

## Indo-Bangla Joint Technical Committee visits Sabroom



*Pic. by Rupak Acharjee, ICO*

The members of Indo-Bangla Joint Technical Committee visited Sabroom today to inspect drinking water and irrigation project on the banks of River Feni. South Tripura District Magistrate Saju Wahid welcomed the committee's representatives from Bangladesh during their visit through Maitri Setu. Along with the DM were Sabroom Sub-Divisional Magistrate Debdas Debbarma and officials of irrigation, water resources and other departments. The Bangladesh side of the Committee was represented by 12 delegates. The Indo-Bangla representatives visited the site where drinking water and irrigation schemes are being implemented near the Feni River bank and discussed about the technical aspects of the schemes.

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

Twelve-day long 40<sup>th</sup> Agartala Book Fair will commence from March 25, 2022 to conclude on March 5, 2022. The book fair will be organized at Hapania International Fair ground and this year's theme will be "My Tripura, My Pride". This decision was taken in the first Steering Committee meeting of the 40<sup>th</sup> Agartala Book Fair held at Rabindra Satabarshiki Bhawan yesterday. 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 the young talent in the field of dance, music, visual art, and theatre. These new awards will carry a cash prize of Rs. 15,000 each. Stall rent and registration fee have been exempted for participants and book sellers this year.

District-level Book Fairs are also being organized this time. It was decided in a video conference with District Magistrates of seven districts at the secretariat that district-level Book Fair in Unakoti district will be held from February 28 to March 4, in North Tripura district it will be held from March 5 to March 9, in Dhalai

district it will be held from March 11 to March 15, in Khowai district it will be held from March 17 to March 21, in South Tripura district it will be held from April 9 to April 13, in Gomati district it will be held from April 17 to April 21, and in Sepahijala district it will be held from April 23 to April 27.

Deputy chief minister Jishnu Dev Varma, ICA minister Sushanta Chowdhury, jail minister Ram Prasad Pal, Sabhadhipati of West Tripura Zila Parishad Antara Sarkar Deb, West Tripura DM Debapriya Bardhan, 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 were present in the Steering Committee meeting. The meeting was conducted by the director of ICA department Ratan Biswas.

### Farmers Knowledge Centre inaugurated in Jolaibari



*Pic. by Rakshit Debbarma, ICO*

Farmers Knowledge Centres are being set up in the state to double agricultural produce using scientific and modern processes, enunciated agriculture and farmers' welfare minister Pranajit Singha Roy after inaugurating a Farmers Knowledge Centre at Jolaibari yesterday. The centre was built spending 58 lakh 71 thousand rupees under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana under the initiative of agriculture and farmers welfare department.

Agriculture minister said, several central and state government schemes are being implemented such as PMKISAN, PMFBY, RKVY, PMKSY etc. The state government is working on 10 different small projects for farmers and agriculture in South Tripura

district. Others present in the inaugural programme were MLA Sankar Roy, Chairman of Jolaibari Panchayat Samiti Rabi Nama and Vice Chairman Tapas Dutta, Jolaibari BAC Chairman Ashok Mog, director of agriculture and farmers' welfare department Saradindu Das and others.

### **Agriculture minister inaugurated seed processing centre in Sabroom**

Agriculture and farmers' welfare minister Pranajit Singha Roy inaugurated two rice godowns near Sabroom Railway Station under Rupaichari and Satchand blocks of Sabroom sub-division yesterday. Each rice godown has 1 thousand MT capacity and each of them was built spending 1 crore 25 lakh rupees. He also inaugurated a seed processing centre near Sabroom Railway Station which has been built spending 53 lakh 4 thousand rupees.

At a farmers' meet organized on the occasion, agriculture minister said, the present government has taken several initiatives to increase agricultural production in the state and to double farmers' income. Farmers are getting 6 thousand rupees directly into their bank account under PMKISAN scheme. Efforts are being made to double farmers' income through paddy procurement from them. The whole agriculture system

including fertilizers, pesticides, irrigation system, soil testing is being given importance. The government is not only looking after increasing production but also on its marketing. Queen Pineapples, Jackfruits, Scented Lemons are being exported abroad. 10 rice godowns are being inaugurated in South Tripura. These rice godowns shall work as paddy procurement centres in coming days, he informed.

Others present in the programme were MLA Sankar Roy, Sabhadhipati of South Tripura Zilla Parishad Kakali Das Dutta. The programme was presided over by the president of agriculture related standing committee of Satchand block Jaba Dey.

### **Fertilizer and seed godown inaugurated in Belonia**

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Pranajit Singha Roy inaugurated fertilizer and seed godown in Belonia under South Tripura district yesterday. After inaugurating, the Minister said, governmental facilities are being delivered to the farmers. As a result, farmer's production cost has decreased to an extent. The farmers of this region from now onward will not have to depend on Gomati district for fertilizers because of the newly inaugurated fertilizer and seed godown. The minister also said,

agricultural production has risen after enrolling the farmers under PMKISAN and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.

The minister said, farmers are benefitting from paddy being procured from them at Minimum Support Price. The present government has prioritized the agriculture sector. He hoped that this godown will play a significant role in farmers overall development. The fertilizer godown has 3 thousand MT capacity. It was built spending 2 crore 81 lakh rupees. The paddy godown has the capacity of 1 thousand MT. It was built spending 1 crore 25 lakh rupees. The seed godown has 200 MT capacity. It was built spending 19 lakh 88 thousand rupees and 7 lakh 57 thousand rupees was spent in seed processing scheme.

Others present in the inaugural programme were Sabhadhipati of South Tripura Zilla Parishad Kakali Das Dutta, Sahakari Sabhadhipati Bibhishan Chandra Das, Chairperson of Belonia Municipal Council Nikhil Chandra Gope, and director of agriculture and farmers welfare department Saradindu Das.

present financial year under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) project, 20 Ha land has been brought under black pepper cultivation. Black pepper has been cultivated on 5 Ha land of Mohanpur block, 4 Ha land of

Jirania block, 3 Ha land of Dukli block, 4 Ha land of Mandwi block and 4 Ha land of Hezamara block spending 5 lakh rupees benefitting 160 farmers. This was informed by horticulture and soil conservation office, West Tripura.

### **Pump-set distribution in West Tripura under PMKSY**

Pump sets are being distributed to 280 farmer families of 5 agricultural subdivisions at subsidized rates in West Tripura under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana under the initiative of horticulture and soil conservation department, West Tripura office spending 28 lakh rupees. Among 280 families, 46 families are from Mandwi, 66 from Jirania, 67 from Mohanpur, 42 from Hezamara and 59 from Dukli. This was informed by horticulture and soil conservation office, West Tripura.

### **46,499 mandays generated in Rajapur ADC village under MGNREGA**

In the present financial year under MGNREGA, so far 46 thousand 499 mandays have been generated through various development works executed in Rajapur ADC village of Bokafa block. Total 104 developmental workplans were implemented under this spending 93 lakh 84 thousand 870 rupees. This was informed by Rajapur ADC village office.