Tripura
January – December
Current Affairs 2017 part 1

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Dr Gaurav Garg  A Tiredless soul
• **Tripura**

  - third-smallest state in the country, it covers 10,491 km² (4,051 square miles) and is bordered by Bangladesh to the north, south, and west, and the Indian states of Assam and Mizoram to the east. In 2011 the state had 3,671,032 residents, constituting 0.3% of the country's population.
Tripura is a landlocked state and its geographical limits touch both national and international boundaries. Its length of international boundary line with Bangladesh measures 839 km. Its national boundaries with Assam and Mizoram measure 53 km and 109 km respectively.
Five mountain ranges—Boromura, Atharamura, Longtharai, Shakhan and Jampui Hills

- **Governor**: Tathagata Roy
- **Chief Minister**: Manik Sarkar (CPI (M))
- **Legislature**: Unicameral (60 seats)
- **Parliamentary constituency**: Rajya Sabha 1, Lok Sabha 2
- **High Court**: Tripura High Court
Languages of Tripura

Bengali (67.14%)
Tripuri (Kokborok) (25.46%)
Hindi (1.68%)
Kuki (1.2%)
Mogh (0.9%)
Others (3.62%)
Religion

Religion in Tripura (2011)

Hinduism (83.4%)
Islam (8.6%)
Christianity (4.35%)
Buddhism (3.41%)
Sikhism (0.02%)
Jainism (0.02%)
Other or no religion (0.2%)
Ethnic groups

In the 2001 census of India, Bengalis represented almost 70 per cent of Tripura's population while the Tripuri population amounted to 30 per cent.

The state's "scheduled tribes", historically disadvantaged groups of people recognised by the country's constitution, consist of 19 ethnic groups and many sub-groups, with diverse languages and cultures.

In 2001, the largest such group was the Kokborok-speaking Tripuris, which had a population of 543,848, representing 17.0 per cent of the state's population and 54.7 per cent of the "scheduled tribe" population. The other major groups, in descending order of population, were the Reang (16.6 per cent of the indigenous population), Jamatia (7.5 per cent), Chakma (6.5 per cent), Halam (4.8 per cent), Mog (3.1 per cent), Munda (1.2 per cent), Kuki (1.2 per cent) and Garo (1.1 per cent).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area</td>
<td>10,491.69 sq.km.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>36,73,917 (as per Census 2011)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Agartala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official Languages</td>
<td>Bengali, Kokborok and English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Languages</td>
<td>Mogh, Chakma, Halam, Garo, Bishnupriya Manipuri, Manipuri, Hindi, Oriya etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altitude</td>
<td>12.80 meters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature</td>
<td>Summer: 20 to 36° C. Winter: 7 to 27° C. Winter 2° C Min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainy Season</td>
<td>June to September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Rainfall</td>
<td>2500 mm per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest Rainfall</td>
<td>2855 mm (Kamalpur)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest Rainfall</td>
<td>1811 mm (Sonamura)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy Rate</td>
<td>87.8% (as recorded in 2011 Census). As per recent data, the literacy rate is around 96%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Tree</td>
<td>Agar (<em>Aquilaria malaccensis</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Flower</td>
<td>Nageswar (<em>Mesua ferrea</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Animal</td>
<td>Phayre's Langur (<em>Trachypithecus phayrei</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Bird</td>
<td>Green Imperial Pigeon (<em>Ducula aenea</em>)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Although the state is small with a population of only over three million, Tripura is the 2nd most populous state in the North Eastern Region.

The social composition of the population of Tripura is diverse. Around one-third of the population belongs to the Scheduled Tribes. According to 2011 census, the state's population is 36.74 lakh, with a density of 350 persons per sq. km.
Data Highlights:

1. Total number of Households has increased from 664334 in 2001 to 855556 in 2011 (increased by 28.8%) whereas total Population increased from 3199203 in 2001 to 3673917 in 2011 (increased by 14.8%).

2. Sex Ratio is 960 (in 2001 it was 948); in all India scenario it is 943.

3. Population in the group 0-6 increased from 436446 in 2001 to 458014 in 2011 (increased by 5%).
   i. Schedule Cast Population is 17.8% of total population. Sex ratio was 962 in 2001 which had increased to 959 in 2011.
   ii. Schedule Tribe Population is 31.8% of total Population. Sex ratio was 970 in 2001; now in 2011 it is 983 (for rural 982 and urban 1017).

