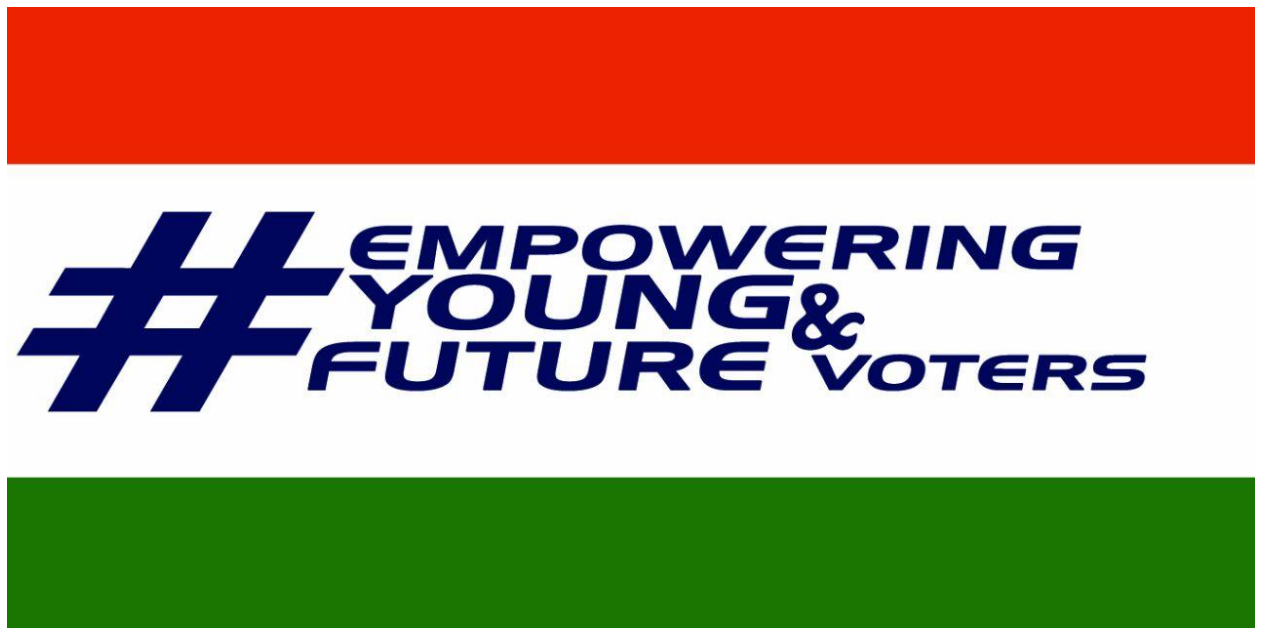
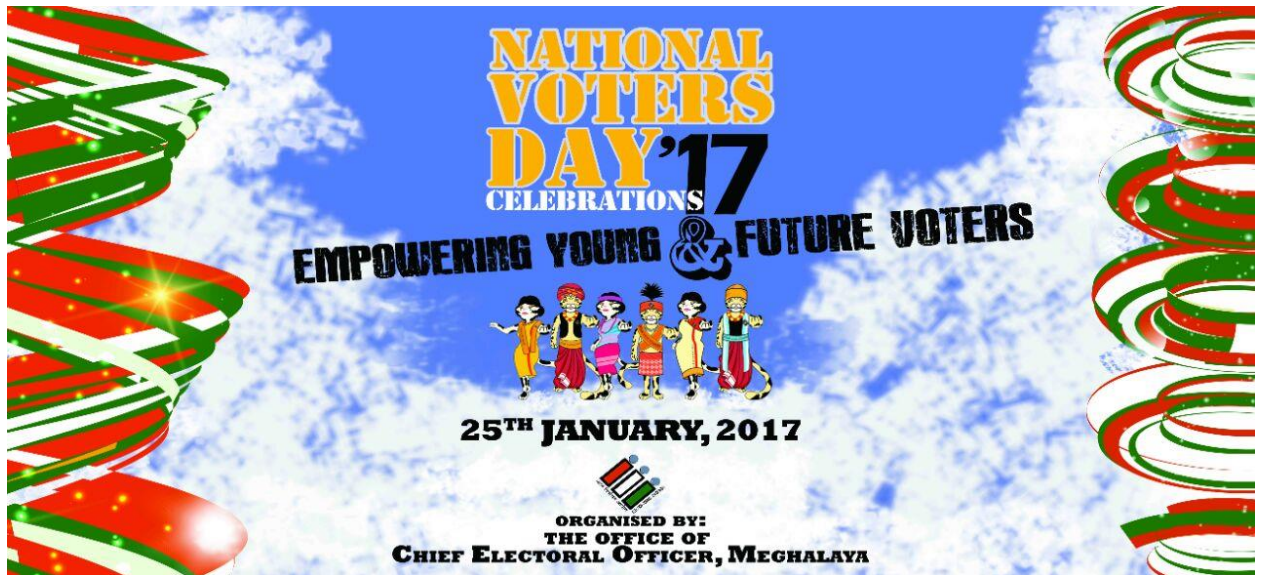


