

Innovation *Yatra* 2026

(23 September – 07 October 2026)

The National Innovation Foundation–India (NIF) has commenced its Innovation *Yatra* with the objective of harnessing rural ingenuity and strengthening the identification, documentation and dissemination of grassroots innovations and traditional knowledge practices.

The Innovation *Yatra* is being undertaken from 23 September to 7 October 2026, covering selected districts across six States—Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram. The *Yatra* will cover 29 districts and include more than 40 community meetings and roadside interactions, aimed at sensitising local communities to the importance of grassroots innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge practices.

A key objective of the *Yatra* is to scout, identify and document new grassroots innovations, particularly in agriculture and other sectors addressing critical societal needs. The *Yatra* is expected to identify more than 350 traditional knowledge practices and grassroots practices, along with over 30 potential grassroots innovations, while reaching more than 2,000 community members. In addition, the NIF team will undertake the verification and detailed documentation of potential innovations identified during the 14th National Competition, thereby strengthening the process of further evaluation and support.

The Innovation *Yatra* seeks to establish knowledge scouting as a sustainable and community-driven practice at the village level. It will encourage communities to recognise, preserve and share their locally developed innovations and traditional knowledge for wider societal benefit. The *Yatra* will also facilitate the dissemination of relevant technologies and help document unmet societal needs that may provide opportunities for future innovation.

The *Yatra* has a special focus on the Northeastern region, one of India’s richest areas of biocultural diversity. By covering Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram, including areas where NIF’s outreach activities have been relatively limited—particularly in Mizoram—the *Yatra* will help strengthen NIF’s engagement and institutional presence in the region. It will provide an opportunity to engage directly with local communities, understand their unique knowledge systems and challenges, and identify innovations emerging from their lived experiences.

Through this initiative, NIF aims to build stronger linkages with rural communities and create a sustained ecosystem for scouting, documenting, validating, supporting and disseminating grassroots innovations and traditional knowledge, contributing to inclusive and locally relevant technological development.

Schedule for Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan:

SN	Date	District	State
1	23-09-2026	Mathura	Uttar Pradesh
2	24-09-2026	Etah & Mainpuri	Uttar Pradesh

3	25-09-2026	Jaalon	Uttar Pradesh
4	26-09-2026	Jhansi	Uttar Pradesh
5	27-09-2026	Banda	Uttar Pradesh
6	28-09-2026	Mahoba	Uttar Pradesh
7	29-09-2026 to 30-09-2026	Chitrakoot	Uttar Pradesh
8	1-10-2026	Satna	Madhya Pradesh
9	2-10-2026	Chhatarpur	Madhya Pradesh
10	3-10-2026	Tikamgarh	Madhya Pradesh
11	4-10-2026	Dholpur	Rajasthan
12	5-10-2026	Bharatpur	Rajasthan
13	6-10-2026	Alwar	Rajasthan
Contact person: Dr Navneet Kumar (M 94110 30940)			

Schedule for Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram:

SN	Date	District	State
1	23-09-2026	Nagaon	Assam
2	24-09-2026	Dima Hasao	Assam
3	25-09-2026	Hailakandi	Assam
4	26-09-2026	Kolasib	Mizoram
5	27-09-2026 to 28-09-2026	Aizawl	Mizoram
6	29-09-2026	Champai	Mizoram
7	30-09-2026	Serchip	Mizoram
8	1-10-2026 to 2-10-2026	Lunglei	Mizoram
9	3-10-2026 to 4-10-2026	Kolasib	Mizoram
10	5-10-2026	Mamit	Mizoram
11	6-10-2026	Sribhumi	Assam
12	7-10-2026	East Jantia Hill	Meghalaya
13	7-10-2026	West Jantia Hill	Meghalaya
14	7-10-2026	Ri-Bhoi	Meghalaya
Contact person: Dr Rajiv Mili (M: 99544 56098) & Mr L Bika (M: 97747 81166)			

Innovation Yatra 2026

Day 01: Uttar Pradesh – Mathura | 23 September 2026



The National Innovation Foundation–India (NIF-India) commenced its Innovation Yatra in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh, on 23 September 2026, with a visit to SR High School, Village Rawal. Around 30 farmers participated in the interaction and were introduced to the activities, initiatives, and objectives of NIF-India.

