APPENDICES

APPENDIX- I

MIZORAM ACCORD – 1986

(Full Text)

MEMORANDUM OF SETTLEMENT

PREAMBLE

1. Government of India have all along been making earnest effort to bring about an end to the disturbed condition in Mizoram and to restore peace and harmony.

2. Toward this ends, initiative was taken by the late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi on the acceptance by Shri Laldenga on behalf of the Mizo National front (MNF) of the two conditions, namely, cessation of violence by MNF and to hold talks within the framework of the constitution. A series of discussions were held with Shri Laldenga. Settlement on various issues reached during the course of talks is incorporated in the following paragraphs.

RESTORATION OF NORMALCY

3.1 With a view to restoring peace and Normalcy in Mizoram the MNF Party, on their part undertake within the agreed time-frame, to brings out all underground personnel of the MNF with their arms, ammunitions and equipment’s, to ensure their return to civil life, to abjure violence and generally to help in the process of restoration of normalcy. The modalities of bringing out all underground personnel and the deposit of arms, ammunitions and equipment’s will be as
worked out. The implementation of the foregoing will be under the supervision of the Central Government.

3.2 The MNF party will take immediate steps to amend its articles of Association so as to make them conform to the provision of Law.

3.3 The Central Government will take steps for the settlement and rehabilitation of underground after considering the scheme proposed in this regard by the Government of Mizoram.

3.4 The MNF will not undertake to extend any support to the Tripura/Tripura National Volunteer (TNV) Peoples Liberation Army of Manipur (PLA) and any other such group by way of training, supply of arms or providing protection or in any other matters.

LEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER STEPS

4.1 With a view to satisfying the desires and aspiration of all sections of the people of Mizoram, the Government will initiate measures to confer statehood on the Union Territory of Mizoram subject to the other stipulation contained in this memorandum of Settlement.

4.2 To give effect to the above, the necessary Legislative and administrative measures will be undertaken, including those for the enactment of Bills for the amendment of the Constitution and other laws for the conferment of statehood as aforesaid, to come into effect on a date to be notified by the Central Government.

1.3 The amendment aforesaid shall provide, among other things, for the following

(i) The territory of Mizoram shall consist of the territory specified in Section 6 of the North eastern Areas (Reorganisation) act, 1971.
(ii) Notwithstanding anything contained in the constitution, no Act of Parliament in respect of (a) Religion or Social practices of the Mizos, (b) Mizo customary Law or procedure, (c) administration of Civil and Criminal Justice involving decisions according to Mizo customary Law, (d) Ownership and transfer of land, shall apply to the State of Mizoram unless the legislative Assembly of Mizoram by a resolution so decides.

Provided that nothing in this Clause shall apply to any Central Act in force in Mizoram immediately before the appointed day.

(iii) Article 170 Clause (1) shall, in relation to Legislative Assembly of Mizoram, have effect as if for the word ‘sixty’ the word ‘forty’ has been substituted.

2. Soon after the Bill of Conferment of statehood becomes Law, and when the President is satisfied that normalcy has returned and that conditions are conducive to the holding of free and fair elections to the Legislative Assembly will be initiated.

3. (a) The Centre will transfer resource to the new Government keeping in view the change in status from a Union Territory to a state and will include resources to cover the revenue gap for the year. (v) Central assistance for Plan will be fixed taking note of any residuary gap in resources so as to sustain the approved Plan outlay and the pattern of assistance will be as in the case of special category state.

4. Border trade in locally produced or grown agricultural commodities could be allowed under a scheme to be formulated by the Central Government, subject to international arrangement with neighbouring countries.

5. The Inner line Regulation, as now in force in Mizoram, will not be amended or repealed without consulting the State Government.
6. The rights and privileges of the minorities in Mizoram as envisaged in the constitution shall continue to be preserved and protected and their social and economic advancement shall be ensured.

7. Steps will be taken by the Government of Mizoram at the earliest to review and codify the existing customs, practices, law or other usage’s relating to the matters specified in clauses (a) to (v) of para 4.3 (II) of the memorandum, keeping in view that an individual Mizoram prefer to be governed by Acts of Parliament dealing with such matters and which are of general application.

8. The question of Unification of Mizo inhabited areas of other States to form one administrative unit was raised by the MNF delegation. It was pointed out to them, on behalf of the Government of India, that Article 3 of the constitution of India describes the procedure in this regard but that the Government cannot make any commitment in this respect.

9. It was also pointed out on behalf of the Government that as soon as Mizoram becomes State:

(i) The provisions of part XVII of the provision of the constitution will apply and the state will be at liberty to adopt any one or more language to be used for all or any of the official purposes of the state.

(ii) It is open to the State to move for the establishment of the separate university in the state in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

(iii) In the light of the Prime Ministers Statement at the Joint Conference of the Chief Justices, Chief Minister and Law Ministers held at New Delhi on 31st August, 1985 Mizoram will be entitled to have a High Court its own if it so wishes.
13. (a) It was noted that there is already a scheme in force for payment of ex-gratia amount to heirs/dependants of persons who were killed during disturbances in 1966 and thereafter in the union Territory of Mizoram. Arrangement will be made to expeditiously disburse payment to those eligible persons who have already applied but who had not been made such payment so far.

