Government of Tripura
Directorate of Information and Cultural Affairs
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Press Release

Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Biplab Kumar Deb participated in the 67th North East Council Plenary Meeting in Shillong today.

This meeting organised under the Chairmanship of Union Home Minister, Shri Rajnath Singh was attended by CMs and Governors of all 8 North Eastern states which are members of the NEC.

CM Shri Deb spoke about the achievement of Tripura's sporting icon, Ms. Dipa Karmakar who recently made history by winning Gold medal in World Championship held in Turkey. All the members of NEC hailed her great achievement. CM Shri Deb reiterated the demand from the Union Government to improve and create world class gymnastic facilities in Tripura which was supported by other members. Shri Rajnath Singh ji assured all possible support from the Central Government.

CM Shri Deb further hailed Rajnath Singh ji's role in ensuring the signing of Repatriation Agreement for resettlement of Bru Migrants back to their homeland in Mizoram after a span of over 2 decades. He also appreciated the role played by Mizoram CM and considered this as the best example of cordial Centre-State relations.

Hon'ble CM also thanked the Union Home Minister for his unequivocal assistance during the recent floods in the state where merely within 6 hours of asking for help, all assistance from Centre had reached Tripura.

Speaking on the important issue of 'doubling farmers income by 2022' vision of PM Modi, Shri Deb stated that NEC can play an important role by becoming a hub for marketing of agricultural produce from NE States. He stated how Mizoram CM was promoting Jackfruit on one hand, while Arunchal CM was promoting Kiwi on the other hand. He spoke about Tripura's Horticulture Vision announced in the

State Budget last month and also the efforts made to promote Queen Pineapple which was declared as State Fruit of Tripura by the Hon'ble President of India.

Shri Deb raised an important issue for creation of 'Iconic Students' while speaking about the issue of 'Iconic Institutes'. He said that it'd take time for Iconic Institutes to come up in the North East India, but our students must be given an opportunity to witness the best educational institutes in India by undertaking regular tours on the lines of such tours organised for students of Jammu and Kashmir. All the members highly appreciated this issue to which Rajnath Singh, Chairman of NEC, assured positive consideration to be made by the NEC for ensuring its implementation.

Speaking about the logistics projects in the North East region, Tripura CM yet again raised the issue of early completion of Feni River Bridge project as it would open a new Gateway for North East India. All the state CMs spoke about increasing trade prospects with Bangladesh to which Shri Deb added that if this gateway opens through Tripura, the prices of goods can come down by 25% playing an instrumental role in furthering the growth prospects of North East.

Shri Deb appreciated the efforts made for completion of NIT Meghalaya near the world renowned Cherrapunji. He said that this must be set up as a world class educational hub for entire North East region.

In the end, Shri Deb reiterated the point raised by various other State CMs stating that there must be a 'coordinated and co-operative' approach among the leadership of the states for cohesive development of North East India. This shall go a long way in ensuring Hon'ble PM's vision of making the North East as the Ashtalaxmi of India.

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