

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT

MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG

Press Communiqué

Shillong, February 20, 2026: The Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya Shri C.H.Vijayashankar graced the Statehood Day celebration of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram held at Lok Bhavan today, marking the 39th Statehood Day of the two sister States of the North-East. The event was also attended by Shri C.P.Marak, Chairman, Lokayukta, Shri T.T.C.Marak, Former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Shri H.C.Chaudhary, IFS, Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor, Representatives from Arunachal and Mizoram Bhavan and other dignitaries.

At the beginning of the programme, a homage was paid to Dr. Ricky Andrew J. Syngkon, Hon'ble Member of Parliament from the Shillong Parliamentary Constituency in the 18th Lok Sabha. The Cultural Programme scheduled as part of the Statehood Day celebration was cancelled as a mark of respect following the untimely demise of Dr. Ricky Andrew J. Syngkon while playing Football on 19th February, 2026. The Hon'ble Governor expressed deep sorrow over his untimely demise. Recalling his dedication to public service and his role in representing the aspirations of the people of Meghalaya at the national level, the Governor conveyed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. As a mark of respect, a two-minute silence was observed in memory of the departed leader.

The programme commenced with a warm Welcome Address delivered by Shri H.C.Chaudhary, IFS, Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor. He extended cordial greetings to the Hon'ble Governor and all dignitaries present and briefly highlighted the rich cultural heritage, steady progress, and valuable contributions of both States to the nation, setting a befitting tone for the celebration.

In his address, the Hon'ble Governor extended warm greetings to the people of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram and highlighted their rich cultural heritage, strategic importance, and significant contributions to national development. He noted that both States, since attaining statehood on 20 February 1987, have made commendable progress in infrastructure, education, social development, and preservation of indigenous traditions. He also emphasized the spirit of unity in diversity that strengthens the nation

and lauded the resilience, discipline, and community values of the people of both States.

The programme concluded with a renewed commitment to work collectively towards peace, progress, and prosperity, further strengthening the spirit of national integration and cooperative federalism.





