

## Give peace a chance : Indira Goswami



Noted writer of Assam Indira Goswami (Mamoni) has stated peace should be given a chance in the North East and concrete steps should be taken in order to bring the disruptive insurgent groups to the negotiating table. Speaking exclusively with TRIPURATODAY.com she said that she will become the interlocutor in talks only if the government keeps its promise. In terms of economic development in the North East a dual policy of showcasing the positive aspect of eco tourism and also ushering in industrialization should be the

order of the day to usher in a decade of development in North East.

On a recent trip to Tripura she mentioned that she discussed with the Tripura chief minister Mr Manik Sarkar measures that need to be taken to bring in lasting peace in the state. She claimed that if the peace talks with ULFA are brought to a successful conclusion then the peace in entire North East including Tripura will get ensured. She warned that if the peace talks fails the vicious circle of violence will return to haunt Assam and entire North East. She mentioned that funds are flowing like anything in the region . “ But what is lacking is lack of monitoring of the funds”. She admitted the finds the recent pushback of top ULFA leaders in the light that improved relations between India and Bangladesh was now a reality.

She raised a vehement demand for fencing the entire Indo – Bangladesh border in order to stop illegal infiltration from Bangladesh. She expressed concern over the rising unemployment level in the North East and said in Assam itself the number of unemployed youths had cross the 30 crore mark . She said that she does not support the demand for withdrawal of AFSPA from the disturbed areas in the North East. She said it is upto the central government to make sure that the peace talks in Assam moves in the right direction . She mentioned that the peace talks in Nagaland was moving in the right direction.

On the literary side she mentioned that big publishing houses like Penguin have come to release the North East related books and this is a god sign. Finally, she showered praises on the efforts undertaken by the Tripura industries minister Mr Anil Sarkar and his efforts to bring all the luminaries of the region on an united platform. “ I fully support this endeavour and drive undertaken by Mr Sarkar “.