

## Tourism potential of Mawlynnong, cleanest village of Asia



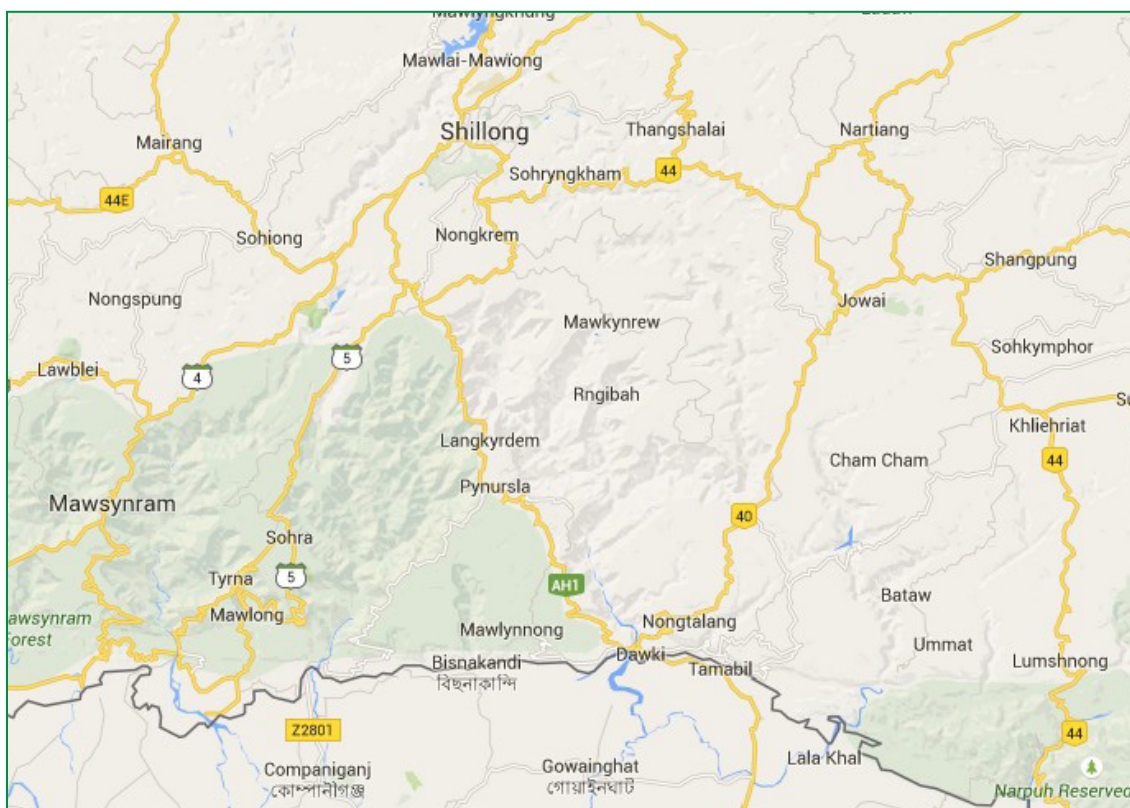
Prof. Pinakeswar Mahanta and his team has been involved in the improvement of tourism in Mawlynnong cleanest village of Asia.

**Mawlynnong** is a village in the East Khasi Hills district of the Meghalaya state, India. It comes under the Pynursla community development block and Vidhan Sabha (legislative assembly) constituency. This village has earned the distinction of being the **cleanest village in Asia (Year 2003) as well as in India (2005)** (The travel magazine Discover India).

### Location:

Mawlynnong is located 90 km from Shillong and 92 kms from Cherrapunjee, along the India-Bangladesh border and can be reached by road.

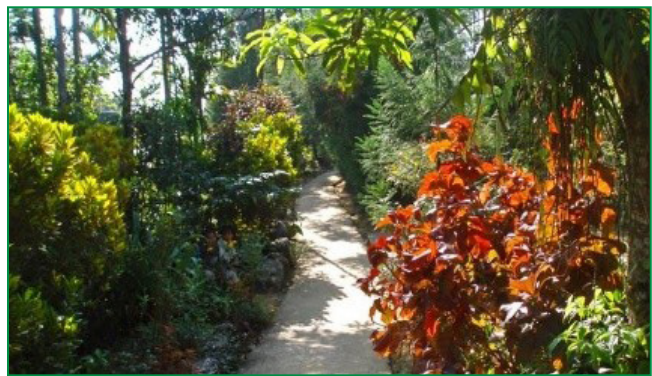
It's Coordinate is: 25°11'59"N 91°55'54"E





## Brief

- (1) As of 2014, there are about 95 households in Mawlynnong.
- (2) The literacy rate is 100%.
- (3) The main occupation of the villagers is agriculture. They mostly grow betel nut.



Mawlynnong's fame is now drawing an endless stream of guests from across the country and abroad. Residential facilities are scarce, the existing one constructed from bamboo and thatch. There is a scope for improvement of tourism.



The village is quite pretty, especially in the monsoons when there is lush greenery all around, with waterfalls paving the way to small streams and abundance of flowering orchids dangling from the trees and hedges add to the beauty of the village.

### Potential

The village offers picturesque natural beauty, a trek to the living root bridge at a neighbouring village Riwai. The village also offers a sight of natural balancing rock, a strange natural phenomenon of a boulder balancing on another rock.

Disposal and use of biodegradable waste is another requirement of the village. Improvement of traditional houses may be also looked into.





Another interesting feature not to be missed is the “Sky Watch.” This 85 feet high bamboo structure created with bamboo and natural ropes offers a lovely view of the Bangladesh plains. However, tourism requires improvement.

Steps are to be taken by IITG:

1. The waste of the village will be used for vermi-composting which will improve the soil quality and growth of flowers and same can be a business model for the villagers.
2. Improvement of tourism in the village.
3. Zero emission houses.