(b) It was noted that consequence on verification done by a joint team of officers. The Government of India had already made arrangement for payment of compensation in respect of damage to crop building destroyed/damaged during the action in Mizoram, ad rented charges of building and land occupied by security force. There may however, be some claim which were referred and verified by the above team but is not yet settled expeditiously. Arrangement will also be made for payment of pending claim of rented charges or land/building occupied by the security force.

Sd/- LALDENG    Sd/R.D. PRADHAN    Sd/-LALKHAMA
On behalf of Mizo Home Secretary Chief Secretary
National front Government of India Govt. of Mizoram

Date: 30th June 1985
Place: New Delhi
MEMORANDUM OF SETTLEMENT
(Bodo Accord - 1993)

1. Preamble
   (i) Both the Government of India and the Government of Assam have been making earnest efforts to bring about an amicable solution to the problems of the Bodos and other Plains Tribal living in the north bank of river Brahmaputra within Assam.
   (ii) Towards this end, the Government of India held a series of meetings with the State Government as well as with leaders of All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU) and Bodo People's Action Committee (BPAC). The State Government has also separately held discussions with the Bodo leaders. As result, it has been considered necessary to setup and administrative authority within the State of Assam under a scheme, the details of which are outlined in the succeeding paragraphs:

2. Objectives
   The objective of this scheme is to provide maximum autonomy within the framework of the Constitution to the Bodos for social, economic, educational, ethnic and cultural advancement.

3. (a) Name: Bodoland Autonomous Council (BAC)
   There shall be formed, by an Act of Assam Legislative Assembly, a Bodoland Autonomous Council (BAC) within the State of Assam comprising contiguous geographical areas between river Sankosh and Mazbat/river Pasnoi. The land records authority of the State will scrutinize the list of villages furnished by the ABSU/BPAC having 50 percent and more of tribal population which shall be included in the BAC. For the purpose of providing a contiguous area, even the villages having less than 50 percent tribal population shall be included. BAC will also include Reserve Forests as per the guidelines laid by Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, not otherwise required by the government for manning the international border and tea gardens located completely within the BAC contiguous area.
(b) **Powers:** The BAC will comprise of a General Council comprising 40 members, 35 elected on the basis of adult suffrage and having a life of five years. The government will have powers to nominate five members to the Council, particularly from groups which could not otherwise be represented. This Council will have powers to make bye-laws, rules and orders for application within the PAC areas on the subjects enumerated in Schedule ‘A’.

(c) The Executive Authority of the BAC would be exercised in its Executive Body to be known as the Bodoland Executive Council (BEC). The BEC will be responsible for implementation within the BAC area of the laws on subjects enumerated in Schedule ‘A’.

(d) The General Council and the BEC will hold office during the pleasure of the Governor of Assam. Consultation with the State Law Department of Government of Assam would be necessary if the Governor proposed to dissolve either the General Council or the BEC before the expiry of its term in accordance with the provisions of law. The executive authority of the BEC will be exercised by the party enjoying a simple majority in the General Council. On completing of election, the Governor would invite the leader of the majority party to constitute the BEC.

4. **Finances**

   (i) (a) The finances for the BAC will be earmarked under a separate sub-head within the State budget, in keeping with the guidelines laid down by the Government of India from time to time. The Government of Assam would have no powers to divert this earmarked allocation to other heads/areas except in exigencies when there is unavoidable overall Budget cut. (b) The provisions made in 4 (i) (a) regarding allocation of funds should be in line with the spirit of the Constitution (seventy-second) and (seventy-third) amendment.

   (ii) The BAC would also receive grant-in-aid from time to time within the principles and policies enunciated by the Government of India.

   (iii) The General Council will have powers to raise finance from levies/fees/taxes etc. on subjects mentioned in Schedule ‘A’ subject to Constitutional amendment mentioned above.
(iv) The finances of the BAC will be managed exclusively by its General Council and the statement of its annual audited accounts will be laid on the table of the State Assembly.

5. **Powers of Appointments**

The Bodoland Executive Committee would have powers to appoint Class III and Class IV staff within its jurisdiction for implementation of schemes connected with the subject enumerated in Schedule ‘A’.

6. **Reservation of Seats**

The Election Commission of India will be requested by the BAC to consider seat reservation and delimitation of constituencies, both Lok Sabha and State Assembly within the BAC area to the extent permitted by the Constitution and the law.

7. **Special Provisions for the BAC Area**

The General Council shall be consulted and its views shall be given due regard before any law made on the following subjects, is implemented in the BAC area:

   i)   the religious or social practice of the Bodos;  
   ii)  the Bodo customary laws and procedures; and  
   iii) the ownership and transfer of land within the BAC area.