4. Literacy rate, as per the 2011 Census was 87.22%
Gujarat has maximum of 12 cities among the top 50 cleanest, followed by Madhya Pradesh with 11 and Andhra Pradesh with eight.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Rank</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Overall Score</th>
<th>Municipal Self Declaration</th>
<th>On-Site Observation</th>
<th>Citizen Feedback</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Indore</td>
<td>Madhya Pr...</td>
<td>1808</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>497</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bhopal</td>
<td>Madhya Pr...</td>
<td>1800</td>
<td>830</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>488</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Visakhapa...</td>
<td>Andhra Pr...</td>
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<td>869</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>469</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Surat</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>1762</td>
<td>849</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>489</td>
</tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Mysuru (M...)</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>1743</td>
<td>833</td>
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<td>450</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Tiruchira...</td>
<td>Tamil Nad...</td>
<td>1716</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>425</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>New Delhi...</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>1708</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>461</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Navi Mumb...</td>
<td>Maharasht...</td>
<td>1705</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>457</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tirupati</td>
<td>Andhra Pr...</td>
<td>1704</td>
<td>809</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>429</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Vadodara</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>1703</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>460</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Chandigar...</td>
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<td>1701</td>
<td>883</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ujjain</td>
<td>Madhya Pr...</td>
<td>1691</td>
<td>832</td>
<td>391</td>
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Swacch Sarveshskshan 2017

Agartala - 290
# Swacch Sarveskshan 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Rank</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
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<tr>
<td>427</td>
<td>Abohar</td>
<td>Punjab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>428</td>
<td>Muktsar</td>
<td>Punjab</td>
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<tr>
<td>429</td>
<td>Bahraich</td>
<td>Uttar Pra...</td>
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<tr>
<td>430</td>
<td>Katihar</td>
<td>Bihar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>431</td>
<td>Hardoi</td>
<td>Uttar Pra...</td>
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<tr>
<td>432</td>
<td>Bagaha</td>
<td>Bihar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>433</td>
<td>Bhusawal</td>
<td>Maharasht...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>434</td>
<td>Gonda</td>
<td>Uttar Pra...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Railway link to Tripura border towns soon

The Centre is working on a plan to connect all bordering towns of Tripura through an alternative railway line from Kumarghat to Belonia via Kailashahar, Kamalpur, Khowai and Sonamura.

Laying of tracks would be completed by March 2018

Aizawl and Kohima will be connected by rail from Bhairabi and Zubza respectively by December, 2020.

Manipur capital Imphal will also be linked by March, 2019.
As part of the commitment under Swachha Bharat Mission, North East Frontier Railway (NFR) has fitted 2990 eco-friendly zero-discharge bio-toilets in 865 coaches so far and that all coaches will have the facility by 2019-20.

NFR has converted a 81-km stretch between Chaparmukh and Silghat town in Lumding section into a discharge-free green corridor this year so far.

It has also decided to convert a 448-km stretch between Rangia-Murkongselek, Badarpur-Agartala stretch (225 km), Silchar-Bhairabi stretch (83 km) and Silchar-Jiribam stretch (50 km) within this financial year.
Centre stops MGNREGA funding to Tripura

Release of funds meant for MGNREGA scheme in Tripura has been put under suspension by the Central government following allegations of irregularities and violation of norms even as the Centre sought reply to 23 queries before resumption of fund releasing.

All the district magistrates has been asked to send reply to all these 23 questions within October 25 to send it to the Centre.

A central team also will visit Tripura in November to review the implementation of the MGNREGA in the State.
State Rural Development Minister Naresh Jamatia told the reporters that the state could provide work for only 24 days under MGNREGA during the first six months of this year due to non-availability of fund.

He said the Centre has gradually decreased the allocation for MGNREGA.

He said last year the centre had allocated Rs 1195.61 crore with which the State could provide 80 days work to the rural people.

This year the allocation has drastically reduced to Rs 710 crore for 42 days work but released only Rs 318.41 so far.
Dancers of Reang tribes of Tripura scripted their name in British Parliament by performing unique and magnificent Hojagiri dance with Kokborok (dialect of local tribe) melody recently as part of World Tourism Day celebration.

