

# GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT

## MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG

### Press Communiqué

**Shillong, 29 May, 2026:** The Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya, C.H. Vijayashankar, today attended a Special Interactive Session with Post-Matric Scholarship (ST) beneficiaries during the "Birsa Lives in New Bharat" week being observed under the nationwide Janjatiya Garima Utsav celebrations. The interaction was held at Lok Bhavan. Shri H.C.Chaudhary; Additional Chief Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor, Shri Rynthlang Raptap; Commissioner and Secretary, Education Department, Government of Meghalaya and other dignitaries from Education Department were also present.

Janjatiya Garima Utsav is being celebrated across the country from 10th May to 9th June 2026 to honour the dignity, heritage, contributions and achievements of tribal communities. It is also highlighting various initiatives and schemes aimed at tribal empowerment and development. The thematic week "Birsa Lives in New Bharat" draws inspiration from the ideals and legacy of tribal freedom fighter Bhagwan Birsa Munda and reflects the vision of an empowered, inclusive and self-reliant India.

During the interactive session, the Hon'ble Governor engaged directly with students from different districts of the State and sought their experiences regarding the implementation and benefits of the Umbrella Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Tribe students. Beneficiaries shared how the scholarship has helped them meet educational expenses such as tuition fees, examination fees, hostel charges, books, study materials and other academic requirements. They also shared how the scheme is reducing the financial burden on their families and allowing them to continue their studies with confidence.

The students also highlighted the positive impact of the scheme in promoting educational empowerment, equal opportunities, and higher participation of tribal youth in professional and technical courses. They expressed gratitude for the support extended through the scholarship programme and shared their aspirations to contribute meaningfully to society and the development of the State after completing their education.

Several students highlighted challenges faced while availing the scholarship, including Aadhaar authentication issues, delays in document verification, technical difficulties on the online portal, delay in getting scholarship, and lack of awareness regarding application procedures among students from remote areas. Responding to these concerns, the Hon'ble Governor assured the students that their valuable feedback would be conveyed to the concerned authorities for appropriate consideration. He emphasized the need for strengthening awareness campaigns, simplifying application procedures, enhancing technical support systems, and ensuring timely resolution of grievances so that no eligible tribal student is deprived of the benefits of the scholarship scheme.

The Hon'ble Governor encouraged the students to remain committed to their studies, make full use of the opportunities provided by Government initiatives, and strive for excellence in their chosen fields. He underscored that Students are the future of the society and educating them will lead to preserving cultural identity, strengthening leadership among tribal youth, and building a stronger and more inclusive nation.

The Hon'ble Governor emphasized that education remains one of the most powerful tools for empowerment and socio-economic transformation of tribal communities. He highlighted that Government scholarship schemes are enabling deserving students from remote and economically weaker backgrounds to pursue higher education and realize their aspirations.

The Umbrella Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for ST Students, funded by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, provides financial assistance to Scheduled Tribe students pursuing post-matric and higher education, enabling them to continue their academic journey without financial hardship and promoting inclusive educational development.





