

NUKSA THE PINE CHRONICLE

NEWS, VIEWS & CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

HIGHLIGHTS

Echoes of Legacy 2025: Celebrating the Spirit of IIM Shillong

page 06

August at IIM Shillong: A Celebration of Ideas, Art, and Expression

page 09

NE-CCIE Hosts Workshop under Chief Minister's Business Catalyst Initiative

page 17



Celebrating Unity on the 79th Independence Day

ABOUT NUKSA

Nuksa The Pine Chronicle is the monthly news magazine of IIM Shillong.

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CONTENT

- 03 Cover Story**
Celebrating Unity on the 79th Independence Day
- 05 Photo Gallery**
Timeline
- 06** IIM Shillong Signs MoU with Kathmandu University School of Management, Nepal
- 06** Echoes of Legacy 2025: Celebrating the Spirit of IIM Shillong
- 07** Decoding the Markets: An Interactive Session with Mr. Chandan Taparia
- 08** IIM Shillong Partners with AMFI to Drive Financial Literacy in Meghalaya
- 08** PR Cell Hosts Podium and Synergy Sessions with Industry Leaders
- 09** India – A Global Business Leader
- 09** August at IIM Shillong: A Celebration of Ideas, Art, and Expression
- 11** Vaanikaran – Charting New Horizons with Podcasts
- 11** Strategic Leadership in War & Peace
- 12** IIM Shillong Joins the Nation in the “Har Ghar Tiranga” Movement
- 12** Empowering Our Workforce: 2-Day Training at IIM Shillong
- 13** Grassroots Governance Training in Tripura
- 14** MDP on Advanced Leadership and Operational Excellence Concludes Successfully
- 14** Nurturing Minds, Shaping Futures
- 15** Educational Exposure Visit from Ayush Public School, Assam
- 15** 1st Annual Book Exhibition at IIM Shillong
- 16** Celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi with Devotion and Unity
- 16** Rooting for a Greener Tomorrow
- 17** NE-CCIE Hosts Workshop under Chief Minister’s Business Catalyst Initiative
- 18 Métier**
- 19 Congratulatory Note**



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COVER STORY

Celebrating Unity on the 79th Independence Day

Honouring Freedom, Fostering Leadership, and Celebrating the Spirit of Viksit Bharat



The morning of 15th August 2025 dawned bright and full of anticipation at IIM Shillong, as the campus came alive with the colours of the tricolour and the spirit of unity. The occasion marked the celebration of India's 79th Independence Day — a day that resonated not only with patriotic fervour but also with the collective commitment of the IIM Shillong community to contribute meaningfully to the nation's journey toward *Viksit Bharat*.

The celebrations commenced with the hoisting of the National Flag, followed by the singing of the National Anthem — a moment that filled the air with pride and reverence. The event

brought together students, faculty, staff, and members of the security and administrative teams, reflecting the inclusive spirit that defines IIM Shillong.

A highlight of the ceremony was the Security Guard Parade, a disciplined and heartfelt display that honoured the dedication of those who safeguard the campus and its people. The performances that followed — a harmonious blend of music, dance, and poetry — showcased the rich cultural diversity of India and the shared ideals that unite its people. Each performance was a tribute to the freedom fighters whose courage and vision laid the foundation of

modern India.

In her address, Prof. (Dr.) Naliniprava Tripathy, Director (In-Charge), IIM Shillong, reflected on the meaning of freedom in today's context. She emphasized that the true essence of independence lies in responsible leadership, ethical governance, and the empowerment of youth — values that IIM Shillong continues to nurture through its academic and social initiatives.

