

MASUM representatives visited the erstwhile enclaves and settlement camps at Coochbehar district in a three day visit during 19th September to 21st September 2017. During the visit on 19th September, Mr. Biplab Mukherjee, Mr. Dippyaman Adhikary, Mr. Ajijul Haq and Ms. Tilak Barman met the representatives of 6 erstwhile enclaves located at Dinhat sub division. Representatives from Karola-II, Puatorkuthi, Maddhya Mashaldanga, Uttar Bansjani, Batrigach and Paschim Bakalirchora were present. The participants discussed the current situation of their respective areas and problems they are facing. Citizenship enrollment, ownership over land and drinking water problem in enclaves were the major issues for discussion. Mr. Biplab Mukherjee discussed the issues and suggested a work plan for coming month. It was decided the dwellers will submit an individual complaint family wise to the district administration holding a rally, and the complaint itself will support the purpose of legal intervention, which has been planned for the Apex Court; where the erstwhile enclave dwellers will be petitioner. After that the MASUM team went to Mathabhanga and sit with erstwhile enclave dwellers from Nalgram, Falnapur and Jongra and similar issues and plans were discussed.

On 20th September 2017, the team visited erstwhile enclave dwellers of Mekhliganj enclave settlement camp and discussed their problems. The residents were agitated with the government's proposed resettlement scheme. Team proposed the work plan before them. Then the team moved to chit Kuchlibari and Balapukuri Mrigipur.

On 21st September, the team visited Haldibari Resettlement Camp and discussed the issues with camp residents. Nearly 25 persons were present and being informed about coming programme. Principally they agreed but final decision will be taken on their meeting. Information about deprivation and police torture came into our notice which will be taken care of by office and respective DHRM.

