

**GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA  
DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**S-714**

**Agartala, 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2018**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura, Shri Biplab Kumar Deb attended the 13th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Inter State Council chaired by the Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Raj Nath Singh Ji in New Delhi today.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Biplab Kumar Deb imparted several key inputs and gave suggestions on report of the Punchhi Commission during the discussions in the said meeting.

Speaking on the issue of 'Environment, Ecology and Climate change', Shri Biplab Kumar Deb stated that both Central and State Governments are equally responsible for the conservation and protection of environment & hence this subject must be kept in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution instead of the Union List.

Shri Biplab Kumar Deb expressed his unwavering commitment towards 'upliftment of the poorest of the poor' in the society by improving their socio-economic conditions. This shall in turn help in the fulfilment of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay's vision of 'Antyodaya'.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura further stated that the recommendation of Punchhi Commission with regards to the Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) is a welcome step and shall enhance the role of private entities in playing a more meaningful role in meeting the aspirations of the people of the country.

On the subject of '**compensation of forest cover**', Shri Biplab Kumar Deb stated that for forest rich states like Tripura, there is comparatively lesser land availability for undertaking developmental activities such as agriculture and industrial activity. Hence, he asserted the fact that states with large forest cover such as Tripura must be adequately compensated for their efforts to maintain and enhance forest cover in their state. He also stated that the 15th Finance Commission must give adequate weightage to this factor while determining devolution formula of Central Funds to the states.

On the subject of 'delivering *sushasan* (good governance)' to the citizens, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura expressed total commitment of his Government to delivering *sushasan* to the citizens of Tripura. He further added that his Government has made the mantra espoused by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji of '**Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas**' as their underlying philosophy and all their efforts are directed towards fulfilling the Chief Minister's (CM) vision of '**Transforming Tripura**'.

This meeting was also attended by Hon'ble Union Minister of Finance, Corporate Affairs, Railways and Mines, Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Social Justice & Development, Shri Thawarchand Gehlot, Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport, Shipping and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Union Minister of Law & Justice and Electronics & IT, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, & Hon'ble Union Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan. Several Ministers representing various states of the country were also present during the meeting.

In the afternoon Hon'ble Chief Minister met Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Hon'ble Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and Ministry of Information & Broadcasting Government of India. During the discussion Hon'ble Union Minister suggested to use the town halls at various towns of Tripura for promotion of various sports activities. Hon'ble Chief Minister requested the Hon'ble Union Minister to provide assistance to upgrade Gym facilities at Netaji Subhash Regional Coaching Centre (NSRCC), Agartala to match the international standards. Also he requested to provide some essential equipment in NSRCC as demanded by Miss Dipa Karmakar, the International Gymnast and Olympian from Tripura. Hon'ble Minister, Shri Rathore assured the full support of his Ministry. Shri Rathore also requested the Hon'ble Chief Minister to organize various sports competitions such as state level football competitions etc in order to promote the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of building a 'FIT INDIA'. Also Hon'ble Union Minister suggested that one sports complex may be set up by the Ministry of Youths Affairs and Sports, Government of India in Tripura for which about 50-60 acre of land may be earmarked by the State Government.

Hon'ble Chief Minister requested the Hon'ble Union Minister Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore to set up Regional Centre of Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) in Tripura. Hon'ble Union Minister assured to take necessary action in this regard on urgent basis.

Thereafter Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura met the Hon'ble Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Communications, Shri Manoj Sinha. During the meeting, the Hon'ble Chief Minister raised the issue of the requirement of cost-effective and reliable internet facilities in the state of Tripura and assured internet connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats. Hon'ble Union Minister, Shri Sinha assured to extend full support of his Ministry in imparting round-the-clock and good quality internet facilities across the state. Shri Sinha further informed that all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) which were not covered during the first phase of Bharat Net project (first phase covered about 85% of the GPs in the state) have been taken up in the second phase of the project and the Union Ministry of Communications is committed to completing this task at the earliest.