

## Chapter 2 FIELD OF THE STUDY

This chapter deals with the field of the research study. It gives historical, socio-cultural, economical background with a clear canvas of population growth, educational as well as occupational development, working population, sex ratio etc of North-East India, Tripura and Agartala, the capital town of Tripura.

### NORTH-EAST INDIA

North-East India is a region of myriad complexities and situated in the Eastern most part of India. It is connected with the rest of the country through a narrow corridor squeezed between independent nations of Bhutan and Bangladesh (Dubey 1978). North East India earlier comprises contiguous seven states; namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura, but recently the Himalayan state Sikkim added with it. However, all these eight states blessed with plenty of natural sources. Undoubtedly, the whole North-Eastern region occupied sensitive issues of inner tension because of its unique socio-economic and political problems. Hence, it becomes the most difficult region of the country to govern (Ray 2006).

### GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCENARIO

North-East India, a mosaic of different races and cultures, is located between 22° 19' to 28° 16' N latitudes and 89° 42' to 97° 12' E latitudes. This region shares more than 4,500 kilometers of international border which means around 90% of its entire border area with China in the North, Myanmar in the East, Bangladesh in the South-West and Bhutan to the North-West (Horam 1990). North-East region can be physio-geographically categorized into four parts - the Eastern Himalayas, North-East Hills and Brahmaputra and the Barak Valley plains. This region is known for its rare and exotic varieties of abundant flora and fauna.

North-East India has a predominantly humid sub-tropical climate with hot, humid summers, severe monsoons and mild winters. The region is covered by mighty Brahmaputra-Barak river systems and their tributaries. The rich and verdant

rainforests spread over the hills and plain. It is continuous to be perceived by outsiders as full of greenery and thick rain forest (Bhattacharjee 2013). Geographically, apart from the Brahmaputra, Barak and Imphal Valley, some flat lands are found in between the hills of Meghalaya and Tripura. The remaining areas are hilly terrain interspaced with valleys and Plains. Ecologically, North-East region is unique in total part of India. High mountains, snow bound region, deep forest and connection between rivers, hills and plain lands with high rainfall makes whole regions weather very attractive. North-Eastern region is also an earthquake-prone zone; the recorded history of earthquakes during the colonial and post colonial period indicates that earthquakes caused heavy damages to property and loss of valuable lives in several parts of the region. One of the famous palaces of Tripura Ujjayanta Palace was hugely damaged because of earthquake in 1897.

## CLIMATE

North-East India has a subtropical climate which influences by South-West, North-West and North-East monsoons. The rainy season of this region lasted for long seven month that is from April to October. South west monsoon is responsible for bringing 90% of the rainfall in this region. The average rainfall is 2000 millimeter as the climate of this region remains pleasant due to mild and heavy rain. From the month of November to February all eight northeastern states dressed with green valleys and coloring fragmented flower due to winter (<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/northeast/India> Accessed on 14 April, 2016).

Contemporary world is facing the effect of climate change. This climate also started to influence the North-Eastern states. Generally the temperature of the plains of this region and Western part of Mizoram is remain approximately 15°C in the month of January, whereas in other parts of the region, the temperature remain 10°C to 15°C in January. During winter average temperature found from 25°C to 27.5°C. The lowest temperature is experienced in the Arunachal Pradesh. On the other hand the high summer temperature occurred in Tripura between 33°C to 35°C in the month of April ([https://www.academic.edu/1786483/Analysis\\_of\\_Rainfall\\_and\\_Temperature\\_trends\\_in\\_noth\\_east\\_india](https://www.academic.edu/1786483/Analysis_of_Rainfall_and_Temperature_trends_in_noth_east_india)).

## POPULATION

According to census report 2011 total population of North-East is approximately 4,55,33,982 million which is 3.73% of the total population of India, out of which 2,33,09,165 (51.19%) male population and 2,22,78,817 (48.92%) are female. State-wise population distribution of the region is shown in the following table.

Table 2.1: State-wise Distribution of Population along with Geographical Areas, Density, Sex Ratio and Literacy in North East

State	Total Population and percentage (%)	Area (Sq Km)	Density (person per sq km)	Sex Ratio	Literacy Rate
Arunachal Pradesh	13,82,611 (3.03)	83743	17	920	65.38
Assam	3,11,69,272 (68.37)	78438	397	954	72.19
Manipur	27,21,756 (5.98)	22327	122	987	79.21
Meghalaya	29,64,007 (6.51)	22429	132	936	74.43
Mizoram	10,91,014 (2.39)	21081	52	975	91.33
Nagaland	19,80,602 (4.34)	16579	119	931	79.55
Sikkim	6,07,688 (1.33)	7096	86	889	81.42
Tripura	36,17,032 (8.05)	10486	350	961	87.22
Total North-East	4,55,33,982 (100)	262179	-	-	78.84

Source: Census Report, Government of India, 2011.

The above table shows that among North-Eastern States, Assam is highly populated (68.37%), Tripura (8.05%) followed by Meghalaya (6.51%), Manipur (5.98%), Nagaland (4.34%), Arunachal Pradesh (3.03%), Mizoram (2.39%) and Sikkim (1.33%). ([https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011\\_Census\\_of\\_India](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011_Census_of_India) Accessed on 4 June, 2016)

So far as density is concerned, Assam has highest density of 397 person in per sq km, Tripura has 350 persons in per sq km, Meghalaya 132 persons per sq km,

Manipur 122, Nagaland 119, Mizoram 52, Sikkim 86 and Arunachal Pradesh 17 persons per Square Kilometer.

Regarding sex ratio, the regions shown an encouraging picture than all Indian average. According to 2011 census represent sex ratio of Manipur is 987 female against 1000 male, followed by Meghalaya (986), Mizoram (975), Tripura (961), Assam (954) and Sikkim (889). Out of eight North-Eastern States, seven has higher sex ratio than the average national sex ratio (940).

Literacy rate of North-East India also higher (78.84%) than national average. Among the eight states, Mizoram has the highest literacy rate (91.33%), followed by Tripura (87.22%), Sikkim (81.42%), Nagaland (79.55%), Manipur (79.21%), Meghalaya (74.43%), Assam (72.19%) and Arunachal Pradesh (65.38%) respectively.

## THE TRIPURA

Tripura is one of the eight States of the North-East India. The total area of Tripura is 10,486 Square kilometer and located in between 22°56'N - 24°32'N north Latitude and 90°09'-92°20'E East longitude. It has diverse range of topography, people, flora and fauna (Bhatt & Bhargava 2006). The state is bounded on the North by the Karimganj District of Assam, on the South by the Chittagong District of Bangladesh and on the East by Mizo hills of Mizoram. Tripura shared 856 Km of its border with Bangladesh, 53 km border with Assam and 109 km border with Mizoram. Due to geographical isolation, transportation and communication system of the state is not up to the mark which result slower the economic growth, development and unemployment (Gupta 1993).

