



NEWSLETTER

MARCH, 2026

MANIPUR TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION HUB (MTI-HUB)

LAUNCH OF “SAROMA” BY PUNI ENTERPRISES

2nd March, 2026

The Manipur Technology Innovation Hub (MTI-HUB) proudly facilitated the successful launch of “**Saroma**”, a promising homegrown brand by Puni Enterprises, founded by Ms. Purnima Thokchom, one of the incubatees under MTI-HUB. The launch event marked a significant milestone in promoting value-added agri-based entrepreneurship in Manipur and showcased the potential of locally sourced products in reaching premium markets.



DIGNITARIES INVITED

- **Dr. Thokchom Radheshyam Singh**,
Hon'ble MLA, Heirolk AC
- **Dr. Sapam Ranjan Singh**,
Hon'ble MLA, Konthoujam AC,
- **Prof. Ph. Ranjit Sharma**,
Director of Extension Education,
CAU Imphal;
- **Prof. Ng. Iboyaima Singh**,
Dean, College of Food Technology,
CAU Imphal;
- **Smt. S. Joshila Sharma**,
Businesswoman and Social Activist
- **Denil Moirangthem**,
Founder of Scaling Northeast Brands
Nationally

The highlight of the event was the introduction of **Saroma's premium cold-pressed mustard oil**, meticulously produced using traditional wood-pressed extraction techniques. This method ensures the retention of essential nutrients, natural aroma, and purity, positioning the product as a healthier and more authentic alternative to commercially processed oils. In addition to mustard oil, the brand also unveiled a range of quality spice products, including blended masala, chilli powder, and turmeric powder, all processed with a focus on maintaining freshness, flavor, and nutritional value.

The event witnessed the presence of distinguished dignitaries from government, academia, and industry. **The Chief Guest, Dr. Thokchom Radheshyam Singh, Hon'ble MLA, Heirok AC**, commended the initiative for its focus on quality, sustainability, and farmer-centric growth. The function was presided over by **Dr. Sapam Ranjan Singh, Hon'ble MLA, Konthoujam AC**, who highlighted the importance of nurturing local enterprises to achieve economic self-reliance in the state.

The Guests of Honour included **Prof. Ph. Ranjit Sharma**, Director of Extension Education, CAU Imphal; **Prof. Ng. Iboyaima Singh**, Dean, College of Food Technology, CAU Imphal; **Smt. S. Joshila Sharma**, noted businesswoman and social activist; and **Denil Moirangthem**, Founder of Scaling Northeast Brands Nationally.



The dignitaries appreciated the efforts of the entrepreneur and emphasized the importance of innovation, quality assurance, branding, and market expansion for local products.

During the event, representatives from MTI-HUB also highlighted the incubation support extended to Puni Enterprises, including mentoring, product development guidance, branding support, and market linkage facilitation. The launch served as a testament to MTI-HUB's continued efforts in nurturing startups that leverage local resources while addressing market demands.

The program concluded with an interactive session where participants, including local entrepreneurs, farmers, and stakeholders, engaged in discussions on scaling agri-based businesses, adopting improved processing techniques, and exploring market opportunities beyond the state.



FIELD VISIT BY MTI-HUB TEAM AT M/S 7 AGROTECH

10th March, 2026

The Manipur Technology Innovation Hub (MTI-HUB) team conducted a field visit to **M/S 7 Agrotech**, an incubated startup under the NEATEHUB Pre-Seed Agri Innovation Program, as part of its ongoing monitoring and due diligence efforts to assess the progress of supported ventures on the ground.



M/S 7 Agrotech is a farmer-led startup based in Manipur that is actively promoting the cultivation and value addition of Sacha Inchi (*Plukenetia volubilis*), a high-value oilseed crop known for its rich nutritional profile, particularly Omega-3, Omega-6, and Omega-9 fatty acids. The initiative aims to introduce an alternative high-income crop for local farmers while contributing to the region's agri-diversification and sustainable farming practices.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS :

- **High-value crop :**
Sacha Inchi with ~48% Omega-3
- **Progress :**
~3 hectares under cultivation; oil trials started
- **Potential :**
3 founders; needs support for scaling & market linkages

The field visit was led by **Mr. McDon Ningthoujam**, Program Associate, MTI-HUB, along with team members, on 10th March 2026. During the visit, the team assessed the pilot cultivation sites located at Salungpham in Thoubal District and Kasom Khullen. It was observed that the startup has successfully initiated cultivation activities across approximately 3 hectares of land. The fields demonstrated healthy crop growth, supported by basic infrastructure such as trellis systems, irrigation arrangements, and initial post-harvest handling facilities.

