

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

**S-908
Agartala, 7th June, 2018**

PRESS RELEASE

Sri Sri Mata Tripureswari Temple, which is popularly known as “Matabari” was built in the year 1501. Large no. of devotees visit the temple everyday from both Tripura and outside as it considered to be one of the 51 Sakti Peethas. According to Hindu Mythology, Peethasthans are those places where the body parts of Devi Sati have fallen. As per “Pithamala Grantha”, Sati’s right foot falls here during Lord Shiva’s “Tandava” dance. This temple was handed over by erstwhile Maharaja to the State Government. The District Magistrate and Collector of the District functions as the “SEVAIT” of the Temple. A Matabari Temple Advisory Committee was formed by the State Government from time to time which looked after the day to day management, development activities and financial management. The temple runs with government grant as well as donations from the devotees. No planned development of the shrine could take place in absence of adequate attention from the previous government.

The new government has formed “**Mata Tripura Sundari Temple Trust**” which has been registered on 21-05-2018 under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister of Tripura. The 1st Meeting of Board of Trustees was held on 21st May, 2018 and a long term vision for the planned development of the temple shrine was conceived. Apart from forming a Temple Development Committee and Finance & Audit Committee, an executive committee has been formed under the DM & Collector for taking the administrative & management decisions on day to day basis.

As per decision of the 1st meeting of the Board of Trustees following kinds of membership of the Temple Committee have been offered to the general public:

- a. **Patron** – with donation of minimum Rs. 10.00 lakh in Cash or kind.
- b. **Life Member**- with donation of minimum Rs. 5.00 lakh in cash or kind.

- c. **Special Member**- with donation of minimum Rs. 5000/- per month or one time Rs. 3.00 lakh.
- d. **Regular Member**- with donation of minimum Rs. 1000/- per month or one time Rs. 50,000/-.

Two members from among Patron and Life Members can be made Trustees by the Trust Board. The purpose of the offer of membership to general public is to involve them in the affairs of temple. It will spread a sense of ownership to the devotees who want to contribute to the development of the Shrine. Names of the members will be maintained in a register and also displayed prominently near the Temple Office. Donation may be given online at the website matabaritemple.in or at the temple office.

The Chief Minister, Tripura has directed to emulate the best practices from various temples and pilgrimage centres from across the country and prepare a comprehensive master plan in order to develop the Matabari Temple complex in a holistic manner. For this purpose, he directed to implement the Schemes of Central Government particularly '**Swadesh Darshan**' and '**PRASAD**' effectively. The temple development must be undertaken with a vision of developing Mata Tripura Sundari Temple as a world class pilgrimage centre in North East India. The planning of temple complex may be done in a comprehensive manner with emphasis on proper landscaping, green open spaces and gardening etc.

As religious tourism is an important component of promoting the tourism activities, it is expected that with a planned and systematic development of the Temple complex, the tourism activities in the state will take a giant leap, which is an integral part of the 'Transforming Tripura' vision of the Chief Minister, Shri Biplab Kumar Deb.