8. **Special Status for the Bodoland Autonomous Council**

The BAC shall, within the laws of the land, take steps to protect the demographic complexion of the areas falling within its jurisdiction.

9. **Special Courts**

Action will be taken in constitution with the Guwahati High Court to set up within the BAC area Special Courts as specified below to try suits and cases between parties all of whom belong to the Scheduled Tribe or Tribes in accordance with the tribal customary law and procedure, if any.

   (a) Village Courts;  
   (b) Subordinate District Customary Law Courts within a civil Sub-Division Territory; and  
   (c) District Custody Law Court
10. **Appointment in the Central Bodies**

The claims of the Bodos shall be considered for appointment to the North-Eastern Council.

11. **Official Language**

The General Council can lay down policy with regard to use of Bodo language as medium of official correspondence within the BAC area. However, while corresponding with offices outside the BAC area correspondence will have to be in bilingual form in accordance with the Article 345 of the Constitution and the provision of law in this behalf.

12. **Changes in Geographical Boundary**

The geographical area of the Bodoland Autonomous Council as agreed upon can be changed with the mutual consent of the BAC and the Government of Assam.

13. **Revision of List of Scheduled Castes and Schedules Tribes**

The scheduling and de-scheduling of scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes residing within the Bodo areas will be done as per the Commission appointed by the Government of India under the Constitution.

14. **Trade and Commerce**

The General Council will have powers to regulate trade and commerce within its jurisdictions in accordance with the existing law. For this purpose, it can issue permits and licences to individuals within the BAC area. The Government of Assam and the Union Government while considering allotment of permits to people residing within the BAC area will give preference to the Bodos.

15. **Employment Opportunities**

The BAC will have powers to reserve jobs for Scheduled Tribes within its jurisdiction. However, exercise of such powers shall be in accordance with the existing constitutional and legal provisions.

16. **Civil and Police Service**

(i) The Government of Assam may from time to time post officers of the rank of Class II and above to posts within the BAC in accordance with the exigencies. While
making these postings due regard will be given to the views of the BAC about officers being so posted.

(ii) The officers posted to the BAC area will be accountable to the BAC for their performance and the assessment of their work recorded by the BEC authorities, will be incorporated to their ACRs by the State Government.

(iii) The Central Government, while making recruitment from the State of Assam to the army, para-military forces and police units, will hold special recruitment drives within the BAC area.

17. Appointment of Interim Bodoland Executive Council

The Government of Assam will take steps for the formation of an Interim Bodoland Executive Council for the BAC from amongst the leaders of the present Bodoland movement who are signatories to this settlement, during the transition period, that is, prior to the holding of elections. Such Interim Council would be formed before a prescribed date mutually agreed between the Council and State Government.

18. Relief and Rehabilitation

(i) The ABSU-BPAC leaders will take immediate steps to bring over ground and deposit with the District authorities all arms, ammunition and explosives in the possession of their own supporters and will co-operated with the administration in bringing over ground all Bodo militants along with their arms and ammunition, etc. within one months of the formation of the Interim BEC. In order to ensure the smooth return to civil life of the cadre and to assist in the quick restoration of peace and normalcy, such surrenders made voluntarily will not attract prosecution.

(ii) The Government of Assam will consider sympathetically the withdrawal of all cases against persons connected with the Bodoland Movement excluding those relating to heinous crimes.

(iii) The Government of India will initiate steps for review of action against the Bodo employees of Government of India and subordinate offices as well as in respect of
Central Government Undertakings. Similar action would be taken by the Government of Assam.

(iv) The Government of Assam will initiate immediate steps for suitable rehabilitation of the Bodo militants coming over ground as a result of this settlement. Similarly the Government will organise exgratia payments as per rules to next of the kins killed during the Bodo agitation.

19. *Share in Collections of Excise Duty of Tea*

The Government of Assam will deposit in the BAC will jointly ensure that all rights and interests of the non-tribal as on date living in BAC area in matters pertaining to land as well as their language are protected.

21. *Ad-hoc Central Grant for Launching the BAC*

After the signing of this settlement, an ad-hoc Budget on reasonable basis will be prepared by Interim BEC and discussed with the State and Central Governments for necessary financial support.

Sd/- S.K. Bwiswamutary
President, ABSU

Sd/- (K.S.RAO)
Addl. Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam

Sd/- Rabi Ram Brahma
General Secretary, ABSU

Sd/- Subhash Basumatari
Chairman, BPAC

In the presence of

Sd/- Rajesh Pilot
Minister of State (Internal Security)
Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of India

Sd/- Hiteswar Saikia
Chief Minister of Assam
State Govt. Of Assam
List of Subject and Departments over which BAC Will have control within the BAC area

