

Short history of pre-historical and historical of Tripura.

Tripura is claimed to be one of the oldest princely State of ancient India. The princely rulers of Tripura claimed to have been descended from the Yoyati of the Lunar Dynasty of the Mahabharata. The king Yoyati's successor king Druhya, king Bavru, king Pratardan, king Daitya, king Tripur and king Trilochana. Rajratnakar, the oldest State annals, endorses that the king Bavru conquered the countries up to river Baitarini in Orissa adding a portion of Burma to his kingdom, also brought sea (Bay of Bengal) under his control. The king Bavru also attended the Aswamedha Yajna (Horse Sacrifice) of Emperor Dasharatha of Ayodhya. The king Tripur was contemporary of king Yudhisthira of Mahabharata era. King Trilochana is said to have attended the Rajsuya Yajna of king Yudhisthira of Mahabharata era. King Trilochana was a pious king, a votary of Lord Siva.

The historical chapter of the Royal line of Tripura known as Manikya Dynasty had actually begun the reign of Maharaja Maha Manikya who ascended the throne 1400 A.D. Maharaja Maha Manikya was the first ruler who started ruling the State the Royal title of Manikya. In between the first ruler Maharaja Maha Manikya and the last ruler Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya Bahadur ruled the princely State by assuming Royal title of Manikya. The long period over 547 years altogether 35 Maharajas ruled the kingdom of Tripura. The last king Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya Bahadur who reigned for the period from 1923 to 1947. He was a versatile as well as farsighted king who died on 17 May, 1947.

The colorful kingdom, princely rule came to close due to the merger of the State with India on 15 October, 1949. Maharani Kanchan Prava Maha Devi who signed the Tripura Merger Agreement on 9 September, 1949 in New Delhi on behalf of her son Kirit Bikram Kishore Manikya in accordance with consent of her late husband Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya Bahadur. Thus the native princely State merged with India on 15th October, 1949.

Then the princely State became a part of C State under the administration of a Chief Commissioner Sri Ranjit Roy, I.C.S. was appointed as the first Chief Commissioner on 15.10.1949. A Council of Advisory was appointed by the President of India to advise the Chief Commissioner. Under the Act of State Re-organization the Territorial Council was set up consisting of 32 members including 2 nominee members.

In accordance with the consent of the President of India the Territorial Act was enacted on May, 1963 and under the provision of Article 239 of the constitution of India a representative administrator of the President was appointed and coming into the force of State Organization Act. The Territorial Council was abolished and in accordance with the Constitution Act 1962 provision was made for the creation of Legislature and Council of Ministers. Tripura Territorial Council was converted to the Tripura Legislative Assembly on 1 July, 1963 and Council of Ministers was formed for the first time under the Chief Ministership of Sri Sachindralal Singha. The first Legislature of the State began with strength of 30 members. The same democracy process continued up to 1971.

With the objective of giving full-fledged democratic rights to people of State Tripura was granted Statehood by Act of Parliament on January, 1972. In General Election held in March, 1972 the National Congress won the election with overwhelming majority under the leadership of Sukhamay Sengupta. Sri Sukhamay Sengupta became first Chief Minister of the State after its attaining Statehood. Sri B. K. Nehru, I.C.S. became first Governor of Tripura State.