

**NATIONAL WORKSHOP  
on  
RIVER AND WATER MANAGEMENT FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITH POLICY  
PERSPECTIVES**

**Organised By**



**TRIPURA UNIVERSITY  
(A CENTRAL UNIVERSITY)**

**in collaboration with**



**AVIRAL GANGA MISSION, JALBIRADARI**

**Sponsored by**

**GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA**

**Venue: Tripura University, Suryamaninagar, Agartala  
JULY 3-4, 2019**

## OVERVIEW

We are living in an important time in the history of this planet, a juncture that will define what history books of the future will depict. The story, about our relationship to Mother Bhumi (Sanskrit for Mother Earth), will either describe a phenomenal transformation or a tragically wasted opportunity. Climate change is no longer an abstract concept, it is a harsh reality. India as a nation has undergone many transformations in the past three decades – from a struggling agrarian economy into a booming technological power house. In the race to catch up with other advanced economies, India has been repeating the same mistakes as others, compromising its ecological health and biodiversity for economic prosperity. But now, the impact of climate change is hitting it hard. More than 60% of the population is dependent on climate sensitive sectors. Water scarcity is hard hitting all places as ground water is become over draft and rivers are drying across India. This global water crisis is one we cannot escape.

Hindu sacred texts, the Vedas, explain how divinity manifests in the form of the creation, and how every element in creation, the Pancha Maha Bhutas – Bhumi (earth), Gagan (sky), Vayu(air), Agni (fire) and Neer (water) are held sacrosanct. For millennia the Indian society followed this eco-centric philosophy and had love, affection, respect and passion for the elements. It is quite common to see rivers, mountains, forests, and even plants and animals considered holy in India. Traditional customs, practices, and lifestyle have been centered on such eco-centric values. At its very heart, respectfully of nature, we can create a meaningful development model.

These traditional values are slowly diminishing. As Albert Einstein once said, “We cannot solve our problems with the same level of thinking that created them”. So it is time to elevate our level of thinking by fostering these eco-centric perspectives for finding solutions to climate change and creating models of sustainable development. We as human beings must think and adopt the lifestyle where these Divine elements and their sustenance is not interfered. We must adopt the best practices to accomplish our desires with good actions, and embed them into our very culture and lifestyle. We must pledge that we do not interfere with the divine and move on this Shruti (creation) with harmony. Thus, understanding the geographic nature and river system eco-friendly, policies need to be formulated along with mass awareness campaigns for judicious use of water.

## VISION:

1. This workshop shall be centred around creating a sustainable development model in line with the river Policy perspectives;
2. The developmental model adopted worldwide today, with the use of technology for exploiting nature, has resulted in climate change. This model appears to be unacceptable unless the impacts are mitigated by adoption of natural processes. With expert guidance of Dr Rajendra Singh, we shall assist to develop a development model by adopting all the required technologies which are in line with the great Indian heritage for development trends; and
3. The outreach of the program shall empower the North-East region to gradually adopt development model.

## **THEME OF THE WORKSHOP**

1. Water, Water conservation and Rivers Rejuvenation
2. Waste Water treatment, Recycle, Reuse
3. Solid Waste Management
4. Natural Farming
5. Perspective for efficient River Policies for Sustainable Development

## **RESOURCE PERSONS**

With a view to maximise the practical outcome of the workshop, there will be Expert presentations and panel discussions, instead of the conventional lecture format. Dr Rajendra Singh along with his team members and local resource persons from the Departments of Forestry and Biodiversity, Geography and Disaster Management, Rural Studies and Sociology of Tripura University and Government of Tripura shall deliberate upon the themes of the workshop.

## **EXPECTED AUDIENCE:**

University faculties, Research scholars and students of all North-Eastern States of India, Government authorities, Planning board members, individual from NGO and anyone who wish to join in committed way.

## **EXPECTED OUTCOME:**

With the availability of experts like Dr Rajendra Singh (Magsaysay Awardee & Stockholm Water Prize Winner) and his team who have expertise in the field of water conservation, it is expected to help in setting right strategies to combat water crisis issues in Tripura and neighbouring regions. This workshop would also be immensely helpful in carrying out joint efforts for revival of rivers and create effective water management and conservation mechanisms in Tripura and its seven sisters.

## **WHO CAN ATTEND?**

- Executives and Officials from the Government Departments working on the area
- Faculties and Scientists from reputed academic, technical and research institutions
- Representatives of Non-governmental organizations and civil society
- Scholars and PG Students connected to the theme areas
- Other stakeholders

## ABOUT TRIPURA UNIVERSITY



The state of Tripura is geographically isolated from the rest of India. Due to lack of infrastructure earlier it was difficult for the students of Tripura to pursue higher studies in various fields within the state. The State Government took the initiative to pass the Tripura University Act in the Assembly in 1987 and the first University in the state came into being on 2nd October 1987. The objective of the University is not only be “to disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and research facilities” in the state in areas of contemporary relevance to the society and the country but to make special provisions for studies in tribal life and culture and to introduce vocational subjects with a view to provide employment opportunities to the students. A total number of 42 courses run under the University, which includes Certificate Courses, Under Graduate, Post Graduate Diploma and Post Graduate Studies. In addition to these, Ph.D programmes are also offered in 33 subjects. The number of affiliated Colleges at present is 46 among which there are 23 General Degree Colleges, 17 Professional Colleges, 4 Paramedical and Nursing Colleges and 2 Medical Colleges.