1. Cottage Industry
2. Animal Husbandry and Veterinary
3. Forests
4. Agriculture
5. PWD
6. Sericulture
7. Education
   (a) Adult Education
   (b) Primary Education
   (c) Upto Higher Secondary including Vocational Training
8. Cultural Affairs
9. Soil Conservation
10. Co-operation
11. Fisheries
12. Panchayat and Rural Development
13. Handloom and Textiles
14. Health and Family Welfare
15. Public Health Engineering
16. Irrigation
17. Social Welfare
18. Food Control schemes for protection of villages
   (not of highly technical nature)
19. Sports and Youth Welfare
20. Weights and Measures
21. Library Services
22. Museums and Archaeology
24. Tribal Research Institute
25. College Education (General)
26. Land and Revenue
27. Publicity/Public Relations
28. Painting and Stationery
29. Tourism
30. Transport
31. Any other matter connected with development
32. Municipal Corporation, Improvement Trusts, District Boards and other local authorities
33. Tribal Welfare
34. Markets and Fairs
35. Lotteries, theatres, dramatic performance and cinemas
36. Vital Statistics including registration of births and deaths.
37. Food and Civil Supply
38. Intoxicating liquors, opium and derivatives, etc.

APPENDIX III

MEMORANDUM OF SETTLEMENT: A Regional Accord
(Hamar People and Government of Mizoram)

The following memorandum of settlement was signed on July 27, 1994 at Aizawl between the President Hmar People's Convention and the Government of Mizoram:

Preamble

10. The Government of Mizoram have been making earnest efforts to bring about an amicable solution to the problems arising out of the demands of the Hmar People's Convention (HPC).
Towards this end, an initiative was taken by the Government of Mizoram and a series of peace talks were held with the HPC leaders. Settlements on various issues reached during the course of the talks are incorporated in the following paragraphs.

Objective

The main objective of the Memorandum of Settlement is to give adequate autonomy to the Sinlung Hills Development Council for social, economic, cultural and educational advancement of the people under the jurisdiction of the council.

Restoration of Normalcy

4.1 With a view to restoring peace and normally in Mizoram, the HPC on their part agree to undertake, within the agreed time-frame, all necessary steps to end all underground activities, to bring out all underground personnel of the HPC with their arms, ammunition and equipment's, to ensure their return to civil life, to abjure violence and help in the process of restoration of normalcy. The modalities of bringing out all underground personnel will be worked out. The implementation of the foregoing will be under the supervision of Government of Mizoram.

4.2 The HPC shall take immediate steps to amend, as may be necessary. Articles of Association/Constitution so as to make them conform to the provisions of law.

4.3 The Government of Mizoram will take steps for relief/rehabilitation of all HPC underground personnel who had joined the HPC prior to 18th December, 1992, coming overground and ex-gratia will be paid to the next of kin/heirs/dependants of the HPC killed during the insurgency.

4.4 The HPC undertake not to extend any support to NSCN, ULFA and any other such underground groups by supply of arms or providing protection or any other manner.
Administrative and other steps

5.1 With a view to satisfying the desires as aspirations of Hmar community in Mizoram, the State Government will initiate measures for use of Hmar language as a medium of instruction up to Primary level and recognition of the Hmar language as one of the major languages of the State of Mizoram.

5.2 The Government of Mizoram will take steps for the promotion and preservation of Hmar culture and assistance may be provided as permissible under the rules by the Department of Art and Culture.

5.3 A new Civil Sub-Division will be opened at Sakawrdai and the Sub-divisional Offices of different departments will also be established at convenient location in the area. The primary Health Centre at Sakawrdai will also be upgraded into 30 bedded Community Health Centre.

5.4 For the social, economic, cultural and educational development of the people in the north and north-eastern parts of Mizoram comprising an area to be specified and agreed upon by Government of Mizoram and HPC, Sinlung Hills Development Council will, by notification in the Official Gazette, be constituted by the Government of Mizoram and separate fund will be earmarked for schemes which may be specified for implementation within the area of the council.

Composition of Council

5.5. The Composition of the Sinlung Hills Development Council during the interim period of 2 years shall be as follows:

1. President, Hmar People's Convention - Chairman

2. Any sitting MLA of the area

   (to be nominated by Government) - Vice Chairman
3. 17 Nominated members from the area

(14 members to be nominated by Chairman of the Council and 3 members by Government - Members)

4. All sitting MLAs of the area

(14 members to be nominated by Chairman of the Council and 3 members by Government) - Members

5. Representative of Fiancée Department - Members

6. Representative of Planning Department - Members

7. Representative of Rural Development Department - Members

8. Deputy Commissioner concerned - Members

9. Development Officer (Sr. IAS or MCS Officer) - Member-Secretary

5.6 The headquarters of the Council shall, during the interim period of 2 years be Sakawrdai and it shall have a separate office with supporting staff. Permanent headquarters of the Council after the interim period shall be decided by the Government in consultation with the Interim Council. No salary or TA/DA will be admissible to the Vice Chairman and he will draw his salary and TA/DA as MLA from the Budget of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly. The other non-official members of the Council will be entitled to such allowances as are admissible to the non-official members of the State Planning Board.

