

## **Self Employment Promotion**

Emphasis on women manpower-Women represent a sizeable percentage of our population. With the changing times, more and more educated women are coming forward to take up technical ventures. This has prompted the State to open a Women's Polytechnic which has started in 1989 with 32 students. Already a number of women have taken up small industrial ventures. It is in the field of consumer based industries that women can take up a leading role. Because of an unexploited consumer base, there are tremendous scopes to develop consumer based small industries in the State keeping an eye on the ever growing number of women entrepreneurs. Over the years, because of a variety of reasons, Tripura has witnessed drastic changes in social complexion and economic dimension. There is a very wide area where women entrepreneurs can take their rightful place. The modern fashion world craves for innovative items everyday. The colourful tribal fabrics of Tripura, if properly converted into modern made-ups, will have tremendous market. Interior decoration is an exclusive area for fashionable ladies who are in fact trend-setters in big cities and towns. Our women entrepreneurs can gainfully explore the wide range of Tripura handicrafts with a little bit of innovative ideas. Modern ready-made garments and children dress is another area where the field is still more or less unexploited with new designs and innovative transformations, this new untapped field can be captured by the women, for the middle class and upper middle class gentry in Tripura including the neo-rich who can afford any amount of money. Food and confectionery, toys and dolls, woolen garments and needle work, cloth printing and tailoring in every such area the entrepreneurs can really make their presence felt. The Government will consider special incentives and training programmes for development of women entrepreneurship in the State. A woman Development Corporation will be set up in the Eight Five Year Plan for systematic and coordinated around development of the women of the State.

Manpower development

In the coming years, Tripura will witness significant industrial activities in a variety of modern fields. This will obviously require skilled personal in diversified fields of operation. At present, there are three Industrial Training Institutes, one Polytechnic Institute and an Engineering College in this State offering certificate, diploma and degree courses in various technical trades and engineering streams. Efforts will be made to reorganise the curricula of these Institutions with introduction of new trades and streams to develop adequate skilled manpower required for the future industrial programme of the State. The basic facilities of these institutions will also be augmented appropriately so that they can also cater to the needs of entrepreneurship development programmes in modern lines.