

Reply to Questionnaire for the 55<sup>th</sup> report

Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities  
Ministry of Minority Affairs  
Government of India

Name of the State: Tripura

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## **Statistic**

### **A. Linguistic Profile of the state/ UT:-**

The Census 2011 shows total population of Tripura as 36, 73,917.

### 1. Languages spoken (in descending order of speakers)

Sl.no	Language	Number of Speakers	Percentage
1.	Bengali	24,55,388	66.80%
2.	Kokborok	8,80,537	23.97%
3.	Chakma	79,813	2.17%
4.	Halam	57,210	1.56%
5.	Mog	37,893	1.01%
6.	Manipuri	30,000	0.82%
7.	B. Manipuri	* 21,716 (2001)	0.68%
8.	Kuki - Mizo	10,965	0.30%
9.	Garo	12, 952	0.35%

\* Note:- No data is available for Bishnupriya Manipuri language speakers as per Census report of 2011. (a copy enclosed issued from Directorate of Census Operation, Tripura) As per Census Report, 2011, Bisnupriya Manipuri-21,716 & Bishnupuriya- 22112.

### 2. Name the District where Minority Languages are Spoken by 60% or more of its population

Ans- There is no district where minority languages are spoken by 60% or more of its population.

### 3. Name the areas (District / tehsil / taluka / Municipality) where minority languages are spoken by 15% or more of the population.

Ans- Kokborok is the only language which is spoken by 15% or more of the district population.

District	Tehsil/ Taluk/Municipality	Language	Percentage
West	---	Kokborok	40
North	---	Kokborok	19
South	---	Kokborok	35
Dhalai	---	Kokborok	51
Sepahijala	---	Kokborok	25
Gomati	---	Kokborok	45
Khowai	---	Kokborok	49
unakoti	---	Kokborok	18

## B. Linguistic Minorities

### 4. (a) What is your perception of the term 'Linguistic Minorities', Please state as to how would you like to define 'linguistic minority'?

Ans- The language(s) which are spoken by small group of people or collectives of individuals having a distinct language or maybe script of their own is termed as 'linguistic minorities'.

### (b) Is the existing Scheme of safeguards for linguistic minorities sufficient to protect the linguistic rights and linguistic aspirations of the speakers of minority languages? If 'No' please give your suggestions.

Ans- The existing Scheme of safeguards for linguistic minorities seems to be sufficient to protect the linguistic rights and linguistic aspirations of the speakers of minority languages and more efforts are proposed.

**(c) Please state difficulties / short falls if any, in the implementation of the Scheme of safeguards for linguistic minorities. Please state how best to improve upon the mechanism of implementation of safeguards for the linguistic minorities.**

**Ans-** All matters relating to development of Minority Languages including difficulties are discussed in the 8 (eight) Advisory Committees (Kokborok, Halam, Chakma, Mog, Kuki-Mizo, Bishnupriya Manipuri, Manipuri & Garo) meeting and follow up actions are taken accordingly.

### **C. Use of Minority Languages in Administration**

**5. (a) Are there arrangement for translation and dissemination of important Government Rules, Orders and Notifications etc., in minority languages where their speakers constitute 15% or more of the District/ Tehsil / Municipality population?**

**Ans-** Yes, the arrangement has been made for translation and dissemination of important Government Rules, Orders and notifications, etc in one minority language i.e. in Kokborok Language.

**(b) Please specify the language-wise details of translation / dissemination during the Year.**

**Ans-** Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Health and Family Welfare Departments have published awareness leaflet and ICA Department publishes awareness leaflet in Kokborok.

The Directorate of Kokborok & Other Minority Languages also publishes Half Yearly Magazines in different languages viz. Kokborok, Halam, Chakma, Mog, Kuki-Mizo, Manipuri, Bishnupriya Manipuri & Garo etc.

**6. (a) Do order exist for receipt of representations for redress of grievances in minority languages? Please furnish statistics on such representations received during the period.**

**Ans-**The representations for redressal of grievances in minority languages particularly Kokborok are received and actions are taken on these representations. Efforts are made to reply to such representations in the same language.

