



National Conclave on

Sectoral Analysis and Growth Potential of Agricultural and other Rural Sectors Post GST

Date: 6th and 7th August 2026
Venue: Ri-Bhoi College, Nongpoh



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Organized by



**Ri-Bhoi College, Nongpoh
Meghalaya**

in collaboration with



Unveiling Excellence

**Department of Rural Development
University of Science & Technology Meghalaya**

About the Conclave

Introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India marked a significant structural reform aimed at unifying the indirect tax regime and promoting economic efficiency across sectors. This seminar proposal examines the sectoral growth trajectories of agriculture and other major sectors in the post-GST period, with a focus on understanding how the new tax architecture has influenced production, market integration, supply chains, and overall sectoral performance. While agriculture remains largely outside the GST framework, the sector is indirectly affected through taxation on inputs, logistics, and agro-processing activities. The seminar explores how these indirect effects—such as streamlined transport, reduced inter-state barriers, and more formalized value chains—have shaped agricultural competitiveness, market access, and cost structures.

Beyond agriculture, the proposal assesses sectoral responses in manufacturing, services, MSMEs, and trade. GST's impact on ease of doing business, compliance requirements, and digital integration (through e-way bills and input tax credit mechanisms) has generated differentiated outcomes across sectors. Manufacturing and logistics have benefited from reduced tax cascading and improved operational efficiency, whereas MSMEs have experienced mixed results due to compliance burdens despite broader market opportunities. The services sector, a major contributor to GDP, has undergone tax rationalization but continues to face challenges in classification and rate structures.

Using secondary data, policy documents, and empirical studies, the conclave aims to evaluate whether GST has fulfilled its objectives of promoting growth, enhancing tax transparency, and strengthening the national market. It will also discuss sector-specific challenges, transition issues, and the uneven pace of adaptation across industries.

Overall, the conclave seeks to provide a comprehensive assessment of post-GST sectoral growth, highlighting the interplay between tax reforms, structural shifts, and economic performance. The insights derived will support policymakers, researchers, and industry stakeholders in understanding the long-term implications of GST on India's agricultural and non-agricultural sectors.

About Ri-Bhoi College

Ri Bhoi College, is nestled in the scenic town of Nongpoh, the headquarters of Ri Bhoi District Meghalaya. It was established in 1984 with a commitment to providing quality education to young people in the state. Affiliated with the North Eastern Hill University, the college offers a wide range of undergraduate programs. It was accredited with 'B' Grade by NAAC in 2024. The College runs certificate courses in Traditional Music and Computer Application and with the introduction of Vocational Training Courses under NEP 2020, it provides courses in Photography, Desktop Publishing, Fish Farming, Organic Farming, etc. The institution places a strong emphasis on providing a conducive environment for both academic and extracurricular activities and it actively engages with the local community through various outreach programs, including awareness campaigns, skill development initiatives, and community service. Located at a distance of 75.2 km from Guwahati Airport and 56.5 km from Guwahati Railway Station, the college is easily accessible by both public and private transport. It is also 51kms from Shillong the capital of Meghalaya.

About the Department of Rural Development, USTM

The University of Science & Technology Meghalaya is the first state private university in the field of Science & Technology in North East India- a university that has been awarded the accreditation rating of "A Grade" in its first cycle of assessment by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council in 2021. It has been ranked among the top 151-200 universities in India by NIRF for four consecutive years, most recently in 2025. The University, started in 2011 and sponsored by the ERD Foundation, Guwahati, is located in a picturesque landscape at Baridua, 9th mile, Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya, opposite the CRPF Camp. It is 85 km from Shillong & 6 km from Dispur. The campus is well-connected, 15 km from Guwahati Railway Station & 30 km from Guwahati International Airport.

The Department of Rural Development is one of the earliest departments established at USTM, offering Undergraduate, Postgraduate, and PhD courses. Multidisciplinary in nature, it focuses on teaching and research in rural development, agriculture, indigenous technology, extension education, and gender issues. The department organizes sponsored conferences, seminars, workshops, and training, emphasizing rural development's role in India's economy. It engages in research on rural and social development, microfinance, rural credit, indigenous knowledge of North East tribes, and local self-governance. One of the best practices of the department is the "Local Hut" initiative, where the department provides a platform to the local women farmers to sell their products in the university premises.



Proposed Themes and Sub-Themes

1. Agricultural Sector and GST
2. Market integration and logistics for agricultural commodities
3. GST and agro-processing industries
4. Agricultural supply chains and value chains in the GST era
5. Manufacturing Sector Growth Post-GST
6. Compliance mechanisms and digital tax administration
7. Changes in regional manufacturing patterns
8. Services Sector Transformation
9. Ease of doing business and the digital service ecosystem
10. Service exports and GST refunds
11. MSMEs and Informal Sector Dynamics
12. Trade, Logistics, and Supply Chain Efficiency
13. Fiscal Implications and State-Level Perspectives
14. Policy Reforms, Challenges, and Future Directions



Expected Outcomes

The conclave will include keynote lectures, expert panel discussions, technical sessions, and paper presentations. Participants will draw from empirical studies, government data, industry reports, field surveys, and theoretical analyses.

The seminar is expected to generate:

- A comprehensive understanding of GST's sectoral impact.
- Policy recommendations for enhancing efficiency across sectors.
- Insights that may contribute to academic research, government decision-making, and industry strategies.

A deeper understanding of the relationship between tax reforms, market integration, and sectoral growth.

Target Participants

The conclave invites:

- Academicians and researchers in economics, commerce, public policy, Rural Development and agricultural sciences.
- Officials from government and GST departments.
- Representatives from manufacturing, services, agriculture and MSME sectors.
- NGOs, industry associations, and development practitioners.
- Research scholars and students.

Registration Link

<https://tinyurl.com/mr26e45j>



Registration Fees

Research Scholars	: Rs. 700
Faculty members/Academicians	: Rs. 1200
Non-academicians	: Rs. 3000

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Last date to submit Abstract	: 30 th July, 2026
Last date to submit Full paper	: 20 th August, 2026



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

CHIEF PATRON



Prof. G D Sharma
Hon'ble VC, USTM

PATRON



Smti. W. K. Blah
Secretary, Governing Body Ri Bhoi College

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