During the visit, the RTB-16 mustard variety, developed by grassroots innovator Shri Rajkumar Jain, Baran, Rajasthan, was disseminated among 20 farmers across four villages.

The interaction developed into a meaningful exchange of knowledge and experiences. Farmers actively shared their observations, traditional practices, and local knowledge related to animal health, plant varieties, human health, and agriculture. Participants also discussed community-level experiences concerning skin-related diseases, highlighting local knowledge and challenges that may provide scope for further exploration as potential grassroots innovations.

The NIF-India team subsequently visited Nagla Teza village, Mathura, where farmers enthusiastically interacted with the team. They shared information about locally cultivated plant varieties, crop patterns, farming practices, and traditional agricultural knowledge followed in the region. The interaction provided valuable insights into the diversity of local agricultural practices and knowledge developed through generations of farming experience.

Day 01: Assam – Nagaon | 23 September 2026



The National Innovation Foundation–India inaugurated the Innovation Yatra 2026 for Assam, Mizoram and Meghalaya at ADP College, Nagaon, Assam, on 23 September 2026.

The inaugural interaction brought together around 70 participants, including students, faculty members, and media representatives. The programme provided an opportunity to introduce participants to the objectives and activities of NIF-India and to highlight the importance of grassroots innovation in addressing local and community-level challenges.

Grassroots innovations were showcased during the programme, enabling participants to learn about practical solutions developed by innovators and their relevance to everyday challenges.

The Innovation Yatra in the region aims to strengthen engagement with local communities, identify grassroots innovations and traditional knowledge, and create greater awareness about NIF-India's initiatives among students, farmers, institutions, and other stakeholders.

Day 02: Uttar Pradesh – Etah & Mainpuri | 24 September 2026



Under the Innovation Yatra, the NIF-India team visited Chandpur village in Etah district and Paal village in Mainpuri district on 24 September 2026. Around 50 farmers participated across both locations.

The interactions focused on introducing farmers to the activities, initiatives, and objectives of NIF-India. The team also highlighted the importance of traditional knowledge, locally available resources, and the potential applications of plants and natural resources in daily life and animal husbandry.

Farmers actively shared their traditional knowledge, field experiences, and concerns, particularly regarding the adverse effects associated with excessive use of chemical inputs on farming practices and soil health.

The Riyawan Silver garlic variety, developed by grassroots innovator Shri Ishwar Lal Dhakad, Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh, was disseminated among farmers in both villages. In Chandpur and Paal villages, 20 farmers in each village received the variety, with 5 kg of seed provided to each farmer for cultivation and further field evaluation.

An exhibition of grassroots innovations was also organized at Paal village, Mainpuri, providing farmers with an opportunity to observe practical solutions to local challenges and interact with the NIF-India team.

Day 02: Assam – Lodi Village, Haflong | 24 September 2026



The National Innovation Foundation–India conducted a community interaction meeting at Lodi Village, Haflong, Dima Hasao District, Assam, on 24 September 2026, as part of Innovation Yatra 2026 for Assam, Mizoram and Meghalaya. The meeting was attended by 25 participants, including farmers, Self-Help Group (SHG) members, students, college faculty, social workers, and other community representatives.

The programme began with a welcome address by Mr. Kitapungbe Pame. Dr. Rajiv Mili, National Innovation Foundation–India, introduced the objectives and activities of Innovation Yatra and highlighted the importance of identifying, documenting, recognising, and promoting grassroots innovations.

A demonstration and exhibition of selected grassroots innovations was organised, including the Fruit Nipper, Mitticool products, Fish Dryer, Arecanut Polishing Machine, ZenRelax Roll On, Estrona, and Siramide Plus BP Care. These innovations familiarised participants with practical solutions developed to address local needs.

Er. Dipjyoti Choudhury also presented student innovations, including a stapler with additional pin storage, a shock-absorber crutch, and a shoe-cum-sleeper. The meeting concluded with a poster exhibition showcasing innovative ideas and projects.

