

## LEGAL OPINION

In discharging one of its major functions, the Department has offered legal opinion and advice to different government departments, other PSUs and government bodies, in 1582 (one thousand five hundred eighty two) numbers of files, during the period from 01st April, 2012 to 31st March, 2013.

## APPOINTMENT OF NOTARY PUBLIC

Law Department has appointed Notary Public for all revenue sub-divisions, as per Notaries Act, 1952 and Notaries Rules, 1956, making it much easier for the general people to get their various urgent and necessary documents authenticated at their doorstep and without spending time. The names of the Notaries are published in the Tripura Gazette in the beginning of every calendar year, according to the provision of Section 6 of the Act. During the reporting period, the department has completed appointment of Notary Public for all the revenue sub-divisions.



**A**cknowledging its importance, the Law & Parliamentary Affairs Department, Government of Tripura, plays a key role in ensuring good governance to the people. Amongst other functions allocated to this department under the Government, the department is more importantly engaged in the functions such as tendering legal advice on variety of issues referred to by various departments of Government and also performing consultative role in regard to proposals for legislations, framing of statutory rules, regulations, notifications, byelaws and finalization of important MoUs etc.

This department is entrusted with the administration, supervision and control of Law Officers including Government Advocate, Government Pleaders, Public Prosecutors, Addl. Public Prosecutors and Assistant Public Prosecutors in different courts and in the matter of grant of fees of retainer ship to them and the Standing Counsels, as well as reviewing their fee structure from time to time. The amicus-curie appointed by the various courts are also entitled to receive payments as per rules from this department. This Department is also vested with the responsibility of preparation of panels of advocates for conducting government cases in the High Court, District Courts and in different Tribunals and appointment of advocates out of such panels to defend interest of the departments of the Government.

This Department in the capacity of administrative department of the District and other subordinate Courts is also engaged in the supervision and monitoring of the execution of various plan/non-plan schemes, which includes the construction and repairing of the Court Buildings, Residential Quarters for Judicial Officers and staff and Bar Association Buildings at different places as well as scheme for Family Courts. This department is also mandated with the authority of appointment of Notaries.

Notable achievements of the departments during the Year 2012-2013, are as highlighted in this Report Card.

## WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND TRAINING

With a motto to make the Government Retained Lawyers, Police Officers and Government Officials aware and updated about the relevant legal provisions and recent enactments, Law Department organizes Workshops, Seminars and training programme in a regular manner. During the reporting period, following such programme have been organized-



SL No.	PROGRAMME	PARTICULARS
1.	Four days training during 05.5.2012 to 08.5.2012, of Public Prosecutors at Dr. Ambedkar Bhawan, West Bengal National University of Juridical Science (WBNUJS), Kolkata.	Seven Nos. of Asstt. Public Prosecutors were nominated and sent to participate.
2.	Meeting with the Nodal Officers & Staff of various Govt. Departments, PSUs on 11.6.2012, at Conference Hall No.2 of the Secretariat Building.	Nodal Officers & Staff of various Govt. Departments, PSUs participated, wherein the issues regarding timely filing of Counter Affidavit, Written Statement & Objection, in time updating of Court Case Management System, State Litigation Policy etc. were discussed.
3.	One day Workshop-cum-Seminar on 19.8.2012, at Pragnya Bhawan, Agartala, on 'Effective Investigation and Criminal Trial'.	The Public Prosecutors, Asstt. Public Prosecutors and Police Officers from all over the state participated.

## TRIPURA LAW TRAINING INSTITUTE

The Tripura Law Training Institute (TLTI) has started functioning. For the present, it has been accommodated in the old High Court Building, which has been properly renovated and beautified, to convert it as a training institute for imparting law training to the government lawyers, nodal officers, nodal staff and other administrative officers.



## INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Law Department has undertaken and satisfactorily completed the following major constructions towards infrastructural development of State Judiciary. It has also not ignored the requirement of Bar Associations. During the reporting period, the following major constructions have been taken up-

1. A nice looking double storied Bar Association Building at Udaipur, with all facilities has been completed and formally handed over to the South Tripura District Bar Association, through an Inaugural Ceremony on 15th December, 2012.

2. A new Bar Association Building for the Members of Kanchanpur Bar Association has been taken up. The construction work of it is in rapid progress and expected to be completed soon.



3. A new court building at Sabroom, to accommodate Malkhana. Lock up, Police Court etc. has been taken up.

4. Land measuring 1.5 acre has been identified and purchased for construction of a residential quarter complex at Jawaharnagar, Ambassa to set up new Civil District and Sessions Division at Dhakai District.



5. A new multistoried court building (G+5) at the District & Sessions Judge's Court Complex, Agartala, to accommodate all the Courts and Family Court, Agartala, has been taken up.

6. Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, by its Gazette Notification dated 15th March, 2013, has appointed the 23rd March, 2013, on which the North Eastern Areas (Reorganization) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2013



shall come into force. Section 28A(1)(c) of that Act prescribes for establishment of the 'High Court of Tripura'. Government of India, Ministry of Law & Justice, by its Notification No.K-13018/01/2013-US-I dated 19th March, 2013 has appointed Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Gupta, Judge of Himachal Pradesh High Court, as the Chief Justice of High Court of Tripura. Accordingly a befitting Swearing-in Ceremony of the first Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court of Tripura



was held at the Darbar Hall of the Rajbhawan, Agartala on 23rd March, 2013 and the long cherished dream of a separate High Court for the State has been fulfilled and full fledged High Court

for the State of Tripura has formally been commenced. To celebrate the commencement of the High Court of Tripura, an adoring function was organized on 26th March, 2013 at the High Court complex, in which the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India was present. It was a remarkable day in the history of Tripura.

