

Government of Tripura
Directorate of Information & Cultural Affairs

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State celebrates 114th Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore
Manikya Bahadur Debbarman

A statue of Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya will be placed on the island next to Kaman Chowmuhani. Moreover, the cremation ground of the royal family of Battala will be renovated soon. Chief Minister Professor (Dr.) Manik Saha announced this while inaugurating the 114th birth anniversary celebrations of Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya Bahadur Debbarman on 19th August, 2022. At the beginning of this programme organized at Rabindra Bhavan by Ministry of Information and Cultural Affairs, Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha along with other guests paid their respects by garlanding the portrait of Maharaja Bir Bikram.

Chief Minister said that Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya has done a lot of work for the development of agriculture, health, communication system during his time. He completed the thought which his predecessors Birchandra Manikya, Radha Kishore Manikya and Birendra Kishore Manikya Bahadur started working for the overall development of the state's tribal and non-tribal people. During his time, state affairs were administered on the advice of tribal heads. Judging from that aspect, Maharaja was respectful towards the democratic thought even at that time. Chief Minister also said that Maharaja Bir Bikram was a cultural personality with creative mind. Even as a Hindu king, he gave equal respect to all religions. Banks, treasury were established in the state during his tenure. Maharaja tried to develop the state of Tripura using his experience from traveling to Europe and America.

Chief Minister also said that it is not possible to create a golden future by distorting the history. The present central and state governments are always trying to appreciate the historical personalities of the country. Therefore, Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself unveiled the full-length statue of Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya at the old airport in Agartala. The history of the monarchical period of Tripura was kept secret during the previous government. But the present state government is working for the real development of the people of the state under the vision of Prime Minister. A proposal has been sent to the Central Government to increase the number of seats in Tripura Tribal Area Autonomous District Council to 50. Its sole purpose is to enable 19 ethnic groups to participate in the development of the ADC area. Also, this government is working towards the socio-economic upliftment of the people by constructing Eklavya schools, providing special education for drop-out tribal students, starting honorarium for social workers, taking RISHA to national and international level.

At the programme, Deputy Chief Minister Jishnu Dev Varma said, Maharaja Bir Bikram was the glory of Manikya Dynasty. He was multi-talented, full of humanity and possessed a unique personality. Deputy Chief Minister also said that the kings of Tripura were averse to propaganda and were philanthropist. Art and culture are the greatest assets of this state and Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya created brotherhood among the tribal and non-tribal of the state by nurturing this wealth. He was the only king who wanted to reduce his power by introducing a constitution in the state.

At the programme, Information and Cultural Affairs Minister, Sushanta Chowdhury said that the role of Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya in awakening the sense of brotherhood among the tribal and non-tribal people in the development of Tripura was unique. He was the shaper of modern Tripura. The current government is working for the development of the state by following his ideals and thoughts. Maharaja is immortal through his actions at a young age. We all need to pass the history of monarchical period to the present generation. The government and the people have to work in the way shown by the Maharaja so that the divisive forces cannot be active in the state in the future. Mayor of Agartala Municipal Corporation, Dipak Majumder, former Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and MLA Rebati Mohan Das were also present in the programme. Director of Information and Cultural Affairs Department, Ratan Biswas delivered the welcome address at the programme. Later, a wonderful cultural programme was performed on the stage.
