

# Devising Pathways for Appropriate Repatriation of Children of Bru-Reang Community



2018



Ms. Stuti Kacker (IAS)  
Chairperson  
National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) emphasizes the principle of universality and inviolability of child rights and recognises the tone of urgency in all the child related policies of the country. It believes that it is only in building a larger atmosphere in favour of protection of children's rights, that children who are targeted become visible and gain confidence to access their entitlements.

Displaced from their native state of Mizoram, Bru community has been staying in the make-shift camps located in North Tripura district since 1997 and they have faced immense hardship over these past two decades. Hence, it becomes imperative for the National Commission of Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) to ensure that the legal and constitutional rights of children of this community are protected. For the same purpose, NCPCR collaborated with QCI to conduct a study to understand the living conditions in the camps of these children and devise a pathway for the repatriation and rehabilitation of Bru-Reang tribe to Mizoram.

I would like to thank Quality Council of India for carrying out the study effectively and comprehensively. At the same time, I would like to express my gratitude to Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Nirbhay Sharma, Mr. Mahesh Singla, IPS, Advisor (North-East), Ministry of Home Affairs, Ms. Saumya Gupta, IAS, Director of Education, Delhi Government (Ex. District Magistrate, North Tripura), State Government of Tripura and District Authorities of North Tripura for their support and valuable inputs during the process and making it a success.

This report not only provides insights about the living conditions of the people in the camps, but also covers condition of different educational and healthcare institutions in and around the make-shift camps. Issues such as security, unavailability of identity documents etc. are also been dealt with comprehensively in this report.

I hope the report is read widely and is useful for both the Government of Tripura and Mizoram as well as union Government of India to develop a safe, healthy and productive environment for the Bru-Reang community in Mizoram.



PRIYANK KANOONGO  
Member – RTE and Education  
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India being a country with rich and diverse ethnic-socio-cultural heritage has put in place special provisions to protect and empower the Scheduled Tribes under its Constitution. Article 46 of the Constitution of India states that, *“The State shall promote, with special care, the education and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of social exploitation.”*

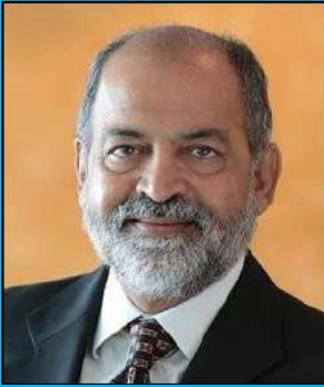
National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has been mandated to ensure the protection of legal and constitutional right of children, especially for those belonging to scheduled tribes such as the Bru-Reang community. Given the importance and the sensitivity of the issue, NCPCR had Commissioned Quality Council of India (QCI) to bring out this report, “to devise a pathway for the appropriate repatriation and rehabilitation of the children of the Bru-Reang community to Mizoram.” The report along with highlighting issues faced by children and community in general, presents primary data backed evidence to support the findings of the study.

In this report, the major focus is laid on the children population of the community, who are the future of our country, and who have not been able to realise their fullest potential till now due to lack of basic resources and facilities like schools, qualified teachers, primary healthcare, hygienic living conditions, etc. The country has been paying an exorbitant cost in monetary terms as well as in social values due to the loss of this talented pool of individuals for the last 20 years. We, as a country and a society, need to take immediate and significant steps to repatriate and rehabilitate this community and this report is a step in this direction.

I would also like to express my gratitude to Hon’ble Governor of Mizoram, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Nirbhay Sharma, Mr. Mahesh Singla, IPS, Advisor (North East) MHA, Ms. Saumya Gupta, IAS, Director of Education, Delhi Government (Ex. District Magistrate, North Tripura), and Mr. Vipin Reang, President, Bru Tribal Development Society for their constant support throughout the project. I am also thankful to Mr. Paresh Shah, Technical Expert (Education), NCPCR for his contribution and close coordination throughout the course of the study.

I would like to thank Mr Adil Zainulbhai, Chairman, QCI, Dr R.P. Singh, Secretary General, QCI and their team for the undertaking this study.

I hope this report would take us in a direction which will enable the Bru-Reang community to lead their lives in a safe, healthy and a productive environment and contribute the nation building movement in a more comprehensive manner.



Mr. ADIL ZAINULBHAI  
Chairman  
Quality Council of India

National Commission for Protection of Child Right (NCPCR) has taken on this important project and QCI is grateful to have been able to contribute to it. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Priyank Kanoongo, Member- RTE and Education at NCPCR for giving us this opportunity to undertake this study. We hope that the study will lead to the improvements in the education of the children of the Bru Reang tribe.

QCI developed a rigorous survey methodology that was based on intensive primary data collection. A dedicated team of 4 officials from Quality Council of India visited the makeshift relief camps in North Tripura to capture the current conditions of educational, healthcare and developmental needs of the children. To conduct surveys, QCI also provided rigorous training to a local team of 15 surveyors and 3 translators to ensure precision and objectivity. To further ensure the authenticity and the quality of data collected and observations recorded, interviews were randomly sampled, recorded on video, translated and checked by the QCI team.

In addition to the surveys, QCI interacted with various stakeholders related to the matter to better understand the status quo. The exercise resulted in a holistic assessment, which enabled identification of gaps and subsequently helping in repatriation.

I would like to thank the Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Nirbhay Sharma, all the stakeholders from the Central Government, the State Government of Tripura, district authorities of North Tripura, and the residents of the camps who actively provided their inputs, and for their unwavering support and encouragement in conducting this exercise, making it a success.

Lastly, I would like to thank Ms. Madhu Ahluwalia (Advisor) and her team at QCI, comprising of Mr. Varun Singhal (Associate), Mr. Akshay Mahajan (Associate) Mr. Pritam Bhattacharjee (Junior Associate), Mr. Ritvec Gupta (Analyst), and Mr. Akhil Arora (Analyst), for all their hard work in rolling out this report, effectively and efficiently.



Dr. R.P. SINGH  
Secretary General  
Quality Council of India

Quality Council of India is grateful for the opportunity with the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) to help in charting a plan for the appropriate repatriation and rehabilitation with respect to educational facilities and well-being of children of displaced Bru-Reang community. We have tried to establish a reference framework enabling us to undertake a study to understand the current educational, healthcare, sanitation and development needs of the children of the aforementioned tribe.

It was the strong collaboration and understanding between the QCI and National Commission of Protection Child Right (NCPCR) that have made it possible to complete this project within the stipulated time frame. Strong and rigorous planning for months, multiple meetings with different stakeholders and the field assessment of 7 days with a fine blend of human and technological interventions have finally culminated in this report. The team has been lucky to be supported by an illustrious panel of experts who provided guidance and valuable insights at every stage of the project, helped us strengthen our understanding of the issue and the community and fine tune our assessment methodology.

Apart from being able to contribute in solving this issue that has persisted for the last 20 years, the project has widened our perspective and sensitized our team about the various social and economic problems in the Bru-Reang Community. We look forward to working on future initiatives with the NCPCR to positively contribute towards the initiatives for the protection of child rights in our country.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Quality Council of India (QCI) expresses its gratitude towards the National Commission of Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) for giving us an opportunity to devise a pathway for appropriate repatriation and rehabilitation with respect to educational facilities and well-being of children of displaced primitive Bru-Reang tribe. This project would not have been possible without the constant support and guidance of NCPCR throughout the stint of the project.

QCI would like to take this opportunity to thank His Excellency Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram for his valuable comments and recommendations on this matter.

We would also like to acknowledge the contribution of Mr Mahesh Singla, IPS, Advisor (North-East), Ministry of Home Affairs by providing adequate context about the subject and expert opinion at every stage of the project. His contributions have helped us strengthen our understanding of the issue, fine-tune our methodology, and frame recommendations for the concerned authorities.

QCI would like to thank Ms. Saumya Gupta, IAS, Director of Education, Delhi Government (Ex. District Magistrate, North Tripura) for sharing her experiences and insights on the matter.

QCI would also like to thank the Revenue Department, Government of Tripura for providing us valuable insights and their valuable comments. This project would not have been possible without the logistical support of District Authorities of North Tripura. Offices of Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Kanchanpur and Panisagar Sub-divisions of North Tripura provided us with information about the camps along with their valuable comments on the issue.

We are also grateful to Mr Vipin Reang, President, Bru Tribal Development Society, for his continuous support and arranging a team of locals to conduct the surveys. Lastly, QCI would also like to thank all the members of the Bru community who assisted us in conducting the surveys, and the community as a whole for providing honest feedback to surveys in a timely and collaborative manner.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Displaced from the State of Mizoram, nearly 29,000 Bru community members including 7,000 children, as per the demographic records provided by the district authorities, have been staying in make-shift relief camps of North Tripura district for over 20 years. Quality Council of India (QCI) conducted a study to capture the living conditions focused on the children of the community and devise a strategy for enabling appropriate educational and developmental needs of children of the Bru/Reang community.

The entire study consists of three parts – household survey in the settlement camps of Bru-Reang community, review of educational and healthcare facilities in the camps, and interview with the relevant stakeholders. Parameters for the review of the current availability of basic education, health, and development facilities for the children population of the displaced Bru/Reang community were initially identified by extensive primary and secondary research undertaken by QCI.

In order to conduct surveys, 15 surveyors and 3 translators were selected from the community itself who were well versed in English and Hindi. Post training sessions held in North Tripura, a sample of 837 children (12% of the total children population) was selected and a 6 day-long survey operation was conducted in all six camps located in the Kanchanpur and Panisagar subdivisions of the North Tripura district. During this stint of the survey, QCI team also visited and captured the conditions of schools, health centres, Anganwadi centres, skill centres, etc. In addition to surveys and direct observations, QCI team met and interviewed various stakeholders related to this matter, including officials from central Government and state Governments of Tripura and Mizoram, district authorities of North Tripura district, and other local stakeholders to get a better idea of the status quo along with the way forward and to make recommendations to the concerned authorities.

Condition of various education institution in and nearby the camps has been captured in this report and it has been found that majority of them lacks basic infrastructural facilities. 25% of the interviewed education volunteers are not qualified as per the norms of the RTE Act 2009. And almost 34% of the respondents said that the medium of instruction in the institutions is not their mother tongue.

In terms of healthcare, only 2 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) are currently functional and available for the total population of the community living in all 6 camps of North Tripura. Majority of respondent neither benefitted with any health camps, nor received any subsidised medicine from the authorities. Total 17 Anganwadi centres are identified in all 6 camps, but even most of them lack basic infrastructural facilities.

Families living in the camps do not have access to basic necessities of life such as clean drinking water, sanitation facilities, electricity etc. Although ration and relief money are provided to the community by the authorities, but people usually face delays in receiving them. Only 12% of the population possess any vocational skill and majority of the people are working as daily labourer or relying on the forest for their livelihood. Only 2 skills centres were identified during the study and both of them are tailoring centres.

Also, the residents of the camps are not receiving any benefits of various state subsidised schemes and programs, such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MNREGA) etc. Several members of the community do not have proper identification documents such as Aadhar Card, Voter Id Card, Birth Certificate etc. due to which they face various problems in their daily lives and in accessing financial & banking services.

The study concludes with the recommendations for State governments of Mizoram and Tripura on variety of parameters and it is hoped that this study will help the Governments of both states as well as Union government of India to provide a safe, healthy and productive environment for the Bru-Reang community.

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

- About the Community
- About the Issue

## 1.1. About the Community

Reang or Bru is one of the scheduled tribes of the State of Mizoram. Apart from Mizoram, Bru community is also residing in other North-Eastern States of India such as Tripura, Assam, and Manipur. They speak Reang dialect of Kokborok language and which is locally referred to as Kau Bru. The tribe is primarily involved in agriculture and has been practising Huk or Jhum cultivation since long. There is approximately a population of 29,000 Bru people (2850 families) currently living in the make-shift camps North Tripura (Annexure 19 & Annexure 20).

## 1.2. About the Issue

In the year 1997, due to some serious ethnic problems in Mizoram, a large number of Reang community members were forced to flee from their homes and State, and since then they have been living in 6 make-shift refugee camps located in Kanchanpur and Panisagar sub-divisions of North Tripura district, in Tripura<sup>1</sup>.



<sup>1</sup><http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/Officials-meet-Reang-refugees-in-Tripura-over-return-to-Mizoram/article14384528.ece>

There are roughly 7000 children currently staying in make-shift relief camps of North Tripura District. According to various reports and residents of the camps, it was speculated that children living in the camps still have little access to the basic necessities and other aspects of child rights such as education, health, hygiene, nutrition, skill development etc. It is, therefore, important to assess the camps with respect to availability and condition of educational, healthcare and childcare facilities and overall well-being of the children.

### 1.3. About the Relief Camps

Ashapara, Naisingpara and Hezzacherra camps are the three make-shift relief camps in Kanchanpur subdivision of North Tripura, located 6-10kms away from each other.

Kashkaupara, Khakchangpara, Hamsapara camps in Panisagar subdivision are located at a distance of 10-15kms away from each other. Out of all 6 camps, Naisingpara is the largest camp with a total population of 14,500 (approx.) and Khakchangpara is the smallest camp with a population of 1100 (approx.). The demographics of all 6 camps as per the data provided by the offices of the Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs) of Kanchanpur and Panisagar sub-divisions of North Tripura have been depicted in Figure 1.