**(b) To what extent, are representations for redress of grievances in minority languages, replied to in the same language?**

**Ans.** Efforts are made to reply to such representations in the same language.

### **D. Recruitment Rules**

**7. Is knowledge of regional/ official language a pre-requisite for recruitment to state services? If 'No', what is the time period on recruitment for acquiring proficiency in the regional / official language of the state?**

**Ans-** Yes, the knowledge of regional / official language is a pre-requisite for recruitment to state services.

**8. Are minority languages permitted to be used in answering Question papers for recruitment examinations to state services?**

**Ans-** No, Minority Languages are not permitted to be used in answering the Question Papers for recruitment examinations to state services.

**9. Are there any domiciliary restrictions imposed at the time of recruitment to the state services?**

**Ans-** Domiciliary restriction is not imposed for filling UR category post(s). For filling of SC, ST reserved posts, the concern candidates must have SC/ST certificate issued by the appropriate authority of Govt. of Tripura. (Enclosed a copy of letter received from Tripura Public Service Commission at Flag- )

### **E. Official Language (S)**

**10. a) Official Language of the State-** The Official Language of the State are Bengali, English and Kokborok.

**b) Please furnish a copy of Official Languages Act of the State.**

Ans- The Official Language Act copy is enclosed.

**11. Name other language(s) declared as Additional Official Language(s). Please mention the extent and purpose for which the language(s) have been so declared.**

Ans- There is no additional Official Language(s).

#### **F. Recognition of Linguistic Minority Institutions**

**12. Mention the Rules & Regulations / Guidelines for recognition of linguistic minority educational Institutions and the Competent authority designated for the purpose. (please furnish a copy of the relevant Rules/ Regulation/ Guidelines)**

Ans- The state Government has not framed any Rules/ regulations/ in this regard.

**13.(a) How many linguistic minority educational institutions have been recognized, language wise, as on June 30, 2017?**

Ans- No separate Schools /Institutions have been recognized for teaching exclusively for one language but different minority languages are introduced in schools notified by the Government teaching of minority languages.

**(b) Is the state Government/UT in receipt of any representations / complaints/ petitions from linguistic minorities about recognition of their minority educational institutions? If 'Yes' please state the action taken report in this regard.**

Ans- - No representation / complaint / petition has been received.

**14. How many applications, language wise, are pending for recognition as linguistic minority educational institution, as on 30 June, 2017?**

Ans- There is no application, language wise, pending for recognition as linguistic minority educational institution as on this date.

#### **G. Grants to Linguistic Minority Institutions**

**15. Mention Rules/ Regulations/ Guidelines for sanction of grants-in-aid to primary and secondary linguistic minority educational institutions and the authority designated for the purpose. (please furnish a copy of the relevant Acts/Rules/ regulations/Guidelines)**

Ans- There is no rule /regulation etc. nor any primary and secondary linguistic minority educational institutions.

**16. How many linguistic minority institutions, language wise, has been sanctioned grant-in-aid for the Year 2016-17?**

level	Name of Minority Language	Number of schools
Primary	Nil	Nil
Upper Primary		
Secondary		
Higher Secondary		

#### **H. Educational Facilities in Primary Education (Class I to V)**

**17. Please give details, where minority language(s) are a medium of Instruction:**

Ans- There are no minority languages which are taught as a medium of instruction at the primary stage.

Language	Schools	Students	Teachers	Student- Teacher Ratio
		NIL		

**18. Please give details, where minority language(s) are taught as a subject and not as a medium of Instruction:**

Ans- Details of minority languages which are taught as a subject at the primary stage, as below:

Language	Schools	Students	Teachers	Student-Teacher Ratio
Kokborok	1111	54180	2709	1:20
Bishnupriya Manipuri	39	1080	38	1:28
Chakma	86	4303	172	1:25
Halam	90	850	45	1:18
Mog	37	445	37	1:12
Manipuri	24	1626	22	1:73
Kuki-Mizo	16	1282	16	1:80
Garo	13	1065	8	1:133

## I. Educational Facilities in Upper Primary Education (Class-VI to VIII)

### 19. Please give details, where minority language(s) is a medium of Instruction:

Ans- There is no minority languages which are taught as a medium of instruction at the Upper Primary Stage.