### ***Historical Background***

There is a controversy about the origin of the term 'Tripura'. Generally it is believed that the king of Tripura's kingdom is known as Tripura. But some researchers are of the view that the term 'Tripura' consist of two separate words 'Tui', means water and 'Pra' means near, so Tripura means 'near water'. It is because though Tripura is a hilly state but it has plenty of water resources in the form of lake, river, and fountain etc. Again Tripura is also considers as the land of Lord Shiva, who is known by the name of '*Tripuerari*' or '*Tripurasware*'. The land of Tripuraswar is known as Tripura and its people by the name of Tripuri.

In Bhabishya Purana's, Brahma khanda mention that Tripura is one of the Shakti Peethas, i.e., the holy places of cosmic power. According to legend in Satya Yuga, King Daksha performed a Yagana in Kankan (near Haridwar). In this ritual Daksha invited all the God and Goddess except his daughter, Sati and her husband Lord Shiva. But uninvited Sati attended the rituals where she listen insults made by her father towards her husband. She was unable to bear the behaviour of her father and committed suicide. When lord Shiva heard about her death, he becomes furious and rushed to the side of Yogna and destroyed it. After that Lord Shiva carried the dead body of Sati by frantic dance all over the places. To bring down the anger of Lord Shiva, Lord Vishnu bifurcate the body of Sati in different pieces with his 'Sudarshan Chakra'. Total 51 pieces of the body of Sati fell at several spots all over the Indian sub continent and these sites are known as Shakti Peeth. Tripura is the place where right leg of Sati fell and the idols are Devi as '*Tripurasundari*' and Shiva as Tripuresh. The present temple of Tripura Sundari is situated at Udaipur (approximately 53 km from Agartala) is built by the Maharaja Dhanya Maniky in 16<sup>th</sup> century. The temple is popular by the name of Udaipur Mata Bari in Tripura. Horam (1990) is of the view that the name Tripura was probably given to the country in honour of the temple of '*Tripurasundari*' as it was dedicated either to Tripurdana- the sun god or Tripuresvara,- the mother of three worlds. Tripura is one of the oldest kingdoms of India. Origin of Tripura can be traced back in the period of Mohabharata, Purana and the Mughal. Mahabharata mentioned Tripura was established in 3000 BC and king of Tripura Trilochan took the side of Kaurava during the war of Kurukshetra. In Rajmala the Tripura kings chronicle it is mentioned that king of Tripura took up arms in favour of Duryodhan in the battle of Kurukshetra and after battle in the coronation ceremony of Judhisthir the king of Tripura was invited and Kaurava shows great honour and respect to him. Mahabharata mentioned Tripura as '*Tarpura*'. The boundary of Tripura was not remaining same in different period. Prior to British the boundary of Tripura was up to Sylhet in North, on the East up to Lushai hill, in the South Chittagaong hill and on the West Tippera hills. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century plains of Cachar was under the kingdom of Tripura but after battle with Konch King Chilarory, Tripura lost its control over Cachar. In this battle 18000 Tripura soldiers were killed (Guha 2012). In 1876 the total area of Tripura was 6386 sq miles. De (1997) said that before 1920 the State was known as 'Hill Tripura' and distinguished from the neighboring, 'Tipperah' which includes the lower portion of East Bengal.

Later on Royal Court declared 'Hill Tipperah' as Tripura, since then Hill Tipperah is known by the name of Tripura.

### ***Royal History of Tripura***

According to legend Tipperah or Tripura Kingdom was established in 100 A.D. Rajmala the Tripura Chronicle of king of Tripura which was written in 15<sup>th</sup> century, in Bengali verse under the patronage of Dharma Manikya, Traces the origin of Tripura king with mythological Lunar Dynasty. According to Hindu mythology, the Lunar dynasty is related to Somavansha as Chandraravansha, or as Ailas, which is one of the four principal parts of Kshatriya Varna. It is said that Druhya the son of kshatriya Varna. It is said that Druhya the son of mythological king Yayati founded Tripura. The Manikya Dynasty of Tripura originated in the 1280 A.D. when the king of Tripura Rantna Fa, Indo Mongolian origin assumed the title, Manikya. But some other sources said that the first king of Manikya Dynasty of Tripura was Maharajaraja Maha Manikya who ascended the throne in 1400 A.D. There is a popular believes that the kings of Tripura get the title Manikya from the 'Mani' (Jewel) that had been obtaining from a frog ([https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tripura\\_\(Princely\\_state\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tripura_(Princely_state))). The Manikya ruled over Tripura more than 600 years that is from 14<sup>th</sup> century to second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Total 178 kings of Minikya Dynasty ruled over Tripura. The Manikya Dynasty reached gloriest position during the rule of 169<sup>th</sup> king Dharma Manikya II (1714-1733). But last part of his rule his kingdom was attack by the Nawab of Bengal and who occupied western plain land of Hill Tipperah which was the main business hub of the state and most of the royal people settled in that part. It was the major source of income for the Tripura state. The Nawab of Bengal renamed the area as 'Chakla Rosanbad" means 'Land of light'. The total area of Chkala Roshnabad was 1,476 sq km, which cover the plain land of Tripperah and certain parts of Noakhali and Sylhet District of present Bangladesh (Ganguly 2006). Later this Chakla Roshnabad goes under Mugal rule. In 1733 Maharaja Dharma Manikya appealed to Mugal Nawab Sujauddin to grant the zamindary right of 'Chakla Rosanbad' to Tripura with a yearly revenue of Rs-5000/-. Accordingly Sujauddin grand the appeal of Dharma Manikya but latter this zamindary system creates problems in whole Tripura. But after British invasion dispute took place between the Tripura king and British government regarding the payment of revenue of Chakla Rausanbad. The King of Tripura was unjustly deprived by the British from his plain

territory. However Rajdhar Manikya gets back Chakla Rasanabad from the British but not as a ruler but as a zamindar of it.

In the British Official records 'Tripura' was usually known as 'Parbatya Tripura' (Hill Tipperah) and sometimes as 'Independent Princely Tipperah'. The colonial ruler appointed Mr. C. W. Belton as a political agent of Princely state Tripura for maintaining communication between the king and the colonial rulers. In spite all these Tripura was able to maintain its status as an independent princely state till independent of India.

### ***Tripura after Independence***

Soon after independence Tripura did not join with Indian Union Territory. The latest king of Tripura Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishor Manikya decided to merge with Indian Union on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 1949 and officially it become a part of Indian union in 1950 with this Manikya Dynasty of Tripura meet its end (Bareh 2001). In the beginning Tripura gets the status of part 'C' (Elected legislature) it gets the status of union territory on November 1956, and became a full-fledged state of Indian Union on 21<sup>st</sup> January 1972.

