



Budget 2026-27

**SPEECH
OF
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CHIEF MINISTER I/C FINANCE**

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Hon'ble Speaker sir,

With your permission, I rise to present the Budget for the financial year 2026-27.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Sir, I am humbled to be standing in this august House and present my ninth consecutive budget. Each Budget is not merely a statement of receipts and expenditure; it reflects the Government's values, priorities, and our collective resolve. The ultimate goal of the Government is to improve the wellbeing of each citizen, to put a smile on every person's face and to ensure opportunities for every young person in the State. This Budget has been enriched by thousands of interactions I had with the citizens over the last few months through several CM CONNECT public hearings. The insights gained and the decisions made in the three Cabinet Retreats, where the entire cabinet and all the secretariat and field officials deliberate on the State's key challenges, have also shaped this Budget.
- 1.2. In these interactions, I sensed both appreciation and expectation. Many citizens expressed appreciation for the visible progress across sectors, and I remain deeply thankful for their trust and encouragement. At the same time, I heard their rising aspirations - for better roads, improved schools, reliable water supply, uninterrupted electricity, and responsive service delivery. The expectations of the citizens are a sign of their confidence in the Government. I want to assure this House and the people of Meghalaya that we are committed to meeting these growing aspirations.
- 1.3. My interactions with mothers who benefited under the CM-Safe Motherhood Scheme, farmers who received support from FOCUS and CM FARM+, entrepreneurs who have been incubated through PRIME, community leaders who are our partners in development have all shaped this budget. We also continued the tradition of conducting structured pre-budget consultations with citizens, traditional leaders, academicians, entrepreneurs, and civil society in the run up to finalizing the Budget.

- 1.4. In 2022, I made a promise to the people of Meghalaya that we will make the period of 2022-32 the Meghalayan Decade. We set an ambitious target that by the time we celebrate 60 years of Statehood in 2032, our Gross State Domestic Product would grow three-fold. In this decade we will create high levels of growth, high quality infrastructure, and opportunities for all our citizens. I am very happy to report that our growth rate reflects steady and meaningful progress. Today, we are the second fastest growing State in India after Tamil Nadu and the only State to sustain a real GSDP growth rate of nearly 10% for three consecutive years in the post-COVID period. Our Year-on-Year Nominal GSDP growth has remained higher than the national average since 2021-22, standing at 12% in 2025 compared to India's 9.8%.
- 1.5. I am thankful to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji for acknowledging Meghalaya's growth story in his message to us on Meghalaya Day - *"The economic growth rate in the post-COVID years has been exemplary. At the same time, your Government's fiscal management has been prudent. Your Government's emphasis on fiscal sustainability is commendable."*
- 1.6. In recent months, this confidence has been echoed by several Union Ministers who have visited Meghalaya and witnessed our progress firsthand. The Hon'ble Union Finance Minister and the Hon'ble Minister for Development of the North Eastern Region have appreciated the State's development model.
- 1.7. Our growth momentum is rooted in the clearly laid out Vision 2032. Our aspiration is to place Meghalaya among the top ten States in per capita income and Sustainable Development Goals achievement by 2032. This vision is anchored in an actionable plan called Meghalaya Mission 10. The Mission focuses on ten opportunity sectors that will drive growth and employment, along with ten commitments to ensure inclusivity.
- 1.8. The results we see today are the outcome of disciplined public investment backed by prudent fiscal strategy. Meghalaya's capital expenditure has risen from ₹1,435 Crore in 2107-18 to ₹6,395 Crore in 2024-25 - a 4.4-fold increase. This is enabled by better devolutions of the share of central taxes and leveraging strategic funding windows such as SASCI, Externally Aided

Projects, and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Meghalaya has emerged as a star performer under SASCI, a 50-year interest-free facility which is effectively a grant in present value terms for the State Government. This grant amounting to ₹2,370 Crore in 2024-25 and ₹2,695 Crore projected for 2025-26 has been deployed for benefitting our farmers, youth and entrepreneurs. We are implementing ₹12,166 Crore worth of Externally Aided Projects - among the highest in the North-East - under a 90:10 funding model, wherein 90% of repayment is borne by the Government of India. At the same time, CSS releases have more than doubled from ₹2,965 Crore in 2017-18 to ₹7,050 Crore in 2023-24, accelerating delivery under flagship schemes such as Jal Jeevan Mission and PMAY. Together, these demonstrate that Meghalaya's growth momentum is powered by effective governance, strong absorptive capacity, and strategic utilization of national development instruments. Our borrowings remain well within the stringent limits prescribed by the Union Government.

- 1.9. Meghalaya may be small in size, but our aspirations are expansive and bold. With the momentum built over the past eight years, we are now creating infrastructure that reflects the confidence of a rising State - from India's longest cantilever bridge at Mawkdok enroute to Sohra, to the country's largest football stadium at Mawkhanu, some of the largest food processing units in the remotest villages of Garo hills and the development of New Shillong city that will serve as the growth engine of the region. These are not isolated projects; these are symbols of an aspirational Meghalaya. In 2018, when we assumed office, Meghalaya did not have a single five-star hotel. Today, we have two operational five-star properties, four under construction, and four more in the pipeline to be completed by 2032. In a landmark event, Government of India's sole nomination for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List for 2026 is our Living Root Bridge, *Jingkieng jri* Cultural Landscape. Our entrepreneurs, artists, and innovators are earning national and global recognition, representing Meghalaya at platforms such as the World Expo in Osaka and the Biofach Trade Fair in Germany. We are demonstrating that each one of us, individually, and Meghalaya as a collective, can accomplish greatness.

- 1.10. We have addressed several long-standing structural challenges. Our Maternal mortality has reduced by 58% and infant mortality rate from 37.1 to 23.7, since 2020. We have streamlined the payments of salaries, wages and pensions to government employees, contractual workforce, and old age pensioners. The power sector has witnessed a decisive turnaround, with AT&C losses reduced from 37% to just 10.8%, and the elimination of scheduled load shedding. We have also resolved complex and long-pending teachers' salary issues, bringing stability to the education system.

- 1.11. This transformative work is possible because of continuity in thinking and consistency in action. Meghalaya is witnessing an unprecedented period of peace and stability - with the trust and support of our people, we have been able to deliver on our commitments and march steadily towards Vision 2032. I express my deep sense of gratitude to the people of Meghalaya, for bestowing upon us the trust to run the Government for the past 8 years. With six years still ahead of us to realize our Vision 2032, it is the time to consolidate and accelerate. We will together make Meghalaya truly magnificent.

