पूर्वोत्तर परिषद्, शिलांग पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय North Eastern Council Secretariat, Shillong Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

<u>प्रैस विज्ञप्ति</u> PRESS NOTE

NEC/IPR/Press Release/2008

July 31, 2024

NEC Celebrates 1st National Space Day

Shillong, July 31, 2024 — The inaugural National Space Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and vigor at NEC, bringing together school students from Shillong to honor the advancements in space exploration and technology. The event marked the significant achievement of the Chandrayaan-3 Vikram lander's successful landing on the lunar South Pole on August 23, 2023.

The one-day workshop, organized by the North Eastern Council Secretariat, welcomed intermediate students from St. Anthony Higher Secondary School, St. Mary Higher Secondary School, St. Edmund's Higher Secondary School, and Brookside Higher Secondary School. The event featured presentations from prominent scientists of the North Eastern Space Application Centre (NESAC), who shared their expertise during the technical sessions.

Shri Som Kamei, Planning Advisor at NEC, delivered the keynote address, celebrating the Chandrayaan-3 Vikram lander's historic achievement. He highlighted India's ongoing contributions to lunar exploration and the progress made by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Reflecting on India's space journey from the launch of Aryabhata in 1975 to recent successes like Mangalyaan and Chandrayaan missions, Shri Kamei emphasized ISRO's commitment to advancing knowledge and innovation.

Dr. S. P. Agarwal, Director of NESAC, gave the inaugural address, discussing the theme of National Space Day 2024, "Touching Lives while Touching the Moon: India's Space Saga." He provided insights into the history and development of India's space program and lauded Chandrayaan-3's accomplishments, including its successful soft landing and lunar roving. Dr. Agarwal noted that these

achievements will support ISRO's future interplanetary missions and enhance lunar exploration through rover deployment and scientific experiments.

During the technical sessions, Dr. K.K. Sharma, Group Head of NESAC, presented on the societal benefits of the Indian Space Program. Dr. D. Chutia addressed the application of geospatial technology for effective governance in the North Eastern Region (NER). Sh. Victor Saikhom discussed the potential of UAVs for development, while Dr. Sanabam Sujen Singh, E.O., NEC, highlighted collaborative development efforts with NESAC in the NER.

Dr. Sanabam Sujen Singh while welcoming commended ISRO for its remarkable achievement with Chandrayaan-3, emphasizing its successful lunar landing and roving capabilities.

The event concluded with Shri Tamung Jamoh, Director (S&T), presenting the vote of thanks. Attendees also enjoyed three documentaries produced by ISRO, showcasing the history, developments, and achievements of the Indian Space Program.

The workshop was inaugurated with ceremonial lamp lighting by Dr. S. P. Agarwal, Shri K.K. Sharma, Shri Som Kamei, Shri Thanglemliam, and Shri Tamung Jamoh.