### ***Geographical Location***

Tripura is one of the eight States of North-East India. Presently it is situated in between 22°56'N - 24°32'N Latitude and 91°09'E - 92°20'E Longitude. Total areas of Tripura are 10486 sq km's. Tripura is bounded by the country of Bangladesh to the West, North and South and the Assam to the North-East by Assam and East by Mizoram.

The state located in the bio-geographic zone of 9B-North-East hills and possesses an extremely rich bio-diversity. The state is covered by picturesque hills and dales deep and green valley's which have added beauty to its landscape. The state is connected with the rest of India by only one road which runs through the hills to the border of Cachar District of Assam. The highest peak of the state is Betalong-shiv (3200ft above sea level) in the Jampui hill range. A number of broad and plain lands like- Agartala, Udaipur, Sabroom, Khowai, Taliyamura, Amarpur, Silachari etc are located between the North-South trending, Parallel to Sub-Parallal high ranges (Topographic Highs) such as the Baramura, Debotamura ranges, Atharamura ranges, langtarai ranges, Sakhan ranges and the jampui hill ranges (Ganguly 2006).

### ***Forest Resources***

The state is rich in forest resources as 379 - Species of trees, 35 ferns, 581 herbs, 165 climbers, 16 climbing shrubs, 320 shrubs, 45 epiphytes and 4 species are found. Tripura has eighteen species of rare plants and medicinal plants. Along with this 90 mammal species, 47 species of fish have been found in this state. ([www.ipcs.org/pdf\\_file/issue/SR176-Forecasts-Northeast-Wasbir.pdf](http://www.ipcs.org/pdf_file/issue/SR176-Forecasts-Northeast-Wasbir.pdf))

### ***Water Resources***

The state is also rich in water resources. Number of river flows throughout the state. These rivers meet the needs of the state. Some of the important rivers of the states are; - the Khowai, the Manu, the Howrah, the Muhuri and the Gomoti. Gomoti is the largest river in Tripura. The report of NEEPCO (North East Electric Power Corporation limited) on 2011, said that the Tripura has number of small power plants which help to meet the need of energy of the State. Gomati Hydrol Power Project is the first power generating station of the State. It is situated at Tirthamukh, Jatanbari of South Tripura.

### ***Population***

Tripura is second highly populated State of North-Eastern region. Following table make it clear.

Table 2.2: Distribution of Population by Sex and Literacy Rate

Population	2011 (%)	Literate population	Literacy Rate (%)
Male	1874376 (50.99)	1501369	91.53
Female	1799541 (49.01)	1303414	82.73
Total	3673917 (100)	2804783	87.22

Source: Census Report, Government of India, 2011.

Above table reveals that total population of Tripura is 3,673,917 out of which male and female are 1,874,376 and 1,799,541 respectively. Total literate people of the state are 2804783, out of which 1501369 male and 1303414 female. Literacy rate of Tripura is 87.8% sex-wise 92.2% male and 83.1% female are literate. Tripura



occupied fourth rank in literacy among all India state and union territory (<http://www.census2011.co.in/census/state/tripura.html>).

Being a state situated near Bangladesh border, it has been suffering from illegal emigration since independence, which created demographical imbalance in Tripura. The original inhabitant tribal population pushed by the immigrants in the interior parts of the rural and hilly areas and majority of Bengali Hindu/Muslim refugees and immigrants were settled down in the urban and plain areas. Majority people of Tripura live in rural areas and rest people are live in urban and semi-urban areas. The rural-urban differences are shown in the following table.

Table 2.3: Distribution of Population on the Basis of Rural-Urban Differences

Population (in 2011)	Tripura		Total
	Rural	Urban	
Population	2712464	961453	3673917
Percentage	73.83%	26.17%	100%

Source: Census Report, Government of India, 2011.

Above table shows that 73.83% people of Tripura live in rural areas and only 26.17% population live in urban areas. Urban dwellers are mostly belongs to Bengali community followed by tribal and others.

### ***Sex Ratio***

The sex ratio mainly indicates sex composition of population in a particular state or country. Society's attitude towards female, migration, occupational mobility etc, influence the sex ratio (Raha and Ghosh 1998). Sex ratio of Tripura is shown in the following table.

Table 2.4: Rural - Urban and Tribal Sex Ratio in Tripura

Year	Sex Ratio			
	Tripura	Rural	Urban	Schedule Tribes
2001	950	970	973	970
2011	961	982	1017	983

Source: Census Report, Government of India 2011-2001.

Above table shows the satisfactory sex ratio of Tripura in comparison to all Indian average. In 2001 Tripura had 950 female against per 1000 male, this rate increase up 961 in 2011. Sex ratio of urban Tripura is much higher than rural areas. As 2011 report shows that in urban area has 1017 female against 1000 male. Similar picture is found in case of tribal population of the state.

### ***Ethnic Composition***

Tripura is inhabited by numerous ethnic groups. There are approximately one hundred thirty major tribal groups living in North East India, out of which nineteen tribal groups are found in Tripura. These groups are the Tripuri, Riang, Jamatia, Halam, Noatia, Kuki, Lushai, Uchai, Chakma, Mag, Khashi, Garo, Munda, Oraon, Santal, Bhil, Lepcha, Bhutia and Chaimal (Raha and Ghosh 1998). 'Tripuri' tribes are considered as aboriginal inhabitant of Tripura. P. K. Basu (1996) is of the view that tribes like Tripuri, Kuki, Riang and Jamatiya who belongs to the Indo- Mongoloid stock living in Tripura since 15<sup>th</sup> century. They migrated to Tripura from near the upper courses of the Yangtze and Yellow rivers in present-day in Western China via Assam, Sylhet and Cachar. Tripura was a Princely State until it merged with India Union on 15th October 1949. During the last phase of the princely rule by the Manikya dynasty, Tripura witnessed the emergence of new culture, which was the outcome of the migration from the Colonial Bengal and from the adjoining territories. The flow of immigrants increased in the state during the 1950s' and reached its summit during the independence movement of Bangladesh in the year 1971. The large-scale inflow of Bengali speaking immigrants from East Pakistan, now Bangladesh, makes pressure on land; acute food shortage, the lengthening shadow of unemployment, and the backwardness of the hill areas etc which have generated serious socio- economic tensions and ethnic conflict in the State. On the other hand due to the communal riots in Bangladesh thousands of refugees came here to take shelter and became permanent settlers. Among them majorities is Bengali (Hindu) and mostly came from Brahmanbaria, Noakhali, Kumilla Sylet, Chitagang district and Dhaka the capital of Bangladesh. Not only Bengali but Muslims are also sanded forcefully those are became marginalized community of this state and their position has come down below the other marginalized community of this state.