2. STATE FINANCES

- 2.1. Meghalaya's GDP is projected at ₹76,320 Crore for 2026-27, a growth of 13.1% from approved GSDP numbers of ₹59,626 Crore for 2024-25. At this pace we are certain to achieve our goal of ₹85,000 Crore by 2028 and further reach ₹1,35,000 Crore by 2032.
- 2.2. Sir, total estimated transfers from the Centre to Meghalaya are expected to rise to ₹21,229 Crore in 2026-27, up from the revised estimate of ₹20,342 Crore in the current year. However, the share of central taxes is projected to decrease to ₹9,631 Crore in 2026-27 from ₹10,684 Crore in the current year, owing to changes in the devolution formula recommended by the Sixteenth Finance Commission. While this adjustment presents challenges, I remain confident that as the national economy continues to expand, the overall central tax pool will grow, and our share will correspondingly strengthen in the years ahead.
- 2.3. We are strengthening our own resource base. The State's own tax revenue has witnessed a significant surge, reaching ₹4,226 Crore in the current year, almost a three-fold increase from ₹1,450 Crore in 2017-18. For 2026-27, I project the State's own tax revenue to reach ₹4,720 Crore, comprising GST of ₹2,351 Crore, Taxes on Sales and Trade of ₹1,290 Crore, and Excise Duties of ₹731 Crore.
- 2.4. State's own non-tax revenue collections have been inconsistent in recent years due to border trade disruptions with Bangladesh, and the long transition toward scientific mining. However, the outlook is improving. Three mining licenses have already been awarded, and twenty more are at various stages of approval. Based on these developments, I project non-tax revenue to reach ₹634 Crore in 2026-27.
- 2.5. Taking into account projected receipts and the revised devolution structure under the Sixteenth Finance Commission, I estimate total expenditure for 2026-27 at ₹32,023 Crore. This is more than 3-fold increase in expenditure over the 9-year period, which is one of the highest growth rates in the country -

expenditure in 2017-18 was only ₹9,858 Crore; Country's expenditure during the same period has increased by 2.5 times.

- 2.6. The total expenditure of ₹32,023 Crore comprises of ₹25,190 Crore State expenditure and ₹6,833 Crore CSS expenditure. Total revenue expenditure for the year is ₹21,812 Crore and capital expenditure is ₹10,211 Crore. Notably, the projected capital expenditure is a seven-fold increase from 2017-18 levels of ₹1,435 Crore.
- 2.7. I will now move on to the next part of my speech deliberating on the Meghalaya Mission 10 - **The Ten Opportunities and the Ten Commitments.**

3. TEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR ‘MISSION 10’

Meghalaya will excel when every individual - our farmers, our women, our youth has the opportunity to excel. As our great Khasi poet, *U Soso Tham* said

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*‘Baroh u briew ba stad, Mano ba lah ban len;
La khlem da plie ka lad, Kumno un lait ban kren’*

which broadly translates to – *‘Every person is capable, no one can deny. But in the absence of opportunities, how will she speak to rise and fly?’*

In this spirit, the Government has identified ten key opportunities that are driving growth and employment, and we are steadily harnessing each of them.

3.1 AGRICULTURE AND HIGH VALUE HORTICULTURE

3.1.1 Farmers, rural entrepreneurs and farmer collectives continue to serve as the backbone of Meghalaya. Over the years, a range of customized and targeted programmes have been launched to address the unique challenges faced by our farmers. CM FARM+ ensures long-term income security by expanding the area under high-value plantation crops such as black pepper, Ceylon cinnamon, cashew, coffee and cocoa. Mission-mode interventions across priority value chains, including Lakadong turmeric and ginger, enable farmers to increase production and productivity. Kisan Credit Card beneficiaries, who are prompt re-payers get interest free loans thanks to our interest subvention scheme. Over 71,000 farmers have been brought under crop insurance as the State government decided to pay their share of the premium. Untied funds are being provided to producer groups under FOCUS programme to enable local solutions for various agricultural problems. Structured distress relief measures to broom grass and areca nut farmers have been provided through CM ASSURE. All these programmes in the last 8 years have benefited 1.8 lakh farmers. Incomes of approximately 15,000 households have more than doubled.

3.1.2 In the last three years, 10 large processing facilities owned and managed by farmer cooperatives, known as PRIME HUBs, have been operationalized

across the State. In 2026-27, another 10 PRIME HUBs will be operationalized, further strengthening decentralized value addition and collective entrepreneurship. Our vision is bold - to process and export our pineapples, oranges, black pepper, lakadong turmeric, and other produce of Meghalaya's farmers to premium markets around the world. An allocation of ₹30 Crore is proposed to accelerate the setting up of these hubs.

- 3.1.3 We are also prioritizing strategic interventions in high-value fruits and flowers to improve farmers' incomes. For instance, Strawberry cultivation, which began in a limited number of villages, has expanded to over 250 villages. In the next financial year, we will introduce the sweeter Japanese Tochiotome variety in Meghalaya. This will further strengthen our market position in strawberries and double the income for more than 4,000 strawberry growers.
- 3.1.4 Under floriculture mission, average subsidy of ₹7 lakh is being provided per beneficiary. Lilioms and dendrobium grown in Meghalaya are now sold in markets of Delhi and Bengaluru. For the coming financial year, ₹60 Crore is being proposed for strengthening value chain development in high-value fruits and floriculture.
- 3.1.5 Organic agricultural practices remain a core strength of the State. We have set a target of bringing one lakh hectares under NPOP-certified organic clusters by 2028. Building climate resilience, ensuring water security and reducing drudgery remain central pillars of our agricultural strategy. For 2026-27, expanding irrigation and mechanization are our important priorities, for which I am allocating an amount of ₹60 Crore.
- 3.1.6 The long pending demand for the establishment of colleges in agriculture and allied sectors will be taken up in the next financial year. The Agriculture and Horticulture College will be set up in Williamnagar, East Garo Hills. Colleges for veterinary, livestock and fisheries will be located in other regions of the State to ensure balanced regional development.
- 3.1.7 I am proposing a total allocation of ₹664 Crore for the agriculture sector in 2026-27.

