

## Assessing the Socioeconomic and Health Impacts of Internal Displacement: A Study on the Internally Displaced People of Assam

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**ABSTRACT:** Large numbers of individuals have to flee their homes or residences annually in the context of violence, disaster, conflict, development projects, and environmental and climate change, and stay away from their own countries. Internal Displacement is an improbable catastrophe, and North-East India has the maximum amount of Internally Displaced People (IDP) in India. The people have suffered hugely in the degraded environment, the viciousness of growth and concern of violence, and political conflicts such as for space and ethnic identity. In this study, an endeavor was made to examine the rehabilitation and resettlement procedure of displaced people in Assam. The paper's main objectives are to explore the nature and extent of internal Displacement caused by environmental disasters and ethnic conflict in Assam. In order to cover the analysis, we first designed a research framework that would serve as a guiding frame throughout the study process. So, for assessing the Displacement because of ethnic conflict, four districts are taken. The area teams within those districts visited two urban centers, semi-rural and rural IDP inhabitants. The result of the study revealed that a massive chunk of the areas of Assam witnessed a series of horrendous violence in the post-colonial period. At the same time, the chronic flood problem also results in substantial Displacement for the people of Assam regularly, recurring each year. Peace has been unsustainable in this state, especially in the western region of the state. Killings, extortions, violence, lootings, setting ablaze of villages, kidnappings, and soon have marked the state's political developments for a long. In recent violence trends in Assam, it is distinctly recognized that the victims are mainly the poor people residing in rural areas. Rather than providing shelter, food, and other basic needs, the government must look for permanent rehabilitation and resettlement of the internally displaced persons in Assam. Cash compensation is only a part of the rehabilitation process and must be accompanied by registering the socioeconomic structure of the society. There is also a need to have a clear-cut national policy and a state that may compensate and resettle the internally displaced persons in Assam.

**Keywords:** Displacement, North East India, Rehabilitation and Resettlement.

### 1. INTRODUCTION:

Large numbers of individuals have to flee their homes or places of residence annually, in the context of violence, disaster, conflict, development projects, and environmental and climate change, and stay away in their own countries. Countless cases of prolonged Displacement are confronting unremitting displacement danger. Internal Displacement is an improbable catastrophe in this movement, and the internally displaced men and women are among the most helpless in their family lives. At the end of 2017, 39.5 million individuals faced internal Displacement due to violence and clashes. Additionally, 7.4 million people have been in a position where they remain in states of vulnerability approximately linked to their Displacement [1]. These figures reveal that internal Displacement is a catastrophe of enormous proportion, and still, the entire world is mostly unaware.

North East India (NER) is India's easternmost area, symbolizing a different condition regarding the geographical and governmental administrative division. One of the vital facets of internal Displacement in North East India is that substantial homeless persons from the area exist due to several conflicts, development projects, and natural and ecological disasters resulting in resource conflicts over an extended period. Most internally displaced persons from India's North Eastern Region (NER) are victims of environmental degradation, uneven growth procedures, and ethnic fights. Though technically, they are citizens of the nation, empirically, they are refugees, and their precise numbers continue to grow. Their terrible state in the relief camps and ordinary negligence indicate an urgent need to consider the internal displacement dilemma. In this study, an endeavor was made to examine the rehabilitation and resettlement procedure of displaced people in Assam.

North-East India has the maximum amount of Internally Displaced People (IDP) in India. Even the population ratio in NER is quite significant. However, it is hard to determine the precise amount of IDPs in the area. However, we have to point out that we find three sorts of IDPs i.e., i.e., environment, conflict, and development-induced, in most states of NER. The people have suffered hugely in the degraded environment, the viciousness of growth, a concern of violence, and political conflicts such as for space and ethnic identity. Most of the communities also

have been insensitive toward their individuality. They have readily been duped by the other divisions in the company and otherworldly events. After the Assam Accord, Bodos required a different political entity to guarantee equal community development. It is to be mentioned that this area has been facing lots of communal clashes throughout history. In 1994, the ethnic conflict between Bodos and Non-Bodos made millions of homeless people live in relief camps. Even after nearly two decades, thousands living in refugee camps face health care and schooling inconveniences. It then observed similar incidents in 1996, 2008, and 2014.