5.7 The Chairman of the Council will initially be the President, HPC, who will be provided with vehicle and residential quarters/bungalow and personal staff as determined by the Government. The Chairman will hold office for two years initially. Composition of the Council and the manner of nomination/election of
the Chairman and Members, after expiry of the interim period of two yeas, shall be decided by the Government in consultation with the Interim council. The term of office of the Chairman and the Council shall be three years.

Powers and Functions of Council

5.8 The powers and functions of the Council will be as indicated below:

1. To make plan out of the earmarked fund. The plan will be implemented by the departments concerned. The plan made by the Council will be subject to the approval of the Government.

2. To reallocate fund from one scheme to another within the area and within the sectoral allocation, provided that in case the proposed new scheme is not identical in nature with the approved scheme, approval of the Government will be necessary.

3. To draw up calendar of works for various departments in the area and oversee their implementation.

4. To make recommendation to the Government as deemed necessary in the interest of better planning, implementation and monitoring.

5. To obtain information from any officer in the area regarding progress of plan schemes.

6. To review the progress of the area plan once in a quarter and

7. Any other functions that the Government may allot from time to time.

Frequency of Council Meeting Etc

5.9 The council shall meet at least once in three months. The Chairman will have the power to invite any two Government officials or non-officials to attend any particular meeting of the Council, if considered necessary.
Other Matters

6.1 The Government of Mizoram have appreciated the concern and pressing demand of the HPC delegation, particularly regarding political safeguards as available under the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India. Accordingly the Government Mizoram will take immediate measures for inclusion of an area to be specified within the HPC Demand Area of Mizoram and the other non scheduled areas of Mizoram in the Scheduled (Tribal) Area of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India so that the above mentioned areas are safeguarded under the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India.

1.2 On fulfilment of the stipulations contained in Para 4.1 no member of the HPC now coming overground shall be prosecuted for offences committed in connection with underground activities. Investigation of all cases registered in Mizroam which are in progress currently against HPC personnel shall be dropped forthwith and those convicted of any such offence shall also be granted remission of sentences.

Sd/-

(HMINGCHUNGHUNG)       Sd/-
President,                (LALFAK ZUALA)
Hmar People’s Convention  Chief secretary
Place: Aizawl              Govt. of Mizoram
Date: 27th July, 1994
APPENDIX IV

FIFTH SCHEDULE

[Article 244(1)]

Provisions as to the Administration and Control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes

Part A -- General

1. Interpretation.- In this Schedule, unless the context otherwise requires, the expression "State" does not include the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

2. Executive power of a State in Scheduled Areas.- Subject to the provisions of this Schedule, the executive power of a State extends to the Scheduled Areas therein.

3. Report by the Governor to the President regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas.- The Governor of each State having Scheduled Areas therein shall annually, or whenever so required by the President, make a report to the President regarding the administration of the Scheduled Areas in that State and the executive power of the Union shall extend to the giving of directions to the State as to the administration of the said areas.

Part B -- Administration and Control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes

4. Tribes Advisory Council.- (1) There shall be established in each State having Scheduled Areas therein and, if the President so directs, also in any State having Scheduled Tribes but not Scheduled Areas therein, a Tribes Advisory Council consisting of not more than twenty members of whom, as nearly as may be, three-fourths shall be the representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of the State:
Provided that if the number of representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of the State is less than the number of seats in the Tribes Advisory Council to be filled by such representatives, the remaining seats shall be filled by other members of those tribes.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Tribes Advisory Council to advise on such matters pertaining to the welfare and advancement of the Scheduled Tribes in the State as may be referred to them by the Governor.

(3) The Governor may make rules prescribing or regulating, as the case may be,-

(a) the number of members of the Council, the mode of their appointment and the appointment of the Chairman of the Council and of the officers and servants thereof;
(b) the conduct of its meetings and its procedure in general; and
(c) all other incidental matters.

5. Law applicable to Scheduled Areas.- (1) Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, the Governor may by public notification direct that any particular Act of Parliament or of the Legislature of the State shall not apply to a Scheduled Area or any part thereof in the State or shall apply to a Scheduled Area or any part thereof in the State subject to such exceptions and modifications as he may specify in the notification and any direction given under this sub-paragraph may be given so as to have retrospective effect.

(2) The Governor may make regulations for the peace and good government of any area in a State which is for the time being a Scheduled Area. In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may-

(a) prohibit or restrict the transfer of land by or among members of the Scheduled Tribes in such area;
(b) regulate the allotment of land to members of the Scheduled Tribes in such area;

(c) regulate the carrying on of business as money-lender by persons who lend money to members of the Scheduled Tribes in such area.

(3) In making any such regulation as is referred to in sub-paragraph (2) of this paragraph, the Governor may repeal or amend any Act of Parliament or of the Legislature of the State or any existing law which is for the time being applicable to the area in question.

(4) All regulations made under this paragraph shall be submitted forthwith to the President and, until assented to by him, shall have no effect.

(5) No regulation shall be made under this paragraph unless the Governor making the regulation has, in the case where there is a Tribes Advisory Council for the State, consulted such Council.

