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ABOUT NUKSA

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

Advisor
Prof. Nalinprava Tripathy

Editorial Team
Shri. Merlvin Jude Mukhim
Shri. Narayan Chhetry

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भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान शिलॉंग
Indian Institute of Management Shillong
Umsawli, Shillong-793018
Website: www.iimshillong.ac.in
Phone: 0364-2308000

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COVER STORY

A Legacy Eternal: Remembering Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam



It was on the evening of July 27th, 2015, that IIM Shillong witnessed a moment that would etch itself permanently into the institute's history. Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam—scientist, statesman, and India's beloved "People's President"—breathed his last while addressing the youth he so deeply believed in. Ten years later, the hills of Shillong continue to echo with his vision, his words, and his dream of a better planet.

On July 27th, 2025, IIM Shillong paid a solemn tribute to mark the tenth death anniversary of Dr. Kalam, reaffirming the values he stood for—knowledge, humility, and service to humanity. Director (I/C) Prof. Naliniprava Tripathy led the commemoration, reminding the IIM community of Dr. Kalam's enduring call to "build a livable planet." Her reflections captured the emotional essence of the day, recalling a leader whose life was a masterclass in integrity and inspiration.

Adding depth and grace to the occasion, students from PGP 25 presented a special Odissi performance under the guidance of Padma Shri Sujata Mohapatra. Through rhythm, movement,

and expression, the performance became a living canvas of Dr. Kalam's spirit—celebrating his harmony with science, art, and humanity. The dance transcended tribute; it became a dialogue between memory and motion, a fusion of culture and conscience.

As the institute observed this milestone year, it was not merely a remembrance but a renewal—a reaffirmation of the mission Dr. Kalam left behind. His vision for youth-led innovation, ethical leadership, and sustainable progress continues to guide IIM Shillong's journey. From classrooms to community projects, the Institute upholds his ideals, striving to blend academic excellence with a commitment to social good.

A decade may have passed, but Dr. Kalam's light has not dimmed. It lives in every inspired learner, in every idea born in these hills, and in every action that seeks to make the world a more liveable planet.

At IIM Shillong, his legacy is not in memory alone—it is in motion.

PHOTO GALLERY

GLIMPSES OF JULY EVENTS



TIMELINE

SPIC MACAY at IIM Shillong: A Symphony of Culture and Consciousness



Between July 25th and 27th, the tranquil hills of Shillong echoed with the rhythm of tablas, the strains of ragas, and the grace of classical dance. IIM Shillong welcomed SPIC MACAY to campus, marking the Induction Week with an immersion into India's timeless artistic traditions.

The cultural fest began with a soulful instrumental performance by Shri Joydeep Mukherjee, followed by the powerful vocals of Pt. Omkar Dadarkar. The three-day celebration concluded with a spellbinding Odissi recital by Smt. Sujata Mohapatra, leaving the audience in awe of Indian classical dance's elegance and discipline.



Beyond performances, the event featured enriching workshops: Pt. Dadarkar conducted classical vocal training, Smt. Mohapatra shared her mastery of Odissi, and Smt. Kalpana Chitrakar led a hands-on Bengal Pattachitra workshop. Students also embraced wellness through Yoga sessions guided by Shri Kalita Ji.

SPIC MACAY's presence reaffirmed IIM Shillong's commitment to holistic development—where cultural literacy and artistic expression are as vital as academic rigor. For the new batch, the experience was a gateway to explore heritage, understand tradition, and engage with the deeper rhythms of Indian identity—cultivating leaders grounded not just in knowledge, but in consciousness.

International Week 2025: A Global Mosaic of Ideas and Impact

From July 1st to 6th, IIM Shillong hosted International Week 2025, themed "The Global-Indian Mosaic: Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Impact." The week commenced with an inspiring inaugural

address by Prof. Naliniprava Tripathy, Director-in-Charge and Dean, Alumni and External Relations, who emphasized the power of global collaboration and cross-cultural learning.



International Week welcomed scholars, practitioners, and students from across the globe to exchange perspectives on leadership in a fast-evolving world. With sessions ranging from sustainable entrepreneurship to global impact strategies, the event facilitated critical conversations on solving complex global challenges.

Workshops, panels, and cultural exchange activities filled the week, fostering a collaborative spirit and sparking innovation. For many participants, it was a rare blend of



academic rigor and cultural exploration.

Prof. Tripathy's opening message—urging students to see themselves as global citizens rooted in Indian values—set the tone for a week that was as enriching as it was empowering. International Week wasn't just an event—it was an invitation to lead with perspective, act with empathy, and imagine a world beyond boundaries.