Day 03: Uttar Pradesh – Orai, Jalaun | 25 September 2026



The National Innovation Foundation–India team visited S.D. Shastri ITI and Government ITI, Orai, Jalaun, Uttar Pradesh, on 25 September 2026, as part of Innovation Yatra 2026.

At Government ITI, the team met the Principal, Shri Maan Singh Bharti, and conducted an interactive session with students and faculty on grassroots innovations, creativity, and entrepreneurship.

Students were introduced to innovative prototypes, including the Mitticool product, Sugarcane Bud Chipper, Flower Shower Machine, Herbal Dye Toys, Bamboo Splint Making Machine, and Fruit Nipper.

An Idea Competition was also organised to encourage students to identify local challenges and develop innovative solutions. The competition received an enthusiastic response, with around 40 innovative ideas collected from participants.

Day 03: Assam – Hailakandi | 25 September 2026



The National Innovation Foundation–India team conducted a community interaction meeting at Srikishan College, Hailakandi, Assam, on 25 September 2026, as part of Innovation Yatra 2026. The programme was attended by around 75 participants, including farmers, Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) representatives, Self-Help Group (SHG) members, students, faculty, social workers and other community representatives.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Debasish Guha Thakurata, Convenor, Career Counselling and Placement Cell, Department of Chemistry, S.S. College, Hailakandi. He highlighted the potential of agricultural produce for commercialisation and encouraged participants to benefit from National Innovation Foundation–India's initiatives for registering new plant varieties. Dr. Golab Chandra Nandi, Coordinator, IQAC, Hailakandi College, also spoke about student creativity and innovation, followed by remarks from Dr. Subha Gaurab Roy, PRO, NSS, and Abdul Malik, MD, FPO Hailakandi.

Dr. Rajiv Mili, from the visiting team, presented the objectives and significance of Innovation Yatra, emphasising sustainable natural resource management, eco-friendly practices and the promotion of grassroots innovations.

A demonstration and exhibition of grassroots innovations, including the Fruit Nipper, Mitticool products, Fish Dryer and Arecanut Polishing Machine, was organised. Er. Dipjyoti Choudhury

also showcased student innovations, including a stapler with additional pin storage, a shock-absorber crutch and a shoe-cum-sleeper. The exhibition further featured SHE Innovations, herbal pest control practices, Innovation Yatra literature and a poster exhibition.

The programme provided a platform to promote innovation awareness, interdisciplinary engagement, experiential learning and student creativity, while highlighting the potential of grassroots innovations for sustainable social and economic development.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Debasish Guha Thakurata, S.S. College.

Day 04: Uttar Pradesh – Jhansi | 26 September 2026



The National Innovation Foundation–India team visited Raksha Village, Jhansi, on 26 September 2026, as part of Innovation Yatra 2026 and met with the Village Pradhan, Shri Rajender Singh Rajput. A village meeting was organised, with around 30 villagers and members of a women's Self-Help Group (SHG) participating.

During the meeting, participants were introduced to the activities and initiatives of the National Innovation Foundation–India and grassroots innovations, including Mitticool products, Sugarcane Bud Chipper, innovative toys, and Bamboo Splint Making Machine, among others.

The team also interacted with villagers and collected information on traditional practices and local knowledge related to human and animal healthcare. Discussions further covered herbal formulations and traditional practices for insect management, providing insights into the community's indigenous knowledge.

Day 04: Mizoram – Aizawl | 28 September 2026 | Meeting-I



As part of Innovation Yatra 2026, the National Innovation Foundation–India team visited the Innovation Facilitator Centre, Department of Science and Technology, Aizawl, where a staff interaction meeting was held.

During the visit, the team documented four new grassroots innovations from the centre.

The team subsequently visited the office of the Member Secretary, MISTIC, Aizawl, and interacted with senior officials of the department. A possible collaboration as a knowledge partner was also discussed in detail.

Day 04: Mizoram – Aizawl | 28 September 2026 | Meeting-II



As part of Innovation Yatra 2026, the National Innovation Foundation–India team conducted a student-cum-faculty interaction meeting at Mizoram University, Aizawl, jointly hosted by the Department of Commerce and Innovation Incubation Centre, on 28 September 2026. The meeting was attended by around 75 participants, including grassroots innovators, students, faculty members and other community representatives.

