



# Managing Insurgency in North East Region of India: A Case Study of Tripura

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**ABSTRACT**

Insurgency is a great threat to the development of any economy. Tripura, a tiny state of India's north-east region has experienced ethnic militancy for last three decades. Recently the problem is more or less solved. This provides an opportunity to examine how the problem of insurgency in Tripura has been tackled. Whether economic development has acted as an important role in tackling such a grave problem in the context of Tripura? Based on simple regression model and time series data it is found that the reduction in the insurgency problem of Tripura is significantly explained by the per capita income at constant price, expenditure on medical & public health, expenditure on social & community services, expenditure on transport & communication.

**KEYWORDS**

Insurgency, Conflict Resolution, Economic Development, Tripura, India's North-East Region.

**Introduction**

Insurgency is a great threat to the development of any economy and hence it is a global phenomenon today (Fearon & Laitin, 2003, Boswell & Dixon 1993, Fielding 2004, Meierrieks & Gries 2013, Piazza 2008, Acharya 2006, Collier and Hoeflert 1998, Gaibullov & Sandler 2011). There has been a significant increase in the total number of terrorist incidents over the last ten year period with the number of terrorist incidents increasing by 464% (Global Terrorism Index, 2012). Large scale violent conflicts due to insurgency occur with great frequency in poor and slowly growing countries (World Bank Report 2011) because these countries are expected to be less resilient due to, for example, lower levels of diversification, a stronger centralization of economic and political power, smaller economic size and inferior government effectiveness in responding to terrorist activity (Tavares, 2004; Sandler & Enders, 2008). According to Global Terrorism Index, 2012, global incidents, fatalities and injuries are dominated by events in lower middle income countries (\$1,026 - \$4,035), not low income countries (\$1,025 or less), with 65% of incidents, 69% of fatalities and 73% of all injuries.

**Table 1:** Ten countries most affected by terrorism in 2011 as per GTI

| Rank | Country     | GTI  | Income Type         | Government Type      | Region Type                  |
|------|-------------|------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1    | Iraq        | 9.56 | Lower middle income | Hybrid regime        | Middle-East and North Africa |
| 2    | Pakistan    | 9.05 | Lower middle income | Hybrid regime        | Asia-Pacific                 |
| 3    | Afghanistan | 8.67 | Low income          | Authoritarian regime | Asia-Pacific                 |
| 4    | India       | 8.15 | Lower middle income | Flawed democracy     | Asia-Pacific                 |
| 5    | Yemen       | 7.30 | Lower middle income | Authoritarian Regime | Middle-East and North Africa |
| 6    | Somalia     | 7.24 | Low income          | Unclassified         | Sub-Saharan Africa           |
| 7    | Nigeria     | 7.24 | Lower middle income | Authoritarian regime | Sub-Saharan Africa           |
| 8    | Thailand    | 7.09 | Lower middle income | Flawed democracy     | Asia-Pacific                 |

|    |             |      |                     |                  |                            |
|----|-------------|------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| 9  | Russia      | 7.07 | Upper middle income | Hybrid regime    | Central and Eastern Europe |
| 10 | Philippines | 6.80 | Lower middle income | Flawed democracy | Asia-Pacific               |

Source: Global Terrorism Index: 2012, Institute for Economics and Peace, New York

The North Eastern Region (NER), comprising of 8 states, is the most backward region of India in comparison to other region of the country. The growth rate of the regional economy is very slow. The inadequate infrastructure, low level per capita income, limited financial resource of the State Governments, and non-availability of trained manpower are some of the contributory factors associated with its slow growth. Around 98% of the borders of the north eastern region are with other countries, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, China and Myanmar.