## **2. IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY:**

Assam had been around the migration crossing stage of different population streams. This has generated the amalgamation of Assam's speech, faith, society, and culture. Assam proceeds to locate a spectacular accomplishment of these features and the hardly ever combined in line elsewhere in India, and it is this obstinate plurality that gave rise in the post-colonial decades. This has caused sorrow regarding lives lost in addition to population displacement. In the event of Assam, it is in-migration within a longer time, resulting in a violent upsurge of response and Displacement. Many times, it had been the descendants of those migrants that had been displaced. However, while conflict-induced Displacement is the more recent source, an old issue that has been an engaging focus of neighborhood social scientists, political parties, and the public is the continuing flood-induced internal Displacement of thousands of men and women in Assam's plains. Through the years, this internal Displacement also contributed to several issues in Assam. It is possible to converse on the subject of social significance or national worth. For all these reasons, this study has received attention and expects to highlight all the problems of internal displacement problem in Assam.

## **3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:**

The main aim and objectives of the paper are: (1) To analyze the socioeconomic rehabilitation and resettlement process of internally displaced people in Assam; (2) To discuss the socioeconomic status and consequences of internal Displacement in Assam. (3) To explore the national policy and Govt. role in protecting the internally displaced people in Assam

## **4. METHODOLOGY:**

The study builds on two levels of analysis: (i) At the individual and community levels, the methodology grasps the prevailing trends and variations in the profile and needs of IDPs through a quantitative survey, direct field observations, and qualitative interviews. (ii) At the institutional and organizational levels, it analyses the responses of different stakeholders, the gaps and overlaps in their actions, and their capacity to shape and influence IDP responses through stakeholder interviews and a review of secondary sources.

The analysis is conducted through fieldwork by two kinds of internal Displacement due to flood disasters and ethnic conflict. The flood creates havoc yearly: Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Sibsagar, Dhemaji, Jorhat, Lakhimpur, Golaghat, Nagaon, Marigaon, Darrang, Kamrup, Nalbari, Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Goalpara, Dhubri. So, for assessing the flood-induced Displacement, three districts, specifically Golaghat, Dhemaji, and Lakhimpur, are selected for field study purposes out of the 16 districts where the flood is chronic nature. After that, five villages are selected based on the history of a displaced person due to natural disaster-induced Displacement. Moreover, about 10% of households are selected from these villages. However, the choice of districts is based on the intensity of floods and the number of displaced people each year gathered from secondary sources.

## **5. REVIEW OF LITERATURE:**

Internal Displacement was discussed and poorly known a little over a decade back. However, combined advocacy efforts, the job of the Representative to the United Nations Secretary-General on Internally Displaced Persons, and the growth of the philosophical principles on internal Displacement have created a discernible change in global focus and action involving the matter. According to Hussain [2], Assam was a common homeland of varied religious, ethnic, linguistic, and ethnic groups. Ignoring this historical fact, the Indian country and a few individual movements are the significant reasons for the large internal Displacement of people in Assam. This report contemplates the internal Displacement caused by the conflict in Assam and the northeast. It would appear that the post-colonial identity moves in Assam disregarded the hard historical fact of pluralism and have been naive to the people. The post-colonial Indian country also failed miserably to solve the problems raised by the identification moves. The direction of these moves has failed to understand the challenging historical fact that Assam, especially its Brahmaputra Valley, was a shared tradition of countless racial, cultural, ethnic, and ethnic groups that migrated from all instructions several times. Hence, there is no alternative to democracy and humans residing within a shared symbolism. Keeping your individuality and liberty in a shared area is possible. Displacing a present group could be both historical and decadent. Most of these displaced men belong to the many marginal groups residing in Assam. The ancestors of those groups migrated out of the different areas of the nation, undivided colonial India, and embraced Assam-the Brahmaputra Valley-as their symbolism. This has led to the

design of a battle for identity. In the lack of a successful intervention in civil society, conflict and violence are becoming endemic and all-pervasive in Assam. The post-colonial Indian country, the colonial heritage of communalism, and different exclusivity identity motions are the significant actors from the political theatre of massive internal Displacement of people in north-east India.