"Daily life of children in relief camps of North Tripura"

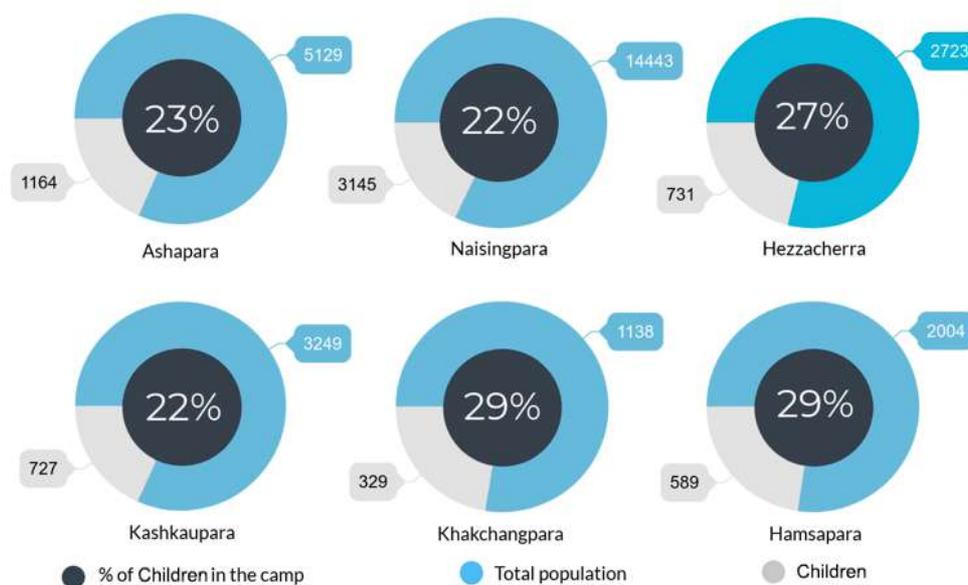


Figure 1: Camp Demographics of the Bru relief camps in North Tripura

- About National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)



Figure 2: Geographical identification of camps

## 1.4. About National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has been set-up under the CPCRA Act, 2005 to ensure that children enjoy their rights and develop in a free and fair environment. To realize this aim, section 13 of the said Act assigned certain functions to the Commission that intend to ensure that the legal and constitutional rights of children are protected.

Subsection (1) clause (d) empowers the Commission to “examine all factors that inhibit the enjoyment of rights of children affected by terrorism, communal violence, riots, natural disaster, domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, trafficking, maltreatment, torture and exploitation, pornography, and prostitution and recommend appropriate remedial measures.” Clause (e) also mandates the Commission to “look into the matters relating to children in need of special care and protection including children in distress, marginalized and disadvantaged children, children in conflict with the law, juveniles, children without family and children of prisoners and recommend appropriate remedial measures.” The clause (g) of the said subsection of the said section also mandates the Commission to “undertake and promote research in the field of child rights.”

Also, the Right to Education Act, 2009 has mandated appropriate Governments to ensure suitable environment and quality education for completion of free and compulsory education for every child in the age 6-14 years u/s 8 of RTE Act, 2009. For this, the RTE Act, 2009, under section 31 has mandated NCPCR to monitor the implementation of the provisions of the Act.

- About Quality Council of India (QCI)
- Objective of the Project

To fulfil these functions and suggest targeted recommendations, availability of a reliable, authentic data is important, in absence of which the effective monitoring and review are not feasible. Hence, NCPCR signed a MoU with Quality Council of India, with the aim of working together in devising a pathway for appropriate repatriation and rehabilitation with respect to educational facilities and well-being of children of Displaced Bru/Reang Tribe.

## 1.5. About Quality Council of India (QCI)

The Government of India had established Quality Council of India (QCI), jointly with the Indian Industry represented by the three premier industry associations, ASSOCHAM, CII, and FICCI. QCI is registered as an autonomous, non-profit society registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860. A Council of 38 members with equal representations from Government, industry and consumers governs QCI. The incumbent Chairman of QCI, Mr. Adil Zainulbhai, has been appointed by Hon'ble Prime Minister's office.

QCI has expertise in ensuring objectivity and transparency in the assessment of institutions through a blended approach of appropriate IT and Human Intervention. The intent of this task necessitates the analysis of existing and required educational facilities for the children of the Bru-Reang tribe for their seamless repatriation to the state of Mizoram. QCI having expertise in strategic research and development, and application of third-party assessment models for various Government bodies, regulators, organizations, and societies to help them in short and long-term formulation of policies, can provide precious value addition to the concretization of intent of this project.

## 1.6. Objective of the Project

As per the MoU signed between National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and Quality Council of India (QCI) on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2017, both the organizations agreed to work together to devise a pathway for appropriate repatriation and rehabilitation with respect to educational facilities and well-being of children of the displaced primitive tribe viz. Bru-Reang Community and work on the following objectives:

- Undertaking a study to understand the current educational, healthcare, sanitation, and development needs of the children of the Bru-Reang Community. The study shall primarily consist of 3 parts:
  - Sample Household Survey-** The activity shall allow QCI to assess comprehensively the current living conditions of the children of the community.
  - Review of Education and Healthcare Facilities-** Review of schools, Anganwadi centers, skill centers, and healthcare facilities shall help QCI to get the better idea of the condition available for growth of the community.
  - Interviews with Stakeholders and Various Authorities-** Interviews with relevant individuals and organizations shall allow QCI to understand better the status quo along with the way forward. This includes Interaction with the various stakeholders in the community including Anganwadi workers, teachers, health workers, district and state authorities, NGOs, etc.
- Devising strategy for enabling appropriate educational and developmental needs of the children of Bru-Reang Community.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

- Primary Research
  - Background Work

This section discusses the suitable research approach employed for this study. Both primary and secondary research methodology used for assessment of the current availability of basic educational, health, and developmental facilities for the children population of the community is exhibited in detail in this section of the report.

**Primary Research:** Household surveys and reviews of educational and healthcare facilities in relief camps were conducted.

**Secondary Research:** QCI met with various stakeholders associated with this issue and related documents were collected and analyzed for a better understanding of the matter.

### 2.1. Primary Research

To conduct the household surveys and review of different educational and healthcare facilities in the relief camps of North Tripura, parameters to track the current condition of children of the displaced Bru/Reang community were first devised and drafted in the form of a questionnaire.

#### 2.1.1. Background Work

Extensive web research was initially conducted by the QCI to develop the initial ground for the project. Also, a number of meetings were conducted with officials of NCPCR to get the background knowledge about the issue and the community.

An official from QCI visited all 6 camps located in the Kanchanpur and Panisagar subdivisions of North Tripura from 4<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to conduct a preliminary evaluation of the conditions in the relief camps by interacting with various stakeholders, estimating the potential problems in the survey process, and obtaining a brief idea about the terrain to plan the survey process in an effective manner.

QCI held several meetings with Mr. Mahesh Singla, Advisor (North East) at Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, who is currently handling the issue of repatriation of the displaced Bru tribe, to understand the view of central Government on this matter.

Also, with the help of NCPCR, QCI met with Mr. Vipin Reang, a native of the Bru/Reang community, working with Sewa International, an NGO working in the area. Mr. Vipin shared his experience and difficulties faced by him during his childhood days and also gave QCI an insider's perspective about the Bru/Reang community.

#### Development of Questionnaires for Household surveys and Observations

Valuable information obtained from initial primary on-ground research, secondary research, and different stakeholders were used to prepare the questionnaire in consultation with subject matter experts.

Information gathered during the pilot visit also helped QCI to understand the demographics and capture the number of different entities in the camps. Entities such as health care centres, skill centres, private schools, govt. schools, NRSTCs, Anganwadi centres, etc. were included in the review framework to gauge their conditions in the camps.

- Primary Research Continued...
  - Execution of household surveys

The whole children population of camps was divided into 3 groups on the basis of their age: 0-6, 6-14, 14-18. A separate household survey questionnaire was developed for each group, containing questions pertinent to the age groups.

The draft questionnaire was discussed with Mr Priyank-Kanoongo, Member Education, NCPDR and Mr Paresh Shah, Technical Expert (Education), NCPDR for their review and approval and then consulted with Mr Singla due to his vast experience in this matter. All the valuable inputs were considered and suitably incorporated in the questionnaire.

### Selection of Survey Sample Size of Children of the Community

As per the demographic records obtained from the district authorities, it has been found that there are around 29,000 Bru/Reang people including around 7,000 children currently staying in these make-shift camps of North Tripura.

Random sampling was done and a sample size of 837 children (12% of the total children population with 3% margin of error and 95% confidence interval) was selected across all six camps in North Tripura for the survey. Due to lower than the anticipated children population in the official records against the expected number, the earlier agreed sample of 5% was decided to be raised to 12% of the entire children population in the six camps.

The sample size was divided in the proportion of the children population in each of the camps to record data more representative of the actual situation in the camps.

### Technology

After the successful development of questionnaire, a suitable data collection application was selected, and all the questions were added to this application. The idea behind the usage of data collection application, and not the conventional paper-based survey, was to reduce the possibilities of errors and discrepancy in results, as this enabled QCI to perform real-time monitoring of the data collected.

For the purpose of conduction of surveys, this application was installed in the mobile devices and provided to each surveyor and QCI Reviewer. Adequate training was also provided to the surveyors to use the application and mobile device prudently and efficiently.



*"Overview of data collection application"*

### 2.1.2. Execution of Household Survey

After the finalisation of questionnaire and selection of sample size of children of the community, QCI arranged a team of local surveyors from the Bru community, provided extensive training to them, made them familiar with the technology, questionnaire and the survey process before conducting the surveys in the relief camps.

### Training and mobilization of Surveyors

QCI team arranged a team of 15 surveyors and 3 translators (belonging to the Bru community and residing in the aforementioned relief camps) who were able to read and understand English, to bridge the language barrier and to complete the survey efficiently.

Modular training material was prepared for the surveyors to ensure that all the surveyors are well versed with the questions and understand the objectives of the survey.

An evaluation test was also prepared, and each surveyor was made to take this test to prove himself/herself equipped for the purpose of the survey.

Extensive training was provided to all the selected surveyors in Kanchanpur, North Tripura on 29th November 2017. Refresher training was provided to the surveyors each day in the evening based on the difficulties faced by the surveyors.



*"Training session held in Kanchanpur, North Tripura"*

## Conduction of household surveys

Quality Council of India deployed a team of four officials to conduct surveys in all six Bru settlement camps in Kanchanpur and Panisagar subdivisions of North Tripura, from 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017. QCI team worked along with the team of local surveyors and conducted the whole survey operation and 837 responses were captured successfully.

## Quality Checks

Surveys taken by each surveyor were monitored twice every day by the QCI, in addition to a 10% random sample check of all the data collected on a daily basis from each relief camp. Out of the 837 responses collected, 110 interviews with the Bru households were video recorded for quality check purposes. As the language used by the surveyors and respondents, while conducting surveys, was Bru, all the recorded videos were translated to English for the desktop assessment and quality check of the data recorded in the camps.

- Review of Educational and Healthcare Facilities
- Secondary Research
  - Interview with Stakeholders and Authorities
  - Document Analysis

## 2.1.3. Review of Educational and Healthcare Facilities

In addition to the household surveys, QCI also visited different educational and healthcare facilities located inside or nearby the camps. The objective of this exercise was to capture the current situation of different schools, non-residential special training centres (NRSTCs), Anganwadi centres, skill centres and primary health centres (PHCs) situated in and around the relief camps.

## 2.2. Secondary Research

To get a better idea of the status quo, discussions with relevant stakeholders related to this matter, including officials from central and state Governments of Tripura and Mizoram, district authorities of North Tripura district and other local stakeholders, were held. Also, various documents from different authorities and stakeholders were collected and analysed.

### 2.2.1. Interviews with Stakeholders and Authorities

**Central Government:** QCI met Mr Mahesh Singla, Advisor (North East) at Ministry of Home Affairs, on multiple occasions, to understand the focal view of Central government on this matter.

**State Government of Tripura:** QCI interviewed Mr KB Chowdhury, Additional Secretary, Revenue Department and Mr Suman Rakshit, Under Secretary (OSD o/o Minister), Revenue Department and tried to understand what Government of Tripura is doing for this community, their role in this matter, and their own point of view on this matter.

**State Government of Mizoram:** QCI officials met with Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram in New Delhi on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and sought his advice on the matter.

**District officials of North Tripura:** QCI met and interviewed Sub-Divisional Magistrates of Kanchanpur and Panisagar sub-divisions on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017 to understand the status, their role in the matter, and the actual on-ground constraints in the development of the children of the community.

**Other Stakeholders:** A team of four officials from QCI interviewed various stakeholders such as NGOs working in the area, community leaders from each camp, school teachers, Anganwadi workers, etc.

### 2.2.2. Document Analysis

In addition to the interactions with different stakeholders related to this issue, various documents from different authorities were collected and analysed by the QCI to understand the situation more precisely. Documents such as List of relief items provided to the residents of the camps, Utilization certificates of funds from the offices of the Sub-divisional magistrates, Office of District Education Officer, Office of Chief Medical Officer etc. were analysed to understand the current level of efforts made by the authorities for the children of this primitive tribe.

