

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT

MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG

Press Communiqué

Shillong, 16 September 2026: The Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya, Shri C.H. Vijayashankar, graced the Inauguration of the Centenary Celebration of Rilbong Sanatan Hindu Dharma Sabha as the Chief Guest at Rilbong, Shillong. The occasion marked a significant milestone in the Sabha's history, celebrating a century of community life, service and cultural heritage. Hon'ble Minister Shri Sanbor Shullai; Lt. Gen. Vikash Lakhera, Director General Assam Rifles; Smti. Idashisha Nongrang, IPS; former Chief Secretary Shri D.P. Wahlang; Padma Shri awardee Shri Manas Chaudhuri; and Shri H.C. Chaudhary, IFS, Additional Chief Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya were also present on the occasion.

The Hon'ble Governor highlighted Rilbong's hundred-year journey, recalling its beginnings in 1925 and the first puja held in a private house in 1927. He described Rilbong's reputation as an "island of peace" and appreciated the contributions of the generations who established institutions such as the school, Dharma Sabha, cooperative store, library and Sports Club, which have played an important role in the development of Rilbong and Shillong. He also acknowledged the distinguished individuals the locality has produced, whose achievements reflect the values of education, dedication and public service. He further emphasised the importance of encouraging the younger generation to actively participate in religious, social and community programmes, and to learn from the achievements of their predecessors, remain connected to their cultural and community roots, and carry forward the values of unity, discipline, education and service.

Addressing the gathering, Padma Shri awardee Shri Manas Chaudhuri appreciated Rilbong as a locality deserving a place of honour for the distinguished individuals it has produced. He highlighted how people from Rilbong have made significant contributions to society through their dedicated service in various fields, bringing recognition to the locality and enriching the wider community.

As part of the centenary celebration, the "Rilbong Ratna" Awards were presented posthumously to four awardees: Amar Chandra Bhattacharjee,

Rabindra Nath Bisarad, Ardhendu Chaudhuri and Parsva Nath Chaudhuri, in recognition of their outstanding contributions and achievements. The awards reflected the Sabha's commitment to honouring individuals whose service and accomplishments have enriched the community and inspired others.

The Hon'ble Governor also unveiled the plaque marking the symbolic opening of the remodelled Puja Mandap, which is an important milestone in the centenary celebrations and reaffirming the Sabha's continued commitment to preserving its religious and cultural heritage.

The inauguration celebrated a century of Rilbong's history, community spirit and service to society. The occasion also served as a reminder of the importance of preserving this legacy while inspiring future generations to uphold the values of peace, unity and collective responsibility.





Kilbong Ratna



