

**Tribal Welfare Minister inaugurates Garia Festival in Khowai**

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Garia Festival has started in Champahaur of Khowai district since yesterday. Tribal Welfare Minister Mevar Kumar Jamatia inaugurated the two-day Garia Festival at Bharat Sardar Higher Secondary School campus yesterday organized with the initiative of Blooming Club. After inaugurating the event, he said, the state government has been working taking various steps for literary and cultural development of 19 different communities of Tripura. And this shall be continued in future. In order to develop a nation, it is necessary to generate awareness among the people of other communities about their traditional culture, attire and food habits. He lauded the initiative taken to preserve the tribal culture by celebrating such festivals.

Other dignitaries present at the event were Member of TTAADC Ananta Debbarma, social activist Rajesh Debbarma and Pijush Debbarma. The programme was presided over by President of Blooming Club Jahar Debbarma. The programme was followed by folk dances such as Garia dance, Lebang Bumani, Mamita and Mosok Surmani. Food festival has also been organized on the occasion.

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