Besides, performance of Hojagiri, Bagurumba dance (Assam), Pawara dance (Maharashtra), Gondu Gussadi and Lambadi dances (Telangana), Santhali (West Bengal) were presented on Indian theme.

Jheure dance (Nepal) and Kavadi & Kurathi (Tamil) were presented as part of South Asian theme in the celebration.

Hojagiri is a group folk dance of backward Reang tribe of Tripura balancing on an earthen pitcher and managing other props such as a bottle on the head and earthen lamp on the hand while only the lower half of the body keeps on moving
Pineapples from Tripura making way to Dubai

In a step towards boosting exports potential of perishable agricultural commodities especially fruits and vegetables from north-eastern region (NER), a consignment of pineapple sourced from Tripura has been sent to Dubai.

Mainly because of collaboration between the commerce ministry’s wing Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and the private air carrier Spicejet, which offered a ‘reasonable’ freight rate to carry the consignment (1.2 tonne) of fruit from Guwahati to Delhi from where it was transported to Dubai.
Another consignment of Kew variety of pineapple would be sent shortly. “High cost of transportation in north-east is a major constrain for shipment of perishable cargo

India exported Rs 1.08 lakh crore worth of agricultural and processed foods in FY17.

Basmati rice, buffalo meat, fruits and vegetables are the key commodities exported from the country.

Some of the key fruits and vegetables which have export potential from the NE region include Nagaland’s pineapples, Meghalaya’s ginger and turmeric, Manipur black rice and passion fruit, and the badi elaichi from Arunachal and Sikkim
Dipa Karmakar honoured with D.Litt. by NIT Agartala

India's star gymnast Dipa Karmakar has been conferred a D.Litt. degree from the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Agartala.

The 24-year-old Tripura girl is the first Indian woman gymnast to have qualified for the Olympics. She finished fourth in the final round of the women's vault event at the Rio Olympics Games in Brazil last year.

The director of NIT, Agartala, Professor Ajoy Kumar Ray, handed over the degree to Karmakar, during the 10th convocation programme at the Rabindra Satabarshiki Bhavan.
181 helpline for Tripura women to be launched soon

A new helpline 181 would be launched here for anything related to women issues be it, women welfare schemes or violence against women
Tripura to seek Rs 300 cr for flood damage repairs

In the latest flood caused by record breaking shower (243.9 mm) till October 22, altogether 5,853 families were sheltered in 139 relief camps, according to the reports placed in the meeting.

While agricultural crops valued at Rs 80 crore were washed away by the flood waters, Fisheries department recorded a loss of Rs 12 crore.

The water level of Dumbur reservoir hydroelectric project in Gomati district has crossed the danger level prompting the authority to open one of the gates.

This year, the State witnessed 34 per cent more rainfall from June to September.
Normally, the State records 1,400 mm shower during the monsoon but this time it has gone up to 1,892 mm which is unprecedented in recent years.

After a final report on damage, the State Government will seek financial assistance of Rs 300 crore from the Centre.
 Thousands of devotees throng 16th-century Tripura Sundari temple

Thousands of devotees thronged the 16th century Tripura Sundari temple and a mega fair organised near its premises on the occasion of Kali Puja and Diwali.

The temple, built by Maharaja Dhanya Manikya in 1501 A.D, is one of the 51 Shakti Peeths and legend has it that Sati's right foot fell during Lord Shiva's 'Tandav Nritya'.

The two-day fair, considered the biggest in the state, attracts visitors from within and outside the state, every year.

A special train from Silchar in Assam to Udaipur in Tripura was launched by Northeast Frontier Railway(NFR) on this occasion.
Tripura tense, Press Council seeks report on journalist's killing

The Press Council of India (PCI) sought a report from the Tripura government on the killing of a TV journalist while several media organisations have demanded a CBI probe into the murder.

During mob violence Shantanu Bhowmik, a 28-year-old journalist, was brutally killed allegedly by tribal-based party cadres at Mandai in West Tripura district.
Tripura to Soon Have an International River Port

Tripura is all set to have an international river port based on Gomati River in Sonamura subdivision.

In this regard, union shipping ministry has placed the state government’s disposal Rs 2 crores for land acquisition and other basic works.

