

75th Independence Day observed in befitting manner

Along with the country the state has observed the 75th Independence Day on August 15. The central programme was held at the Assam Rifles ground wherein the national flag was hoisted by the chief minister Biplab Kumar Deb. Addressing the gathering at the AR ground the chief minister said, the state government is working with emphasis on three 'N's – Niyat, Niti and Niyam in administration for development of the state. In context of various development programmes taken up and schemes launched the chief minister said, in just 39 days the government has recruited 4 JAMO, GDMO under THS Grade-II and MBBS doctors as well as 326 nurses to upgrade the health service network in the state and combat the COVID – 19 situation. With the developed infrastructure of Atal Behari Bajpayee Regional Cancer Hospital there has been a decline in patients going out of the state for treatment.

Chief minister said, the government has given utmost priority to primary sector. Under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman

Nidhi, Rs. 316.17 crore has been transferred to the bank accounts of 2,33,200 farmers. During the period from 2018-19 to 2020-21 total 3,02,577 farmers have been brought under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. To increase milk production in the state target has been set to use 1,33,200 dose of sex sorted semen to produce more female calves during 2021-22 financial year under Mukhyamantri Unnat Godhan Prakalpa. The government is also giving priority to fishery sector, egg and meat production. The state government has planned to launch a three year scheme called "Mission for Commercialisation of Jackfruit and Pineapple" spanning over 2022-23 to 2024-25. Under the scheme jackfruit and pineapple will be cultivated commercially in 3,600 ha. land with integrated marketing avenues.

Chief minister said, Tripura Agar Wood Policy – 2021 has been announced on July 19, 2021. With a target to plant 50 lakh Agar saplings in next five years already necessary initiative has been taken during this financial year. It is expected that trade worth Rs. 2,000 crore will come

from this sector within 2025. In order to expand area of quality rubber plantation the state government has launched Chief Minister Rubber Mission, under which 30,000 are targeted to be brought under rubber plantation in next five years (2021-22 to 2025-26). The government has taken initiative to rights over land and increase agricultural productivity through Tripura Agricultural Land Leasing Bill, 2021. With the completion of Moitri Setu over Feni River, ongoing process of setting up Special Economic Zone in Sabroom construction of rail yard and logistic hub etc. Tripura would turn into a gateway to Northeast region, the chief minister expressed hope.

For tribal development which is a priority sector for the government, 12 backward blocks have been identified under the Transformation of Aspirational Blocks. Moreover, a new scheme replacing the existing Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme is on the anvil. This scheme will be implemented in areas having at least 50 per cent tribal population. For this purpose 375 villages of the state have been identified.

With a view to ensuring quality education Vidyajyoti schools are being set up under Mission – 100 scheme. For this purpose 71 schools of the state are being brought under CBSE which will take the number of such schools to 100. During the current financial year 1.59 lakh houses have been sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (rural) for which an amount of Rs. 2.67 crore will be spent. And for urban areas 85,735 houses have been sanctioned. Tripura is the only state in the Northeast and the sixth state in the country wherein Light House Project is being implemented. This project entails construction of flats in multi-story buildings using economical and innovative technology. Tripura is also on top in regard to implementation of Smart City project in the NE region.

The chief minister informed, 11 places have been identified for setting up Wind Monitoring Station so that the potential for wind energy can be measured, as the government is considering setting up of wind mills in the state. To ensure basic amenities in rural areas the government has also launched a new scheme namely “Chief Minister Gram Samridhi Yojana”. On the other hand Mukhyamantri

Swanirbhar Parivar Yojana is being implemented to upgrade livelihood of rural people through agriculture and other related activities like fishery, animal rearing etc. A total of 6 lakh people are to be covered under the scheme during the period from 2021-22 to 2023-24.

Chief minister said, a Forensic University has been approved for the state. Moreover, Tripura Police has adopted Citizens Financial Cyber Frauds Reporting and Management System built by Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre. Through this portal the affected people could seek relief by dialing toll free number 155260 and 112. The government is trying to encourage IT Start-ups by creating conducive environment for that and with this objective 'Tripura IT/ITEs Start-Up Scheme-2019' has been launched. Under the scheme, youths are being provided infrastructural and financial assistance.

In the Independence Day celebration parade at AR Ground 10 platoons of security forces took part. They are the BSF, Assam Rifles, CRPF, TSR battalion no. 1 and 2, male and female platoons of police of West district, traffic police and

home guard. The chief minister handed over medal for excellent service in different fields like President's Police Medal, as well as for outstanding service in different departments of the administration.

CM Rubber Mission launched for rubber based economic development

Chief minister Biplab Kumar Deb ceremonially inaugurated the Chief Minister Rubber Mission at Pathaliyaghat Tarapad village of Jampuijala sub division on August 14. Addressing the gathering there the chief minister claimed, the government has adopted several plans for socio-economic development of the tribal people of the state. The government aims to develop a rubber-based economy worth Rs. 600 crore and generate next huge employment opportunity in next five years, through this scheme. As part of the inauguration programme chief minister and other guests planted rubber tree saplings there. The chief minister said, various kinds of help will be extended for raising rubber gardens through the mission. Just recently after setting up 200 smoke houses, production of quality

rubber sheets has been possible. The declining price of rubber is again on the rise due to proper management. People of the state are also getting benefits of the target made to double the farmer's incomes by 2022.

Chief Minister said, success has been achieved in almost all sectors like education, health, drinking water. Setting up of 18 Eklavya Schools for students of tribal areas is a special initiative taken in education sector. Now the state students are getting chance to study in English medium government schools run by CBSE. None had to go hungry during Covid pandemic because of central and state government assistance. Recently, 93% Covid vaccination for 18 above age group was completed in order to speed up the vaccination process countrywide. Chief minister also said, mandays have increased under MGNREGA besides employment generation process through Start-ups amidst Covid pandemic.

Tribal welfare Minister Mevar Kumar Jamatia speaking on the occasion said, many programmes have been taken for development of tribals in the state. Chief Minister Rubber Mission is one of them.

The government, through tribal welfare department, TFDPC, Rubber Board, ADC and other agencies, has taken initiative to raise rubber plantations for beneficiaries in next five years. Plantations of rubber, teak, sandalwood, bamboo, agar etc will be raised for the patta holders. Programmes have been taken to grow rubber plantation on 30,000 Ha area in phases in next five years across the state. This will cause rapid economic development of tribals in the state.

Under the Chief Minister Rubber Mission, 34 persons were handed over land pattas on the day. Chief minister handed land pattas to Samendra Debbarma, Daighachari Debbarma, Bhaskar Debbarma, Madhai Debbarma, Lakhirani Debbarma and to Bhadrai Debbarma that day. Under this five-year programme, with the joint initiative of tribal welfare department, Rubber Board and TRPC each person will get 1 ha. rubber garden free of cost. Others present in the inaugural programme were MLA Birendra Kishore Debbarma, secretary of tribal welfare department Tanushree Debbarma, DM, Sepahijala Biswashree B and executive officer of Rubber Board Dr. K.N Raghavan.