In north eastern region, conflict generally arises because the existing state systems may not been able to satisfy the basic interests and needs of all sections of people. Certain groups of people are excluded from opportunities to participate equally in the life of the country or to live in the way they prefer. Such inequalities generated grievances which lead to one of the reasons of creating conflict or insurgency (Datta and Vhuyan 2007). The vicious cycle of underdevelopment- livelihood, insecurity- militancy-erosion, destruction, unemployment and flight of capital- perpetuation of underdevelopment is in operation in the NER since independence and the reasons of fueling rebellion. Collier (2007) feels that low-income and low-growth environment is associated with poverty and hopelessness which drive the youth to join rebel group in search of a small chance of riches (Das 2012). One estimate suggests that since 1947, at least 50,000 people were killed in the NER. At least 10,000 people have been killed in Assam in between 1980 and 2005 indicating 400 deaths in a year and more than one death a day during this period. Singh (2011) has reported that between 1992 and 2008, there were 4,857 insurgency related killing in Manipur indicating 304 deaths every year, 25 per month, 6 per week, and 1 death in every 29 hours. Similarly more than 4000 people were killed in Tripura in between 1980 and 2004 indicating 167 deaths per year, 14 per month, and almost one killing in every alternate day. Indeed,

Assam, Manipur and Tripura had been the killing fields where state had failed miserably to protect the human life as well as human security. So the acts of insurgency degenerate the security environment which in turn creates roadblocks for the smooth operation of the institution of the market. Entrepreneurs, investors, producers and consumers have faced problems in taking democratic decision making due to social and political violence (Das 2012). Besides, large scale influx of people from the then East Bengal presently known as Bangladesh disturbed the socio-economic equations in many parts of the region, leading to turbulence and social unrest (Brahma 2008).

Insurgency hampers development but lack of development also gives birth to insurgency and unrest. So India's north east has been caught into a conflict trap. Hence the twin issues of ethnicity of the region and militancy of the past few decades have been one of the major impediments to the economic growth and development of the NER (Brahma 2008).

Tripura is the one of the states in the north-east India which has been transformed from a predominantly tribal to a predominantly non-tribal state due to partition of the country and the changes in the demographic profile due to massive influx of refugees from neighbouring areas of the then East Bengal presently known as Bangladesh and it had aggravated sufferings of the poor tribes, the original owners of the lands. As a result the tribals have become a minority in their own state and the lands have passed into the hands of the cunning neo-settlers from outside. While the tribals natives, who constituted a dominant 64 percent of the total population in 1874, formed a reduced component of the population in successive Census enumerations: 52.80 percent of the total population of the state in 1901, 48.27 percent in 1911, 56.37 percent in 1921, 50.26 percent in 1931, 50.09 percent in 1941, 36.55 percent in 1951, 31.53 percent in 1961, 28.95 percent in 1971, 28.45 percent in 1981 and then small increased to 30.95 percent in 1991 and 31.05 percent in 2001. Between 1947 and 1971, more than 6, 00,000 immigrants entered the state (Ganguli 1983). Due to such a demographic imbalance, the density of population in the state has increased from 17 per sq km in 1901 to 304 per sq km in 2001 (Ghosh 2003).

The genesis of ethnic conflict in the state is thus directly related to the land question (Das Gupta 1991, Chakraborty 2004) and the state of Tripura has experienced ethnic militancy for last three decades (1980-2010). This ethnic militancy had negatively impacted the economy, peace and security of Tripura more than one ways.

### Statement of the Problem

Recently in Tripura, a tiny state of North East Region of India, the problem is more or less solved. This provides an opportunity to examine how the problem of insurgency in Tripura has been tackled. At this juncture it is essential to study whether economic development has acted as an important role in tackling such a grave problem. So the objective of the study is to find out the factors which are the important predictors of incidence of insurgency in context of Tripura. The proposed study intends to investigate into this issue in order to enhance our understanding on conflict mitigation taking Tripura as a case.

