STATE PANCHAYAT RESOURCE CENTRE, TRIPURA

GRAMEEN SRIJAN

MESSAGE FROM HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER, PROF. (DR.) MANIK SAHA

প্রফেসর (ডা.) মানিক সাহা

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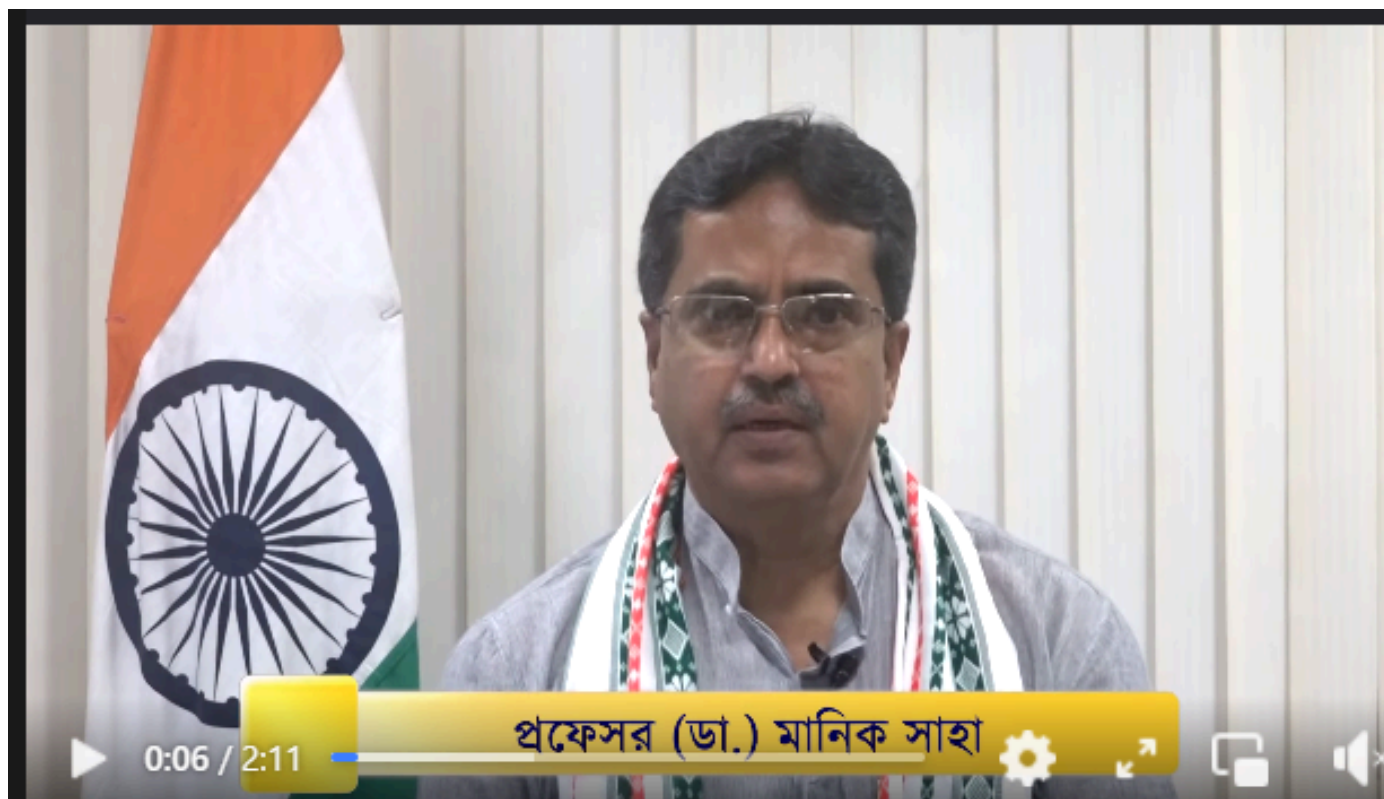
People's Plan Campaign – Strengthening Panchayats, Transforming Communities

We are delighted to share an important message from Hon'ble Chief Minister, Prof. (Dr.) Manik Saha on the People's Plan Campaign (PPC) and its role in shaping grassroots governance.

Key Takeaways from the Chief Minister's Address

The People's Plan Campaign (PPC) is an annual initiative to strengthen grassroots governance through community participation. This year, it commenced on 2nd October with a special Gram Sabha, enabling people to shape the development agenda for the next financial year. Aligning with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Localized Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) have been integrated into Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) for the past two years. Each Gram Panchayat (GP) and Village Committee (VC) must select one of the nine LSDG themes as their SANKALP (commitment) to drive structured growth. The GPDP must involve all line departments for holistic progress. Mahila Sabha, Sishu Sabha, and SHG meetings should be held annually for inclusive planning. Decisions from Gram Sansad must be formalized in the Gram Sabha, ensuring collective responsibility.

