



PEOPLES PULSE
an ear to the ground

TRIPURA ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS 2023

Flat No.402, Surabhi Complex, 5th floor, Opp: Lotus Hospital, Lakdikapool, Khairathabad, HYDERABAD - 500 004,
peoplespulse.hyd@gmail.com, Cell No: 8179115784

DEMOGRAPHY

Population

36.7 LAKH

Urban

5.5 LAKH

Male

18.7 LAKH

Tribal

11.7 LAKH

Rural

31.2 LAKH

Female

18 LAKH

Non Tribal

25 LAKH

Electorate

26 L

Households

8.5 L

Mean Voter Turnout

88.9 %

*In Last 4 Elections

RELIGION

Religion Split

Hindu 83.4

Muslim 8.6

Christian 4.35

Buddhist 3.41

Sikhism 0.02

Jainism 0.02

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

8

Districts

23

Sub-Divisions



POLITICAL DISTINCTIONS

2 60 10 20 3324

PCs ACs SC ST Polling Booths

RURAL & URBAN DISTINCTIONS

8 58 591 1 10 9

Zilla Parishad Blocks GPs Municipal Corporation Municipal Council Nagar Panchayat



Tripura was a princely state ruled by Manikya rulers

Till 1947



Tripura Merger Agreement with Indian Union

1947



'C' category state (1950) and UT (1956)

1950 - 56



Bangladesh Liberation Movement

1971



AFSPA revoked after 18 years of enforcement

2015



TTAADC Formation under 6th Schedule of Constitution

1982



Mandai Massacre – Bengalis massacred by tribal

1980



NE Reorganization Act, 1971 Tripura State Formation

1972

**COMMUNIST PARTY OF
INDIA (MARXIST)**



BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY



**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
FRONT OF TRIPURA**



**ALL INDIA
TRINAMOOL
CONGRESS**



**TIPRAHA INDIGENOUS
PROGRESSIVE REGIONAL
ALLIANCE (TIPRA)**



**ALL INDIA
FORWARD BLOCK**



**INDIAN NATIONAL
CONGRESS**





Sachindra Lal Singh

(1963 – 1971)

Duration: (8 years, 123 days)

Caste: Kshatriya

AC: Agartala Sadar II

1963



Sukhamoy Sen Gupta

(1972 – 1977)

Duration: (5 years, 11 days)

Caste: Kayastha

AC: Agartala Town III

1972



Radhika Ranjan Gupta

(1977)

Duration: (101 days)

Caste: Bania

AC: Fatikroy

1977



President's Rule

(Nov 1971 – Mar 1972)

1971



Congress
for
Democracy

1977

Prafulla Kumar Das

(1977)

Duration: (115 days)

Caste:

AC: Agartala Town III



President's Rule

(Nov 1977 – Jan 1978)

1977



Nripen Chakraborty

(1978 - 1988)

Duration: (10 years, 31 days)

Caste: Brahmin

AC: Pramod Nagar



Samir Ranjan Barman

(1992 - 1993)

Duration: (1 year, 19 days)

Caste: Kayastha

AC: Bishalgarh



Manik Sarkar

(1998 - 2018)

Duration: (19 years, 363 days)

Caste: Kayastha

AC: Dhanpur

1978

1992

1998

1988

1993

2018



Sudhir Ranjan Majumdar

(1988 - 1992)

Duration: (4 years, 14 days)

Caste: Kayastha

AC: Town Bardowali



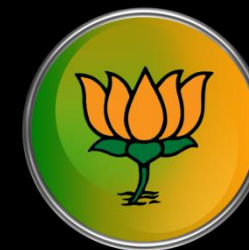
Dasarath Deb

(1993 - 98)

Duration: (4 years, 335 days)

Caste: Tripuri (ST)

AC: Ramchandra Ghat



Biplab Kumar Deb

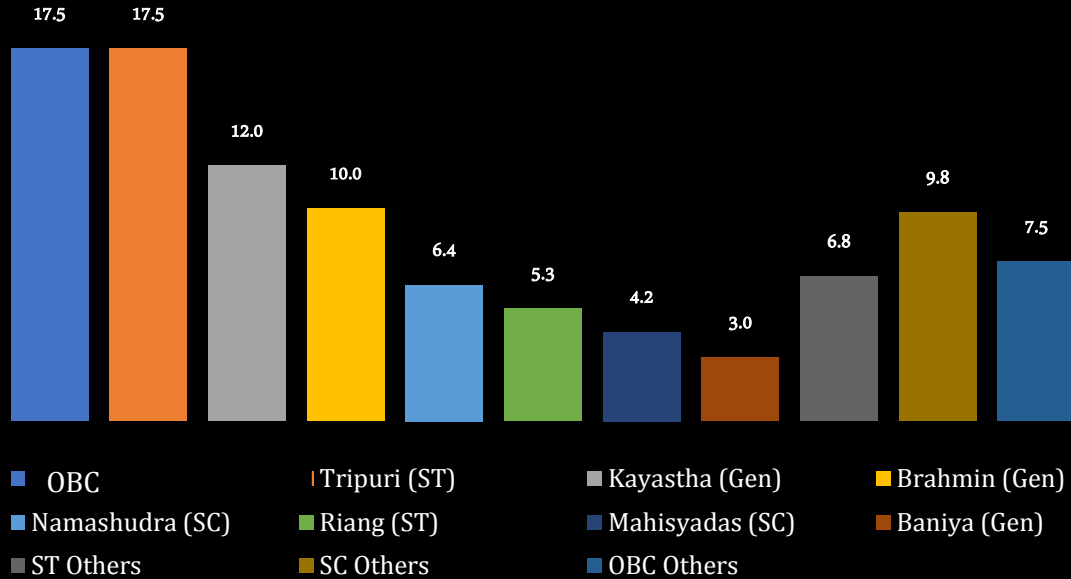
(2018 - Incumbent)

Duration: (19 years, 363 days)

Caste: Baruijibi (OBC)

