

Agartala to host 7th International Tourism Mart from November 22

Agartala is going to host the seventh International Tourism Mart from November 22. This three-day event is likely to see participation of delegates from different parts of the country as well as foreign countries. This was revealed by the State Tourism Minister Pranajit Singha Roy during a press conference at Swetmahal yesterday.

Detailing on the participating countries the minister said, 18 countries will take part in this tourist mart with a break-up of two delegates from Australia, three from Canada, three from China, two from Malaysia, one from Myanmar, one from Nairobi, one from Netherlands, one from New Zealand, three from Russia, five from South Korea, one from Spain, three from Thailand, and three from America. Besides, 16 delegates are expected from Bangladesh and hundred delegates from different states of the country. Our state may also participate with about 200 delegates.

Minister of States for Tourism, Government of India K.J. Alphons Governor Kaptan Singh Solanki, Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb and other dignitaries will be present at the inaugural

programme on November 22 at Pragna Bhavan. Next day participants from different countries will have exchange of views during a thematic seminar christened 'Adventure Tourism'. On November 24 the delegates will be taken to Neermahal for sightseeing and for a glimpse of Tripura's culture. A total of 200 NSS volunteers will be deployed to help in conduct of the event. Those who will stay back after November 24, will also be taken to other places of tourist attraction.

Panchayat Secretaries-Village Secretaries- RPMs to act as true representative of village level government

Since the institution of Panchayat Secretaries, Village Secretaries and Rural Programme Managers (RPMs) is for a wider purpose the rural development department (Panchayat) has issued a memorandum for them. According to this memorandum they will have to truly function as the representative of the village-level government. They will have to keep abreast of all development activities going on in their respective villages and report any development related issue to the authorities whenever required.

Additionally DM, BDOs and other functionaries will also now directly

contact them in case there is any problem in a village. Now the mobile numbers and landline numbers of all Panchayat Secretaries, Village Secretaries and RPMs will be uploaded in the website of RD (Panchayat) department in a structured manner. Panchayat Secretaries will have to remain within their jurisdiction even on holidays since they could be called at any time.

State cabinet decides in favour of NALSA

The state cabinet decided in favour of introducing National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) in Tripura yesterday. Financial assistance would be provided under the scheme in cases of rape, sexual harassment, fire incident, loss of limbs, physical and mental atrocities on women. Talking to the press at the secretariat yesterday the Education Minister Ratan Lal Nath told this.

Two per cent VAT has been reduced for the interest of the people of the state by modifying the VAT-2004 has also been modified by the cabinet. Besides, tax on aircraft-fuel has been cut down by 2 per cent (from 18 to 16 per cent). This will cost the state government a loss of Rs. 1.20 crore. The minister also informed, Section 382 of IPC has also been modified. This modification will proposal will be

presented as a bill in the coming Assembly session.

6th North-East Youth Festival concludes in Agartala

The four-day youth extravaganza, the sixth North-East Youth Festival concluded at Children's Park, Agartala yesterday. The Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Manoj Kanti Deb thanked all associated with organisation of the festival for its smooth conduction. Terming this as a platform for exchange of culture between the people of Tripura and other NE states, he invited all to visit the state again. Among other speakers were director of Nehru Yuva Kendra, Manipur, J. Ruibhah and officers of youth affairs and sports department.

Prizes were handed over to the winners of various events. The break-up goes like this – first prize in clay-modelling went to Tulachandra Singh from Manipur, second prize to Bikash Das from Arunachal Pradesh, third prize to Sukanta Debnath from Tripura. In photography first, second and third prizes went to Shubhankar Das from Tripura, Trinayan Jyoti Borah from Assam and Laldam Phuija from Mizoram respectively. Similarly in instrumental guitar Miyo P. Dikhar from Meghalaya received first prize, Bapu Dolan from Arunachal Pradesh received second prize and N. Leinji from Nagaland got third