Tripura's population is mainly a combination of tribal and non-tribal people. Non tribal population largely migrated from East Pakistan now Bangladesh and majority tribal are original inhabitant of Tripura. Agartala town the capital of Tripura was inhabited by a large number of legal and illegal emigrants. The town also experienced huge amount of increase in number of population during 1941 to 1961. Tribal groups have followed their own custom, tradition, dress pattern, food habits and dialects etc. In Tripura majority of tribal people converted into Christianity or Buddhism. Tribal and non-tribal population distribution of Tripura is given in following table.

Table 2.5: Tribal and Non -Tribal Population of Tripura

Ethnic Group	Population of Tripura		
	Male	Female	Total (%)
Tribal	588327 (31.39)	578486 (32.14)	1166813 (31.75)
Non-Tribal	1286049 (68.61)	1221055 (67.86)	2507104 (68.25)
Total (%)	1874376 (100)	1799541 (100)	3673917 (100)

Source: Census Report, Government of India 2011.

Above table shows that 31.75% people of Tripura belong to different tribal groups and rests are belong to non-tribal groups. Most of the tribes of Tripura belong to Indo-Mongoloid group and their ancestors migrated from central Asia. Priyabrata Bhattacharjee (1994) said that, approximately nineteen tribes are found in Tripura which can be divided into two groups as (i) Aboriginal and (ii) Immigrant and many sub groups. Tribes like Tripuri, Riang, Jamatia, Noatia, Halam etc are considering original inhabitant of Tripura. Whereas tribes like Chakma, Mog, Santal, Bhil etc are migrated tribal groups.

#### ***West Tripura District***

West Tripura is one of the eight districts of Tripura. This district is situated approximately between 23°16 & 24°14 North latitude and 91°09E & 91°47E longitude. This district is bounded by Bangladesh on the North and West, Dhalai district on the East and South Tripura District on the south. Agartala, the state capital is also the head-quarter of this District. Recently this town declared as city but paper works regarding this yet to complete.

West Tripura District is densely populated in comparison to other seven districts of the State. Total populations of the district as per 2011 census report are 1725739 out of which 879428 (50.95%) are male and 846311 (49.05%) are female. In this district around 60% people live in rural areas as near 40% people live in urban areas. In this district around 60% people live in rural areas where as near 40% people live in urban areas. This district has 6 statutory town and 15 census town. The statutory towns are those towns which are functioning under municipality corporation or cantonment board etc. The statutory towns are - Agartala, Khowai, Sonamura, Teliamura, Ranirbazar and Bishalgarh ([www.census2011.co.in/census/district/457-west-tripura.html](http://www.census2011.co.in/census/district/457-west-tripura.html)). Whereas Census Towns are those towns which have: i) at least 5000 population. ii) 75 percent of male working population engaged in non-agricultural sector. iii) Minimum density 400 persons per sq km. The census town of this district are- Anandanagar, Bankimnagar, Briddhanagar, Charipara, Taranagar, Dukli, Gakulnagar, Uttar champamura, Gandhinagar, Madhuban, Madhupur, Narsingarh Radhakrishnanagar, Ranirbazar, Singarbil. West Tripura District has six Sub-divisions, namely Sadar, Belonia, Bishalgarh, sonamura Khowai and Teliamura sub-division and sixteen Development Blocks, namely Mohonpur, Hezamara, Jirania, Mandai, Bishalgarh, Dukli, Jampuijala, Melaghar, Boxanagar, kathalia, khowai, Padmabhil, Tulashikar, Kalyanpur, Teliamura and Mungaiakami.

### ***Religion***

Like other district of Tripura this district is also multi-religious, where people belong to different religion reside side by side peacefully. Religion wise population distribution of the district is shown in the following table.

Table 2.6: Religion Wise Population Distribution of West Tripura District, 2011

SL. No.	Religion	Population	Percentage (%)
1	Hindu	1512821	87.67
2	Muslim	152791	8.85
3	Christen	53622	3.11
4	Sikh	499	0.03
5	Buddhist	2108	0.12
6	Jain	362	0.02
7	Other	430	0.02
8	Not stated	3106	0.18
9	Total	1725739	100

Source: Census Report, Government of India, 2011.

Above table reveals that majority (87.67%) of the population are Hindu in West Tripura District, and the rest are Muslim (8.85%), Christian (3.11%), Sikh (0.03%), Buddhist (0.12%), Jain and others (0.02%). 0.18% people followed traditional beliefs and practices but failed to identify it by name. the follower of traditional religion mostly belongs to Tribal Community.

### ***Literacy Rate***

Literacy rate of Tripura is above the national average. But literacy rate of West Tripura District is higher than the state average. It is shown clearly in the following table.

Table 2.7: Population Distribution of West Tripura District on the Basis of Literacy Rate and Sex

Population	West Tripura District		
	Male	Female	Total (%)
Literates	722998 (82.21)	638356 (48.06)	1361354 (78.88)
Illiterates	156430 (17.79)	689881 (51.94)	364385 (21.12)
Total (%)	879428 (100)	1328237 (100)	1725739 (100)

Source: Census Report, Government of India, 2011.

Above table reveals that, in West Tripura District total population is 1725739, out of which 78.88% are literate and 21.12% are found illiterate. Sex-wise 82.21% male and 48.06% female are literate and 17.79% male and 51.94% female are illiterate. So it appears that huge gender gap prevail in literacy rate in the District.

### ***Sex Ratio***

Sex ratio of a society is indicates its attitude towards female. Sex ratio of West Tripura District is higher than the state average. Following table makes it clear.

Table 2.8: Sex Ratio of West Tripura District

West Tripura District	Sex Ratio
Urban	953
Rural	977
Total	962

Source: Census Report, Government of India, 2011.

Above table shows that sex ratio of West Tripura District is 962 which are a bit higher than Tripura's total sex ratio. In rural areas of West Tripura District sex ratio is much higher (977) than that of urban areas sex ratio (953).

## AGARTALA TOWN

Agartala is the capital of Tripura as well as Head-quarter of West Tripura District. It is the second largest populous state capital in North-East India after Guwahati and India's third international internet gateway after Mumbai and Chennai. Agartala is situated in between 23°45'-23°55'N latitude and 91°15'-91°20' E longitude. The town is situated in the bank of Hawrah River and total area of it is 92 sq km ([http://agartalacity.tripura.gov.in/at\\_glance.htm](http://agartalacity.tripura.gov.in/at_glance.htm)).