"–"I urge all departments to actively participate in GPDP development. Every small step taken today will lead to the greater progress of our Panchayats."

– Hon'ble Chief Minister, Prof. (Dr.) Manik Saha

In Memory of..

Lt. Balai Goswami
Hon'ble Sabhadipati, Paschim Tripura Zilla Parishad
10.01.1955 to 13.02.2025

The Department of Rural Development (Panchayat) is deeply saddened by the passing of Honorable Balai Goswami, Sabhadipati of Pashchim Tripura Zilla Parishad. His leadership and dedication to public service will always be remembered. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family in this difficult time. May his soul rest in peace, and his legacy continue to inspire.
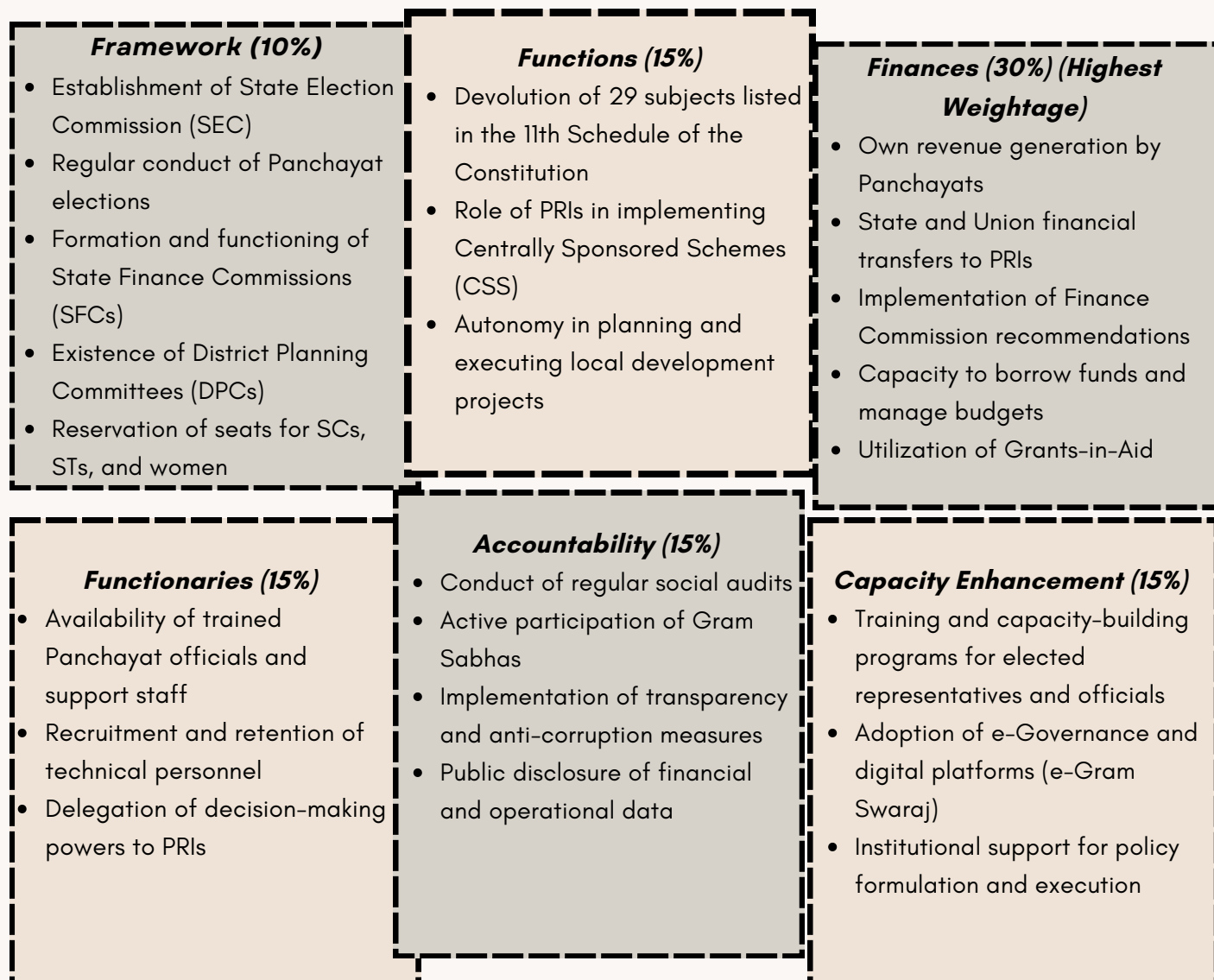
Story Inside:

