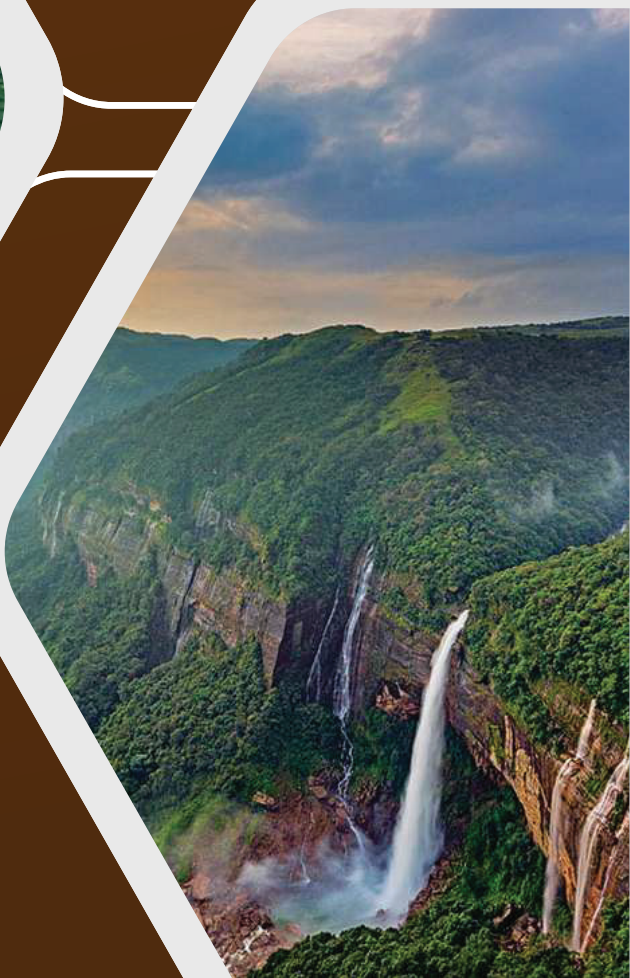


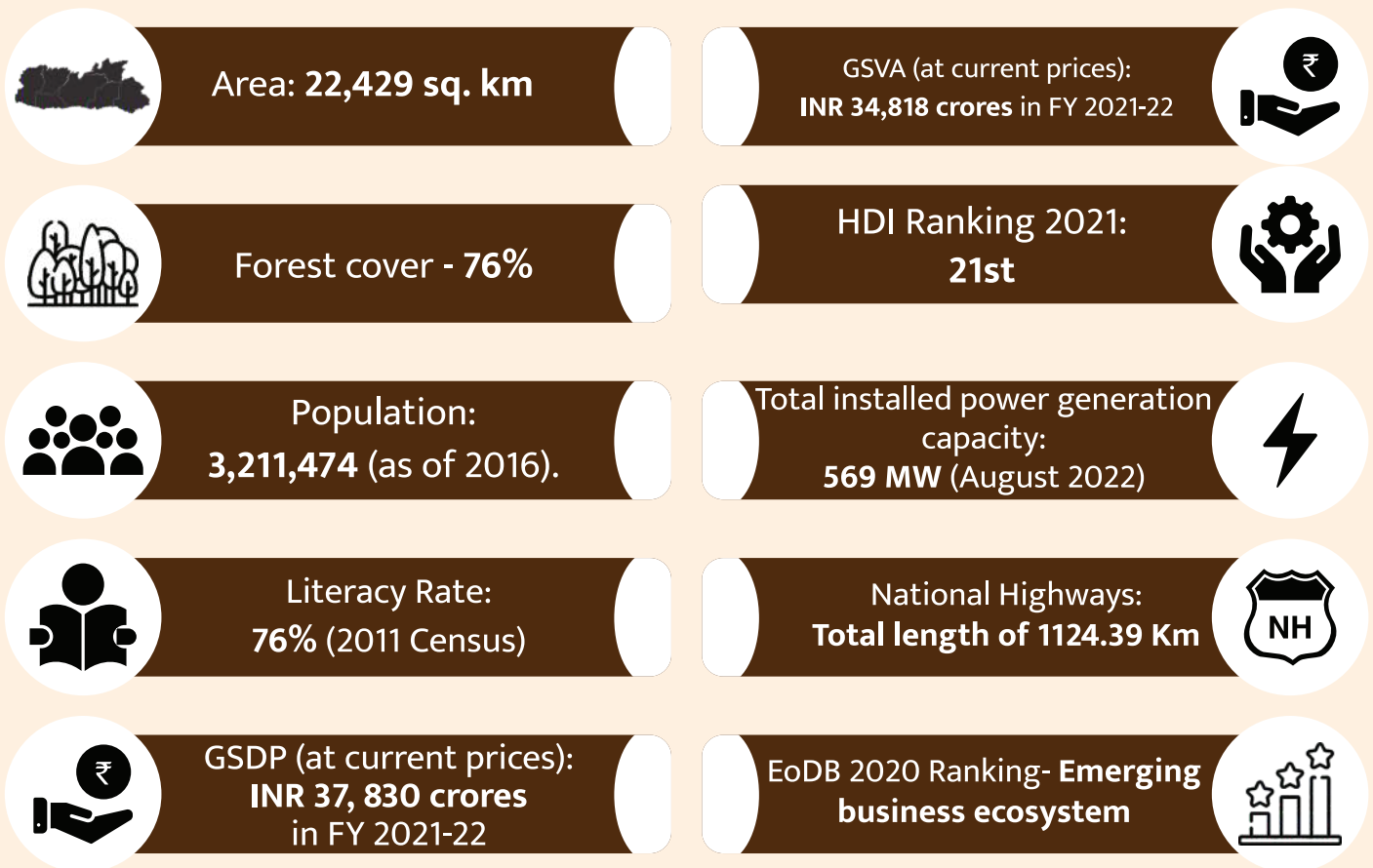


MEGHALAYA



Meghalaya which translates to ‘abode of clouds’ emerged as a full-fledged State on 21st January 1972. The population is predominantly tribal with the Khasi, Jaintia and Garo being the major tribes. Shillong, the state capital, was the former capital of British administered Assam. Shillong is a hub for education & tourism, as well as one of the most preferred destinations for hosting conferences, trade fairs & festivals. Meghalaya is primarily an agrarian economy with a significant commercial forestry industry and rich mineral resources. Meghalaya shares an international border of 443 km with Bangladesh. Trade & commerce is also carried out with the neighbouring countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan & Myanmar, with further potential to reach other South Asian markets as well.

STATE SNAPSHOT





MEGHALAYA INDUSTRIAL & INVESTMENT PROMOTION POLICY

The Government of Meghalaya is in process of formulating the Meghalaya Industrial & Investment Promotion Policy, 2023 as the earlier policy MIIPP 2012 expired last year. The key incentives/subsidies under the previous policy are hereunder:

- Capital Subsidy (for plant & machinery): 35% (up to seven lakhs) - Micro Enterprises, 30% (up to 75 lakhs) - Small Enterprises & (up to 100 lakhs) for Medium/Large/Mega/Ultra Large enterprises
- Interest Subsidy at 4% up to 1 lakh per annum for 5 years
- Power Subsidy at 30% for loads up to 2 MW (5 years) up to Rs. 25 lakhs pa.
- Special Incentives & royalty exemptions

The State Government is hoping to launch the new industrial policy before the Northeast Global Investor Summit 2023.

CONNECTIVITY

- 6 National Highways connecting with Guwahati & other major cities.
- Umroi Airport (30 kms from Shillong) & Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi Airport in Guwahati (117 Km from Shillong).
- Helicopter services: 3 Helipads at Upper Shillong, Umroi & Tura.
- Meghalaya is well connected to Guwahati by road (NH-40) and air services.

WHY MEGHALAYA?

