

**Govt launches Mukhyamantri Tripura Gram
Samridhi Yojana for incentivizing GP/VCs
|| Jasmine Deb Jamatia ||**

On 75th Independence Day, Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb in his speech enunciated that Mukhyamantri Tripura Gram Samridhi Yojana has been launched in the state under Rural Development department for incentivizing Gram Panchayats (GPs)/Village Committees (VCs) on achieving benchmark standards in delivering 100% basic governmental services and facilities to the people residing in rural areas.

There are certain Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the benchmarking of Gram Panchayats (GPs)/Village Committees (VCs) like ensuring all households have household level tap water connection, have functional toilets and electricity connection, ensuring all eligible households are covered under Ujjwala scheme, ensuring all eligible children are immunized and are enrolled in schools and AWCs etc. It is worth mentioning here that Tripura has 589 Gram Panchayats and 587 Village Committees.

Gram Panchayats (GPs)/Village Committees (VCs) which achieve 100% success as per the pre-decided KPIs will be recognised as A+ grade Panchayats/VCs and will be awarded a prize money of Rs. 4 Lakh and those which achieve 85% success as per the pre-decided KPIs will be recognised as A grade Panchayats/VCs and will be awarded a prize money of Rs. 2 Lakh. A certificate of excellence in public service will be given to Panchayats/VCs and its members, core panchayat staff, field staff of line departments who have contributed to the achievement. Apart from this, exposure visits of key stake holders of A+ grade Panchayats/VCs to other state will be sponsored by Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA). Award functions in presence of highest dignitaries of the state will be conducted for recognising, Panchayats/VCs and its members, core panchayat staff, field staff etc.

The prize money may be utilized by the awarded Panchayats/VCs as performance incentive to the core staff, for purchasing computers or furniture etc for GP/VC/PS/BAC, for power back up facility to GP/VC/PS/BAC, for purchase of smartphones (not exceeding Rs 10000) for 5 best performing staff, as prize/incentives to youth clubs, SHG members, students, volunteers, civil society organizations who participate and contribute to the achievement, for exposure visit of PRI members outside state under RGSA, and as fund for infrastructure development in areas which is not covered under any CSS/state schemes at Panchayat Samiti/BAC level.

For identifying A, A+ Panchayats/VCs, self-assessment of the Panchayats/VCs processed through Gram Sabha. Assessment will be done twice in a year. Every Panchayats/VC will have to submit their application indicating their self-assessment scores on the KIPs during 1st January to 15th January and 1st July to 15th July of every year. A web portal will be developed to receive online applications. After this, a committee headed by the SDM of the concerned sub-division will assess the actual status of self-appraisal and further recommend to the DM & Collector for approval and thereafter recommend to the state government by 15th February/15th August. If the DM & Collector is satisfied on the basis of the SDM's report, he/she may forward the application to the state level or may also ask for re-verification by 28th February/31st August. 30% of the applications may be re-evaluated in the field by third party agency/colleges under IRG (Internal Revenue Generation) scheme, as may be decided by Rural Development department.