

MEVAR KUMAR JAMATIA



MINISTER  
TRIBAL WELFARE & FOREST DEPTTS.  
GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA  
AGARTALA - 799010



## Message

Like every year Wildlife week is going to be celebrated in the month of October to protect the wild animals and plants of Tripura by raising awareness among the people. Government of India has established "National Board of Wildlife" for the conservation of wildlife and celebrated wildlife week for the first time in 1952. The word "wildlife" can be described as all living organisms found in the nature e.g. mammals, birds, plants etc. and are important to maintain ecological balance.

Due to global warming the future of earth is in danger. Mankind is fully dependent on plants and animals for their existence. We shall never forget that the Earth is not only for the humans but wild animals and plants have equal right on it. So, there shall be no conflict between wild animals and humans. We should live in harmony. The objective of celebration of wildlife week is to spread the same message of importance of wildlife conservation amongst the common people.

In Tripura there are 4 (four) Wildlife Sanctuary and 2 (two) National Park occupying a total area of 604 square kilometre. Conservation and breeding program of 4 (species) has been taken up in Sepahijala wildlife sanctuary; the species are Clouded leopard, Binturang, Spectacle monkey and Pig tail monkey. Efforts for conservation of Bison, Elephant, Bat, Vulture etc has been taken up.

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Tripura is the third smallest state in the country in terms of area but the same is not true in case of biodiversity. According to the records there are 99 species of mammals, 342 species of birds and some other important wild animals like Binturong, Sheru, Clouded leopard, Bison, Python etc live in the jungles of Tripura. Tripura is also home to different primate species. Spectacle monkey and Hoolock Gibbon are one of them who require special mention. The abundance of wild animal was described by Shri Kailash Chandra Singha in "**Rajmala**".

Government of Tripura, with the help of Central Government, has taken different initiatives to conserve biodiversity of the state such as setting up of nature learning centre; conservation learning centre at Sepahijala, undertaking various eco development activities through Eco Development Committees surrounding the Wildlife area. This has also resulted in the socio-economic development of the rural people. Vis-a viz reduction to human animal conflict.

Celebration of Wildlife week provides a platform to create awareness among the people and let them know about the natural treasures of Tripura, which will in turn create the urge among the people to save nature. Wild animal and plants are a very important part of human life. We all are dependent on nature for food, shelter and livelihood. Due to this reason, our economic development is fully related to biodiversity. For this reasons we all should come forward to save the nature.

I would like to humbly request to all of you to come forward and join hands in the novel task of saving nature and making Tripura a greener state with abundance of wild animals. I would also urge not to confine this to celebration rather to spread it across various section of people in the societies to carry forward this task and people of all groups should participate in this celebration and make it a grand success.

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[ Mevar Kumar Jamatia ]