AC: Banamalipur

CASTE DISTRIBUTION

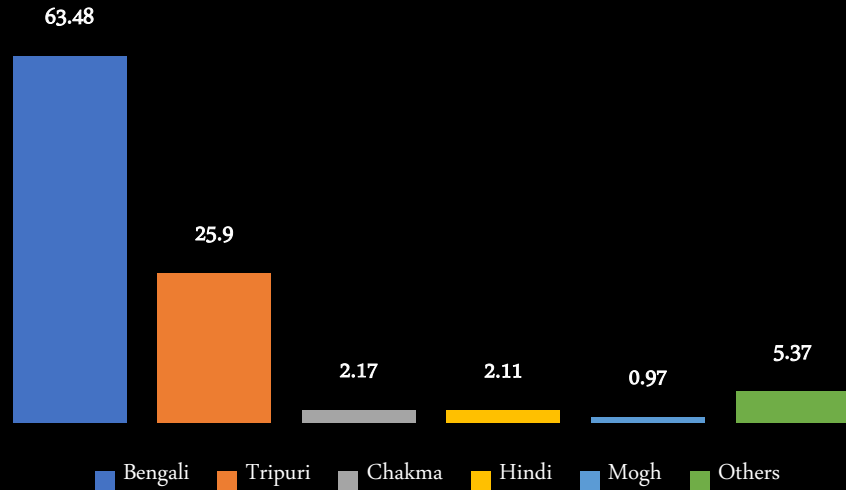


CASTE	PARTY INCLINATIONS
OBC	BJP, CPM
Tripuri (ST)	TIPRA, IPFT, CPM
Kayastha (General)	BJP, CPM
Brahmin (General)	BJP, CPM
Namashudra (SC)	CPM, BJP
Reang (ST)	BJP, TIPRA
Mahisyadas (SC)	CPM, BJP
Baniya (General)	BJP, CPM

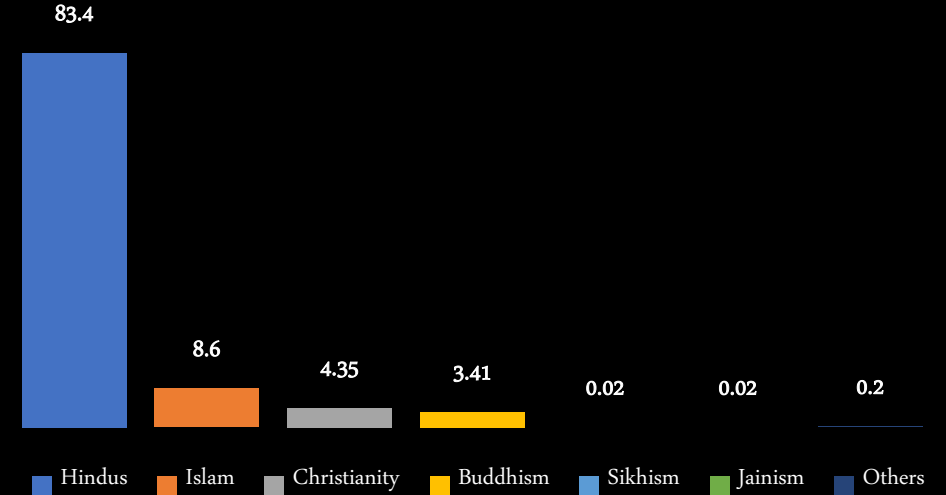
Key Takeaways

- **OBC** - Nath community is a dominant OBC cast in Tripura. Nath's are inclined towards BJP because of BJP's religious appeal.
- **Brahmin, Kayastha, and Baniya (General)** - The current inclination of them is towards the BJP and then followed by CPM
- **Tripuri (ST)** – Dominant amongst STs. 17.5% of the total state population. They are considered to be indigenous tribals of the state.
- **Namashudra (SC)** – Dominant community in SCs with 6.4 % of the total state population. The majority of them are migrants from Bangladesh
- **Reang (ST)** - 2nd most dominant tribe with 5.3% of the state population and 16.6% among the ST community. The top leader of the Reang community Pramod Reang (MLA of South Shanthipur) is the popular face for this community in the state

