



Mizoram Bru Refugees

Why in News

The **process of settlement of Mizoram Bru refugees in Tripura** has started.

- It is **in accordance with a quadripartite accord** signed in New Delhi in **January 2020**.

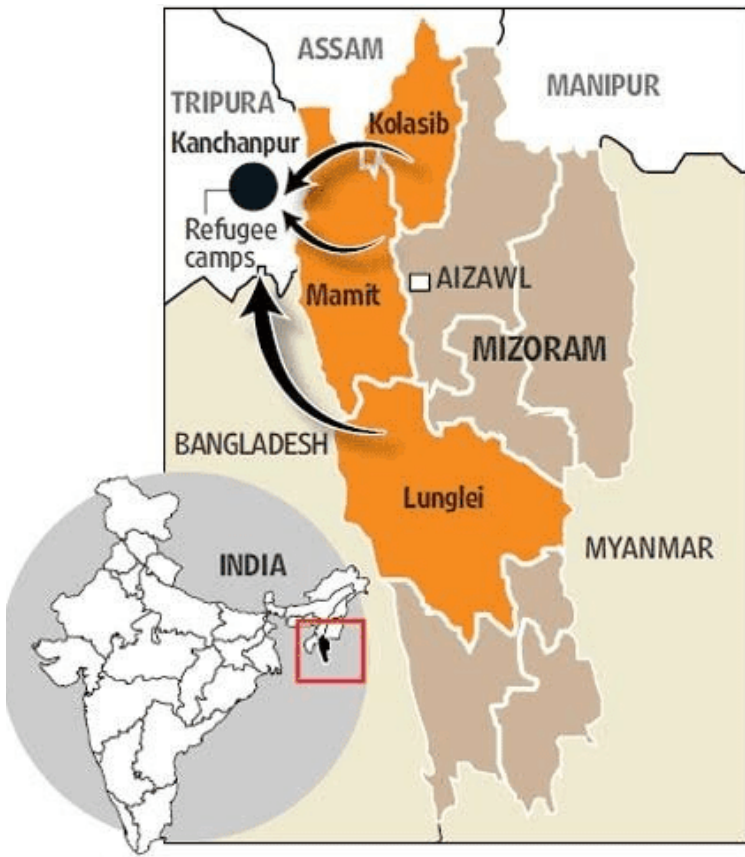
Key Points

▪ Background:

- **Bru or Reang** is a community indigenous to **Northeast India**, living mostly in **Tripura, Mizoram and Assam**. In Tripura, they are recognised as a **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group**.
- In **Mizoram**, they have been targeted by groups that do not consider them indigenous to the state.
 - In 1997, following ethnic clashes, **nearly 37,000 Brus fled** Mamit, Kolasib and Lunglei **districts of Mizoram** and were accommodated **in relief camps in Tripura**.
 - Since then, **5,000 have** returned to Mizoram in eight phases of repatriation, while **32,000 still live in six** relief camps in North Tripura.
 - In **June 2018**, community leaders from the Bru camps signed an agreement with the Centre and the two state governments, **providing for repatriation in Mizoram**. But most camp residents rejected the terms of the agreement.
 - The camp residents said that the **agreement didn't guarantee their safety in Mizoram**.

▪ Quadripartite Accord:

- The Centre, the governments of **Mizoram and Tripura** and **leaders of Bru organisations** signed a **quadripartite agreement** in January (2020).
- Under the pact, the **Home Ministry** has committed to incur the whole expenditure of **settlement in Tripura**.
- A package was assured in the accord that each refugee family would get:
 - A plot, fixed deposit of Rs. 4 lakh, free ration and a monthly stipend of Rs. 5,000 for two years.
 - In addition, each family will also be provided Rs. 1.5 lakh to construct a house.



Source: TH

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