# Report on the 7<sup>th</sup> National Voters Day Celebration,



Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Meghalaya  
25<sup>th</sup> January, 2017

The Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Meghalaya along with the Office of the District Election Officer celebrated the 7<sup>th</sup> National Voters' Day across the State on Wednesday at a State level NVD celebration with an aim to empower young and future voters. NVD celebrations were held in all the districts and sub-divisional headquarters, along with felicitation program organized where EPIC and Badges were presented to newly enrolled young voters right upto the polling station level.

At the state level celebration the Chief Electoral Officer in collaboration with the office of the District Sports Officer organized 'Run for Democracy' marathon on the 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 for boys and girls in different age groups, for Person with Disability, and for Security Personnel. The marathon was flagged off by the Chief Electoral Officer at 7:00 am from J.N Complex. Almost 1800 runners participated in the run.



Participants getting ready for the race



CEO flagging off the run for the 18+ years category





After flag-off



Person with Disability taking part in the NVD run



Security Personnel taking part in the Run for Democracy



CEO flagging off the run for the under 18 years category

The state level celebration and prize distribution program for the marathon was held at J.N. Complex, Polo and the chief guest for the function was the Chief Secretary of Meghalaya, Shri K.S Krophah and Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Shri P.S Dkhar were among the dignitaries who were present at the function at the open air J.N Complex basketball court. The Chief Secretary of Meghalaya who was the chief guest, administered the NVD pledge and released a booklet, 'Point to the Future', on SVEEP activities initiated by the Chief Electoral Officer.





Arrival of the Chief Guest, Shri K.S Kropha, Chief Secretary of Meghalaya



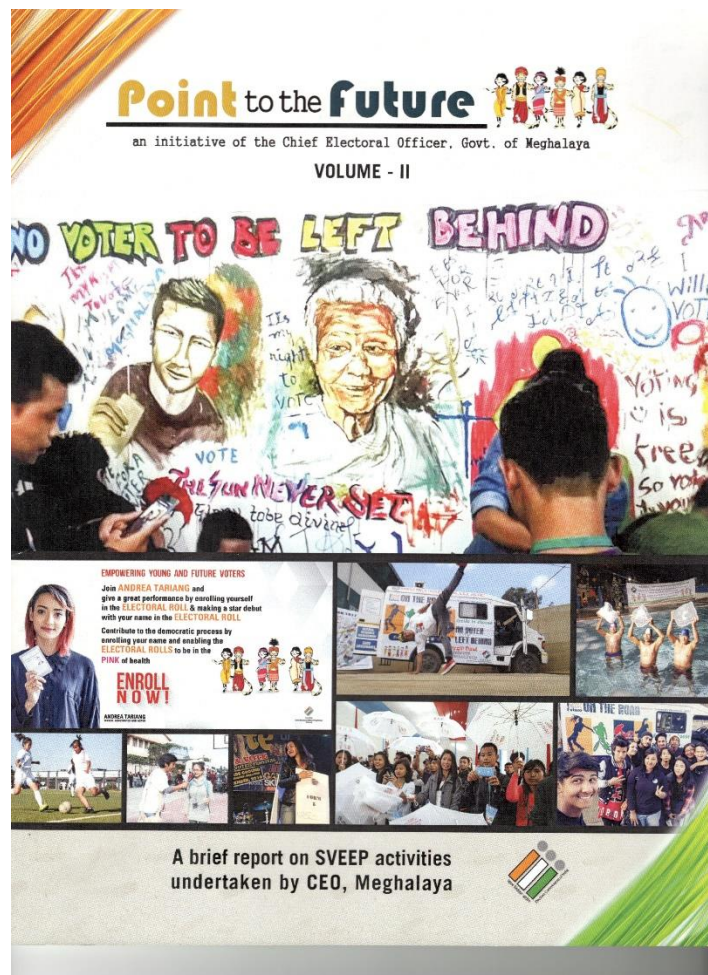
CEO, Shri F.R. Kharkongor addressing the gathering