LINGUISTIC CLASSIFICATION



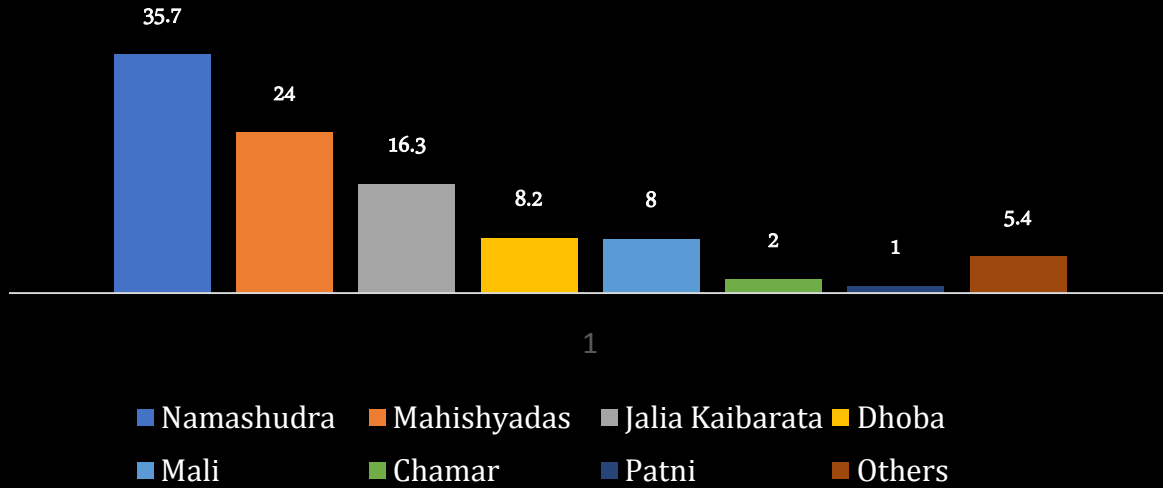
RELIGION CLASSIFICATIONS



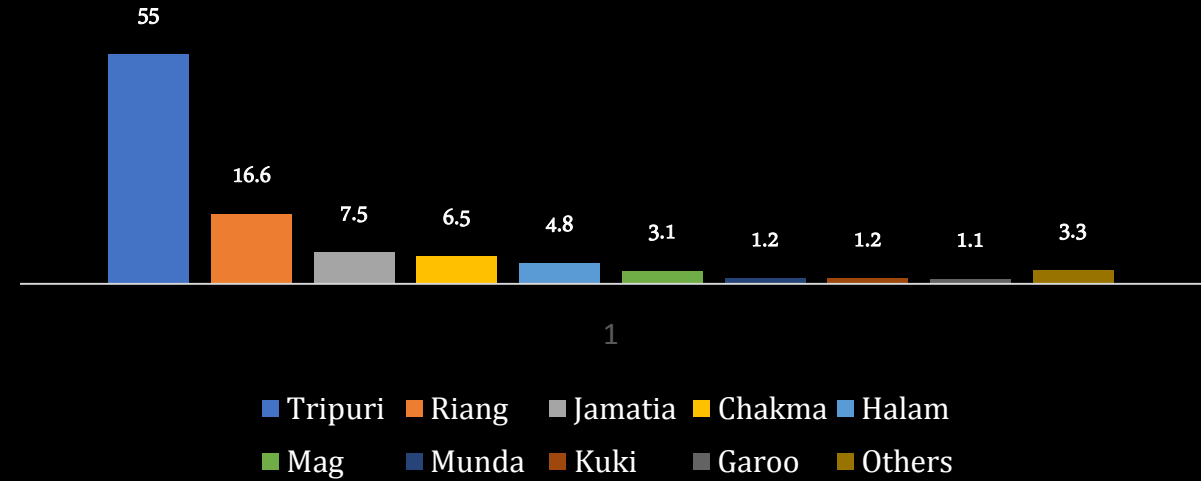
Key Takeaways

- The native language of the Tripura is **Tripuri or Kokborok**. Script used for this is Bengali. Bengali language is also considered as the state official language along with Tripuri
- Other prominent languages are Kokborok, Chakma, and Santhali.
- Chakma (language and ST Caste) were dominant in the Chittagong hills of East Bengal. During the partition and liberation of Bangladesh, there was huge influx in Tripura resulting clashes with indigenous tribes.
- Hinduism is the dominant religion in the state. Christianity failed to conquer the Tripura Tribals considering the fact 90 percent of Northeastern Tribals are Christians.
- The Tribes used to consider the Bengalis as a higher-class group; hence they started taking up the customs and religious beliefs of the Bengalis incorporated within their traditions. The Bangladesh Bengalis are called as “Bangal”

SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF SC'S



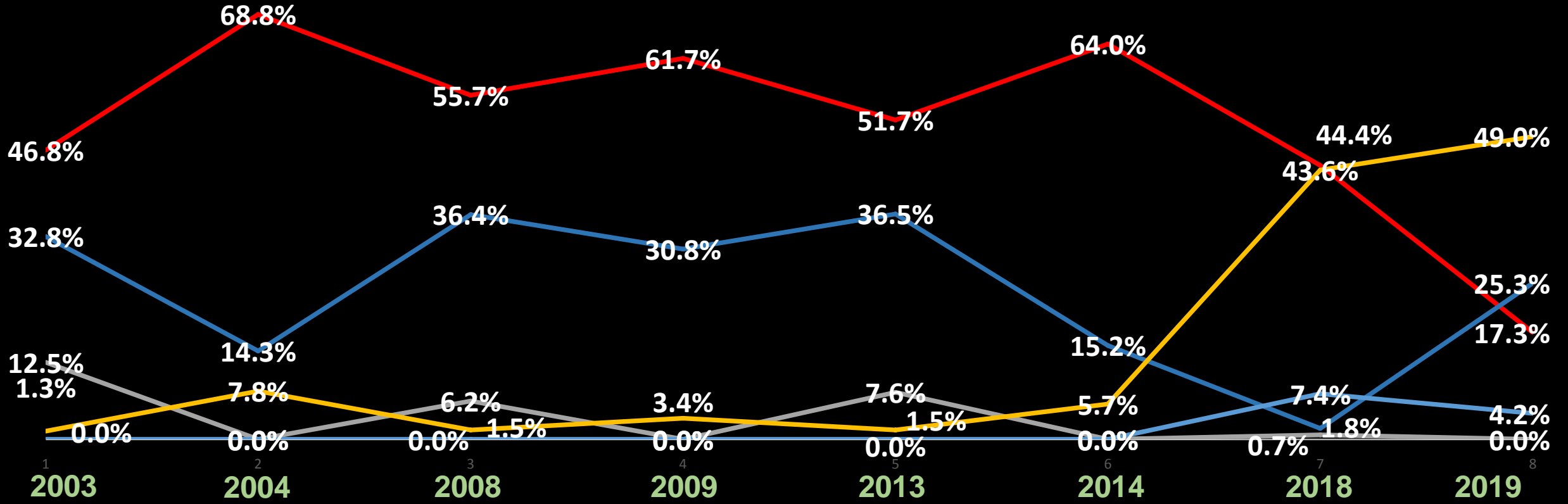
SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF ST'S



Key Takeaways




- West Tripura district houses more than half of the state total SC population (53.2 percent), followed by South Tripura (22.9 percent), and North Tripura (14.9 percent). The district Dhalai covers the remaining 9 percent SCs of the state
- A majority (82 percent) of the SC population in the state is living in rural areas. Among the seven numerically larger SCs, Mahisyadas has recorded the highest percentage of the rural population (85.8 percent), followed by Dhoba (84.4 percent), and Namasudra (83 percent). On the other hand, Chamar has a higher concentration in the urban areas (53.3 percent)
- There are 19 notified castes of ST community. 97.4 percent of them are tribals and they are in dominant West Tripura, South Tripura, Dhalai, and North Tripura Districts
- All 3 major parties INC, BJP, CPI(M) has been focusing only on Mahisyadas community in electoral representation even though Namashudra are significantly more in number. AITC can focus more on this community will add electoral advantage

Vote Share for AE & GE



— CPI(M) — INC — INPT — BJP — IPFT

Vote Margin Analysis – 2018 AE

Margin (in votes)	1-500	500-1000	1000-1500	1500-2000	2000+	Total Won	Runner Up
	3	2	0	2	9	16	44
	1	4	2	2	27	36	15
	0	0	0	2	6	8	1

Vote Margin Analysis – 2018 AE**Seats with < 2000 Votes Margin****18**

District	No. of ACs	District	No. of ACs
North Tripura	4	West Tripura	2
Gomati	3	Dhalai	1
Sipahijala	3	Khowai	1
South Tripura	3	Unakoti	1

ST Reserved Seat Split

Party	2003	2004	2008	2009	2013	2014	2018
CPI(M)+	13	20	19	20	19	20	2
INC	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
INPT	6	0	1	0	0	0	0
BJP	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
IPFT	0	0	0	0	0	0	8

- Traditionally STs favored CPI(M) because they had done immense work among Tribal voters.
- Dasharath Debbarma was CPI(M) tribal leader and was the only tribal Chief Minister of Tripura.
- CPM also introduced ADC for tribal areas.
- Eventually, CPI(M) was seen as a Bengali favoring party and could not fulfill the aspirations of Tribal Community, which led to mobilization of tribal voter in favor of IPFT and BJP in 2018 AE.