- About 55% of Meghalaya's population is in the working age group of 15-59 years
- Literacy rate 76%, with sizeable English-speaking population in comparison of other states of India
- Fastest growing economy in North-Eastern states of India with Net GSDP growth of 8% during 2019-20
- Dawki & Dalu Border Centres have great trade potential with Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar & Nepal.
- Largest producer of Coal and Limestone amongst the North-Eastern States
- Women's participation in the workforce at 34% for rural and 24% for urban areas.
- Top educational institutions of the North-eastern Region such as North-eastern Hill University (NEHU), National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), Indian Institute of Management (IIM), National Institute of Technology (NIT), NEIGRIHMS, etc.



FOCUS SECTORS

AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE

- Net area sown - 3 lakh hectares (13% of geographical area)
- GI tagged oranges - Khasi Mandarin & Memong Narang- organic, superior in quality & taste.
- Leading producer of Spices (black pepper, turmeric, ginger, bay leaves & chillies.)
- The Indigenous Lakadong turmeric- high 8% curcumin content- one of the best varieties in the world.
- Leading producer of pineapples & strawberries in India.
- Higher altitudes -conducive ecosystem- to grow traditional vegetables like potato, Cole crops, sweet potato & tapioca.
- Good scope for area expansion -plantation crops- tea, cashew, coconut coffee, rubber, black pepper and Arecanut.
- Based on the 2015-16 data, the net sown area of Meghalaya is 15% of the total geographical area.
- Meghalaya is relatively better off in terms of per capita availability of livestock products compared not only to the NER but also to India.
- 17 FPOs are registered in the state
- 325 start-ups are registered in the state for Agriculture & food processing, highest number amongst all other sectors.
- Two functional border huts - Kalaichar, West Garo Hills District and Balat, East Khasi Hills District and four new border huts are under implementation.
- **Key Initiatives by the state:**
 - Interest free and collateral free bank loans for food processing entrepreneurs were given for up to 10 lakhs. Mission Jackfruit was launched with a project duration of five years (2018-2023).
 - MSAMB initiative – marketing of agricultural produce and provide market information to farmers.
 - Established one Techno Incubation Centre at Institute of Hotel Management.
 - The Zero Interest Loan Facilitation Program in collaboration with NE Small Finance Bank to ease the access to credit
 - Training imparted to 303 trainees for food processing and sustainable agriculture
 - Government of Meghalaya launched the “Meghalaya State Organic and Natural Farming Policy, 2023.
 - Identification of 13 beneficiaries for establishment of Nano Processing Unit.



TOURISM

- The protected area network in Meghalaya occupies 1134 Sq. Km area which constitute about 5% of the State's Geographical Area. The Protected Area Network includes 2 national Parks, 4 wildlife Sanctuaries and 1 Biosphere Reserve playing a vital role in in-situ conservation of Biodiversity.
- Meghalaya's double-decker & single-decker root bridges are unique in the world.
- 'Krem Liat Prah' in Jaintia Hills (30,957 m) - longest cave in India & one of the longest in the world.
- Tallest plunge waterfall in India- Nohkalikai Falls (height: 1115 ft.) near Cherrapunji.
- Iconic Tourism Infrastructure: Shillong Cable Cars & Ropeways, etc.
- Adventure tourism opportunities like mountaineering, rock climbing, water sports, hiking, trekking, etc.
- Meghalaya is home to many national parks/biosphere reserve/wildlife sanctuary and heritage sites- Balpakram National Park in South Garo Hills, Nokrek Biosphere Reserve in West Garo Hills), Siju Wildlife Sanctuary in South Garo Hills), Nongkhyllem Wildlife Sanctuary in Ri Bhoi District.
- Meghalaya's Living Root Bridges has been included in the UNESCO world heritage site tentative list
- Mawmluh Cave in Sohra, Meghalaya, was selected by the International Union of Geological Sciences – IUGS (UNESCO) as one of the 'FIRST 100 IUGS GEOLOGICAL SITES' in the world.
- **Key Policy Incentives by State:**
 - Tourism department launched the 'Meghalaya Homestay Scheme'. Under this scheme, the Tourism department would allocate up to Rs 10 lakh for promoting homestays in the state.
 - Creating a Brand Meghalaya – Cherrapunji
 - Meghalaya Luxury Tourism Vehicle Scheme providing 50% financial aid on on-road cost of the vehicle to selected beneficiaries
 - Creation of Tourism Information Centers and thereby promoting tourist safety.
 - The Government of Meghalaya launched the Meghalaya Tourism Policy, 2023 to further promote growth in the sector.
 - 'Motorhome Meghalaya' initiative to provide financial aid to selected beneficiaries to buy rigid caravans