Administering of Voters' Pledge by Chief Secretary in the presence of the Deputy Commissioner & District Election Officer, East Khasi Hills District, Additional Chief Electoral Officer, and Secretary Law Department







Release of souvenir on brief report on SVEEP activities undertaken by CEO, Meghalaya





Person with disability



Prize distribution for winners of different category



Beside the Run for Democracy the office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Meghalaya organized youth oriented activities such as kite flying, Segways, Aero display and live music performance featuring Summersalt to appeal to the sensibilities of the youth, in the context of NVD theme of Empowering Young & Future Voters. An SMS campaign was also used to appeal to youthful sensibilities to raise awareness amongst the Young & Future Voters.

#### Youth oriented activities at NVD



## Aero modelling







**With Summersalt Band**



Live music performance by Summersalt



In Ampati, South West Garo Hills, district election officer Cyril V. Darlong Diengdoh distributed voters' identity cards after administering the NVD pledge. There were competitive events and a mini exhibition at Ampati.

"National Voters' Day is a celebration of democracy and a tribute to the Election Commission for upholding the principles of democracy by conducting free and fair elections," said Diengdoh. The total number of voters in the three assembly segments of the district — Ampati, Mahendraganj and Salmanpara — stands at 81,692 as on January 10.

Addressing the gathering in Jowai in West Jaintia Hills, Deputy Commissioner D.M Wahlang asked everyone to make use of their electoral photo identity card and participate in the electoral process. He urged the young voters to have a clear conscience franchising their right in the 2018 elections. An essay competition was held on the theme 'Youth are the Driving Force towards a Vibrant Democracy'. The main attractions in Jowai were the football match and kite-flying.

Amlarem too celebrated the National Voters' Day with music, dance and pledge to vote. Local band Azarael's performance was a big draw.

Cultural events, quiz competition, debate, painting and slogan writing competitions marked the day in Nongstoin. The day was celebrated on the campus of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya at Nongpyndeng.

Several dignitaries attended the programme and among the speakers were B.J Sawkmie, assistant professor at Lady Keane College, assistant deputy commissioner P.D Sangma and extra assistant commissioners S. Warjri and B. Rane.

In Mawkyrwat in South West Khasi Hills, several competitions were organised at the district and the block levels on Wednesday.

Similar events were organised in Nongpoh in Ri Bhoi district. School students participated in essay competition, drawing and painting competition, extempore, slogan competition and an interactive programme held in all the five constituencies of Ri Bhoi. Deputy Commissioner C.P Gotmare congratulated the newly enrolled voters for their participation and also lauded the Election Department for organising. Members of the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan performed a skit on the occasion.

In Tura in West Garo Hills district, Deputy Commissioner Pravin Bakshi highlighted the importance of voting rights and called it a powerful medium of expression. W.G Momin, President of Senior Citizens' Forum, asked young voters to be careful while choosing the people's representatives.

The newly registered voters of under North Tura (ST) and South Tura (ST) constituencies were felicitated and Electors Photo Identity cards were distributed. The best booth level officers under West Garo Hills District were also felicitated for their sincere dedication while discharging their duties.

## State celebrates 7<sup>th</sup> National Voters' Day

Our Bureau

**SHILLONG/TURA/ NONGSTOIN/ NONGPOH/JOWAI:** The seventh National Voters' Day was celebrated across the State on Wednesday with an aim to empower young and future voters.

Several events, both sports and other competitions, were organised in different districts to encourage and make aware youngsters above the age of 18 years to vote for their rights.

In the city, the chief electoral officer (CEO) along with the East Khasi Hills sports officer organised 'Run for Democracy' that started from J.N Sports Complex at Polo. More than 1,700 people from all age groups and different walks of life participated in the event that was flagged off by CEO F.R. Kharkongor. The CEO informed that the State got National CSO award for innovative SVEEP programme launched by the election commissioner's office.

