

**OBC Welfare Minister in Public Awareness & Review Meeting**

**For the welfare of OBC people, an act of thinking is  
going on about what more programs can be initiated**

The state government has given priority to the socio-economic development of the OBC people. The aim of the state government is - Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Prayas and Sabka Biswas. Keeping this main mantra in mind, the officers and employees of the department should deliver the benefits of the central and state government schemes to the OBC people. OBC Welfare Minister Santana Chakma made this call while participating in the discussion at the state-wide public awareness and review meeting of the OBC Welfare Department at Hall No. 3 of Pragna Bhavan on August 11. The chairmen of the OBC Sub-committees of different blocks, the Board of Directors of the OBC Corporation, officers and supervisors participated in this state-level review meeting.

Inaugurating the public awareness and review meeting, the OBC Welfare Minister Santana Chakma said, initiatives have been taken to ensure that this department reach out to the grassroots level for the welfare of OBCs. She said that more programs are being considered for the welfare of OBC people. She said that for the overall welfare of the OBC community, the OBC Sub-committee chairmen will have to work in coordination with the local subdivisional administration and urban autonomous bodies. Places of the state requiring OBC hostels will be identified proposals will be sent to Delhi. She urged the borrowers to repay the loans on time.

Mrinal Kanti Nath, Chairman of Tripura Other Backward Classes Corporation, appreciated the initiative of the department and advised the students of OBC community to study with more sincerity and dedication. He assured that the state government stands by the side of the students. He said that initiatives have been taken to implement the schemes that are available for the OBC people and their children. He discussed in detail about the loan disbursement and loan recovery of the Corporation. Participating in the discussion, Secretary of the OBC Welfare Department, Tapas Roy said that there are people from 44 OBC communities in our state. The state government is implementing various schemes of the central and state governments for the overall development of the people of the OBC community.

Initiating the discussion, Nirmal Adhikari, Additional Director, OBC Welfare Department, said that a proposal has been sent to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, of the Central Government for the construction of two hostels in North district and two in Dhalai district so that the children of the OBC community can study from hostels. In addition, an initiative has been started to construct a hostel with 200 seats in Hapania. The total expenditure of the project will be 7.78 crore rupees. He said that under the pre-matric scholarship scheme, 1 lakh 15 thousand 171 OBC students have been given scholarships worth 1376.135 lakh rupees during the period from the financial year 2020-21 to 2024-25. From the financial year 2020-21 to the financial year 2024-25, a total of 87,291 students have been given post-matric scholarships worth 13,132.15 lakh rupees. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Memorial Gold Medal worth Rs. 25.35 lakh has been given to 97 people. Dr. BR Ambedkar Merit Award has been given to 14,638 students investing a total of Rs. 214.57 lakh. Besides, 266 OBC patients have been assisted with Rs. 1575 lakh. Vidyasagar Samajik Sanskriti Award has been given to 15 people. A total of 640 economically weaker students have been given one-time financial support of Rs. 640 lakh.

Sports equipments have been distributed among 10 schools from OBC Corporation and 10 schools from Tripura Gramin Bank. Initiatives have been taken for IAS and IPS coaching to the OBC students under the Chief Minister's Akankhya Scheme. Under the Chief Minister's Tirth Yatra Scheme, there is a plan to send two pilgrims from each district to the Gorakhnath Temple in Uttar Pradesh and to the Baidyanath Dham in Jharkhand. Besides, that the representatives present in the meeting participated in an exchange of views. Video shows on various developmental works of the department were shown in the review meeting. OBC Commission Chairman Tapas Majumdar was present. Vote of thanks was given by Rupak Bhattacharya, Deputy Director of the OBC Welfare Department.