

## Two-day State-Level Hozagiri Festival from October 11

The 30<sup>th</sup> State-Level Hozagiri Festival is about to be held at Khedacherra Secondary School premises from October 11 till 12. In this regard, a preparatory meeting was presided over by Social Welfare & Social Education Minister Santana Chakma yesterday at the conference hall of Damcherra block. Fisheries Minister Prem Kumar Reang, Damcherra Block Advisory Committee Chairman Upendra Reang, ADM & Collector of North Tripura district L. Darlong, Damcherra Block BDO Swapnajit Sarkar, members of State-Level Hozagiri Festival Committee and officials of different departments were present in the meeting.

District Welfare Officer Hemanta Debbarma, in the beginning of the meeting, had elaborately discussed the role of different departments in the two-day festival. Besides, the Fisheries Minister along with members of the committee and department officials have discussed about various sides to the preparation. It was discussed in the meeting to conduct a review meeting at Khedacherra Community Hall on September 28 regarding this. SW&SE Minister Santana Chakma in the meeting

said, each and every community of the state has their own traditional and religious events and Hozagiri is one significant festival. The Minister called upon everyone towards successful and peaceful celebration and conduction of the two-day festival.

## Education Minister inaugurates 'Run for Tea'



*Pic. by Kriti Sundar Chowdhury, Photographer*

The present government has provided land rights to tea garden workers under Mukhyamantri Cha Shramik Kalyan Prakalp as land right is the biggest right, enunciated Education Minister Ratan Lal Nath after inaugurating 'Run for Tea' today which has been initiated and organized by Tripura Tea Board with the assistance of Indian Tea Board. Information & Cultural Affairs Minister Sushanta Chowdhury, Mayor of Agartala Municipal Corporation Dipak Majumder,

Chairman of Tripura Tea Development Corporation Santosh saha, secretary of Industry & Commerce department Abhishek Chandra, executive officer of Northeast Zonal office, Indian Tea Board Arunita Phukan Yadav, Director of Information & Cultural Affairs department Ratan Biswas and officials of different departments have participated in the



event. The run started from the area nearby tea corner, Birchandra State Central Library and covered TRTC, Tulsibati School, Kaman Chowmuni, Post Office Chowmuni and ended again at the tea corner.

Education Minister Ratan Lal Nath also said, the government aims at achieving overall development of the poor section of the society. Tripura Tea Development Corporation is working towards strengthening state's economy through increase in tea production. Mukhyamantri Cha Shramik Kalyan Prkalp is a positive step towards socio-economic development of the tea garden

workers of the state. The scheme will not only ensure land to live but also drinking water, power connection, lavatories and housing under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Initiatives have been taken to set up tea auction centre besides creation of logo for tea and brand in the name 'Tripureshwari'. He also said, tea gardening started in the state back in the royal days. Tripura ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the country in tea production. For easy availability of Tripura tea, the government has arranged availability of tea in ration shops at lower prices for the public. Information & Cultural Affairs Minister Sushanta Chowdhury said, quality tea is being produced in the state presently. The government and TTDC are both working for the welfare of the tea industry and tea gardens workers in the state.

### **Mukhyamantri SSSK program to start on September 5 in Unakoti district**

The third phase of Mukhyamantri Sustha Shaishab, Sustho Koishor program will be kick starting from September 5 in Unakoti district along with the entire state. This will continue till September 15. This program will be conducted in every Anganwadi Centre and school of the district from September 5 to 8. Then, the ASHA workers will go door to door. The program will be carried out in mission

mode. Chief Executive Officer of the district Dr. John B. Darlong in a recent pressmeet said, this time the program will be carried out with distinct target amalgamating six component of it. Target has been taken to provide De-worming tablet to 69,279 persons, anemia preventing medicine to 82,155 persons and Diarrhea preventing medicine to 26,700 persons. Besides, 26,700 under POSHAN Abhiyan and tetanus and diphtheria vaccines will be given to 5,686 persons of 10 years age and to 4,169 persons of 16 years age. Awareness program on Pneumonia will also go hand in hand. District-Level Mukhyamantri Sustha Shaishab, Sustho Koishor program will be officially started at Unakoti Kalakshetra on September 5 at 11 am. Dr. Sandipan Bhattacharjee and Nodal Officer Dr. Ayan Roy were present during the press meet.

#### **Foundation stone laid for Haat at Teliamura Block Chowmuni**

A rural Haat will be constructed with the financial assistance of NABARD at Teliamura Block Chowmuni. Chief Whip Kalyani Roy laid the foundation stone for Haat yesterday. Chairperson of Teliamura Municipal Council Rupak Sarkar, Vice Chairperson Madhusudhan Roy, NABARD General Manager Lokesh Das and social

worker Ranjit Sutradhar were present during the programme.

#### **Master plan coming up under Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti Yojana**

Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti Yojana will play an important role in the development of power and communication systems in the state. The Department of Industry and Commerce will act as the nodal department for implementation of this scheme. A master plan will be taken up for this. The central government has allocated Rs. 35 crore to the Department of Industry and Commerce for this purpose in the current financial year. Abhishek Chandra, Special Secretary of the Department of Industry and Commerce said this in a press conference at the Secretariat on 2nd September, 2022. He said that the Tripura Industrial Development Corporation has taken initiatives to develop industrial infrastructure in all the industrial centres of the state. For this, necessary financial assistance will be sought from the Asian Development Bank. He also said that the Tripura Industrial Development Corporation has taken initiatives to develop the infrastructure of Sabroom Special Economic Zone. Industrial Development Corporation has prepared an RFP for selection of entrepreneurs.

In the press conference, the Special Secretary said that the Destination Tripura-Business Summit was organised on December 9 and 10, 2021 to encourage investment in the potential sectors of the state. Over a hundred industrialists and entrepreneurs from Bangladesh and India participated in this summit. A total of 81 MoUs were signed in this summit covering agriculture, animal husbandry, tourism, IT sector etc. A proposed investment of around Rs 2,800 crore was signed. He also said that the amount of foreign trade with Bangladesh has increased by 158 percent in the last 4 years. In the financial year 2017-18, where the amount of foreign trade was Rs. 390 crores 68 lakhs, it has increased to Rs. 1,008 crores 40 lakhs in the financial year 2021-22.

In the press conference, the Special Secretary said that besides increasing the production of pineapple and jackfruit in the state, the Department of Industry and Commerce has launched the Tripura Pineapple and Jackfruit Mission with the aim of creating skilled workers and employment. He said that there are currently rubber plantations in 46 thousand 892 hectares in Tripura. Rubber production is 90 thousand 712 tpa. The Chief Minister's Rubber Mission aims at raising rubber plantations in another 30,000 hectares. The Department of

Industry and Commerce aims at undertaking the Mini Rubber Mission to increase rubber production and solve problems in production. The department has taken up the plan to construct a modern smoke house and rubber processing centre under PMEGP and Swavalamban scheme for increasing the quality of rubber sheets. A plan to set up a tea auction centre has been taken up for the development of the tea industry. He said that in the financial year 2021-22, a total of 155 young women have been given loans of Rs. 61 crore 46 lakhs under the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme.

In the press conference, the Special Secretary of the Department of Industry and Commerce said that the entrepreneurship development programme has been conducted with 390 beneficiaries of different self-help groups under the Sankalp scheme in the skill development programme. 258 women have been trained in different handloom clusters under the Samarth scheme with the financial support of Jal Jeevan Mission and 340 people have been trained. The press conference was also attended by the Director of Industry and Commerce Department, Swapna Debnath, Director of Skill Development Department, Sanjay Chakraborty.