## e-governance activities

1 Law & Parliamentary Affairs Department has its own official website, with the IP address 'www.tripuralaw.nic.in', which is also available at 'law.tripura.gov.in'. Contents of this site are regularly updated with all information of the department. During the reporting period, efforts have been taken to enrich the site by uploading all Notifications, Orders and other information issued by the department. It has been linked with the Tripura State Portal.



2 During the reporting period, the Department has opened a new public felicitation corner, for easy access to all the administrative information relating to the Law & Parliamentary Affairs Department and any legal advice and suggestion towards any legal problem being faced by any individual can be sent to the Law Department for views / redress. Simply an e-mail is to be sent to the e-mail i.d.glawdepartment@yahoo.com, clearly putting the question and response from the department will be given within a day through a return e-mail.

3 A new Uniform Resource Locator (for short URL), designed by the NIC, Tripura, has been launched to effectively manage and monitor the government cases pending in different Sub-ordinate courts of the State, Hon'ble High Court of Tripura and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. All the Government Departments, PSUs have been requested to upload their respective case status in that specially designed URL and responding to that almost all have uploaded the required information.

## LEGISLATIONS

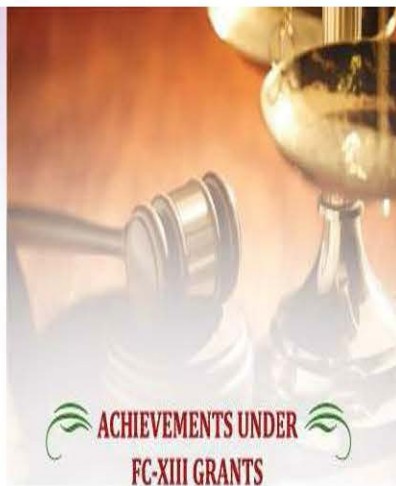
Law & Parliamentary Affairs Department, being the administrative department of Tripura Legislative Assembly, initiates proposals for summoning and prorogation of the Assembly Sessions and sends the government businesses to the Assembly. Its function is also extended in drafting, processing and monitoring of all State Laws from the stage of introduction in the Legislative Assembly to the stage of obtaining assent of the Governor or the President, as the case may be. It maintains the record of all Principal legislation of the State. During the reporting period, following Principal Legislations of the state have been initiated and processed by the department-

- ◆ The Tripura Lokayukta (Amendment) Act, 2012,
- ◆ The Tripura Appropriation Act, 2013,
- ◆ The Tripura Appropriation (No.2) Act, 2013,
- ◆ The Tripura Appropriation (No.3) Act, 2013,
- ◆ The Tripura Value Added Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012,
- ◆ The Tripura Medicare Service Persons and Medicare Service Institutions (Protection of Violence and Damage to Property) Bill, 2013.

## PERFORMANCE OF STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

The Law Department is the administrative department of the Tripura State Legal Services Authority (for short 'TSLSA'). The TSLSA is a statutory body under a Central Legislation called "Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987". The State Legal Services Authority monitors and guides the District Legal Services Authorities and Sub Divisional Legal Services Committees in achieving the aims and objectives of the Act. The general public who need any legal help / legal aid may contact the concerned Sub Divisional Legal Services Committee / District Legal Services Authority and the State Legal Services Authority, as the case may be, for their needs. Since inception the State Legal Services Authority has done yeomen's service to this society and has organized a number of Lok Adalats at Pre-Ligative Stage and many cases have been settled at Permanent Lok Adalat. Performance of the TSLSA, during the reporting period, is as follows-

◆ Number of persons provided free legal aid	- 846
◆ Number of cases settled through Counseling & Conciliation	- 813
◆ Number of Legal Literacy & Awareness Camps organized	- 727
◆ Number of participants participated in those Camps	- 93,739
◆ Number of Lok Adalats organized	- 136
◆ Number of cases settled through Lok Adalats	- 23300
◆ Number of Workshop-cum-Seminars organized	- 17
◆ Number of Legal Aid Volunteers trained	- 403



## ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER FC-XIII GRANTS

With the grants available under Thirteenth Finance Commission towards Improvement of Justice Delivery in the State of Tripura, under the Component 'Morning/Evening/Special Magistrate/Shift/Holiday Courts', Holiday courts are regularly being conducted on every 4th Sunday in the existing courts, in different stations, with approval of the High Court. During this period, total Sixty eight numbers of such Holiday Courts have been organized, wherein 26,259 nos. of cases have been disposed of. Total 18,553 nos. of cases have been successfully disposed of through ADR mechanism. 17 Nos. of judicial officers have been sent for training within and outside state, with the fund available under the component 'Training of Judicial Officers'.

## CONCLUSION

It is obligatory for the State to ensure equality before law and a legal system which promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity to all. Policing is a part of delivery of justice - pro-activism against injustices. Despite of its several limitations, Law & Parliamentary Affairs Department has been contributing to the best of its ability to achieve that constitutional pledge and towards ushering in a free, transparent and people oriented administration of justice and to convey smooth, complicity-free, un-expensive and easily accessible alternative justice delivery system.



GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA

## LAW & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

AN ACCOUNT OF ADROIT  
2012-2013