The meeting began with a welcome address by Mr. R. Lalbikzuala, followed by introductory remarks by Prof. L. Varte, Director, Innovation Incubation Centre, Mizoram University. Dr. Rajiv Mili highlighted the objectives of Innovation Yatra, while Dr. Vivek Kumar conducted a brainstorming session on India's innovation ecosystem and the initiatives of National Innovation Foundation–India over the past three decades.

Four grassroots innovators shared their experiences with the participants. The team subsequently documented three grassroots innovations in detail and conducted further scouting for new innovations.

Students were introduced to grassroots and student innovations, including a stapler with extra pin storage, shock-absorber crutch and shoe-cum-sleeper, followed by a poster exhibition. Additional exhibits featured SHE Innovations, herbal pest-control practices and Innovation Yatra literature.

Following the meeting, the team visited Aizawl city, where a vegetable dryer innovation was documented and detailed documentation of a bamboo flattening machine was undertaken.

Day 05: Uttar Pradesh – Banda | 27 September 2026



The National Innovation Foundation–India team visited Attara and Jorahi villages in Banda district on the fifth day of Innovation Yatra 2026. Farmer meetings were conducted to introduce participants to the activities and initiatives of the National Innovation Foundation–India and promote grassroots innovations.

A roadside meeting was also conducted at Jorahi village, where the team interacted with local community members and identified and scouted grassroots practices and traditional knowledge.

The day featured meaningful community interactions, knowledge sharing, and efforts to connect grassroots innovations with rural communities.

Day 05: Mizoram – Mamit | 29 September 2026 | Meeting-I



As part of Innovation Yatra 2026, the National Innovation Foundation–India team visited Rawpuichhip Village, Mamit, Mizoram, on 29 September 2026, for a community interaction meeting with 31 participants, including grassroots innovators, farmers, local healers, SHG members, students, teachers, social workers and community representatives.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by the Village Council Chairperson, who highlighted the importance of community collaboration in identifying, documenting and promoting grassroots innovations and traditional knowledge.

Mr. R. Lalbikzuala introduced the Yatra and explained its objectives through a local-language address, with emphasis on sustainable resource management and eco-friendly innovation. Dr. Rajiv Mili demonstrated selected grassroots innovations, while Er. Dipjyoti Choudhury showcased innovative student projects. A poster and innovation exhibition further enriched the meeting.

The interaction facilitated knowledge exchange and generated new ideas, resulting in the scouting of one technological innovation and several veterinary and human-health practices from local knowledge holders. The programme concluded with an encouraging address by Dr. Vivek Kumar.

Following the meeting, the team visited Sairang and scouted one technological innovation related to an arecanut polishing machine.

Day 05: Mizoram – Mamit | 29 September 2026 | Meeting-II



As part of Innovation Yatra 2026, the National Innovation Foundation–India team conducted a community interaction meeting with villagers of Dapchhuah, Mamit, Mizoram, on 29 September 2026. The meeting was attended by around 50 participants, including grassroots innovators, local healers, farmers, Self-Help Group (SHG) members, students, teachers, social workers and other community representatives.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by the Village Council Chairperson, who highlighted the importance of community participation in promoting grassroots innovations and traditional knowledge. He also encouraged participants to benefit from initiatives related to new plant varieties, farming practices, veterinary and human-health practices, and technological innovations.

Mr. R. Lalbikzuala introduced the Yatra and highlighted its objectives and significance through a speech in the local dialect, emphasising sustainable natural resource management and eco-friendly innovation.

Dr. Rajiv Mili demonstrated selected grassroots innovations, including the Fruit Nipper, Cocoon Opener and LPG Cylinder Cap Opener, which were explained in the local dialect by Mr. Lalbikzuala. Er. Dipjyoti Choudhury showcased student innovations, including a stapler with

extra pin storage, shock-absorber crutch, adjustable walker and shoe-cum-sleeper, followed by a poster exhibition.

Additional exhibits featured SHE Innovations, herbal pest-control practices and Innovation Yatra literature, providing participants with practical exposure to grassroots innovation and sustainable problem-solving.