Fernandes [3] has researched the controversy within the purchase price of the property from Singur in West Bengal for an automobile project. The significance of displaced and project-affected individuals throughout the country proves that the growth pattern, the character of rehabilitation packages announced by the Govt. while obtaining property, has to be debated and exceeded.

According to Naqvi [4], the size of the human disaster in Assam is not clarified. That is perhaps the single most significant conflict-induced Displacement to happen in India within such a brief period because of partition-over 4, 00,000 Bodos and Muslims were uprooted, fearful, and running for their lives in less than ten days. Paradoxically, conflict-induced internal Displacement in India is impacting most communities of all religions, along with tribal reigns, in similar manners.

Hussain Monirul and Pradip Phanjoubam [5] stated that in India's northeast, Displacement triggered by these battles had sharply increased, primarily in the 1980s. Conflicts and violence are restricted mainly to the armed groups, and the security forces of this rancid infrequently triggered people's Displacement of this scale and size as you find today. Conflicts now have obtained mass support in that they reveal an alarming propensity of engulfing an ever-greater number of individuals involved with them. It is ironic that the two rights of residence and homeland operate cross-purposes within this circumstance. Diverse regions with historically practiced trades and trades between communities are at risk, for example, Manipur. Internal displacements triggered by battles are a matter of much-hidden partition the society rarely officially confessed. This analysis of two decades of population displacement in Manipur informs us that the narrative of a society that has struck nearly a blind street with a minimal clue about how to cross the splits negotiates it is quickly changing the ethnic landscape. From the previous literature review, it is apparent that the difficulty of internal Displacement needs particular attention and comprehensive evaluation.

The development could be the slow growth or creation of anything or a procedure where a man or thing evolves, changes, or progresses to some other point to understand its underlying potential. Generally, it entails improving a particular population's living conditions or substance well-being- frequently individuals of a specific area [6]. Usually, the idea of growth is a requirement anchored at the dominant socioeconomic prosperous capitalism where their current impulse for growth is inextricably tied to their social background [7]. It is well worth mentioning that the planning procedure, introduced in India in 1951, has also neglected to deliver the desired degree of growth in the North Eastern Region of India. The preparation mostly fails because of an insufficient understanding of individuals and their issues [8]. While social activists attempt to set India towards the 21<sup>st</sup> century, they mainly worry about the weaker section fulfilling their basic minimum requirements.

Surprisingly, little was done so far as their spatial Displacement is concerned. After 60 decades of autonomy of the nation, the recently established Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) and the district Kokrajhar remain backward since the developmental opportunities provided to the area remained restricted to the metropolitan areas only. So, the constant neglect of different regions of the Kokrajhar district contributes to the backwardness.

Although in Assam, in regions dominated by ethnic communities such as the Bodos, Displacement because of development programs has not happened quite considerably, yet the effects of several projects such as the Dhansiri irrigation undertaking, Bongaigaon Refinery Petrochemical Ltd (BRPL), Salekati Hydro electrical project, etc. cannot be underestimated. Research completed by the Tribal Research Institute about Assam on the Displacement of Tribes because of installing the Dhansiri irrigation project in 1984 showed that about 1001 tribal households had sacrificed houses with 1184 bighas of land cultivable in addition to the homestead. Because of the property acquisition, some households became impoverished since they were not provided compensation on time. Many affected households received their reimbursement after 6 or 5 years. The affected households could not buy an equal quantity of property as the value of property improved manifold when they obtained their reimbursement. The settlement granted in installments further exacerbates the terms of the affected men and women. Therefore, it was believed that while installing a vital irrigation project or industry, the households or villagers inclined to be affected should be recognized, and rehabilitation strategy ought to be well prepared and incorporated into the project imitation [9].

