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Edited by Amita Dhanda



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Patron

Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao
Vice-Chancellor
NALSAR University of Law
Hyderabad

Editorial Team

Editor: Dr Amita Dhanda
Associate Editor: Dr Aymen Mohammed
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TRIPURA

YOGESH PRATAP SINGH*

Introduction

Tripura is a state in North-East India. It shares borders with Mizoram and Assam, and an international border with Bangladesh. Tripura is surrounded by Bangladesh on its north, south and west. Tripura is the third smallest state in terms of area and seventh-least populous state with a population of 36.71 lakh (3.67 million). The State is divided into 8 districts and 23 sub-divisions, where Agartala is the capital and the largest city in the state. Tripura has 19 different tribal communities with a majority of Bengali population. Bengali, Kokborok and English are the official languages of the State.

About Tripura Legislative Assembly

The Government of Union Territories Act 1963 was passed in the Month of May, 1963 to provide for a Legislative Assembly and Council of Ministers for certain Union Territories including Tripura.¹ The Administrative head was the Administrator of a Union Territory appointed by the President of India.² This Act provided for a Legislative Assembly for each Union Territory with 30 elected Members for Tripura.³ The Central Government had power to nominate not more than three persons to be members of the Legislative Assembly.⁴ The Government of Union Territories Act, 1963 also provided for a Council of Ministers for Tripura with the Chief Minister at the head to aid and advise the Administrator.⁵ The Chief Minister shall be appointed by the President and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Chief Minister.⁶ The Ministers shall hold office during the

* Professor of Law and Vice-Chancellor, National Law University, Tripura.

¹ The Government of Union Territories Act, 1963.

² The Constitution of India, 1950, Art. 239.

³ The Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, §3(2).

⁴ The Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, §3(3).

⁵ The Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, §44.

⁶ The Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, §45(1).

pleasure of the President.⁷ The Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Legislative Assembly.⁸

The North Eastern Areas (Reorganization) Act, 1971, was passed in the Parliament and assented to by the President on 30th December, 1971. This Act was given effect in the state of Tripura from 21st January, 1972 under which the State of Tripura attained full Statehood of the Indian Union.⁹ The Tripura Legislative Assembly or Tripura Vidhan Sabha is the unicameral legislature with 60 Members in the Legislative Assembly.¹⁰ The first election of the state of Tripura was held in March 1972.¹¹

The politics of Tripura was initially dominated by the Indian National Congress, and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and now by Bharatiya Janata Party, the Tipra Motha Party, the Indigenous People's Front of Tripura and the Trinamool Congress. The Communist Party of India (Marxist)-led Left Front ruled Tripura for more than thirty-five years since it got statehood in 1972. The Left Front was in power from 1978 to 1988, and then again from 1993 to 2018. It secured a three-fourths majority by winning 49 of the 60 Assembly seats in 2008 elections which was eight more than its tally in the 2003 elections. In the 2013 Assembly election, the Left Front won 50 out of 60 seats. In the 2018 state assembly election the Bharatiya Janata Party defeated Left Front and won a landslide majority of 43 seats out of 59 seats on which election was conducted.

Functioning of Tripura Legislative Assembly (1963-2023)

Tripura Legislative Assembly since its inception in 1963 is responsible for making laws, discussing policies, and overseeing the functioning of the government. First Assembly (1 July 1963 –12 January 1967) which had 30 seats had 8 sessions and 103 sittings. The Second Legislative Assembly (1 March 1967 – 1 November 1971) had 13 Sessions and 139 Sittings. With full-fledged statehood received on January 21, 1972, the third Legislative Assembly (20 March 1972–5 November 1977) appeared to be most productive with 17 sessions and 179 sittings. Fourth Assembly (5 January 1978–7 January 1983) had 17 Sessions and 99 Sittings while fifth assembly (10 January 1983–5 February 1988) has 112 sittings in 15 sessions. Sixth Assembly witnessed 14 sessions and 95 sittings. Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Assemblies worked for 84, 82, 98, 78 and 73 sittings

⁷ The Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, §45(2).

