

# **Report of the Field Trip to Sohra**

## **organised by the Department of Economics, Nongtalang College on the 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2022.**

**under the theme: *Potential, problems and challenges of tourism industry***

Meghalaya is a land of immense natural beauty with rich cultural heritage and provides ample scope to attract tourists. The mountain ranges, valleys, forests and biodiversity, rivers, waterfalls, lakes and cultural diversities are basic resources with tremendous potential for development of tourism in the State. Thus, tourism industry is growing and encouraging sector in the state. It has tremendous income and employment opportunities. Income generations are very encouraging. The share that the tourism sector is contributing to the state GSDP was around 3% during the last five years.

It is understood that through these economic activities, there has been a lot of contribution to the development of not only to the area but the development of economy of the state as whole. Therefore, it is required for the students to visit and have their own personal experience and understand the importance, potential, problems and challenges of tourism industry in the state.

### **Objectives –**

- (1) to understand the method and technique when setting up such tourist site.
- (2) To understand the potential of tourism industry
- (3) To become aware of the problems and challenges under the sector

### **No of Participants –**

Twelve participants have been involved in the field trip, which consist of both the teachers and students.

### **Site of the Field Trip –**

Sohra is selected as the site of the field trip because of the present of many tourist destinations and attractions. The tourist spots/sites that have been visited during the field trip are (1) Lyngksiar (2) Dainthlen (3) Weisawdong waterfalls and (4) Nongsawlia village – a historical site.

  
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## 1. Lyngksiar Waterfall



Fig. 1&2: The Scenic Beauty of Lyngksiar Waterfall Tourist Site

Lyngksiar waterfall is the most beautiful waterfall located in the north-eastern part of Sohra. It derived its name from the rare orchid known as Tiew Lyngksiar. In the past, this spot was used by the people as a place for fishing, swimming and to spend their leisure time here peacefully. However, at present this waterfall has been developed and turned it into a tourist spot and become one of the best tourist spots in Sohra.

## 2. Dainthlen Waterfall



Fig. 3 & 4: At Dainthlen Waterfall Tourist Site

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The waterfall derives its name from U Thlen or a snake of gigantic size which dwelt in a cave. According to the legend, a demon snake (U Thlen) who caused a lot of trouble was slaughtered here and its flesh was used in the feast afterwards. One can see the deep scars left on the rocks before the waterfall where the demon was killed. Natural rock carvings of the episode draw visitors, tourists, etc. to come and see the image of u Thlen and its beauty of the waterfall.

### 3. Weisawdong Waterfall




Fig. 5 & 6: The Scenic Beauty of Weisawdong Waterfall Tourist Site

Weisawdong waterfall or the 3-level waterfall is another tourist spot situated in Sohra. It is also one of the most beautiful waterfalls in Sohra as well as in the state of Meghalaya. The beauty of the waterfall has attracted many tourists from around the world to come and explore this most amazing piece of nature's wonder.

### 4. Nongsawlia Village

Nongsawlia is one of the most beautiful villages in Sohra and also a famous historical site in Meghalaya. The present of the monument of Rev. Thomas Jones (1810-1849) here, which is the father of Khasi alphabet and the Nongsawlia Presbyterian Church (Estd 1846), which is the oldest church (more than 175 years) are the most visited sites by tourists. A large number

  
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of tourists from all around the world flock this site to see the great work by Welsh Missionaries.