3.2 **ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND LIVESTOCK**

- 3.2.1 Animal Husbandry continues to strengthen the rural economy. This year, we achieved a 20% reduction in major livestock disease outbreaks from last year, through aggressive vaccination drives. Rapid Response Teams in all districts have contained threats like African Swine Fever, supported by an upgraded State Disease Diagnostic Laboratory.
- 3.2.2 We are also advancing firmly towards a rabies-free Meghalaya by 2030 through coordinated vaccination campaigns for pets and stray dogs. Access to veterinary services has expanded through seven Mobile Veterinary Units deployed across six districts.
- 3.2.3 To boost productivity, the State is scaling up livestock entrepreneurship under CM-Elevate by providing subsidies and credit support across piggery, poultry, goatery and dairy sectors. About 2,000 entrepreneurs have been supported with 50% credit linked subsidy. Risk protection has been strengthened with free insurance for 25,000 pigs. A total amount of ₹247 Crore is being allocated to Veterinary sector in 2026-27.
- 3.2.4 The fisheries sector will continue to be prioritized. Fish farmers will also be provided with subsidies under the CM-ELEVATE scheme from 2026-27. I am allocating an amount of ₹130 Crore for the sector in 2026-27.

3.3 **TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE**

- 3.3.1 Tourism in Meghalaya is no longer seasonal. It is stable, structured, and creates scalable employment. Before the pandemic, we welcomed around 12 lakh visitors. Today, we have crossed 16 lakh visitors, firmly establishing Meghalaya as one of the fastest-growing tourism destinations in the country. More importantly, tourism-linked livelihoods have grown from about 50,000 in 2022 to nearly 75,000 today. Room inventory has expanded from 6,000 rooms to over 10,000 rooms.

- 3.3.2 For the next financial year, the focus will be on creation and upgradation of 1,000 homestays under the Chief Minister's Meghalaya Homestay Mission. New homestays will be supported with a subsidy of ₹7 lakhs; upgradation of existing ones will be supported with a grant of up to ₹2 lakhs and large boutique homestays with a subsidy of up to ₹36 lakhs. For accelerated implementation under the Mission this year, I propose an allocation of ₹70 Crore.
- 3.3.3 Work is progressing on iconic tourism projects such as the Shillong Peak Ropeway, Rain and Bamboo Museum at Mawsynram, Integrated Hospitality and Convention Center at Tura, and Umngot Riverfront Development at Dawki. In the next financial year, larger and more ambitious projects will be initiated - an iconic Monolithic towers complex soaring high at 123 meters, with a glass bridge at 70 meters commanding a panoramic view of New Shillong City, new accommodation units at Wari Chora, South Garo Hills, at Adokgre, North Garo Hills, and at Lumdiengiei, East Khasi Hills; and experiential centers at Wahlyngkhat, East Khasi Hills, and Umden, RiBhoi. We will initiate the construction of seven modern convention centers at Nongpoh, Williamnagar, Resubelpara, Mairang, Mawkyrwat, Nongstoin and Khliehriat in 2026-27, for which I am allocating an amount of ₹30 Crore.
- 3.3.4 Sir, the core of Meghalaya's tourism is our communities and entrepreneurs. They are supported through tourism vehicle schemes, community-led tourism infrastructure, tourism buddy programmes and hospitality scholarships. Each of these investments serves one purpose - to increase length of stay and deepen local spending. When tourists stay longer, more families earn. For tourism infrastructure, destination development and community tourism, I propose an allocation of ₹162 crore.
- 3.3.5 Sir, in line with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's call to develop global-standard destinations, Meghalaya is now progressing to the next level. We have identified Umiam, Sohra, Dawki-Shnongpdeng and Nokrek for transformation into global-scale destinations. We will invest ₹100 Crore in each of these destinations in the next two years.

3.3.6 To promote research in areas of arts and culture, heritage studies, indigenous communities, land, language and lineage and evaluation studies, the Chief Minister's Research Grant has already empowered 48 scholars. Our conservation efforts have resulted in the scientific archiving of over 14,000 historic records, preserving knowledge for generations. Next year, we will scale our ambitions, and 75 scholars will be supported and sent to Vietnam, Cambodia and Tibet to trace our ancestral heritage.

3.3.7 The overall allocation for the Tourism, Arts and Culture Sectors will stand at ₹376 Crore, an increase of 57% this year.

3.4 **SPORTS**

3.4.1 Sir, the next financial year marks a red-letter chapter in the history of sports for Meghalaya. Our State has been entrusted with the honour of hosting the 39th National Games in 2027. This is a moment of pride, responsibility, and national recognition for Meghalaya. More than 10,000 athletes, including future Olympians and Asian Games medalists, will come to Meghalaya for the first time to compete on our soil. Nearly 8,000 local volunteers, our youth, will gain invaluable exposure by becoming active partners in the conduct of the Games.

3.4.2 This will be a memorable edition of the National Games, with Meghalaya hosting the maximum number of disciplines and select events held in other North Eastern States, reinforcing the sense of a shared regional experience.

3.4.3 During this period, our local economy, tourism, transport, hospitality, small businesses, artists, and service providers will witness unprecedented activity, generating nearly 30,000 indirect employment opportunities across the State. I propose an allocation of ₹210 Crore for the conduct of the National Games.

3.4.4 Several large projects including the JN Sports complex at Shillong and PA Sangma sports complex at Tura will be completed in the next financial year. We are constructing the Mawkhanu Football Stadium, India's largest dedicated football stadium with a seating capacity of 40,000. At Umtham, Ri-Bhoi district we are developing India's first international standard Slalom

Course, a landmark achievement in sports in the country. International-level Aquatics and Tennis Complexes are being constructed at Umsawli, and Youth Hostels are being constructed at Shillong and Tura. I propose an allocation of ₹400 Crore for sports infrastructure development.

3.4.5 Hon'ble Speaker Sir, we are preparing our athletes to achieve excellence. Support is being provided to all the Sports associations to hire coaches and buy best-in-class equipment. To motivate young athletes, we have approved the 'Meghalaya Outstanding Sportspersons Direct Appointment Policy, 2025' and the Service Rules so that medal winners in select events can immediately get government jobs.

3.4.6 Sir, keeping in view the scale of ambition, infrastructure expansion, athlete development, and successful hosting of the National Games, I propose a total budgetary allocation of ₹844 Crore for the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs in 2026-27, a 104% increase over this year.

3.5 **YOUTH AND CREATIVE ECONOMY**

3.5.1 We stand at a demographic advantage unmatched by any State in India. This Government recognizes that our youth are naturally inclined towards sports, arts, music, and the wider creative sector. Accordingly, we are implementing some of India's most innovative programmes to build a creative economy.

