PREFACE

Assam is facing a serious humanitarian crisis of displacement of population over the last several years. Internal displacement in the State is taking place primarily due to internal conflict, environmental degradation and developmental projects.

The study is aimed at to look into the situations of displacement in the State and also the plight of this vulnerable section of the society. Internally displaced people are often marginalized and vulnerable to the acts of violence and other human rights violations.

The responsibility of protecting this population has generally been entrusted to the State Governments. However, failure on the part of the State to address the specific needs of this vulnerable section of the society through positive measures could lead to a situation in which IDPs were discriminated against the rest of the population in the State.

Existing policies and practices of the Government are not based on human rights approach and as such fail to make provision for providing them with better conditions of living and dignified way of living. Absence of appropriate policy and legal framework seems to be the main of denial of justice towards this population.

An early solution to the issue of illegal migrants is crucial for resolving the issue of conflict related displacement, However, both the Union Government and State Government seem to be not sincere enough to tackle the problem on an urgent basis.

In this regard the Supreme Court of India has played a very pro-active role and declared the Illegal Migrants Determination Tribunal as ultra vires.
A comprehensive law on IDP protection would go a long way to create an environment where IDPs would be able to enjoy their life with dignity and free from arbitrariness.

The investigator’s study on the topic relates to the various aspects of the problem of internal displacement and some suggestions and recommendations have been made to a possible solution of the vexed problem.