This year's celebration was themed around Viksit Bharat, underlining the pivotal role of India's youth in shaping a progressive, inclusive, and sustainable nation. The day served as a reminder that the Institute's mission extends beyond classrooms —

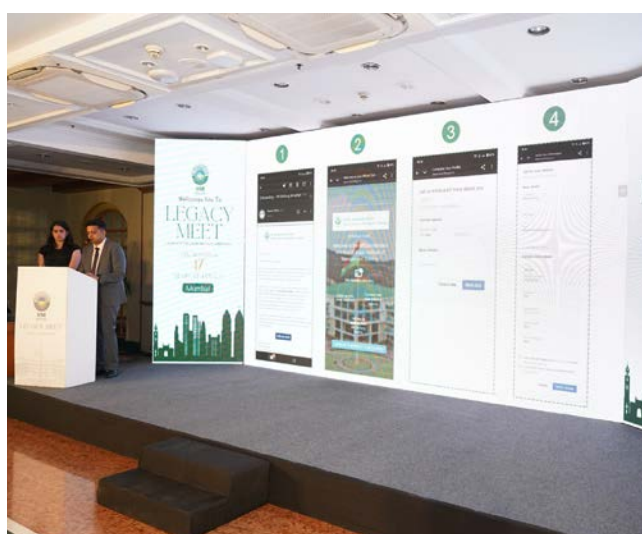
into the realm of nation-building, innovation, and social responsibility.

The festivities concluded with a renewed sense of purpose, as members of the IIM Shillong fraternity pledged to uphold the ideals of democracy, equity, and compassion. Beyond ceremonial observance, the day became a moment of reflection — an affirmation of the Institute's enduring identity as a community bound by freedom, harmony, and shared responsibility.

At IIM Shillong, the 79th Independence Day was not just a commemoration of the past — it was a celebration of India's living spirit, a tribute to its journey, and a reaffirmation of hope for a future built on unity, integrity, and vision.

PHOTO GALLERY

GLIMPSES OF AUGUST EVENTS



TIMELINE

IM Shillong Signs MoU with Kathmandu University School of Management, Nepal



IIM Shillong is delighted to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kathmandu University School of Management (KUSOM), Nepal.

This partnership marks a significant step toward strengthening global academic collaboration and advancing excellence in education. Key areas of cooperation include faculty and

student exchange, joint research projects, and immersion programs.

The MoU reflects IIM Shillong's continued commitment to internationalization and academic innovation, creating new opportunities for meaningful learning and cross-cultural engagement for students and faculty alike.

Echoes of Legacy 2025: Celebrating the Spirit of IIM Shillong

The Alumni Committee at IIM Shillong proudly launched Legacy Meets 2025, a celebration of connection, gratitude, and enduring bonds. This annual initiative seeks to bring the institute closer to its alumni, rekindling memories while strengthening the network that continues to guide current students.

This year, the Legacy Meets will be held across three cities, offering alumni and students an intimate platform to engage in meaningful conversations, share experiences, and celebrate milestones together. The event especially pays

tribute to our Legacy Batches (2010–2015)—the pioneering cohorts whose vision, perseverance, and spirit laid the very foundations of IIM Shillong. Their journey continues to inspire successive generations, reminding us that the institute's growth is deeply rooted in their contributions.

Beyond nostalgia, Legacy Meets 2025 promises to be a forward-looking dialogue, blending stories of the past with aspirations for the future. It is a tribute to beginnings, a celebration of journeys, and a reaffirmation of the enduring IIM Shillong spirit.



Decoding the Markets: An Interactive Session with Mr. Chandan Taparia



On 2nd August 2025, IIM Shillong had the privilege of hosting Mr. Chandan Taparia, Head of Technical and Derivatives Research at Motilal Oswal, for an engaging offline session on Technical Analysis. The event drew market enthusiasts from across the campus, eager to gain practical insights into navigating today's fast-evolving financial landscape.

Mr. Taparia, known for his clarity and analytical depth, shared a structured approach to market evaluation—beginning with industry-level analysis to identify resilient sectors, followed by methods to pinpoint strong companies within them while filtering out weaker industries. His framework

offered participants a strategic lens for making informed investment decisions.

He also delved into the use of key technical indicators and emphasized the importance of maintaining clean, uncluttered charts to enhance decision-making precision. The interactive format allowed participants to pose questions and engage directly, transforming the session into an enriching learning experience.

The session concluded with participants gaining actionable insights and a deeper appreciation of technical analysis as a practical tool for disciplined and intelligent investing.