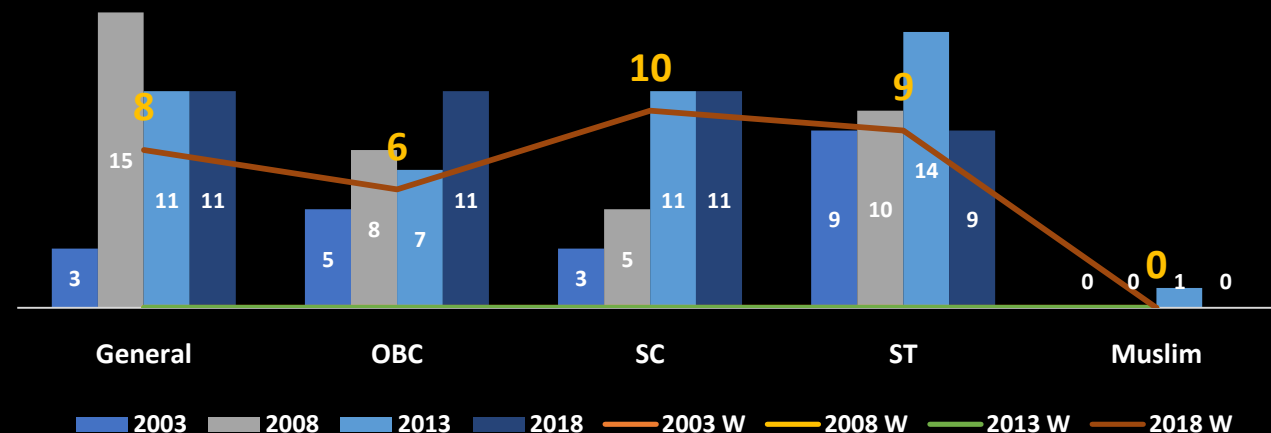
SC Reserved Seat Split

Party	2003	2004	2008	2009	2013	2014	2018
CPI(M)+	6	7	7	7	8	10	2
INC	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
INPT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BJP	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
IPFT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- Traditionally SCs supported CPI(M) because of its welfarist policies. CPI(M) was empathetic towards migrants from East Bengal, the community to which largely SCs of the state belonged to.
- SCs, therefore remained a core and loyal voter base of CPI(M) until 2018 AE, since they provided them settlement in the state.
- Populist promises of BJP to the runup of 2018 AE, led to en-bloc voting of the community towards BJP.

2003 – 2018 BJP AE CASTE SEAT DISTRIBUTION

Category	BJP							
	2003	2003 W	2008	2008 W	2013	2013 W	2018	2018 W
General	3	0	15	0	11	0	11	8
OBC	5	0	8	0	7	0	11	6
SC	3	0	5	0	11	0	11	10
ST	9	0	10	0	14	0	9	9
Muslim	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0



Not all Contested candidates caste was not sourced in this exercise

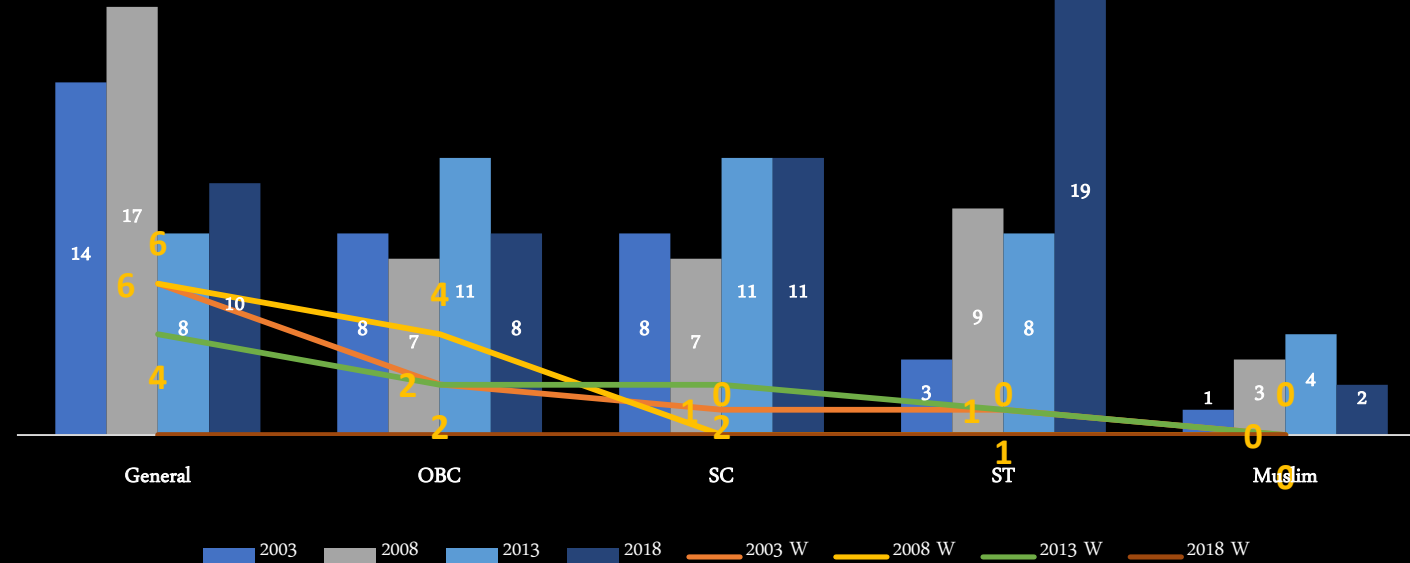
The stacked lines represents the number of seats won by the BJP in the respective year from respective category

Key Takeaways

- BJP has gradually decreased the representation of Kayasta community in ticket distribution. In 2018 AE, BJP has given only 4 tickets to this caste
- Ticket distribution for Brahmin community, BJP has followed the same trend from the 2008 AE
- Among the SC community BJP has focused more on Mahisyadas/Namshudra caste. The representation of this caste has increased in comparison to 2008 AE
- Among OBC category, BJP had given Yogi-Nath and Bhaumiks 4 & 3 tickets, respectively
- Majority of the ST seats BJP had shared with its ally IPFT