A two-way interaction between the participants and Yatra team facilitated knowledge exchange and the generation of new ideas. The meeting resulted in the scouting of one technological innovation and several veterinary and human-health practices from local knowledge holders.

The programme concluded with participant interaction and an encouraging address by Dr. Vivek Kumar.

Day 06: Uttar Pradesh – Banda | 28 September 2026



The sixth day of Innovation Yatra 2026 commenced at Banda University of Agriculture & Technology, with the support of the Dean, College of Agriculture, along with faculty members from the Departments of Agricultural Economics, KVK Banda and Agricultural Extension. The National Innovation Foundation–India team introduced the objectives and activities of the Innovation Yatra to students of the College of Agriculture.

The university team, along with the National Innovation Foundation–India team, subsequently visited Naraini and Kanwara villages, Banda, for interactions with local communities and farmers.

The team interacted with around 80 participants, including approximately 40 women associated with the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) at the Gram Panchayat in Naraini and around 40 local farmers in Kanwara village. Selected grassroots innovations developed by innovators from different parts of the country were introduced and demonstrated, highlighting their potential applications in agriculture and rural livelihoods.

In Kanwara, farmers shared their experiences and traditional practices related to plant protection, including locally adopted methods for managing crop-related problems and protecting crops from pests and diseases. The interaction provided insights into indigenous

knowledge and locally developed agricultural practices, creating opportunities for their documentation and further validation.

Innovation Yatra 2026 | Day 6 – Meeting I | Mizoram



The National Innovation Foundation–India organised a Community Interaction Programme at Chingchhip Village, Serchhip District, Mizoram, on 30 September 2026, with around 50 participants, including grassroots innovators, farmers, traditional healers, SHG members, students and community representatives.

The programme featured demonstrations of grassroots innovations, student projects, a poster exhibition and knowledge-sharing sessions on traditional practices, herbal pest control and sustainable innovation. The team also scouted three technological innovations and several veterinary and human-health practices.

Innovation Yatra 2026 | Day 6 – Meeting II | Mizoram



The second session of Day 6 of Innovation Yatra 2026 was convened at New Serchhip Village, Serchhip District, Mizoram, on 30 September 2026. The community engagement programme drew 36 participants, comprising grassroots innovators, farmers, traditional healers, SHG members, and local stakeholders.

The Village Council Chairperson inaugurated the proceedings, highlighting the critical role of community involvement in documenting indigenous knowledge. Mr. R. Lalbikzuala subsequently outlined the strategic objectives of the Yatra, emphasising sustainable natural resource management. Technical demonstrations by Dr. Rajiv Mili showcased utility devices such as fruit nippers and cocoon openers, while Er. Dipjyoti Choudhury presented student-led engineering solutions, including adjustable walkers and shock-absorber crutches.

Concurrently, an informational poster exhibition highlighted herbal pest-control measures and SHE Innovations. The session concluded successfully with the formal scouting of three distinct technological innovations, alongside multiple human-health and veterinary practices, advancing the overarching mission of Innovation Yatra 2026.

Innovation Yatra, Day 7 || Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh



The 7th day of the Innovation Yatra was conducted in Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh, with the National Innovation Foundation–India (NIF-India) team visiting Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Ganiwa, Chitrakoot. The programme was conducted with the participation of faculty members from KVK Chitrakoot and the Department of Veterinary Sciences, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology.

During the visit, around 40 farmers participated in the interaction. The NIF-India team introduced the farmers to selected grassroots innovations and innovative varieties developed by innovators from different parts of the country. The team also demonstrated selected technologies and explained their potential applications in agriculture and rural livelihoods.

The farmers actively interacted with the NIF-India team and shared their traditional knowledge and field experiences related to various aspects of agriculture, including farm practices, human health, and animal health. These interactions provided valuable insights into the locally developed practices and knowledge followed by the farming community.

The participation of the faculty members from KVK Chitrakoot and Banda University of Agriculture & Technology further enriched the interaction and facilitated knowledge exchange among farmers, agricultural experts, veterinary professionals, and the NIF-India team.