The port would operate small ferries and boats that would use River Meghna in Bangladesh for goods transport.

The river Gomati will be directly connected with the river Meghna in Bangladesh.
Stone laid for world-class cricket stadium in Tripura

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Sarkar unveiled the foundation stone for a world-class cricket stadium at Narsinghgarh in Agartala.

The Tripura Cricket Association (TCA) to build the stadium at a cost of Rs. 200 crore.
Tripura hikes salary of government staff by around 20%

Government in Tripura hiked the pay and pensions of 2.44 lakh state government employees by 19.68% with a uniform fitment factor of 2.25% to the existing salary with effect from April 1 this year.

The state government did not implement the revised pay structure of 7th Central Pay Commission, this salary hike was over 5% more than that in the central government.

The state government has also announced that the fourth Saturday of each month will be a holiday, in addition to the existing holiday on the second Saturday.
Tripura film fest focussed on environment

Youth for Integration, a forum of tribal youth, and six other social groups hosted an international film festival in Tripura to promote awareness on preserving environment.

The Kirloskar Vasundhara International Film Festival (KVIFF) was held at three places, including in Agartala.

The festival at Khumulwng was slated for three days, from July 5 to 7, and for two days each in Agartala (July 8 and 9) and Ambassa (July 10 and 11).

Khumulwng is the headquarters of tribal autonomous district council and Amassa is the headquarters of tribal majority Dhalai district in eastern Tripura.
The festival showcased films from 25 countries including short films, feature films and documentaries essentially on nature and environment.

Since 2009, Youth for Integration had been working for socially deprived people, to preserve nature, forests and environment with the support of volunteers and students.
State finance minister Bhanu Lal Saha tabled a tax-free Rs 198-crore deficit budget for 2017-18 in the assembly.

The budget has given the highest priority to education, estimating the expenditure of 21.33%, followed by the Public Works Department (PWD) at 11.51%, rural development 9.96%, agriculture 5.37% and health 4.85% of the total volume of Rs 15,956.56 crore.

However, the budget has earmarked an amount of Rs 600 crore for offering benefits to the employees and pensioners keeping the 7th CPC recommendations in mind, adding that about 33.33% of the total estimated budget will come from centrally sponsored schemes and special central assistance.
The total size of the budget has come down to 12.7 percent of GDP this year from 13.4 percent of GDP last year (Revised Estimates).

The total revenue receipts have come down to 9 percent of GDP in Budget Estimates of 2017-18 from 9.4 percent of GDP in Revised Estimates of 2016-17.

The State has been recognized in several fronts for its achievements in governance like previous years. Some of them include: “Most Improved Small State in E Governance” by a leading national media house.

Secondly, Tripura was also awarded second prize by the Government of India for reducing Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) from 26 to 21.

Thirdly, Tripura has been ranked by the Government of India as the best State in North East for “Ease of Doing Business”.
The state's share of central taxes will comprise 28.56%.

On the other hand, the state will incur 41.94% of the expenditure on salaries and pension, while another 11.24% will go to make interest payments and loan repayments.

Budget Highlights

The budget proposes to increase subsidy for PDS oil and pulses by Rs 15 per month from Rs 50 to Rs 65 with effect from April 1, 2017. It will benefit all ration card holders and will cost the government Rs 9.97 crore additionally a year.
The present rate of boarding house stipend for SC/ST students would be enhanced from the existing **Rs 46 to Rs 55 per boarder per day.**

The budget proposes to enhance the subsidy available under the Swavalamban Scheme from the existing amount of **Rs 75,000 to Rs 1,00,000 per project.**

Grant for the existing 25 state-funded pension schemes and state-contributed three national pension schemes would be increased by **Rs 100 per month per beneficiary.** This will benefit 3,25,000 beneficiaries.
Five new pension schemes for folk artistes, carpenters, blacksmiths, potters and harijons would be introduced for the families having no govt employee and belonging to the Scheduled Caste at a monthly rate of Rs 700 per beneficiary. This is likely to benefit 9,000 people.

The ration money for state police, TSR, watch and ward staff of jails, fire service personnel and Home Guards would be increased by Rs 100 from the existing Rs 700 per month and the honorarium to SPOs would be increased by Rs 500 to Rs 5,656 per month.

