

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT

MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG

Press Communiqué

Shillong, 20 June, 2026: The Statehood Day of West Bengal was celebrated with great enthusiasm and cultural fervour at Durbar Hall, Lok Bhavan, Shillong, today. The program was graced by Shri H.C.Chaudhary, Additional Chief Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor, dignitaries, members of the Bengali community, artists and invitees to honour the rich cultural heritage and enduring legacy of West Bengal.

Delivering the welcome address, Shri H.C. Chaudhary, Additional Chief Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya, highlighted the historical, cultural and intellectual contributions of West Bengal to the nation and underscored the importance of celebrating India's rich diversity and shared heritage. He highlighted that the program is a reminder of India's unity in diversity and that it reaffirmed the commitment to the ideals of national integration and the vision of *Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat*.

A special video message from Shri R.N. Ravi, Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal, was screened on the occasion, followed by an audio-visual presentation showcasing the rich culture, history and heritage of West Bengal.

The cultural segment of the programme featured a Bengali patriotic song, the vibrant Bengali folk dance 'Damali', and a traditional Bengali dance presentation by the Gitanjali Dance Academy. The performances captivated the audience and beautifully reflected the artistic traditions and cultural ethos of Bengal. Adding further charm to the evening was a soulful performance by renowned singer Amit Paul, the first runner-up of *Indian Idol Season 3* and one of Meghalaya's most celebrated musical icons. His performance at the Statehood Day celebration enthralled the audience and added a special touch to the festivities, perfectly complementing the celebration of West Bengal's rich artistic and cultural heritage.

The celebration served as a befitting tribute to the spirit of West Bengal and reaffirmed the ideals of unity in diversity that form the cornerstone of India's cultural fabric.



