

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PERSONNEL & A. R. (A) DEPARTMENT
ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR**

NOTIFICATION

Dated Shillong, the 23rd September, 2026

No.PER.6/97/Pt./8 – In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-rule (2) of Rule 6 of the Meghalaya Civil Service Rules, 1975, the Governor of Meghalaya had, vide Notification **No.PER.6/97/225 dated 11th August, 2025**, prescribed the revised syllabus and pattern of examination for the Meghalaya Civil Service Examination.

Under the revised scheme, the Main Examination consists of one qualifying paper in English and six papers whose marks are counted for merit ranking, namely, **Paper I – Essay, Papers II to V – General Studies I to IV, and Paper VI – Meghalaya**. The aforesaid Notification prescribed the subjects, marks and duration of these papers and indicated their broad areas of coverage.

It has since been considered necessary to prescribe the **detailed syllabus of Papers I to VI** so as to clearly define the scope and content of each paper for the guidance of candidates and for the conduct of the examination by the Meghalaya Public Service Commission.

In respect of **Paper VI – Meghalaya**, the broad areas of coverage prescribed in Notification No. **PER.6/97/225 dated 11th August, 2025** have since been developed into a detailed syllabus, together with indicative reference materials, on the recommendations of an Expert Committee constituted by the Government for the purpose. The same was approved by the Cabinet in its meeting held on **13th August, 2026**.

Now, therefore, in continuation of Notification No. **PER.6/97/225 dated 11th August, 2025**, and in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-rule (2) of Rule 6 of the Meghalaya Civil Service Rules, 1975, the Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to prescribe the following **detailed syllabus for Papers I to VI of the Meghalaya Civil Service Main Examination**.

MAIN EXAMINATION

The written examination shall consist of the following papers:

Sl. No.	Paper	Subject	Marks	Duration
1.	Qualifying Paper	English (Matriculation or equivalent standard)	300	3 hours
2.	Paper I	Essay	250	3 hours
3.	Paper II	General Studies-I (Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society)	250	3 hours
4.	Paper III	General Studies-II (Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International Relations)	250	3 hours
5.	Paper IV	General Studies-III (Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management)	250	3 hours
6.	Paper V	General Studies-IV (Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude)	250	3 hours
7.	Paper VI	Meghalaya (History, Polity, Socio-Economic Issues, Culture and Heritage, Literature, Geography, etc.)	250	3 hours

Note:

1. The paper on English shall be of a qualifying nature only, with minimum qualifying marks fixed at **33 per cent**. The marks obtained in this paper shall not be counted for ranking.
2. Marks obtained by candidates in **Papers I to VI** shall be counted for merit ranking.

PART A
DETAILED SYLLABUS OF PAPERS I TO V

PAPER I – ESSAY - 250 Marks

Candidates may be required to write essays on multiple topics. They will be expected to keep closely to the subject of the essay, to arrange their ideas in an orderly fashion and to write concisely. Credit will be given for effective and exact expression.

PAPER II – GENERAL STUDIES – I (Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society) – 250 Marks

- Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.
- Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present- significant events personalities, issues
- The Freedom Struggle its various stages and important contributors/contributions from different parts of the country
- Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country
- History of the world will include industrial revolution, world wars, colonization, decolonization political philosophies like communism, capitalism socialism etc
- Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India
- Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental urbanization, their problems and their remedies. Effects of globalization on Indian society.
- Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.
- Salient features of world's physical geography.
- Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent); factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India).
- Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc geographical features and their location-changes in critical geographical features (including water-bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

PAPER III – GENERAL STUDIES – II (Governance, Constitution. Polity, Social Justice and International Relations) – 250 Marks

- Indian Constitution-historical underpinnings evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure
- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein
- Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions.
- Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.
- Parliament and State Legislatures – Structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these.

- Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity
- Salient features of the Representation of People's Act
- Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies
- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
- Development processes and the development industries – the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.
- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education Human Resources.
- Issues relating to poverty and hunger Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.
- Role of civil services in a democracy.
- India and its neighborhood- relations.
- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.
- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.
- Important International institutions, agencies and fora – their structure, mandate.

PAPER IV – GENERAL STUDIES – III (Technology, Economic Development, Bio – Diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management) – 250 Marks

- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.
- Inclusive growth and issues arising from it
- Government Budgeting
- Major crops-cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints technology in the aid of farmers.
- Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System objectives, functioning limitations, revamping issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing.