## ABOUT AVIRAL GANGA MISSION, JAL BIRADARI

Tarun Bharat Sangh's efforts of organizing the villages and local communities across the country have resulted in the formulation of the Rashtriya Jal Biradari (National Water Community). Rashtriya Jal Biradari (RJB) is a network of various like-minded individuals, farmers groups, social groups, VO's, NGO's, CBO's, Research Institutions, social scientist, water experts basically all those who are concerned and have deep interest in the issue related to water.

RJB was formally incepted in the National Water Convention held in April 2001 in Tarun Bharat Sangh at Nimi village (near Jaipur). More than 7,000 water warriors from all over the country participated in the convention. Then started the water movement regarding water rights and to establish communities right over water. The responsibility of leading the movement was given to Rajendra Singh (chairman RJB). Dr Rajendra Singh has been conferred with Magsaysay Awardee & Stockholm Water Prize. He is popularly known as *Jalpurush* water man of India.

RJB has its units in each state of the country. It is working on national level issues like influencing Central & State governments for making pro-people water policies, decentralized community driven water management, advocacy against privatization of natural resources, creating awareness among general mass for water conservation. At present RJB focusing on “Save the Rivers Mission”. Recently, due to persistent efforts of RJB, River Ganga has been recognized as “National River” by Government of India. Moving ahead, RJB is trying to bring stakeholder of polity & community on common platform for dialogue to save Rivers from pollution, excess exploitation and encroachment.

Aviral Ganga Mission is inspired by Dr GD Agarwal fasting unto death sacrifice for revival of Maa Ganga. The mission is being lead for different regions by Convenor for the region under the overall leadership of Jalpurush Dr Rajendra Singh ji. The aim is to stop further huge dam constructions and promote check dam concept and make initiatives to reduce inter and intra state conflicts for water distribution by promoting water literacy programmes and mobilize all stakeholders for direct involvement. Finding solutions to water crisis by integrated approach. The main objective is to do Ganga Sadbhavna yatra from Kashmir to Kanyakumari to create awareness among public, conduct river literacy programme, and work with water authorities by providing guidelines to create apt policies and restructure archival ones. This Yatra is done in first phase from Gomukh to Ganga Sagar. Jalnayak Dr Snehal Donde, Principal in Degree college associated with Mumbai University is leading the Ganga Mission in West Bengal and Tripura.

## ABOUT THE CITY



Agartala, the capital city of Tripura is located in the north eastern region of the country. It covers 10,491 km<sup>2</sup> and is bordered by Bangladesh to the north, south, and west, and the Indian states of Assam and Mizoram to the east. Tripura has a picturesque surrounding covered with hills and dales, sprawling green valleys and hilly brooks. The popular Tripura attractions are Kamalasagar Lake, Dumboor Lake,

Ujjayanta Palace, Neermahal, Kunjaban Palace, Tripura Government Museum, Jampui Hill, Dumboor Lake etc. The famous Tripureswari Kali Temple is situated in Udaipur city and is about 60 km away from the capital city. The weather condition of Agartala city is moderate with temperature between 21°C to 36°C during summer season and between 8°C to 25°C in winter. Tripura is adorned with a large number of attractive tourist sites. The northeastern state of Tripura is famous all over the world for its rich cultural heritage, beautiful palaces, wildlife sanctuaries, temples, museums. The city has a number of interesting tourist attractions to visit and enjoy.

## HOW TO REGISTER?

Registration for workshop is free. The candidates have to register by filling the registration form duly filled in along with their signature and send the softcopy of the same @ [paramachakma@tripurauniv.in](mailto:paramachakma@tripurauniv.in)

A limited number of rooms may be available in Tripura University Guest House on a first-come-first serve basis.

**Number of participants for the course is limited to 50.**

**Last date for registration is 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2019.**

## **ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

### **Patron**

Prof. V L Dharurkar,  
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor,  
Tripura University

### **Convener**

Dr. Rajeev Dubey, HOD (I/C)  
Dept. of Sociology,  
Tripura University  
Suryamaninagar-799022,  
Tripura West, Tripura, INDIA.  
Tel: (M) +91-8974040172.  
Email: rajeevdubey@tripurauniv.in

### **Co-convener**

Dr Snehal Donde,  
Principal,  
Shree Halari Visa Oswal College of  
Commerce, Bhiwandi,  
Maharashtra  
Tel: (M) 9819088651  
Email: drsnehaldonde@gmail.com

### **Members of Organising Committee:**

Prof. Satyadeo Poddar, HOD Dept. of History, T.U.  
Prof. Ashish Nath, HOD, Dept. of Economics, TU  
Dr. Y. V. Krishnaiah, HOD, Dept. of Geography, T.U.  
Dr. Sabyasachi Dasgupta, HOD, Dept. of Forestry & Biodiversity, T.U.  
Dr. Thiru Selvan, Asstt. Prof. Dept. of Forestry & Biodiversity, T.U.  
Dr. Sourabh Deb, Asstt. Prof. Dept. of Forestry & Biodiversity, T.U.  
Dr. Arobindo Mahato, HOD (I/C) Dept. of Rural Studies, T.U.  
Dr. Samrat Goswami, Asstt. Prof. Dept. of Rural Studies, T.U.

## **REGISTRATION FORM**

(To reach electronically by 01<sup>st</sup> July, 2019)

@ [paramachakma@tripurauniv.in](mailto:paramachakma@tripurauniv.in)

### **WORKSHOP**

**on**

### **“RIVER AND WATER MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT” WITH POLICY PERSPECTIVES**

3<sup>rd</sup> July to 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Name (Block Letters):.....

M/F:.....

Designation/Professional Title: .....

Organization:.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Tel.: ..... Mobile: .....

Email: .....

#### **Declaration:**

I hereby certify that the details mentioned above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date:

Signature of the participant