Development Displacement is a difficulty faced by a particular area and a worldwide issue. Throughout the previous twenty decades of the previous century, growth-induced Displacement was a lot more critical, and it displaced about 10 million individuals annually or even some 200 million individuals worldwide during this period. Development programs are indisputably required since they enhance the lives of several people, offer employment, enhance infrastructure, create long-term assets, behave as magnets for additional economic growth and agglomeration of economic activities, and so forth. Development-connected programs are indisputably required since they enhance people's lives, provide jobs, enhance infrastructure, create long-term assets, behave as magnets for additional economic growth and agglomerate economic activities, and so forth. These programs

are advantageous for state building, but the consequences could be catastrophic, causing several issues in the procedure for re-adjustment in the new environment [10].

The sudden impact of forced Displacement is the economic failure of many individuals. Research in India discovered that growth programs caused Displacement to over 20 million individuals during the forty decades, but only 75% have never been rehabilitated (Cemea, 2000). Such programs have affected not just men and women globally but also in various parts of India. Ethnic conflicts have created stress in various areas of the country and the state of Assam individually, as all ethnic groups have sought to maintain their individuality and, occasionally, have done so through violent ways [11]. This ethnic violence displaced over 6,00,000 individuals in India. It has significantly affected civil society, law, justice, and maintaining order and law.

On the other hand, a team could safeguard its attention and might also utilize ethnic sentiments in doing this. Such mobilization and countertops contribute to ethnic conflicts (Gupta, 2005). Another variable of battle in Assam generally and the Kokrajhar district is the influx of people from neighboring states. Historically, the district Goalpara has been the primary gateway to the influx of people from Bangladesh into Assam [12]. The existence of these massive immigrants, who speak their languages, culture, and tradition, which differ widely from all their native people, has influenced the economic, social, and political structure. Their thirst for land has been so good that they also encroached on the land belonging to communities.

Initially, there was no issue of property as such, but once access to land became more scarce due to the rise in people, their desire for property brought them into battle with the tribal people and other native people of Assam. The state of Assam generally and the Kokrajhar district, specifically populated by distinct communities, have been undergoing ethnic battles for a while [13]. One such issue is the conflict-induced Displacement from the Kokrajhar district of the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC). The affected households of Kokrajhar district have not been awarded refugee status, as they have not crossed a global border. As long as displaced people are from within a country's border, it is an issue of the state government, and it is exceptionally tricky for the state to deal with such displaced persons (IDPs). The United Nations' guiding principle states that one needs to cross the internationally recognized border to find refugee status. However, the displaced people in Assam have not crossed the international border and are confined within the state's land. Hence, the status of refugees has not yet been given to the displaced individuals. Thus, the displaced men and women are deprived of the facilities received by the refugees globally.

The current degree of support for the security of the IDPs seems inadequate. The crucial problem for IDPs is that, unlike any refugees, there is no straightforward global mandate for security and helping EDPs. In most conditions, IDPs reside among poor and deprived local inhabitants [14]. The effect of such kind of Displacement impacts not only the psychology of these populations but also the socio-educational and economic state of the people. Some displaced individuals have been living in temporary relief camps since 1996. Following the battle in 1996, several displaced people returned to their places in 1997. However, after staying some time in the village, crucial battles between the two communities, like Santal and the Bodos, again erupted in 1998, which caused the Displacement of many people. The families of the 1993 riot belonging to the Muslim community still live in the temporary aid camps across the National Highway. There are 3658 Households or Approximately 18000 people now residing in the stated relief camp.

## **6. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:**

The degree of support for the IDPs' security seems inadequate. The crucial issue for IDPs is similar to that of refugees, as there is no straightforward global mandate for security and helping IDPs. The displaced individuals have lived in temporary camps for at least two decades, and a few who could not return still reside in the tiny huts close to the campsite. However, after some time in the village, important battles between communities like Santal and the Bodos erupted in 1998, which caused the Displacement of many people in their original habitats. The two parties debated a few rounds and concluded that the displaced individuals having property pattas would be rehabilitated at the first stage. A number of the IDPs could not enroll themselves as displaced persons. This was important because registered IDPs were qualified for assistance from the camps and resettlement packages. There could have been several unknown displaced individuals who would not be helped to return home. Many IDPs did not want to be resettled. Reasons are many, for example, injury from violent episodes. Some had worries about safety associated with their regions of origin, and some had lost their will to live independently and had become reliant on camp life. In contrast, others were unwilling to return to their regions of origin since they understood a shortage of infrastructure and other essential services.

