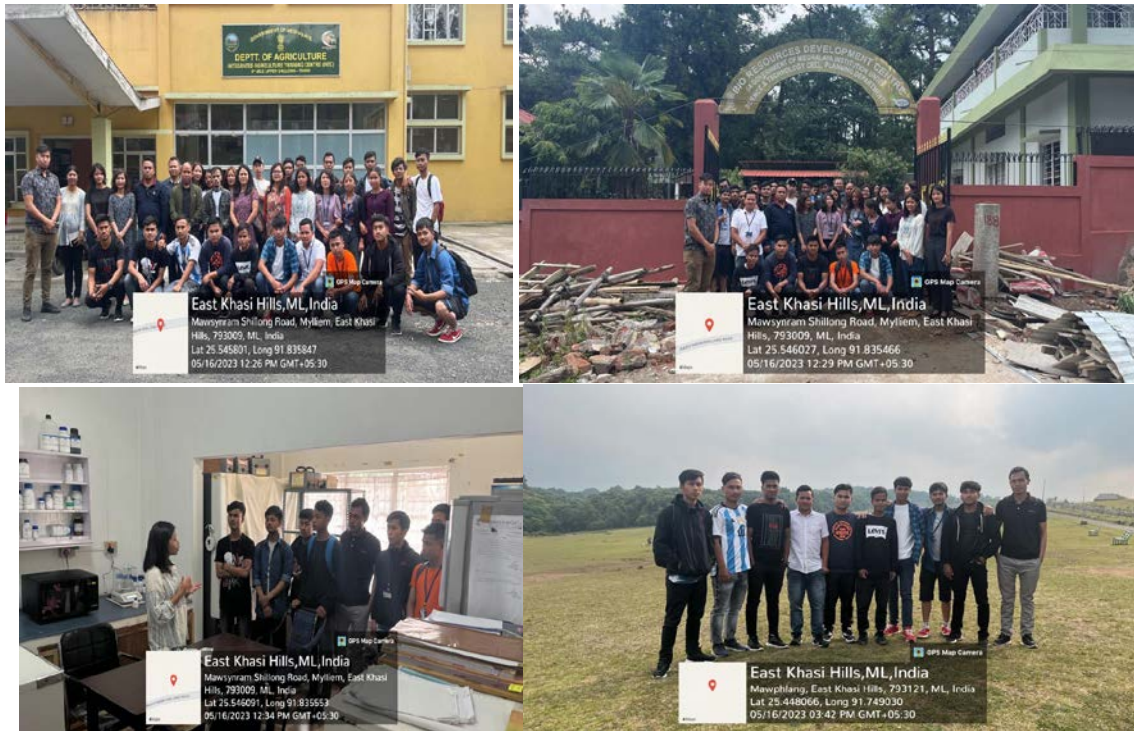


1. The Department of Chemistry, Shillong College had organized a one-day study tour programme on the 16/5/2023 for the 4th and 6th Semester students of Chemistry to the “Bio-resource development Centre and to Mawphlang sacred Grove”

As a chemistry student, understanding the application of chemical principles in practical settings is essential. Recently, we had the opportunity to visit the Bio Resources Development Centre, 5th Mile Upper Shillong, where we explore the use of chemistry in the field of biotechnology and life sciences. The purpose of this field trip was to gain an insight into the innovative research techniques and biochemistry based methodologies utilized for advancing the bio-pharmaceutical industry. This report aims to summarize our experience at the Bio-Resources Development Centre. The students of the 6th and 4th semester assembled at our college campus around 9:30 am and left the campus in a bus around 10:00 in the morning . We reached our destination around at 10:45 am and our program there started around 11 am. The first activity in our programme was a power point presentation by **Dr.Sovi Majaw**, inside a seminar room where she explained in detail about the history, mandate, objective ,projects, key activities of the centre through slides. Soon after we finished our first activity of the day, we all gathered in a room to have a tea and after tea we all got a group picture along with their faculty members. Our second activity of the day was to visit the laboratory. We were taken on a tour by the faculty to observe the functioning of the different departments and gain an understanding on the techniques and equipment used in each area. We were introduced to tissue culture lab where the micropropagation of Orchids and Potato were to be seen. And also, we were demonstrated by the lab members on how to test the pH level of the soil using the soil testing kit. The last and final activity we did on our field trip was to visit their farm, where the plants go hardening process in a poly house. We eye witnessed how the potatoes were undergoing the process of hardening in a bed of coco peat and *vermi compost*. The faculty member also told us that they were undergoing 3 stages of growth i.e, tuber formation, tuber expansion, tuber maturation stages. Later after that we went down to the poly house where Orchids were growing, we saw orchids growing in a coconut husk, the husks were soaked in the water overnight as coconut husks contains tannins which are not favourable for orchids. After this they were again soaked in the trichoderma solution for 1 hour,thus making it suitable for the orchids to grow. Also NPK fertilizers are used in the process. We also visited the vermi compost area and the vertical farming area of leafy vegetables. These were the activities we did in our one day field trip and surprisingly learned so much more than expected. We ended our field trip by heading towards *Mawphlang Sacred Forest* for lunch. And after the lunch we headed back to Shillong around 5 in the evening. In conclusion, our field trip to the Bio-resources Development Centre was an exceptional learning experience that provided us with comprehensive understanding cutting edge technologies, research practices in the biotechnology and the various chemical process involved. Overall the knowledge and skills gained from this field trip will undoubtedly prove valuable for our future studies and career. We express our sincere Thanks to the centre and the teachers of our department for providing us with such opportunities to enhance our education in this field.



2. Release of Department Newsletter on the 26th May 2023 with the theme “Staying alive in a paralysed ecosystem”

The release of the Department’s Newsletter was held on the 26th May 2023 in the Principal’s Conference room. The event was attended by the honorable president of the Governing body, Shillong College Prof. B. Myrboh as well as by the Principal Dr. E. Kharkongor, the Vice principal Shri. B. Syiem, the Vice principal of Professional courses Smt. E.N. Dkhar, Dr. D. L. Buam (former HOD, chemistry). The sixth semester students as well as the past pupils were also amongst the attendees. During the function, Shri. K. Umdor (HOD) delivered the welcome speech followed by an introductory speech about the newsletter from Dr. D.L. Buam (former HOD) and addressal note from the principal.

The Newsletter was released by the President of the Governing body, Shillong College Prof. B. Myrboh, followed by an insightful speech. The function ended with the vote of thanks from Dr. C. Marsharing.

