Government of Tripura Directorate of Information and Cultural Affairs

S-1782 Agartala, 8th Aug, 2018

PRESS RELEASE

Hon'ble Chief Minister, Tripura during his visit to Delhi on 08.08.2018 met Union HRD Minister, Union MoS of Power and Union Health Minister.

In this meeting with Minister HRD, Hon'ble Chief Minister raised the issue of establishing of 2 new Kendriya Vidyalaya at Kalacherra, Dharmanagar in North District and at Banduar, Udaipur in Gomati District. He also mentioned about sanction for 4 new integrated B.Ed. colleges in the State, including one for women exclusively, to increase the training capacity. This would enable to get adequate number of D.El.ED/B.Ed qualified candidates at the earliest in the interest of teacher education and getting the large number of vacancies filled up by qualified candidates. The Hon'ble HRD Minister assured that these matters would be attended to on priority.

In this meeting with Hon'ble MoS of Power, Hon'ble Chief Minister stated that the State Government was working with full emphasis for meeting the target of 100% electrification of all households in order to fulfil the dream of Hon'ble Prime Minister to have 100% coverage of electricity in the Country within December this year. Hon'ble Chief Minister mentioned that DPR's have already submitted and State Government has received Rs 420 crores against proposal of Rs. 756.36 crores for implementing the Saubhagya and DDUGJY Schemes. Hon'ble Chief Minister requested that balance funds may be released at the earliest to complete that programmes. He also requested that sanction for the proposed number-52753 Nos.solar connection may also be approved quickly. He mentioned that in the hilly and difficult terrain of the State stand alone solar connections would be far more preferable then grid based connections. Hon'ble Chief Minister mentioned that the cost would be almost 1/3 that of grid based connection and solar systems would be easier to install and maintain and would be less prone to transmission line related disruption. Hon'ble Chief Minister also raised the issue of the high cost of power from NTPC Bongaigaon plant. The cost of power was about Rs 8.80 per unit whereas the State was procuring power at a maximum of Rs 3.26 per unit from other sources. He requested Union MoS for Power to find a solution to this problem as the State could not afford such high cost of power and was also incurring almost Rs crores per month as fixed charges to NTPC.

Page-2

Union MoS of Power appreciated the issues raised by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and assured that he would have all the matters attended to in a time bound manner. He also assured that about Rs 300 crores would be released very soon for implementation of the Saubhagya and DDUGJY Schemes in the State.

In the meeting with Union Health Minister, Hon'ble Chief Minister discussed issues pertaining to development of health infrastructure and implementation of schemes in the State. Union Health Minister assured that the pending matters would receive top priority by his Ministry.

Hon'ble Chief Minister also met Principal Secretary to Prime Minister to discuss few issues relating to development of State. He mentioned about the desire of the State Government to hold the 48th National Games, 2024 in the State. Hon'ble Chief Minister stated that State Government would however, require financial support from Government of India to upgrade and create new infrastructure to host the Games.

Hon'ble Chief Minister also raised the matter about Spice Jet withdrawing its flight operation from Tripura and stated that this would cause immense hardship and suffering to the people of the State who have to depend a lot on the use of Airlines to travel to and from the State. He requested that necessary intervention may be made in this matter so that Spice Jet would revoke this move.

Principal Secretary to Prime Minister assured that he would have the issue of Spice Jet looked into in consultation with Ministry of Civil Aviation. Regarding the National Games, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister appreciated the desire of the State Government to host such an event. He suggested that State Government may submit a proper proposal in this regard for consideration.