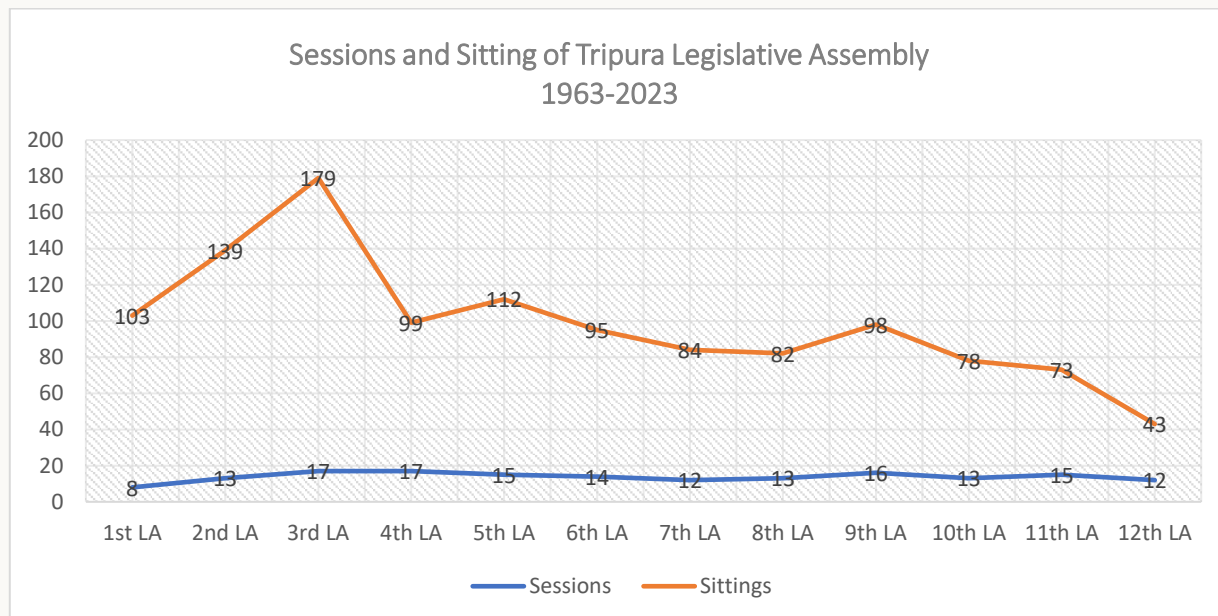
⁸ The Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, §45(3).

⁹ North-Eastern Areas (Reorganization) Act, 1971, §4.

¹⁰ North-Eastern Areas (Reorganization) Act, 1971, §20(3).

¹¹ TRIPURA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, *Brief History of Tripura Legislative Assembly*, available at <https://www.tripuraassembly.nic.in/historicalbackground.html> (Last visited on January 23, 2024).

respectively. Twelfth Legislative Assembly (4 March 2018–12 March 2023) worked relatively less i.e. 12 Sessions and 43 sittings.¹²



Methodology

Any survey begins with a phase of preliminary planning, during which the specific objectives and scope of the survey are defined. Collaboration with relevant stakeholders is crucial for obtaining accurate and up-to-date information. Keeping this objective in mind, the researcher approached the law department, government of Tripura to seek the information on legislations enacted and financial business transacted, amendments and any recent changes in legislation, ordinance promulgated etc. in the year 2023. Relevant websites such as PRS India,¹³ websites of Legislative Assembly of Tripura,¹⁴ Law and Parliamentary Affairs department,¹⁵ and the Department of Legal Affairs¹⁶ were also explored to get the updated information. By adhering to a well-defined methodology, the Annual Survey of State Laws in the State of Tripura ensures that the collected data is accurate, comprehensive, and reflective of the current legal landscape within the state.

¹² TRIPURA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, *Details of Sittings of Tripura Legislative Assembly*, available at <https://www.tripuraassembly.nic.in/Numberof%20Session.pdf> (Last visited on January 23, 2024).