### 3. FINDINGS

- Education

In the surveys, a total of 837 responses were recorded. About 23 percent of the responses were collected from children belonging to 0-6 age group, about 56 percent from those in the 6-14 age group, and the remaining (21 percent) from those belonging to 14-18 age group. 54 percent of the children surveyed were male, and the remaining 46 percent, female (Annexure 1).

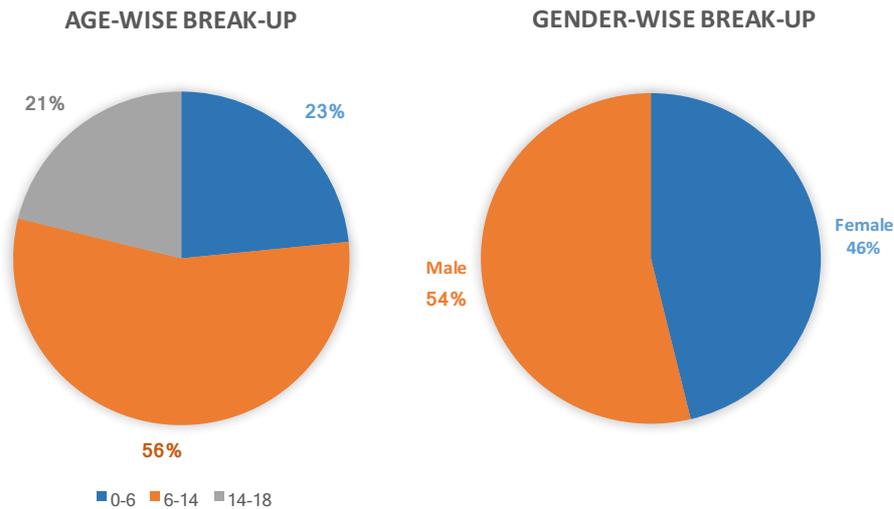


Figure 3: Gender and Age wise breakup of children surveyed

#### 3.1. Education

As observed during both preliminary and survey visits, students are enrolled majorly in 3 types of educational institutions:

**Government School-** Schools supported by state/central Government or authority. These schools charge no or partial fee. As there are no Government schools present in the camps, children enrolled in these schools travel long distances to study here.

**Non-Residential Special Training Center (NRSTC) -** These are the institutions, which provide education to children who have never been to school or have dropped out of school. NRSTCs have been opened by the Government under SSA scheme in the camps. Education Volunteers (EVs) are nominated and recruited by the District Inspector of Schools, to teach students enrolled in these NRSTCs.



"An Education Volunteer teaching student at an NRSTC"

# FINDINGS

- Education Continued...

**Private Institutions** - Institutions supported by private organisations or private individuals and not by State/Government. Students generally pay a fee to attend these Institutions. There are some private Institutions in and around the camps which are being run by certain individuals or groups of individuals from the Bru community. There are also some private Institutions outside camps, but very few children from the camps are enrolled there.



"Students studying in a Private institution, located in Hamsapara Camp"

QCI officials visited all the educational institutes present in and around the camps. Out of 14 NRSTC, 8 Private Institutions, 17 Anganwadi centers visited, 2 private Institutions were closed due to examinations, 1 NRSTC was closed due to the public holiday and 3 Anganwadi centers were found to be non-functional.

Naisingpara, the largest refugee camp amongst all, in terms of population and area, has the maximum number of NRSTCs, i.e. 8 with a total of 9 educational facilities. Ashapara has the highest number of private Institutions, at 4, with a total of 6 educational facilities. Hamsapara, Hezzacherra, Khakchangpara and Kashkaupara have 2, 2, 1, and 2 educational facilities, respectively (Annexure 2).

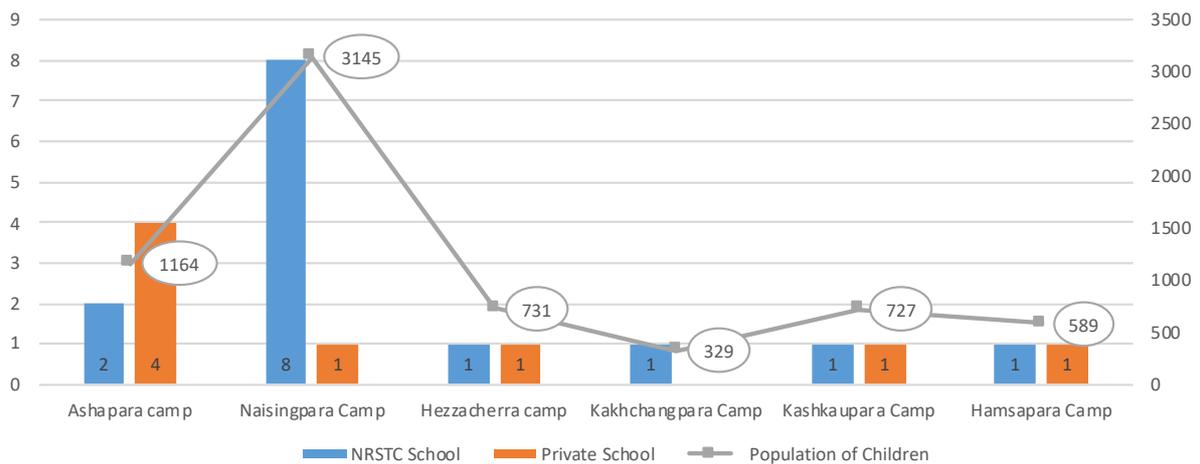


Figure 4: Educational Institutions breakup across camps

Referring to the Figure 5 below, enrolments, pupil-teacher ratio, number of teachers/EVs in the NRSTCs and Private Institutions could be followed. As evident from the data, the majority (74 percent) of students are studying in NRSTC but a high PTR ratio of 38:1 indicates the crucial issue of shortage of teachers.

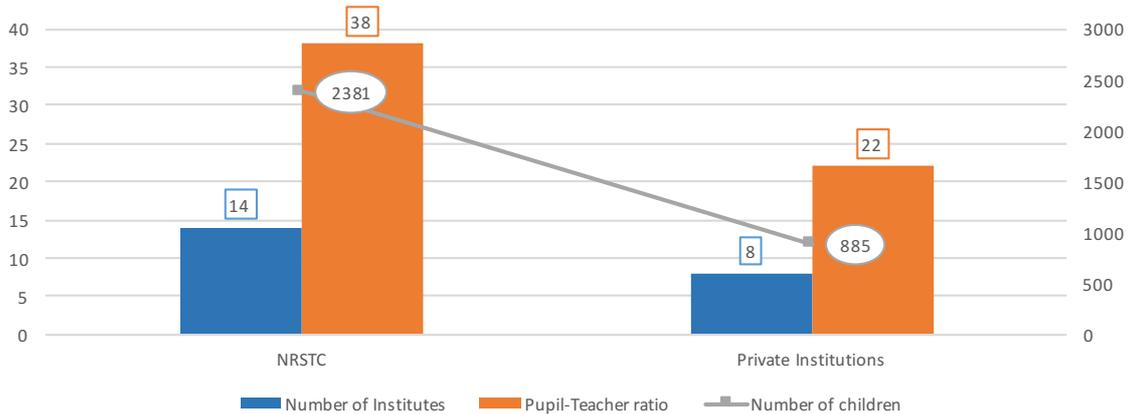


Figure 5: Comparison of NRSTC and Private Institutions

In the age bracket of 0-6, a majority of respondents (38%) said they were not enrolled in any educational facility. However, in the age-group of 6-14, only 9.5% are not enrolled, but the percentage of out-of-school children rises to 35% in the age bracket of 14-18. The reason identified behind the increase in the percentage of out-of-school students in the age group of 14-18 is the absence educational facilities for secondary education in the camps. (Annexure 3).

A staggering percentage of **21.6%** all the respondents said they are not enrolled in any educational facility.

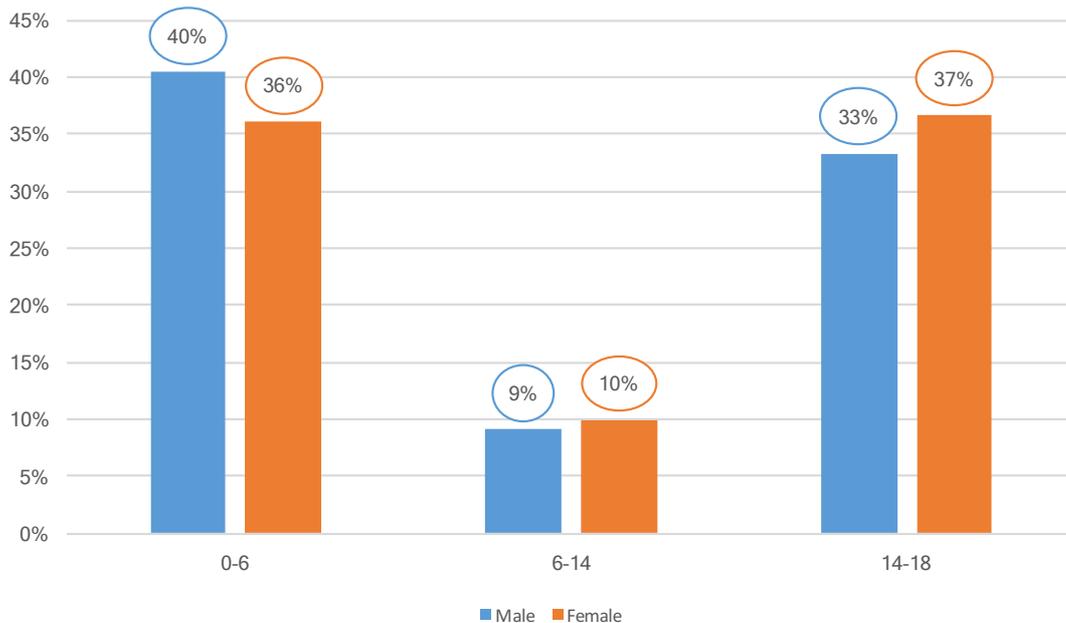


Figure 6: Percentage of children out of school-children (Age-wise)

# FINDINGS

- Education Continued...
  - Basic Requirement for Children

## 3.1.1. Basic Requirements for Children

In this section, basic requirements of school going children such as books, teachers, Midday meal etc. are discussed as per the results obtained in the surveys.

### Availability of Books and Teachers

As per the data collected from the surveys, it has been identified that:

- Approximately 94% of students enrolled said they have teachers/education volunteers in their schools.
- 24% of the students admitted in the Government school and 48% of the students admitted in NRSTCs said that they do not get books, for free, every year.

### Midday Meal Scheme

The Government of India, in the year 1995, launched a nationwide school meal programme "The Midday Meal Scheme" to improve the nutritional status of school-age children. Under this programme, free lunch is provided to children studying in primary and upper-primary classes of Government and Government-aided schools and other education centres. Under article 24, paragraph 2c, of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, India is committed to providing adequate nutritious foods to the children. However:

- 36% of the children going to Government school said that they do not get the mid-day meal daily and 31% of the children going to NRSTC said that they don't have access to mid-day meal daily.
- 20% of respondents going to Government schools and 8% respondents enrolled in NRSTCs said they did not receive mid-day meal at all.
- As per interactions of QCI officials with teachers and evidence present, all 14 NRSTCs have availability of mid-day meal and none of the private Institutions has the same. However, ration is not provided to these education facilities on-time.
- As per QCI visit, 21% of the NRSTCs have unhygienic storage for the ration of mid-day meal.

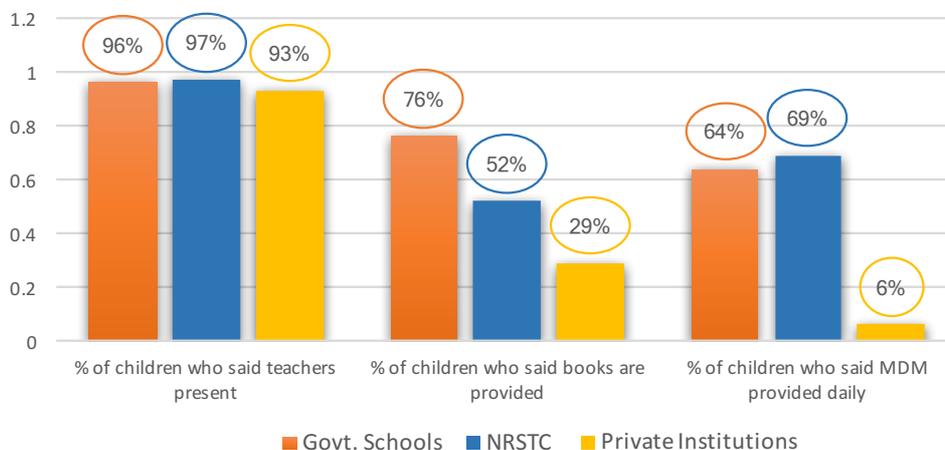


Figure 7: Availability of basic requirements in schools (Annexure 4)

# FINDINGS

- Education Continued...
  - Teachers of NRSTCs and Private Institutions



"Midday Meal being prepared in NRSTCs of Naisingpara and Hamsapara Camps"

## 3.1.2. Teachers of NRSTCs and Private Institutions

34 teachers/EVs were interviewed by QCI officials on various parameters such as their educational qualifications, salary structure and disbursement, mode of employment, etc.