2003 - 2018 INC AE CASTE SEAT DISTRIBUTION

Category	INC Candidate							
	2003	2003 W	2008	2008 W	2013	2013 W	2018	2018 W
General	14	6	17	6	8	4	10	0
OBC	8	2	7	4	11	2	8	0
SC	8	1	7	0	11	2	11	0
ST	3	1	9	0	8	1	19	0
Muslim	1	0	3	0	4	0	2	0



Not all Contested candidates caste was not sourced in this exercise

The stacked lines represents the number of seats won by the INC in the respective year from respective category

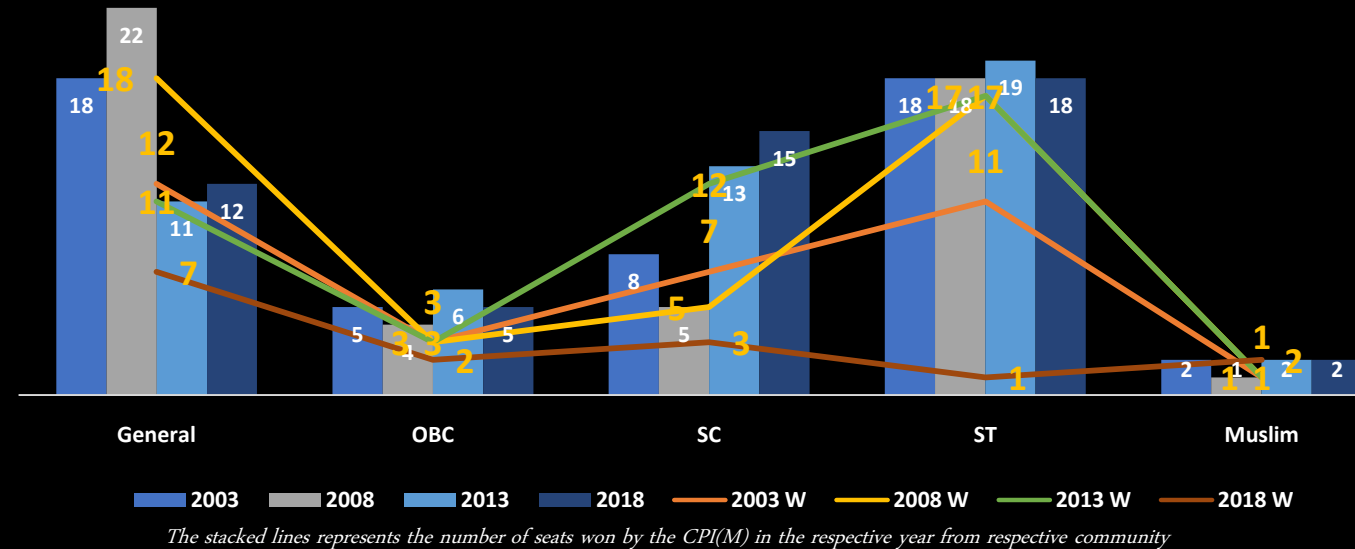
Key Takeaways

- INC has also followed the same trend of reducing the representation of Kayasta community in ticket distribution. The number of tickets given to Kayasta in 2018 is 4 whereas in 2008 it is 17
- Among the SC community, INC gave maximum representation to Mahisyadas/Namshudra caste and followed the same trend in all previous elections from 2003
- Among the ST community after Tripuri Tribals, Riang (Majority of them Christians) got a decent representation with 3 tickets from the INC

2003 – 2018 CPIM AE CASTE SEAT DISTRIBUTION

Category	CPI (M)							
	2003	2003 W	2008	2008 W	2013	2013 W	2018	2018 W
General	18	12	22	18	11	11	12	7
OBC	5	3	4	3	6	3	5	2
SC	8	7	5	5	13	12	15	3
ST	18	11	18	17	19	17	18	1
Muslim	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2

Not all Contested candidates caste was not sourced in this exercise



Key Takeaways

- CPM has also followed the same trend of reducing the representation of Kayasta community in ticket distribution. The number of tickets given to Kayasta in 2018 is 6 whereas in 2013 it is 18
- In all the AE from 2003, CPI(M) hasn't given less than 5 tickets to the Brahmin community
- Among the SC community CPM has focused more on Mahisyadas/Namshudra caste
- CPI(M) had given more representation to Yogi Nath community among BC category
- Among ST Community CPI(M) had given representation to Tribals and followed by Riang and Jamatia. The same trend has been followed from 2008

Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC)

- **1947 & 1971** - During partition and liberation of Bangladesh, the area saw huge migration from East Bengal.
- **Insecurity in Indigenous People** - Tribal people of the region demanded for autonomy to preserve and promote their distinct ways of life. Thus, Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) was formed, under the provision of the 6th schedule of the Indian constitution.
- **Legislative Powers** - Under the provisions of the VI Schedule of the Constitution of India, the autonomous districts councils can make laws, rules, and regulations in the areas of land and forest management, local government (village councils), property, civil codes, social customs, etc.
- **Total Seats - 28 | Reserved for STs - 25 | General Seats - 3 | Governor's Nomination - 2**
- **Total Area Coverage - 7,132.56 km. sq. (68% of the total area of the state)**
- **Block Wise Division**
 - West Tripura district** - Lefunga, Hezamara, Jampuijola, Mandwi, Mungiakami, Padmabil, Tulashikhor, Bishramganj Amtali
 - North Tripura district** - Damcherra, Jampui Hill, Pecharthal, Dasda
 - South Tripura district** - Ompinagar, Killa, Korbuk, Rupaichhori
 - Dhalai district** - Chhawmanu, Manu, Dumburnagar, Salema, Ambassa, Ganganagar, Raisyabari



TTAADC ELECTIONS: 2005 SNAPSHOT

Total Seats	CPIM	NSPT	RSP	AIFB	RSP	INPT	INC
28	21	4	1	1	1	0	0

- Left Front got a landslide victory 71.63% votes. All seats won by Left Front.
- INPT was the second biggest party with a 13.22% vote share and INC came third with 12.70% votes.
- Left Front was talking about communal harmony and working together for the upliftment of all the poor and marginals altogether.
- While IPFT was banking upon the promise of TIPRALAND which was seeking secession from India and create a separate nation for the Tribal.