- Food processing and related industries in India- scope and significance location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management.
- Land reforms in India
- Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth.
- Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc
- Investment models.
- Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.
- Achievement of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.
- Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights
- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation environmental impact assessment.
- Disaster and disaster management.
- Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
- Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.
- Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money-laundering and its prevention.
- Security challenges and their management in border areas linkages of organized crime with terrorism.
- Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.

PAPER V – GENERAL STUDIES – IV (Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude) – 250 Marks

This paper will include questions to test the candidates attitude and approach to issues relating to integrity, probity in public life and his problem solving approach to various issues and conflicts faced by him in dealing with society Questions may utilise the case study approach to determine these aspects. The following broad areas will be covered:-

- Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in-human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships Human Values lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family society and educational institutions in inculcating values
- Attitude: content, structure, function its influence and relation with thought and behavior; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion
- Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker-sections.
- Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.

- Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.
- Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems: ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance; accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding corporate governance.
- Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity ; Information sharing and transparency in government Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.
- Case Studies on above issues.

PART B
PAPER VI – MEGHALAYA
250 Marks

I. STRUCTURE AND DISTRIBUTION OF MARKS

PAPER VI – Meghalaya shall be divided into five Units, each carrying **50 marks**, as follows:

Unit	Subject	Marks
I	History	50
II	Polity, Administrative and Constitutional Framework	50
III	Society, Economy and Development	50
IV	Culture, Heritage and Literature	50
V	Geography	50
	Total	250

II. DETAILED SYLLABUS

UNIT I
HISTORY (50 Marks)

Syllabus

1. Pre-colonial history of the Khasi, Jaintia and Garo people
2. Advent of the British and the establishment of colonial administration.
3. Political, administrative and social developments during the colonial period.
4. Resistance movements and important historical developments.
5. Post-Independence developments (1947-1971).
6. Autonomous State of Meghalaya.
7. Formation of Meghalaya as a full-fledged State.
8. Meghalaya at Fifty – achievements, emerging challenges and future prospects.

UNIT II
POLITY, ADMINISTRATIVE AND CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK
(50 Marks)

Syllabus

1. Traditional political institutions:
 - Syiemship, Lyngdohship, Wahadadarship, Sirdarship, Doloiship, Nokmaship.
2. Constitutional developments relating to the tribal areas (Garo Hills, Khasi & Jaintia Hills)
3. Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India relating to Meghalaya.
4. Autonomous District Councils:
 - powers;
 - functions;
 - jurisdiction;
 - relationship with traditional institutions.
 - relationship with the State Government;
5. Hill State Movement.
6. Role of national and regional political parties in the formation of Meghalaya.
7. Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) Act, 1969.
8. North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971.
9. Administrative structure of the Government of Meghalaya.
10. Role of Government institutions in the development of the State.

UNIT III
SOCIETY, ECONOMY AND DEVELOPMENT (50 Marks)

Syllabus

1. Key socio-economic indicators.
2. Structure of the State economy:
 - Primary sector;
 - Secondary sector;
 - Tertiary sector.
 - Quaternary sector.
3. Agriculture and allied activities.
4. Education
5. Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), industrial development and investment promotion
6. Tourism and service sector.
7. Customary Laws, Matriliney and the role of women in the socio-economic sector.
8. Employment, livelihoods, traditional markets and entrepreneurship.
9. Human development, sustainable development and Sustainable Development Goals.
10. Government policies and programmes relating to socio-economic development.
11. Contemporary socio-economic issues affecting Meghalaya.

UNIT IV**CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LITERATURE (50 Marks)****Syllabus**

1. Literature and prominent literary personalities.
2. Indigenous traditions and customary practices.
3. Culture of the tribes of Meghalaya.
4. Music.
5. Dances.
6. Festivals.
7. Preservation of culture, attire and heritage.
8. State enactments relating to culture and heritage.
9. Role of Autonomous District Councils and other institutions in the preservation of culture and heritage.

UNIT V**GEOGRAPHY (50 Marks)****Syllabus**

1. Geological structure and rock types.
2. Physiography and relief.
3. Drainage systems, watersheds and major rivers.
4. Climate.
5. Land resources and land tenure.
6. Forests:
 - Sacred forests;
 - Community forests;
 - Reserved forests.
7. Biodiversity.
8. Mineral resources.
9. Environmental conservation.

