

# GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT

## MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG

### Press Communiqué

**Shillong, March 16, 2026:** The Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya, **Shri C. H. Vijayashankar**, graced the **State Credit Seminar 2026-27** at the **State Convention Centre, Shillong** as Chief Guest, today. The Seminar was organised by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Meghalaya Regional Office. The event was attended by Shri H.C.Chaudhary, IFS, Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor, Ms. Joan R Blah, General Manager, NABARD, Shri Swapnil Tembe, Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of Meghalaya, representatives of the Reserve Bank of India, State Bank of India, officials of the Government of Meghalaya, bankers, development agencies and other stakeholders.

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Governor released the **State Focus Paper 2026-27**. The State Focus Paper is a key document that assesses the credit potential for agriculture, allied sectors, MSMEs and other priority sectors in the State. The Hon'ble Governor also handed over sanction letters to Project Implementing Agencies.

In his address, the Governor congratulated NABARD for organising the annual seminar. He said that the Seminar brings together stakeholders from the government, banking institutions and development agencies to deliberate on strengthening credit flow to priority sectors and promoting sustainable rural development. He expressed hope that the State Focus Paper would provide valuable insights and practical recommendations to guide financial institutions and policymakers in supporting the growth of Meghalaya's rural economy.

The Hon'ble Governor highlighted that agriculture continues to be the backbone of Meghalaya's economy. Majority of the population depends on farming and allied activities for their livelihood. Emphasising the vision of **Viksit Bharat @2047**, he noted that strengthening agriculture, improving access to credit, and empowering small and marginal farmers are essential for inclusive and sustainable development.

The Hon'ble Governor also stressed the need to ensure that the rich natural resources of the North Eastern Region are harnessed in a scientific and sustainable manner, while maintaining ecological balance. He encouraged greater adoption of natural and organic farming practices, for which Meghalaya has significant potential.

Highlighting the role of banks and financial institutions, the Hon'ble Governor called for greater coordination among government departments, banks and development institutions. It is vital to ensure that the benefits of

various schemes and programmes reach farmers and rural entrepreneurs effectively.

The Hon'ble Governor also underlined the importance of promoting micro enterprises, strengthening cooperative institutions, and empowering women through Self Help Groups. He noted that skill development, value addition, and rural entrepreneurship can significantly improve income opportunities and livelihood security in the State.

The seminar concluded with an interactive discussion among stakeholders on strengthening credit delivery and promoting sustainable economic development in the State.





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