Part C -- Scheduled Areas

6. Scheduled Areas.- (1) In this Constitution, the expression "Scheduled Areas" means such areas as the President may by order declare to be Scheduled Areas.

(2) The President may at any time by order

(a) direct that the whole or any specified part of a Scheduled Area shall cease to be a Scheduled Area or a part of such an area;

increase the area of any Scheduled Area in a State after consultation with the Governor of that State;

(b) alter, but only by way of rectification of boundaries, any Scheduled Area;

(c) on any alteration of the boundaries of a State or on the admission into the Union or the establishment of a new State, declare any territory not previously included in any State to be, or to form part of, a Scheduled Area;
(d) rescind, in relation to any State or States, any order or orders made under this paragraph, and in consultation with the Governor of the State concerned, make fresh orders redefining the areas which are to be Scheduled Areas;] and any such order may contain such incidental and consequential provisions as appear to the President to be necessary and proper, but save as aforesaid, the order made under sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph shall not be varied by any subsequent order.

Part D -- Amendment of the Schedule

7. Amendment of the Schedule.- (1) Parliament may from time to time by law amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any of the provisions of this Schedule and, when the Schedule is so amended, any reference to this Schedule in this Constitution shall be construed as a reference to such Schedule as so amended.

(2) No such law as is mentioned in sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph shall be deemed to be an amendment of this Constitution for the purposes of article 368.
APPENDIX – V

SIXTH SCHEDULE

Provisions as to the Administration of Tribal Areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram

[Articles 244(2) and 275(1)]

Provisions as to the Administration of Tribal Areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram

1. Autonomous Districts and autonomous regions.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, the tribal areas in each item of Parts I, II and IIA and in Part III of the table appended to paragraph 20 of this Schedule shall be an autonomous District.

(2) If there are different Scheduled Tribes in an autonomous District, the Governor may, by public notification, divide the area or areas inhabited by them into autonomous regions.

(3) The Governor may, by public notification,—

(a) include any area in any of the Parts of the said table,

(b) exclude any area from any of the Parts of the said table,

(c) create a new autonomous District,

(d) increase the area of any autonomous District,
(e) diminish the area of any autonomous District,

(f) unite two or more autonomous Districts or parts thereof so as to form one autonomous District,

473[(ff) alter the name of any autonomous District,]

(g) define the boundaries of any autonomous District:

Provided that no order shall be made by the Governor under clauses (c), (d), (e) and (f) of this sub-paragraph except after consideration of the report of a Commission appointed under sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 14 of this Schedule:

474[Provided further that any order made by the Governor under this sub-paragraph may contain such incidental and consequential provisions (including any amendment of paragraph 20 and of any item in any of the Parts of the said table) as appear to the Governor to be necessary for giving effect to the provisions of the order.]
Council of (name of region)", shall have perpetual succession and a common seal and shall by the said name sue and be sued.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Schedule, the administration of an autonomous District shall, in so far as it is not vested under this Schedule in any Regional Council within such District, be vested in the District Council for such District and the administration of an autonomous region shall be vested in the Regional Council for such region.

(5) In an autonomous District with Regional Councils, the District Council shall have only such powers with respect to the areas under the authority of the Regional Council as may be delegated to it by the Regional Council in addition to the powers conferred on it by this Schedule with respect to such areas.

(6) The Governor shall make rules for the first constitution of District Councils and Regional Councils in consultation with the existing tribal Councils or other representative tribal organisations within the autonomous Districts or regions concerned, and such rules shall provide for-

(a) the composition of the District Councils and Regional Councils and the allocation of seats therein;

(b) the delimitation of territorial constituencies for the purpose of elections to those Councils;

(c) the qualifications for voting at such elections and the preparation of electoral rolls therefor;

(d) the qualifications for being elected at such elections as members of such Councils;

(e) the term of office of members of Regional Councils;
(f) any other matter relating to or connected with elections or nominations to such Councils;

(g) the procedure and the conduct of business [(including the power to act notwithstanding any vacancy)] in the District and Regional Councils;

(h) the appointment of officers and staff of the District and Regional Councils.

[(6A) The elected members of the District Council shall hold office for a term of five years from the date appointed for the first meeting of the Council after the general elections to the Council, unless the District Council is sooner dissolved under paragraph 16 and a nominated member shall hold office at the pleasure of the Governor:

Provided that the said period of five years may, while a Proclamation of Emergency is in operation or if circumstances exist which, in the opinion of the Governor, render the holding of elections impracticable, be extended by the Governor for a period not exceeding one year at a time and in any case where a Proclamation of Emergency is in operation not extending beyond a period of six months after the Proclamation has ceased to operate:

Provided further that a member elected to fill a casual vacancy shall hold office only for the remainder of the term of office of the member whom he replaces

(5) The District or the Regional Council may after its first constitution make rules with the approval of the Governor] with regard to the matters specified in sub-paragraph (6) of this paragraph and may also make rules regulating-

(a) the formation of subordinate local Councils or Boards and their procedure and the conduct of their business; and]
(6) (b) generally all matters relating to the transaction of business pertaining to the administration of the District or region, as the case may be:

Provided that until rules are made by the District or the Regional Council under this sub-paragraph the rules made by the Governor under sub-paragraph (6) of this paragraph shall have effect in respect of elections to, the officers and staff of, and the procedure and the conduct of business in, each such Council.