### **6.1. EFFECT OF DISPLACEMENT ON LIVING STANDARD:**

Since the camps are unavailable now, we try to analyze the past situation in camps from the households that had to live in them. According to them, the camps are dilapidated, and the victims struggle to reconstruct their fractured lives.

**Table 1 Structure of Sample Households:**

Districts	No Households	Male	Female	Total
Golaghat	59	153	72	225
Dhemaji	54	138	65	203
Lakhimpur	59	150	71	221
Udalguri	19	52	24	76
Darrang	15	41	19	60
Sonitpur	14	38	18	56
Chirang	17	46	22	68
	<b>237</b>	618	291	909

Source: Field Survey

In our study, there are 237 households with a total population of 909, where 618 are male and the remaining 291 females. In the emergencies of 1996-98, there were about 380 families in the camp, and the total population was 2584, out of which 1668 adults and 916 miners were there.

**Table 2 Numbers of Displacements of the IDPs in Sample Households**

Sl. No.	No. of Displacement	No Families	Percentage
1	1	30	13
2	2	32	14
3	3	110	46
4	4	35	15
5	5	20	8
6	6	10	4
	Total	237	100

Source: Field Survey

In addition to their dependence on forests, many took to plowing to cultivate the land. Collecting firewood from the forest has been a regular practice for the IDPs. The Displacement of the people forced by conflict ruptured the IDPs' traditional mode of living entirely. The loss of economic assets with the breakdown of complex livelihood systems results in a temporary or permanent, often irreversible, decline in living standards, leading to marginalization. In the post-violence period, they had to remain displaced for no less than two decades, and in this long period, access to land and forest has been strictly denied to them. The compulsion of this kind pushed the IDPs towards a paradigm shift in the mode of living, because of which they had no option but to enter into the informal sector.

**Table 3 Structure of Displacement on IDP Households**

Districts	No Days on Camp in the Last 10 Years	Average damage of Household Asset (Rs)
Golaghat	20	83500
Dhemaji	83	79000
Lakhimpur	50	136000
Udalguri	119	135000
Darrang	69	26000
Sonitpur	73	118500
Chirang	65	86000
Average	68	94857

Source: Field Survey

These sample IDPs are experts on agriculture practices. However, the shift of occupation by the agency of the forced expulsion from their habitual residences simultaneously forced their knowledge of agriculture to become useless. Therefore, the forced Displacement also displaces the IDPs from their excellent inherited knowledge.

## 6.2. EFFECT OF DISPLACEMENT ON SOURCE OF INCOME:

The IDPs take up different jobs for a living and their subsistent survival. Some IDPs of the camp sell their labor in the informal sector, while others take up independent work like pulling rickshaws. The wage earners of the camp do not get work regularly, and by and large, they get work only for two to three days a week, and sometimes, they do not get work for an entire week.

In the camp, the household work remains the women's responsibility, yet this is not the only work the women are occupied with. A few of the IDP women of the camp collect vegetables from the nearby areas, including the lowlands, to sell them in the local market. Some of the women of the camp work as laborers in hotels of the local market, and others work as domestic help in the nearby villages.

**Table 4: Impact of Displacements on Sample Households**

Sl No	Effect of Displacement	Yes (Number of Households)	Percentage (out of 237 households)
1	Change occupation	136	57
2.	Permanent sift of land	59	25
3.	Having a job card	210	89
4.	Complete damage to Building	83	35
5.	Partial damage to the building	196	83
6.	Return to original places	202	85

**Source: Field Survey**

Some of the women and men of the camp, including their families, have migrated to places like Guwahati, Jorhat, etc., pushing these IDPs to search for the bare minimum essentials of their lives. However, most of these migrants are youths and go to faraway places, for they get relatively higher wages in those regions. Many of these women migrant IDPs fall into the dilemma of prostitution, and many of the IDPs in the camp prepare local-made liquor. Most of the women are engaged in this small business of country-made liquor. Some of the camp's women are engaged in collecting and selling firewood. Most of the IDPs of the camp have job cards from the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), but they do not get any work under the scheme. The IDPs of the camp do not get access to any institutional credit and are not treated as creditworthy by the concerned agencies.

