Government of Tripura Directorate of Information & Cultural Affairs

 $\begin{array}{c} \underline{\text{S-4281}} \\ \text{Agartala, 5}^{\text{th}} \text{ August, 2022} \end{array}$

Permanent resettlement of Bru (Reang) migrants is in progress: Chief Secretary

The process of permanent resettlement of Bru (Reang) displaced from Mizoram is progressing in the state. 12 places have been identified for resettlement of 37,136 people from 6,959 families. So far 3,232 families have been resettled at 8 locations. In a press conference at the Secretariat on 4th August, 2022, Puneet Agarwal, Principal Secretary of the Revenue Department, highlighted various aspects of the settlement process. Chief Secretary said that so far the list of names for area-wise resettlement of 2,486 families has not been received from the Bru leaders. The process of rehabilitation is going on in 8 areas of the state. Already, forest clearance, land leveling, construction of brick roads, provision of drinking water and electricity, solar power system, construction of toilets, construction of schools, construction of health sub-centres, construction of residential houses, construction of common shelter houses etc. are underway in the rehabilitation area. The 12 areas have been identified for permanent resettlement of Bru migrants are Bogafa Para, Haduk kolok Para of Dhalai District, Kasku para of North District, Waibuk Cherra-Ranipara, West Kalajhari, Bhandarima-Pusparam Para, Hamsa para, Khakchang, Ulta cherra, Gachiram Para, Shilachara of Gomati District and Kala Laugang in South District.

Principal Secretary, Puneet Agarwal also hed lighton various preparatory issues related to disaster management. He said that the State Disaster Management Authority is working under the leadership of Chief Minister to tackle the disaster. The Emergency Operation Centre is working 24 hours for the direction, control, coordination, management in this regard. The state government has constituted a four-company State Disaster Response Force on the lines of NDRF. Shri Agarwal said that civil defense volunteers are also working in all the districts. 1,250 people have been trained at different levels. 'Apda Mitra' volunteer scheme is being implemented in the state. In this central project, 800 volunteers will be trained in 7 districts of the state. So far 250 Apda Mitra volunteers have been trained. Every district has been given guidelines for engagement of community volunteers by the revenue department for regular disaster response. They will get honorary allowance at the rate of 200 rupees per day. Initiatives have been taken to introduce ham radio as an alternative communication system. The first ham station will be officially inaugurated in Agartala soon. 1500 officials and volunteers have been trained to conduct ham radio operations. He said that on the third Saturday of every month, drills are being held in every school to avoid earthquake disasters. The School Education Department has been conducting drills, trainings, discussions etc. among the students to raise awareness about disaster. Revenue Department Additional Secretary Anindya Bhattacharya, Pradeep Acharya and State Nodal Officer Sarat Das and others were present in the press conference.