The government proposes to provide Rs 150/- per day per trainee during training programme under the Skill Development scheme.
Quantum of MLA Area Development Scheme is to be increased by Rs 5 lakh from the existing amount of Rs 30 lakh per year.

As a welfare measure, the state government has decided to extend the benefit of family pension to divorcee daughters of the state government pensioners.

The state government has decided to revise the pay structure and pension for different categories of employees and pensioners of the state for which a provision of Rs 600 crore has been earmarked in the budget for 2017-18.

The budget proposes to offer bicycles to each of the 20,000 girl students free of cost in this financial year and set up two new degree colleges in Udaipur and Panisagar.
gas pipeline from Chittagong to Tripura

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has taken up with Bangladesh for laying a pipeline for carrying natural gas from Chittagong to Tripura to meet the crisis of cooking gas (LPG) in the North-eastern region, Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan

Govt is laying a pipeline for transportation of diesel from Siliguri in West Bengal to Parvatipur in Bangladesh.

There is pipeline for carrying diesel from Numaligarh oil refinery in Assam to Siliguri.

The pipeline if approved by the Bangladesh government would be laid by the side of the rail lines which pass near the Indo-Bangla international border
Pradhan launched the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana in Tripura here and distributed LPG connection to 20 below poverty line (BPL) families.

In Tripura 9.22 lakh households are having LPG connections and efforts are on to bring 100 per cent coverage in the days to come.

The Oil minister also laid the foundation for a new grassroots bottling plant here with 60 TMTPA capacity with an estimated cost of Rs 143 crore which would be completed by 2019.

Pradhan said, now about 4.5 lakh households are covered by the existing bottling plant out of total 9.22 households having LPG connection.
Tripura Govt Launches Social Media Account

Tripura government introduced its own social media account — *My Govt Tripura* — to disseminate its decision, plans, actions and policies among the people.

The *Information and Cultural Affairs Department* will operate the account.
Tripura becomes the first state to set up family welfare committees.

Tripura has become the first state in the country to set up family welfare district committees to examine the complaints of women against their husbands and in-laws and find an amicable solution.

The committees would examine the complaints of any woman against her husband, in-laws and relatives of the husband and try to find an amicable solution through negotiation.

Tripura High Court is the first high court among 24 high courts of the country that has constituted the family welfare district committees.
The Supreme Court on July 27 directed that each complaint of cruelty to a woman by her husband or his relatives, which does not involve tangible physical injuries or death, shall be referred to the family welfare committee of the district.

The Supreme Court had observed that section 498-A of IPC (husband or relative of husband of a woman subjecting her to cruelty) is often misused by some women to harass the elderly in-laws or the husband.

The police will take appropriate action only after the district level committees submit its report,
New Indo-Bangla Railway Line Along Tripura to be commissioned by Next Year End

The Dhaka meeting has decided to commission the Agartala (India)-Akhaura (Bangladesh) railway project by next year-end and it would be operational by January 2019.

The 15-km India-Bangladesh new railway line, land acquisition has already been completed on the Indian side and 50 per cent completed on the Bangladesh territory.

The government-owned Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON) would lay the five-km track on the Indian side while the remaining 10-km would be laid by the Bangladesh Railways on their side.

The Indian government would bear the entire cost of the project.
The Agartala-Akhaura railway line would facilitate carriage of goods to and from both the countries and greatly benefit India’s land-locked northeastern states.

Also, the journey time between Agartala and Kolkata, via Bangladesh, would be reduced by a third, from 1,613-km through mountainous terrain to a mere 514 km.
Tripura claims sharp fall in shifting cultivation

Tripura has claimed that it has reduced shifting cultivation by 52% in North and Dhalai districts in the last seven years through an Indo-German participatory natural resource management project.

German Development Bank KfW had given Rs 87 crore in 2009 under bilateral cooperation between India and Germany and Tripura government contributed Rs 34 crore in the project to improve the livelihood of forest-dependent communities.

Over 7,000 Jhumia families have shifted to mainstream professions following the project. As many as 4,000 tribal youths got employment after vocational training.
Tripura's Gomati district awarded for best performance in PMFBY

Gomati District Magistrate Raval H Kumar received the cash award of Rs 10 lakh along with a citation and trophy from Mr Modi for his achievement in bringing about 749 hectares of agriculture land under PM FASAL BIMA YOJANA out of total 755 hectare in last one year.