Language	Schools	Students	Teachers	Student- Teacher Ratio
		NIL		

### 20. Please give details, where minority language(s) are taught as a subject only and not as a medium of Instruction:

Ans- Details of minority languages which are taught as a subject at the Upper primary stage, as below:

Language	Schools	Students	Teachers	Student- Teacher Ratio
Kokborok	95	4020	65	1:62
Manipuri	21	270	19	1:10
Kuki-Mizo	11	237	11	1:22
Bishnupriya Manipuri	29	137	23	1:6

## J. Educational Facilities in Secondary Education (Class- IX to X)

### 21. Please give details, where minority language(s) is a medium of Instruction:

Ans- There is no minority languages which are taught as a medium of instruction at the secondary Stage.

Language	Schools	Students	Teachers	Student- Teacher Ratio
		NIL		

### 22. Where minority language(s) is taught as a subject though it is not the medium of Instruction:

Ans- Details of minority languages which are taught as a subject at the Secondary stage, as below:

Language	Schools	Students	Teachers	Student -Teacher Ratio
Kokborok	40	3594	66	1:54

## K. Educational Facilities in Higher Secondary Education (Class- XI to XII)

### 23. Please give details, where minority language(s) are a medium of Instruction:

Ans- No minority language is taught as a medium of instruction at the Higher Secondary Stage.

Language	Schools	Students	Teachers	Student- Teacher Ratio
		NIL		

**24. Please give details, where minority language(s) are taught as a subject though it is not the medium of instruction:**

Language	Schools	Students	Teachers	Student- Teacher Ratio
Kokborok	53	2167	94	1:23

#### **L. Three Language Formula**

**25. Please mention the languages taught under the “Three Language formula”.**

Ans- The languages taught under the three language formula are as follows:-

- 1) First Language- Bengali/ Kokborok/ Manipuri
- 2) Second Language- English
- 3) Third language- Arabic/ Hindi/ Sanskrit/Bengali

**26. The number of students covered under Three-Language Formula in classes-VIII , X, and XII.**

Ans- The students covered under the three language formula in classes VIII, X & XII are as follows:-

Language	Class- VIII	Class-X	Class-XII
Kokborok	2832	Nil	Nil
Manipuri	100	Nil	Nil

Note:-

In 188 schools Kokborok language is taught in Class-VIII.

In 21 schools Manipuri language is taught in Class-VIII. (enclosed in the File at Flag- )

#### **M. Minority Language Teachers**

**27. Please mention Posts sanctioned for minority languages teachers to teach minority languages as a medium of instruction and as a subject.**

Ans- The details of teachers for teaching the minority languages are as follows:-

Language	Medium		Subject	
	Sanctioned	Filled	Sanctioned	Filled
Kokborok	-	-	2,517	2,517

**28. (a) Are there any arrangements for Training of minority language teachers? If Yes, please give details as below:**

Training Institute	Minority language	
	As a Medium	As a subject
There is no particular training Institute exclusively for minority teachers in the state but SCERT, Directorate of Kokborok & Minority Languages, District Institute of Educational Training(DIET) at (1)Agartala, (2)Kamalpur, (3)Kakraban,(4) Kailasahar are giving training time to time.	--	Kokborok, Chakma, Manipuri, Bishnupriya Manipuri, Halam, Kuki-Mizo, Garo & Mog language

Apart from this periodic training & workshop are being organized for all of the minority languages.

