## **GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT**

## MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG

## Press Communiqué

Shillong, October 23, 2024: The Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya, Shri C.H. Vijayashankar, today, attended the National Conference on "Managing Agro-biodiversity in North Eastern India" organized by ICAR at Umiam. The event witnessed the participation of Dr. T. Mohapatra, Chairman, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority, New Delhi, Dr. V. K. Mishra, Coordinator & Director ICAR-RCNEH, Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Chairman, Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board (ASRB), New Delhi, Dr R.S. Paroda, President, Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources & Chairman, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi, renowned Agricultural Experts, Researchers, and Scientists, focusing on the rich Agro-biodiversity of the North Eastern region.

In his address, the Hon'ble Governor highlighted the significant role played by the North Eastern region in India's agricultural landscape. He emphasized that the region is a vital contributor to the country's agricultural biodiversity, with its unique climatic conditions and traditional farming practices offering immense potential for sustainable agricultural development.

The Hon'ble Governor also underscored the need to protect and nurture the endangered plant species of the region, which are facing the threat of extinction due to habitat loss and climate change. Furthermore, the Governor highlighted the importance of Ayurveda and medicinal plants in Meghalaya. He also highlighted the fact that Curcumin percentage in turmeric is highest in Meghalaya than any other state. He proudly mentioned that Meghalaya is a hub of Ayurveda, with its vast array of medicinal herbs and plants that have been traditionally used for healing purposes.

The Hon'ble Governor also visited all the stalls from different institutions from North-East Region and discussed about their products and medicinal benefits associated with them.