### ***Origin of the Term***

The term 'Agartala' derived from two Bengali words 'Agar', (Aquilaria Malaccensis Lam) tree and 'tala' means beneath or under that i.e. beneath the Agar tree. Another opinion about the origin of the word Agartala is that it composed by two words, namely 'Agar' (Aquilaria Malaccensis Lam) and 'tala' a store house. Jalad Baran Ganguly (2006) in his book '*An economic history of North-East India 1826 to 1947*' stated that historically the term Agartala derived from two words 'Agar' and 'tala' a reference to the density of Agar trees in this region. From this it appear that the term Agartala related to the availability Agar tree in this area (Ganguly 2006).

### ***Historical Background***

Earlier Agartala was a small thinly populated village known by the name of New Haveli and after shifting of the capital of Manikya Dyansty to New Haveli, it gets importance. Prior to 1760 A. D. the capital of princely state Tripura was Rangamati which was situated in the southern part of the state. But due to regular attack and invasion of the Kuki community creates problems for running the administration from Rangamati. Again Maharaja Krisha Chandra Manikya Bahadur the 53<sup>rd</sup> king of Manikya Dynasty wanted to maintain communication with British Bengal but he faced difficulties for doing so from Rangamati. So he shifted the capital of his state from Rangamati to 'Old Haveli' in 1760 A.D. The capital was further shifted from Old Haveli to New Haveli by Krishna Kishor Manikya the 68<sup>th</sup> king of Manikya Dynasty. Since then, New Haveli serves as the capital of Tripura now it is known by the name of 'Agartala'.

In 1940 A.D. Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishor Manikya Bahadur the 172<sup>nd</sup> king of Manikya Dynasty re-organized and re-planned the New Haveli. The king visited United Kingdom at 1940 A.D. and soon after returned he was decided to make Agartala as a mini UK and re-organized the town area in a planned manner with new roads and market facilities (Raha & Ghosh 1998). That is why it is normally believed that modern Agartala town was established in 1940 A.D.

### ***Population***

Normally capital towns are densely populated. The reason behind it are availability of different types of facilities along with its being a state capital it is the center of all political activities, so people always rush there. Agartala is also not exception. Comparison to other town of Tripura, Agartala is densely populated. The details of it are given bellow.

Table 2.9: Distribution of Population of Agartala Town by Literacy

AGARTALA TOWN			
Population (%)		Literate Population (%)	Illiterate Population (%)
Male	200132 (50.04)	175,170 (50.81)	24962 (45.14)
Female	199872 (49.96)	169,541 (49.19)	30331 (54.86)
Total	400004 (100)	344,711 (100)	55293 (100)

Source: Census Report, Government of India, 2011.

Above table shows that the total population of According to 2011 census report Agartala town is 4, 00,004 out of which 2, 00,132 (50.03%) are male and 1, 99,872 (49.96%) are female. Literacy rate of the town is quite high as 94.45% people of the town are literate, among them 1, 75,170 (50.81%) are male and 1, 69,541(49.19%) are female.

### ***Population It's Growth in Agartala***

Like other Capital city of India, Agartala also experienced high growth of population. Though there was historical cause for growth of population in this town. Chowdhury and Chowdhury (2014) in their study 'Trends of Solid Waste Management in Agartala city, Tripura, India' clearly mentioned about population growth in Agartala town in different historical periods. Generally population growth

largely depends on the reproductive capacity of the people living in Particular area but for sudden growth of population in a particular area certain factors play an important role like push-pull factor, immigration and high birth rate. For sudden growth of population in Agartala is related to the above mention factors (Baheh 2007). Trends of population growth in Agartala are shows in the following table.

Table 2.10: Year Wise Population Growths in Agartala

AGARTALA			
Year	Population	Growth Rate (%)	Area
1901	6415	--	8 sq km
1911	6831	6.08	8 sq km
1921	7743	11.77	8 sq km
1931	9580	19.17	8 sq km
1941	17693	45.85	8 sq km
1951	42595	58.46	8 sq km
1961	54878	22.38	8 sq km
1971	59625	7.96	8 sq km
1981	132186	54.89	10.94 sq km
1991	157358	15.99	15.81 sq km
2001	189998	17.17	16.02 sq km
2004	367822	48.34	58.84 sq km
2011	400004	8.04	58.84 sq km
2013	438408	8.75	76.504 sq km

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011\\_Census\\_of\\_India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011_Census_of_India).

The above table shows that in the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century Agartala municipal area was a small town with 6415 people and its growth rate was also natural up to 1931. But it experienced high growth rate of population from 1941 that is just before independence. It can be said that Agartala experienced high growth of population before and after the partition of the country. As the town shared international border with Bangladesh, so after partition large number people entered in this areas. Not only this, the town also experiences sudden expansion of population in between 1971-81 and 2001 to 2011. From 1971-1981 Tripura was under unprecedented rise of extremist activities. So people from terrorist affected areas rushed and settled in Agartala town, where people are relatively safe. So for high growth of population in Agartala town certain factors plays significant rate like-i) high and uncontrolled birth rate, ii) international migration, iii) inland migration where rural push and urban pull factor also functioned. Not only population increases, with the passes of time the town also expanded by its size. It was only 8 sq. km. in



1901 over hundred years, municipal area of Agartala become nine time larger i.e. 76. 504 sq km (Rao 1996).

### **Religion**

Like Tripura as a whole, Agartala town also inhabited by the people of different religions. Religion-wise population distribution of Agartala is shown in the following table.

Table 2.11: Religion Wise Population Distribution in Agartala

Religion	Population	Percentage (%)
Hindu	376358	94.09
Muslim	17490	4.37
Christen	3977	0.99
Buddhist	1140	0.28
Jain	226	0.06
Sikh	77	0.02
Others	736	0.19
Total	400004	100

Source: Census Report, Government of India, 2011.

Above data indicates that Hinduism is major religion in Agartala town with 94.09% followers, Islamism is second largest religion (4.37%) followed by Christianity (0.99%), Jainism (0.06%), Sikhism by (0.02%) and Buddhism (0.02%). Around (0.19%) people practices indigenous tribal religion.

### **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

Being a capital town, Agartala has number of educational institutions. These educational institutions include primary schools, high schools, higher secondary schools, colleges, polytechnic college, university, Vocational training center etc. Details of these are given bellow:

Table 2.12: Number of Educational Institutions in Agartala

Educational Institution	Number
Schools (primary/middle/secondary/senior secondary schools)	136
Degree Collage (Arts/Science/Commerce)	15
Medical college	1
Engineering collage	4
Management Institution College	1
Polytechnic College	3

Recognized shorthand, Type writings and vocational training institutes	2
Non-formal Education center (under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan)	15
Special School for disable Childs	5
Vocational training center	4
Total	186

Source: Handbook of West Tripura District, 2011.

Above table shows that Agartala has 136 of schools. 15 degree colleges and non formal educational center, 4 engineering college, 3 polytechnic colleges, 2 shorthand, type writing and vocational training institute, and 1 medical college and management institution. In Agartala both the private and government schools are found. Almost all the government schools are Bengali medium and majority of private schools are English medium in nature. Details of schools of the town are given bellow.