Interactions with the founders and participating farmers revealed a strong commitment towards adopting innovative agricultural practices and building a sustainable value chain around Sacha Inchi. The startup, led by a team of three dedicated founders, has already begun small-scale oil extraction trials, indicating early-stage value addition efforts. Their approach integrates farmer participation, knowledge sharing, and localized production, which holds promise for inclusive rural development.

Although the startup is currently in its early stage, the progress achieved so far is encouraging. The MTI-HUB team noted the potential for scalability, particularly in expanding cultivation areas, improving yield through scientific agronomic practices, and establishing structured market linkages for both raw produce and processed oil.



Based on the observations, the team recommended focused mentoring support in areas such as scientific cultivation techniques, pest and disease management, post-harvest processing, branding, and quality certifications (including FSSAI and organic certification where feasible). Strengthening market access through strategic partnerships and exploring premium health and wellness markets were also identified as key growth drivers.

The visit reaffirmed MTI-HUB's commitment to nurturing grassroots agri-innovations and supporting startups that leverage local resources to create sustainable and scalable business models in Manipur's agricultural ecosystem.

THE SYSTEMS, APPLICATIONS, AND PRODUCTS IN DATA PROCESSING (SAP)–NORTH EAST GROWTH LAB (NEGL) COHORT 2 DEMO DAY

13th March, 2026 | Guwahati

The Systems, Applications, and Products in Data Processing (SAP) – North East Growth Lab (NEGL) Cohort 2 Demo Day was successfully held on 13th March 2026 at Guwahati, bringing together 15 high-potential startups from across the North Eastern region. The programme, implemented by IIMA Ventures with support from SAP, serves as a strategic platform to accelerate startup growth through mentorship, market access, and investor connect.

Mr. Robinson Singh, Business Development Manager, MTI-HUB, attended the event and actively engaged with participating startups, ecosystem enablers, and program stakeholders. His participation reflects MTI-HUB's continued commitment to fostering collaboration and strengthening the regional innovation ecosystem.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS :

- 4 MTI-HUB incubated startups showcased innovations at NEGL Cohort 2 Demo Day, Guwahati
- Strong focus on sustainability, traditional knowledge, and market-ready products
- Platform enabled investor connect, market access, and enhanced visibility for Manipur startups

The Demo Day provided a valuable platform for startups to pitch their ventures, demonstrate product innovations, and engage with investors, industry experts, and potential partners. It enabled participating startups to explore new market linkages, expand customer outreach, and gain visibility at a national level.



The participation and performance of MTI-HUB incubated startups at the NEGL Demo Day underscore the growing strength and potential of Manipur's startup ecosystem. It also reflects the impact of structured incubation support in nurturing scalable, sustainable, and culturally rooted enterprises from the region.

Notably, four startups incubated at MTI-HUB were part of the Cohort 2 lineup and showcased their innovative, market-ready solutions:

- **Chankorb Private Limited, founded by Dr. Atom Anupama Devi**, is leveraging agro-waste to produce high-quality banana fiber, offering a sustainable and biodegradable alternative for textile and allied industries. The startup highlights the potential of circular economy practices in the region.



- **Dianthe Private Limited, led by Ms. Krechina Chokhone**, presented its range of sustainably packaged, locally sourced dried flowers designed for long-lasting floral décor. The venture promotes eco-conscious lifestyle products while supporting local sourcing and women-led entrepreneurship.

- **Atingkok LLP, founded by Mr. Heikrujam Kerish Singh**, showcased “Atingba”, a natural probiotic beverage made from indigenous Manipuri fruits. The product integrates traditional fermentation knowledge with modern hygiene and processing standards, targeting the growing health and wellness market.



- **October Pumpkin-shi Pvt. Ltd., led by Ms. Rinchon Kashung**, exhibited its premium line of non-toxic soy wax candles. These candles are phthalate-free and housed in authentic Longpi Black Pottery jars, thereby promoting sustainable living while supporting traditional Tangkhul Naga artisans and preserving indigenous craftsmanship.