Innovation Yatra – Day 7, Meeting-I: Haulawng Village, Mizoram



On the 7th day of the Innovation Yatra, the National Innovation Foundation–India team visited Haulawng Village, Lunglei District, Mizoram, where a farmer-cum-innovator and villagers' interaction meeting was organised. The programme was attended by 53 participants, comprising grassroots innovators and other community representatives.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Mr. R. Lalbikzuala, followed by introductory remarks by the Village Councillor of Haulawng Village. Dr. Rajiv Mili highlighted the objectives of the Innovation Yatra, while Er. Dipjyoti Choudhury conducted a brainstorming session on the innovation ecosystem in the country and National Innovation Foundation–India's initiatives over the last three decades.

Four grassroots innovators shared their experiences with the participants. The team subsequently documented three grassroots innovations in detail and conducted further scouting. Participants were also given demonstrations of grassroots innovations, including innovative student projects, a stapler with extra pin storage, a crutch with a shock absorber, and a shoe-cum-sleeper, followed by a poster exhibition featuring SHE Innovations, herbal pest-control practices, and Innovation Yatra literature.

Innovation Yatra – Day 7, Meeting-II: Lunglei, Mizoram



On the 7th day of the Innovation Yatra, the National Innovation Foundation–India team reached Rahsiveng, Lunglei District, Mizoram, where a farmer-cum-innovator and villagers' interaction meeting was organised. The programme was attended by 39 participants, comprising grassroots innovators and other community representatives.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by the Chairman, Local Council, and Mr. R. Lalbikzuala, followed by introductory remarks by the Chairman, Lunglei Municipal Council. Dr. Rajiv Mili highlighted the objectives of the Innovation Yatra, while Er. Dipjyoti Choudhury conducted a brainstorming session on the innovation ecosystem in the country and National Innovation Foundation–India's initiatives over the last three decades.

Four grassroots innovators shared their experiences with the participants. The team subsequently documented one grassroots innovation in detail and conducted further scouting. Participants were also given demonstrations of grassroots innovations, including innovative student projects, a stapler with extra pin storage, a crutch with a shock absorber, and a shoe-cum-sleeper, followed by a poster exhibition featuring SHE Innovations, herbal pest-control practices, and Innovation Yatra literature.

Innovation Yatra – Day 8: Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh



On the 8th day of the Innovation Yatra, the National Innovation Foundation–India (NIF-India) team visited Badi Manyan village, Lakhanpur, Sitapur, Chitrakoot, where the team interacted with the local community and carried out verification and detailed documentation of human health and animal health practices.

The team also conducted a Farmers' Field School (FFS) to create awareness among farmers about the potential uses of locally available plants and traditional herbal practices. The NIF team shared information on how commonly available plants can be used for various purposes, particularly in traditional health practices. Farmers actively participated in the discussion and shared their own knowledge and experiences related to local plants and their uses.

Innovation Yatra – Day 8, Meeting-I: Haulawng Village, Mizoram



On the 8th day of the Innovation Yatra, the National Innovation Foundation–India team visited an entrepreneur-innovator at his residence in Haulawng Village, Lunglei District, Mizoram. During the visit, the team interacted with local innovators and documented three grassroots innovations developed by three innovators.

A group discussion with 18 participants was also organised at the innovator's premises, where the objectives and significance of the Innovation Yatra were explained and discussed. The interaction provided an opportunity to understand local technological practices, challenges, and innovation needs.

The team also conducted detailed documentation of an innovation developed by another local innovator, including its features, applications, and potential for further development.

Innovation Yatra – Day 9: Jugulupur, Satna, Madhya Pradesh



On the 9th day of the Innovation Yatra, the National Innovation Foundation–India team visited Jugulupur Village in Satna, Madhya Pradesh, where an interaction with around 30 farmers was organised.

During the interaction, the team introduced farmers to various grassroots innovations and demonstrated selected technologies relevant to their needs. The farmers actively shared their traditional knowledge related to plant varieties, human health practices, and animal health practices.

The farmers also discussed the challenges and problems they face in their day-to-day farming activities. The interaction provided valuable insights into local agricultural practices, traditional knowledge, and the needs of the farming community, helping the National Innovation Foundation–India team understand ground-level issues and explore potential areas for further documentation.