The following observations can be made from the data obtained:

### Educational Qualification

Out of the 34 teachers/EVs interviewed, 26% are graduate or above, 38% are 12<sup>th</sup> pass, 29% are 10<sup>th</sup> pass and 6% are not even 10<sup>th</sup> pass (Annexure 5).

### Training

29% of the teachers/EVs have not received training at all.

### Attendance

In all the schools, proper attendance registers were maintained. Teachers and students attended schools regularly.

### Salary

Education Volunteers at NRSTCs and teachers at private institutions withdrew an average monthly salary of ₹4000 and ₹2464 respectively. The state Government pays the NRSTC's Education volunteers while private Institution teachers run the institutions, individually or along with a small group of individuals and draw a salary from the fee proceeds.

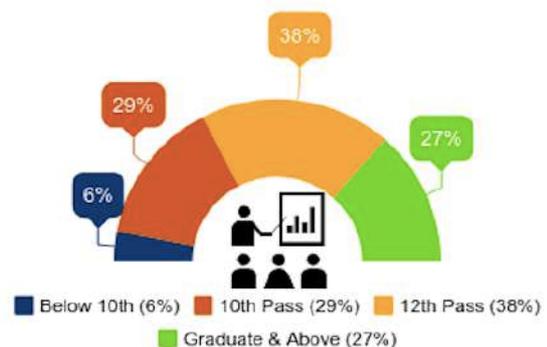


Figure 8: Teacher education qualification

# FINDINGS

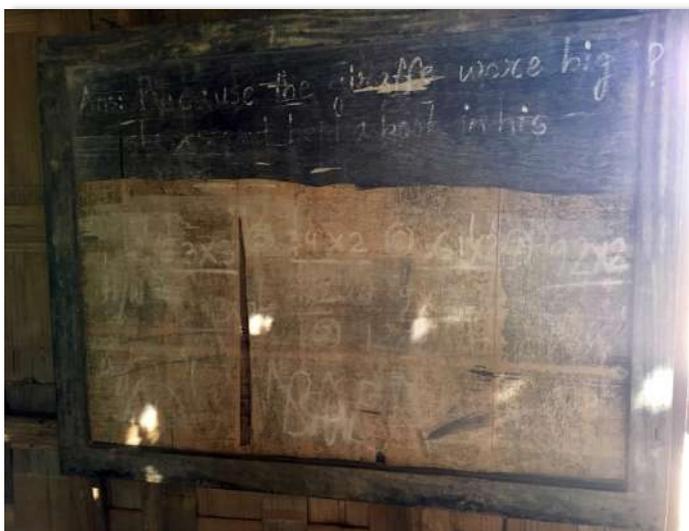
- Education Continued...
  - Additional Observations – Education
  - Infrastructure Facilities

## 3.1.3. Additional Observation

- Although NRSTC's Education Volunteers receive salary monthly but some of them complained that they receive delayed salaries and have to make multiple rounds to IS (Inspector of school) office for the same.
- Education Volunteers were also disheartened with the fact that with time there has been a reduction in their salary instead of increments.
- Most of the Education Volunteers were students themselves, in the process of completing their school education. Alongside teaching, they were also preparing for their grade 10<sup>th</sup> and grade 12<sup>th</sup> exams, or higher education.

## 3.1.4. Infrastructure Facilities

The schools running in the camps are in deplorable condition. All the schools, whether NRSTC or private, lacked toilets, drinking water facility, and electricity. The classes are dimly lit, with the only source of lighting being natural sunlight.



*"Basic infrastructure in schools was mostly found to be in abominable conditions. Current picture is taken at an NRSTC of Naisingpara Camp"*

Although private Institutions and a few NRSTCs had desks and chairs, which were made out of wood or bamboo, but they were found to be in unsatisfactory conditions. The schools that did not have any desks and chairs also lacked mats for children to sit on.

Schools lacked an adequate number of classrooms. There was no proper demarcation between the classes. In some schools, around 3 to 5 grades were being taught in the same room using just one or two blackboards, simultaneously (Annexure 6).

# FINDINGS

- Education Continued...

Sub-Division	Camp	Block Number	Cross Ventilation	Sufficient Lighting	Availability of toilets	Availability of Electricity	Availability of Mid-day meal	Storage conditions of MDM supply	Availability of Medical Facility
Kanchanpura	Ashapara	A	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✗
Kanchanpura	Ashapara	B	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✗
Kanchanpura	Hezzacherra	A	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✗
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	A	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✗
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	B	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✗
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	C	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✗
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	D	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	Unhygienic	✗
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	E	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✗
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	F	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✓
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	G	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✗
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	H	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Unhygienic	✗
Panisagar	Hamsapara	A	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✗
Panisagar	Kashkaupara	B	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	Unhygienic	✗
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	C	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic	✗

Table 1: NRSTC-wise status of basic infrastructural facilities available

Sub-Division	Camp	Block Number	Desk and Chairs	Blackboards	Adequate classrooms	Availability of books	Number of students	Number of Teachers
Kanchanpura	Ashapara	A	✗	✓	✗	✓	143	5
Kanchanpura	Ashapara	B	✗	✓	✓	✓	140	5
Kanchanpura	Hezzacherra	A	✗	✓	✗	✓	91	2
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	187	5
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	B	✗	✓	✓	✓	150	4
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	C	✗	✗	✓	✓	188	5
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	D	✗	✓	✓	✗	162	4
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	E	✓	✓	✗	✓	180	5
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	F	✗	✓	✗	✓	168	4
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	G	✗	✓	✗	✓	192	5
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	H	✗	✓	✗	✓	185	5
Panisagar	Hamsapara	A	✓	✓	✗	✓	279	6
Panisagar	Kashkaupara	B	✓	✓	✗	✗	188	4
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	C	✗	✓	✗	✓	128	3

Table 2: NRSTC-wise availability of books, teachers and basic furniture

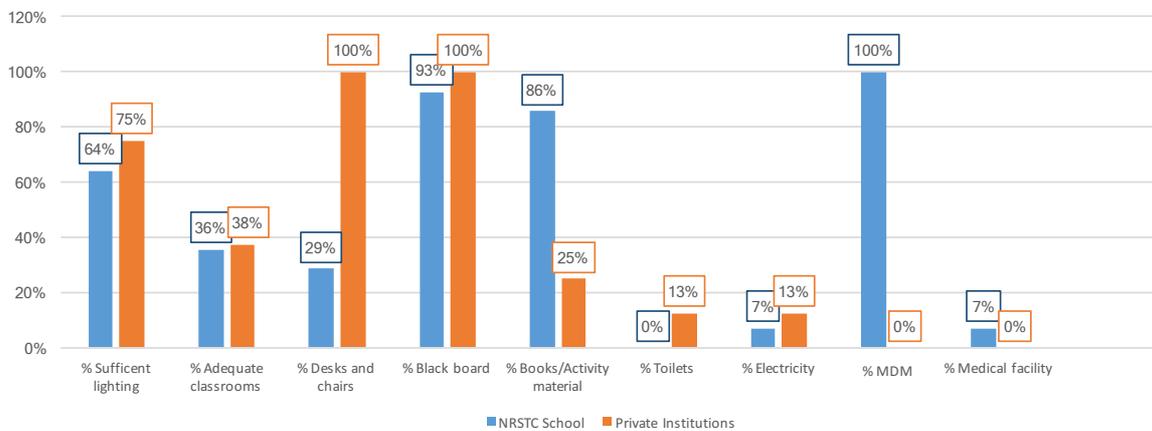


Figure 9: Status of Infrastructural facilities in Schools and NRSTCs



*"Teachers are teaching multiple classes simultaneously in a single room of NRSTCs"*

## Recommendations for the Government of Mizoram

1. The basic educational requirements of children, as defined in RTE Act, 2009, are not being fulfilled in the existing camps of North Tripura. Almost 40% of the children studying in NRSTCs and Government schools of North Tripura do not receive books every year. Also, they do not have any educational institutions beyond grade 5 in or near the camps. And since as many as 7000 children are planned to be repatriated to Mizoram, it is expected to put a lot of strain on the existing resources in the proposed villages. Hence, existing educational institutions in the proposed villages in Mizoram should be assessed, based on parameters including but not limited to the following:
  - 1.1. The current number of educational institutions as well as their capacity in the proposed villages in Mizoram should be assessed to ensure adequate capacity to accommodate all 7000 children of Bru community along with the existing student population in the respective villages.
  - 1.2. Availability of basic requirements such as books, qualified teachers, infrastructure etc. should be an important part of the assessment to ensure adequate resources and facilities in the institutions.
  - 1.3. Report of the assessment should be sent to NCPCR within 3 months. In case, any deficiency is detected in the assessment, augmentation of the existing facilities should be done within 12 months of the submission of the report.

2. Make-up classes and bridge courses should be organised to bridge the age-appropriate-class gap in the children of the community.
3. As the mother tongue of the people of the Bru/Reang community is Bru language, the following is recommended:
  - 3.1. As per the Section 29 (ii)(f) of the RTE Act 2009, the medium of instruction and the textbooks provided in educational institutions should be in Bru language to make Bru children able to read and write in their own mother tongue.
  - 3.2. Other languages such as English, Hindi and Mizo should also be taught in schools to enable them to study or work anywhere across the country.
  - 3.3. Teachers/Education Volunteers (EV), from the community, should be recruited to work in the schools in proposed villages of Mizoram to ensure continuity and to bridge the language barrier.

## Recommendations for Government of Tripura

1. The current conditions of the schools & NRSTCs in the makeshift camps are in poor conditions and children are deprived of basic infrastructural facilities hence the allocated funds should be used adequately and efficiently to provide minimum basic education in schools & NRSTCs. Despite repeated attempts made by QCI to obtain relevant details of expenditure, no relevant information was provided by the DEO in this respect. Hence, District Education Officer should send a properly bifurcated yearly utilisation report to District Magistrate of North Tripura and copy it to NCPCR.
2. Teachers and Education Volunteers (EVs) of schools & NRSTCs pointed out that ration for the Midday meal is not provided to the schools and NRSTCs on time. Hence, Fair average quantity of ration should be provided timely for the Midday meal in all the Government schools and NRSTCs in the makeshift camps. Also, it should be ensured that all the educational institutions are enrolled in Midday Meal Automated Reporting and Management (MDM-ARM) System, developed by MHRD to enable reporting of meals served in various Government sponsored schools. In addition to that District Education Officer should send a monthly report to District Magistrate of North Tripura with a copy to NCPCR with the relevant update on the availability of ration for the children.
3. Interviews with the teachers'/Education Volunteers'(EVs) revealed that 25% of them are not qualified as per the norms of the RTE Act, 2009. In order to meet the quality standards of education and the norms of the RTE Act 2009, the Department of Education, Tripura should hire teachers and EVs with minimum qualification as per the RTE act to work in the NRSTCs. It should also be ensured that EVs are given special training prior to the commencement of his/her teaching practice. Additionally, the performance of these teachers and EVs should be evaluated on a half-yearly basis by SSA project functionaries.
4. 34% of the respondents said that medium of instruction in the institutions they are enrolled in is not their mother tongue. It should be ensured by the Government of Tripura that the medium of instruction for children in the NRSTCs should be Bru language to meet the requirements of the section 29 (ii)(f) of the RTE Act 2009. However, other languages such as English and Hindi should also be taught in schools to make them able to study or work anywhere across the country.

## 3.2. Health and Childcare

As observed during both preliminary and survey visits, institutions providing healthcare and childcare facilities to the residents of the camps are:

### Primary Health Centres (PHCs):

Primary Health Centres are the rural healthcare facilities owned and maintained by the State Governments in India. These facilities are supposed to be equipped with basic medical facilities and generally have one or two physicians, to provide basic treatment to the rural population of India. These PHCs also play a major part in facilitating various Government-funded health programs, such as Infant Immunization Program, Birth control program, Anti-epidemic programs etc.

There are only 3 PHCs near the camps, however only 2 of them are functional i.e. the Khedacherra Primary Centre (located in Hamsapara Camp, functional) and the GachiramPara PHC (located in Naisingpara, functional), and one non-functional i.e. the Uriacherra PTG Village PHC (located in Khakchangpara, non-functional).

### Anganwadi Centres

Anganwadi centre (AWC) is a type of healthcare centre, primarily aiming child care and lactating mothers. As a part of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), AWCs were started in 1975 by Government of India. Apart from supplementary nutrition, these centres aim to provide non-formal pre-education to the children of age 0-6. Currently, there are 17 AWCs present across all the camps. Figure 10 presents the distribution of Anganwadi centres and enrolment numbers.

