

Bru (Reang) tribe

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In news

Part of North have witnessed violent protests recently over the proposed resettlement of Bru tribals

About the Bru tribe

- **Reang (Bru)** are one of the 21 scheduled tribes of the Indian state of Tripura.
- They also live in Mizoram and Assam.
- They speak the Reang dialect of Kokborok language which is of Tibeto-Burmese origin and is locally referred to as **Kau Bru**.
- The **Bru** are the second most populous tribe in Tripura.
- In Tripura, they are recognised as a **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)**.
- They are primarily an agrarian tribe. In the past, they mostly practised the **Huk** or **Jhum cultivation** like most other Tripuri tribes.
- They were targeted by the Young Mizo Association (YMA), Mizo Zirlai Pawl (MZP) and a few ethnic social organisations of Mizoram. They had demanded that the Bru be excluded from electoral rolls in the state.
- **In October 1997, following ethnic clashes, nearly 37,000 Bru fled Mizoram's Mamit, Kolasib and Lunglei districts** to Tripura where they were sheltered in relief camps.
- Since then, over 5,000 have returned to Mizoram in nine phases of repatriation, while 32,000 people from 5,400 families still live in six relief camps in North Tripura.

Their Culture

- Like other Tripuri people, the Reang are polytheists and believe in multiple Gods and Goddesses.

- Their important festivals are Buisi, Ker, Gonga Mtai, Goria, Chitragupra, Hojagiri, Katangi Puja, Lampra Uóhthoh.