480 3. Powers of the District Councils and Regional Councils to make laws.- (1) The Regional Council for an autonomous region in respect of all areas within such region and the District Council for an autonomous District in respect of all areas within the District except those which are under the authority of Regional Councils, if any, within the District shall have power to make laws with respect to-

(a) the allotment, occupation or use, or the setting apart, of land, other than any land which is a reserved forest for the purposes of agriculture or grazing or for residential or other non-agricultural purposes or for any other purpose likely to promote the interests of the inhabitants of any village or town:

Provided that nothing in such laws shall prevent the compulsory acquisition of any land, whether occupied or unoccupied, for public purposes [by the Government of the State concerned] in accordance with the law for the time being in force authorising such acquisition;

(b) the management of any forest not being a reserved forest;

(c) the use of any canal or water-course for the purpose of agriculture;

(d) the regulation of the practice of jhum or other forms of shifting cultivation;
(e) the establishment of village or town committees or councils and their powers;

(f) any other matter relating to village or town administration, including village or town police and public health and sanitation;

(g) the appointment or succession of Chiefs or Headmen;

(h) the inheritance of property;

(i) marriage and divorce;

(j) social customs.

(2) In this paragraph, a "reserved forest" means any area which is a reserved forest under the Assam Forest Regulation, 1891, or under any other law for the time being in force in the area in question.

(3) All laws made under this paragraph shall be submitted forthwith to the Governor and, until assented to by him, shall have no effect.

4. Administration of justice in autonomous Districts and autonomous regions.—(1) The Regional Council for an autonomous region in respect of areas within such region and the District Council for an autonomous District in respect of areas within the District other than those which are under the authority of the Reginal Councils, if any, within the District may constitute village councils or courts for the trial of suits and cases between the parties all of whom belong to Scheduled Tribes within such areas, other than suits and cases to which the provisions of sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 5 of this Schedule apply, to the exclusion of any court in the State, and may appoint suitable persons to be members of such village councils or presiding officers of such courts, and may also appoint such officers as may be necessary for the administration of the laws made under paragraph 3 of this Schedule.
(2) Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, the Regional Council for an autonomous region or any court constituted in that behalf by the Regional Council or, if in respect of any area within an autonomous District there is no Regional Council, the District Council for such District, or any court constituted in that behalf by the District Council, shall exercise the powers of a court of appeal in respect of all suits and cases triable by a village council or court constituted under sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph within such region or area, as the case may be, other than those to which the provisions of sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 5 of this Schedule apply, and no other court except the High Court and the Supreme Court shall have jurisdiction over such suits or cases.

(3) The High Court shall have and exercise such jurisdiction over the suits and cases to which the provisions of sub-paragraph (2) of this paragraph apply as the Governor may from time to time by order specify.

(4) A Regional Council or District Council, as the case may be, may with the previous approval of the Governor make rules regulating-

(a) the constitution of village councils and courts and the powers to be exercised by them under this paragraph;

(b) the procedure to be followed by village councils or courts in the trial of suits and cases under sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph;

(c) the procedure to be followed by the Regional or District Council or any court constituted by such Council in appeals and other proceedings under sub-paragraph (2) of this paragraph;

(d) the enforcement of decisions and orders of such Councils and courts;

(e) all other ancillary matters for the carrying out of the provisions of sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) of this paragraph.
On and from such date as the President may, after consulting the Government of the State concerned, by notification appoint in this behalf, this paragraph shall have effect in relation to such autonomous District or region as may be specified in the notification, as if-

(i) in sub-paragraph (1), for the words "between the parties all of whom belong to Scheduled Tribes within such areas, other than suits and cases to which the provisions of sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 5 of this Schedule apply," the words "not being suits and cases of the nature referred to in sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph (5) of this Schedule, which the Governor may specify in this behalf," had been substituted;

(ii) sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) had been omitted;

(iii) in sub-paragraph (4)-

(a) for the words "A Regional Council or District Council, as the case may be, may with the previous approval of the Governor make rules regulating", the words "the Governor may make rules regulating" had been substituted; and (b) for clause (a), the following clause had been substituted, namely:-

"(a) the constitution of village councils and courts, the powers to be exercised by them under this paragraph and the courts to which appeals from the decisions of village councils and courts shall lie;"

(c) for clause (c), the following clause had been substituted, namely:-

"(c) the transfer of appeals and other proceedings pending before the Regional or District Council or any court constituted by such Council immediately before the date appointed by the President under sub-paragraph (5);"; and