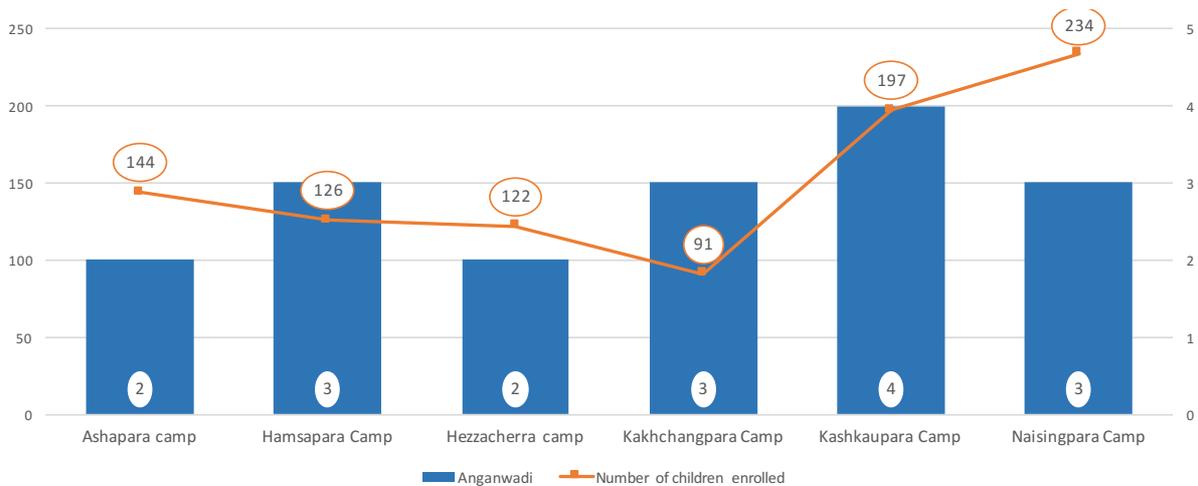


Figure 10: Anganwadi count and strength across camps (Annexure 8)

# FINDINGS

- Health and Childcare Continued...
  - Healthcare
  - Primary Health Centres

## 3.2.1. Healthcare

The condition of healthcare is deplorable in the camps. Some of the common types of diseases prevalent in the camps are malaria, measles, respiratory diseases, UTI, LRTI, diarrhea etc.

### Medicine Availability

As per the discussion with district and state officials of the Government of Tripura, Residents of these camps are entitled to receive medicines free of cost, but 97% respondents who participated in the survey, said that they have never received medicines from the authorities (Annexure 18).

### The Frequency of Illness

Around 29% of the respondents said that their child falls ill once or more than once in a month and 38% said that their child falls ill once in 2 months (Figure 11).

### Vaccination

34% of the respondents said that vaccination had not been provided to their children during their growth years.

### Doctors

According to the office of Chief Medical Officer, North Tripura, 6 medical officers/doctors are deputed exclusively to conduct health camps in all 6 relief camps of Kanchanpur and Panisagar subdivision of North Tripura. However, only 8.5% of respondents said that doctors visit the camps.



"A mother trying to comfort her child"



Figure 11: Frequency of illness in the family

## 3.2.2. Primary Health Centres

There are in total 3 Primary health centres, however, only 2 of them are functional. PHC in Khedacherra and GachiramPara village are functional and providing medical facilities to the residents of Hamsapara and Naisingpara relief camps (Annexure 7).

- Both of the PHCs have the facility of Emergency Ambulance.
- Immunisation facility is available in both PHCs.

## FINDINGS

- Health and Childcare Continued...
  - Anganwadi Centres

- Medicines are available both PHCs.
- Khedacherra PHC, located near Hamsapara Camp, has the facility of 6 beds and 8 attendants.
- GachiramPara PHC, situated near Naisingpara camp, has 6 attendants and 11 beds.



*"PHCs are equipped with basic facilities such as Patient beds, Ambulance etc."*

### 3.2.3. Anganwadi Centres

There are in total 17 Anganwadi centers spread across the 6 camps. 3 out of these 17 were found to be non-functional by the QCI officials.



*"An AWC in Ashapara Relief Camp"*

# FINDINGS

- Health and Childcare Continued...

As per the observations made during the visit to AWCs, following were the observations:

- None of the AWCs has an electrical connection.
- None of AWCs has any type of toilets whatsoever.
- 9 out of 17 AWCs do not have any kind of medical facilities available, neither for children nor for nursing mothers.
- 7 out of 17 AWCs do not have any kind of activity material for the kids.
- 10 out of 11 Anganwadi workers have confirmed that they had received training
- The average salary of the Anganwadi workers as per 11 interviews came out to be Rs.5554 per month.

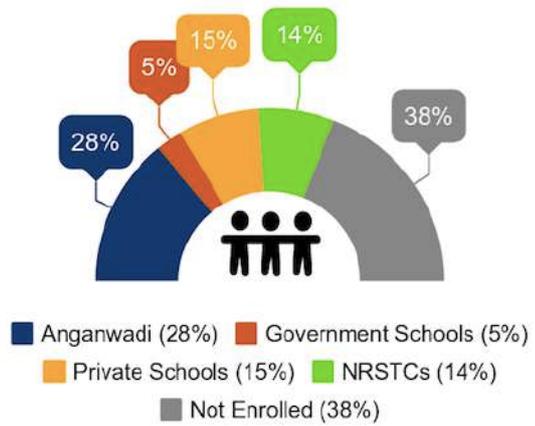


Figure 12: Institution wise breakup of children (0-6 years)



"Basic activity material for kids available in few AWCs. These pictures were taken at one of the AWC of Ashapara camp"

A major function of Anganwadi is to take care of nutrition of infants and young children (0-6 years old) in rural communities. As per the household survey and visits to AWCs, following things came out:

- 80% of the respondents said that their child gets food on a daily basis in the AWC.

## FINDINGS

- Health and Childcare Continued...

- All the 14 functional AWC had the provisions for providing mid-day meals to Anganwadi attendees.
- Majority of AWC did not have any proper place to keep ration for the MDM. The ration was kept either in small shacks or at the workers' house.
- 9 out of 14 AWCs have hygienic food storage conditions.



*"An AWC located in Hezzacherra camp"*



*"Midday meal is being prepared in an AWC of Kashkaupara Camp"*

# FINDINGS

## • Health and Childcare Continued...

Sub-Division	Camp	Block Number	Cross Ventilation	Sufficient Lighting	Availability of Toilets	Availability of Electricity	Availability of mid day meal	Storage conditions of MDM supply
Panisagar	Hamsapara	A	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	C	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic
Panisagar	Kashkaupara	A	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic
Panisagar	Kashkaupara	A	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic
Panisagar	Hamsapara	D	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	C	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic
Kanchanpura	Hezzacherra	A	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Unhygienic
Kanchanpura	Ashapara	B	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	B	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic
Panisagar	Hamsapara	A	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	Unhygienic
Kanchanpura	Ashapara	C	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	C	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	Unhygienic
Kanchanpura	Hezzacherra	C	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	D	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	Hygienic

Table 3: AWC-wise status of basic infrastructural facilities available

Sub-Division	Camp	Block Number	Kids activity materials	Desks and Chairs	Blackboards	Medical Supply- Weighing Machines, Growth charts, etc	Maternity facilities records maintained	Number of children enrolled	Number of AWG Workers	Number of AWG Helpers
Panisagar	Hamsapara	A	Some	✗	✗	✓	✗	30	1	1
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	C	Adequate	✗	✗	✓	✓	52	1	1
Panisagar	Kashkaupara	A	Some	✗	✓	✓	✓	91	1	1
Panisagar	Kashkaupara	A	Adequate	✗	✓	✓	✓	106	1	1
Panisagar	Hamsapara	D	Some	✗	✗	✗	✓	30	1	1
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	C	Not Available	✗	✗	✗	✓	8	1	1
Kanchanpura	Hezzacherra	A	Some	✗	✗	✓	✗	50	1	1
Kanchanpura	Ashapara	B	Some	✗	✓	✓	✓	67	1	1
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	B	Some	✗	✗	✗	✓	140	1	1
Panisagar	Hamsapara	A	Some	✗	✗	✗	✓	66	1	1
Kanchanpura	Ashapara	C	Not Available	✗	✓	✗	✓	77	1	1
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	C	Not Available	✗	✗	✓	✓	31	1	1
Kanchanpura	Hezzacherra	C	Some	✗	✓	✓	✓	72	1	1
Kanchanpura	Naisingpara	D	Not Available	✗	✗	✗	✗	44	1	1

Table 4: AWC-wise availability of books, teachers and basic furniture

## Recommendations for the Government of Mizoram

1. To ensure adequate and proper healthcare to the community after repatriation, a comprehensive assessment of the existing health infrastructure and facilities should be done by the local district authorities. The assessment should be completed within 6 months by the authorities and a report of the same should be sent to NCPDR. If any deficiency is detected, the necessary augmentation should be completed within 12 months of the completion of the assessment.

2. Mandatory tests and check-ups of the children of the community should be conducted after repatriation to identify the number of cases of Anaemia, Haemoglobin levels of children, the percentage of children who have received deworming etc. and it should be ensured that adequate remedies and healthcare are provided to the children of the community.
3. In the camps, no adequate space is available for the children to play and they are bound to play in unsafe terrain pathways. An adequate number of playgrounds and parks should be provided in the proposed villages in Mizoram, to ensure better mental and physical well-being of the children.
4. Health Cards should be mandatorily provided and updated regularly at the time of delivery of healthcare.

## Recommendations for the Government of Tripura

As per the findings of the survey and interviews with various stakeholders from the community, it was noted that all the health facilities, residents of makeshift camp entitled to, are not provided timely by the authorities for various reasons. Hence, based on the various findings and observations, the following is recommended.

1. Residents of the camps are entitled to receive medicines free of cost as a part of the relief package, however, 99% of respondents said that they did not receive any medicine from the authorities. As per the interviews with the stakeholders from State Government of Tripura, it was reported that 6 medical officers/doctors are dedicated to the residents of the camps, however, only 9% respondents said that doctors visited the camps in the last 6 months. It will be fair to conclude that there are serious gaps between the promises and the delivery of healthcare to the community. Hence, immediate steps should be taken by the district authorities and the relevant department of the State Government to ensure the timely delivery of medicines and regular visits by the doctors. The Chief Medical Officer should send a monthly report to the District Magistrate regarding the aforementioned issues with a copy to NCPDR.
2. Not all the children in the camps (34% of respondents) are immunised with mandatory vaccinations and are still prone to various mortal diseases. Hence, all the children should be given all 7 compulsory vaccinations under childhood vaccination policy of Universal Immunisation Programme and/or any other relevant immunization programmes of the State/Union Government.
3. Despite repeated attempts made by QCI to obtain the necessary documents on fund utilization, the Chief Medical Officer was unable to provide any relevant documents or details on the same. The State Government should ensure proper utilization of funds that are directed towards the Bru community and a proper record of the same should be maintained.
4. Health Cards should be mandatorily provided to the children of the camps. To incentivise the regular and timely update of these cards by the parents, they should be linked to the benefits received by them including but not limited to ration, cash doles, etc. in a manner as deemed fit by the district administration.

## 3.3. Living Conditions

The families living in the camps do not have access to necessities of life such as clean drinking water, sanitation facilities, electricity, etc. Individuals have to travel long distances to gather water for their families from the stream which was muddy. Most of the people resort to temporary toilets, with the bamboo enclosure or open defecation. Some of the households had solar panels, either self-purchased or provided by the Government owing to the absence of electrical connections.

### 3.3.1. Water and Sanitation

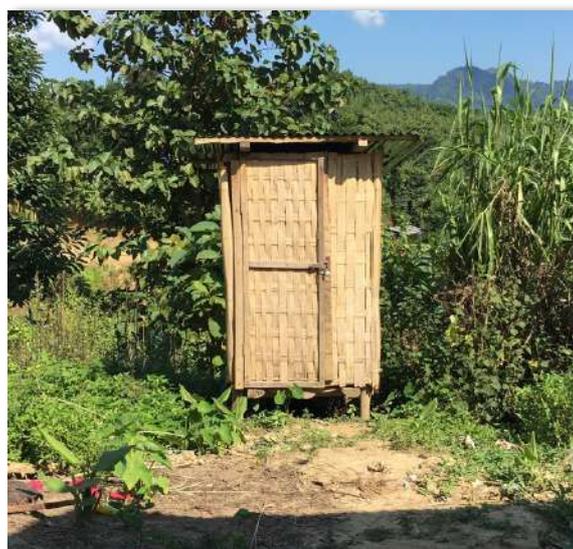
- 98% of the respondents said they do not have access to clean drinking water.
- None of the respondents said they have "Pakka Toilets" built within their homes or their community. Most of the respondents had temporary toilets built beside their homes.
- There is no system for waste-disposal and as a result, daily waste is scattered across the camps, which might be leading to various diseases among the residents of the camps.
- 14 out of 837 respondents said that they defecate in open.



*% of respondents with water and sanitation facilities*

An instance was shared by Ms. Saumya Gupta, IAS, Ex. District Magistrate of North Tripura, where many residents of the camps fell ill of Cholera as the water stream was severely contaminated. Also, she shared her opinions on the need of the health awareness programmes in the camps to aware people about various health, childcare and social issues such population control, cleanliness etc.

