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<u>Deputy CM inaugurates Handloom Industry Fair at Purbasha</u> The history of handloom industry is a flowing current: Deputy CM

Handloom industry is a traditional industry. Its history is a flowing current. This industry has been carrying the tradition of a culture for years and years, enunciated Deputy Chief Minister Jishnu Dev Varma after inaugurating the 4-day Handloom Industry Fair at Purbasha Urban Hut premises today organized on the occasion of National Handloom Day. He said, like every state in the country, we also have skilled weavers in our state. Unfortunately, these weavers and the industry were not taken care of in the past which made the industry almost lose its market. The present government has made efforts to reinvigorate the industry.

The Deputy Chief Minister said, handloom industry is an important sector in regards to Tripura's development. The mothers and sisters of the society must be encouraged even more towards this industry. The weavers have to be given special status as they are the only ones who can take Tripura towards a brighter future. Lauding NABARD for organizing the Handloom Industry Fair on the occasion of National Handloom Day, the Deputy Chief Minister said, the industry has a good scope to bloom in Tripura. NABARD has been doing various works for the welfare of rural areas and rural people of the state and it will continue doing so in future. He called on NABARD to stand by the weavers of the state and help them become self-dependent financially. He also assured of providing necessary government assistance in this regard.

Managing Director of Tripura State Cooperative Bank Bhajan Chandra Roy, Convener of State Level Banker's Committee Anand Kumar, Chairman of Tripura Gramin Bank Satyendra Singh and Chairman of Tripura Handloom and Handicraft Development Corporation Balai Goswami spoke on the occasion. Vote of thanks was delivered by General Manager of NABARD Loken Das and Assistant General Manager Anil Purohit. Three Self-Help Groups-Chatmani Badal, Panthabi and Radharani were awarded on behalf NABARD for their contribution in handloom industry. Seema Debnath, Shipra Debnath and Shibani Debnath were also awarded for their special skill in handloom work. Deputy Chief Minister Jishnu Dev Varma handed over award along with certificates to the weavers in the programme.
