

CALL FOR PAPERS

27TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE NORTH EASTERN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION (NEEA) & NATIONAL SEMINAR



2–3 APRIL 2027

Department of Economics,
Mizoram University
Aizawl, Mizoram – 796004

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The North Eastern Region of India is at a critical juncture in its economic and social transformation, where profound demographic changes are unfolding alongside the need for greater economic diversification and more inclusive growth. The region is experiencing a transition in its population structure, with important variations across states in age composition, labour-force participation, employment, migration and the emerging challenge of population ageing. While these changes present an important opportunity to harness the demographic dividend, the realization of such a dividend cannot be taken for granted; it depends fundamentally on the region's ability to generate productive employment, improve human capital, expand skills and create sustainable livelihood opportunities for its growing and increasingly mobile youth population. The persistence of youth unemployment, relatively low labour-force participation, limited structural transformation and out-migration underscores the urgency of placing demographic change at the centre of economic and policy discussions. At the same time, the region possesses substantial untapped potential in tourism,

given its exceptional natural environment, cultural diversity, indigenous traditions and strategic location at the gateway to Southeast Asia. Tourism can contribute not merely to visitor numbers and revenues, but also to employment generation, rural livelihoods, infrastructure development, entrepreneurship, MSME growth and the preservation and commercialization of local cultural assets. Yet, realising this potential requires addressing persistent constraints relating to connectivity, infrastructure, investment, policy implementation, environmental sustainability and community participation. Against this backdrop, the conference brings together the themes of demographic transition and tourism-led economic transformation because they represent two closely interconnected dimensions of the region's development challenge: the need to understand how the region's changing population structure will shape its economic future, and the need to identify productive and sustainable avenues through which its people and resources can be integrated into that future.

ABOUT NEEA

The North Eastern Economic Association (NEEA), established on 19th February 1997, is a non-political, non-partisan and voluntary regional economic association with a national perspective. The Association is registered under the Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860. The Annual Conference of the North Eastern Economic Association (NEEA) is one of the most significant academic platforms for the exchange of ideas and deliberation on issues related to the economic development of the North Eastern Region (NER). The Annual Conference-cum-National Seminar has been organized regularly on a rotational basis by different universities, colleges and institutes in North East India since 1998. The national-level seminar organized by NEEA in collaboration with the host institution, along with the annual conference, provides an important platform for addressing issues concerning the economic and regional development of the North Eastern Region and the country as a whole.

ABOUT ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT, MIZORAM UNIVERSITY

Mizoram University (MZU) is a central university at Tanhril on the outskirts of Aizawl, the capital of Mizoram, India. It was established under the Mizoram University Act (No. 8 of 2000) passed by the Parliament of India and began operations on 2 July 2001. The university replaced a campus of North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), which had until then been the principal institution for higher education in the state. Mizoram University holds an A+ NAAC Accreditation. The Department of Economics, MZU has a long-standing academic legacy, having been established in 1979 under the Mizoram Campus of NEHU. Over the decades, the Department has evolved into an important centre for teaching, research, policy engagement, and academic discourse in economics. The department offers both Postgraduate and Ph.D. programmes. It regularly organizes seminars, conferences, invited lectures, and other scholarly activities, fostering intellectual exchange and engagement with contemporary economic issues.

How to Reach Aizawl

By Air: Lengpui Airport (AJL) is about 45 minutes from Aizawl. The airport connects Aizawl to major Indian cities, with direct flights from Delhi, Kolkata and Guwahati.

By Rail: Sairang Railway Station is around 30 minutes from Aizawl, with direct train connectivity to Guwahati. Bairabi and Silchar are alternative railheads.

By Road: Aizawl is connected to Assam, Manipur, Tripura, and other parts of Northeast India via national highways. MST and private operators provide buses, shared taxis, and cab services from Sairang, Silchar, Guwahati, and Shillong.

SUBMISSION & IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract / Extended Abstract: 300 words / 700 words, as the case may be

Submission deadline: **15 February 2027**

Acceptance: Latest by **20 February 2027**

Full paper: MS Word, maximum 5000 words — by **10 March 2027**

Registration deadline: **28 February 2027**

Submission instruction: Send the abstract / extended abstract as a document file to neeaconference2027@gmail.com

Use the subject line: "Abstract for NEEA 2027"

THEMES & RESEARCH AREAS

THEME 1 | DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION

Demographic Transition in North Eastern Region of India: Opportunities, Challenges and Policies

The North Eastern region has experienced distinctive demographic change, with substantial differences across states. The demographic dividend offers an opportunity for capital accumulation and growth, but its realization depends on gainful employment, structural transformation, labour-force participation, youth employment and the capacity to support an ageing population. The conference invites research that critically examines these demographic and labour-market dynamics.

