



NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON 'BEYOND NEW URBANISM ? : ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND THE SMALL TOWNS IN INDIA' (COIN-2025) 12TH & 13TH DECEMBER 2025



BROAD SCOPE

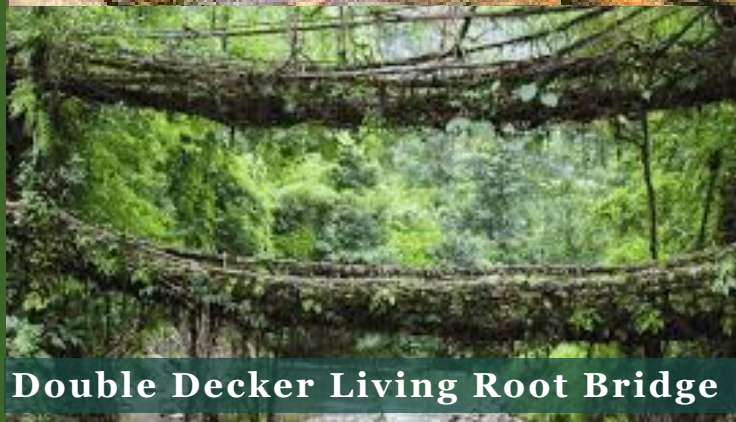
Bringing together scholars from different disciplinary fields of Economics, History, Political Science, Sociology, Psychology, English, the conference will seek to address the specific research gap of lack of concern for the environmental sustainability of small towns in India. The critical question that frames the broad concern for this conference is: whether a one model concept of urban sustainability will work to address the specific issues of urban sustainability in small towns in India?

MODE

The conference will be organized through hybrid platform. The joining link will be shared with the participants, well in advance.



Lyngksiar Falls, Sohra



Double Decker Living Root Bridge



Shnongpdeng

THEMES

- Sustainability Issues in the North East
- Urban Planning and Ecological Critiques
- Eco Narratives and Literary Imagination
- Gender and Ecology
- Traditional Environmental Governance Practices
- Sustainable Water Systems
- Waste Management and Sustainability Issues
- Environmental Changes and the Community

REGISTRATION DETAILS

The registration fee for delegates (PaperPresenters/Co-authors/Listeners) is Rs. 2,000/- only. The registration form and payment details will be sent at the time of acceptance of the abstract. The last date for registration is 19th September 2025. Last date for submission of Abstracts: 31.08.2025 Notification of Acceptance of Abstracts: 12.09.2025 Last Date of Registration: 19.09.2025

Organised by:

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Institute of Technology, Meghalaya.

In collaboration with

Institute of Public Policy, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru.