Chief Secretary K.S. Kropha and Deputy Commissioner P.S. Dkhar were among the dignitaries who were present at the function at the J.N Complex basketball court. Kropha, who was the chief guest, administered the NVD pledge and released a booklet, 'Point to the Future', on SVEEP activities initiated by the CEO.



(Left) Differently abled children take part in the 'Run for Democracy' from J.N Sports Complex at Polo, in the city; a young man shows his Voter card at an event to mark the National Voters' Day on Wednesday in Jowai.

It was followed by the prize distribution for the marathon. Synsharlang Wahlang won the first prize in the under-18 category male and Pynhun Chullet was the winner in the under-18 female category. In the 18-35 years male and female categories, Saroj Mangar and Kynthimon Marwein were the winners, respectively.

Tlading Wahlang and Daphika Pakyntein won the first prize in the above-35 years male and female categories, respectively. In the security personnel in uniform male and female categories, Anish Thapa and Siba Syngkli were the winners, respectively.

'National Voters' Day is a celebration of democracy and a tribute to the Election Commission for upholding the principles of democracy by conducting free and fair elections,' said Diengdoh.

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On leading English daily

SLA 12

MAWPHOR

## Rakhe ka jylla ia ka NVD, iashim bynta shitrhem ki paidbah haka iakob mareh thong



U Chief Secretary ka jylla u K.S. Kropha uba dang sam ia ka prais sha iwei na ki nongjop ka iakob ia mareh run for democracy ba la pynlong da ka ophis u CEO bad DSO EKHD ha ka nongbah mynta ka sngi. Dur MIPR.

**Shillong, K'Lyngkot 25:** Ka jylla ka iarakhe mynta ka sngi ia ka sngi ba kyrpang ki nongthep vote (National Voters Day) da ka jingpynlong ia ka iakob ia mareh thong "Run For Democracy", ba la pynlong da ka ophis jong u

Chief Electoral Officer, Meghalaya ryngkat ka jinglatrei lang bad ka ophis u District Sports Officer ka East Khasi Hills District hangne hapoh ka nongbah Shillong.

Ka phang pdeng jong kane ka jingrakhe lem bad

iakob mareh ka long ban nang pynkup bor shuh shuh ia ki samla nongthep vote bad kumjuh ia kiban dang wan.

Kongsan ba la leit ban khaweh ia ka lama jong kane ka jingiakob dei u Chief

Electoral Officer ka jylla u bah F.R. Kharkongor na J.N Sports Complex, Polo.

Ka jingiakob ka long kaba shong kun bha da ka jingwan ban iashim bynta da kumba 1700 ngut ki nong-iamak.

Ha ka por ba pynkut ia kane ka iakob ia mareh, kongsan ba la wan ban don lang bad ban sam ia ki prais dei u Chief Secretary ka jylla u K.S. Kropha bad synran lang da u CEO bah F.R. Kharkongor, u bah W. Khyllap Secretary ka Law Department, nangta u Deputy Commissioner ka East Khasi Hills District u bah P.S. Dkhar bad u bah T. Lyngwa ba dei u Additional CEO.

Ka resol kaba kham pawkhat bha jong kane ka iakob ka dei naka kyrdan iakhun jong kiba 18-35 snem ki kynthei ha kaba ia ka nam ba nyngkong bad ba-ar la rah ia ki da ki arngut shipara ka Kynthimon Marwein bad ka Daitabankynmaw Marwein, ba wan ba-lai dei ka Darisha Langjuh.

Ha ka liang jong ki shynrang nongjop ha kane ka kyrdan iakhun ki long u Saroj Mangar, ba wan ba-ar bad ba-lai dei u Michael Sing Ramsiej bad u Jomsing Star Ramsiej.

Ha ka U-18 ki shynrang nongjop dei u Synshar Wahlang, ba wan ba-ar dei u Marso Khyndeiit bad ba lai dei u Belin Dkhar, na ka liang ki kynthei ki nongjop ha kane ka kyrdan iakhun ki long Pynhun Chullet kaba la wan ba nyngkong, ba wan ba-ar bad ba-lai ki long ka Jidalin Tympuith bad ka Aidaris Lyngkhoh.

