

अनिमेष देबबर्मा
मंत्री

वन, विज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिकी और पर्यावरण एवं
जी ए (मुद्रण और स्टेशनरी) विभाग
त्रिपुरा सरकार



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Van Mahotsav – 2025
An Appeal

Forests, the treasure troves of biodiversity, are an irreplaceable part of our natural heritage and civilization. In Tripura, we are fortunate to have over 70% of the state's geographical area under tree cover. Our forests are not only vital ecological assets but also form an integral part of our social and cultural fabric. It is our solemn duty to conserve this legacy and pass on a greener, healthier Tripura to the future generations.

Forests are life-giving ecosystems. They provide us with oxygen, purify our air and water, regulate the climate, and offer food, fodder, and livelihoods to millions. They are the natural shield against climate change and biodiversity loss. Unfortunately, today, we are witnessing the adverse effects of environmental degradation on an unprecedented scale. Extreme weather events, drying rivers, severe floods, and increased man-animal conflicts are becoming frequent and severe—signs of the deteriorating ecological balance caused by deforestation and human negligence.

The loss of forest cover has also pushed many species of trees, shrubs, and herbs—once commonly found in our landscape—into the Rare, Endangered, and Threatened categories. Countless animals and birds that depend on these ecosystems are also disappearing. In such a context, planting trees becomes not just a symbolic gesture but a powerful step towards ecological restoration and climate resilience.

Van Mahotsav is a celebration that aims to connect people back to nature. It is an opportunity to awaken environmental consciousness, encourage plantation activities, and foster a sense of shared responsibility towards our forests. But the significance of Van Mahotsav does not end with the planting of a sapling. What truly matters is nurturing it, protecting it, and ensuring it grows into a healthy tree. Only through sustained care and involvement can we create lasting ecological change.

Each citizen has a crucial role to play. Imagine the impact if every individual plants and cares for just one tree—it would lead to a massive increase in green cover and biodiversity. It is also vital to spread awareness and transform mindsets, so that ecological rehabilitation, restoration of degraded lands, and revival of water bodies become community priorities.

Let **Van Mahotsav 2025** be a turning point—a festival of hope, healing, and harmony with nature. Let us inspire our children, our youth, and our communities to become stewards of the environment. Let us rekindle our cultural reverence for trees and forests, and restore balance in our ecosystems.

On this occasion, I appeal to all citizens of Tripura to come forward and participate wholeheartedly in this green movement. Plant a tree with your family, care for it with love, and be a guardian of nature. Together, we can ensure a greener, healthier, and more sustainable Tripura for generations to come.

With best wishes,

(Animesh Debbarma)