

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT

St. Edmund's College has been awarded a research project titled "*Assessing Drug Use in Urban Meghalaya: Towards Effective Prevention, Detection, and Rehabilitation Strategies.*" This project is funded by the Office of the Superintendent of Police (CID), Shillong, under the Director of Economics & Statistics, Government of Meghalaya. The project is part of the State Implementing Committee for SSS (Support for Statistical Strengthening) under the Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

Approved by both the Government of Meghalaya and MoSPI, the study aims to provide valuable insights into drug use patterns in urban areas of Meghalaya, helping shape more effective prevention, detection, and rehabilitation strategies. The total amount sanctioned for this research is ₹13,99,132.

SI. No.	Particulars	Amount (in Rs.)
1	Remuneration	₹. 6,70,000/-
2	Miscellaneous expenses	₹1,40,000/-
3	Other Expenses	₹3,19,243/-
4	Affiliating Institutional overheads [over and above the total cost] @ 5% of the approved budget	₹56,462/-
5	GST @18%	₹2,13,427/-
	Total	₹13,99,132/-

Since obtaining GST registration is mandatory for this project, St. Edmund's College has entrusted its implementation to the St. Edmund's College Alumni Association (SECAA), led by its president, Sir Ramesh Bawri. After receiving the temporary GST number, the contract was officially signed on October 9, 2024, at 11:00 AM at the office of the DIG of Police. The signing ceremony took place in the presence of DIG Lyngwa and her team, including SPs, DSPs, and SIs, as well as Br. Simon Coelho, Principal In-Charge of St. Edmund's College, Shri Ramesh Bawri, Br. Sameer, and the college's research team.

The project will span six months, with the timeline starting from the contract signing on October 9, 2024. The research will be led by the Principal Investigator, Dr. Wandaia Syngkon, alongside

Co-Principal Investigators, Dr. Oliver and Ms. Iarisa Dorphang. A dedicated research staff, including a Research Associate, Research Assistant, and four Field Workers, will be recruited to assist in the study.

SI. No.	Name of Staff	Position	Man Month Rates (A)	Proposed number of Man Months (B)	Total amount in Rupees [(A) x (B)]
Professional Staff					
1	Dr. Wandaia Syngkon	Principal Investigator	Rs. 20,000/-	6	Rs. 1,20,000/-
2	Dr. Oliver Nelson Gonsalves	Co-Principal Investigator	Rs. 20,000/-	6	Rs. 1,20,000/-
3	Ms. Iarisa Anette R. Dorphang	Co-Principal Investigator	Rs. 10,000/-	6	Rs. 60,000/-
Support Staff					
4	N.A.	Research Associate	Rs. 24,000/-	6	Rs. 1,44,000/-
5	N.A.	Research Assistant	Rs. 19,000/-	6	Rs. 1,14,000/-
6	N.A.	Fieldworker	Rs. 14,000/-	2	Rs. 28,000/-
7	N.A.	Fieldworker	Rs. 14,000/-	2	Rs. 28,000/-
8	N.A.	Fieldworker	Rs. 14,000/-	2	Rs. 28,000/-
9	N.A.	Fieldworker	Rs. 14,000/-	2	Rs. 28,000/-

The study will concentrate on four major district capitals in Meghalaya: Shillong, Jowai, Nongpoh, and Nongstoin, involving a total of 600 respondents. This will include 460 reported drug users, 100 unreported drug users, and 40 key informants—encompassing law enforcement officials, healthcare professionals, community leaders, and workers from de-addiction centers. Additionally, four focus group discussions will be conducted to gain deeper insights into the experiences and perceptions of drug users.