Insurgency and economic development are intricately related. Lack of economic development often results into insurgency. Once insurgency sets in, it negatively impacts economic development as public utility services like education and health care become the hostage of conflict, public investment in development projects in conflict zones come to standstill and private business retreads due to insecurity. Thus a vicious circle of hectic militant activities leading to underdevelopment and underdevelopment continues to perpetuate resulting into deterioration of human wellbeing. Where to break this vicious circle? How it has been done in Tripura?

### Literature Review

Many studies have been undertaken in order to identify the

roots of militancy/insurgency in different socio-economic environments. These studies--both descriptive and quantitative--offer deep insights and contesting perspectives which are, no doubt, of immense value. Insurgency is not only the problem of Tripura; it also widely permeates in many developing countries in the world. A vast literature has developed that explores the correlation between insurgency and economic development.

Insurgency is detrimental to economic development and security of the conflict prone economy at sub-national, national, and global levels (Abadie & Gardeazabal 2003, Crain & Crain, 2006.). Insurgency has negative effects on macroeconomic variables such as consumption, return of investment, savings and public spending, national budgets, production structure, trade performance (Crain & Crain 2006; Gaibullov & Sandler 2008, Collier & Hoeffler 1998, World Bank 2011) and on the international flow of goods and capital (Abadie & Gardeazabal, 2008). Violence created through insurgency may impair economic and social activities directly by destroying an economy's human (loss of lives, property damage, etc.) and physical capital stock and indirectly as markets and economic agents react to it (Esman 1997). Farmers reduce long-term investments more relative to short-term investments due to terrorism problem and this effect is greater for the richest farmers and those for bordering districts (Singh 2011). As a result, economy manifests very weak linkage between the local resource base and production structure (Das 2012). Insurgency creates uncertainty, increases government spending on security at the expense of (more productive) spending on education and infrastructure, which ultimately reduces growth (Bird, Blomberg & Hess, 2008) resulting postponement of long-term investments at the state, national and international level. On the other hand it is also true that the high rates of recurrence of conflict along with the economic determinants of conflict suggest the possibility of the existence of poverty-conflict traps (Collier et al 2003, Bloomberg et al 2006). However, poverty and low per capita income are also correlated with worse health and education outcomes, and these outcomes suffer as a result of conflict (Collier and Hoeffler 2004, Justino et al 2006, Alderman et al 2004).

The root causes of insurgency as well as growth of ethnic militancy in different social settings at the global perspective are economic backwardness (Das 2001, Kumar 2002, Dutta and Bhuyan 2007, Das 2008), centralized urban biased development programmes (Clarke 2001, Croissant 2005, Federal 2008, Singh 2006), low political and low economic status (Haynes 2000), economic deprivation or increasing horizontal inequalities and failure of the social contact between the state and the citizens (Malik 2009), inequality (Nepal 2011, Malik 2009) and lack of democracy, ethnic and religious divisions (Ylonen 2005, Collier 2006), exploitation, large scale and unabated influx of population and resulting land disputes (Larson 1975), high dependency on agriculture and lack of productive investment have led to the creation of limited economic opportunities (Fernandes 2008) which in turn has sharpened inter-ethnic competition for access to resources and avenues for livelihood and denies basic human needs. This has created congenial condition for the rise of ethnic conflict leading to insurgency in conflict prone countries (Upadhyay 2006).

So there is a global thinking how to combat the problem of insurgency. A liberal trend in global thinking tends to assume that insurgency may be reduced by stimulating the economy, which offers insurgents and their supporters' additional means of economic participation as an alternative to violence. Therefore, economic development (things like education, health care, drinking water, housing, social services, electrification, transport and communication, aid money and reduced poverty) is a tool of state security and it is a mean of both increasing confidence to the government, just as it is today in fragile states and conflict zones around the world (Bardhan 2002). In a world of rampant ethnic conflicts and separatist movements, decentralization is regarded as a way of diffusing social and political tensions and ensuring local cultural and

political autonomy and reduces insurgent violence (Berman et al 2011). In this connection it is pointed out that good governance is needed to secure three essential prerequisites of market economies: protecting property rights, law, justice, and taking collective action to provide physical and organizational infrastructure (Dixit 2009). The linkage between conflict and human development may form a self reinforcing cycle and consequently, policy measures to sustain human development would also have an additional indirect impact in lowering the risk of conflict (Kim and Conceicao 2010).

