

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

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Agartala, 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2022

**Mega loan distribution camp under the initiative of Scheduled Caste Cooperative  
Development Corporation Ltd.**

The path of development is now wide open for the scheduled caste people of the state. The people of this community should strive to reach the pinnacle of development by taking advantage of the schemes and services of the central and state government. Scheduled Caste Welfare Minister Bhagaban Chandra Das said this while inaugurating the mega loan distribution camp organized by Scheduled Caste Cooperative Development Corporation Limited at Agartala Town Hall yesterday. In the camp, 396 people were given fish, 62 people were given dry fish, 6 people were given auto rickshaws and 2 people were given loans for small business. Beneficiaries will receive their loan amount directly into their bank account. The guests handed over the cheque to some of the beneficiaries. Beneficiaries belonging to scheduled castes community of the state participated in the camp.

Inaugurating the camp, Scheduled Caste Welfare Minister, Bhagaban Chandra Das also said that there are 34 scheduled caste communities in the state. During the tenure of previous governments, they were deprived of many privileges by interfering with their rights. As a result, the people of this society are still far behind in almost all fields. But the present government is working on the development of this society with new direction and mindset. Awareness is being spread through leaflets, handbills etc. from the Scheduled Caste Welfare Department to inform the people of this section about the benefits for their development so that the people can be aware of their privileges and rights. For the development of the people of this community, the department has given utmost importance to the field of education. Now the Department provides education loans of up to 4 lakh rupees for primary to professional education. Online arrangements have been made so that no one is left out from getting the scholarship. Hostel is being renovated as well as being modernized. As a result, students are encouraged to get better education staying at the hostel. The department has taken initiatives to set up coaching institutes for the students of this community in Agartala itself for UPSC examination. While informing about the various programmes undertaken by the department for the development of scheduled caste, he said that money has been allocated from the department for the welfare of scheduled caste people of the state through 12 different departments.

6 thousand fish and dry fish sellers in the state will receive a loan of 10 thousand rupees as subsidy, 6 thousand small traders will be given 10 thousand rupees for employment, sewing machine for women, weighing machines for small traders, bicycles will be given to hawkers. Also, 50 ducks will be given to a certain number of women in different scheduled caste villages of the state through Animal Resource Development Department with the money allocated by the Scheduled Caste Welfare Department. He also said that an initiative will be taken to set up Ambedkar Knowledge Centre and to install statue of BR Ambedkar in the state in coming days.

Ranjit Das, MLA and Chairman of Scheduled Caste Cooperative Development Corporation Limited, said in the camp that women, students, small businessmen are given various loans at low interest from SC Corporation. Besides, loans are given to Divyangjans, cleaning workers belonging to any community. He further said that the process of disbursing loans to the beneficiaries has been greatly simplified. Besides, Board of Directors of SC Corporation, Tapas Das also spoke at the camp. Debyani Chowdhury, General Manager of the Corporation gave the welcome address.