**(b) Please give details of collaboration /arrangement, if any, with neighboring state of exchange of minority language teachers/ opening of teachers' training institutes/ centers.**

Ans- As most of the languages are state specific no arrangement is made for exchange of teachers, but workshops and seminars are being organized for all Languages involving the speakers of the Language concerned from neighboring states and even from the neighboring Country of Bangladesh.

## **N. Minority Language Text Books**

**29.(a) Are Text Books in minority language and other teaching material available to linguistic minority students at the beginning of the Academic Session?**

Ans- Yes, The text Books are made available at the beginning of the Academic Session. They are provided by SCERT, free of cost up to Class –VIII (Eight) in collaboration with the Directorate of Kokborok & Other Minority Languages.

**(b) Please give details of the agencies / inter-state arrangement, if any, for procuring minority language(s) Text Books and other teaching materials for linguistic minority students.**

Ans- The SCERT, Tripura is the agency for the preparation and publication of Text Books and other Teaching Materials in minority Languages in collaboration with the Directorate of Kokborok & Other Minority Languages.

**30.Are minority language(s) Text Books and other teaching materials available to the students at competitive / subsidized rates?**

Ans:- As of now text books are made available at free of cost up to Class VIII for all Minority Languages and up to Cl-XII for Kokborok

## **O. Maintenance of language Preference Register**

**31.a) Please furnish statistics on maintenance of Language Preference Registers for registering linguistic preference of linguistic minority pupils in Primary/ Upper Primary/ Secondary/ Higher Secondary schools? Please furnish statistics on maintenance of Language Preference Register.**

Ans- Though the facility of maintenance of Language Preference Register is not available, linguistic minority pupils are generally obtaining the opportunity to choose 1<sup>st</sup> Language, usually their mother tongue, as per their preferences at the primary level.

**b) Have necessary columns in the application form for admission to school at Primary Level in the State /UT been introduced to elicit (i) the mother-tongue of the child (ii) First language preferred and (iii) optional language- parents/ children prefer to study?**

Ans- Though application forms are without these language preference columns, the minority Language students of 8 (eight) Language is obtaining language preference.

## **P. Promotion and development of Minority languages.**

**32.(a) Are there any Schemes to promote minority languages in the State? Please furnish details.**

Ans-There is no any scheme to promote minority language in the State.

**(b) Please give details about the Academies set up by the Government for promotion and development of minority languages.**

Ans- There is no Academy but initially Education Department and subsequently SCERT worked for these languages and Directorate of Kokborok & Other Minority Languages had been set up in the year 2012 for development of minority languages. And in the State of Tripura 8 (eight) Minority Language including Kokborok have been recognized by the Government for teaching as a subject.

Language	Name of the academy	Date of establishment	Budget for the year 2016-17
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Kokborok & Other Minority languages	Directorate of Kokborok & Other minority languages, Education Department	2012	Demand-19- Rs. 8,04,000/- Demand-60- Rs. 38,16,000/-
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**Q. Machinery for Implementation of safeguards.**

**33.(a) Is there a mechanism/Committee at the State level to monitor and review the implementation of the safeguards for linguistic minorities? If so, what is the composition of Committee? Whether any desirous Member of Parliament is co-opted as a 'Special –Invitee' to the Committee. When did the Committee hold its last meeting?**

Ans- There are Advisory Committees for 8 (eight) respective languages and these Committees are monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the safe-guards of their respective languages. The advisory committee consists of literary persons, prominent writers of the language, MLAs & Member of Autonomous District Councils. The Advisory committees hold meetings as and when necessary.

**(b) Please give details of the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary to implement consensual & constitutional safeguards for linguistic minorities?**

Ans- Meetings are usually conducted under the chairmanship of respective Committee(s) for development of languages. The Hon'ble Minister of Education is the chairman in the Advisory committee of Manipuri language and the language of Bishnupriya Manipuri. Apart from this the Hon'ble Minister Education, of the state also attends the meetings of the Advisory Committee for development of the other minority languages.