**Significance of the Study**

It is revealed from the review of the literature that there are lots of studies relating to impact, causes and solution of insurgent movement at the global level relating to inter-linkage between insurgency and economic development. It is pointed out that insurgent movements differ from country to country depending upon their socio-economic, political and religious specificities. However, no in-depth study at the local level in Tripura context was captured to analyze the above facts. The proposed study intends to fill this gap. A systematic study on this inter-linkage will not only enhance our understanding of the phenomena but also provide some insights that may help in policy formulation as well.

**Objective of the Study**

The present study tries to find out the relation between the problem of insurgency and economic development in the context of Tripura. In other words, an attempt has been made in this study to understand whether development initiatives helped in mitigating the problem of insurgency in Tripura.

**Methodology of the Study**

Study Period: Insurgency problem was started during the period of 1980-81 and gradually resolved during the period 2010-11. But here for study purpose only the peak period of insurgency, i.e, from 1993 to till date is considered.

**Justification of choosing data:**

**Indicating insurgency indicator (Dependent Variable) :**

As our insurgency indicator, we use the insurgency related incidence as a dependent variable. This proxy indicates the frequency of terrorism. The insurgency related information is collected from the Office of Superintendent of Police, CID, Government of Tripura.

Indicating economic growth and socio-economic development indicators (Independent Variables): Economic growth is essential in poor societies for reducing or eliminating poverty. Here, per capita income as an indicator of economic growth indicates the economic situation of any state as well as nation. As shown by Blomberg, Hess & Weerapana (2004), times of economic contraction indicate unfavorable economic conditions that coincide with more terrorism. Times of economic expansion are expected to be associated with reduced terrorism.

The causal nexus between terrorism and economic growth may depend on a country's level of economic development. The economic development paradigm performs an important parameter in questioning the link between expanding income and expanding human choices. Such a link depends on the quality and distribution of economic growth, not only on the quantity of such growth. A link between growth and economic development has to be created consciously through deliberate public policy – such as government expenditure on social services on education, health, drinking water, sanitation, transportation and communication. Conscious public policy is needed to translate economic growth into people's lives (Mahbub-ul-Haq, 2004). Since economic development is considered here as a conflict resolution, so government expenditure on health, social services, transportation and communication are taken as independent variables. As per data, government expenditure on social services include expenditure on education, drinking water supply, sanitation, housing, urban development, information and publicity, welfare of SC/ST/ OBC,

labour welfare, social welfare, nutrition and general services.

Expenditure related time-series data of last twenty years are collected from Finance Department's Budget Section, Government of Tripura. Data regarding per-capita income is collected from the Office of Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Government of Tripura.

Model Specification: Here the objective is to predict the value of a dependent variable (insurgency related incidence) based on the value of the independent variables of economic development. Accordingly, Multiple Regression Model is used to analyze the above objective. The multiple regression model is the correct one to use here because it shows some relationship between economic development and incidence of insurgency.

The Multiple Regression Equation is of the form:

$$Y_t = \alpha + \beta_1 X_{1t} + \beta_2 X_{2t} + \beta_3 X_{3t} + \beta_4 X_{4t} + \mu_t$$

Here,  $Y_t$  = Insurgency related incidence for t period,  $X_{1t}$  = Medical and public health expenditure for t period,  $X_{2t}$  = Expenditure on social and community services for t period,  $X_{3t}$  = Expenditure on transport and communication for t period,  $X_{4t}$  = Per capita income for t period,  $\mu_t$  is the disturbance term for t period,  $\alpha$  is the intercept term.  $\beta_i$  are the slope coefficients.