IIM Shillong Partners with AMFI to Drive Financial Literacy in Meghalaya



IIM Shillong has signed an MoU with the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) to promote financial literacy and investor awareness across Meghalaya—beginning from Shillong and expanding to all 12 districts.

The collaboration includes free training and certification for students through a two-tier program: SEBI Investor Certification (Level I) and NISM V-A Certification (Level II). Students

will also engage beyond internships, becoming certified trainers and ambassadors for financial empowerment.

Prof. (Dr.) Naliniprava Tripathy, Director (I/C), reaffirmed IIM Shillong’s commitment to advancing financial education, data-driven research, and inclusive growth—aligning with the vision of a Viksit Bharat.

PR Cell Hosts Podium and Synergy Sessions with Industry Leaders

The Public Relations Cell at IIM Shillong recently hosted a series of Podium and Synergy sessions, bringing industry leaders to campus and enriching student learning with real-world insights.

As part of Synergy, we had the privilege of welcoming Ms. Bina Belani, Head of HR – Retail Technology at Jio Platforms Limited, and Mr. Nikhil Jain, Senior Head – Corporate Strategy at Bajaj Finserv. Ms. Belani emphasized the importance of balancing ordinary and extraordinary moments in

leadership while nurturing health, relationships, and kindness. Mr. Jain shared his perspectives on strategy and its role in steering sustainable growth in a dynamic corporate environment.

In the Podium series, the institute hosted Ms. Reshmi Jyoti Blah, Head of Business P&L for Asia Pacific & China at Stellantis Automotive, and Mr. Suvamoy Roy Choudhury, former CHRO at Vodafone Idea. Ms. Blah drew from her global leadership journey across Google, Dell, and Stellantis, while Mr. Choudhury inspired students

with his talk “Life Skills for a Marathon”, reflecting on transformation, adaptability, and purposeful action.

Together, these sessions reaffirmed IIM Shillong’s commitment to bridging classroom learning with corporate wisdom.

India – A Global Business Leader



IIM Shillong had the pleasure of hosting **Dr. Rishi Mohan Bhatnagar**, a visionary leader and industry expert, for an engaging session on “India – A Global Business Leader.”

Dr. Bhatnagar shared thought-provoking insights on India’s evolving role in the global business



landscape, highlighting the nation’s growing influence driven by innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship. The interactive session inspired participants to envision India’s future as a hub of sustainable and inclusive growth, aligning global leadership with national purpose.

August at IIM Shillong: A Celebration of Ideas, Art, and Expression



August 2025 was a month of vibrancy and reflection at IIM Shillong, marked by



events that celebrated intellect, creativity, and community engagement. The campus

thrived with activities that blended discourse, performance, and artistic expression — embodying the institute's spirit of holistic learning.

The month began with the “Desh ke Naam” Debate Competition on 7th August, where students of PGP25 showcased their eloquence and analytical depth in a spirited conventional-format debate. The event set a tone of critical inquiry and national reflection, encouraging participants to articulate nuanced perspectives on contemporary issues.

Following this, on 8th and 9th August, the campus hosted “The Prophet & The Poet”, a two-part program led by Prof. Vijay Padaki in collaboration with the Bangalore Little Theatre Foundation. Through a unique blend of performance and workshop, the sessions revisited the historic dialogues between Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore, exploring how disagreement can coexist with respect and how dialogue remains central to a healthy democracy. The event left a deep impression on participants, merging theatre and thought in a truly memorable experience.

The highlight of the month, however, was the Artist Residency Program 3.0, held from 18th to 30th August, organized by Zeitgeist, the Art and Culture Club of IIM Shillong. Curated by Master Artist Sujay Mukherjee, this year's residency brought together 10 accomplished artists from diverse backgrounds who lived and worked

on campus, creating original pieces under the theme “Beyond the Arborescent – Forging Perpetual Connections.”

The residency transformed the IIM Shillong campus into a living gallery — where classrooms, courtyards, and corridors became spaces of creativity and conversation. The artists explored the theme through multiple mediums, from painting and sculpture to installation and mixed media, weaving narratives that transcended boundaries of form and language. Their works reflected on interconnectedness — between nature and human experience, tradition and modernity, individual thought and collective consciousness.

