

SCIENCE CENTRES SCHEME

District Science Centre Scheme

A. Objectives:

1. To develop a scientific temper amongst the general public, particularly school children by inculcating a spirit of inquiry and fostering creative talent through activity- based learning process incorporating method of science.
2. To encourage critical analysis and understanding of local problems in science & technology, environment, health and hygiene etc. and to work towards finding a solution to these problem.
3. To disseminate information related to scientific and technological topics relevant to the State of Meghalaya in particular and the country in general.
4. To promote creative activities in school to supplement formal science education.
5. To highlight important and relevant topical issues in science and technology and to popularise them for the benefit of the community.
6. To develop scientific exhibits, temporary exhibitions, kits and aids for use in the Centre and in other science centres in order to portray the development in science and technology.

B. Description:

Under the Science Centres Scheme in the State, one Science Centre of national standard has already been set-up at the state capital of Shillong. The Centre is comprised of Science Galleries, a Science Auditorium and a Science Park. Similar activity has also been planned for the District headquarters, but, at a lower-scale.

In this connection, a Science Gallery has been established in Tura and a Science Hall has been constructed at each of the district headquarters of Nongpoh, Nongstoin and Williamnagar as part of the above District Science Centres Scheme. These facilities at the district-level are being looked-after by the respective District Planning Officers. The said Science Gallery at Tura is opened to school children including the general public and has been found to be a very useful facility for science popularization in the District. The Science Halls at Nongpoh, Nongstoin and Williamnagar have been extensively used for holding various science & technology promotional activities in the respective Districts. Besides, the said Halls are also being used from time-to-time by the respective District Administrations for other programmes in the District. Lately, a Science Hall has also been constructed at Jowai.

Recently, there has been a request from the District Planning Officers of the respective districts for some financial assistance towards the day-to-day operation and maintenance of the above science facilities in their district headquarters. Moreover, the oldest Science Hall at Nongstoin needs some minor renovations. The new Science Hall at Jowai needs to be furnished with sufficient chairs for holding programmes. Hence, the present proposal has been proposed.