**Findings and Discussion:**

Explanation of Descriptive Statistics: Here the following descriptive statistics table is used to describe the basic features of the data in a study. They provide simple summaries about the sample and the measures and are used to present quantitative descriptions in a manageable form.

**Table 2:** Descriptive Statistics

| Indicators        | N  | Mean        |             | Std. Deviation |            | Skewness  |            | Kurtosis  |            |
|-------------------|----|-------------|-------------|----------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
|                   |    | Statistic   | Std. Error  | Statistic      | Std. Error | Statistic | Std. Error | Statistic | Std. Error |
| Incidence         | 20 | 163.7000    | 28.57182    | 127.77616      | .652       | .512      | -.243      | .992      |            |
| Per Capita Income | 20 | 22315.8000  | 3002.83062  | 18428.17286    | .272       | .512      | 1.231      | .992      |            |
| exp. health       | 20 | 8968.6500   | 1084.71680  | 4831.00102     | .856       | .512      | .070       | .992      |            |
| exp. social       | 20 | 132240.3780 | 64101.74861 | 197229         | 2.779      | .512      | 7.639      | .992      |            |
| exp. transport    | 20 | 20188.8510  | 0067.71200  | 27135.63433    | 1.934      | .512      | 2.523      | .992      |            |

Source: Result computed using SPSS Statistics 17.0

Here Mean is calculated to represent the average value attained by a group of data. The mean value of incidence of insurgency, per capita income, expenditure on health, expenditure on social and community services, expenditure on transport and communication during the period 1993-94 to 2013-14 are 163.7, Rs. 22315.80, Rs. 8968.65, Rs. 132240.38 and Rs. 20188.85 respectively.

**Standard Deviation:**

As per data concerned, it is revealed that all the variables are concentrated about their mean if the variability range is taken Mean  $\pm$  3 S.D.

**Skewness:**

Analyzing the study specific variables, it is found that for all variables Skewness > 0. It means that most values are concentrated on left of the mean, with extreme values to the right. So the distribution is positively skewed.

**Kurtosis:**

In case of Incidence of insurgency, per capita income, expenditure on health and expenditure on transport and communication, the values of Kurtosis are less than three (Kurtosis < 3). It represents the Platykurtic distribution, flatter than a normal distribution with a wider peak. The probability for extreme values is less than for a normal distribution, and the values are wider spread around the mean. In case of expenditure of social and community services the Kurtosis > 3. It represents leptokurtic distribution, sharper than a normal distribution, with values concentrated around the mean and thicker tails. This means high probability for extreme values.

Explanation of the Model Specification: On the basis of last twenty years time series data of the concerned variables the following regression model is developed:

Insurgency related incidence = 283.980 +632366.32 (1/ Medical and public health expenditure) -11268554.05 (1/ Expenditure on social and community services) + 882031.078 (1/ Expenditure on transport and communication) -0.007(Per capita income)

**Table 3:** Analysis of the Model

| Model | R                 | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate | F (4, 15) | Prob>F | Durbin-Watson |
|-------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------|---------------|
| 1     | .931 <sup>a</sup> | .866     | .831              | 52.55771                   | 24.33     | 0.0000 | 1.98          |

Source: Result computed using SPSS Statistics 17.0

a. Predictors: (Constant), pci, mediexp\_, transpexp\_, socialexp\_

b. Dependent Variables: Insurgency related incidence

Here the R Square value represents the simple correlation and is 0.931 which indicates a high degree of correlation. The R<sup>2</sup> value is 0.866, i.e., the independent variables altogether in the model can explain 86.6 percentage variations on the dependent variable. F(4, 15) = 24.33 and P = 0.0000. This indicates that, overall, the model applied can statistically significantly predict the dependent variable. The output from the Durbin-Watson statistic is used to check whether there is any autocorrelation or not among the disturbances  $\mu_t$ . Here the value of Durbin-Watson statistic is 1.98 which indicates negative autocorrelation.