### 6.3 PAIRED T-TEST FOR ANALYZING THE CHANGE IN INCOME BEFORE AND AFTER DISPLACEMENT:

To analyze the impact of Displacement on income, the paired-t-test is conducted between income level before and after Displacement against the null hypothesis that there is no significant difference between the income level before and after Displacement.

**Paired t = 2.090** (significant at 78 df and 5% significance level). The null hypothesis is rejected since the calculated value of 2.090 is significant at a 5% significance level and 78 degrees of freedom. Therefore, there is a significant divergence between the income level before and after the Displacement. The result implies that Displacement significantly affects the income level of the IDPs. It is possible to run the test-taking only 79 households because the data is available for only these households.

### 6. 4. THE CONDITION OF CAMPS DURING THE TIME OF DISPLACEMENT:

The conditions of the IDPs in the camp are deplorable. Before the forced Displacement, most of these IDPs were not economically well off, but they had at least a plot of land of their own and had a permanent residence. However, their lives change after successive violence or natural disasters, leading to being entirely homeless, and they cannot incur the labor and financial costs of rebuilding a house. The conditions of the dwellings of the camp are of substandard quality. The shelters are tiny and overcrowded. There is no electricity or potable water in the camp. At the initial point when the camp came into being, the same was instituted as an immediate response to the exigency in the form of violence or flood, and rarely could they manage alternative arrangements. Over time, the camp became all the more unhygienic.

**Table 6 Availability of Basic Facilities**

Sl. No.	Parameters	Yes (Number of Respondents)	Perce ntage
1.	Clean Drinking Water	68	29
2.	Tube well	132	56
3.	Availability of Electricity	42	18
5.	Toilet	79	33
6.	Supply of cloth	132	56
7.	Maternity Benefits	5	2

**Source: Field Survey**

During the rainy season, the setting proves all the more pathetic for the IDPs, as the rainwater pours inside the houses through leaky roofs and patchy walls. The IDPs have been confronting an alarming life and remain subjugated, excluded, and oppressed by the local population. Initially, the IDPs speculated the forced Displacement to be an ephemeral episode, but with time, the speculation proved counterfactual. A couple of months later, after their Displacement from their original place, some of the IDPs were taken back to their home camps. It is thus imperative to underscore that the IDPs have endured a series of forced displacements in their lifetime.

The Table shows that the living conditions of the camp inmates are inferior. The people are living in a situation that is far below minimum standards. The camp is highly overpopulated, and there is no clean water. About 56 % of the IDPs have managed to have tube wells, but they do not have any mechanism to purify the waters. Raw sewage can be seen in almost every nook and corner of the camp, and wastes and raw sewage are not managed. However, these wastes are generated from the camp itself. It must be mentioned that there was no monetary aid from the government to build walls and roofs for the toilets. Technically, these toilets are as good as the kaccha toilets, and the substandard tanks fail to counter the unpleasant malodor, which ultimately spread all over the camp. The resident population of the camp, who do not have toilets, goes for open defecation in the nearby areas. Comprehensively speaking, the living condition of the IDPs in the camp is very disappointing and unpleasing.

### 6.5. AVAILABILITY OF FOOD AMONG IDPS

Food shortage generates hunger and malnutrition and leads to diseases, for food consumption directly interacts with class, which further has an unambiguous impact on health. The regular availability of food among IDPs is depicted below.