Ha ka iakob mareh naka bynta kiba 35 snem ka rta jong ki shynrang nongjop dei Tlading Wahlang, bud pat sa u Trolin Wahlang bad u Arbet Nonglang kiba wan ba-ar bad ba-lai. Haka liang jong ki kynthei, ki nongjop ha kane ka kyrdan ia mareh ki long ka Daphika Pakyntein kaba la wan ba nyngkong bud pat sa ka Sikata Mary Mawlong bad ka Marcylin Marwein ba la wan ba-ar bad

ba-lai. Kane ka jingiakob la bhah kyrpang ruh naka bynta ka nat Pulit ka jylla bad kynthun shipai ka ri bad na ka liang ki shynrang u nongjop dei u Anish Thapa bud pat sa u Shankarman Thapa Suvraj Gurung ba la wan ba-ar bad ba-lai.

Naka liang jong ki kynthei nongjop dei ka Siba Syngkli bud pat sa ka Mar I Wiki Shylla bad ka Amelis Nongrum ba la wan ba-ar bad ba-lai.

Shuh shuh kine ki artylli ki ophis ki la pynlong kyrpang ruh ia kane ka jing-iakob mareh naka bynta kito ba don ki jingdum ha ka met bad na ka liang ki shynrang u nongjop dei u Shanbormi Suchiang ba wan ba-ar bad ba-lai ki long u Hubert Paliar bad u Donny Star Kharbteng, kaba naka liang jong ki kynthei nongjop dei ka Marden Soven Lyngkhoh katba ka Anjelina Tynhiang bad ka Anjelina Tynhiang ki la wan ba-ar bad ba-lai. (MIPR)

Leading Vernacular Daily



## Electorate takes pledge, booth-level officers felicitated

# Voters' day in Garo hills

SAIDUL KHAN

**Tura, Jan. 25:** The Garo hills administration today sent out a strong message to the electorate on 7th National Voters' Day.

"Voting is a powerful medium of expression, which has been conferred upon the electorate," said Pravin Bakshi, the deputy commissioner of West Garo Hills, during a celebration here today.

Bakshi said Meghalaya holds the record for the second-highest voting percentage in the country, coming second only to Tripura's 93 per cent turnout. He also asked the newly enrolled voters to vote wisely for a stronger democracy.

The theme for this year's National Voters' Day is Empowering Young and Future Voters.

The president of the council of *nokma* (headmen), Skylance G. Momin, said, "It is very important to create awareness among the voters about their responsibilities and fulfilment of the manifesto put forward by the respective representatives dur-



**South West Garo Hills deputy commissioner Cyril Diengdoh with a newly registered voter at Ampati on Wednesday. Picture by Saidul Khan**

ing elections."

Momin and Bakshi also asked voters to take a pledge to uphold the dignity of free, fair and peaceful elections.

The newly registered voters under North Tura (ST) and South Tura (ST) Assembly constituencies were felicitated and elector's photo identity cards were distributed.

The best booth-level officers under West Garo Hills were also felicitated.

Momin distributed the certificate of participation to the office of the deputy commissioner (election), West Garo Hills, from the Election Com-

mission of India, for representing Meghalaya at the global exhibition, also known as Matdata Mahotsav, held from January 14-17 in New Delhi last year.

At Ampati in South West Garo Hills, deputy commissioner Cyril V. Diengdoh led the gathering in taking the voters' pledge and distributed elector's photo identity cards.

Several competitions for young voters were held and food stalls were put up.

The booth-level officers felicitated the newly registered voters with badges bearing the slogan — Proud to be a Voter

— Ready to Vote.

Addressing the gathering, Diengdoh said National Voters' Day was a celebration of democracy and a tribute to the Election Commission of India for upholding the principles of democracy through free and fair elections.

He said true empowerment comes only when a person exercises the right to franchise. He also appealed to all eligible voters to get their names registered in the electoral roll and reminded the voters of their responsibility to ensure that electoral rolls are clean and error free.

The superintendent of police, South West Garo Hills, Ramesh Singh, also participated in the celebrations and spoke of the importance of the right to vote.

Additional deputy commissioner (election) Hazel B. Sangma highlighted the objectives of celebrating National Voters Day and the enrolment figures in the district till date.

National Voters Day was observed in different colleges, including North Eastern Hill University, Tura, and Icfai University, Meghalaya.

**On the National Telegraph**