IIM Shillong proved once again that education here is not limited to the classroom—it's a window to the world.

MoU in Motion: IIM Shillong Collaborates with Government of Nagaland



In a promising step toward educational transformation, members of IIM Shillong's Board of Governors met with Hon'ble Minister of Education & Tourism, Government of Nagaland, Shri Temjen Imna Along, in July 2025 to further their ongoing collaboration under the signed MoU.

The partnership aims to support the implementation of NEP 2020 in Nagaland by focusing on leadership development, faculty training, and ecosystem strengthening. This institutional alliance envisions empowering educators and policy-makers in the region to create scalable and inclusive academic models.

The meeting reaffirmed both parties' commitment to catalyse long-term impact through structured interventions, research-based policy inputs, and continuous capacity building. With IIM Shillong's academic and strategic expertise, and the government's local insight and intent, the collaboration has the potential to reimagine education in the state.

This move reflects IIM Shillong's larger vision—to be a driver of change not just within its campus but across the region. By aligning academic excellence with social responsibility, the institute reaffirms its role as a true enabler of regional development and educational equity.

Inspiring Justice: Chief Justice I. P. Mukherji's Leadership Talk



On July 22nd, 2025, IIM Shillong hosted Hon'ble Mr. I. P. Mukherji, Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court, for a powerful interaction with the incoming batch of PGP students. His session added a much-needed ethical lens to management education, challenging students to embrace integrity in leadership.

Justice Mukherji's address delved into the symbiotic relationship between justice and leadership, highlighting how legal thinking



and fairness are cornerstones of strong governance. His experiences from the bench offered real-world perspectives on moral courage, the complexities of public service, and the challenges of staying principled in turbulent times.

He urged students to see leadership as service, where decisions are not just economically sound but also socially just. His thought-provoking talk sparked meaningful engagement among students, many of whom asked incisive

questions on law, governance, and ethical dilemmas.

This interaction wasn't just a lecture—it was a call to conscience. For aspiring managers and policymakers, it served as a powerful reminder:

the pursuit of justice and ethical conduct isn't reserved for courtrooms alone. It belongs in boardrooms, campuses, and everyday choices. At IIM Shillong, the seeds of responsible leadership were firmly sown.

IIM Shillong Hosts Hon'ble Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Conrad K. Sangma for IICA North East Conclave 2025



IIM Shillong proudly hosted the IICA North East Conclave 2025, a landmark event focused on transforming ideas into impactful enterprises. The conclave, themed "Ideation to Incorporation," brought together policymakers,

entrepreneurs, and institutions to envision a roadmap for inclusive development and corporate governance in the North East.

Inaugurated by Hon'ble Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, the event featured

a rich lineup of sessions that addressed sustainable growth, policy innovation, and stakeholder collaboration. A vibrant startup exhibition spotlighted indigenous innovation, reflecting the entrepreneurial spirit of the region.

The valedictory session, graced by Sh. Gyaneshwar Kumar Singh, Director General & CEO of IICA, and Prof. Naliniprava Tripathy, reaffirmed the conclave's purpose—catalysing entrepreneurship while preserving local ethos.

Startups, FPOs, incubators, and financial

institutions shared space and stories, highlighting the potential of cross-sectoral partnerships in creating economic resilience. With every panel and pitch, the conclave wove a tapestry of hope, empowerment, and regional pride.

More than an event, the IICA Conclave was a collective movement—uniting voices, visions, and ventures to shape a prosperous North East. IIM Shillong emerged not just as a host but as a hub for transformative conversations, driving real impact in the region.

Charting Beginnings: PGP and Doctoral Commencement with Mr. Parmod Kamlani



On July 1st, 2025, IIM Shillong officially welcomed the incoming PGP 2025–27 cohort and Doctoral Program (Residential) students in a grand Commencement Ceremony featuring Mr. Parmod Kamlani, Partner and Leader, GDS EY-Parthenon, as Chief Guest.

An industry veteran with over two decades of experience across corporate finance, valuations, and strategy, Mr. Kamlani offered invaluable perspectives on navigating modern business environments. His keynote touched on resilience, innovation, and the ethics of value creation—lessons critical for future leaders embarking on their academic journeys.



In his address, Mr. Kamlani emphasized learning as a lifelong process, advising students to stay curious and embrace change. His pragmatic insights, backed by his work across sectors like healthcare and retail, gave attendees a clear view of what it takes to lead in volatile markets.

The ceremony was not just a celebration but a symbolic handover—where the baton of learning, responsibility, and aspiration passed from one generation of professionals to the next. As the new batch begins its transformative journey at IIM Shillong, the message was clear: embrace every challenge, lead with integrity, and let your purpose guide your path.