¹³ PRS LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH, available at <https://prsindia.org/> (Last visited on January 20, 2024)

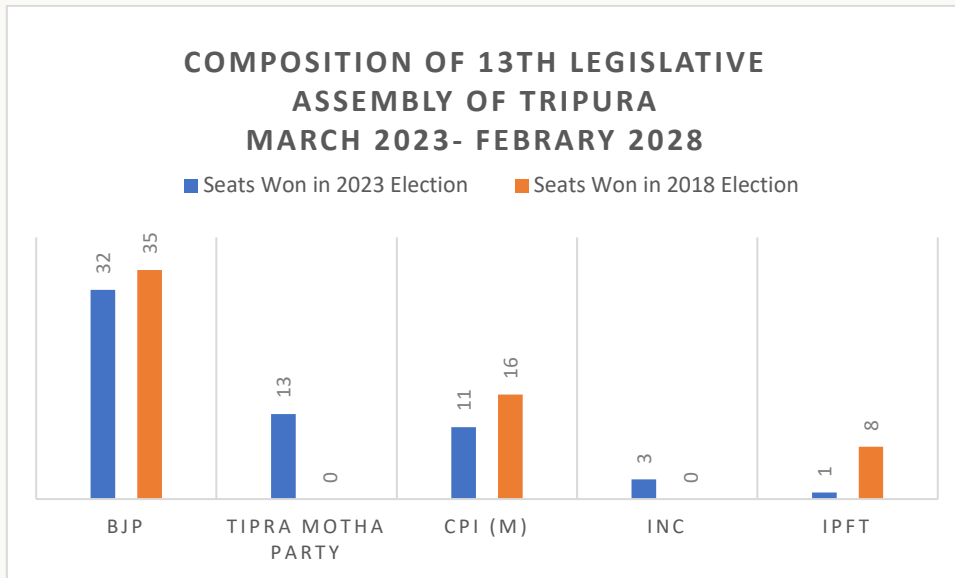
¹⁴ TRIPURA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, available at <https://tripura.neva.gov.in/> (Last visited on January 20, 2024).

¹⁵ LAW AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF TRIPURA, available at <https://law.tripura.gov.in/> (Last visited on May 10 2025)

¹⁶ DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, available at <https://legalaffairs.gov.in/tripura> (Last visited on January 20, 2024)

13th Legislative Assembly (March 2023-February 2028)

The elections for the constitution of 13th Legislative Assembly of Tripura were held on 16 February 2023 and the results were declared on March 2, 2023. Bharatiya Janata Party led alliance won election with 33 (BJP 32 + IPFT 1) seats and formed the government. The composition of 13th Legislative Assembly of Tripura was as follows:



According to data reported by PRS, the 13th Assembly is younger in comparison to the outgoing Assembly, with 63% of MLAs below the age of 55. In the outgoing Assembly, this proportion was 47%. The number of MLAs with at least a post graduate degree increased while the number of women MLAs tripled from 3 to 9.¹⁷

Functioning of 13th Legislative Assembly in the Year 2023

As stated, the state of Tripura got a new Legislative Assembly after the elections held in the month of February 2023. The functioning of a newly constituted legislative assembly is influenced by various factors. After an election, the focus often shifts to government formation and policy planning. The newly elected government normally gets engaged in formulating its agenda, policies, and budgetary priorities before introducing significant legislative and financial measures. The legislative calendar is often influenced by budgetary cycles. If the assembly is in the early stages of its fiscal year, the government may be in the process of preparing and presenting the budget, leading to a temporary slowdown in other

¹⁷ Niranjana Menon, *Profile of the 13th Tripura Legislative Assembly*, PRS LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH, March 3, 2023, available at <https://prsindia.org/legislatures/state/vital-stats/profile-of-the-13th-tripura-legislative-assembly> (Last accessed on January 20, 2024).

legislative activities. This is what has happened for the state of Tripura in the year 2023. Therefore, the year 2023 might be characterized by fewer legislative activities.

Only two sessions of the Legislative Assembly were convened in the year 2023. The first session of the newly constituted Legislative Assembly was a brief *three-day session* convened from 24-28 March 2023 with the intervening holidays on Saturday and Sunday. The second session of the 13th Tripura Legislative Assembly was held from 7-13 July 2023.