Table 2.13: Schools of Agartala Town on the Basis of Types and Ownership

Type of School	Ownership		Total (%)
	Government	Private	
L. P. School	35 (38.05%)	11 (25%)	46 (33.82%)
M. E. School	31 (33.69%)	20 (45.46%)	51 (37.5%)
High school	11 (11.96%)	7 (15.90%)	18 (13.23%)
Higher Secondary school	15 (16.30%)	6 (13.64%)	21 (15.45%)
Total (%)	92 (100%)	44 (100%)	136 (100%)

Sources: Statistics of School Education 2010-2011.

Above table reveals that out of 136 schools 37.5% are M.E. Schools, 33.82% Lower Primary Schools, 15.45% Higher Secondary Schools and 13.23% High Schools and. Agartala has government schools, out of which 38.05% are lower primary school, 33.69% M.E. schools, 16.30% higher secondary and 11.96% high school. So far as ownership is concern 68% schools of the town are owned by the government and rest 32% are privately owned.

Normally lower primary schools provide education from classes I to IV, M. E. Schools from classes V to VII, high schools from classes V to X and higher secondary schools from classes V to XII standard. In Agartala town all the government schools function under Sarva Sikhsha Mission with an aim to provide free and compulsory education to all children up to 14 years of age. Mostly government lower primary and M. E. Schools of the town provide free book, school dress and mid-day meals to the students. For encouraging girls' education since last five years government provided bicycles to the poor and needy girls. Private schools are costly because all educational expenses have to bear by their parents. Among these schools few private and government high schools are reputed in Agartala for their quality in education and facilities given to the students. These schools are Nataji Shuvash Vidyaniketan (H.S. +2 (Private), Sri Krishna Mission H.S. school (Private), Shihu Bihar H.S.School (Government), Maharani Tulshibati Girls' H.S.School (Government), Bani Vidya Pith Girls' H.S. School (Government), Umakanka Academy H.S. School (Government), Ram Krishna Mission H.S. School (private), Holy Cross H.S. School (Private) , Don Bosco High school (private) and St. Paul's High School (private).

#### COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Comparison to schools the number of colleges in Agartala town is less. Total 2 Medical Colleges and 22 Degree collages are found which provide Arts, Science and Commerce streams. Among these collages 9 are government and rests are private colleges. Out of 15 colleges few are reputed collages namely, Maharaja Bir Bikram College, Women's College, Ramthakur College are popular for quality education, details of these collages are given bellow:

##### ***Maharaja Bir Bikram College***

The College established in the year 1947. It is one of the oldest educational institutions of the state which was established by Maharaja Bir Bikram, the 162<sup>nd</sup> king of Tripura. This college is situated approximately 3 km from the heart of the town. This college offers science, Arts and commerce streams.



Photo Plate 2.1: Maharaja Bir Bikram College

### ***Bir Bikram Memorial College***

Bir Bikram Memorial Collage was established on 19<sup>th</sup> August, 1969. This collage gives education in two shift- day shift and evening shift. Day shift started from 8.00 AM to 12 PM and evening shift started from 1.PM to 5 PM. Evening shift facilitated those students who did not find time in day time because of various reasons. At present the collage campus spread almost 6 Acres of land. This college offers Arts, Science and Commerce stream and also has a library with a rich collection of books. In the field of sports and cultural activities, the collage also secures good position among the other colleges of Tripura.



Photo Plate 2.2: Bir Bikram Memorial College

### ***Women's College***

This college of Agartala is made for female only. It was established in 1967 and offers science, commerce and arts stream. The collage has one girl's hostel within the campus for facilitating those student who come from interior parts of the state.

### ***Ramthakur College***

Ramthakur College was established in 17<sup>th</sup> July, 1967 by Late Pramod Rajan Bhatta Chuodhuri. Ramthakur College is a co-educational institution and affiliated to the Tripura University. This collage also offers Arts, Science and Commerce streams for its students.

### UNIVERSITIES

Agartala town has 5 universities namely Tripura University, ICFAI University, IGNOU, Sikkim Manipal University and National Institute of Technology (NIT). Out of these five only Tripura University is central university. Details of these universities are discuss bellow

***Tripura University*** It is a central university ranked 4<sup>th</sup> among the universities of northeastern states and 43<sup>rd</sup> in all India. This university established in the year 1987 as state university, but 2007 it was converted as central university. The university is situated at Suryamaninagar, 10 km from the center of Agartala town. University offer post-graduate courses and research programmes in almost sixteen disciplines. University has affiliated college and distance education facilities.



Photo Plate 2.3: Tripura University

***Maharaja Bir Bikram University*** Maharajaraja Bir Bikram University started working in the year 2016. It is a state university mainly established by the Government of Tripura. The MBB University is situated in the front of M.B.B. Collage and a future vision to provide standard and quality education to its students.

*ICFAI University* Institute of Chartered financial Analysts of India (ICFAI) University was established in 1984 in Dehradun, Andhra Pradesh India. It is a private deemed university. Its branch established in 2004 in the Kamalghat, is approximately 9 km from Agartala under the Act 8 of State Legislature (2004). This University offers world class innovative career oriented professional courses of Post Graduate and Under Graduate program.



Photo Plate 2.4: Agartala Municipal Council.

## AGARTALA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Agartala Municipal Council was established in 1871 AD during the time of 181st king Maharaja Chandra Manikya (1862-96 AD) and the Council functioning from 1874 A.D. At that time Agartala was spread on 332 acres of land with a population of 7000. In 1897 Maharaja Radha Kishore Manikya re-organized the entire administrative system of Agartala Municipal Board and made rules for conducting periodical census of the town along with birth and death registration, regular sweeping and cleaning of roads and drains etc. In 1978 Agartala Municipality was divided into 10 Wards for administrative purpose. Agartala became a planned town under the guidance of Maharaja Bir Bikramanikya Kishore Manikya Bahadur in 1940s (Choudhury 2014). On 26<sup>th</sup> October, 1994 Tripura Municipal Act was passed as per 74<sup>th</sup> amendment of the constitution of India. In 2004 Agartala Municipal area extended to 62.02 sq kms with a population of 3, 68,493. The total geographical area of Agartala now is 92 sq kms. At present Agartala Municipal Council converted as Agartala Municipality Corporation (AMC) is divided in the four postal zones and 35 wards. These Zones are; North Zone, South Zone, East Zone and Central Zone. But

wards distributions of these zones are not same. According to size of population wards are distributed in these zones.