Sub-themes:

1. Structure of demographic transition in states in North East India
2. Population Ageing and policies to support elderly population in North East India
3. Pattern of labour force participation and employment patterns of different age groups across socio-religious groups
4. Female labour force participation rates in rural and urban areas
5. Different types and pattern of outmigration
6. Skilling of youths across different social and religious categories in rural and urban region

RESEARCHERS' FORUM

Besides the two main themes, the Researchers' Forum welcomes papers based on ongoing or completed research works related to MPhil, PhD, Post Doctorate or research projects. Young researchers and senior scholars are expected to present findings of their research work in any field of Economics or related disciplines. Scholars submitting papers should specify the basis of the paper (e.g., MPhil/PhD/Post-doc./Project etc.) and, in case of funded projects, acknowledge the sponsoring agency.

BEST PAPER AWARD

There will be maximum three best research paper awards for young researchers. Maximum two scholars can author a paper and both must not be above 40 years of age. A proof of his/her age (e.g. class X Board Certificate or any other with date of birth mentioned) must be submitted along with the paper. For consideration of award, full paper should be submitted within the deadline. There will be no consideration based on only abstract. Willingness to participate in the competition must be intimated while submitting the full paper.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Chief Patron : Prof. Dibakar Chandra Deka
Vice Chancellor, Mizoram University

Advisors: Prof. Vanlalchhawna, Dean
SEMIS, MZU
Prof. Lalhriatpuii, Dept. of Economics, MZU &
Vice President, North Eastern Economic
Association

Chairman: Prof. James L.T. Thanga
Head of Department

Organizing Secretaries: Dr. K. Angela Lalhmingangi
Dr. C. Lalnunmawia

Members: Prof. Giribabu M
Dr. Akshaya Kumar Mohanty
Dr. Tuanmuansanga

THEME 2 | TOURISM & ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

Tourism as a Catalyst for Economic Transformation in North East India

Tourism offers a promising pathway for sustainable regional development in North East India by creating jobs, strengthening infrastructure, empowering local communities and opening opportunities for cultural exchange and regional integration. Papers are invited on the economic potential of tourism, infrastructure, environmental sustainability, policy, investment, livelihoods and the Act East Policy.

Sub-themes:

1. Quantifying the Tourism Multiplier: Assessing Sectoral Contributions to State GDPs in Northeast India
2. From Isolation to Integration: Infrastructure Deficits, Multimodal Connectivity
3. Decentralised Growth and Rural Livelihoods: The Economic Viability of Homestay Networks and MSMEs
4. Community Empowerment: Indigenous-Led Tourism Models in the NER
5. The Economics of Environmental Degradation: Balancing Tourist Inflows with Ecological Carrying Capacity
6. Preserving the Commons: Institutional Frameworks for Managing Eco-Tourism in Fragile Ecosystems
7. The Act East Policy and Border Tourism: Unlocking Economic Potential Along the India-Myanmar Frontier
8. Regulatory Bottlenecks and Investment Flows: Evaluating the Impact of the Inner Line Permit (ILP) and Security Perceptions on Tourism Investment Inflows
9. Festival Economics: Evaluating the Short-Term Boom vs. Long-Term Economic Sustainability of Mega-Events
10. The Handloom and Handicraft Value Chain: Commercialising Indigenous Craftsmanship Through Tourism
11. Youth Employment, Skill Gaps, and Migration: Retaining Talent Through Local Tourism Careers
12. Agri-Tourism and Plantation Economies: Diversifying Rural Incomes Through Farm Stays and Agro-Tours
13. Community-Based Resource Governance: Commons, Property Rights, and Profit-Sharing in Eco-Tourism Zones

REGISTRATION FEE & PAYMENT

Category	With Accommodation	Without Accommodation
Members	₹2,500	₹1,500
Non-members	₹3,000	₹1,500
Research Scholar / Students	₹2,000	₹1,500

Last date for registration: 28th February 2027

Registration link : <https://forms.gle/RuG9HP7ZWRGZRYNDA>

Payment Details

Name: C. Lalnunmawia
A/c No: 30789376926
Bank Name: SBI
Branch: Ramrikawn
IFSC: SBIN0064599



UPI ID: jackcruber7-1@oksbi

For queries, contact:

1. Dr. K. Angela Lalhmingangi
2. Dr. C. Lalnunmawia

9612595474
8837380110