Sessions in 2023	Duration	Number of Sittings	Number of Hours
First Session	24–28 March 2023	03 Sittings	Approximately 14 Hours
Second Session	07–13 July 2023	04 Sittings	Approximately 20 Hours

The first session of the newly constituted Legislative Assembly began with the customary speech of the Governor Shri Satyadeo Narayan Arya. On the opening day i.e. 24 March 2023, the Tripura Appropriation Bill, 2023 was introduced for meeting the shortfall in the current financial year's governmental expenses and a Vote-on-Account for meeting the expenses for the first three month of the new financial year (April-June) 2023-2024.

Legislative Output

A total of 11 Bills were introduced by the Government in the year 2023. Out of 11 Bills, eight dealt with revenue and finance (appropriation, goods and services tax and stamp duty), two related to the education sector and one was to repeal two outdated legislations.

List of Bills Introduced and Passed by the Government in Assembly in the Year 2023

No.	Name of the Bill	Bill No.
1.	The Tripura Appropriation Bill, 2023	Bill No. 1 of 2023
2.	The Tripura Appropriation Bill, 2023 (Vote-on-Account)	Bill No. 2 of 2023
3.	The Aryavart International University Bill ,2023	Bill No. 3 of 2023
4.	The Techno India University Bill, 2023	Bill No. 4 of 2023
5.	The Tripura Appropriation Bill, 2023	Bill No. 5 of 2023
6.	The Tripura Appropriation Bill, 2023	Bill No. 6 of 2023
7.	The Tripura Appropriation Bill, 2023	Bill No. 7 of 2023
8.	The Indian Stamp (Tripura Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2023	Bill No. 8 of 2023
9.	The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2023	Bill No. 9 of 2023
10.	The Tripura Appropriation Bill, 2023	Bill No. 10 of 2023
11.	The Tripura Repealing and Saving (Amendment) Bill, 2023	Bill No. 11 of 2023

List of Acts Notified in the Official Gazette in the Year 2023

No.	Name of the Act	Act No.
1.	The Tripura Appropriation Act, 2023.	Act No. 1 of 2023
2.	The Tripura Appropriation Act, 2023.	Act No. 2 of 2023
3.	The Aryavart International University Act, 2023.	Act No. 3 of 2023
4.	The Techno India University Act, 2023.	Act No. 4 of 2023
5.	The Indian Stamp (Tripura) (Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023.	Act No. 5 of 2023
6.	The Tripura Appropriation Act, 2023.	Act No. 6 of 2023
7.	The Tripura Appropriation Act, 2023.	Act No. 7 of 2023
8.	The Tripura Appropriation Act, 2023.	Act No. 8 of 2023
9.	The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023.	Act No. 9 of 2023
10.	The Tripura Appropriation Act, 2023.	Act No. 10 of 2023

Qualitative Analysis of Bills

Appropriation Bills

An important tool for legislative control over public spending is the principle of annuality.¹⁸ The Constitution outlines the procedure for annual appropriations in a State, beginning with the Executive presenting the Budget and submitting demands for grants to the Assembly.¹⁹ Expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund is discussed but not voted upon.²⁰ The House may approve, reject, or reduce any demand, which must be recommended by the Governor²¹—effectively allowing only Ministers to move such demands. Members can propose cut motions. Once grants are approved, an Appropriation Bill is introduced to authorise withdrawal from the Consolidated Fund.²² This Bill cannot exceed the budget estimates or alter approved allocations. In 2023, six Appropriation Bills were passed by the Tripura Legislative Assembly.

The Budget (2023-24) and Proposed Expenditure in Key Sectors

In the budget 2023-24, the estimated expenditure on education, energy and irrigation sectors have been reduced in comparison to average expenditure by states. The police and

¹⁸ M.P. Jain, INDIAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW, 324 (LexisNexis, 7th edn., 2014)

¹⁹ The Constitution of India, 1950, Art. 202(2).

²⁰ The Constitution of India, 1950, Art. 203(1).

²¹ The Constitution of India, 1950, Art. 203(3).