III. REFERENCE MATERIALS

In preparing for the Meghalaya-Specific Paper, candidates are expected to consult a variety of sources. These may broadly include:

1. Standard academic books on Meghalaya and North-East India;
2. Official publications of the Government of Meghalaya and the Government of India;
3. Constitutional and statutory material;
4. Census reports and statistical publications and District Gazetteers;
5. Policy documents and annual reports of Government Departments; and
6. Scholarly journals and current publications relating to Meghalaya.

The reference materials indicated hereunder are intended to assist candidates in understanding the broad themes covered by the syllabus. They are indicative only and should not be regarded as either exhaustive or mandatory.

Questions in the examination shall be based on the approved syllabus and not on any particular publication.

UNIT I

History

Suggested Readings

1. Hamlet Bareh, The History and Culture of the Khasi People. Spectrum Publications, Guwahati (Revised Edition).
2. P. R. T. Gurdon, The Khasis. Macmillan & Co., London (First published 1907; subsequent reprints).
3. W. R. Kharlukhi, Political Development in the Jaintia Hills (1835–1972).
4. Shobhan Lamare, The Jaintias: Studies in Society and Change.
5. Shobhan Lamare, Resistance Movements in North-East India: The Jaintias (1860–1863).
6. Helen Giri, The Khasis under British Rule (1824–1947).
7. Alan Playfair, The Garos.
8. Milton S. Sangma, History and Culture of the Garos.
9. David R. Syiemlieh, Layers of History: Essays on Khasi-Jaintia.
10. Mignonette Momin (Ed): Readings in the History and Culture of the Garos

UNIT II

Polity, Administrative and Constitutional Framework

Suggested Readings

1. S. K. Chaube, Hill Politics in North-East India.
2. S. K. Chattopadhyay, Tribal Institutions of Meghalaya.
3. L. S. Gassah (Ed.), The Autonomous District Councils.
4. L. S. Gassah, Traditional Institutions of Meghalaya: A Study of the Doloi and his Administration.
5. Vijay Hansaria, Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India.
6. M. N. Karna, L. S. Gassah & C. J. Thomas (Eds.), Power to the People in Meghalaya.
7. J. M. Phira, The Autonomous District Councils of Meghalaya.

Constitutional and Legal References

1. Constitution of India.
2. Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India.
3. Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) Act, 1969.
4. North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971.
5. Relevant Acts and Rules of the Government of Meghalaya.

UNIT III

Society, Economy and Development

Suggested Readings

1. A. K. Nongkynrih: Khasi Society of Meghalaya
2. H. O. Mawrie: The Khasi Milieu
3. Hipshon Roy: Khasi Heritage (A Collection of of Essays on Khasi Religion and Culture), Ri Khasi Press
4. Chi Nakane: Garo and Khasi – A Comparative Study in Matrilineal Systems
5. H. Kelian Synrem: Revivalism in Khasi Society
6. Evakorlang Kharkongor and Indasien S. Warjri (Eds): Women's Wide Canvas – Issues and Challenges
7. J. P. Bhattacharjee & R. Bhattacharya (2018): "Industrial Policy in North East India: Peripheral realities in post-liberalization period", Indian Journal of Industrial Relations, Vol. 54, No.2.
8. Robbins Burling: Rengsanggri, Family and Kinship in a Garo Village

9. W. Fernandes V. Pala, G. Bharali, & B. Dutta (Eds) (2016): *The Development Dilemma: Displacement in Meghalaya 1947 – 2010*, North Eastern Social Research Centre, Guwahati. ISBN-9788189762568.
10. A.L.Hrahsel & S. Umdor (2022): "Place-based Industrial Policy and Changes in the Manufacturing Sector in North East India", *Review of Development and Change*, Vol.27, No.1.
11. Benjamin Lyngdoh: "An Exploration of Tourism Development of Meghalaya, India: What is the way forward?" *Atna-Journal of Tourism Studies*, Vol.17, No.1.
12. Deepak K. Mishra and Vandana Upadhyay (Eds): *Rethinking Economic Development in Northeast India: The Emerging Dynamics*, Routledge, 2017.
13. P. Nayak: *Growth and Human Development in North East India*, Oxford University Press, 2009.
14. Shreeranjana: *Perspectives on Development in Meghalaya*, State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), 2001.