7 DAY ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (EDP) FOR SHORTLISTED BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE CHIEF MINISTER'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUPPORT SCHEME (CMESS). 20 March, 2026

The concluding 7 days Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) under the Chief Minister's Entrepreneur Support Scheme (CMESS) were successfully held on 20th March, 2026 at the City Convention Centre, Imphal.

The sessions brought together all 485 shortlisted beneficiaries, providing them with comprehensive exposure to entrepreneurial opportunities, government schemes, and practical business strategies. The program was enriched with expert talks, interactive discussions, and case-based learning focused on building self-reliant enterprises in Manipur.

MTI-HUB actively contributed to the program, represented by **Mr. Robinson Longjam, Business Development Manager, MTI-HUB**, who highlighted the role of incubation, mentoring, and support systems in nurturing early-stage startups. The sessions further reinforced the state government's vision of empowering MSMEs by linking policy frameworks with local opportunities.



DIGITAL INDIA STATE CONSULTATION WORKSHOP IN MANIPUR

23rd & 24th March, 2026

The MTI-HUB team actively participated in the **Digital India State Consultation Workshop held on 23rd–24th March 2026** at Hotel Imphal by The Classic, Manipur. The two-day workshop was organized with the objective of accelerating the digitalisation of public services, strengthening governance through technology, and enhancing the adoption of key Digital India platforms across departments in the state.

The workshop witnessed participation from officials of the National e-Governance Division (NeGD), National Informatics Centre (NIC), and various state government departments, along with representatives from ecosystem enablers and institutions. **Expert-led sessions provided in-depth insights into several flagship Digital India platforms such as DigiLocker, EntityLocker, Meri Pehchaan (National Single Sign-On), API Setu, UMANG, and myScheme.** These sessions emphasized the importance of seamless integration, interoperability between systems, and improving last-mile service delivery through digital infrastructure.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS :

- **2-day workshop (23–24 March 2026)** with participation from **NeGD, NIC, and multiple state departments**, focusing on **Digital India** adoption in Manipur.
- **6+ key platforms covered:** DigiLocker, EntityLocker, Meri Pehchaan, API Setu, UMANG, and myScheme—emphasizing integration & interoperability.
- **30+ departments participated**, reflecting strong cross-departmental engagement.
- **70+ total participants** attended the 2-day consultation workshop
- Focus on **Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023**, promoting **secure, transparent, and citizen-centric governance** with departmental onboarding.



A significant focus of the consultation was on the implementation framework of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, highlighting key aspects such as data privacy, consent management, and responsible data handling practices by public institutions. The discussions also encouraged state departments to onboard and actively utilise digital platforms to ensure efficient, transparent, and citizen-centric governance.

The workshop further facilitated interactive discussions, experience sharing, and identification of challenges in adopting digital systems at the state level, along with strategies to address them. It also explored opportunities for collaboration between government bodies, technical agencies, and innovation hubs to drive digital transformation in Manipur.

Representing **MTI-HUB**, **Mr. McDon Ningthoujam**, Program Associate, and **Ms. Velloree Khuraijam**, Technical Associate, attended the workshop and engaged with key stakeholders on potential areas of collaboration, particularly in enabling startups and innovators to leverage Digital India infrastructure.



The participation in this consultation underscores MTI-HUB's continued commitment to supporting digital transformation initiatives and fostering a robust innovation ecosystem in Manipur by aligning with national digital priorities and facilitating technology-driven solutions.