Ms. Gupta also talked about the peril condition in which people of the make-shift camps are living and shared her experience of 2010 fire instance in 1 of the 6 camps of North Tripura where at least 320 houses made of bamboo and straw were reduced to ashes & almost 1800 people became homeless.



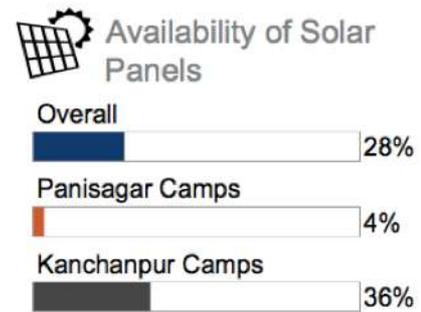
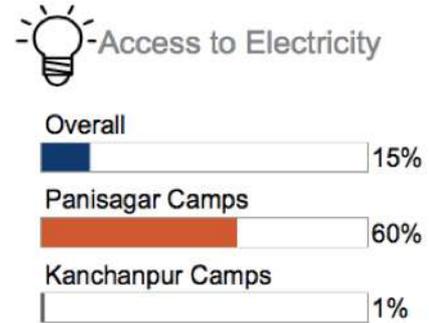
*"Temporary toilets with Bamboo enclosure are very common in the camps"*

# FINDINGS

- Living Conditions Continued...
  - Electricity and Solar Panels

## 3.3.2. Electricity and Solar Panels

- Only 15% of the respondents said they had electricity connections within their homes.
- Only 1 out of 632 respondents in Kanchanpur sub-division (Ashapara, Naisingpara, and Hezzacherra) said they had an electricity connection.
- 36% of the respondents in Kanchanpura (Ashapara, Naisingpara, and Hezzacherra) said they have solar panels in their households.
- 60% of the respondents in Panisagar sub-division (Khakchangpara, Kashkaupara, and Hamsapara) said they had an electricity connection.
- Only 3.5% of the respondents in Panisagar (Khakchangpara, Kashkaupara, and Hamsapara) said they have solar panels in their households.
- Of the respondents who have solar panels, 91% of the respondents said that the solar panels are self-purchased.



**In total, 64% of the respondents in Kanchanpura and about 37% respondents in Panisagar do not have a source of electricity within their homes!**

% of respondents with access to Electricity and Solar Panels

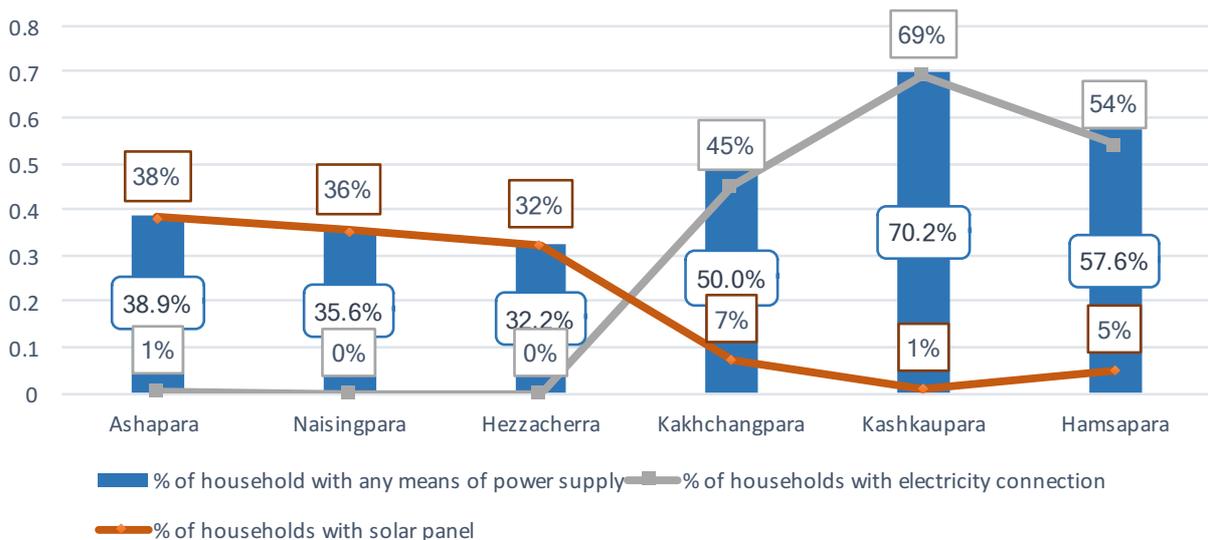


Figure 13: Households with electricity connection (Annexure 9)

- Living Conditions
  - Ration and Relief Money

### 3.3.3. Ration and Relief Money

- 99% of the respondents told that they receive ration from the authorities.
- 24.5% of the respondents said that they do not receive the money that has been allotted by the Government (Annexure 11).



As per the Interview with stakeholders from Govt. of Tripura they have made a requisition of Rs. 50,37,17,000 to the central Government in year 2016, but till now they have received only Rs. 10,00,00,000, which is a major cause of delays in disbursal of food and ration.

QCI met various stakeholders from the community such as community representatives from each camp and the following observations could be perpetuated:

### 3.3.4. Additional Observations

**Burial/cremation grounds:** There is no availability of burial/cremation ground in camps. As a result, they have to travel the long distance to perform the last rituals.

**Consumption of alcohol/drugs:** Almost 1 in every 10 children are consuming alcohol, tobacco, and in some cases, even drugs are being consumed.

## Recommendations for the Government of Mizoram

1. Due to the absence of proper sewage system, not a single household has Pakka toilet. Proposed villages for the Bru community in Mizoram should be assessed by a competent body based on proper sanitation, sewage and waste disposal facilities to ensure clean, hygienic and healthy living conditions for the community after their repatriation within 6 months and in case any deficiency is detected, necessary augmentation should be completed within a time span of 12 months.
2. Bru community members do not have adequate knowledge about the proposed villages in Mizoram and are prone to misinformation and rumours spread by stakeholders with vested interests in keeping the community in makeshift camps in Tripura. Hence, serious attempts should be made by the Government of Mizoram to build confidence among the Brus residing in the camps.
  - 2.1. Government officials should visit the relief camps to make people aware of the conditions in the proposed villages and benefits of repatriation to Mizoram.
  - 2.2. Field trips to the proposed villages should also be arranged for the different stakeholders of the community so that they could see, on their own, the conditions and availability of facilities in the villages of Mizoram and make necessary suggestions to the administration.
3. Security in Mizoram is one of the most important concerns of the community, living in the camps. To build a sense of security and confidence among the community, it is recommended that:
  - 3.1. Members of the community should be included in different administrative committees at the police station, district and state levels in Mizoram.
  - 3.2. The youth of the community should be provided with the opportunities to join Assam Rifles and other defence forces along with state police force.

## Recommendations for the Government of Tripura

1. One of the reasons for delay in receipt of relief money by the community members is the involvement of middlemen in the distribution process. Hence, it is recommended that the relief money should directly be transferred in the bank accounts of the beneficiaries to eliminate the role of middlemen. For people who don't have bank accounts, state Government should take special and immediate measures to help them open bank accounts.

### 3.4. Skills

As observed by QCI, very few children and their parents in the camps possess any vocational skill. Majority of both, father and mother, are unskilled, working as daily wage labourer or relying on the forests for their livelihood.

#### 3.4.1. Vocational Skills

- Only 12% of the respondents (children) said they are being provided with any vocational skills training
- The most common vocational skills training among the above 12% respondents is tailoring, followed by computer training.

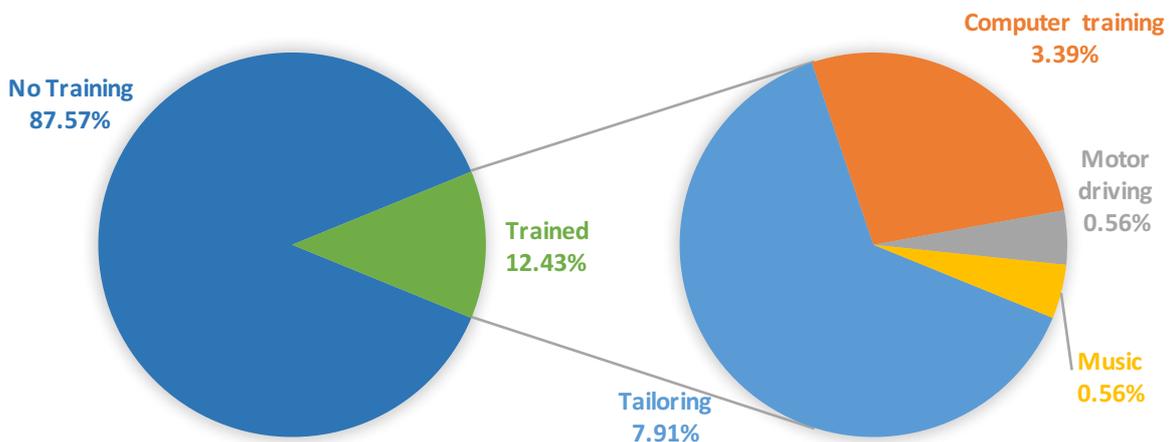


Figure 14: Percentage of children (14-18 years) with vocational skills (Annexure 13)

However, when questioned if these children would like to learn anything, they enthusiastically laid down their preferences about the skills they to obtain and career they want to pursue.

- The most common vocational skills the respondents wanted to acquire were computer training at 38% followed by tailoring at 26% and motor driving at 12%.

# FINDINGS

- Skills Continued...

- The most common career paths respondents wanted to pursue were computer related at 14%, followed by tailoring at 12% and schooling at 10%.
- 10% of the respondents also said they did not want to pursue a career.

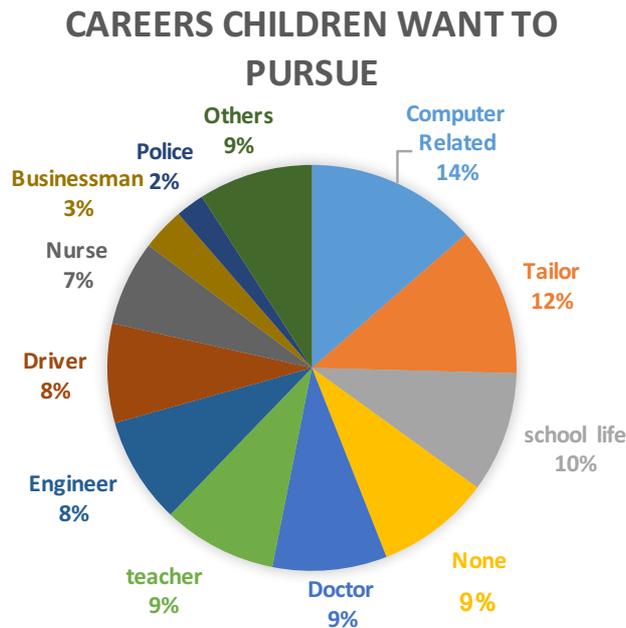


Figure 15: Career aspirations of children of age group 14-18 (Annexure 12)

Vocational skills of mother		
Number of families covered	837	
Vocational skills :	# of people	Certifications
Tailoring	26	7
Knitting	12	
Tailoring, Knitting, Weaving	8	
Farming	5	
Computer training	1	1
Mason General	1	1
Motor driving	1	
None	783	
<p><b>93.5% of the women surveyed don't have any vocational skill, And 17% of the people with vocational skills have certificates for the same</b></p>		

Vocational skills of Father		
Number of families covered	837	
Vocational skills :	# of people	Certifications
Carpenter	10	1
Farming	7	
Motor driving	7	1
Computer training	5	1
Tailoring	5	1
Mason General	4	
Cooking	3	
Knitting	2	
None	794	
<p><b>95% of the men surveyed don't possess any vocational skill and only 9 % of the people have certifications for the skills they possess</b></p>		

Table 5: Vocational skills of parents

## 3.4.2. Skill Centres

QCI visited 2 skill centres, one in Ashapara (Kanchanpur) and one in Kashkaupara (Panisagar).

- Each centre has 55 students enrolled.
- Both the skill centres provide training on tailoring.
- Both the centres possess required machinery.
- Basic infrastructure necessities like sufficient lighting, desks and chairs, separate classrooms are available in the centres.
- As conveyed by the teacher, separate classes for theory and practical are being conducted for the students.



*"Separate Theory and Practical rooms in a tailoring skill Centre running in Ashapara relief camps"*

QCI, with the help of NCPCR, met Mr Vipin Reang, President, Bru Tribal Development Society (BTDS). He himself belongs to the Bru/Reang community and has been working to create awareness and undertake development programmes for fellow Bru people.

BTDS in association with an NGO, Sewa International, has set up two skill centres in Ashapara and Kashkaupara relief camps under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) for Tailoring and have been training men and women belonging to the Reang tribe.

BTDS had arranged several Awareness Camps for the community residing in and nearby the camps. For instance, In January 2017, BTDS arranged a 20 days Handloom Weaving Training workshop aimed at skilling and educating the female population of the camps about the possibilities of self-employment.

According to Mr Reang, Education and Skill Development will make the community self-sufficient and would act as the pillars for the development of the tribe. He also laid emphasis on the importance of connecting skilled professionals with the employment opportunities inside or outside the camps.