Mawsmai Caves, Sohra

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

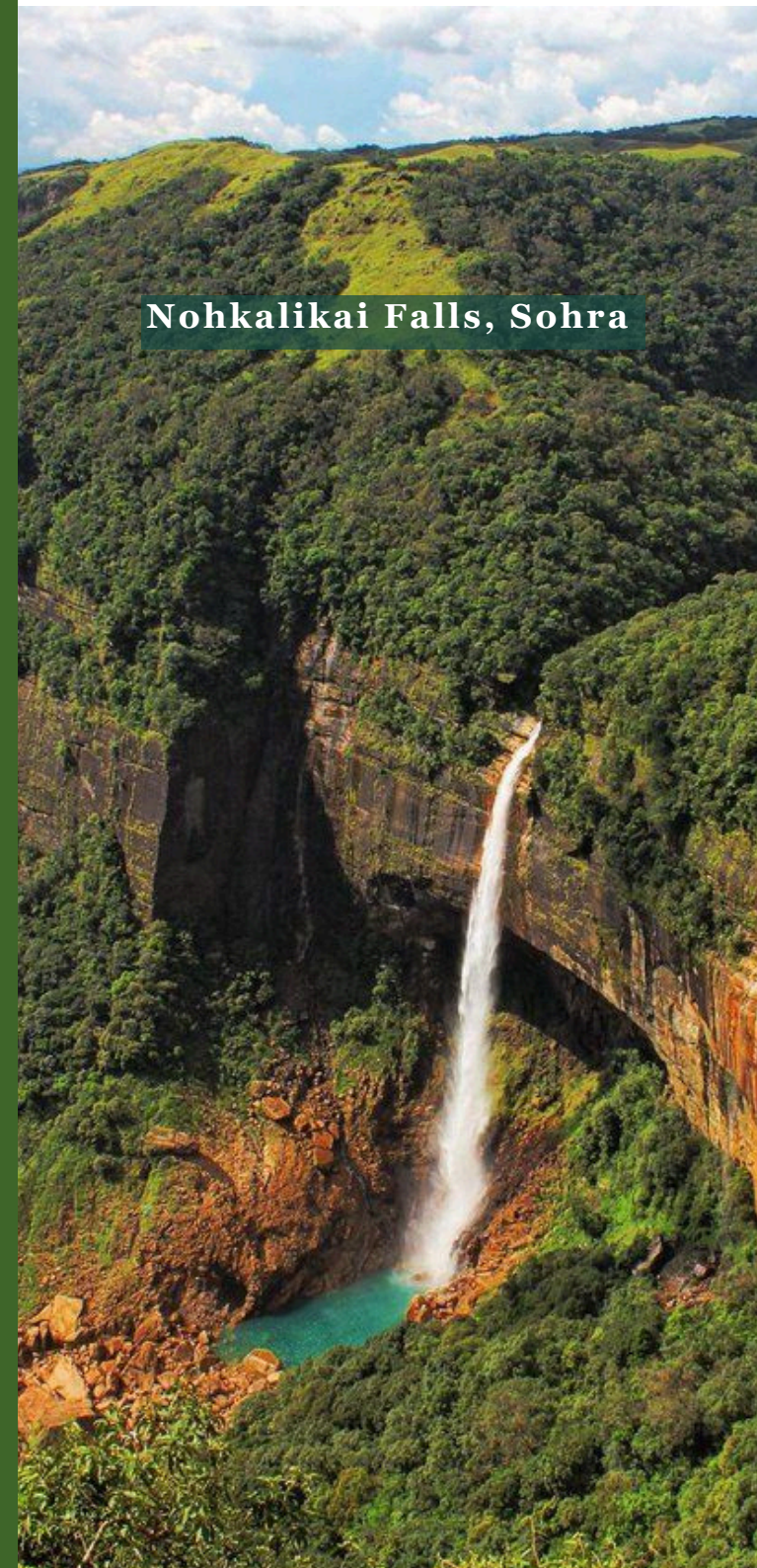
Established in 2010, the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences focuses on the holistic development of technical graduates into socially responsible individuals, promoting the idea of “Technology for the greater good of mankind.” The department offers courses and research opportunities in English Language and Literature, Psychology, Sociology, and Management, with specializations in areas such as Comparative Literature, Social and Community Psychology, Gender and Cultural Studies, and various fields of Management.

ABOUT NIT MEGHALAYA

NIT Meghalaya, a premier institution among India's thirty NITs, is established under the NIT Act 2007 (Amended 2012), enjoying Institutes of National Importance status with full funding from the Ministry of Education.

ABOUT IPP, NLSIU, BANGALORE

The Institute for Public Policy (IPP) at the National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru, prepares professionals to address complex development challenges through informed and effective Public Policy. Drawing inspiration from India's transformative Constitution, IPP adopts an interdisciplinary and dialogic approach to equip students with the skills to design, implement, and evaluate public policies and programmes for a pluralistic society.



Nohkalikai Falls, Sohra



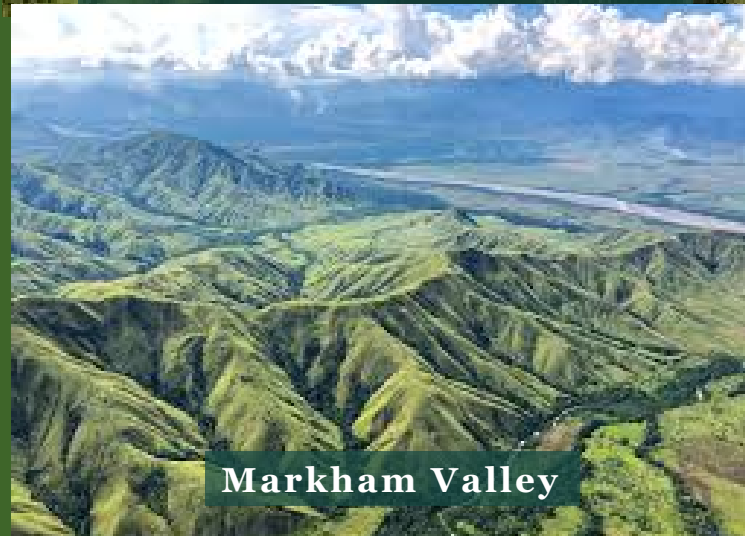
Dr. Sudha Vasan, Professor of Sociology and PhD from Yale University, specializes in political ecology, examining the intersections of gender, caste, class, and adivasi issues with development and environment. Her work, including the book 'Living with Diversity', focuses on forest governance and socio-ecological change in the Himalayas.