**Table 7 Availability of Food Items**

Sl. No.	Food Items	Yes	Percentage
1	Availability of regular Food	<b>230</b>	<b>97</b>
2	Milk and Milk Products	<b>21</b>	<b>9</b>
3	Fresh Vegetables	<b>35</b>	<b>15</b>
4	Pulses	<b>79</b>	<b>33</b>
5	Eggs	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
6	Meat	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
7	Fish	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Source: Field Survey**

The Table shows a scenario of the general consumption level of the IDPs in the camp. Nonetheless, the IDPs of the camp are managing to survive with a limited food supply from various sources that are not regular. Many inmates have tube wells but must drink water without filtering.

Consequently, many IDPs are vulnerable to waterborne diseases like typhoid and dysentery. Children do go to schools where mid-day meals are provided. Because of the food scarcity, most of the camp's children suffer from acute malnutrition. Together with children, the presence of malnutrition can be seen among women, especially among pregnant women. The complication has been augmenting sequentially, for these IDPs are not getting access to subsidized food grains from the PDS system, and additionally, they fail to earn enough wages to meet their nutritional requirement.

**Table 8 The number of Rations per Head**

Category	Rice	Pulses	Oil
Adult	500 gm	100 gm	200ml
Child	350 gm	80 gm	200ml

**Source: Field Survey**

Firewood was given for a short period. However, no clothes were given by the government. However, the quality of the Rice and plusses were inferior. The landlessness of the IDPs has barred them from agricultural activities, which means that they do not have any means of food production. Simply put, the IDPs do not have food security at all.

### 6.6. IMPACT OF DISPLACEMENT ON THE HEALTH CONDITION OF IDPS:

Displacement significantly affects the health of the IDPs. The outbreak of illnesses and extensive diseases, such as malaria and typhoid, occasionally accompanies displacement-induced social stress and psychological trauma.

Unsafe water supply improvised sewage systems increase vulnerability to epidemics, chronic diarrhea, dysentery, etc. The weakest segments of the demographic spectrum – infants and children are affected most strongly. In order to combat these diseases, the IDPs in the camp mainly depend on their traditional medicines. Most of the IDP's priority remains on traditional medicines. However, if they fail to take their traditional medicines, the IDPs go to the local pharmacies for treatment.

**Table 5.9 Availability of Facilities**

Sl. No.	Facilities	Yes No of Households	Percentage (Out of 23
1	Availability of Medical Facility	154	65
2	Face Disease in Camp	113	48
3	Children Face Disease	44	19
4	No of Birth during Camp	2	1
5	No Death during Camp	3	1

**Source: Field Survey**

During pregnancy, the camp's women do not take any precautionary measures, and extra nutritional intake is something they neither can afford nor are aware of. Pregnant women give birth in camps only, access to the hospital for delivery is implausible, and maternal mortality is very high.

### 6.7. EDUCATION STATUS OF IDPS:

The camps are situated where schools of all levels are available., Primary, Upper Primary, and Secondary schools are available within a hundred-meter radius of the sample.

**Table 10 Status of Literacy among IDPs**

Sl. No.	Literate/Illiterate	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
1.	Illiterate	320	250	570	70
2.	Literate	130	120	250	30
	Total	450	370	820	100

**Source: FieldWork**

The field study found that about 70% of IDPs in the camp are illiterate. The educational scenario of the camp is so grim. The children who left their studies due to Displacement could never resume their education after a series of displacements. Two-decade large Displacement of the people compounded with recurring violence has disrupted the education of the IDPs.

**Table 11 Dropout Rates of Children**

Sl. No.	School level	Number of Students	Percentage
1.	Primary	21	28
2.	Upper-Primary	45	60
3.	Secondary	9	12
5.	Total	75	100

**Source: Field Survey**

Though there are schools near the camp, the children of the IDPs could not advance in education due to high dropouts. These days, the enrolment in the primary level is 99%, which is quite similar to the enrolment of the children of the local populations, but the dropout rate is such that by the time they reach the secondary level, all of them get dropped out due to poverty. Girl children support their mothers in discharging their household work, which often results in dropouts—early marriages of girls contribute significantly to increasing the dropout rates of the children. High dropouts adversely hamper the performance of the schools as well.