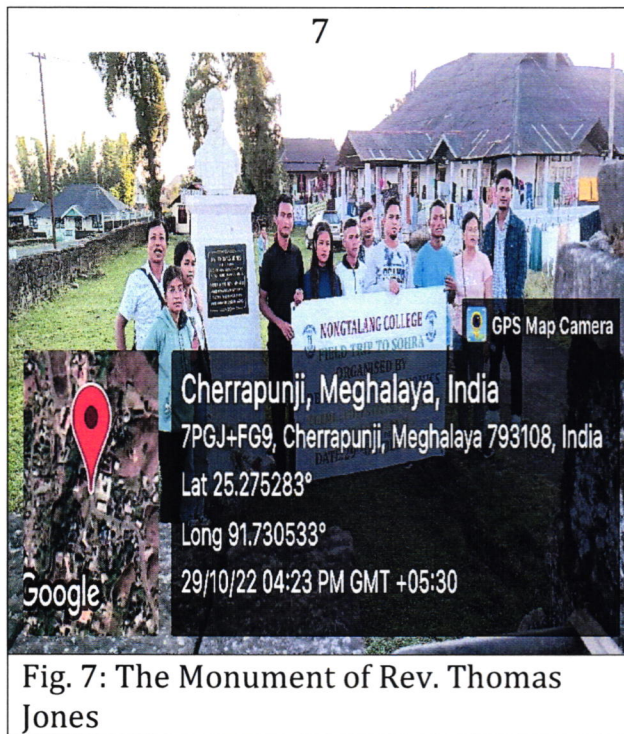


Fig. 7: The Monument of Rev. Thomas Jones




Fig. 8: Nongsawlia Presbyterian Church

### Purpose of the Trip –

The main purpose of the Field Trip is to make the students, especially the Honour Students in Economics, to be more aware about the importance of tourism industry in the state of Meghalaya. It has been mentioned that through tourism, income and employment generations are very important for the state. Apart from the knowledge they attained from classrooms, practical information from such field trip is another source of learning experience to understand better about the functioning and working of the economy. For example,

- (1) To make the students understand the overall developmental purposes of the economy from the development of recreational activities. These recreational activities or tourist sites such as rivers and waterfalls, living root bridges, historical sites, monuments, caves, parks, etc. which are of great economic importance. On the other hand, to understand the contribution and earnings of these economic activities/resources that led to the development of the economy – rural/village economy as well as of the state’s economy.
- (2) To make the students also understand and aware about the importance and requirement of infrastructural facilities such as roads, homestays,

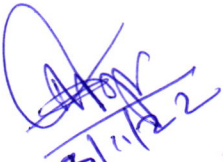
  
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hotels, restaurants, etc. when setting up such business activities. Having these facilities, the site would attract more visitors and customers. Their contribution would enhance the development of not only of the industry but for the development of the economy of the state as a whole.

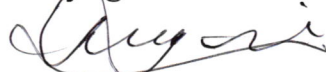
- (3) To make the students also understand about the importance of management and entrepreneurial skills of such business activities. Without proper management, the business would not grow, develop or earn any profit. Thus, proper management is considered as the hallmark of any business enterprises.

### **The Expected Outcomes**

- (1) The expected outcome from the field trip is that the students after having the first-hand knowledge and information will be able to understand the method and technique and also will be able to replicate those ideas and techniques in their localities where tourist sites are abundantly available naturally.
- (2) It is understood that many students after passing out from their studies will not be able to get jobs easily. They have to struggle and compete in the competing world market. So, learning by observation, etc, through such practical experiences about the potential of tourism industry, they might be able to set up such business activities and become the successful entrepreneurs. It might be definitely inspired and encouraged many people to be more optimistic about business ventures.
- (3) The expectation from such trip is that it will give the motivation and inspiration to the students to be more productive through self-creation of jobs, self-employment, self-reliance, etc.
- (4) The motivation and inspiration that the students acquired from such trip will further enhance the understanding of the subject and its scope.
- (5) Apart from the above expectations, they might also become aware and understood about the problems and challenges that might affect the business ventures.

  
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## FIELD TRIP TO SOHRA

ORGANISED BY

THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

ON THE 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2022

### ATTENDANCE

SL. NO	NAME	DESIGNATION	PH. NO	SIGNATURE
1.	Risadera Gayang	Student	8732063410	R. Gayang
2.	Dampaihmshika chongtangkut	Student	6909820232	D. Chongtangkut
3.	Gidbert Khonglak	Student	9366117772	G. Khonglak
4.	Thywill Pohshna	Student	6009043019	T. Pohshna
5.	Ronita Manner	"	9362835556	R. Manner
6.	Formin Anthony KHONG LAH	"	7827963486	Formin
7.	Daubiang Tariang	"	8837292975	D. Tariang
8.	Bimal . Dan	"	8496027642	B. Dan
9.	Fulgent - Polktai	"	8131017487	F. Polktai
10.	FREEDY GAYANG	"	8798779832	F. Gayang
11.	Kordor Salehe	Teacher	8414944966	K. Salehe
12.	W. Lyngkhai	"	7085837888	W. Lyngkhai

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