

Press conference of Tribal Welfare Minister

Minister said that a special project will be implemented in 23 blocks for the socio-economic development of tribal with the help of the World Bank

A special project of about 1,300 crore rupees has been taken up by the World Bank for the development of the tribal areas in the state and for the socio-economic development of the tribal people. This project will be implemented in 23 tribal dominated blocks of the state, especially 12 Aspirational Blocks. Tribal Welfare Minister, Rampada Jamatia informed this in a press conference organized at the secretariat's press conference hall yesterday. Tribal Welfare Minister said that under this project special importance will be given to the livelihood of the people, improvement of their quality of life along with education and communication system. This project has been taken up for 5 years. He also mentioned about the economic development of the people of the state through the Chief Minister's Rubber Mission in the state.

In the press conference, the Minister said that the present state government has taken many initiatives to improve the quality of education in the tribal dominated areas. 16 Eklavya model residential schools are being developed in the state. He said, along with improving the quality of education of the students of tribal areas, through modern education system, a new scheme called Supplementary Education for Elementary Classes (SEEC)-2022 has been launched to enrich the students. Under this scheme 300 coaching centres will be opened across the state. Education under this scheme will be provided under the management of Tribal Welfare Department of the State Government. He said that the state government is implementing different educational programmes to provide quality education to the tribal students. Scholarships are being provided to tribal students. Students studying from class 1 to class 12 are given a boarding house stipend of Rs 65 per day. In the financial year 2022-23, a total of 27,361 tribal students were given boarding house stipend. Tribal Welfare Minister said that water tanks and filters have been given to 23 families belonging to Karbong community. The state government will take several more initiatives in the coming days to develop this endangered Karbong community.

In the press conference, Tribal Welfare Department Principal Secretary, Puneet Agarwal presented on different programmes implemented by the department in the state. He spoke about boarding house stipend for the tribal students at, pre-secondary (6th-8th), pre-secondary (9th to 10th) level alongwith with statistics. Moreover, he also mentioned about the one-time financial assistance for the education of tribal students and that in the financial year 2022-23, a total of 21 tribal students have been given one-time financial assistance.

Construction of 16 ST Boys and Girls Hostels is underway in the financial year 2022-23. Chief Minister's Rubber Mission is operational in the state. Rubber will be cultivated on 30 thousand hectares of land in the next 5 years through different allied departments including the Department of Tribal Welfare. He said that Vanadhikar App will be used to speed up the demarcation of patta lands under the Forest Rights Act. 32,722 families with land rights have been given houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

In the press conference, the Principal Secretary informed that 52 tribal youths have been given loans to become self-reliant in agriculture and allied sectors including small transport business. Apart from this, the Principal Secretary, Puneet Agarwal also highlighted several other programmes implemented by the Tribal Welfare Department. Abhishek Chandra, Special Secretary of the Department of Industry and Commerce, also highlighted the implementation of the programme of the Silk Industry Department in the press conference. He said that 6 blocks of the state have been identified for implementation of Intensive Bivoltine Sericulture Development Project. Director of Tribal Welfare Department, Dr. Vishal Kumar was also present at the press conference.