

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & PUBLIC
RELATIONS,SHILLONG**

Press Release No. 05/18

**CM launches Women Economic Empowerment through
Financial Inclusion and Entrepreneurship**

Shillong, January 5, 2018: The Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Dr. Mukul Sangma today launched the Women Economic Empowerment through Financial Inclusion and Entrepreneurship at U Soso Tham Auditorium, Shillong.

In his speech, Dr. Sangma said that the Government has started a very important programme since 2012 to take care of the most vulnerable group of society, which is the women and said that programmes like social assistance to single mothers is done only in Meghalaya to empower women with economic knowledge, wisdom and enlightenment and empower them economically. Because most mothers are not covered under financial inclusion, the aim of the programme is to include all female heads of the state under financial inclusion, he said. Dr. Sangma also informed that banks have been sensitized to ensure that they participate accordingly under this programme and the government is providing the women with seed money to utilise it for economic prosperity of the families, he said. "The seed money may look very small but it has lots of positive ramifications in bringing the socio economic transformative changes for people, especially the economically challenged group," said Dr. Sangma. Along with supporting women financially, Dr. Sangma said that it is also important to support women with necessary financial literacy so that they have knowledge about the different kinds of initiatives rooted through banks. He said that lack of dissemination about digital banking has deprived women of the opportunity to be economically empowered. Women have not availed the benefits of the women empowerment programmes that the government has undertaken for the last 15 years because they don't have bank accounts. Therefore, the Chief Minister felt the need for an aggressive financial literacy to women so that they have knowledge

about digital banking and other facilities provided by the bank. The government is committed to ensure that women of the State are not deprived of the economic benefits and will keep track on how many partners have registered themselves and how many have benefitted from the skilled development programmes of the government, he said.