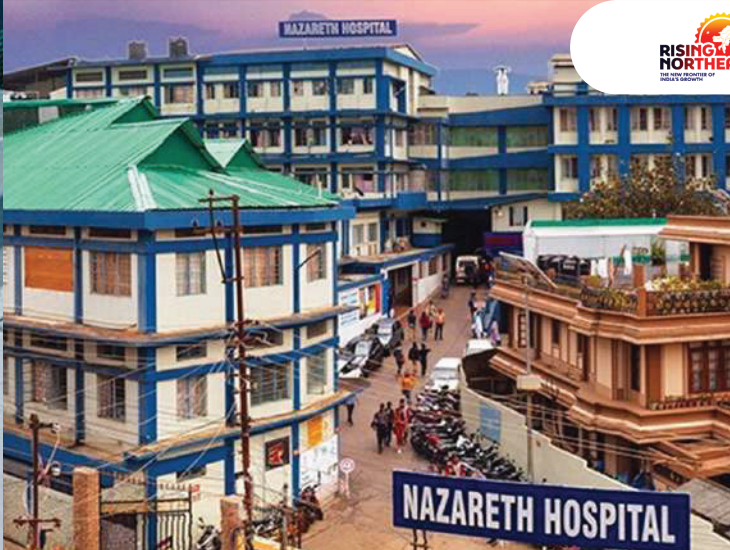


TEXTILES

- Produces 4 varieties of silk available in the world—Eri (locally known as Ryndia), Muga & Mulberry.
- Eri- “peace silk” - most important - processed without killing the pupae inside.
- Umden–Diwon (Ri Bhoi district)- declared as Meghalaya's first ‘Eri Silk village.’
- Approximately 16,000 families engaged in handloom sector and Sericulture farming, respectively.
- Sericulture and Weaving, Department of Textiles in Meghalaya are the two most important cottage based eco-friendly industries in the rural areas. There are 10 weaving training centres, 8 production centres, 15 common facility centres
- The Department has also introduced Motorised Spinning Machine in most of their Training and Production Centres.
- **Key Policy Initiatives by the State in the sector:**
 - o Integrated Scheme for Development of Eri Silk Industry under Aspirational District at Ri Bhoi - Assistance provided to farmers for raising of plantations, construction of rearing house/grainages and establishment of cocoon bank etc)
 - o RKBV for infrastructure development for strengthening of departmental farms.
 - o Silk Samagra - 1 & 2: to upgrade all the Eri silk farmers for construction of rearing house, preparation of Kissan nursery, supply of material and Eri spun mills is also proposed under this project funded by CSB.
 - o Integrated textile tourism complex at Nongpoh: Setting up of textile-based tourism with adequate infrastructure

