## Government of Tripura Directorate of Information & Cultural Affairs \*\*\*\*\*\*

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## Agartala - Dhaka-Kolkata Bus service starts again

## State will be connected by roadways, railways, waterways with Bangladesh: Transport Minister

Agartala-Dhaka-Kolkata AC bus service has started again from today. Transport Minister Pranajit Singha Roy inaugurated this bus service in a programme organized at Akhaura Integrated Check-Post. It is to be noted that this bus service has been started in a private manner with the name, Royal Maitri International Bus Service. The bus fare for Agartala-Dhaka-Kolkata is 2,200 rupees and the bus fare from Agartala-Dhaka is 900 rupees. Passengers will be provided with free breakfast and drinking water bottle. The bus will leave from TRTC bus stand everyday at 10 am except for Friday.

Transport Minister said, this bus service was stopped in March, 2020 due to the pandemic situation. With the bus service starting over again, passengers of both Tripura and Bangladesh will find it convenient. He said, there is so much similarity in food culture, attire, culture, language between the people of Tripura and Bangladesh. This bus service will further increase connectivity between both the countries. As a result, the amiable relations of the people will further strengthen. He said, very soon the state will be connected by roadways, railways, waterways with Bangladesh. Initiatives are being taken to start flight services from Agartala to Chattagram and Dhaka. He said, the government does not aim to turn TRTC into a profit gaining company but rather aims to provide new advanced services to the passengers. He lauded the former Chairman of TRTC and Mayor of Agartala Municipal Corporation Dipak Majumdar for keeping TRTC in good condition. He said, total 28 passengers have taken the service today. Among those passengers, 22 passengers are Indians and 6 were Bangladesh citizens. This bus will reach Dhaka in 4 hours and will reach Kolkata from Dhaka in 15 hours. Total 40 passengers will be able to travel every day. He called on those associated with providing this service to pay attention so that the passengers do not face problems while travelling. Apart from that, he also urged the passengers not to break any kind of rules during travel and to report directly to the authority if any problem arises.

Mayor of AMC Dipak Majumdar said, with the commencement of this bus service, trade between the two countries will develop. The bus service has improved a lot since the past days. Bangladesh Assistant High Commissioner Arif Mohammed said, this bus service is the symbol of friendly relations among both the countries. As a result, the passengers will be able to travel to Dhaka or Kolkata at a very nominal cost. The guests waved the flag and commenced the bus service. Other dignitaries present were Principal Secretary of transport department L. H. Darlong and Additional Secretary Subrata Choudhury, Manager of Land Ports Authority of India Debashish Nandi, BSF Commandant Manish Gil and TRTC MD Rajesh Kumar Das.

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