*"Interactive sessions with teachers and group discussion is a part of curriculum in the PMKVY's skill centres"*

Also, as the residents of the camps are not the citizen of Indian state of Tripura, it was observed that they are not getting benefit of employment schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREGA) which guarantees hundred days of wage-employment in a financial year to a rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. This exhorts the need of developing skilled workforce from the community for better employment opportunities.

It has been identified that central Government have started an initiative called BHEI, under which people can register themselves with their name and all the skill they have or the skill they would aspire to obtain so that Government would be able to connect them with the appropriate job opportunities as and when they arise.

## Recommendations for the Government of Mizoram & Tripura

Majority of the residents do not have any vocational skills and those who are skilled are not certified, and this is hampering their employability. Following are the recommendations, in consultation with various subject matter experts, for promoting skills and employment for the welfare of the children of the Bru community:

1. A mechanism should be developed to link the skilled labour with the prospective employers and fill the demand-supply gap between employers' requirements and qualifications of the labour force.
  - 1.1. NSDC, SRLM & SSM should intervene in this matter and provide demand-based skill training to the people of the community to make them fit for the adequate role.
  - 1.2. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) platform, under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), should be implemented to certify or provide bridge courses to the community members, to enable them to get better employment opportunities in the future.
  - 1.3. Government is recommended to encourage big private sector industrial players to set up job fairs in these camps.
2. It should be ensured that existing AWC workers and helpers, from the community, are provided with the jobs in AWCs in the proposed villages of Mizoram to ensure job security and to prevent the children from facing any language barrier after repatriation.

## 3.5. Identity and Documentation

Households were also surveyed for the presence of identity cards such as UIDs (Aadhaar cards), Voter ID cards, Birth Certificates, Relief Delivery Card, and any other Government identification.

The survey was designed to identify how many members of a family had Aadhaar cards, Voter ID cards, Birth Certificates, and had their names on the Relief Delivery Cards.

837 families were surveyed which had a cumulative total of 5208 members, with 2921 adults and 2287 children. For different types of Government identification card, the following can be observed.

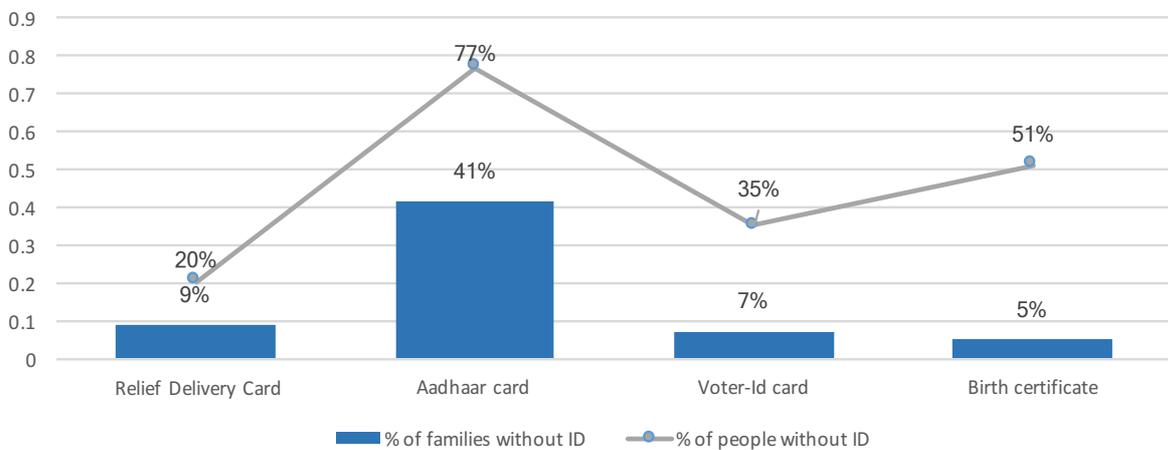


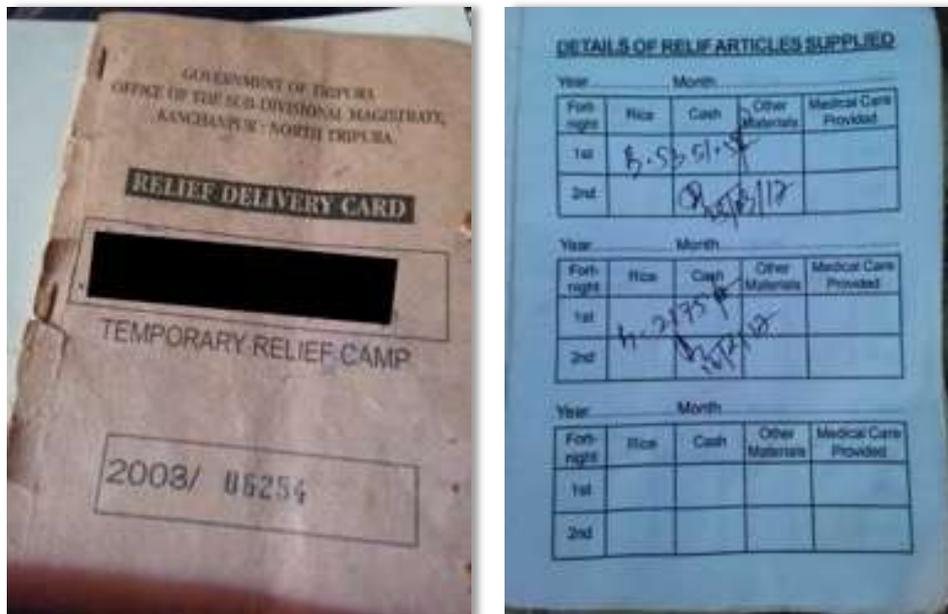
Figure 16: Status of non-availability of basic documents to the people across camps

### Aadhaar Card

- 490 out of 837 families had at-least one person with an Aadhaar card.
- Of the families which had a member with at-least one Aadhaar card, only 39.3% of the family members had an Aadhaar card.
- If we consider all the families and their members, only 23.3% of individuals have an Aadhaar card (Annexure 14).

### Relief Delivery Card

1. Resident Families are not provided with a normal Ration card, but with a 'Relief Delivery Card' by the district authorities.
  - 761 out of 837 families had a Relief Delivery Card
  - Of the families which had a Relief Delivery Card, 85.9% of the family members have their names on the Relief Delivery Card.
  - If we consider total family members, only 79.6% of individuals have their name on a Relief Delivery Card (Annexure 15)



"Relief delivery cards provided to the resident of all Bru relief camps"

### Voter ID Card

- 775 out of 837 families had at-least one person with a Voter ID card.
- Of the families which had at-least one adult with a Voter ID card, 69.8% of the adults had a Voter ID card.
- If we consider all the families and their members, only 64.7% of individuals had a Voter ID card (Annexure 16).

### Birth Certificate

- 795 out of 837 families had at least one member with a Birth Certificate.
- Of the families which had at least one member with a birth certificate, only 48.8% of the individuals had a birth certificate (Annexure 17).

## Recommendations for the Government of Mizoram & Tripura

1. Names of several children, below the age of 10 years, is not added in the Relief Delivery Cards since 2008 and as a result, they are not receiving their relief benefits. District authorities should ensure that Relief Delivery Card of each family is updated on a quarterly basis till they are repatriated to Mizoram.
2. Several members of the community did not have proper identification documents. 77% of the respondents said that they do not have Aadhaar Cards which prevents them access to financial and banking services among others. The Government of Tripura should set up camps in the makeshift areas to issue new Aadhaar cards and rectify details in existing ones along with issuing other relevant identification documents to the community members. Additionally, proper provision should be made by the Government of Mizoram to update the address of these people once they are repatriated to Mizoram.

QCI met **Mr. Mahesh Singla, IPS, Advisor (North East), Ministry of Home Affairs**, on several occasions to discuss the about the matter of repatriation and rehabilitation of children of Bru-Reang Tribe to Mizoram.

In these meetings, Mr. Singla shared his vast knowledge on the subject and expert opinion at every stage of the project. His contribution has helped QCI to strengthen the understanding, fine-tune the methodology and frame recommendations for the concerned authorities.



### **Education & Skill Development**

Mr. Singla laid emphasis on the education and skill development of the young population (12- 18 years old) of the community, living in the camps of North Tripura and said that they are in process to open several secondary and senior secondary schools in the proposed villages of Mizoram to accommodate all the children, once they repatriate to their native state.

Also, he exhorted the need of skilled labour to augment the number of employment opportunities among the people of the Bru tribe and told us about the MHA's initiative of opening BHEI centers, where the people of the community may register themselves with the skills they have acquired/would like to learn, so that if and when any opportunity arise, they can connect the right person to the right job.

### **Security**

Additionally, Mr. Singla shared his concerns about the security of the Brus, post the repatriation to Mizoram. According to him, security in Mizoram is one of the most important concerns of the community and Central Government has proposed to allot Rs. 2.5 crores for enhancing the security in the allotted villages for Brus in Mizoram. However, He said that in addition to the support from MHA, attempts should be made by the Government of Mizoram to build a sense of security and confidence among the Brus residing in the camps.

Government of Mizoram should setup some awareness campaigns in the makeshift camps, so that people will understand the conditions of and benefits of repatriating to Mizoram.

### **Healthcare**

Mr. Singla also discussed about the condition of healthcare facilities in the make-shift camps of North Tripura and in the proposed villages in Mizoram.

He suggested that the Health facilities provided to the residents of make-shift camps of North Tripura should be monitored by the district authorities and state Government of Tripura.

He also told us that people of the community will get all the benefits of the state sponsored health schemes once they'll repatriate back to Mizoram. MHA has already allotted 19 AWCs, in addition to the existing AWCs, in the allotted villages for Brus in Mizoram.

### **Identity and Documentation**

According to Mr. Singla, Individual interests of various stakeholders and lack of awareness among the members of the community are the major issues barring people to get the proper identity documents. He exhorted the need of active intervention of district authorities in process of providing and updating identity documents.

## 5. ANNEXURE

- Annexure 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Annexure 1: Gender wise break-up of survey sample size**

Gender	0-6	6-14	14-18	Total
Female	97(12%)	200(24%)	90(11%)	387(46%)
Male	99(12%)	264(32%)	87(10%)	450(54%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>196(23.5%)</b>	<b>464(55.5%)</b>	<b>177(21%)</b>	<b>837(100%)</b>

**Annexure 2: Distribution of educational institutions among camps**

Sub-Division	Camps	NRSTC School	Private School
<b>Kanchanpur</b>	Ashapara camp	2	4
	Naisingpara Camp	8	1
	Hezzacherra camp	1	1
<b>Panisagar</b>	Kakhchangpara Camp	1	
	Kashkaupara Camp	1	1
	Hamsapara Camp	1	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>

**Annexure 3: Education facility wise enrolment of survey sample**

Education Facility	Age Bracket			
	0-6	7-14	15-18	Total
Anganwadi	55	1	-	56
Govt. School	10	56	36	102
NRSTC	27	189	18	234
Private School	29	174	61	264
Out of School students	75	44	62	181
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>837</b>

**Annexure 4: Entitlements to children in various institutions**

Institution	No. of Surveyed Children	Respondents Who Said Teachers present	%	Respondent s Provided Books	%	Respondent s Provided MDM Daily	%
<b>Govt. Schools</b>	102	98	96	78	76	65	64
<b>NRSTC</b>	234	226	97	122	52	161	69
<b>Private School</b>	264	246	93	76	29	16	6

Annexure 5: Teacher educational qualification

Educational Qualification of Teachers	Count of Teachers	% of Teachers
Below 10 <sup>th</sup>	2	6%
10 <sup>th</sup> Pass	10	29%
12 <sup>th</sup> Pass	13	38%
Graduate and above	9	26%
<b>Total No. of Teachers Interviewed</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>100%</b>

Annexure 6: Infrastructural facilities available

	Infrastructure	NRSTC	Private School
	<b>Total Number of Institutes</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Availability of Cross Ventilation</b>	14	8
	<b>% Cross Ventilation</b>	100%	100%
<b>2</b>	<b>Availability of Sufficient Lighting</b>	9	6
	<b>% Sufficient Lighting</b>	64%	75%
<b>3</b>	<b>Availability of Adequate Classrooms</b>	5	3
	<b>% Adequate Classrooms</b>	36%	38%
<b>4</b>	<b>Availability of Desks and Chairs</b>	4	8
	<b>% Desks and chairs</b>	29%	100%
<b>5</b>	<b>Availability of Blackboards</b>	13	8
	<b>% Blackboards</b>	93%	100%
<b>6</b>	<b>Availability of Books/Activity Material</b>	12	2
	<b>% Books/Activity Material</b>	86%	25%
<b>7</b>	<b>Availability of Toilets</b>	0	1
	<b>% Toilets</b>	0%	13%
<b>8</b>	<b>Availability of Electricity</b>	1	1
	<b>% Electricity</b>	7%	13%
<b>9</b>	<b>Availability of Medical facility</b>	1	0
	<b>% Medical facility</b>	7%	0%

Annexure 7: Details about Primary Health Centres

PHC	Ambulance availability	Number of attendants	Number of Beds	Vaccination Available	Medicines Availability
Khedacherra PHC	Yes	8	6	Yes	Yes
GachiramPara PHC	Yes	6	11	Yes	Yes