SPORTS

- Some of the existing infrastructures include J.N Stadium, Shillong, P.A Sangma Sports Complex, Tura, Chandmari Turf, Tura, SAI Complex (Indoor Hall, Athletics Track, Archery Ground, Football Turf), NEHU Complex (Indoor Stadium, Community Hall), NEIGRIHMS Indoor Stadium, Assam Regimental Centre (Shooting), Crinoline Swimming Pool Complex, Mawlai-Mawroh Court (Basketball), Shillong Tennis Club, Shillong Golf Course (Golf Links)
- **Key Policy Initiatives by State:**
 - The J.N.S Stadium Complex in Shillong has been accorded the accreditation of a Centre of Excellence under the Sports Ministry's flagship programme Khelo India.
 - 22 educational institutions from 11 districts are in the process of receiving accreditation of District Khelo India sports training centres which will receive financial and technical support.
 - Department of Tourism, Meghalaya has come into an MoU with Northeast United FC.
 - Department of Sports and Youth Affairs is also in process of signing a sister city agreement with a city in France
 - Under Khelo India scheme, financial support for development of Multipurpose indoor halls and synthetic football turfs
 - STAR Talent Identification Program was launched by the DSYA
 - The State Sports Policy was launched in 2019, for further growth in the sector.



IT/ITES

- The IT/ Software industry has also created large employment opportunities and is estimated to have employed 5 million professionals, with an addition of 4,45,000 people over FY 2021-2022 (Estimated). Women employees account for 36% (2 million) share in total industry employee base.
- In Meghalaya, the State Government facilitates the firms at the Shillong Technology Park in increasing the women employees share and thereby also contribute towards the Sustainable Development Goal-5 Gender Equality.
- **Key Policy Incentives in the sector:**
 - The Meghalaya Telecom Infrastructure Policy 2018 was notified by the Information Technology & Communications Department, Government of Meghalaya.
 - Meghalaya State Wide Area Network (MSWAN) upgradation.
 - Meghalaya Digital Ecosystem Enablement Project Aimed at Digital Capacity Building of Youth Through Short-Term Engagements with Government & Industry

HEALTH

- The capacity of Government Hospitals to cater to indoor patients is marginal. There is dire need for investment in Private and Government sector for augmentation of hospitalization capacity.
- Few of the existing players of Health Sectors in the state are Nazareth Hospital, Shillong; Northeastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health & Medical Science (NEIGRIHMS), Shillong; Bethany Hospital, Shillong; Khasi Jaintia Presbyterian Synod Hospital, Jaiaw, Shillong; Woodland Hospital, Shillong; Super Care Diagnostic Centre, Laitumkhrach, Shillong; The Children Hospital; Bansara Eye Care Centre; etc.
- **Key Policy Initiatives by State in Health:**
 - The Meghalaya Health Policy, 2021
 - The Meghalaya Mental Health and Social Care Policy, 2022
 - Manual for Bio-Medical Waste Management, 2022
 - Meghalaya government signed a MoU with Tamil Nadu health department on seeking the south Indian state's help to train its doctors and overhaul the north-eastern state's healthcare services
 - 31 CHCs are being upgraded into first referral units to tackle emergency surgeries and other health concerns



MINING AND MINERALS

- Huge deposits of coal, limestone, kaolin, clay, granite, glass sand, and uranium.
- It has one of the largest limestone deposits in the country. The reserve for limestone is 4,147 million tonnes, while the currently extractable reserve of limestone is 0.24 - 0.30 million tonnes.
- It also has a vast deposit of coal at an estimated reserve of 564 million tonnes Meghalaya is also known to have reserves of uranium.
- Availability of high-grade limestone and coal, along with state incentives, offers investment opportunities in cement, hydrated lime, formed coke sector.
- **Key policy initiatives by state in the sector-**
 - Government of Meghalaya has launched the Mines and minerals Policy, 2012

EDUCATION

- The total number of colleges in the state is 74, lower primary and upper primary schools across the state is 6,612 the number of Secondary Schools across the state is 783, and Higher Secondary is 112. There are 7 Kendriya Vidyalaya and 12 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV).
- Beside the Education Department Schools run by state, there are a sizeable number of private schools and colleges within the state. Among the top performing private schools and colleges are the institutions run by Missions.
- **Key policy initiatives by state in the sector-**
 - Government of Meghalaya has launched the “Meghalaya State Education Policy, 2018” for further growth in the sector.





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