

ESTABLISHMENT OF TRIPURA GOVERNMENT

LAW COLLEGE

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Tripura is a small state in the north eastern region of India where people of different castes and creed have lived in harmony since times immemorial. The rulers of Tripura right from the ancient times were able to establish a rich tradition of art and culture and did much to promote the welfare of the people. The modern rulers of Tripura introduced various beneficial measures such as the use of Bengali for enactment of Laws, constitution of Khas Adalat, appointment of eminent lawyers as public prosecutors, codification of laws and the establishment of schools and colleges.

After independence, thousands of displaced persons migrated from Pakistan to this small state. They along with the local inhabitants took keen interest not only in the various development works but also in the spread of education. To meet the demands of the educational facilities a large number of schools was established throughout the state. The number of degree colleges began to increase and Basic Training College, B.T. College, Engineering College and State Institute of Education were also established. In 1976, a branch of the University of Calcutta also started in the state of Tripura. The State Government also began to increase its annual budget for the cause of education.

But there was an acute demand for a Law College in the state of Tripura. The students of this state had to go to Calcutta, Silchar and other places for law courses. The students had to suffer difficulties in getting themselves admitted into these courses. The Government of Tripura has been adopting a realistic view as regards education. In a leaflet titled 'What the Majority

Aspires' Dasarath Deb, the former Minister of Education said on 27 August 1985, "We have to fight illiteracy by providing the basic schooling facilities to a vast majority of the rural poor; at the same time we have to ensure that our educational system keeps pace with the latest technological advancements in the developed countries of the world. In a society emerging from an antiquated value system, the education system and the curriculum has to increase and foster a truly scientific and secular spirit. This should be possible only when the system reflects the nuances of various cultures and the ethos of our country, and at the same time projects the underlying unity encompassing the regional barriers and the differences of caste, creed and religion".

In July 1986, the Government tried to start the new session of three-year LL.B. course in July 1986. Because of the efforts of the Chief Secretary, the Bar Council relaxed some rules and as such it was possible to obtain the permission for starting the session in 1986. The University of Calcutta granted affiliation for establishing a Law College in Tripura, and applications were invited for admission to the Law courses. A notification for the said purpose was published in the Dainik Sambad in its issue dated 9 June 1986.

In the mean time the State Government appointed Mr. S.R. Sircar, the Law Secretary of the State as Principal-in-Charge of the Law College. Mr. Sircar issued a notification about a list of eligible candidates for admission into the law courses which was published in the Dainik Sambad in its issue dated 30 June 1986.

The daily Tripura Darpan Patrika published a news item in its issue dated 3 July 1986, about the beginning of Law classes. We come to know from the Patrika that 45 students were