Students and faculty interacted closely with the artists through open studios, dialogues, and live demonstrations, gaining rare insight into the creative process. The initiative reinforced IIM Shillong's belief that management education thrives not only on data and logic but also on empathy, imagination, and cultural awareness.

Extending its cultural footprint beyond campus, members of Zeitgeist also served as judges for debate and quiz competitions at St. Edmund's School, continuing IIM Shillong's engagement with the broader educational community.

The events of August collectively highlighted IIM Shillong's dynamic ecosystem — one that nurtures leaders, thinkers, and creators, and continually redefines learning as a confluence of intellect, art, and social consciousness.

Vaanikaran – Charting New Horizons with Podcasts



August was a milestone month for Vaanikaran, the IIM Shillong Podcast Club, as it advanced its mission of creating insightful conversations and amplifying thought leadership.

The month began with the successful filming of Margdarshan Series Episode 2 on August 9th, featuring Professor Sanjay Yashroy. The episode offered a deep dive into the consulting industry, unpacking trends, challenges, and emerging opportunities for management aspirants.

On August 10th, the club proudly launched its inaugural podcast episode with Professor Sanjeeb Kakoty. Released across YouTube and



Spotify, the episode garnered an overwhelming response, with over 2,000 combined views and listens, marking an impressive debut for the initiative.

Building on this momentum, a strategic outreach campaign was launched on August 18th. By leveraging platforms like LinkedIn, the club effectively extended its reach, ensuring wider visibility within academic and professional circles.

Vaanikaran continues to set benchmarks for impactful content and community engagement.

Strategic Leadership in War & Peace



IIM Shillong hosted Air Marshal Surat Singh, AVSM, VM, VSM, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, as part of its Leadership Series. His session, "Strategic Leadership during War & Peace", highlighted the complexities of decision-making under high-stakes situations. Addressing the students, he drew parallels between military leadership and corporate strategy, emphasizing clarity of thought, resilience, and ethical responsibility as key attributes of leaders. The event was marked by engaging discussions, where students explored

lessons from the defense world that can be applied to business challenges. The session underscored the institute's commitment to shaping leaders who can operate in volatile, uncertain environments. A token of appreciation was presented to Air Marshal Singh, symbolizing IIM Shillong's gratitude for his inspiring address. The event left the audience with deep insights on leading teams under pressure, balancing pragmatism with values, and steering organizations through both turbulent and peaceful times.

IIM Shillong Joins the Nation in the "Har Ghar Tiranga" Movement



With immense pride and patriotic fervour, IIM Shillong joined the nation in celebrating the "Har Ghar Tiranga" movement under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

As the tricolour fluttered proudly across the campus, the IIM Shillong community came together to honour the values of unity, pride, and



national spirit that define our great nation. The celebration served as a heartfelt reminder of the dreams and ideals that continue to guide India's journey toward progress and inclusivity.

Together, the fraternity reaffirmed its commitment to cherishing our shared heritage and embracing the vision of a stronger, united India.

Empowering Our Workforce: 2-Day Training at IIM Shillong

On 7th–8th August 2025, IIM Shillong organized a two-day training program led by the National Institute for Professional Training and Development. The sessions focused on equipping faculty and staff with tools to thrive in the

modern workplace. With themes spanning stress management, productivity, work-life balance, leadership, and decision-making, the training emphasized holistic growth and workplace well-being. Interactive workshops created a space



for self-reflection and collaboration, helping participants connect theory with real-life practices. Faculty and staff explored practical frameworks to maintain focus under pressure while nurturing mental health and positive work culture. The event was part of IIM Shillong's ongoing effort to invest in its people, recognizing

that empowered staff form the backbone of academic excellence. The closing ceremony captured the collective spirit of learning, unity, and growth. The program re-affirmed IIM Shillong's commitment to being not just an academic hub but also a nurturing environment for its workforce.