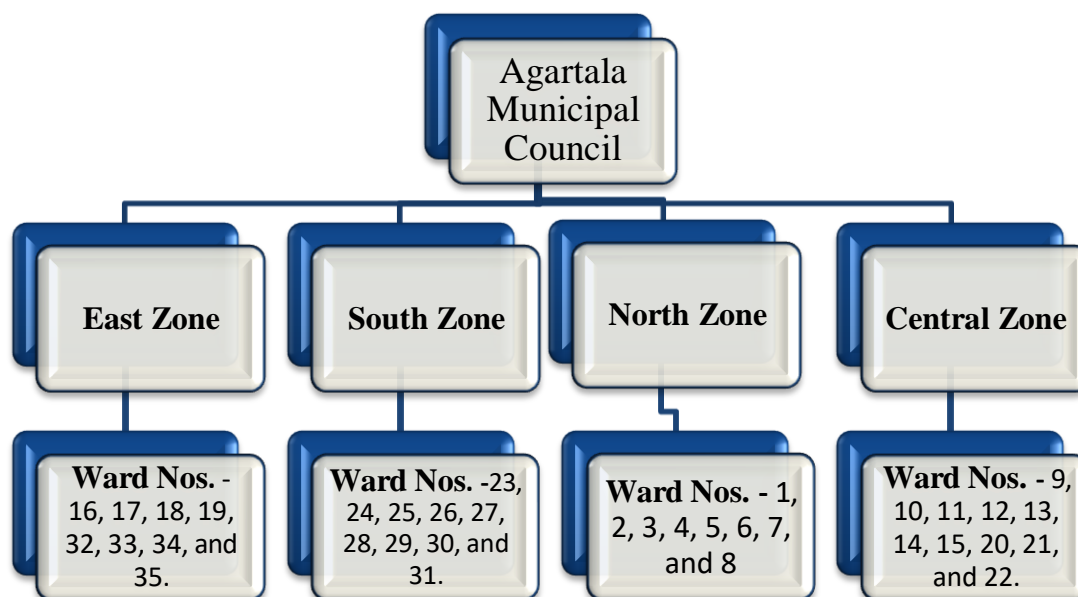


Figure 2.1: Zone Wise Distribution of Wards in Agartala

Above figure shows that Central Zone has largest number of wards i.e. 10, second largest Zone is South Zone which has 9 wards and East and North Zones have 8 wards each.

## SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Agartala Municipal Corporation has been carrying out Solid Waste Management (SWM) of four zones of the town covering 35 wards. Solid wastes are categories into two parts- (i) solid Waste and (ii) Biomedical waste. (<http://www.tripurainfowat.com/news-details/TN/15788/amc-continues-solid-waste-management-without-underground-sewage-treatment-system.html> downloaded on 17/9/2016) The Corporation adopted high technological equipments and vehicles for cleaning the waste. Approximately, 500 medium (1.1 cu meters) and large size (4.2 cu meter) dustbins/ containers are placed near major roads, and market or commercial areas. More than 400 sweepers are being engaged by the Corporation for sweeping the road and collecting solid waste. It also started to collect waste from door-to-door. The Corporation also collects bio-medical waste from Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Medical Colleges, and Pathology Laboratories on daily basis. But unfortunately it doesn't have any underground sewage collection and sewage treatment system. The untreated

sewage finds its way into several drainage channels of the city and eventually finds its way into the Hawrah River, Khatakhhal River and Akhaura Cannel. As a result river water polluted and creates a high health risk for the locality (Chowdhury & Chowdhury 2014).

## AIRPORT

Agartala Airport was established in the year 1942 by King Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya Bahadur. Geographical location of Agartala Airport is 23°53'24"N to 091°14'32"E and located 12 km North-West of the Agartala town. According to the statistical report of the year 2010 - 2011, the Agartala Airport was ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> busiest Airport in India. It connected Agartala with Kolkata, Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Imphal, Visakhapatnam, Mumbai and so no. In coming years it will get the status of international airport.

## TOURIST SPOTS OF AGARTALA TOWN

Agartala has a good number of Tourist spots. The land is rich in natural beauty and also boasts of being home to various tribes. Agartala is famous for beautiful palaces, monuments, temples and handicrafts. The monuments are stunning reminder of the glorious past of Agartala. About some of the prominent tourists spots are discussed as bellow:

***Ujjayanta Palace:*** The principal attraction of Agartala is the Ujjayanta Palace. Maharaja Radhakishore Manikya, the 182th king of Manikya Dynasty built it in 1901. The building is constructed on Indo-Saracenic architectural model. The building is situated on 28 hectors of land. Two temples namely, Umamaheshwara and Jagannath are established within the compound of the palace. After independence this palace was used as State Legislative Assembly, but at present it is converted as State Museum. This Museum is the best place to visit whole of Tripura in a short time with huge cultural diversity. This Museum also provides lots of information about culture, history, geography and tribes of Tripura. This place is surrounded by a beautiful garden and lakes.





Photo Plate 2.5: UJJAYANTA PALACE (State Museum)

***Malancha Niwas:*** Malancha Niwas is another royal luxury palace-cum-rest-house of Agartala. It was built by Maharaja Birchandra Kishore Manikya Bahadur in the year 1909. This palace-cum-resort is famous for association with Rabindra Nath Tagore's visit. It is said that Robindranath Tagore wrote one of his famous drama 'Visarjan' here.



Photo Plate 2.6: Malancha Niwas

***Kunjaban Palace:*** In the year 1917, Maharaja Birendra Kishore Manikya constructed this palace. The Maharaja himself had planned the building. Rabindranath Tagore also visited this palace in 1926 AD. Tagore’s favorite place of the building was the Golvarandah, from where he used to enjoy the green view of Baramurah Hill. This palace is also known as Pushpaban Palace. The distance between this palace and with Ujjayanta Palace is one kilometer. Now one portion of this palace is converted as residence of Governor of Tripura. Tourists and visitors can visit only the Southern portion of the palace, which is called as Rabindra Kanan Park.



Photo Plate 2.7: Kunjaban Palace

## TEMPLES, MOSQUES AND CHURCHES

Number of temples, mosques and churches are found in Agartala town. Among all are found very famous. Details of these are given below.

Table 2.14: Temples, Mosque and Churches in Agartala Town

Agartala Town	
Religion institution	Number
Temples	17
Mosque	2
Churches	12
Monastery	1
Total	32

Above table reveal that Agartala have 17 temples, 2 mosque, 12 churches and 1 monastery. Among these few are discuss below.

