

Proposed Project Summary for Public Disclosure

Project Name	Meghalaya Ecotourism Infrastructure Development
Country	The Republic of India
Sector	Multiple Areas
Concept Approval Date	18 September 2021
Total Project Cost	USD 100.00 million
Proposed Loan Amount	USD 79.05 million
Borrower	The Republic of India
Implementing Agency	Meghalayan Age Limited
Project Context	Meghalaya is a hilly state endowed with significant ecotourism potential, including virgin forests, ample riverine systems, scenic topography, and many natural hotspots: root bridges, underground tunnels, waterfalls, biodiversity, and others. It is also known for the distinct social and cultural heritage of the tribal people and their traditional governance systems. Meghalaya has one of the lowest gross domestic product (GDP) per capita amongst India states. To sustain the economic growth, Meghalaya state government is planning to focus on promoting the tourism sector.
Project Objective	The Project will support infrastructure development in the tourism sector. Tourism sector is a multi-sectoral activity and has the potential to stimulate different sectors of the economy, unlocking opportunities for economic development, poverty alleviation, and income generation. The sector is also labor intensive, thereby presenting a wide spectrum of job opportunities for the skilled/unskilled workforce and benefiting micro, small and medium enterprises.
Project Description	The Project will cover urban, semi-urban and rural areas of Meghalaya. The major components of the Project will be to i) develop key tourist attraction points (ecotourism hubs), (ii) ensure their accessibility and connectivity by construction/upgrade of roads, bridges, ropeways, etc, and iii) create basic tourist accommodation.