Grassroots Governance Training in Tripura



The Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Centre of IIM Shillong conducted a Management Development Programme (MDP) on Grassroots Governance from 25th–29th August 2025 for officials of the Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Tripura. The program provided training on participatory governance, decentralized planning, and rural development

strategies. Sessions blended theory with practice, focusing on leadership, community engagement, and administrative innovation. Participants discussed real-world governance challenges and explored models that strengthen democracy at the grassroots level. The five-day program not only enhanced technical skills but also encouraged values of inclusivity and transparency

in administration. The initiative reflects IIM Shillong's dedication to capacity building beyond traditional business education, particularly in strengthening governance and public institutions.

The MDP was another milestone in aligning academic expertise with the developmental needs of society, embodying the vision of bridging policy, practice, and people's aspirations.

MDP on Advanced Leadership and Operational Excellence Concludes Successfully



The Management Development Program (MDP) on “Advanced Leadership and Operational Excellence” for Senior Executives of the Food Corporation of India (FCI), inaugurated on 4th August 2025, concluded successfully at IIM Shillong.

The program, designed to strengthen leadership capabilities and enhance strategic decision-making, aligned with FCI's mission of ensuring

national food security. Through interactive sessions, case discussions, and experiential learning, participants gained actionable insights and innovative tools to drive operational excellence across the food supply chain ecosystem.

The successful completion of the program reflects IIM Shillong's continued commitment to building impactful leadership and fostering institutional excellence across key public sector organizations.

Nurturing Minds, Shaping Futures

Through its Centre for Community Impact and Engagement (NE-CCIE), IIM Shillong conducted the “Pathway to Career Counselling Session 2025” under the Nurturing Minds initiative. The program reached multiple schools and colleges across the region, including Pearly Dew Higher Secondary School, Pine Mount, Jail Road Boys School, Thomas Jones Memorial, Mawroh Secondary, and Jaikyntiew College. The sessions aimed to guide young students in making informed career choices while building confidence and aspirations.

Faculty and student volunteers from IIM Shillong engaged directly with school students, sharing insights on higher education, skill development, and the evolving job market. By stepping into classrooms beyond its own campus, the institute extended its mission of inclusive education and social responsibility. The initiative showcased IIM Shillong's belief that management education must contribute to the larger community by empowering future generations with the tools to dream, decide, and achieve.

Educational Exposure Visit from Ayush Public School, Assam



IIM Shillong had the pleasure of hosting 26 students from Ayush Public School, Jakhlabandha, Assam, as part of their educational exposure tour.

The visit offered the students an enriching glimpse into the academic environment, learning culture, and values that define the IIM ecosystem. Interacting with the campus and its community



inspired these young learners to aspire toward higher education and explore the dynamic world of management studies.

The engagement reflected IIM Shillong's ongoing commitment to nurturing curiosity and encouraging academic aspirations among school students from across the region.

1st Annual Book Exhibition at IIM Shillong



The 1st Annual Book Exhibition at IIM Shillong opened to an enthusiastic response, drawing active participation from faculty, students, and staff. The event showcased a wide selection of titles from leading publishers, spanning Management, Finance, Economics, Technology,



Social Sciences, Fiction, and Non-Fiction.

The exhibition celebrates the joy of reading and intellectual exploration, fostering a vibrant culture of learning and curiosity across the campus.

Celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi with Devotion and Unity



IIM Shillong came alive with festive colors and cultural vibrancy as the campus celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi with great devotion. Students, faculty, and staff gathered to welcome Lord Ganesh, the harbinger of wisdom, prosperity, and new beginnings. The celebrations began with the traditional pranapratishta ceremony, followed by aarti and bhajans that filled the atmosphere with spiritual fervor. The idol, beautifully crafted and eco-friendly, stood as a symbol of faith and sustainability. Students from across India

joined hands to organize the event, reflecting the institute's spirit of inclusivity and cultural diversity. The day also witnessed collective prayers, traditional sweets distribution, and moments of joy that strengthened bonds within the community. Beyond rituals, the celebration became a reminder of resilience, unity, and the importance of balancing tradition with modern life. Ganesh Chaturthi at IIM Shillong was not just a festival—it was an expression of shared faith, cultural harmony, and togetherness.

