Government of Tripura Directorate of Information and Cultural Affairs ****

<u>S-3301</u>

Agartala, 26th January, 2021

Government has taken several steps on various fronts which will help in making Tripura prosperous : Governor

"In spite of various obstacles, my Government has taken several steps on various fronts which will help in making Tripura prosperous, self-reliant and an ideal state," said the Governor Ramesh Bais after receiving guard of honour from the platoons present in the 72nd Republic Day celebration programme at Assam Rifles Ground, Agartala. He asserted, "The State Government is working hard for the all-round development of the state. A number of initiatives have been taken by the government for the overall welfare of the citizens of Tripura through centrally sponsored schemes and state government schemes."The police personnel awarded by the President of India on Independence Day 2019 were honoured today in the programme with Police Medal for their meritorious serviceto DSP (Security) Prasenjit Dey; Havilder (General Duty) of 7th Battalion, TSR Shin Charan Debbarma; Havilder (General Duty) of 9th Battalion, TSR Shiv Lal Pradhan and Constable, North District Ashok Kumar Majumder by the Governor. The names of sixpolice personnel and home guards who will be honoured with Medal for their meritorious service on Independence Day 2021 were also announced in the programme- Keshab Hari Jamatia, Inspector (UB), North District; Siddhartha Sankar Kar, Inspector (UB), West District; Ganesh Chandra Deb, Sub-Inspector (UB), Gomati District; Parimal Das, Assistant Sub-Inspector (UB), SB orgn; Haripada Bhaumik, Assistant Sub-Inspector (UB), SB orgn; Kripamoy Chakma, Assistant Sub-Inspector (UB), Gomati District.

"To diversify crops and increase farmer's income, emphasis is being placed on hybrid maize and urad cultivation. Organic farming is being done on 15,000 hectares of additional land. Agricultural machinery banks have been set up for earning income of self-help groups," asserted the Governor. He said, "The government has included 2.06 lakh paddy farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Crop Insurance Scheme during Kharif 2020-21 and plans to include 70 thousand farmers during the Rabi crop." The Governor added, "This year, the KCC card of 81 thousand farmers has been approved under which Rs. 300 crore has been approved and Rs.200 crore has been distributed to 50 thousand farmers. Krishak Bandhu Kendras have been opened to provide advanced technical information to the farmers."

The Governor said, "An area of 65 thousand hectares has been targeted for irrigation expansion in a phased manner under the Chief Minister Assured Irrigation Program for the period 2020-21 to 2024-25, so that the irrigation potential of the state (1.73 lakh hectare) is fully utilized." He said, "Animal Husbandry and Dairy sector has registered a growth of 25.3% during the financial year 2019-20." The Governor stated, "A new schme Mukhyamantri 'Swanirbhar Parivar Yojana' will be launched to improve the livelihood and motivate self-sufficiency among the rural people through income generation to make the goal of 'Self-reliant India' laid by the Prime Minister. Under which assistance will be provided to rural families mainly for agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and animal husbandry."

Regarding the Bru settlement, the Governor said that a landmark agreement on January 16, 2020 was signed between the Government of India, Government of Tripura, Mizoram and the Bru community which has succeeded in ending the 23-year-old Bru refugee crisis. He said, "According to the agreement, about 34,000 Bru refugees will be inhabited in Tripura. The Central Government has approved a package of about 600 crore rupees for settling these refugees and their all-round development." The Governor asserted, "In addition to the existing Integrated Check Post at Agartala, another Integrated Check Post is proposed to be set up in Sabroom, as it will be the busiest land port in future after completion of the bridge over the Feni River. Another ICP is proposed to be set up at Nischintapur Junction of Agartala-Akhaura Rail Link." He also said, "The Agartala-Akhaura Rail Link is under construction to facilitate freight transportation between India and Bangladesh, which is expected to be completed by March 2021.A rail yard is also under construction on this rail link at Nischintapur."

The Governor said that a contemporary new Integrated Terminal Building at MBB Airport with modern distinct facilities is nearly complete which will pave the way for the airport to host international flights. He also said, "Tripura joins the Map of Inland Water Transport with the opening of the floating jetty on 5th September 2020 at the Srimantapur Terminal near Sunamura. This will facilitate the movement of goods between two countries through waterways." Regarding the national highway projects, the Governor said, "Hon'ble Union Minister of Government of India, Road Transport and Highways laid the foundation stone for the construction of 262.00 km of roads and two bridges at a cost of Rs 2752.00 crore in Tripura through 9 national highway projects by Weblink. Construction of all these roads and bridges has started. Four more new projects are planned to be launched in the next financial year at a cost of Rs 7500 crore."The Governor said, "The Special Economic Zone is being set up in the Sabroom, which will provide favourable infrastructure to investors to further boost exports and imports." He added, "The completion of the bridge will increase trade and commerce opportunities as Tripura will connect to other countries via sea route using Chittagong port."

On Covid-19 situation the Governor said, "The State Government provided various relief packages for the victims under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Self-Reliant India, Chief Minister Relief Fund etc during the Covid-19 lockdown period." He also said, "This year the corona epidemic became the biggest activity in the field of health. The state government formulated a strategy to fight it in a short time and ensured the availability of necessary facilities in various hospitals." He also stated that about 99% of the infected patients have recovered and expressed his condolences to those who lost their lives.

Lastly, the Governor urged everyone to work together with intergrity and proper work culture for an ideal, prosperous and best state in the country with hard work, selflessness and highest devotion and honesty. 10 platoons from BSF, Assam Rifles, CRPF, TSR 1st battalion, TSR 2nd battalion, West District (Men), West District (Women), Traffic Police, Forest Platon, Home Guards (Men) participated in the Republic Day programmes in the state led by parade commander Lal Hruaia Darlong. The programme ended with cultural programme and a live telecast of Tripura tableaushowcasing the bamboo artefacts and indigenous culture straight from the Rajpath, New Delhi with the theme of "Eco-friendly Aatmanirbhar Tripura".Others present in the programme as guests were Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb, DGP V.S Yadav, Chief Secretary Manoj Kumar.