Innovation Yatra – Day 9, Meeting-I: Chhungte, Champhai, Mizoram



On the 9th day of the Innovation Yatra, the National Innovation Foundation–India team reached Chhungte Village, Champhai District, Mizoram, where a farmer-cum-innovator and villagers' interaction meeting was organised by the Chhungte Village Council. The programme was attended by 60 participants, including grassroots innovators, the District Agriculture Officer (DAO) of Champhai, Assistant Professors of Champhai Government College, and other community representatives.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by the President of the Village Council and Mr. R. Lalbikzuala, followed by introductory remarks by innovator Mr. Zoramchhana of Chhungte Village. Dr. Rajiv Mili highlighted the objectives of the Innovation Yatra, while Er. Dipjyoti Choudhury conducted a brainstorming session on the innovation ecosystem in the country and National Innovation Foundation–India's initiatives over the last three decades.

Mr. Zoramchhana shared his technological innovations, including his latest innovation, while a traditional knowledge holder from the village shared information on various traditional knowledge practices. The team subsequently documented four grassroots innovations in detail and conducted further scouting at Zote Village in Champhai District.

Participants were also given demonstrations of grassroots innovations, including innovative student projects, a stapler with extra pin storage, a crutch with a shock absorber, and a shoe-cum-sleeper, followed by a poster exhibition featuring SHE Innovations, herbal pest-control practices, and Innovation Yatra literature.

Innovation Yatra – Day 10: Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh & Mahoba, Uttar Pradesh



On the 10th day of the Innovation Yatra, the National Innovation Foundation–India team visited Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh, and Mahoba, Uttar Pradesh, where the team engaged with local communities and explored grassroots innovations.

The team showcased selected grassroots innovations and interacted with local people to understand their needs, practices, and innovative solutions. In Shrinagar, Mahoba, the team visited the Gram Panchayat and interacted with a local fabricator, where several innovative practices and ideas were identified and noted for further documentation and exploration.

The visit provided valuable insights into the creativity and problem-solving approaches emerging from local communities.

Innovation Yatra – Day 10 – Meeting-I, Keifang Venghlun, Saitual District, Mizoram



As part of Innovation Yatra 2026, the yatris reached Keifang Venghlun, where a farmers-cum-innovators and villagers' interaction meeting was jointly hosted by the Keifang Venghlun Village Members on 4th October 2026. The programme was attended by 20 participants, comprising farmers, village heads, and other community representatives.

The programme commenced with a common meeting and interaction between farmers and knowledge holders. Mr. R. Lalbikzuala delivered the introductory remarks, followed by Dr. Rajiv Mili

from NIF-India, who highlighted the objectives of Innovation Yatra. Er. Dipjyoti Choudhury presented a brief session on the innovation ecosystem of the country and NIF-India's initiatives over the last three decades.

The technological innovations of Mr. Zoramchhana were shared along with his new innovation, and a number of traditional knowledge practices were explained by the traditional knowledge holder of the village.

Participants were given demonstrations of grassroots innovations, namely innovative student projects, including a stapler with extra storage for pins, a crutch with a shock absorber, a shoe-cum-sleeper, etc., followed by a poster exhibition.

The team also explored the flora and fauna present around the locality in order to gain insights into biodiversity. Additional exhibits and information materials featured SHE Innovations, herbal pest control practices, and Innovation Yatra literature, providing participants with practical exposure to diverse approaches to grassroots innovation and sustainable problem-solving.

Innovation Yatra 2026 – Day 11: Mandumar, Tikamgarh, Madhya Pradesh



As part of the Innovation Yatra, the NIF-India team visited Mandumar village in Tikamgarh, Madhya Pradesh, where around 30 farmers participated in the interaction.

The NIF-India team introduced the farmers to the activities, initiatives, and various efforts of the National Innovation Foundation–India (NIF-India) in scouting, documenting, and promoting grassroots innovations. The interaction provided a platform for farmers to share their traditional knowledge, indigenous farming practices, locally developed plant varieties, and innovative approaches adopted in agriculture.

Farmers also shared their experiences and observations related to different crops and farming practices followed in the region. The team interacted with the farmers to understand their local agricultural knowledge and identify practices and innovations with potential for further documentation and development.

The visit highlighted the importance of farmer-led innovation and local knowledge in addressing field-level challenges and strengthening sustainable agricultural practices.

