## Government of Tripura Directorate of Information & Cultural Affairs

S-9805

Agartala, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

## 40<sup>th</sup> Agartala Book Fair to commence from March 25

12-day long 40<sup>th</sup> Agartala Book Fair will commence from March 25, 2022 till March 5, 2022. The book fair will be organized at Hapania International Mela campus on the theme – "My Tripura, My Pride". This decision was taken in the first meeting of 40<sup>th</sup> Agartala Book Fair management committee organized at Rabindra Bhawanyesterday. On working days, the book fair timing will be 2.30pm to 9pm. On non-working days, the timing will be 2pm to 9.30pm. It was also decided in the meeting to start new awards for dancers, singers, virtual art, theatre artists such as Satyaram Reang Award, Ashwini Kumar Biswas Memorial Award and Sumangal Sen Memorial Award. Stall rent and registration fee have been exempted for participants and book sellers this year.

Deputy Chief Minister Jishnu Dev Varma in the meeting said, Tripura holds a deep history of Bengali literature. In this regard, Agartala Book Fair holds importance in keeping the literary and cultural environment alive in the state. He urged everyone to participate in the book fair. He also said, the present government is taking special initiatives to bring cultural self-reliance besides socio-economic self-reliance.

Information & Cultural Affairs Minister Sushanta Choudhury in the meeting said, we have to include everyone to keep the culture alive. Respect and trust are gained only when we give respect to one another. District-level Book Fair are also being organized this time. It was decided in a video conference with District Magistrates of 7 districts at the Secretariat that District-level Book Fair in Unakoti district will be held from February 28 till March 4, in North Tripura district it will be held from March 5 till March 9, in Dhalai district it will be held from March 11 till March 15, in Khowai district it will be held from March 17 till March 21, in South Tripura district it will be held from April 13, in Gomati district it will be held from April 17 till April 21, and in Sepahijala district it will be held from April 23 till April 27.

Other dignitaries present in the meeting were Jail Minister Ram Prasad Pal, Sabhadhipati of West Tripura Zila Parishad Antara Sarkar Deb, West Tripura DM DebapriyaBardhan, Assistant High Commissioner of Agartala-based Bangladesh High Commission Arif Mohammed, Deputy Mayor of AMC Monica Das Dutta, Chairman of State Higher Education Council Dr. Arunudoy Saha, President of Agartala Press Club Subol Kumar Dey, Secretary of ICA department Dr. P. K. Goyal, Secretary of Tripura Publishers Guild Subhabrata Deb, Secretary of All Tripura Book Sellers and Publishers Association Uttam Chakraborty, Secretary of Publishers and Book Sellers Association Rakhal Majumdar, officials of different departments, social and cultural figures. The meeting was conducted by Director of ICA department Ratan Biswas.

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