Annexure 8: Anganwadi demographics across camps

Sub-Division	Camps	Anganwadi	Number of children enrolled
Kanchanpur	Ashapara camp	2	144
	Naisingpara Camp	3	234
	Hezzacherra Camp	2	122
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara Camp	3	91
	Kashkaupara Camp	4	197
	Hamsapara Camp	3	126
<b>Total</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>914</b>

Annexure 9: Status of electrical connections in households across camps

Electricity Connection				
Sub-division	Camps	No	Yes	%
Kanchanpur	Ashapara	184	1	1%
	Naisingpara	360	0	0%
	Hezzacherra	87	0	0%
Panisagar	Khakchangpara	23	19	45%
	Kashkaupara	32	72	69%
	Hamsapara	27	32	54%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>713</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>15%</b>

Annexure 10: Availability of solar panel camp-wise

Solar Panel as source of electricity					Procurement of Solar Panel		
Sub-division	Camps	No	Yes	% (yes)	Government Provided	Self-Purchased	% Govt. provided
Kanchanpur	Ashapara	114	71	38%	1	70	1%
	Naisingpara	232	128	36%	21	107	16%
	Hezzacherra	59	28	32%	0	28	0%
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	39	3	7%	1	2	33%
	Kashkaupara	103	1	1%	0	1	0%
	Hamsapara	56	3	5%	0	3	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>603</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>9%</b>

**Annexure 11: Frequency of distribution of relief money**

Frequency of distribution of money by Government		
Monthly or earlier	174	21%
2 months	33	4%
3-4 months	328	39%
5-6 months	76	9%
infrequent	21	3%
Never	205	24%

**Annexure 12: Career aspirations of children of camps**

Careers children want to pursue	Number of children	%
Computer Related	24	14%
Tailor	21	12%
school life	17	10%
None	16	9%
Doctor	16	9%
teacher	16	9%
Engineer	15	8%
Driver	14	8%
Nurse	12	7%
Businessman	6	3%
Police	4	2%
Others	16	9%

**Annexure 13: Skills possessed by children (14-18)**

Skills Possessed	Number of children	As a % of Total
Tailoring	14	12%
Computer training	6	
Motor driving	1	
Music	1	
No Training	155	88%

Annexure 14: Status of availability of Aadhaar Card to the people across camps

Sub-Division	Camp Names	No. of Families	Total Family Members	Family Members with Aadhaar	% of Family Members with Aadhaar
Kanchanpur	Ashapara	116	727	317	43.60%
	Naisingpara	219	1382	500	36.20%
	Hezzacherra	47	299	109	36.50%
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	31	178	90	50.60%
	Kashkaupara	57	381	119	31.20%
	Hamsapara	20	123	80	65.00%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>490</b>	<b>3090</b>	<b>1215</b>	<b>39.30%</b>

Annexure 15: Status of availability of Relief Delivery Card to the people across camps

Sub-Division	Camp Names	No. of Families	Total Family Members	Family Members on Relief Delivery Card	% of Family Members on Relief Delivery Card
Kanchanpur	Ashapara	164	1071	935	87.30%
	Naisingpara	345	2140	1761	82.30%
	Hezzacherra	81	535	517	96.60%
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	36	224	190	84.80%
	Kashkaupara	80	512	469	91.60%
	Hamsapara	55	343	275	80.20%
<b>Total</b>		<b>761</b>	<b>4825</b>	<b>4147</b>	<b>85.90%</b>

Annexure 16: Status of availability of Voter ID Card to the people across camps

Sub-Division	Camp Names	No. of Families	Total Family Members	Sum of No. of Majors in family	Family Members Having Voted ID Card	% with Voter ID
Kanchanpur	Ashapara	177	1113	612	440	71.90%
	Naisingpara	346	2141	1221	882	72.20%
	Hezzacherra	81	531	304	209	68.80%
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	34	200	102	76	74.50%
	Kashkaupara	82	504	313	160	51.10%
	Hamsapara	55	343	157	124	79.00%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>775</b>	<b>4832</b>	<b>2709</b>	<b>1891</b>	<b>69.80%</b>

Annexure 17: Status of availability of Birth Certificates to the people across camps

Sub-Division	Camp Names	No. of Families	Total Family Members	Family Members with Birth Certificate	% of Family Members with Birth Certificate
Kanchanpur	Ashapara	176	1110	490	44.10%
	Naisingpara	348	2158	1053	48.80%
	Hezzacherra	76	497	240	48.30%
Panisagar	Kakhchangpara	41	236	136	57.60%
	Kashkaupara	96	610	281	46.10%
	Hamsapara	58	356	223	62.60%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>795</b>	<b>4967</b>	<b>2423</b>	<b>48.80%</b>

**Data Disclaimer:** While we have used our reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy of the data used in this report, data should be read as indicative of magnitude rather than exact figures.

**Annexure 18: Documents shared by the Government of Tripura****BRIEF NOTE ON REPATRIATION OF THE BRU  
MIGRANTS RESIDING IN RELIEF CAMPS UNDER  
NORTH TRIPURA DISTRICT**

Influx of Bru (Reang) families living in Mizoram started in Kanchanpur Sub-Division under North Tripura District from 29.10.1997 due to serious ethnic problems in Mizoram and continued till September, 1998. The State Government has provided all possible relief benefits to these families on humanitarian ground even before receiving any fund from the Ministry of Home Affairs. As per initial report 6,800 families consisting of 35,326 persons took shelter in the Relief Camps.

2. Again influx of Reang people started on 13.11.2009 due to killing of an 18 year old Mizo boy by unknown miscreants in the Mizoram side bordering Kanchanpur Sub-Division of Tripura. As a result fresh influx of 564 families consisting of 2,746 persons took shelter at Nabajoy Para. Thus total population migrated stood at 7,364 families consisting of 38,072 persons who were settled in 7(seven) relief camps of North Tripura District.

3. With financial assistance from the Government of India, relief is being provided to the Bru migrants as per scale mentioned in **Annexure-A**.

4. After considerable persuasion by the State Government of Tripura, both directly and through Ministry of Home Affairs, 1,030 families comprising of 5,294 persons have been repatriated to Mizoram in 6(six) phases (**Annexure-B**). After repatriation and self evacuation of some families, present population of the Bru migrants are 30,632 persons, comprising in 5,172 families (**Annexure-A**).

5. As the continuous presence of the Bru Migrants in our State for last 20 years are causing various socio-economic and law and order problems as well as extra burden on our administration, intervention of the Ministry of Home Affairs has been sought from time to time for taking appropriate action so that Government of Mizoram take back all the Bru migrants.

6. A meeting was taken by the Union Home Secretary on 08.01.2016 with the Chief Secretaries of Tripura and Mizoram. Shri Pravin Srivastava, Chief Resident Commissioner, Tripura Bhawan, New Delhi attended the meeting on behalf of the State of Tripura in which following decisions were taken.

- i. Govt. of Mizoram to submit a revised Final Movement plan for identification and repatriation of remaining Bru refugees from March, 2016.
- ii. MHA/State Govt. of Tripura to give wide publicity in local newspapers, issue of pamphlets and also through public announcements in camps regarding Bru identification/ repatriation. The whole process be fully documented by Video recording, for documentation and fairness of the process.
- iii. State Govt. of Tripura/Mizoram to impress upon the Bru refugees to co-operate with the efforts of the centre and the State Govts. As a last chance for a planned repatriation as per Movement Plan. It is to be made clear to all that it may not be possible for government to keep organizing such movement plans, if there is no response.

7. Govt. of Mizoram has submitted a Revised Movement Plan according to which identification and movement of Brus in the 1<sup>st</sup> phase was expected to be started from 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2016 and was supposed to be completed by February / March, 2017 (an extract of the Movement Plan is enclosed as **Annexure C**). But at the last moment no fruitful result has come out.

8. A Joint Monitoring Group (**JMG**) headed by the Joint Secretary, MHA (NE) has been constituted by the MHA to oversee the repatriation of the Bru migrants from Tripura to Mizoram. Minutes (Brief Note) of the meeting held on 30.08.2016 at Agartala under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (IS), MHA in connection with repatriation of Bru (Reang) migrants is enclosed at **Annexure-D**.

9. Latest meeting of the Joint Working Group (**JWG**) was held under the Chairmanship of Shri M. K. Singla, Special Secretary (IS), MHA on **12.02.2017** at Frontier HQtrs, BSF, Guwahati. The meeting was attended by high officials of GOI, Govt. of Tripura, Govt. of Mizoram and representatives of Bru. Minutes of the meeting is enclosed at **Annexure –E**.

10. Recently, a meeting held on 28.09.2017 at New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Home Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India on the issue of repatriation of Brus (Reang) and it was decided in the meeting that the repatriation should start from **01.11.2017**. The minutes of the meeting is enclosed at **Annexure-F**.

Continuous presence of more than 30,000 Bru (Reang) migrants for around than 20 years in the Relief Camps of North Tripura District has given rise to various socio-economic and law & order problems in the State.

SCALE OF RELIEF BEING PROVIDED TO THE MIGRANTS.

1. **Rice:**
  - a. 600 grams per day per adult.
  - b. 300 grams per day per minor.
2. **Salt:**
  - a. 25 grams per day per adult.
  - b. 12.5 grams per day per minor.
3. **Cash Dole:**
  - a. Rs. 5.00 per day per adult.
  - b. Rs.2.50 per day per minor.
4. **Clothing:** Once in a year during Durga Puja festival.
  - a. One T-Shirt and one Pant piece per adult male.
  - b. One Shirt piece and one Pachra per adult female.
  - c. One T-Shirt and one Pant piece per minor male.
  - d. One T-Shirt and one Pant piece per minor female.

*(Payment is made in cash in lieu of Puja Garments @ Rs.764.50 per adult and @ Rs.563.20 per minor).*
5. **Mosquito Net:** a. One net per family once in three years.  
*(Payment is made in cash in lieu of Mosquito Net @ Rs.400/- per piece).*
6. **Hawai Chappal:** a. One pair per head once in three years.  
*(Payment is made in cash in lieu of Hawai Chappal @ Rs.76/- per pair).*
7. **Blankets:** a. One blanket per family once in three years.  
*(Payment is made in cash in lieu of Blanket @ Rs.279/- per piece).*
8. **Bathing Soap:** a. One Soap per head once in a year.  
*(Payment is made in cash in lieu of Bathing Soap @ Rs.18/- per piece).*
9. **Coconut Oil:** a. Rs.20.00 per family per month cash in lieu of coconut oil.
10. **Utensils:** a. Supplied once during stay in relief camps.
11. **Medicines:** a. Medical Officer is exclusively conducting Health Camp/providing Medicines free of cost.

Besides these, State Govt. has made special arrangement for health care of the migrant families by way of augmenting the infrastructure at the PHC level and other logistic support.

## Annexure 19: Documents shared by the Office of Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Panisagar

STATEMENT SHOWING THE YEAR WISE POPULATION OF REANG  
MIGRANTS UNDER PANISAGAR SUB-DIVISION.

Sl. No.	Year	Category of migrants	No. of family	No. of Adult	No. of Minor	Total population
1	2012-13	Old	960	4389	1613	6002
		New	74	293	78	371
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1034</b>	<b>4682</b>	<b>1691</b>	<b>6373</b>
2	2013-14	Old	960	4389	1613	6002
		New	74	293	78	371
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1034</b>	<b>4682</b>	<b>1691</b>	<b>6373</b>
3	2014-15	Old	922	4231	1568	5799
		New	73	288	78	366
	<b>Total</b>		<b>995</b>	<b>4519</b>	<b>1646</b>	<b>6165</b>
4	2015-16	Old	921	4226	1566	5792
		New	73	288	78	366
	<b>Total</b>		<b>994</b>	<b>4514</b>	<b>1644</b>	<b>6158</b>
5	2016-17	Old	921	4226	1566	5792
		New	73	288	78	366
	<b>Total</b>		<b>994</b>	<b>4514</b>	<b>1644</b>	<b>6158</b>
6	2017-18	Old	923	4458	1567	6025
		New	73	288	78	366
	<b>Total</b>		<b>996</b>	<b>4746</b>	<b>1645</b>	<b>6391</b>

Sub-Divisional Magistrate  
Panisagar :: North Tripura.

## Annexure 20 Documents shared by the Office of Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Kanchanpur

POPULATION OF REANG MIGRANTS UNDER KANCHANPUR SUB-DIVISION

Sl. No.	Camps	Block	No. of Family	No. of Adult	No. of Minor	Total Population
1	Ashapara	A	133	1290	374	1664
		B	164	1558	470	2028
		C	117	1117	320	1437
2	Naisingpara	A	106	936	235	1171
		B	115	1636	432	2068
		C	112	1692	432	2124
		D	136	1176	327	1503
		E	115	1622	414	2036
		F	116	1572	432	2004
		G	143	1208	393	1601
		H	161	1456	480	1936
3	Hezzacherra	A	151	664	277	941
		B	111	495	188	683
		C	178	833	266	1099
<b>Total</b>			<b>1858</b>	<b>17255</b>	<b>5040</b>	<b>22295</b>