Government Publications

1. Economic Survey, Government of India (relevant chapters on Meghalaya).
2. Meghalaya Human Development Report, Planning Department, Government of Meghalaya, Shillong.
3. Meghalaya Socio-Economic Review, 2025
(<https://des.megplanning.gov.in/documents/Meghalaya-Socio-Economic-Review-2025.pdf>).
4. Budget Speeches of the Government of Meghalaya.
5. Meghalaya Statistical Handbook (published by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics)
6. Census of India – Primary Census Abstract and District Census Handbooks (Meghalaya).
7. National Family Health Survey (NFHS).
8. NITI Aayog Reports relating to Meghalaya.
9. Annual Reports and other Reports of the Government of Meghalaya Departments.
10. Meghalaya Health Policy, 2021.
11. The Meghalaya Mental Health and Social Care Policy.
12. Meghalaya Tourism Policy, 2023.
13. Drug Reduction, Elimination, and Action Mission (DREAM), Social Welfare Department, Government of Meghalaya.
14. The Meghalaya Drug Abuse Prevention Policy, 2020.

UNIT IV

Culture, Heritage and Literature

Suggested Readings

1. Marco Mitri, *The Living Megalithic Culture of the Khasi-Jaintia Hills*, Meghalaya.
2. Pristilla Lyngdoh – *The Festivals in the History and Culture of the Khasi*
3. Dr. O.L. Snaitang: *A Dictionary of Khasi Literature*.
4. Hamlet Bareh, *A Short History of Khasi Literature*, Shillong, 1969.
5. Queenbala Marak, *Megalithic Culture of North-East India*. Concept Publishing Company.
6. Mignonette Momin (Ed), *Readings in History and Culture of the Garos*.
7. Milton Sangma: *History of Garo Literature*, North Eastern Hill University, 1983.
8. Dewansing R. Sangma, *The Traditional Dances of the Garos*, Shillong: Salseng C. Marak, 1996.
9. Nikme S. C. Momin, *Understanding Across Cultures of North East India*, Guwahati: DVS Publishers, 2010.
10. *Garo Customary Laws and Practices*, Akansha Publishing House, Delhi, 2000.
11. K. S. Singh (General Editor), *People of India-Meghalaya*, Vol.XXXII.

Government Publications

1. Meghalaya Heritage Act, 2012
2. Meghalaya Official Languages Ordinance, 2026
3. Publications of the Autonomous District Councils relating to culture and heritage.

UNIT V

Geography

Suggested Readings

1. R. Gopalakrishnan – Meghalaya: Land and People.
2. Publications of the Geological Survey of India relating to Meghalaya (Miscellaneous Publication No. 30)
3. P.K.Ryngnga & S.Sarma : Meghalaya, Geophil Publication.
4. M. Taher: Geography of North East India
5. B. K. Tiwari: Sacred Groves of Meghalaya
6. S.Kharkongor : A geographical analysis of resource potentialities and its development in Meghalaya(<https://dspace.nehu.ac.in/server/api/core/bitstreams/cdc0be32-3975-48ba-ac04-749f5bfb21fe/content>)

Government Publications

1. Meghalaya at 50 (1972-2022)
2. Publication of the Forest & Environment Department.
3. Publications of the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board.
4. Publications of the India Meteorological Department relating to Meghalaya
5. Meghalaya State Action Plan on Climate Change (Government of Meghalaya)
6. Publications of the Survey of India.
7. Publications of the Directorate of Economics & Statistics.

Updating of Reference Materials

The reference materials recommended may be reviewed from time to time to incorporate important new publications. Such revision, however, should not ordinarily require any change in the approved syllabus.

Sd/- Cyril V. D. Diengdoh, IAS,
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Personnel & A. R. (A) Department.

Memo No.PER.6/97/Pt./8-A,

Dated Shillong, the 23rd September, 2026

Copy to:

1. The Additional Chief Secretary to the Governor of Meghalaya, Shillong.
2. The Private Secretary to the Chief Minister, Meghalaya, Shillong.
3. The Private Secretary to the Deputy Chief Minister, Meghalaya, Shillong.
4. The Private Secretary to the Cabinet Ministers, Meghalaya.
5. The Private Secretary to the Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Shillong.
- ✓ 6. The Secretary, Meghalaya Public Service Commission for information and necessary action.
7. The Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Personnel & A. R. (B) Department for information.
8. The Director of Printing and Stationery, Meghalaya, Shillong for publication of the Notification in the Meghalaya Gazette.
9. The Director of Information Technology & Communication, for uploading in the Meghalaya Government Portal.
10. Guard file.

By order etc.,


Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Personnel & A. R. (A) Department

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