

### CM-SATH Scheme Officially Launched to Support Meritorious Students



In a significant move to boost the educational prospects of the state's brightest students, Chief Minister Prof. (Dr.) Manik Saha officially launched the CM-SATH scheme today at Agartala Town Hall. The scheme, designed to provide financial support to meritorious students for their higher education, reflects the state government's commitment to quality education, aligned with the Prime Minister's vision of national development through an enhanced education system. The Chief Minister said, the main objectives of the government in education sector are – formulation of educational policy and programmes, ensuring implementation of them in real sense, ensuring quality education and learning process, working for the development of the distressed, poor, tribal people, women and minority section of society, provision of financial assistance, scholarship etc. and implementation of National Education Policy in educational institutions.

The Chief Minister outlined that the CM-SATH scheme will provide financial assistance to 200 students who excelled in the Madhyamik and HS+2 examination of Tripura Board of Secondary Education. Among them, top 100 students in the Madhyamik examination will receive this financial assistance for two years, while another 100 higher secondary students will be supported for three years with the same benefit. Each beneficiary will receive a monthly stipend of ₹5,000 to ensure their studies continue uninterrupted. The beneficiaries will be selected from different administrative levels, including 152 from the block level, 12 from Nagar Panchayats, 26 from Municipality and 10 from Agartala Municipality. To ensure fairness, students will be chosen by the District Education Officers of each district. The financial commitment from the state for this initiative will see an expenditure of ₹1.2 crore in the first year, ₹2.4 crore in the second year, and ₹3 crore annually from the third year onwards.

In addition to the CM-SATH scheme, Prof. (Dr.) Saha also highlighted other state government initiatives aimed at strengthening the education system. These include the 'Super-30' scheme, which provides financial assistance for top 30 students in Class X to facilitate quality coaching for competitive exams like NEET and JEE to them. A sum of ₹5.3 lakh is allocated annually for this project. Centralised question paper system has been launched for the students of class III to VIII. Moreover, the Chief Minister noted successful implementation of several programs, such as the 'Tripura Science Talent Search Examination' and 'Math Talent Search Examination,' which are designed to foster scientific thinking and mathematical aptitude among Class IX students. He also mentioned the launch of 'Nipun Tripura,' a project aimed at enhancing basic skills among Class III students. Highlighting infrastructural development in education, Prof.

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Saha underscored the success of the 'Vidyajyoti Scheme,' which was initiated in 2022 to improve educational standards in the state. So far, 125 schools have been brought under this scheme, leading to notable improvements in student performance. Additionally, the state has provided bicycles to around 1 lakh girl students who have passed Class IX.

The event also saw the presence of Director of the Department of Secondary Education, NC Sharma, and Director of SCERT, L. Darlong, who praised the CM-SATH initiative as a timely and essential step towards preventing financial hardships from obstructing the educational journeys of meritorious students. Two students from each of the state's eight districts were handed over symbolic cheques by the Chief Minister as a mark of the scheme's official launch.

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