Dr. Sibnath Deb, Dean of the School of Physical, Chemical and Applied Sciences and Head of Applied Psychology at Pondicherry University, is a leading scholar in child safety, youth development, and mental health. An award-winning academic with 23 books and 125 papers, he received the Visitor's Award 2019 from the President of India.



Rangkylliaw Bungee Jumping



Markham Valley



Bangladesh View, Mawlynnong



Tikender Singh Panwar, urban governance expert and former Deputy Mayor of Shimla, is known for his work on inclusive urban policy, climate resilience, and decentralised governance. Trained internationally, he has developed city action plans across India and actively represents the country in global urban forums.



Dr. Goutam Karmakar, Assistant Professor of English at the University of Hyderabad and Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Cologne, specializes in Global South literary studies, postcolonial ecologies, and environmental humanities. His research explores decolonial ecology, environmental justice, and the intersections of climate, literature, and inequality across the Global South.

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE FOR COIN 2025

DAY-1 (12th December, 2025)

Plenary Session 1 (9AM-10.30 AM)

Welcome Address by Dr. Shaoni Shabnam & Prof. Sony Pellissery
 Plenary Speeches to be delivered by Prof. Sudha Vasan and Prof. Sibnath Deb
 Panel Discussion on “Sanitation in Small Town” by Foundation for Inclusive and Sustainable Habitats: 3 Panelists

Session- I (10.45-11.45 AM) Sustainability Issues in the North East

Session- II (11.45 AM – 12.45 PM) Urban Planning and Ecological Critiques

Lunch Break

Session- III (2 PM-3 PM) Eco Narratives and Literary Imagination

Session- IV (3 PM-4 PM) Gender and Ecology

Session- V (4.15 PM-5.15 PM) Traditional Environmental Governance Practices

DAY-2 (13th December, 2025)

Plenary Session 2 (9AM-10.30 AM)

Plenary Speeches to be delivered by Mr. Tikender Panwar and Dr. Goutam Karmakar
 Roundtable on “Environmental Governance in Small Towns” by PA Sangma Fellows 5 Panelists

Session- VI (10.30 AM -11.30 AM) Sustainable Water Systems

Session VII (11.30 AM-12.30 PM)
 Session A - Waste Management and Sustainability Issues

Session VII (11.30 AM-12.30 PM)
 Session B - Environmental Changes and the Community

Valedictory Session (12.30 PM-1 PM)

COMMITTEES COIN 2025

Patron: Prof. Pinakeswar Mahanta, Director, NIT Meghalaya

Chairperson: Dr. Shaoni Shabnam, Assistant Professor and Head, Dept of HS, NIT Meghalaya

Advisory Committee:

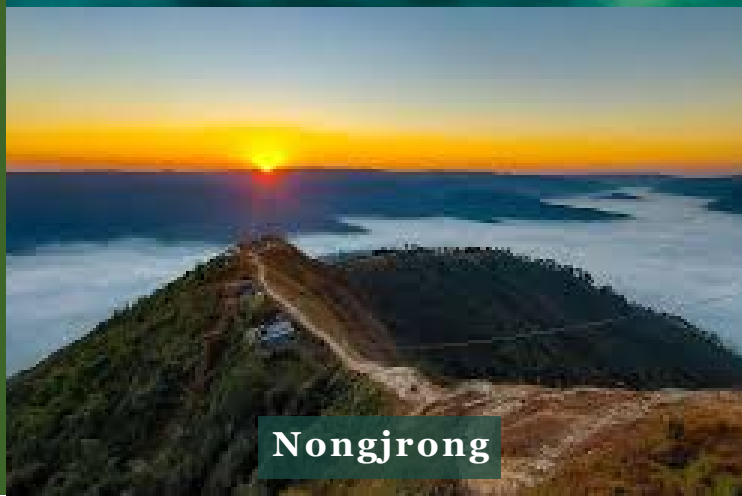
- Prof. Anup Dandapat, Professor and Dean, Academic Affairs, NIT Meghalaya
- Prof. Diptendu Sinha Roy, Professor and Dean, Research and Consultancy, NIT Meghalaya
- Prof. Paonam Sudeep Mangang, Professor and Dean, Student Welfare, NIT Meghalaya
- Prof. Deba Kumar Sarma, Professor and Dean, Planning and Development, NIT Meghalaya
- Prof. Harish Chandra Das, Professor and Dean, Branding and Public Relations, NIT Meghalaya
- Prof. Sony Pellissery, Professor, Institute of Public Policy, National Law School of India University