3.5.2 Under the CM Meghalaya Grassroot Music Programme, about 8,000 musicians and other artists from across the State have been given a platform to showcase their talent and earn additional income. Hello Meghalaya, is a dedicated avenue for the youth to produce and share content in Khasi, Garo, Pnar, and other local languages. In just two years, Hello Meghalaya has been downloaded more than 4.5 lakhs times and has over 1,000 contents to stream. Through this initiative we offer financial incentives of up to ₹20 lakh per film and ₹18,000 per month for digital content creators. Through the YESS Meghalaya programme, Government has empowered 1,500 youth groups, representing nearly 10,000 members. For the continued implementation of these novel initiatives, I am allocating ₹65 Crore for 2026-27.

- 3.5.3 Providing world class exposure to our youth is a necessity. The Chief Minister's Youth Exchange Programme continues to identify talented youth in various sectors who are then sent for exposure visits and learning programs to different parts of the country and internationally. I target to support 30,000 youths over the next three years, and I am allocating ₹20 Crore for this purpose in 2026-27.
- 3.5.4 Sir, with sustained effort, Meghalaya has emerged amongst the top three concert destinations in India. We will continue this momentum and make Meghalaya the music capital of the country. Street Music festivals will be hosted at Shillong and Tura to provide a bigger platform for the local artists in the next financial year. In 2026-27, we will also set up a world class Film Institute at Shillong and a Music Institute at Tura.
- 3.5.5 I am allocating an amount of ₹145 Crore for supporting these youth engagement programs.

3.6 **ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SKILLING**

- 3.6.1 Entrepreneurship and Skilling are the twin pillars for youth empowerment. Since 2018, we have created over 15,000 jobs by supporting 4,500 businesses in PRIME and CM ELEVATE. Through 716 training centers we have trained over 51,000 youths in the last four years, which has created more than 13,000 livelihoods and employment opportunities. We have facilitated overseas placement of 60 nurses in Japan and Singapore. These nurses are Meghalaya's global ambassadors and are contributing to our economy through remittances amounting to ₹1 lakh per person per month.
- 3.6.2 For 2026-27, CM ELEVATE will continue to support agriculture, livestock, sericulture and mobility entrepreneurs. Over 2,000 small businesses will be provided with a subsidy of ₹50,000 covering existing shops, SHGs, and enterprises across both urban and rural areas. I am also happy to introduce six new schemes under CM ELEVATE - Green Taxi, Meghalaya Adventure Tourism, Polyhouses, Agriculture Collection centers, Cold Storages and Fish ponds with subsidies ranging from 50% to 75%.

3.6.3 Skilling continues to be our priority. Under the CM Skilling Mission already 30,000 youth have been trained and another 70,000 will be trained by 2028. For 2026-27, I want to see that the benefits of skilling reach every village in the State. I have set a target to train at least 10 youth in every village. Similarly, I want the benefits of placements abroad to reach every nook and corner of the State. Over the next two years, we will work to place 10 professionals from every block in overseas roles in Japan, Germany, Singapore, UK and other countries.

3.6.4 I am happy to inform the august House that the construction of Meghalaya Skills and Innovation hub at New Shillong has started. In 2026-27, we will initiate the construction of Skills and Innovation hub at Tura as well. To support entrepreneurship, skills, and innovation, I am proposing ₹241 Crore.

3.7 **INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT**

3.7.1 Sir, private investment is becoming a key driver for creating employment opportunities in the State. In the last three years, ₹1,761 Crore worth of private investment has been grounded, while investments worth ₹2,638 Crore are in advanced stages of consideration. These investments are expected to generate 5,500 jobs. The impact of private investment can be illustrated through the successful operationalization of Varun Beverages in Mendipathar, North Garo Hills, where, with an investment of ₹340 Cr, 500 local people have been employed. Our focused support to investors has helped Meghalaya secure the position of a “Top Achiever” in business-entry reforms under Government of India’s, Business Reforms Action Plan, 2024.

3.7.2 In the coming year, we plan to build on this momentum and continue to attract private sector investment of about ₹3,000 Crore. Of this ₹2,000 Crore is expected in the hospitality sector for construction of a world class Convention Center and four new five-star hotels. Another ₹1,000 Crore is expected in food processing and other green industries. The bamboo-based industries will source raw material from local farmers and employ local youth, creating a multiplier effect on the economy. Altogether, these projects will create around 6,000 employment opportunities across multiple sectors.

3.7.3 To promote sustained industrial growth, I am earmarking ₹62 Crore as an incentive package for small and medium industries. The total budget for the Commerce and Industries Department for 2026-27 stands at ₹200 crore.

3.8 **CLIMATE RESILIENT GREEN ECONOMY**

3.8.1 Meghalaya's community-centric climate-adaptation efforts including the Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Areas under the MegARISE project, the Spring Mapping Initiative, and the Climate-Adaptive Community-Based Water Harvesting Project have been lauded and highlighted in the Economic Survey 2025-26 tabled in Parliament by the Union Finance Minister. This recognition reaffirms that our path of balancing ecology with economy is the right one.

3.8.2 Today, we are running the country's largest State-wide Payment for Ecosystem Services Program, Green Meghalaya Plus. We are recognized as a leader in accessing Carbon markets. We have planted over 30,000 hectares of new forests in the last 8 years, and several programs for catchment protection and impounding precious water resources are being taken up at a large scale. The Government is standing by its promise of paying communities every year for the protection of forests - 3,000 beneficiaries will be paid their entitlement every February so that this money can be used for children's education and productive purposes. I am allocating ₹50 Crore for Green Meghalaya Plus.

3.8.3 To promote water conservation as enunciated in the Meghalaya Water Policy, 2019, a rooftop rainwater harvesting initiative will be introduced in 2026-27. The programme will support the installation of rooftop rainwater collection systems by offering up to 25% subsidy for private buildings.

3.8.4 I am allocating an amount of ₹5,572 Crore for building a climate resilient Meghalaya, which includes allocations for afforestation, maintenance of existing plantations, water harvesting projects, direct benefit transfers and all the climate related initiatives.