**(c) In case there is a Minorities Commission in the State, does it handle the linguistic minorities' affairs? If yes, please furnish details.**

Ans- Yes, there is a Minorities Commission in the State but it does not deal with the linguistic minorities' affairs. For the affairs of linguistic minorities, we have a Directorate for Linguistic Minorities, i. e. the Directorate of Kokborok & Other Minority Languages. This Directorate deals with the linguistic minorities' affairs.

**34. (a) Does a Committee exist to ensure implementation of safeguards for the linguistic minorities at the district level? If so, has a desirous MLA of the area been co-opted in the district level Committee.**

Ans- There is no district level committee for implementation but the members of the minority language committee have been chosen for nomination in the advisory committee in consultation with the stake holders so that all of the area of speakers are covered, thus an MLA or Member of Autonomous District Council including the prominent persons with academic background of the language concerned is included in the Advisory Committee of the minority language concerned. However, the District Education Officers and Inspector of Schools are being declared by virtue of their posts as the District Level and Block Level functionaries for safe guard of minority languages.

**(b) Mention the Name, designation and phone/ mobile / fax no. of the Officers entrusted with linguistic minorities affairs at the district level.**

Ans- The name and designation of District Level Functionaries (District Education officers) are given below:- (as on 12-12-18)

Sl. No.	Name	Designation with District	Phone no./ Fax no.
1.	Shri A K Reang	DEO, West Tripura	0381-2353762/2356719(F)
2.	Sri Habul Lodh	DEO, (incharge) Sepahijala Tripura	0381-2867330/8118969077(M)
3.	Sri Pradip Das	DEO, (In-charge) Khowai Tripura	03825-222032/9436475690(M)
4.	Sri Laxman Ch. Das	DEO, Gomati Tripura	03821-222472/222225
5.	Sri Samarendra Nath	DEO, South Tripura	03823-222700/222600(F)



6.	Sri Rubendra Daurai	DEO, (incharge) Dhalai Tripura	03826-267233
7.	Sri Shyamal Das	DEO, (incharge) Unakoti Tripura	03824-222231/9436465706(M)
8.	Sri Barun Das	DEO, North Tripura	03822-234185/9436475690(M)

## **R. Publicity of the safeguards.**

### **35.(a) What is the mechanism of informing the linguistic minorities about the safeguards and the facilities available to them?**

Ans- The mechanism for informing the linguistic minorities about the safeguards and facilities available to them are the concerned Language Advisory Committee & its members, District Education Officers and Block level Inspector of Schools, press meet, Displaying of language related material (magazines, textbooks etc) in the display board.

### **(b) Please elaborate the action taken to spread awareness about the safeguards available to the linguistic minorities in the state.**

Ans- An article on the safeguards of linguistic minorities was incorporated in the Souvenir namely 'Sikha Samachar' on its 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 issue published by Education Department. Govt. of Tripura. From now on the Directorate of Kokborok & Other Minority Languages will include the safeguards of linguistic minority in every issue of linguistic minority Magazines namely (Rengzo, Parsen, Choomthang, Sadarak, Chinkhei, Sangkrain, Ko Bibal etc.)

### **(c) When were the Pamphlets detailing safeguards last published? Were they published in minority languages? If so, please give details.**

Ans- As mentioned above, it has been published on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 by the Education Department during the 57<sup>th</sup> Teachers Day Celebration in the Souvenir namely 'Siksha Samachar. It was published in Bengali language.

### **36. Whether orders have been issued directing to the district and Tehsil offices to exhibit the safeguards and concessions available to linguistic minorities through hoardings, banners, etc.?**

Ans- No.