**Table 4:** ANOVA Table

| Model |            | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Squares | F      | Sig  |
|-------|------------|----------------|----|--------------|--------|------|
| 1.    | Regression | 268773.511     | 4  | 67193.378    | 24.325 | .000 |
|       | Residual   | 41434.689      | 15 | 2762.313     |        |      |
|       | Total      | 310208.200     | 19 |              |        |      |

Source: Result computed using SPSS Statistics 17.0

This table indicates that the regression model predicts the dependent variable significantly well. This indicates the statistical significance of the regression model that was run. Here,  $p < 0.0005$ , which is less than 0.05, and indicates that, overall, the regression model statistically significantly predicts the dependent variable i.e., it is a good fit for the data.

| Predictor            | Coefficient     | SE          | t      | Sig.  | Co linearity Statistics |        |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------|-------|-------------------------|--------|
|                      |                 |             |        |       | Tolerance               | VIF    |
| Intercept (constant) | 283.980**       | 139.949     | 2.185  | .045  |                         |        |
| 1/[medical exp.]     | 632366.32***    | 254089.745  | 2.489  | 0.025 | .303                    | 2.919  |
| 1/[social exp.]      | -11268554.05*** | 2593514.011 | -4.345 | .001  | .193                    | 5.179  |
| 1/[transport exp.]   | 882031.078***   | 275192.721  | 3.205  | .006  | .214                    | 4.680  |
| Per capita income    | -0.007**        | 0.003       | -2.311 | 0.035 | .699                    | 10.025 |

Source: Result computed using SPSS Statistics 17.0

Sign if. Codes: \*\*\* => 1%, \*\* => 5%, \* => 10%

The test for coefficients table provides us with the necessary information to predict incidence of insurgency (dependent variable) from 1/[medical exp.], 1/[social exp.], 1/[transport exp.] and per capita income, as well as determine whether these independent variables contributes statistically significantly to the model.

Here the inverse of every independent variables, i.e., medical and health expenditure, expenditure on transport and communication, expenditure on social and community services have significant relationship with the dependent variable incidence of insurgency. Per-capita income has significant relationship with the incidence of insurgency. Here the variables expenditure on transportation and communication and expenditure on social and community services are significant at 1(one) percent level. The expenditure on medical and health services and per-capita income are significant at 5 (five) per-

cent level.

**Table 6:** Co linearity Diagnostics

| Model | Dimension | Eigen-value | Condition Index | Variance Proportions |           |            |             |     |
|-------|-----------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-----|
|       |           |             |                 | (Constant)           | trans-exp | social-exp | medical-exp | pci |
| 1     | 1         | 4.153       | 1.000           | .00                  | .00       | .00        | .00         | .00 |
|       | 2         | .709        | 2.420           | .00                  | .01       | .01        | .01         | .02 |
|       | 3         | .083        | 7.092           | .00                  | .42       | .03        | .37         | .00 |
|       | 4         | .049        | 9.200           | .00                  | .10       | .63        | .49         | .00 |
|       | 5         | .006        | 27.053          | 1.00                 | .47       | .33        | .13         | .98 |

Source: Result computed using SPSS Statistics 17.0

The multi-co linearity statistic is used to check whether there exists any linear relationship or not among the explanatory variables. The problem of multi-collinearity may be tested by observing the values of variance-inflating factor (VIF) and Condition index. Here the values of VIF of explanatory variables lie in between 1 to 10 which means that the explanatory variables are not highly collinear. The values of condition index in the above table are in between 10 to 30. It also represents that there is not highly multi-co linearity.

Hence the specified model is free from multi-co linearity and autocorrelation problem.

Based on regression output from the model it is found that expenditure on medical & public health, expenditure on social & community services, expenditure on transport & communication and per capita income at constant price are important predictors of reducing the incidence of insurgency in Tripura.