Panchayat Devolution Index- Tripura

The Panchayat Development Index (PDI) is a comprehensive metric designed to evaluate the extent of devolution of powers, functions, finances, and functionaries to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) across Indian states. The index incorporates six key dimensions: framework, functions, finances, functionaries, capacity enhancement, and accountability, each playing a significant role in measuring the autonomy and efficiency of Panchayats

Tripura has been identified as one of the high-performing states in the Devolution Index, ranking among the top states in the country. With a score of 57.58, Tripura surpasses the national average of 43.89, indicating a strong commitment to empowering local self-governments. The state has exhibited commendable performance across multiple dimensions, particularly in functionaries, finances, and accountability, which are essential for the effective implementation of decentralized governance.

Furthermore, Tripura stands out in Panchayat assessment and incentives, securing a score of 90.63, second only to Kerala. This highlights the state's emphasis on performance evaluation, reward systems, and institutional support for Panchayats. The state has also demonstrated substantial progress in digital governance initiatives, ensuring greater transparency and efficiency in rural development planning. The Panchayat Development Index (PDI) evaluates the performance of states in devolving powers and resources to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) based on six key dimensions, which are further assessed through major indicators.

Major Indicators of Panchayat Devolution Index

Framework (10%)

- Establishment of State Election Commission (SEC)
- Regular conduct of Panchayat elections
- Formation and functioning of State Finance Commissions (SFCs)
- Existence of District Planning Committees (DPCs)
- Reservation of seats for SCs, STs, and women

Functions (15%)

- Devolution of 29 subjects listed in the 11th Schedule of the Constitution
- Role of PRIs in implementing Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)
- Autonomy in planning and executing local development projects

Finances (30%) (Highest Weightage)

- Own revenue generation by Panchayats
- State and Union financial transfers to PRIs
- Implementation of Finance Commission recommendations
- Capacity to borrow funds and manage budgets
- Utilization of Grants-in-Aid

Functionaries (15%)

- Availability of trained Panchayat officials and support staff
- Recruitment and retention of technical personnel
- Delegation of decision-making powers to PRIs

Accountability (15%)

- Conduct of regular social audits
- Active participation of Gram Sabhas
- Implementation of transparency and anti-corruption measures
- Public disclosure of financial and operational data

Capacity Enhancement (15%)

- Training and capacity-building programs for elected representatives and officials
- Adoption of e-Governance and digital platforms (e-Gram Swaraj)
- Institutional support for policy formulation and execution

STATE PANCHAYAT RESOURCE CENTRE, TRIPURA

Training Chronicle for the month of January 2025

Three days training on LSDG Theme

To strengthen the **localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs)** at the grassroots level, a one-day training session is being organized for the **incharges of Gram Panchayats (GPs) and Village Committee (VCs)** across various blocks of West and Sepahijala Districts. This training aims to equip local governance leaders with knowledge and practical strategies to implement LSDG Themes 1 to 9, ensuring inclusive, sustainable, and progressive rural development.

One day training on carbon neutrality

A one-day training session on **'Carbon Neutral Panchayat'** was conducted for Panchayat **Elected Representatives and functionaries** from West Tripura and Sepahijala District. The initiative aims to promote sustainable practices, fostering eco-friendly communities for a greener and carbon-neutral future.

One day training on Mahila Sabha and Shishu Sabha

This training program aims to empower women and children by strengthening their participation in governance through Mahila Sabha and Shishu Sabha. By equipping community leaders and stakeholders with the necessary skills, the program ensures that these forums become sustainable and impactful mechanisms for inclusive development.

One day training on LSDG Theme on Elected Representatives of GP/VCs

An insightful preparatory meeting with the ERs as part of our ongoing preparations for the 16th Finance Commission Visit to Tripura.

