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**Close relation between Tripura & Tagore  
has enriched our cultural arena: CM**

Real tribute to the great poet Rabindranath Tagore would be only when we could follow the path shown by him. Remembering the spiritual relation between Tagore and the soil of Tripura, this meeting ground of tribals and non-tribals would be enriched further by applying the wisdom, sincerity towards work, music and cultural treasure of Tagore in our social setting, stated the chief minister Biplab Kumar Deb while speaking at the death anniversary programme of Rabindranath Tagore organized by the information and cultural affairs department at Rabindra Shatabarshiki Bhawan yesterday. The chief minister and other guests paid floral tribute to the portrait of Tagore there. The chief minister said, the close relation of Tagore with Tripura has enriched the art and cultural field of the state further.

Chief Minister said, overall development of a state cannot be possible only with infrastructural development. With this reflection of Indian cultural ethos should be there. Cultural practices bind keep us bound together. The unity born out of that will help our state move forward further. Earlier a certain line of thought used to rule the mindset in our state. Now the government is working by giving priority to cultural development as well. The chief minister further said, due to inclination towards a particular thinking in earlier days in our state, the significance of petty books on personalities like Tagore has declined in the state. In this context the chief minister also said, having been engaged in treatment of COVID patients the doctors and health workers had to lead a quarantined life. During that period the government tried to hand over books of Rabindranath Tagore and other saints and personalities to them. It was realized then that books on or of such great personalities and Indian culture were in short supply in the state.

Chief Minister said, books which had no connection with Indian culture were available in the market of the state. He urged the people of the state to observe why this kind of shortage of books on Tagore or other thinkers is prevailing here. But the present state government has given utmost priority to cultural development.

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He said, even in the present age of e-book and dot com the importance of books has not subsided. In this context the chief minister also said, Swami Vivekananda also played a pivotal role in upholding the Indian culture in the international arena. Swami Vivekananda, paying importance to physical health, was also inclined towards engaging the youths in football game. He was saint with advanced thinking.

Chief Minister said, Indians by nature pay equal respect to all religions. Forgiveness and liberal thinking are part of Indian culture. In presenting this cultural ethos through cultural activities, Rabindranath Tagore played the role of a frontrunner. In order to build a health society we need to have proper cultural practices. To lead Tripura to such a peak of development the chief minister urged for everyone's cooperation. He said, the kings of Tripura had a significant role in building a close relation with Rabindranath Tagore. Bikram Kishore Manikya Bahadur honoured Tagore with 'Bharat Bhaskar' title.

Speaking on the occasion the secretary-in-charge of ICA department Kiran Gitte said, Tripura may be a small state in size. But it has a very wide cultural and literary field. The kings of Tripura were sincere towards cultural practice and development literature in the state. They had extended a helping hand towards Biswabharati University and several scientists and literati for their practice in their respective fields. Compositions like Rajarshi, Bisarjan, Mukut on Tripura by Tagore have enriched the cultural ambience of Tripura further. Among others present on the occasion were vice chairman of State Cultural Advisory Committee Subhash Deb, chairman of Tripura State Higher Education Council Arunoday Saha, noted Rabindra Sangeet artiste Kamal Baran Chakraborty and director of ICA Ratan Biswas.

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