Scientific Committee:

- Dr. Anjali Karol Mohan, National Law School of India University Bangalore
- Prof. Philippe Cullet, SOAS University of London
- Dr. Ashima Sood, Anant National University Ahmedabad
- Prof. Sony Pellissery, National Law School of India University, Bangalore
- Dr. Ngamjahao Kipgen, IIT Guwahati
- Dr. Shoma Chowdhury Lahiri, St Xavier's College (Autonomous) Kolkata



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Programme Coordinators:

- Dr. Swathisha P., NIT Meghalaya
- Mr. Anirban Banerjee, NIT Meghalaya
- Ms. Gargee Sarma, NIT Meghalaya

Event Coordinators:

- Dr. Elsa Cherian, NIT Meghalaya
- Ms Thangjam Ayingbi Chanu, NIT Meghalaya
- Ms Prathisthaa Saikia, NIT Meghalaya
- Ms. Sudesna Halder, NIT Meghalaya
- Mr. Saikat Kamal Halder, NIT Meghalaya
- Ms. Deimaphimo Mawa, NIT Meghalaya
- Ms. Saphidamanbha Jyrwa, NIT Meghalaya

Technical Coordinators:

- Prof. Paonam Sudeep Mangang, NIT Meghalaya
- Mr Anirban Banerjee, NIT Meghalaya
- Mr. Sanju Mizar, NIT Meghalaya



Mawphlang Sacred Groves



Wards Lake, Shillong



Mawryngkhong Bamboo Trek



**NIT Meghalaya Campus at Sohra,
East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya.**

**NIT Meghalaya can be reached
via Guwahati or Shillong Airport
or Guwahati Railway station,
then by a taxi ride to the campus
at Saitsohpen, Sohra.**

Contact Us

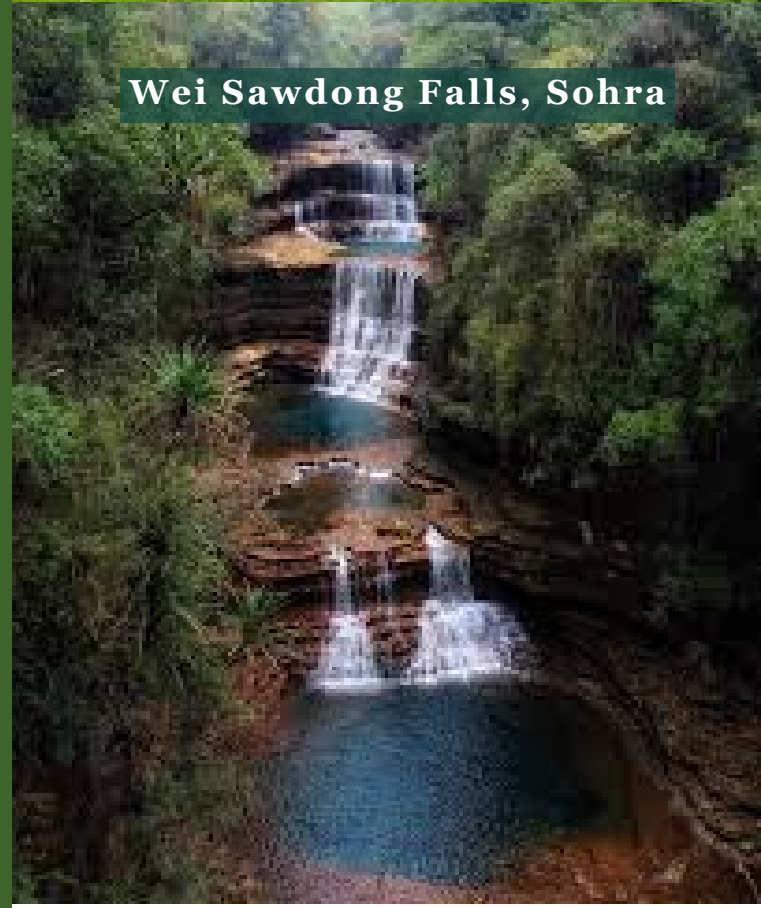
 **Anirban Banerjee : 9474009746**

 **coinnitm2025@gmail.com**

 **Department of Humanities
and Social Sciences**



Kongthong (The Whistling Village)



Wei Sawdong Falls, Sohra