3.9 URBAN TRANSFORMATION

- 3.9.1 As cities grow, issues like waste management, congestion, and sprawl inevitably emerge. The Government has responded to each challenge in a systematic manner.
- 3.9.2 More than 50% of the legacy waste that had been lying for decades at the Marten, Shillong and Rongkhon Songgital, Tura landfill sites have now been remediated. Hawkers in Shillong are being relocated to organized spaces in a dignified manner. Creative development initiatives in Shillong, Tura, and Jowai are underway, with Government land being repurposed for public projects. The STEMS school bus system has been institutionalized, providing much-needed relief to thousands of children and parents. Government land settlement has been successfully completed in Williamnagar and initiated in Tura. Several of the projects under the Shillong Smart City have been operationalized.
- 3.9.3 In 2026-27, the New Shillong City will become operational. This includes the historic shift of the Legislative Assembly, the opening of the Unity Mall, IT Park Phase II, the Umsawli Sports Complex, Mawkhanu events ground, and 24 km of road network. Several PPP projects and two Government projects, the Police Reserve at an estimated cost of ₹300 Crore and the Central Jail with a cost of ₹280 Crore will be initiated.
- 3.9.4 I am happy to inform the august House that the construction of the New Secretariat Complex building is progressing at a remarkable pace. The construction of additional Secretariat Complex at Tura has also begun. The Integrated Administrative Complex at Jowai is nearing completion.
- 3.9.5 In 2026-27, several major redevelopment projects in Shillong will be completed, including Barik Point Redevelopment, Ward's Lake Promenade Development, Polo Riverfront Project, and ongoing multi-level parking lots. New projects will be initiated across the State including the Malki Shopping Complex, the Ummulong Market, Nongstoin Market, the expansion of the Nazing Bazaar Market, and the Tura City Park. Municipal areas in Jowai, Williamnagar, Resubelpara, and Baghmara will also receive a comprehensive

facelift. The relocation of hawkers in Shillong will be completed next year, and we will begin the process in Tura and Jowai as well.

3.9.6 Another key vision I have for next year is clean cities. As we gear up for the national games and as tourists gather at Shillong, Tura, and Jowai, I want to see our cities becoming more vibrant, colourful and litter-free. Efforts for cleaning of urban water bodies including Wah-Umkhrah, Umshyrpi, Ringre, and Myntdu will be strengthened. Meghalaya is home to the cleanest river in the country and the cleanest village in Asia. I look forward to the day when we can proudly call one of our cities the cleanest city in India.

3.9.7 I am allocating an amount to ₹1,540 Crore for the Urban sector, an increase of 12.1% from this year.

3.10 **INCREASED PUBLIC INVESTMENTS**

3.10.1 Public investment will continue to be the engine of growth for Meghalaya. In the next financial year, our focus on leveraging grants-like funding windows from Government of India will continue. Under SASCI, I am estimating the expenditure to go up to ₹4500 Crore, which is 67% increase from the current financial year. I am estimating the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Central Sector Schemes expenditure to be ₹6,833 Crore. For the next Finance Commission period we target new EAPs worth ₹15,000 Crore in the sectors of roads, power, healthcare, urban and human development.

4 TEN COMMITMENTS OF 'MISSION 10'

It is my firm belief that the gains of our economic progress must reach every Meghalayan and every region of our State. Our Government's ten commitments reflect this dedication, and we will achieve these by 2032 when the State celebrates its diamond jubilee.

4.1 IMPROVED CONNECTIVITY AND MOBILITY

4.1.1 Sir, improved connectivity and seamless mobility remain the foundational pillars of development for Meghalaya. In the last 8 years, the State has significantly strengthened its road infrastructure by adding 2,400 kms of new roads, upgrading and augmenting another 2,357 kms, and constructing 2,800 running meters of bridges - all through State resources. From Central Government funds, a total of 877 Km of road has been developed. Our flagship Externally Aided Project, Meghalaya Integrated Transport Project, has achieved 95% completion.

4.1.2 Building on the success of MITP, ₹2,500 Crore has been sanctioned for the Meghalaya Logistics and Connectivity Improvement Project. The following key corridors have been prioritized for development under MLCIP in the coming year: Songsak – Mendipathar, Umsning – Jagiroad, Weiloi – Mawsynram upto Phlangwanbroi, Adugre - Gambegre to Purakhasia, and Upgradation of Dkhiah–Sutnga–Saipung–Pala upto Semmasi.

4.1.3 Additional large projects which will drive economic growth are being initiated, including upgradation of Nongstoin-Maweit-Nongjri road at a cost of ₹383 Crore, Mawphlang-Balat-Ranikor road at a cost of ₹280 Crore, and the Chokpot to Karukol road at a cost of ₹136 Crore. I am allocating an overall amount of ₹1,982 Crore for the construction of new road infrastructure and ₹492 Crore for maintenance of roads in 2026-2027, an increase of 19% from this year.

4.1.4 Over the past eight years, under PMGSY, more than 3,300 kms of roads have been completed, providing linkages to 280 previously unconnected villages.

An additional 329 habitations have been identified for the upcoming phase of PMGSY IV, scheduled to begin next year.

4.1.5 To further strengthen last mile access, the Chief Minister's Rural Connectivity Scheme was initiated, with a focus on suspension footbridges for remote settlements. In the first phase, work is progressing well on nine such bridges, costing approximately ₹24 crore. I am introducing a new component under the CM Rural Connectivity Program for black topping of selected internal roads in every block. I am allocating ₹43 Crore to blacktop 100 kilometers of roads in 2026-2027.

4.1.6 Strengthening air connectivity will be a game changer for Meghalaya. The expansion of the Umroi Airport runway from 1,829 to 2,400 meters will be initiated by Airport Authority of India soon. For 2026-27, I am allocating an amount of ₹150 Crore for Umroi Airport. In our effort to improve connectivity in the Garo Hills region, we have handed over the Baljek Airport in Tura to the AAI to enable its full operationalization. I am allocating an amount of ₹50 Crore for this purpose.

4.2 **PIPED DRINKING WATER FOR ALL**

4.2.1 The Government has achieved 83% household coverage under the Jal Jeevan Mission and is on track to expanding the coverage of piped drinking water to all the rural households. However, few challenges exist in some areas, given the large scale and complex implementation of the project. An inter-departmental approach is put in place to strengthen water management and conservation. For 2026-27, I am allocating ₹150 Crore for State's share of JJM and ₹150 Crore for taking up various source sustainability and catchment protection measures.

4.2.2 Major projects such as the Greater Sohra Water Supply Scheme and the Greater Baghmara Phase-I Water Supply Scheme have been successfully completed. After 17 years, water has finally reached the Water Treatment Plant under the Greater Shillong Water Supply Scheme Phase-III, marking a significant milestone.

4.2.3 The construction of the ambitious Greater Tura Water Supply Scheme and the New Shillong Water Supply Scheme Phase I are steadily progressing. The Williamnagar Water Supply Scheme Phase-I, Greater Ampati Water Supply Scheme, and Nongstoin Water Supply Scheme are at various stages of completion. I am allocating ₹571 Crore for large Water Supply Schemes.

