

**MEVAR KUMAR JAMATIA MINISTER**



**MINISTER  
TRIBAL WELFARE & FOREST DEPTTS  
GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA  
AGARTALA - 799010**

**Vanamahotsava-2019  
AN APPEAL**

Treasure of Biodiversity –rich forests and forest wealth is an indispensable part of our civilization. Fortunately, we are blessed with more than 70% of the geographical area of the State covered with trees. Trees and forests have occupied an important place in the socio- cultural milieu of the people of this state. It is onerous responsibility of the present generation to gift the future generation a green Tripura by wise use of the forest wealth which not only provides oxygen, water, food and fodder but also the livelihoods to millions.

We are witnessing the global impacts of climate change manifested through extreme weather conditions , drying rivers, heavy floods which were not seen earlier. Many of the trees species , fruit species and medicinal species which were abundantly available are fast vanishing and have attained the status of Rare, Endangered and Threatened species. Many of the animals associated with these vegetations are also fast disappearing. Plantation of Trees not only help in reviving the vanishing species but also help in climate related stresses. It is thus extremely important to plant at least one tree by each individual and help in protection of rich biodiversity for the future generations. Further, the awareness levels are to be improved so that mindsets are changed in favour of ecological rehabilitation of degraded areas, water bodies and reversing the trend of depleting biodiversity and restitution of ecology.

Vanamahotsava is a medium of transforming conscientious citizens into nature lovers by creating awareness about the necessity of tree cover and forests. The significance of Vanamahotsava doesn't end with planting trees only. Rather, it helps the future generation to become more environmentally conscious. Survival of life on this planet after all depends on maintaining ecological balance through afforestation and biodiversity conservation.

Therefore, on the eve of 70<sup>th</sup> Vanamahotsava, I appeal for proactive participation of every citizen of the State in increasing and protection of our green cover. Let this Year's Vanamahotsava be a festival of celebrating togetherness with Nature. Amidst these festivities, come, let each one of us plant a tree and make the slogan "Each One- Plant One" real success.

Thanking You

**( MEVAR KUMAR JAMATIA )  
Minister for Forests & Tribal Welfare  
Government of Tripura**