TTAADC ELECTIONS: 2010 SNAPSHOT

Total Seats	CPIM	CPI	RSP	AIFB	IPFT	INPT
28	25	1	1	1	0	0

- 2010 TTAADC election was again a landslide victory for the Left Front. The Left Front, with 63.81% of the votes, won all 28 seats.
- INC emerged as the second-largest party in the election.
- Other parties in the fray - Indigenous Nationalist Party of Tripura, Indigenous People's Front of Tripura, National Socialist Party of Tripura (NSPT), National Conference of Tripura (NCT), All India Trinamool Congress, and BJP.
- NCT and Trinamool Congress contested in an alliance.

TTAADC ELECTIONS: 2015 SNAPSHOT

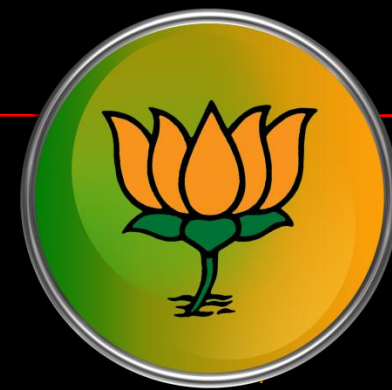
Total Seats	CPIM	CPI	RSP	AIFB	IPFT	INPT
28	25	1	1	1	0	0

- The election result was a landslide victory for the Left Front. The Left Front, with 48.88% of the votes, won all 28 seats.
- The Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) emerged as the second-largest party in the election. The party finished second in 17 seats.
- Other parties in the fray were the Indigenous Nationalist Party of Tripura (INPT), the National Conference of Tripura (NCT), the All India Trinamool Congress (AITC), and the BJP.

TTAADC ELECTIONS: 2021 SNAPSHOT

Total Seats	TIPRA	INPT	BJP	IPFT	IND	LEFT FRONT	INC
28	16	2	9	0	1	0	0

- The TTAADC Elections were due in 2020, but due to Covid-19 Protocols, the Elections happened in 2021.
- The newly formed TIPRA party won 16 seats with its alliance partner INPT winning 2 seats in the election while the BJP won 9 seats with 1 seat going to an Independent candidate.
- The Independent Candidate Bhowmika Nanda Reang contested from Ganganagar-Gandachharra seat, was a BJP Rebel Candidate.
- 2021 TTAADC saw a rise of a New Political Party that has gained a lot of public support within a short span of time and comfortably managed to win elections.



Strengths

- **Strong Leaders** - Biplab Deb, Sudeep Roy Barman, Ratan Lal Nath, Pratima Bhowmik
- **Booth Level Network** - 3,209 Agents for the 3,214 Polling Booths
- **Social Engineering** : **OBC** – Biplab Deb, Ratan Lal Nath | **General** - Sudeep Roy Barman, Manik Saha | **SC** - Rebati Mohan Das, Dilip Sarkar | **ST** - Jishnu Deb Barma, Santana Chakma
- **Prominent Women Leaders** - Pratima Bhowmik, Santana Chakma, Mimi Majumder, Kalyani Roy
- **Pratima Bhowmik**, Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. For the first time, Tripura got a Central Minister.
- **RSS** – Growth from 60 Shakas (2014) to 265 Shakhas (2018)

Weakness

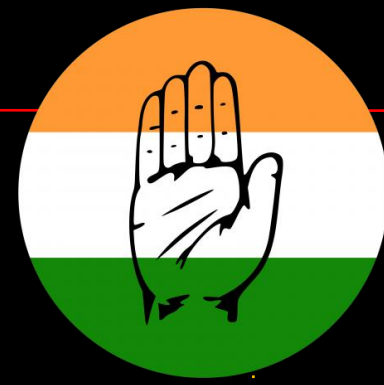
- **Unfulfilled Poll Promises** - 7th Pay Commission, Fresh Employment, Free Smartphones, Free Education for Women till Graduation.
- **Ideologically Weak Leaders** – Majority of leaders defected from INC. They are ideologically weak and not loyal to BJP.
- **Internal Factions** – Faction between CM, Sudip Roy Burman, Jishnu Deb Barma, eyeing CM chair.
- **Motormouth CM** - The popularity of the CM is constantly decreasing due to his loose comments

Opportunity

- **Incumbent Government** – BJP has remaining 2 years in office, which can be utilized to fulfil the poll promises.
- **Covid-19** – Public is sympathetic towards government since they didn't get adequate time to perform due to Covid-19.
- **New Alliance Partner** – Similar to Assam, they can align with new tribal party (TIPRA) and grab a better deal in seat sharing and cut the anti-incumbency in tribal areas.

Threat

- **TIPRA Motha** - The emergence of the TIPRA Motha is a threat to BJP's Tribal vote share, which it has carefully nurtured.
- **Alliance Squabbles** - Ongoing rift between the IPFT and the BJP has confused the voters.
- **Defeats** – Defeat of BJP in TTAADC and West Bengal Assembly elections has demoralized cadre in the state.
- **AITC** – Foray of AITC in Tripura is a serious threat. AITC will chip into non—tribal Bengali votes, which had supported BJP in 2018 AE and 2019 GE.



Strengths

- **National Party** – INC by virtue of being a national party can leverage its position in mobilizing the cadre and leader base. It can have leaders from across India to campaign and mentor the local leadership.

- **Re- Packaging INC** – The party can reorganize and repackage itself to give voters a credible choice to run the state.
- **Countering TIPRA** – INC's incumbent PCC chief Pradyut Deb Barma had left the party to form his own party for tribal cause. The party can counter him by promoting his sister and mother, to nullify his clout in tribal voters.
- **Minority Voters** – The party can approach its core minority voters to reestablish itself in the state politic.

Opportunity

Weaknes

- **Weak Organization** – The party lacks proper Booth Level Network. They were able to deploy only 1,500 booth agents in around 3200 Booths.
- **Lack of Ideology** – The party lacks the core ideology which could motivate and drive local cadre base.
- **CAA-NRC** – INC's stand on the CAA-NRC is not sync with aspirations of the voters of the state.
- **Defections** – INC has witness a series of defections into BJP and AITC. Pradyut Deb Barma (TIPRA), Subal Bhowmik (AITC), Sudip Roy Burman (AITC, BJP) amongst others.
- **Demotivated Cadre** – The party has been out of government for 28 years, which has demotivated the cadre and left them without resources.