4.2.4 I am happy to announce that in 2026-27 construction of Williamnagar Water Supply Scheme Phase-II at a cost of ₹189 Crore and the Greater Baghmara Water Supply Scheme Phase-II at a cost of ₹140 Crore will be initiated.

4.3 **RELIABLE AND QUALITY POWER SUPPLY**

4.3.1 Sir, power is one of the key sectors which is instrumental for the development of the State. Over the last five years, the power generating stations' availability has improved from 83.6% to 93.4%. Additionally, 33 new substations, over 2,200 km of new HT lines, and nearly 2,700 new distribution transformers have been added. The Ganol Hydroelectric project is fully operational and is generating 60 million units annually. The comprehensive reforms in the power sector have helped to ensure that there is no scheduled load shedding in the last two years. I am proud to share that Meghalaya has been ranked 7th in the '*Rating Regulatory Performance of the States and Union Territories, 2025*'.

4.3.2 Sir, key projects such as Renovation, Modernization and Upgradation of Umiam Stage III are expected to be completed by June 2026; Riangdo Hydro power project is targeted for completion by June 2028. Three recently awarded private hydro projects with a capacity of 308 MW will bring nearly ₹2,600 Crore investment into Meghalaya and provide 160 million units of free power to the State once completed.

4.3.3 We have strengthened the transmission network across the State through 220 kV backbone expansion which improved power supply to Shillong and other key areas. New substations at Nongpoh and upgradation at NEHU will be completed by March 2027, while Mawkhanu and Mawlai will follow by December 2027. The ADB funded Meghalaya Power Distribution Sector Improvement Project and Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme will be

completed by 2027. To ensure reliable power supply to the Garo Hills region, we will introduce redundancy in Nangalbibra substation through a proposed 140 kms, 220KV Nangalbibra - Sohra line. These initiatives will bring us closer to the commitment of reliable and uninterrupted power supply to all.

4.3.4 State Government will continue to support power sector through both capital infusion and taking over the losses of discom in 2026-27. I am allocating an amount of ₹1,123 Crore for 2026-27.

4.4 **HIGH SPEED INTERNET CONNECTIVITY**

4.4.1 Sir, Meghalaya is steadily gaining recognition as a growing IT hub in the North-East. This momentum is supported by key initiatives such as identifying IT/ITeS as a priority sector under the Meghalaya Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy 2024, establishing Technology Parks, and hosting the first regional AI Policy Summit here in Shillong. We launched the BHASHINI hackathon which focuses on training language models in Khasi and Garo, preserving and promoting our linguistic heritage.

4.4.2 In 2026-27, Phase II of Shillong Tech Park and Tura Tech Park will be made operational. The two new tech parks will cumulatively lead to the creation of additional 4,000 direct employment and 11,000 indirect employment opportunities.

4.4.3 Digital inclusion remains central to all our efforts. Today, nearly 97% of villages are connected with telecom networks and we aspire to cover the remaining villages and improve the bandwidth in the coming years. Last-mile connectivity and broadband services are being strengthened in partnership with PowerTel using the transmission network of MePTCL. To advance digital learning, the CM Digital Learning Aid Scheme has already provided Tablet PCs to almost 2 lakh learners since 2021-22. For the next year, another 35,000 students will benefit from this programme.

4.4.4 I am allocating ₹149 Crore for the IT sector for 2026-27.

4.5 HOUSING

- 4.5.1 In the last three years the performance under PMAY-Gramin has been extraordinary. We achieved an impressive 73% completion rate, with 1.37 lakh houses already built out of the target of 1.88 lakh. In 2026-27, we will complete the remaining 50,000 houses, ensuring 100% achievement for the current registered beneficiaries.
- 4.5.2 With the five-year extension of PMAY-G, we aim to ensure that all previously unregistered beneficiaries who were left out of the scheme will now receive housing support. I expect that in the next 3 years, we will be able to achieve saturation of housing in the rural areas of the State.
- 4.5.3 I am happy to inform that PMAY-Urban 2.0 will be implemented across 13 towns: Shillong, Jowai, Nongpoh, Mairang, Nongstoin, Tura, Baghmara, Williamnagar, Resubelpara, Mawkyrwat, Sohra, Khliehriat, and Ampati.
- 4.5.4 From State resources we will initiate the construction of affordable housing complexes in all urban areas to support economically weaker sections of society. Thousand units will be constructed at New Shillong and another thousand units in Tura, Jowai, and other urban areas. I am allocating an amount of ₹100 Crore for affordable housing in 2026-27.
- 4.5.5 I am also allocating an amount of ₹70 Crore for the Chief Minister's Housing Assistance Program for 2026-27.

4.6 AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE FOR ALL

- 4.6.1 Sir, Health for all is more than just a policy priority for me, it is a commitment that I hold deeply. We are the only State in the country spending close to 9% of its budget on health as recommended by Fifteenth Finance Commission. At ₹7,690 per capita, Meghalaya's investment in healthcare is more than twice the National average of ₹3,169. Our investments have ensured that over the last five years the number of maternal deaths have come down from 244 in 2020-21 to an estimated 103 in 2025-26 and the Infant Mortality Rate has reduced from 37.1 to 23.7 during the same period. This translates to about

1,300 lives of Mothers and Children saved every year. I am allocating ₹140 Crore for CM-SMS in 2026-27.

4.6.2 The Government is committed to improving the physical infrastructure for health in the State. In 2026-27, the expansion of Shillong Civil Hospital will be taken up and I express my deep gratitude to the Red Cross Society for agreeing to transfer the land to Government for this expansion. We have also completed the construction of Umniangbyrnai Parila MCH in Ribhoi and Nongstoin MCH in West Khasi Hills, which will be inaugurated shortly. Resubelpara Civil Hospital and Mahendraganj MCH will be completed in 2026-27. In the last two years we have completed construction of 151 sub-centers, and another 106 sub-centers will be completed in 2026-27 enabling us to take health services closer to our rural population.

4.6.3 Sir, I am happy to inform this august House that the Shillong Medical College is now operational with 50 seats. This is a significant landmark for medical education in Meghalaya. Further, we are working to operationalize Tura Medical College soon. During my visit to Baghmara on Meghalaya Day, I visited the Baghmara Civil Hospital and made a commitment to convert it into a model hospital. I am allocating an amount of ₹20 Crore to initiate this project in 2026-27.