Innovation Yatra 2026 – Day 11: Kwanpui, Kolasib District, Mizoram



As part of Innovation Yatra 2026, the yatris reached Kwanpui Venglai, Kolasib District, where a farmers-cum-innovators and villagers' interaction meeting was jointly hosted by Keifang Venghlun Village Members on 5th October 2026. The programme was attended by 24 participants, comprising farmers, Village Council President, Mr. Lalthafela; a local innovator; and other community representatives.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by the Village Council President, Mr. CVL Malsawmthanga, followed by an introduction to the team and the local innovator by Mr. Lalbikzuala. Dr. Rajiv Mili from NIF-India highlighted the objectives of Innovation Yatra, whereas Er. Dipjyoti Choudhury presented a brief session on the innovation ecosystem of the country and NIF-India's initiatives over the last 3 decades.

Technological innovations of Mr. Lalthafela were shared with the participants, and demonstrations of grassroots innovations were given, including innovative student projects such as a fish dryer, paddy husk stove, a stapler with extra storage for pins, a crutch with a shock absorber, an adjustable walker, a shoe-cum-sleeper, etc., followed by a poster exhibition.

The team also explored the flora and fauna present around the locality in order to gain insights into biodiversity. Additional exhibits and information materials featured SHE Innovations, herbal pest control practices, and Innovation Yatra literature, providing participants with practical exposure to diverse approaches to grassroots innovation and sustainable problem-solving.

Innovation Yatra – Day 12: Duati, Dholpur, Rajasthan



As part of the Innovation Yatra, the NIF-India team visited Duati village in Dholpur, Rajasthan, where local farmers actively participated in an interactive session with the team. The farmers shared their traditional knowledge, indigenous farming practices, and locally developed plant varieties that have been preserved and used by farmers.

The interaction provided valuable insights into the community's traditional agricultural practices and plant diversity, highlighting the practical knowledge and innovations developed by farmers based on their local environment and experiences. The NIF team documented these valuable practices and interacted with farmers to understand their knowledge, experiences, and innovative approaches in agriculture.

Innovation Yatra 2026 – Day 12: Kandigram & Dakshingram, Sribhumi, Assam



As part of Innovation Yatra 2026, the National Innovation Foundation–India team visited Kandigram and Dakshingram in Sribhumi District, Assam, engaging with farmers, innovators, students, mechanics, fabricators and community members.

At Kandigram, the team visited an innovator's workshop, scouted one new innovation and interacted with local entrepreneurs to identify locally developed solutions and technological needs.

At Dakshingram, a farmer-innovator and community interaction was organised with 25 participants. The team sensitised participants about grassroots innovation and demonstrated various grassroots and herbal innovations, followed by a poster exhibition.

The interaction highlighted community participation, traditional knowledge and locally developed solutions, strengthening the grassroots innovation ecosystem.

Innovation Yatra – Day 13: Bharatpur, Rajasthan



On the 13th day of the Innovation Yatra, the NIF-India team visited Bharatpur, Rajasthan, where the team interacted with the College of Agriculture, Navgaon, and the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Alwar.

Students, faculty members, and interns participated in the interaction to learn about the activities of the National Innovation Foundation–India (NIF-India), including its efforts in scouting, documentation, and promotion of grassroots innovations and traditional knowledge.

The NIF team also visited a farmer's field to observe an innovation developed by the farmer on his farm. The interaction provided an opportunity to understand the farmer's innovative approach, farming practices, and experiences at the field level.

Innovation Yatra – Day 14: Alwar, Rajasthan



As part of the Innovation Yatra, the National Innovation Foundation–India team visited Government ITI College, Kali Mori, Alwar, Rajasthan, where students and faculty members participated in the interaction. The team introduced them to the activities and initiatives of National Innovation Foundation–India and conducted an Idea Competition to encourage students to think creatively and develop innovative solutions to local challenges.

The team also visited the ITI workshops, where students demonstrated their technical skills and practical work.

Later, the team interacted with the Prajapati community, traditionally engaged in pottery and the making of earthen diyas, pots, and other mitti-based products. The interaction provided an opportunity to understand their traditional skills, techniques, and products.