STATE PANCHAYAT RESOURCE CENTRE, TRIPURA

FROM THE DESK OF BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

On Women Empowerment and Panchayat

As the Block Development Officer of B.C Nagar RD Block, I'm proud of our progress in empowering women. The 73rd Amendment of 1992, which reserves one-third of Panchayat seats for women, has evolved in Tripura to 50%. Women leaders drive change, focusing on health, education, and sanitation, improving community life. I would also like to acknowledge the leadership of Smt. Putul Pal Biswas, Chairperson of the B.C Nagar Panchayat Samity. Her guidance has been instrumental in promoting women's participation in local governance and development initiatives. Our Panchayats have consistently prioritized women beneficiaries in various government schemes, such as the Chief Minister's Swanirbhar Parivar Yojana (CMSPY), grants from the PDF and other Line Department's schemes. In our planning for the Gram Panchayat

Smt. Kaberi Nath
BDO, B.C Nagar
R.D Block

Development Plan (GPDP), our Panchayats are specifically focusing on Theme 9 of the Local Sustainable Development Goals (LSDG), which emphasizes gender equality and women's empowerment. This focus ensures that women's voices are integral to our development strategies. It is inspiring to witness women stepping out of their homes and taking on active roles in the Panchayat as Swachhagrahis, Jal Sakhis etc. contributing significantly to our developmental goals. The Tripura Rural Livelihood Mission (TRLM) is also playing a pivotal role in this endeavor by facilitating the formation of Self-Help Groups (SHGs). These groups have become a cornerstone for rural women, enabling them to gain financial independence and engage in various income-generating activities.

Together, at B.C Nagar RD Block we are fostering an environment where women feel empowered to voice their opinions and take part in decision-making processes that affect their lives.

Role of SPRC on Capacity Building

The State Panchayat Resource Center (SPRC), formerly the Panchayati Raj Training Institute (PRTI), AD Nagar, was developed under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions at all levels. By offering training and support, SPRC helps PRIs function efficiently, optimize resources, address local needs, and contribute to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

To date, SPRC has conducted several impactful training programmes and workshops. These include a Basic Foundation Course for newly elected representatives of PRIs, a 45-day Induction Training for newly recruited Panchayat Executive Officers (for the first time in the state), specialized

Smt. Kritika Saha
BDO, Charilam
R.D Block

Glimpses of 45 days induction training of newly recruited Panchayat Executive Officers

workshops on attainment of Localised SDGs, ISO certification of Panchayats, e-governance, Water Budgeting, Mahila and Bal Sabha and many more. SPRC has formed strategic partnerships to enhance its training efforts. A MoU with National Law University, Tripura, which aided Gram Panchayats in developing robust Gram Panchayat Development Plans.

Collaboration with the Kerala Institute of Local Administration aimed for ISO certification of all Gram Panchayats and Village Committees to ensure quality service. The SPRC has also been instrumental in conducting exposure visits like Gram Anweshan and plays a key role in the Training of Trainers (ToT) initiative, developing district and block-level master trainers. Apart from capacity building, SPRC serves as an ideal venue for government meetings and conferences, offering state-of-the-art facilities at a nominal cost, thereby boosting its own-source revenue.

Through these initiatives, the SPRC is actively realizing the objectives of RGSA—enhancing governance capabilities, strengthening Gram Sabhas, promoting decentralization, and driving technology-enabled governance, ultimately empowering PRIs to create inclusive, accountable, and sustainable local development models.

'Aamar Sarkar Aamar Adhikar'

Fostering Good Governance through Digital Grievance Redressal in Rural Tripura

In Tripura, "Aamar Sarkar" emerges as a digital powerhouse, revolutionizing the rural grievance redressal system. This online platform, representing the principles of Good Governance, creating a transparent, responsive, and accountable bridge between Citizens and the Government.

Introduction: The revamped system, "AAMAR SARKAR," ensures maximum participation for timely feedback and reporting on development and basic service issues related to the Government of Tripura's line departments. It aims to improve the efficient implementation of various State and Central Government schemes across all Panchayats in Tripura.

The issues registered by the In-Charge of GP/VC can be viewed by all registered users based on their jurisdiction. A total of 81 departments, including the RD (Panchayat) department, are onboarded in the system. It is designed for regular monitoring by the highest levels of government, including departmental HoDs (Chief Engineer/Director, etc.) and users at all levels, according to the departmental hierarchy. With 81 active departments, Aamar Sarkar has processed 63819 citizen-raised issues, boasting an impressive resolution rate of 95%, effectively resolving 60202 concerns as on date. This statisticnot only reflects the platform's efficiency but also its vital role in ensuring citizens' voices are heard.

Aamar Sarkar promotes transparency by providing citizens with real-time access to the status of their grievances via a mobile app, building trust and fostering accountability. It holds both citizens and departments responsible for their roles in the redressal process. The portal not only addresses citizen concerns but also paves the way for more transparent, accountable, and participatory governance, showcasing the transformative synergy between technology and good governance.