- **AITC** – Any party that forays in Tripura's political space, eats up into INC's vote share. AITC's entry in Tripura is seen as a threat to INC, since it can connect better with Bengali voters, including minorities.
- **TIPRA** – The establishment of TIPRA has been catastrophic for INC, since the party has largely eroded the tribal base of the INC.

Threat



Strengths

- **Manik Sarkar** – He is the most popular leader due to his clean image and austerity.
- **Communal Harmony and Peace** – People credit CPI(M) for removing the insurgency and AFSPA from the state.
- **Booth Level Network** - The CPI(M) has strong ideologically driven cadre base and leaders from all major communities and castes.
- **Loyal Leaders** – The party has seen very less defections in the state, due to its ideologically driven leaders.
- **Good Governance** – People acknowledge the Manik Sarkar's work in areas of rural employment (MNREGA), and education.

Weakness

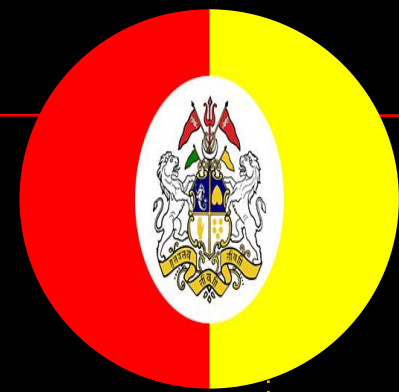
- **Weak Economy** – Tripura was tagged 'Under Developed State'. It had one of the lowest per capita income in small states and overall.
- **Poor Infrastructure** – The state lacked the necessary infrastructure and connectivity intra and inter state was very poor.
- **Tribal to Non-Tribal Politics** – Departure from tribal politics to focus more on non-tribal politics cost dearly to CPI(M).
- **Consecutive Defeats** – Defeat of party in 2018 AE, 2019 GE and 2021 TTAADC elections has demoralized the cadre.

- **Manik Sarkar** – Party can leverage the popularity and acceptability of Manik Sarkar to come back to the power.
- **Kerala Model** - They can sell the Kerala Model of Governance, which has robust health infrastructure, connectivity and GSDP.
- **Loyal Cadre** - Since they have a Booth Level Network, they can rejuvenate and re-energise their cadre.
- **Report Card** – It can capitalize on good and smooth governance under Manik Sarkar by promoting their previous achievements.

- **AITC** – AITC's foray in Tripura is seen as a threat to CPI(M), since it can connect better with Bengali voters .
- **TIPRA** – The latest tribal party has gained popularity in the erstwhile strong hold of CPI(M). TIPRA has ended the 16 year rule of CPI(M) in TTAADC.

Opportunity

Threat



Strengths

- **Umbrella Organization** – TIPRA's founder Pradyut Deb Barma has been successful in bringing major tribal leaders on a single platform and led to merger of all major Tribal Parties of Tripura.
- **TTAADC** – It became the first regional party to emerge winner without any alliance with a National Party, by winning 18 out of 28 seats.
- **Dynamic Leadership** – The party has dynamic leadership of Pradyut Deb Barma and Bijoy Kumar Hrangwal.
- **Greater Tipraland** – Party's ideology and demand has resonated well with the tribal masses.
- **Youth Base** – The party field candidates majorly from the youth having mean age of 25 years.

Weakness

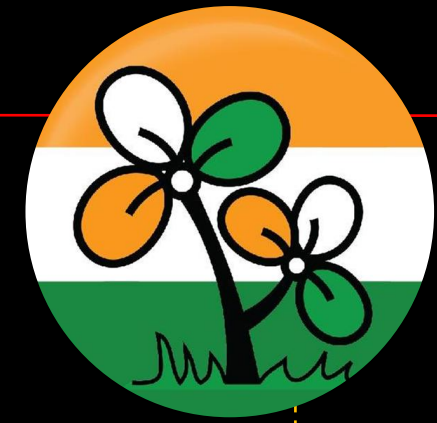
- **Tribal Only Party** - The party has hold only in the Tribal Belt of the state. Thus lack inclusive character.
- **Lack of Experience** - The party is latest entrant in the politics and lacks experience and clear ideology.
- **No Cadre Strength** – The party doesn't have cadre and ground workers.
- **Family Split** - Sister and mother of the founder, Pradyut Deb Barma are members of INC which may cause confusion in party's voters.

Opportunity

- **Social Work** - Worked for the Upliftment of Tribals and gained popularity during the COVID-19.
- **Royal Lineage and Indigenous** – The party has leveraged the royal lineage of its founder and gaining huge support. Party is presenting itself as the protector of the Tribal culture.

Threat

- **Royal Lineage** - The Manikya Family was the ruling monarch in Tripura Princely state and possessed maximum land. The initial movement of Tribal were against the Manikya Family. There is threat of exposing the previous fault lines in the tribal society.
- **Greater Tipraland** – The concept and ideology of Greater Tipraland is an imaginary concept and almost impossible to implement, which includes areas outside the Tripura in Assam, Mizoram and Bangladesh.



Strengths

- **Bengali Party** – AITC is the primary party for Bengalis. The party can leverage the image of Mamata Banerjee to woo the Bengali voters.
- **Leaders and Mobilisers** – The party has huge band of political leaders and celebrities which can be leveraged to mobilize the voters.

Weakness

- **Lack Lusture of Prior Campaigns** – Prior venturing of AITC in the state has essentially been poor. The party got 0.6% of votes in 2018 AE.
- **Lack of Prominent Face** – The party has been search for a prominent face in the state around whom they can weave a campaign. They have included Subal Bhowmick, who can tested for the face.
- **Negligible Presence** – The party lacks cadre base and presence in entire state.

- **Recent Victory** – The can leverage the momentum of landslide win Bengal AE 2021.
- **Anti-Incumbency** – Encash the anti-incumbency against the BJP Govt.
- **Weathering INC** – The party can be natural benefactor of INC's decline in the state, since they are ideologically similar.
- **Bengal Model** – AITC can showcase its Bengal Model of Governance through slew of its schemes.

- **Pro-Bengali Image** – The party's image might prove to be detrimental in the tribal areas.
- **CAA-NRC** – The party has been opposing the CAA and NRC, which goes against the sentiment of majority of the people.
- **Loyal Cadre** – The party has to start from the scratch, even the current pool of leaders are not party loyalist which might defect to other parties in hope greener pastures.

