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Title: Need to repatriate Reang refugees from Tripura to Mizoram -Laid.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (TRIPURA WEST) : In between October, 1997 and January, 1999 about 33,000 Reang refugees has entered Tripura from Mizoram. On humanitarian ground, Government of Tripura have accommodated them in relief camps in North Tripura District. Government of Tripura have taken up the issue of their immediate return with Government of Mizoram as well as Government of India. The Chief Minister of Tripura had met the Union Home Minister seeking his intervention in resolving the issue. Afterwards, there have been a number of meetings and many decisions have been taken but no progress has been achieved so far. The refugees have created several problems in Tripura namely – deforestation, encroachment on land, competition with local people for employment, rise of crime graph etc. Their presence also imposed a substantive administrative burden and impacted adversely on development efforts. I, therefore, urge upon Government of India to take urgent proactive steps to ensure repatriation of Reang Refugees.