Rooting for a Greener Tomorrow

In a heartfelt step toward environmental stewardship, IIM Shillong, in collaboration with the Forest Department, Government of Meghalaya, organized a Plantation Drive on 4th August 2025 as part of the nationwide initiative "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam."

The campaign beautifully intertwines emotion with action — encouraging participants to plant trees in honor of their mothers and Mother Nature, symbolizing love, gratitude, and continuity of life. Each sapling planted stands as a living tribute, nurturing both memory and the planet.

Students, faculty, and staff of IIM Shillong came together to contribute to this meaningful cause, reaffirming the Institute's commitment to sustainability and ecological consciousness. The initiative reflected IIM Shillong's enduring belief that leadership extends beyond boardrooms — into responsible actions that heal and sustain the world we share.

Through this collective effort, the campus echoed a powerful message: honoring our roots is the first step toward a greener, more compassionate tomorrow.



NE-CCIE Hosts Workshop under Chief Minister's Business Catalyst Initiative



On 29th–30th August 2025, the North East Centre for Community Impact and Engagement (NE-CCIE), which facilitates the Chief Minister's Business Catalyst Team, organized a two-day workshop at IIM Shillong.

Students and faculty from Union Christian College, Ri Bhoi, engaged in interactive sessions

and hands-on activities designed to foster entrepreneurial thinking, innovation, and problem-solving skills.

The program reflected NE-CCIE's continued commitment to nurturing youth-led enterprise and advancing the vision of the Chief Minister's Business Catalyst initiative.

MÉTIER



Congratulations to Prof. Teidorlang Lyngdoh, Ph.D., and co-authors Prof. Bharadhwaj Sivakumaran, Prof. (Dr.) Bilwa Deshpande, and Prof. Debasis Pradhan on publishing their article “Reducing Impulse Buying: A Review and Research Agenda” in the Journal of Consumer Marketing (ABDC–A, Scopus).

The study offers a comprehensive review of strategies to curb impulse buying, highlighting actionable insights for fostering informed consumer decision-making and well-being.

Read the article here : <https://lnkd.in/daBTUBaX>



Congratulations to Prof. Sitanshu Sekhar Das, Prof. Priya Alat, and co-author Prof. (Dr.) Francis Sebastian Manavalan CMI on publishing their research article “Psychological Resources and Mental Health: Understanding Academic Engagement and Performance of Students in HEIs during COVID-19” in Acta Psychologica (ABDC–A, Scopus, SSCI).

The study highlights how inner psychological resources such as mindfulness, resilience, optimism, and purpose protect mental health and enhance academic engagement among students. It emphasizes that true well-being extends beyond preventing distress—it's about building strengths that help students thrive academically and emotionally.

Read the full article: <https://lnkd.in/dnysA9Nk>

CONGRATULATORY NOTE



Hearliest congratulations to Team 'Incognito' — Ananya Jaison, Prasanna Srinivasan, and Mitali Kharul — from the PGP Batch of 2024–26, for emerging as National Finalists in L&T's OutThink 2025 competition.

Competing against over 6,700 teams from across the country, the trio secured a place among the Top 8, impressing the jury with their innovative strategies, analytical acumen, and collaborative problem-solving at L&T's headquarters.

IIM Shillong takes immense pride in their outstanding performance on such a prestigious platform and applauds their creativity, perseverance, and team spirit. We wish them continued success and many more accomplishments in their journey ahead.

Hearliest congratulations to Team 'The Conquerors' — Aastha Gupta and Harshit Chandra — from the PGP Batch of 2024–26, for emerging as National Finalists in the Eurogrip TORQ Challenge 3.0.

The duo impressed with their strategic thinking, innovative ideas, and collaborative approach, securing their place on this prestigious national platform.

IIM Shillong takes immense pride in their accomplishment and commends their dedication, creativity, and perseverance. We wish them continued success and many more achievements in the journey ahead!





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