²² The Constitution of India, 1950, Art. 204(1).

housing sector received an enhanced allocation while estimated expenditure allocated towards the health sector is at par with the average allocation for health by states.²³

- 12.3% of total estimated expenditure has been allocated to education in 2023-24 which is lower than the average allocation for education by states in 2022-23 (14.8%).²⁴
- 6.2% of total estimated expenditure is allocated towards health, which is approximately the same as the average allocation for health by states (6.3%).²⁵
- Tripura has allocated 7.8% of its total expenditure towards police, which is significantly higher than the average expenditure on police by states (4.3%).²⁶
- Similarly, 6.5% of its total expenditure is allocated in the housing sector which is significantly higher than the average allocation for housing by states (1.8%).²⁷
- 1.8% of its total estimated expenditure is kept towards energy which is significantly lower than the average allocation towards energy by states (4.8%).²⁸
- The government has allocated 0.8% of its total expenditure towards irrigation, which is significantly lower than the average allocation by states (3.5%).²⁹

Tripura State GST (Sixth Amendment) Bill 2023

The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2023, amended clause (d) of sub-section (2) and clause (c) of sub-section (2A) in section 10, second and third provisos to sub-section (2) of section 16, Explanation to sub-section (3) of section 17, section 23, section 30, section 37, section 39, section 44, section 52, section 54, section 56, section 62, section 109, section 110, section 114, section 117, section 118, section 119, section 122, section 132, section 138 and section 158A.³⁰ In addition to abovementioned changes in various sections, the Bill also amended Schedule III of the Tripura State Goods and Services Tax Act to give retrospective applicability to paragraph 7 and 8 and the Explanation 2 to the said Schedule with effect from July 1, 2017. One of the important amendments sets a three-year time limit for registered individuals to submit their periodic

²³ The estimated expenditure (excluding debt repayment) was Rs 26,736 crore (An increase of 11% over the revised estimates of 2022-23). The estimated receipts (excluding borrowings) for 2023-24 is Rs 22,330 crore (an increase of 5% as compared to the revised estimate of 2022-23) while estimated revenue surplus is Rs 12 crore (98% lower than the revised estimates for 2022-23). The targeted fiscal deficit for 2023-24 is Rs 4,407 crore.

²⁴ *Id.*

²⁵ *Id.*

²⁶ *Id.*

²⁷ *Id.*

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ *Id.*

³⁰ The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2023, 9 of 2023.

tax returns. These amendments were made in the light of the amendments made by the Central Government in Central Goods and Services Tax Act 2017.

Indian Stamp (Tripura Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2023

The government of Tripura introduced Indian Stamp (Tripura Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2023³¹ to further amend Indian Stamp Act, 1899³² in its application to the State of Tripura. According to the Bill, women in Tripura now will have to pay only 4 percent stamp duty on the purchase or sale of property instead of the previous 5 percent. The move of the state government was taken as a measure towards women empowerment.

The Tripura Repealing and Saving (Amendment) Bill, 2023

The Law Commission of India in its 96th Report on the Repeal of Certain Obsolete Laws stated that every legislature is expected to undertake what may be called the periodical spring-clearing of the corpus of its statute law, so that dead wood may be removed and citizens may be spared the inconvenience of taking notice of laws which have ceased to bear any relevance to current conditions. State of Tripura in pursuance of this observation of the Law Commission had identified many such obsolete laws which were either of no use to the State of Tripura or had ceased to be of relevance, or were inconsistent with current statutes or Supreme Court judgements. These statutes were repealed in the year 2022 by the Tripura Repealing and Savings Act 2022.³³

A committee was also constituted on 04 July 2022 to examine the matter and suggest statutes which should be repealed. The committee suggested the repeal of The Tripura Land Passbook Act, 1983 and The Tripura Agricultural Indebtedness Relief Act, 1979. Since the subject matter of these two legislations were exclusively related to the State List the Legislative Assembly was competent to act on the recommendation of the committee. Consequently, The Tripura Repealing and Saving (Amendment) Bill 2023³⁴ was introduced and passed in the Assembly on 10 July 2023, which repealed the said legislations by way of amendment to the schedule entries of the Tripura Repealing and Savings Act 2022. The Amending Act was notified in the Gazette on 13 July 2023.