- **Jagannath Temple:** This temple is situated in the heart of the city. Neat and clean, well maintained and very popular among the local people. This temple has the idol of Lord Jagannath, Balbhadra and Subhadra. The priest regularly performs the rituals. The temple is managed by committee constituted by the influential local people.
- **Laxmi Narayan Temple:** This temple is very near to Rajmahal or Tripura government museum. The idol of lord Krishna and Radha was installed by Maharani Krishnananda more then 45 years ago. This temple is registered under the Indian Antiquity Act.
- **Umamaheshwara Temple** is small but beautiful temple situated in the middle of the town. Within the temple compound small temple of Lord Hanuman also established
- **Benu Ban Vihar Temple** is also situated at the heart of the town. This Hindu temple is very famous, among the people. At the morning and evening lots of people assemble in the hall of the temple for prayer.
- **Benu Ban Vihar Buddha Temple** is another famous temple at Agartala. In this Buddha temple idols of Lord Buddha and Bodhisatvas are placed. Every year the followers of Buddhism assemble here and celebrate Buddha Purnima.
- **ISKCON Temple:** This temple is constructed under International Society for Krishna Consciousness. The idol of Lord Krishna is placed inside the temple. This temple is famous for its cleanliness and systematic arrangement of rituals and programmes (<http://tripuratourisum.gov.in/temples> downloads on 17/9/2016).

## MOSQUES

In Agartala two mosques namely- Gedu Miyar Masjid and Jame Masjid at Bhati Abhoynagar (West) are famous. Many people of other religions also visit these mosques and pray for fulfillments of their wishes. There is strong believe among the people that if anyone soul heartedly lighten candles and bind ribbon in particular wall of these mosques then their desire will be fulfilled.

## CHURCHES

Number of churches is there in Agartala. Agartala Baptist Church at Arundhutinagar is the oldest churches of Agartala, other churches are Agartala City Baptist Church at Supari Bagan, Khakotor Baptist Church at Abhoynagar, Capital Baptist Church at Gurkha Basti and Nandannagar, Palace Baptist Church at palace compound and Aguli Baptist Church at Bidhurkarta chowmuhani, Noyung Baptist Church at Haradhan Sangha, St. Josephs Catholic Church at Durjoynagar, Don Bosco Catholic Church at Nandannagar, Catholic Church Mariamnagar and so on. All these churches are engaged in charity and conversion of people. These churches enthusiastically celebrate all Christian festivals and rituals.

## PARKS

Total six parks are located in different direction at Agartala. Among these four are Government Park and two are public private partnership park. These parks provide all facilities for leisure time activities. All these park charge minimum entry fee from the people for maintenance of the park. These parks are namely- heritage park, Nehru Park, Rose-Valley Amusement park, Children Park. Heritage Park was established by Tripura government in the year of 2012. The total area of this park is 12 acres and located in the northern side of town. Nehru Park, established in 2003 under the funding of Tripura government. This park is situated near Ginger hotel. Rose Valley Amusement park was established in 2005 and functioning under public private partnership since 2011. This park is comparative big and has all modern facilities. All these parks are well decorated with flower garden, statue etc and well managed also. The main attraction of Nehru Park is roller costar, swimming pole and different types of riding.

## HOTELS

Lots of big and small hotels are spread all over the town. Among these hotels three hotels namely, Sonar Tori Hotel, Ginger Hotel and Rajdhani Hotel are famous for their facilities and services.

*Sonar Tori Hotel* is situated in the Northern side of Agartala. With its convenient location the hotel offers easy access to the town's popular destinations.

This hotel also provided facilities such as 24 hours security, taxi services, free Wi-Fi in all rooms etc.

*Ginger Hotel* situated in Khejur Bagan Airport Road, Agartala. Ginger is the renowned among three star hotels which is sponsored by TATA.



Photo Plate 2.8: Ginger Hotel

*Hotel City Center* is situated at Hari Ganga Basak Road, Madhyapara lane, Agartala. For travelers this hotel provides various facilities and being situated in the busiest place of the town, customer of this hotel can avail vehicle facilities etc. for 24 hours.

## SHOPS

Uncountable numbers of shops, showrooms, tea stalls, restaurants, fast food centers, vegetable markets, medicine stores, mobile service center etc are found in Agartala town. Among the show rooms - jewelry showroom, car showroom, mobile showroom, electronic showrooms, bike showroom are famous. These showrooms employed large number of local youth as Salesmen, Salesgirls and Manager etc. Almost each residential area of the town has one or more grocery shops, vegetables and fish markets, where every type of goods related to men's day to day need are found.

## SHOPPING MALLS

Agartala has one government shopping mall named City Center and four private malls. These malls are Big Bazar, Metro Bazer, Bazar Kolkata and Reliance trends. Different types of goods ranging from vegetables, fruits to clothes; T.V., etc are found in these malls. Huge numbers of people visit these malls every day for purchasing different goods.

## LOCAL MARKETS

In Agartala vegetables and fish market are found almost every residential areas. Few famous vegetable markets are Battala Super Market, Gol Bazaar, Lake Chowmuhani Bazaar etc. In spite of that number of vegetables vender sell their goods near different road side of the town. These vendors regularly shifted their market from one place to another because of the fear of traffic police.



Photo Plate 2.9: Local Market

## CIRCUIT HOUSE

Circuit house is the house where Government Officers get accommodation. Circuit house also known as rest house. In India every city or small towns has one circuit house. Practically circuit house not only give accommodation to Government Officials but also of reputed Company's officials also get accommodation here.

Agartala Circuit house is very well maintained and situated near Ujjayanta Palace, 2.1 km from Raj Bhavan and approximately 10 km from Agartala Airport.

## HOSPITALS

Agartala town has 5 hospitals, 13 dispensaries, 2 family welfare centers, 2 maternity and 2 child care centers, 2 maternity homes, 1 T.B. Hospital, 5 nursing homes, 1 Veterinary Hospital. In Agartala town has approximately 950 medical shops emerges. Among these hospitals, Govind Ballav Plant Hospital is known for providing best treatment. It is found that people of lower income groups visited government hospital whereas other approaches private nursing homes and hospitals. Because It is believed that private hospitals provide better treatment and care to the patients than government hospitals. In spite of that large number of doctors' chamber are there in the town where outdoor patient goes for health checkup.

## BANKS

Numbers of government and private bank branches are functioning in Agartala town. Among them 5 branches of state bank of India, 3 branches of UCO Bank, 1 branch of Punjab National Bank, 2 branch of YES Bank and 3 branch of AXIS Bank and 2 branches of ICICI Bank. Some Cooperative Banks are also functioning in different parts of the town. According to 2011 census data within Agartala town in total 35 banks are functioning. Among those 35 banks, 16 are nationalized banks, 6 private banks and 13 co-operative banks. These banks provide facilities like saving and withdrawal, deposit of money, granting loans, fixed deposits and so on. In spite of that some insurance companies like Life Insurance of India, ICICI prudential life insurance, are also functioning within the town area.

In sum, it can be said that Agartala is non-tribal dominated town. Like other capital city, Agartala is also a busy town. It has large number of financial institution, educational institution, health institutions, shopping mall and market place and so on.