From Battlefield to Boardroom: Lessons from Major General Rajesh Kumar Jha

On July 10th, 2025, the Veteran Leadership Series at IIM Shillong featured an electrifying session with Major General Rajesh Kumar Jha, AVSM & Bar (Retd.), Director (Personnel) at NEEPCO. With 38 years of distinguished service in the Indian Army and impactful contributions to the public sector, Major General Jha shared rare insights into transformational leadership.

Themed “Leadership Lessons: From Battlefield to Boardroom,” the session emphasized discipline, strategy, adaptability, and purpose. Through gripping anecdotes, the decorated veteran revealed how high-stakes decision-making in the military translates to dynamic corporate leadership.

Major General Jha underscored the importance of empathy, morale-building, and value-driven management—qualities that not only win wars but also build sustainable institutions. His powerful words urged students to lead with courage, clarity, and conviction.

The event was attended by dignitaries from NEEPCO and the public sector, reinforcing IIM Shillong’s commitment to integrating diverse leadership perspectives into its learning environment. The interaction left students inspired to lead with character, bringing the wisdom of service to the world of business.

In a time of rapid change, Major General Jha reminded everyone that the strongest leaders are forged not just in classrooms—but in challenge, service, and sacrifice.



Stress to Strength: Prof. Dwivedi Empowers IIM Shillong Students with Yoga for NCD Prevention

In a meaningful initiative that blended traditional wisdom with modern education, IIM Shillong organized an awareness session on the Prevention of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) through Yoga, led by Prof. (Dr.) Vijay Kumar Dwivedi, Director (I/C), North Eastern Institute of Ayurveda & Homoeopathy (NEIAH), Shillong.

Addressing the newly inducted PGP 2025–27 batch, Prof. Dwivedi shared valuable insights on how yoga serves as a powerful tool in preventive healthcare, particularly for lifestyle-related ailments. Over 400 students actively participated in the session, which covered the fundamentals of Ashtanga Yoga, demonstrations of asanas

and pranayama, and discussions on yoga's role in managing stress, emotional balance, and anxiety.

Prof. Dwivedi emphasized adopting yoga as a daily wellness practice—an approach that nurtures both body and mind while countering the rising



prevalence of NCDs. The session also reaffirmed IIM Shillong's commitment to holistic education, where physical well-being and mental resilience form the cornerstone of responsible and effective leadership.



FSSAI Awareness Program: Nurturing Responsible Leaders at IIM Shillong



In a step toward shaping responsible and informed leaders of tomorrow, IIM Shillong hosted the FSSAI Awareness Program featuring Prof. (Dr.) Deborshi De, a national-level expert in food safety and public health. The engaging session explored critical themes of food safety, nutrition, and public health, while also emphasizing the transformative



role of AI-driven leadership in addressing modern challenges.

The program reinforced IIM Shillong's commitment to cultivating socially conscious leaders who combine innovation with a deep sense of responsibility toward community well-being.

A Significant Milestone for NE-CCIE, IIM Shillong



NE-CCIE, IIM Shillong marked a proud milestone as Ms. Joyeban Ryntathiang became the first candidate to depart for Japan under the initiative "Livelihood and Employment Generation for Youth of the North-Eastern Region through Placements in Japan."

The initiative, led by NE-CCIE, IIM Shillong, in collaboration with NAVIS HR and supported by the North Eastern Council (NEC), aims to empower the youth of the North East by facilitating international employment opportunities—beginning with placements in Japan’s healthcare sector.

Ms. Ryntathiang’s journey represents more than an individual achievement; it symbolizes the expanding global horizons for young professionals from the region. Her success stands as an inspiration for others and reinforces IIM Shillong’s mission to create meaningful pathways for skill development, global exposure, and sustainable livelihoods.

NE-CCIE, IIM Shillong Supports 'Zero Waste Period' Awareness Drive

On 24th July 2025, the Shubham Charitable Association and Operation Cleanup (OCU), in collaboration with the Meghalaya Education Department, organized a 'Zero Waste Period' Awareness Program at St. Mary’s School, Shillong.

The initiative focused on promoting reusable sanitary products and educating over 2,000 girl students on menstrual hygiene and environmental sustainability. By combining health education with eco-conscious practices, the program sought to normalize conversations around menstruation while reducing plastic waste.

NE-CCIE (North East Centre for Community Impact & Engagement), IIM Shillong, proudly supported the campaign through digital outreach and awareness initiatives, amplifying the message to inspire a sustainable and stigma-free approach to menstrual health.

Together, we move closer to breaking taboos, protecting the planet, and empowering women through informed and responsible choices.



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