Education: Establishment of Two Private Universities

The state government, recognizing the importance of higher education in fostering economic and societal development, has taken a significant step by initiating the establishment of two

³¹ Indian Stamp (Tripura Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2023, 8 of 2023

³² Indian Stamp Act, 1899.

³³ Tripura Repealing and Savings Act, 2022.

³⁴ The Tripura Repealing and Saving (Amendment) Bill, 2023, 11 of 2023.

private universities. The following two bills were introduced by the government: the Aryavart International University, Tripura Bill, 2023³⁵ and the Techno India University, Tripura Bill, 2023.³⁶

Both the bills were passed by the Assembly in its first session in March 2023 and received the assent of the Governor on 24th April 2023. These two private Universities will mainly function under private management and will not be entitled for any grant from the state government.³⁷ While the Headquarters of the Aryavart International University will be at Village Tilthai T.K., Dist: Dharmanagar, North Tripura, Tripura, India, the Techno India University will be based at Maheshkhola, Village-Anandnagar- Amtali, Dist: West Tripura, Tripura.

Both the Acts however provide that the University will comply with the direction and guidelines issued by the state government of Tripura for the time being in force, and shall start academic activities only after creation of the minimum infrastructure and commissioning of the required facilities.³⁸ The Acts also empower the state government to issue to the University from time to time such directions on policy matters which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act. The university is obliged to comply with the directions.³⁹

This move of the government aligns with its commitment to provide diverse educational opportunities and strengthen the state's academic landscape. At present, Tripura already has one Central University,⁴⁰ one State University,⁴¹ a National Law University,⁴² National

³⁵ The Aryavart International University, Tripura Bill, 2023, 3 of 2023.

³⁶ The Techno India University, Tripura Bill, 2023, 4 of 2023.

³⁷ The Aryavart International University, Tripura Act, 2023, §47; The Techno India University, Tripura Act, 2023, §47.

³⁸ The Aryavart International University, Tripura Act, 2023, §5; The Techno India University, Tripura Act, 2023, §5.

³⁹ The Aryavart International University, Tripura Act, 2023, §53; The Techno India University, Tripura Act, 2023, §53.

⁴⁰ Tripura University Act, 2006.

⁴¹ Maharaja Bir Bikram University is State University established by Tripura Act No. 6 of 2015. For the act, see The Maharaja Bir Bikram University Act, 2015.

⁴² National Law University Tripura was established by an Act No. 3 of 2022 passed by Tripura Legislative Assembly. For the act, see National Law University, Tripura Act, 2022.

Institute of Technology,⁴³ IIIT,⁴⁴ National Forensic Science University (Tripura Campus),⁴⁵ Central Sanskrit University (Eklavya Campus).⁴⁶ The State also has two Medical Colleges and one Dental College to provide quality education in medical science.

The establishment of two private universities according to the government has the potential to contribute to economic growth by attracting students from within the state and beyond. This influx of students and faculty can stimulate local economies.

Promulgation of Ordinance

The Governor's office has long been misused for partisan politics. Though appointed by the President, Governors often align with the Centre's ruling party, sometimes acting against opposition-led state governments. When the same party governs both Centre and state, the Governor's role remains smooth. However, conflicts tend to rise in opposition-ruled states. In BJP-ruled Tripura, such tensions have been minimal.

Article 213 of the Constitution vests in the Governor of a state power to promulgate ordinances.⁴⁷ While this power is intended for emergencies or urgent situations, there is a potential for its misuse. Ordinance-making power allows the Governor to enact laws without the scrutiny and debate that occurs in the legislative assembly. Misuse of this power

⁴³ The National Institute of Technology Agartala (NITA) is an Institute of National Importance. It was instituted by the Government of India with the mission to accelerate excellence in technical education and research in the North-East region. For the notification of institution, see Ministry of Human Resources Development, F. 20-20/2004/TS III/ (Notified on March 10, 2006).