Descriptive statistics shows that the insurgency incidence of each year for the period 1995-96 to 2004-05 is higher than the mean value (163.7). It represents that the problem of incidence of insurgency is minimizing after 2004-05.

Health capital is an important contributing factor to economic development of any state. According to the descriptive statistics, comparing mean value and twenty years observed values it is revealed that the expenditure on health was less before the year 2002-03 in Tripura. It represents that government is now trying to provide better health service facility to the people so that they feel less sufferer from illness and disability which negatively affect labour force participation, productivity and income generating capabilities, especially in Tripura like a underdeveloped state where most of the work consists of manual labour. Large amounts of microeconomic data also suggest a positive relationship between health and wages. (Bloom et al 2005, Devin and Hansen 2001).

Social and community services are integral to the economic and political wellbeing of any state, as they promote our quality of life and contribute to our social wellbeing. When government invests in education, sanitation, drinking water facility, public health, welfare of SC,ST and OBC, child care, housing etc. that support citizen rights – everybody gets the benefit from a vibrant local economy. When social services are adequately funded, there is a positive effect on worker retention and quality of work, which translates into a stable workforce, poverty reduction, solving inequality problem and social inclusion. There is a correlation between poverty and vulnerability and weak social policies (Saunders, 2006). There is a productive loss to the economy when many people are living in poverty or are unemployed. Poor and vulnerable populations are excluded from attaining basic needs and services. Without public provision of economic security the problem will not be solved. A society's stock of human capital will be diminished with inadequate spending on public benefits and services. Consequences include reduced life expectancy, greater illness, lower literacy levels and educational attainment, and insufficient supports for the successful development of children and youth. Besides, the legitimate foundations of the state are undermined if social policies and programs are neglected or abandoned altogether. This threatens the function-

ing of democracy and reduces political capital. In Tripura, 74 % of the state's population lives in rural areas. The upliftment of rural poor as well as improvement in the quality of life of the economically weaker sections is one of the objectives of development planning of the state. In this circumstance, the government of Tripura is now trying to provide better social service facility to the people to attain sustainable development. During the observed period (1993-94 to 2013-14) it is found that the calculated mean value of expenditure on social and community services is Rs.1, 32,240.37. From 2008-09 and onwards the observed value is higher than the mean value.

Public transportation investment can have significant impacts on economic development and thus represent an important public policy consideration. They provide mobility, can shape land use, increasing property value, flow of capital, travel time and cost savings, enlarge rural labour market, investment in agriculture and industrial development, increases productivity, generate employment opportunity by supporting manufacturing, construction and infrastructure development and improve economic efficiency. So the development of transport and communication will lead to further expansion of opportunity of industrial sector, inflow of foreign investment and ultimately the socio-economic development of the people will take place. The twenty years data reveals that the calculated mean value of expenditure on transportation and communication is Rs. 20,188.85. From 2008-09 and onwards the observed value is higher than the mean value.

Per capita income is one of the most widely used measure of economic development. It is generally argued that there is a positive relation between per capita income and standard of

living of the people. The descriptive statistics shows that the mean value of per capita income is Rs. 22,315.00. Before 2003-04, the per capita income of the people was less as it is compared with the mean value. During post 2003-04 period the per capita income is increasing which indicates better socio-economic upliftment of the people.

### Conclusion

From the above study it is concluded that there are some economic indicators (per-capita income) and social indicators (health, social services, transport and communication) which helped in mitigating the problem of insurgency in Tripura. The Government of Tripura had given more recognition on fundamental right of every individual to have access to basic social services. It includes an agenda of social uplift and economic inclusion of all groups and individuals. The process of economic growth that enriches few groups and regions while depriving others is bound to fuel conflict and radicalization in the society. Steps are taken to ensure an equitable access to opportunities to the entire population irrespective of the economic and social standing of the individuals and consequently, policy measures to sustain human development had an additional indirect impact in curbing insurgency in a conflict prone economy of Tripura.

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