar, the Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya as Chief Guest, Shri Wailadmiki Shylla, Hon'ble Minister of Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Government of Meghalaya, Shri H.C.Chaudhary, Principal Secretary to the Governor, Padma Shri awardee Shri Manas Choudhury Journalist and Former Education Minister in Government of Meghalaya, Padma Shri Smt. Theilin Phanbuh, Social Activist, senior officials from State Government, NCC Cadets, invited guests and representatives from various states.

Welcoming the gathering, the **Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor** Shri H.C.Chaudhary highlighted the importance of honouring the historical and cultural legacies of these states and UTs. He also acknowledged the varied contributions of these states and UTs - ranging from tribal and artistic heritage to tourism, technological advancement, agriculture, economic contributions, biodiversity, and civic excellence.

In his address, the Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya, **Shri C.H. Vijayashankar**, extended warm greetings to the people of all the celebrating States and Union Territories. He highlighted that this day is a reminder of India's rich diversity and the shared democratic values that bind the nation together. The Governor observed that while each region possesses its unique history, language, and culture, they collectively contribute to the strength and progress of a united India.

Paying special tribute to Meghalaya, the Hon'ble Governor recalled the vision of the leaders and citizens whose efforts led to the creation of the State in 1972. He lauded Meghalaya's achievements in areas such as community traditions, environmental stewardship, tourism, and human development, and expressed confidence that the

State will continue to move forward on the path of peace and prosperity.

The Hon'ble Governor also acknowledged the historical journeys of Manipur and Tripura as vibrant cultural gateways of the Northeast, Uttar Pradesh as the cradle of India's civilization and democratic ethos, and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu for their inspiring transition into dynamic Union Territories contributing to India's coastal economy.

Cultural performances reflecting the traditions of the respective States and UTs added colour to the celebration. Artists were warmly welcomed for showcasing India's plural heritage and the message of **"Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat."**

The celebration concluded with a renewed pledge to uphold the ideals of unity, harmony, and inclusive development envisioned by the founding leaders of these States and Union Territories. The Hon'ble Governor expressed hope that such occasions would continue to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood among citizens and inspire collective efforts toward building a prosperous, progressive, and self-reliant India in line with the vision of *Viksit Bharat*.