BOEING BUILD 5.0 SENSITIZATION PROGRAM CONDUCTED ACROSS KEY INSTITUTIONS IN MANIPUR

30th & 31st March, 2026

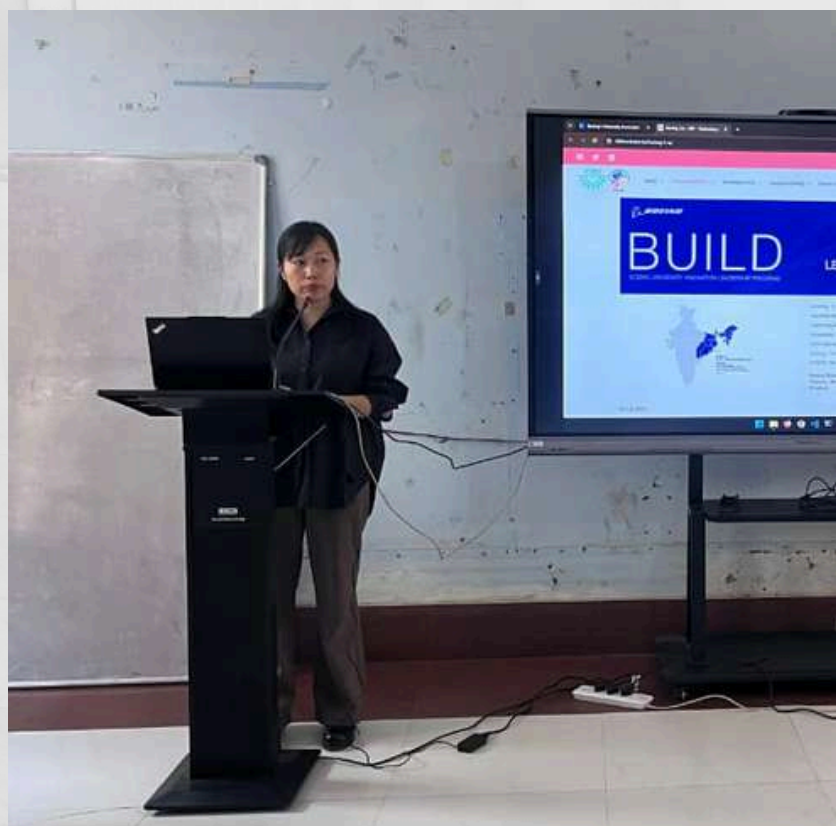
The Boeing BUILD 5.0 Sensitization Program was successfully organized across three prominent institutions in Manipur with the objective of creating awareness about the Boeing University Innovation Leadership Development (BUILD) 5.0 initiative and encouraging participation from students and faculty.

The sessions were designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the BUILD 5.0 initiative, with a strong emphasis on fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and design thinking among the youth. Participants were encouraged to identify real-world problems and develop technology-driven, scalable solutions aligned with local and global challenges.

THE SESSIONS WERE CONDUCTED AS PER THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

- **Department of Computer Science, Manipur University – 30th March 2026 (49 participants)**
- **Manipur Technical University – 30th March 2026 (32 participants)**
- **NIELIT Imphal – 31st March 2026 (86 participants)**

A total of 167 participants, including students, faculty members, and aspiring innovators, attended the sensitization programs



Key highlights of the program included:

- *Introduction to the BUILD 5.0 program structure, objectives, and application process*
- *Insights into innovation-led problem solving and startup ideation*
- *Orientation on design thinking methodologies for solution development*
- *Awareness on incubation support, mentorship opportunities, and funding linkages available through platforms like MTI-HUB*
- *Guidance on transforming ideas into early-stage startups and prototypes*

The sessions witnessed active engagement and interaction, with participants expressing keen interest in exploring entrepreneurial pathways and leveraging institutional support systems. Several attendees showed strong enthusiasm to apply for the upcoming Boeing BUILD 5.0 call, indicating a positive response towards innovation-driven initiatives in the region.



The program has contributed significantly to strengthening the innovation ecosystem in Manipur, by motivating young minds to pursue entrepreneurship and participate in structured innovation programs. It is expected that such initiatives will further accelerate the development of startup culture and technology-based solutions emerging from the state.

NEW MENTOR OF MTI-HUB

The Manipur Technology Innovation Hub is pleased to onboard two distinguished professionals as Mentors to further strengthen its startup ecosystem and enhance the quality of support extended to incubated startups.



Mr. Haobam Joyremba

Managing Director, Cubeten Technologies Pvt. Ltd., brings valuable expertise in technology, digital solutions, and product innovation.

Mr. Thangjam Joykumar Singh

Founder and Managing Director of Thangjam Agro Ltd. (LIKLA Brand), contributes strong experience in agro-based enterprises, value addition, and market-oriented business development.

Their onboarding will significantly enhance mentoring and handholding support for startups at MTI-HUB, enabling them to benefit from practical industry insights, strategic guidance, and real-world entrepreneurial experience.

Through continuous engagement, both mentors will support startups in refining their business models, overcoming challenges, and accelerating growth, thereby contributing to the development of a vibrant startup ecosystem in Manipur.



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