## **S. Grievances / Complaints received from linguistic minorities.**

### **37. Detail the complaints received from linguistic minorities during the period under report and action taken there on by the state Government.**

Ans- One complaint has been received from Sri Samir Chakma Son of Nakshatra Chakma, Village & PO- Nabincherre, P.S- Pecharthal, District- Unakoti. The complaint is on non implementation of the decision of the Council of Ministers of Tripura (decided on 17-08-2012) to introduce Chakma Script in lieu of Bengali Script in 58 Govt. Schools where Chakma language is being taught. The complaint was made through a Public Interest Litigation Vide WP (C) (PIL) No. 1/15 before the Hon'ble High Court of Agartala. Hon'ble High Court directed the Petitioner Sri Samir Chakma to submit representation to the state Govt. of Tripura. On the receipt of the representation from Sri Samir Chakma and in compliance to the Hon'ble High Court's direction a communication was sent to the Petitioner before 15-05-2015 to the effect that Chakma language is being taught at primary level since 2004 through Bengali Script and since 2013 through Chakma script at 86 no. schools. The complaint raised by Sri Samir Chakma was not true and the actual fact was communicated to the Commissioner for linguistic minorities too.

**38.(a) How many registered Linguistic Minorities Associations/ Societies are functioning in your State? Please furnish details of such Association.**

**Ans List of registered Linguistic Minorities Associations/ Societies functioning in the state:-**

1. Kokborok Sahitya samsad
2. Kokborok Sahitya sabha
3. Kokborok Sahitya Academy
4. Kokborok Tei Hukumu Mission
5. Chakma Bhasa O Sahitya Academy
6. Chakma Socio Cultural Development Society
7. Udandi Sadak
8. Mog Language & Literature Academy
9. Mog Socio Cultural Organization
10. Manipuri Sahitya Parishad
11. Tripura Mizo Senior Citizen Association
12. Bishnupriya Manipuri Sahitya Sanskrity Academy
13. Nikhil Bishnupriya Manipuri Mahasabha
14. Socio Cultural Society of Bishnupriya Manipuri

## 15. Bru Socio-Cultural organization

(b) Please furnish a list, along with telephone no. and postal addresses of such Associations/ Societies.

Ans-

**List, along with telephone no. and postal addresses of such Associations/ Societies.**

Linguistic Minority	Name of Association	Telephone	Postal Address
Kokborok	1. (i) Kokborok Sahitya samsad	09436454055	Krishna Nagar, Agartala, West Tripura
	2. (ii) Kokborok Sahitya sabha	09436124454	Krishna Nagar, Agartala, West Tripura
	3. (iii) Kokborok Sahitya Academy	09436554019	Abhoynagar, Agartala, West Tripura
	4. (iv) Kokborok Tei Hukumu Mission	9436168816	Krishna Nagar, Agartala, West Tripura
	5. (v) Bru Socio-Cultural Organization	9436471006	Gurkhabasti, Kathal bagan, Agartala
Chakma	5. (i) Chakma Bhasa O Sahitya Academy	-	Kanchanpur, Dopatta Cherra North Tripura, Pin- 799270
	6 (ii) Chakma Socio Cultural Development Society.	-	Narayanpur, Gandhacherra, Dhalai Tripura
	7. (iii) Udandi Sadak	-	Dupata Cherra Kanchanpur North Tripura
Mog	8. (i) Mog Language & Literature Academy	09612142820 09612220638	1. Suryamuni nagar, Agartala 2. Manu Bankul, Po- Bishnupur Sabroom, South Tripura
	9. (ii) Mog Socio Cultural Organization		
Manipuri	10. Manipuri Sahitya Parishad	0381-2221479 0943650543	Daleshwar, kalyani, Agartala, west Tripura

Kuki-Mizo	11. Tripura Mizo Senior Citizen Association	-	Agartala, West Tripura
Bishnupriya Manipuri	12. (i) Bishnupriya Manipuri Sahitya Sanskrity Academy	09862110056	Abhoynagar, Agartala, West Tripura Pin-799005
	13. (ii) Nikhil Bishnupriya Manipuri Mahasabha	9436347465 82/65-66	Hurua, Dharmanagar North Tripura
	14. (iii) Socio Cultural Society of Bishnupriya Manipuri	9862139605 6467/2012	Hurua, Dharmanagar North Tripura
Halam	Nil	Nil	Nil
Garo	Nil	Nil	Nil