The programme was held at Vigyan Bhawan on the celebration of Civil Service Day (21st April)

The district administration of Gomati took initiative to bring entire firming community under the scheme and responses of the farmers were very good, which help them to bring 99 per cent of the firming land under the insurance.
New underground water treatment plant commissioned at Sadhutilla in Agartala

In Tripura, a new underground water treatment plant has been commissioned at Sadhutilla in the southern part of Agartala under the aegis of the state Urban Development department.

The plant has started functioning with supply of quality treated water initially to 565 households through pipe line.

It has treatment capacity of 4 point 8 million litre per day and will supply potable water to 2500 connections at households, schools, markets and institutions of 13 hamlets.

Sadhutilla water treatment plant is designed to treat surface water and deep tube wells.
The specialty of the plant is that it would be treating water at higher standards with minimizing turbidity and iron in water much below the permissible level.

The plant has also the provisions of recycling of sludge water and rain water harvesting.

The built up cost of this water treatment plant was Rs. 4 crore 99 lakh.

It has been funded jointly by the Asian Development Bank with 70% share of assistance and the Union Government with 30 % share of assistance.
New Tripura chief electoral officer

The Election Commission has appointed Tripura government's Principal Secretary Sriram Taranikanti as the new Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of the state.
Two Districts of Tripura Awarded for MGNREGA Implementation

South Tripura and Dhalai districts were selected for award.

while Sachindra Nagar Gram Panchayat under Jirania block of West Tripura appeared to be best village implemented the scheme.

The South Tripura district received the award for best successful implementation of Geo-tagging of MGNREGA works in stipulated time.

Dhalai district has been selected by the Union RD Ministry as best district of the country for overall implementation of the scheme.
Tripura Govt To Install Smart Power Meters In All Households

Government in Tripura has decided to install smart electricity consumption meters up to household level across the state in a time bound manner to ensure cent per cent collection of power bill on time.

“The smart meter will ensure auto power cut to the individual household unless the power bill is paid on time and immediately after payment power service will be restored automatically, which would not require human intervention in the process.

World Bank has sanctioned a project of Rest 1300 crore to Tripura for further improvement of power distribution network. The work has been started for Rs 1087 crore.
The state government has sanctioned Rs 72 crore for carrying out underground cable transmission line in Agartala and a company has been appointed for preparation of Detail Project Report (DPR).

On the other hand, the Centre has allocated only Rs 73 crore under Integrated Power Development Scheme for urban areas and Rs 74.12 crore for rural areas.
IGNOU to train Tripura teachers in elementary education

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) signed an agreement with the Tripura government for training 11,884 elementary level teachers from the state.

The agreement confirms training to teachers through the varsity's two-year diploma in Elementary Education programme, for those who possess the qualifications stipulated as per the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) norms and are working in government or its recognised primary/elementary schools.
Both IGNOU and Tripura will develop a context-specific block on elementary education in the state.

The objective of the block is to familiarise all enrolled teachers with dimensions of elementary education, it said.

"The training shall be conducted in a phased manner, enrolling only one hundred students per programme study centre."
A joint team of governments of India and Bangladesh has selected a site for establishing a border haat in Dhalai district of Tripura.

The two have agreed to set up a border haat at Kamalpur (Kurmaghat) after conducting an on the spot visit by a joint Indo-Bangla team.

However, there was a problem too in setting up the haat at Kamalpur/Kurmaghat as a canal would come on the way if it was set up along the zero line of the international border.

As per guidelines, border haats should come up along the zero line of Indo-Bangla border.
Currently two border haats are functional in Tripura – one at Kamalasagar in Sepahijala district and another at Srinagar in South Tripura district.

Another border haat at Raghna in North Tripura district is also in the pipeline and its site has been selected.
Kerala, Tripura & Arunachal Pradesh Takes States’ List Under UDAY to 26

Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY)

Under the scheme, the states are to **repay 75 per cent of debt** by issuing bonds while for remaining 25 per cent loans, discoms are required to raise funds through issuance of securities.

Thus, till date, 27 States and four Union Territories have joined UDAY scheme.
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