Opportunity

Threat



Strengths

- **Performance in 2018 AE** – The party won 8 out of 9 seats in alliance with BJP, all part of tribal belt.
- **Leader** – The party has N.C. Debbarma who's face they can use to mobilize the tribal votes.

Opportunity

- **Greater Tipraland** - The idea “Greater Tipraland” is an imaginary concept which is being propogated by TIPRA party and is almost impossible to implement. The IPFT can talk about a logical concept which can be implemented for the Tribals.
- **Cadre** – Out of all tribal parties, IPFT has largest cadre strength, which they need to motivate and re-energize to better off TIPRA party.
- **New Alliance Partner** - The party can lookout for a better ideologically synced alliance partner for the 2023 AE.
- **Opportunity in Governance** – The party is part of the ruling government and has important ministries; Revenue, Fisheries, Tribal Welfare and Forest, which they can use to regain their lost support amongst tribal voters.

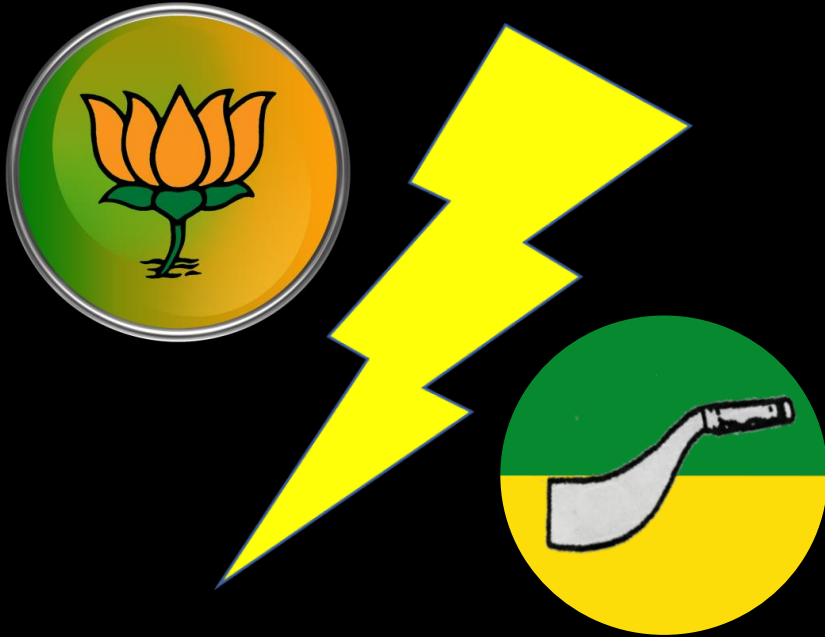
Weakness

- **Pan Tripura Reach** - The party is confined only to the Tribal Areas and doesn't have Bengali Leaders.
- **Poll Debacles** – The party has been continuously losing elections after 2018 AE. It has lost in 2018 Panchayat Bypolls, 2019 GE, and 2021 TTAADC elections.
- **Rift with Alliance Partner** - Rift with the BJP has cost dearly to the party.
- **Defections** - Recently, 1 MLA defected to join TIPRA party.
- **Negotiated Alliance** - The party has diluted its stand on Tipraland, after coming to power, this has angered the tribal voters.

Threat

- **TIPRA** – The emergence of TIPRA as tribal party has dented the party's prospect.
- **Old Leadership** - The party needs to infuse the youth and focus on building new pool of leaders.

RIFT BETWEEN BJP & IPFT



- **Ideologically Divergent Parties** - BJP and IPFT are ideologically divergent parties in the electoral space. Before coming into alliance both the parties agreed on “**Common Minimum Program**”, which didn’t talk about the separate state of “Tipraland”, which is core issue and demand of tribal party.
- **Unhappy with Share in Governance** – After gaining a landslide majority, IPFT started demanding a tribal CM for the state (subtly demanding CM chair for themselves), when that demand was not met, they demanded ‘important ministries’ in the government. IPFT ministers were given, Revenue, Fisheries, Tribal Affairs, and Forests
- **Separatist Thought** - Soon after the elections, the IPFT went back on its core demand of a separate state of Tipraland, which has irked the BJP
- **Forgetting ‘Gatbandhan Dharma’** - Parties contested panchayat by-polls (2018), Lok Sabha Elections (2019) and TTAADC Polls (2021) separately after failing to reach a consensus over candidates.
- **Public Squabble** - The Rift between the BJP and IPFT came to the fore with a series of clashes over nominations for Block Advisory Committee (BAC) chairmen, ADC village committee executives, and others

RELEVANCE OF CPI-M

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) has been the most relevant party of the Tripura, which ruled the state for the maximum duration of 35 years

Assembly Elections 2018, which were considered a wave election for BJP, which won by more than 2/3rd majority with its alliance partner, saw Left Front vote share of 44.35% in comparison to 50.97% of NDA

For a while in the General Elections of 2019, INC outsmarted CPI(M) to take the runner-up spot, since it was led by the dynamic leadership of Pradyut Deb Burma, who had led an energetic and much more vocal campaign against BJP



Since then, the party has not seen any large defection in its rank and file as compared to INC, whose incumbent President of State Congress Committee defected to form his party, which speaks for CPI(M)'s hold and sway on its supporters

But in the same year the by-elections of Badharghat (SC) AC happened due to the death of the sitting legislator. The CPI(M) candidate Bulti Biswas got 15,211 and got defeated by 5,276 votes by BJP candidate and the INC was relegated to the second spot

Per both primary and secondary research and talking to expert PAIs, it seems that CPI(M) is still the principal challenger to the BJP

Greater Tipraland' is essentially an extension of the Indigenous Peoples Front of Tripura's (IPFT) demand of Tipraland, which sought a separate state for tribals of Tripura

The new demand seeks to include every Tripuri (tribal) living in an indigenous area or village outside the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) under the proposed model.



GREATER TIPRALAND

The idea doesn't restrict to Tripura tribal council areas but seeks to include Tripuris spread across Assam, and Mizoram as well, those living in Bandarban, Chittagong, Khagrachari, and other bordering areas of neighboring Bangladesh

The demand has been raised by the newly formed political front in the state, TIPRA Motha



PEOPLES PULSE
an ear to the ground

THANK YOU