4.6.4 Our Meghalaya Health Insurance Scheme is benefitting 6.6 lakh families, allocation for the scheme is being increased to ₹258 Crore, a 44% increase for the next year. This investment translates to an average investment of ₹3,900 per family.

4.6.5 The overall allocation to Health and Family Welfare Department for 2026-27 is ₹2,472 Crore, including ₹1,822 Crore from the State resources.

4.7 **NUTRITION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

4.7.1 Sir, one of the biggest themes for deliberation in this year's Cabinet Retreat was nutrition and stunting. Over the last few years, initiatives taken under the Early Childhood Development Mission are showing some results; however, more urgent steps are needed. Taking into account the inputs of all the field

officials, I am launching a 1,000-day mission to address stunting and child malnutrition. We will ensure that no young child born in Meghalaya faces the burden of stunting and malnutrition. To achieve this I am allocating ₹127 Crore.

4.7.2 Meghalaya's adoption of Early Childhood Development is being recognized as a scalable model. Our nutrition commitment is anchored in the Supplementary Nutrition Programme, which currently supports over 4.3 lakh beneficiaries.

4.7.3 So far 1,328 anganwadi centers are upgraded to provide comprehensive services for all round development of the children. I propose to construct 600 new anganwadi centers cum creches and upgrade another 820 anganwadi centers in 2026-27.

4.7.4 I am allocating an amount of ₹244 Crore to strengthen nutrition for the next financial year.

4.8 **JOYFUL AND QUALITY LEARNING AT ALL LEVELS**

4.8.1 Sir, even with the persistent challenges in the education sector, our focus has remained clear: to create classrooms where learning is joyful and meaningful, and to steadily strengthen learning outcomes. To support primary and secondary education we have upgraded the physical infrastructure of over 2,000 government schools, completed 2 Eklavya Model Residential Schools and initiated construction of 29 EMRS. We will initiate the construction of the balance 7 EMRS in the next financial year.

4.8.2 My Government has taken landmark steps in higher education, beginning with the establishment of Meghalaya's first State university, Captain Williamson Sangma University, the State's first engineering college in Shillong, and 21 People's Colleges across the State.

4.8.3 For 2026-27, a total of 135 prioritized schools will be taken up for upgradation under Phase IV of Mission Education. I am allocating an amount of ₹131 Crore for the continued implementation of the Mission. We will also upgrade infrastructure at Captain Williamson Sangma University, and I am allocating ₹30 Crore for the same.

4.8.4 Sir, we streamlined the disbursement of Post matric scholarships, benefiting over 70,600 eligible students. CM Scholarship announced in last budget has been operationalized and witnessed an exceptional response, with over 1.05 lakh students registering. Post verification, these students will receive a scholarship of ₹6,000 in March this year. I am allocating ₹60 Crore for the continued implementation of CM Scholarship scheme for the next financial year.

4.8.5 Teachers are the bedrock of the education system. Owing to complex legacy issues, genuine concerns and grievances of the SSA, ad-hoc and other teachers had remained unresolved. Last year, I made a commitment to the teacher's association, that this government will find a lasting solution to their challenges. Accordingly, after multiple rounds of consultations and taking into account the interest of the teachers and the students, we took a landmark decision to provide a structured pay framework for more than 23,000 fixed pay teachers. To meet this commitment, I have allocated an additional amount of ₹200 Crore.

4.8.6 The overall allocation to Education department for next financial year is ₹3,347 Crore.

4.9 **EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY AND GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL**

4.9.1 Sir, effective use of digital technology, e-governance and Artificial Intelligence is the way forward to improving service delivery in our remote villages. Meghalaya One, CM CONNECT, and our Village Data Volunteers have reshaped how people access services and raise concerns.

4.9.2 Meghalaya is an emerging leader in digital governance. I still remember the time I went to Geneva to receive the WSIS Forum Prize for our e-proposal system that runs the entire governance system today. From the Chief Minister to the lower functionaries of the secretariat, almost 7,800 people are currently onboarded on the system. This single platform has remarkably improved our efficiency, reducing the average file-processing time from 26 days to just 2.5 days.

- 4.9.3 Credit and banking services are critical challenges primarily in rural areas. The State Government has deployed a unique interoperable Micro ATM technology, equipped with voice support in Khasi, Pnar, and Garo ensuring that every citizen, regardless of language or location, can access financial services with dignity and ease. In 2026-27, we will scale up this initiative and make these micro-ATMs available to about 1,000 Customer Service Points and Business Correspondents. I am also announcing a new scheme to provide financial support to banks to open more branches and expand services in underserved areas.
- 4.9.4 Block development offices are the focal point for access to government programmes and services to the rural areas. I am happy to inform you that Block Integrated Development Complexes are completed in 28 locations and another 12 are on the verge of completion. The construction of BIDC at the 10 newly created blocks of Lumshnong, Namdong, Rambrai, Ri Muliang, Shallang, Adokgre, Siju, Batabari, Purakhasia, and Mawhati will be completed in the next financial year. I am allocating an amount of ₹40 Crore for 2026-27 to facilitate this.
- 4.9.5 Better delivery of law-and-order services requires strong and well-staffed police force and infrastructure. In the last 8 years, we have strengthened the police force by 1,000 and new recruitment of almost 3,000 police vacancies have been completed. The Police Infrastructure Renovation Fund has been successful in improving the office and residential buildings of our strong police force. I am allocating ₹50 Crore to continue these efforts.
- 4.9.6 Citizen-centric infrastructure is an essential pillar of our public-service commitments. To ensure safe and comfortable lodging for our citizens traveling outside the State, the new Meghalaya House at Bengaluru is under construction. We will also improve the Meghalaya Houses at Delhi and Vellore.
- 4.9.7 My vision for citizen-centric service delivery is simple: no citizen should have to visit multiple departments to access basic services. In the next financial year all services will be digitally available on single digital platform of the Government, Meghalaya ONE. CM CONNECT centers, which will serve as one-

stop-shop for the delivery of citizen services, will be operational in all the block and district headquarters. The strong cadre of our 1,300 Village data volunteers, who are already recruited, will proactively go to every household and deliver services at the doorstep, wherever required. I am allocating an amount of ₹60 Crore to achieve a transformation in citizen delivery.

