



<u>INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING – 2022</u>

The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, also known as 'World Drug Day', is celebrated annually on 26th June. The Government of India has also adopted a vision for a "**Drug Free India**" and "**Nashe Se Azadi Pakhwada**" from 12th June to 26th June, 2022.

This day is observed to strengthen global action and cooperation to achieve the goal of an international society free of drug abuse. The day is dedicated to eradicating drug abuse and neutralise the systemic deficiencies which sustain the illegal drug trade.

The theme "Drug Free India" aims at combating misinformation and promotes sharing of facts on drugs. The objective is to save people from health hazards and to provide solutions to tackle the worldwide drug problem on the basis of evidence-based prevention, treatment and care.

On this occasion, we invite everyone to do their part, by taking a firm stance against drug abuse and illicit trafficking so that precious lives could be saved.

This Government is fully committed to eradicating Drug menace and in accordance with that commitment, 'Nasha Mukt Tripura' (Drug Free Tripura) campaign was launched in the Year, 2018. As part of this campaign, Tripura Police in coordination with other sister agencies has done commendable work in checking Drug trade and taking action against criminals and organized groups involved in it. Tripura Police has taken action against the consumers, sellers, possessors, transporters, cultivators, importers and exporters of drugs.

Tripura Police is also trying to take the parents and neighbours of previous drug addicts into confidence which has brought in several successes for the Police in its fight against Drug trade. The intelligence set up has also been geared up to tackle the Drug menace. Police watchers are being used to keep a sharp vigil in the markets, parks, near Schools and Colleges where there are large gatherings. We urge all the peace loving citizens of Tripura to extend full cooperation to the Tripura Police in its fight against Drug menace.

Moreover, the State Government has undertaken alternative source of livelihood programs in areas where cannabis cultivation is rampant. In this regard Forest, Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Resources Development Departments have been involved to wean away people involved in illegal ganja cultivation towards a normal livelihood.

We should all work unitedly to tackle the World Drug problem which is a serious threat to the physical and social health of the society. Jai Hind!

Thanking you,

Prof. (Dr.) Manik Saha