BEFORE

AFTER

Issues Uploaded in Aamar Sarkar

To further enhance citizen engagement through the Aamar Sarkar Webportal and App, two new approaches implemented:
Village Walk: Every Thursday, the Elected Member of each Ward, along with officials of the Panchayat and line departments, visits households as part of the "Village Walk."
Amar Sarkar Day: Every Monday, "Aamar Sarkar Day" is celebrated at the Panchayat level.
Villagers attends the Panchayat office and raise any problems they face.
These initiatives are aimed at fostering even greater citizen participation and ensuring that the Aamar Sarkar remains a robust platform for prompt issue resolution and dialogue between the government and the people.
This real-time approach exemplifies the government's commitment to efficiently serving its rural constituents.

How to conduct Smart Panchayat Meetings?

To achieve the LSDGs, the Panchayat conducts smart meetings through careful planning, execution, and follow-up, beginning with framing the agenda based on needs and sending a formal notice to members via letters and various platforms, detailing the date, time, venue, and agenda. On meeting day, after verifying the quorum and nominating the president, the meeting begins by fostering active participation through open-ended questions, assigned

Meeting conducted in the PLC of West Majlishpur GP

speaking turns, and focused discussions. On the verge of the meeting, the president summarizes decisions, action items, deadlines, responsible persons, and sets future dates of meetings to monitor progress.

Meeting conducted in various GP/VCs

Functional Aspect of Standing Committees of Panchayat Samiti- *'Strong Committees, Stronger Administration'*

The Standing Committees of the Panchayat Samities in Tripura play a crucial role in local governance by overseeing development programs, public welfare and financial management. It ensures effective implementation of schemes, monitors progress and addresses local issues for grassroots development and good governance. In Tripura, there is 35 (Thirty Five) nos. Panchayat Samities. **Section-107 of Tripura Panchayats Act**, 1993 states the Panchayat Samities shall have the following 7 (Seven) Standing Committees–

1. Finance Committee (Finance, Audit and planning Committee)
2. Education & Health Committee (Education, Environment, Cultural, Health and Sports Affairs Committee)
3. Works Committee (Communication, Rural Electrification and Non Conventional Energy Committee);
4. Industries Committee (Industries including cottage industries and Sericulture Committee);
5. Social Justice Committee;
6. Agriculture Committee (Agriculture, Food, Irrigation, Co-operation, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Committee);
7. Poverty Alleviation Committee (Poverty alleviation Programme, Social and Farm Forestry, Rural Housing and Drinking Water Committee)
8. Such other Standing Committee or Committees as the Panchayat Samiti may subject to the approval of the State Government, constitute.

As per Notification of RD (Panchayat) Department, Government of Tripura, vide Nil, Dated- 9th August, 2014-

In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 107(2) (b) of the Tripura Panchayats Act, 1993, read with Rule-31(4) of the Tripura Panchayats (Election of Office Bearers) Rules, 1994, the State Government hereby fixes the number of members of each Standing Committee other than the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, as indicated below against the name of each Panchayat Samiti.

Highlights from Developmental Work and Training Activities

Workshop on Handholding of GPs/VCs organised by the NLU at SPRC
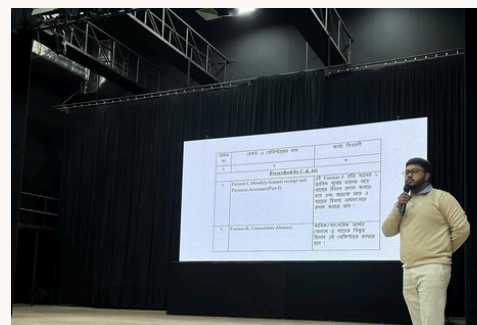

Gram Anweshan of Mohanbhog RD Block to B.C Nagar RD Block

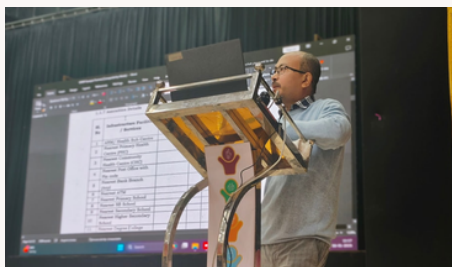**Brick Solling under FFC is being laid at Solonala VC, Pecharthal RD Block**

Gram Anweshan jirania RD Block to Amurpur RD Block.

Cultural Fest organised by Amarpur RD Block as a part of Gram Anweshan program

Basic Foundation Course at SPRC, Tripura

Training on LSDG Themes at SPRC, Tripura

Training on Carbon neutrality at SPRC, Tripura

Visit of Chairman, XVI FC, West Majlishpur, Jirania RD Block

Gram Anweshan of Khowai RD Block to Matabari RD Block.

Gram Anweshan of Ambassa RD Block Rupaichari RD Block

Workshop on Handholding of GPs/VCs organised by the NLU at SPRC