⁴⁴ The Indian Institute of Information Technology, Agartala is an autonomous institute and one of the twenty IIITs established by the Government of India. Established with the objective of providing high-quality education and research in information technology, IIIT Agartala has become a prominent player in the field of technical education. This institute is also an Institute of National Importance under Act of the Parliament. For the act of establishment, see Indian Institutes of Information Technology (Public-private Partnership) Act, 2017; See also INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AGARTALA, *About Us*, available at <https://www.iiitagartala.ac.in/> (Last visited January 31, 2024).

⁴⁵ The National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) is the erstwhile Gujarat Forensic Sciences University (GFSU), the world's first University dedicated to Forensic Science and allied subjects. NFSU has established its campus at Agartala, Tripura in 2021 with the commitment to provide high-quality education in forensic sciences. It offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs, equipping students with the knowledge and skills required for a successful career in forensic sciences and criminal justice, see National Forensic Sciences University Act, 2020; See also NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCES UNIVERSITY TRIPURA CAMPUS, *About Us*, available at <https://tripura.nfsu.ac.in/> (Last accessed on January 31, 2024).

⁴⁶ One of the eleven campuses established across India under the The Central Sanskrit Universities Act, 2020, for the act, see The Central Sanskrit Universities Act, 2020, Sch. 1, Item 10.

⁴⁷ As per Article 213, an ordinance ceases to operate six weeks after the State Legislative Assembly convenes. Additionally, Article 174 mandates that the Assembly must meet at least once every six months. Combined reading of both provisions implies that the maximum duration an ordinance can remain in force is six months plus six weeks i.e. seven and a half months.

can undermine the fundamental principle of legislative oversight and bypass the democratic process.

In the year 2023 only one ordinance was promulgated by the Governor of Tripura on 30th of September, 2023.⁴⁸ It was promulgated in the wake of an amendment in the Central Goods and Services Tax Act 2017 by the Central Government.⁴⁹ Similar amendments were required to be incorporated in the Tripura GST Act 2017 to avoid repugnancy with the Central Act. The Legislative Assembly of Tripura was not in session and therefore the Governor was satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action. Thus, in exercise of the power conferred by clause (1) of Article 213 of the Constitution of India,⁵⁰ the Governor of Tripura promulgated the Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Seventh Amendment) Ordinance, 2023. Ordinance amended Sections 2 and 24, and schedule 3 of The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017. The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Seventh Amendment) Bill, 2023 will be placed in the Assembly to replace the Ordinance in the third Session scheduled in January 2024.

Subordinate Legislations

The government of Tripura in exercise of powers conferred by Section 164 of the Tripura State Goods and Services Tax Act 2017⁵¹ and on the recommendations of the GST Council have framed and notified following Rules in the year 2023.

Sl. No.	Title of Rules	Notification Date	Implemented w.e.f.
1.	The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 2023.	04 November 2023	26 October 2023
2.	The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 2023.	02 November 2023	01 October 2023
3.	The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax Amendment Rules, 2023.	18 September 2023	04 August 2023
4.	The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2022.	17 January 2023	26 December 2022
5.	The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2022.	07 January 2023	01 December 2022

⁴⁸ The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax (Seventh Amendment) Ordinance, 2023 (September 30, 2023).

⁴⁹ The Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Act, 2023.

⁵⁰ The Constitution of India, 1950, Art. 213(1).

⁵¹ The Tripura State Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, §164.

Conclusion

The Year 2023 was an election year for the state of Tripura and as stated earlier, the Assembly witnessed less legislative work and little productive debate. A major part of the legislative work was confined to Appropriation of funds and amendment in the Goods and Services Act. In terms of substantive laws, only two statutes establishing two private Universities in the State were enacted.

Legislative sessions confined to Appropriation Bills may sideline pressing public concerns that require legislative attention. Issues such as social justice, human rights, and environmental matters may receive insufficient consideration, impacting the overall responsiveness of governance. The Government has though planned to establish a Directorate of Good Governance in the state which will collaborate with national institutions and international agencies to facilitate “ease of living” in the State. Its outcome and functioning will be the subject matter of subsequent years.