

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT

MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG

Press Communiqué

Shillong, February 23, 2026 : The Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya Shri C.H.Vijayashankar graced the Inaugural Session of *Abhilasha 2025-26 Phase VI*, a flagship outreach initiative of the Department of Design, **Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati**. The program was held today at the U Soso Tham Auditorium, Shillong, in collaboration with the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya. The Inaugural session was also attended by Shri H.C.Chaudhary, IFS, Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor, Prof. Pratul Chandra Kalita, Head of Design Department, IIT Guwahati, Smt. Rosetta Mary Kurbah, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya and other dignitaries.

Prof. Pratul Chandra Kalita delivered the Welcome Address and presented an overview of *Abhilasha 2025-26*, highlighting the vision of the initiative to introduce school students to the world of design, innovation, and diverse career pathways. They informed that the programme has already benefited more than 5,000 students across Assam and Meghalaya through its earlier phases and continues to expand its outreach to district levels.

The Hon'ble Governor lauded IIT Guwahati for taking *Abhilasha* beyond its campus and into districts across Assam and Meghalaya, thereby ensuring wider access to quality guidance and mentorship. He emphasized that in today's rapidly evolving world, creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills are essential for the youth to excel. The Hon'ble Governor guided students to make a daily journal and track their progress on daily basis in order to improve in different aspects of life.

The Hon'ble Governor noted that the initiative not only introduces students to design as a discipline but also creates awareness about diverse career pathways, including opportunities in premier institutions such as National Law Universities, Indian Institutes of Management, and Central Universities. He encouraged the students present to dream big, participate actively, and utilize such platforms to unlock their true potential.

The successful organization of Phase VI of Abhilasha in Shillong reflects a strong commitment towards nurturing creativity and broadening academic horizons for the youth of Meghalaya and the North East.