4.10 CARING AND EMPOWERING STATE - STRENGTHENING YOUTH, WOMEN AND THE VULNERABLE

4.10.1 Sir, the Government is ensuring that no one is left behind in our growth journey. Among the early commitments MDA Government fulfilled eight years ago, was streamlining pension payments for senior citizens, single mothers and differently abled people. The CM CARE program now benefits 1,23,000 citizens. I am allocating an amount of ₹102 Crore for continuation of this program in 2026-27.

4.10.2 Under the DREAM initiative, we are addressing rising substance-use challenges through strong enforcement, community participation and expanding rehabilitation centers. I am targeting that every district in the State should have one rehabilitation center. We will also endeavor to establish a National Institute of Social Defence Centre in Meghalaya, which will strengthen the State's efforts. The establishment of this center was one of the suggestions of our beloved Member of Parliament, Late Dr. Ricky Syngkon.

4.10.3 I am pleased to announce that we will be establishing Active Ageing Centres in the next financial year. These centers will serve as inter-generational spaces where seniors and children come together for shared learning and care. Each centre will offer wellness and recreation for older adults, early learning and creative activities for children, and joint programmes such as storytelling, music, crafts, local heritage, and community service. I am allocating an amount of ₹20 Crore for this initiative.

4.10.4 Sir, the Government's sensitive and caring approach to handling every issue is evident in the smooth closure of Mawmluh Cherra Cements Limited (MCCL). All the 209 employees are being paid their committed dues and I am allocating

₹27.2 Crore as the final tranche of financial assistance for the next financial year.

- 4.10.5 FOCUS+ is our flagship programme for our producers. Fulfilling my commitment of providing ₹5,000 untied benefit to the enrolled producers, we have released backlog installment to about 93,000 verified beneficiaries this year. The registration of new beneficiaries in accordance with the Family ID framework has been initiated. I am allocating ₹175 Crore for FOCUS+ program in 2026-27.
- 4.10.6 Self Help Groups play a crucial role, and my Government has accelerated the SHG groups' mobilization, covering all the villages in the State. The cumulative support provided to these groups in the form of Community Investment Fund stands at ₹415 Crore and credit linkage stands at ₹756 Crore. In the last two years, 40,126 enterprises have been set up by our SHG women creating livelihood and employment opportunities at the village level. Believing in the strength of our SHG movement, we have set ourselves a target of graduating 10,000 SHG women to millionaires – with an annual income of more than 10 lakhs – by 2028.
- 4.10.7 MGNREGA is playing an important role in supporting livelihoods in rural areas of Meghalaya. In the last 8 years, we have infused more than ₹9,100 Crore in the rural economy through this program. In 2024-25, each of the 6.15 lakh active job card holders received an average DBT of ₹17,300 in their bank account. I extend my deep appreciation to all the Village Employment Councils whose commitment and hard work have made this progress possible. To address the structural limitations of MGNREGA, Government of India enacted the '*Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin - VB-GRAM G Act, 2025*', under which the number of guaranteed employment days has now increased from 100 to 125. I am allocating ₹800 Crore to this program, an increase of 20% from this year.
- 4.10.8 Our State's 7,000 plus villages hold immense natural and economic potential. Building on this strength, I am introducing a multi-sector initiative, Chief Minister's Model Village Scheme, to develop selected villages into vibrant

growth hubs-spanning agriculture, floriculture, organic farming, sericulture, apiculture, aquaculture, and livestock sectors. To support this effort in the coming year, I am allocating a budget of ₹28 Crore.

4.10.9 Sir, given the inherent structure of participatory governance in our State, I am pleased to announce that we will be reviving and strengthening the erstwhile Community Development scheme, with increased budgetary allocation and more flexible design. I am allocating a budget provision of ₹30 Crore for this scheme. Further, to empower our community institutions, we will launch a fellowship programme for our traditional elders - Rangbah Shnongs, Dolois, and Nokmas. This fellowship will provide national and global exposure and recognition to our community leaders.

5 BUDGET ESTIMATES: 2026-27

- 5.1 Sir, for 2026-27, I have estimated the total receipts at ₹32,000 Crore, of which the revenue receipts are estimated at ₹26,583 Crore and capital receipts at ₹5,417 Crore. Excluding borrowings of ₹5,379 Crore, the total receipts are estimated to be ₹26,621 Crore.
- 5.2 On the expenditure side, I have estimated the total expenditure at ₹32,023 Crore, of which the revenue expenditure is estimated at ₹21,812 Crore and Capital expenditure at ₹10,211 Crore. Excluding repayment of loans of ₹2,731 Crore, the estimated total expenditure is ₹29,293 Crore.
- 5.3 Interest payments for 2026-27 are estimated at ₹1,540 Crore and pension payments at ₹1,980 Crore. The revenue surplus is ₹4,771 Crore and the closing balance is ₹714 Crore.
- 5.4 I am, therefore, presenting the budget for 2026-27, with a fiscal deficit of ₹2,672 Crore, which is around 3.5% of the GSDP. I am delighted to highlight that the fiscal deficit has been maintained at the permissible limit of 3.5%.
- 5.5 Sir, along with the main budget document I am presenting the Climate, Youth, Gender and SDG Budgets. The size of the climate budget for 2026-27 is ₹5,572 Crore, an increase of 2.8% over 2025-26; Youth Budget stands at ₹4,824 Crore, an increase of 45%; Gender Budget stands at ₹6,849 Crore, an increase of 10%.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 I would like to place before this august House five thoughts that define the Meghalaya of today. Today's Meghalaya is **Stable, Aspirational, Collaborative, Caring, and Sustainable**.
- 6.2 **A Stable Meghalaya** that is growing rapidly, with strong fiscal discipline and a secure economic future anchored in continuity and responsible governance.
- 6.3 **An Aspirational Meghalaya** where we are building world-class infrastructure and our people rise confidently onto national and global platforms of excellence.
- 6.4 **A Collaborative Meghalaya** where development is shaped through dialogue, powered by communities, and strengthened by collective participation.
- 6.5 **A Caring Meghalaya** which is placing every citizen at the heart of policy, ensuring dignity, opportunity, and long-term security for all.
- 6.6 **A Sustainable Meghalaya** which is advancing prosperity while protecting and nurturing our natural and cultural heritage for generations to come.
- 6.7 I would like to conclude with a Garo couplet which we call 'Agan Me'apa',

Manigipa bolong a • ding,

Seng • gipa do • pa chring

which broadly translates to – ‘Walk the winding path with steadiness, with the wisdom of the wise birds, to strive relentlessly to fulfill the vision’.

- 6.8 Mr. Speaker Sir, with these words, I now commend the Budget to this august House.

Khublei! Mitela! Jai Hind!