### 7. SUGGESTIONS:

The Displacement has caused profound economic hardship among the IDPs in Assam. The relief camp or low-cost house, which is assured for the IDPs, is just like a drop of rain in the desert; there is no infrastructure, hardly any avenue for income generation, and no international organization is given access to the relief camps. Due to extreme poverty, IDPs are vulnerable to various problems. Hence, the government should reason, providing humanitarian assistance to re-establish them. Some key points can be improved if supported by the government, NGOs, and local communities for the displaced persons in Assam.



7.7.1. The government must recognize the rights of the displaced persons so that they may be free from arbitrary Displacement. There is a required special state law to prevent conflict. They should take penal and administrative measures to ensure compliance with the relevant rules of international humanitarian law

7.7.2. Adopt disaster policies that regulate response and focus on disaster risk reduction and preparedness. Include in national development plans and resettlement policies a clear articulation that forced Displacement or relocation induced by development projects must be authorized by law, justified by compelling and overriding public interests, necessary to protect these interests, and carried out with full respect for the human rights of affected persons.

7.7.3. Also, include provisions on procedures by which any such displacement or relocation will be effectuated. There are required remedies reviews, including resettlement, compensation, and judicial system.

7.7.4. Protection and assistance are required during and after Displacement; humanitarian assistance is generally required. Civil society must create a mechanism responsible for coordinating humanitarian assistance to IDPs. The government may assign to relevant authorities or organizations at the national and local levels clear and specific obligations in the area of humanitarian assistance to IDPs and provide them with the necessary means.

7.7.5. A clear-cut mechanism is also required to identify beneficiaries of humanitarian assistance from need and particular vulnerability and to determine criteria for delivering humanitarian goods and services by recognized international minimum standards.

7.7.6. Historically, the people of Assam are well acquainted with floods and have acquired the art of living with floods to a considerable extent. However, though floods have some beneficial effects, such as fertile silt deposition on agricultural fields, recharge of soil moisture, increase in fish population, and washing effect on the dirty environment, they cause substantial damage to standing crops, dwellings, and developmental infrastructures. Thus, there is the need to pursue the approach of 'living with floods.' Otherwise, the people living in the floodplain would suffer severely from recurring floods, and for many, mainly the poor peasants, there is no alternative but to cultivate the land and accept the risk and loss.

7.7.7. The government should provide an extensive irrigation network for the displaced person after they return home, which will help them compensate a little bit, even though it is insufficient. For developing irrigation infrastructure, the region will have to depend on its river system for the water source to adequate quality groundwater.

## **8. CONCLUSION:**

Many of those Assam regions have seen horrific violence in the post-colonial period. At precisely the same period, the chronic flood difficulty can also lead to substantial Displacement for those of Assam frequently, recurring yearly. Peace was unsustainable within this nation, particularly in the country's western area. Killings, extortions, violence, and lootings, setting countless cities, kidnappings, and shortly have indicated the political improvements of this country for decades. It may be reasoned that peace arrangements alone are insufficient to activate and attain durable solutions for internally displaced people. In several scenarios, the displaced wait to return provided that issues concerning safety, accessibility into the house, livelihoods, essential services, and infrastructure stay. In post-conflict scenarios, the effective return of IDPs to their houses and last places of habitual residence demands at least the following conditions: their security during and after arriving is ensured, their land is revived, their homes are rebuilt, and the authorities and the global community make an environment which sustains yield. Instead of supplying shelter and food alongside other standard demands, the authorities must search for permanent rehabilitation and resettlement procedures for the displaced individuals in Assam. The monetary compensation is merely part of the rehabilitation procedure and must be accompanied by enrolling socioeconomic structure for your society. They also demand a specific national policy and a country that could compensate in addition to resettling the displaced individuals in Assam.

The Union government has to measure up to the plate because it plays a massive part in deciding the answer to such events, for example, financing. An intervention in the criteria for fixing aid, rehabilitation, and resettlement quantities or bundles might be an option. States such as Assam, Jammu, and Kashmir, which have a background and a greater likelihood of Displacement, can pass laws based on these standards. The laws must address essential questions such as who participates as a displaced individual and is therefore qualified for help, a mechanism for calculating good levels of help, and a pathway to finish the Displacement problem.

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