

One-day workshop on Drone Technology for school students of Smit, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya

“A joint collaboration of Department of Geology St Anthony's College Shillong, North East Center for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) and Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Smit.”



SHILLONG, July 17: A total of 449 schoolchildren from Smit and surrounding areas benefitted from a one-day workshop on drone technology, which was held at Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Smit, on Wednesday. The workshop, jointly organised by the Department of Geology of St. Anthony's College in collaboration with the North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) and Don Bosco Higher Secondary School was designed to introduce Classes 9 and 10 students to the fundamentals and practical applications of drone technology. Students from seven schools, including Loreto Mary Ward School, Umphrynai, St. Francis De Sales Secondary School, Lad Nongkrem, Ibasara Secondary School, Iewpomtiah, Mount Gerizim Secondary School, Smit, St. Peter Secondary School, Smit, and Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Smit, actively participated in the workshop.

During the inaugural session, principal of Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Br (Dr.) Albert Longley Dkhar, highlighted the importance of nurturing curiosity and creativity among young minds through such initiatives. Dr Arun Kumar Sarma, Director General of NECTAR, in his keynote address introduced drone technology, a field of growing significance in India. He underlined that the primary objective of the workshop is to impart fundamental concepts and practical experience with the operation of drones, encompassing data acquisition and processing. Acknowledging students as the future workforce in this sector, the workshop offers a student-centric demonstration, providing the requisite

equipment and expertise to facilitate an engaging and thorough comprehension of drone ecosystems.

During the workshop, the technical session was conducted by Nitin Sharma, a drone pilot from NECTAR, who provided detailed insights into drone technology, blending theoretical concepts with live demonstrations that kept the students engaged. Similarly, a hands-on activity allowed the students to operate drones, so as to enhance their understanding and spark their interest in technology and innovation. Meanwhile, students expressed enthusiasm for the interactive nature of the workshop, stating that the experience expanded their knowledge while opening up new possibilities for future careers in technology.