

## **New Achievements in Field of Higher Education in Tripura**

With a literacy rate of 80.14 % (above national average) Tripura is one of the North-Eastern states which is striving hard to keep abreast of the national pace of development. When it comes to higher education it is not ready to lag behind. The academic deluge started with the establishment of two Medical Colleges, NIT, Central University continues with yet another series of openings. The picture of recent achievement in this field is stated below.

### **Tripura Institute of Technology**

Tripura Institute of Technology (TIT) is a new addition in the field of technical higher education in Tripura. Inaugurated by the Chief Minister Manik Sarkar on August 16 at the Narsingarh Polytechnic Institute, the new Degree College of Engineering began its journey with a capacity of 240 seats consisting of civil, mechanical, electronics and telecommunication, and computer science streams. With this it will be the third institute after NERIST and Kokrajhar Institute to offer both degree and diploma courses. Present Polytechnic Institute was opened on August 16, 1958. At present it offers diploma courses in civil, mechanical, electrical, automobile, electronics and telecommunication, computer science, food processing and interior decoration, handicraft and furniture design streams. After a span of 49 years it is housing the degree college too. This institute has a total capacity of 750. However, for smooth running of the institute a separate administrative block for TIT will be constructed. For this purpose a plan worth Rs. 9.47 crore has been taken. The building will be constructed this year only.

### **Khumulwng Govt. Degree College**

To accommodate the ever-rising number of students at graduation level in general category the government has come up with yet another degree college at Khumulwng. This degree college was inaugurated by the Chief Minister on August 20 amid much fanfare and enthusiasm. Since it has been set up in the ADC headquarters it will facilitate educational development especially among the tribals. The college has started functioning from this year with 50 students most of whom are tribals. Because of infrastructural constraints initially five subjects will be taught. The Chief Minister had urged all to take it as a challenge to make this college a proper educational institute as any other college.

### **Tripura Agriculture College**

August 24, 2007, realized another dream of the people of Tripura as the first Agriculture College in Tripura was inaugurated. It will remain as a landmark in the development of agri-based economy state Tripura and in the field of higher education. The Chief Minister also said, this college would be linked with the economic development of the farmers of Tripura.

The Agriculture College has been opened in a temporary building now. A separate new building will be constructed at the cost of Rs. 54 crore for which the Chief Minister unveiled the foundation stone. The college has started functioning with 20 students from this year.

In his speech, the Chief Minister was hopeful of achieving success in increasing agricultural production. He said, if Kerala could make it why not Tripura, the climate of which is akin to Kerala. The State Agriculture Minister Tapan Chakraborty also hoped that the state would achieve food sufficiency by the year 2010.