(d) in clause (e), for the words, brackets and figures "sub-paragraphs (1) and (2)", the word, brackets and figure "Sub-paragraph (1)" had been substituted.]
5. Conferment of powers under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, on the Regional and District Councils and on certain courts and officers for the trial of certain suits, cases and offences.—(1) The Governor may, for the trial of suits or cases arising out of any law in force in any autonomous District or region being a law specified in that behalf by the Governor, or for the trial of offences punishable with death, transportation for life, or imprisonment for a term of not less than five years under the Indian Penal Code or under any other law for the time being applicable to such District or region, confer on the District Council or the Regional Council having authority over such District or region or on courts constituted by such District Council or on any officer appointed in that behalf by the Governor, such powers under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, or, as the case may be, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, as he deems appropriate, and thereupon the said Council, Court or officer shall try the suits, cases or offences in exercise of the powers so conferred.

(2) The Governor may withdraw or modify any of the powers conferred on a District Council, Regional Council, court or officer under sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph.

(3) Save as expressly provided in this paragraph, the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, shall not apply to the trial of any suits, cases or offences in an autonomous District or in any autonomous region to which the provisions of this paragraph apply.

(4) On and from the date appointed by the President under sub-paragraph (5) of paragraph 4 in relation to any autonomous District or autonomous region, nothing contained in this paragraph shall, in its application to that District or region, be deemed to authorise the Governor to confer on the District Council or Regional Council or on courts constituted by the District Council any of the powers referred to in sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph.
6. Powers of the District Council to establish primary schools, etc.-(1) The District Council for an autonomous District may establish, construct, or manage primary schools, dispensaries, markets, cattle pounds, ferries, fisheries, roads, road transport and waterways in the District and may, with the previous approval of the Governor, make regulations for the regulation and control thereof and, in particular, may prescribe the language and the manner in which primary education shall be imparted in the primary schools in the District.

(2) The Governor may, with the consent of any District Council, entrust either conditionally or unconditionally to that Council or to its officers functions in relation to agriculture, animal husbandry, community projects, co-operative societies, social welfare, village planning or any other matter to which the executive power of the State extends.

7. District and Regional Funds.- (1) There shall be constituted for each autonomous District, a District Fund and for each autonomous region, a Regional Fund to which shall be credited all moneys received respectively by the District Council for that District and the Regional Council for that region in the course of the administration of such District or region, as the case may be, in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

(2) The Governor may make rules for the management of the District Fund, or, as the case may be, the Regional Fund and for the procedure to be followed in respect of payment of money into the said Fund, the withdrawal of moneys therefrom, the custody of moneys therein and any other matter connected with or ancillary to the matters aforesaid.

(3) The accounts of the District Council or, as the case may be, the Regional Council shall be kept in such form as the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India may, with the approval of the President, prescribe.
(4) The Comptroller and Auditor-General shall cause the accounts of the District and Regional Councils to be audited in such manner as he may think fit, and the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General relating to such accounts shall be submitted to the Governor who shall cause them to be laid before the Council.

8. Powers to assess and collect land revenue and to impose taxes.- (1) The Regional Council for an autonomous region in respect of all lands within such region and the District Council for an autonomous District in respect of all lands within the District except those which are in the areas under the authority of Regional Councils, if any, within the District, shall have the power to assess and collect revenue in respect of such lands in accordance with the principles for the time being followed by the Government of the State in assessing lands for the purpose of land revenue in the State generally.

(2) The Regional Council for an autonomous region in respect of areas within such region and the District Council for an autonomous District in respect of all areas in the District except those which are under the authority of Regional Councils, if any, within the District, shall have power to levy and collect taxes on lands and buildings, and tolls on persons resident within such areas.

(3) The District Council for an autonomous District shall have the power to levy and collect all or any of the following taxes within such District, that is to say-

(a) taxes on professions, trades, callings and employments;

(b) taxes on animals, vehicles and boats;

(c) taxes on the entry of goods into a market for sale therein, and tolls on passengers and goods carried in ferries; and

(d) taxes for the maintenance of schools, dispensaries or roads.
(e) (4) A Regional Council or District Council, as the case may be, may make regulations to provide for the levy and collection of any of the taxes specified in sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) of this paragraph and every such regulation shall be submitted forthwith to the Governor and, until assented to by him, shall have no effect.

491. Licences or leases for the purpose of prospecting for, or extraction of, minerals.- (1) Such share of the royalties accruing each year from licences or leases for the purpose of prospecting for, or the extraction of, minerals granted by the Government of the State in respect of any area within an autonomous District as may be agreed upon between the Government of the State and the District Council of such District shall be made over to that District Council.

(2) If any dispute arises as to the share of such royalties to be made over to a District Council, it shall be referred to the Governor for determination and the amount determined by the Governor in his discretion shall be deemed to be the amount payable under sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph to the District Council and the decision of the Governor shall be final.

493. 10. Power of District Council to make regulations for the Control of money-lending and trading by non-tribal.- (1) The District Council of an autonomous District may make regulations for the regulation and control of money-lending or trading within the District by persons other than Scheduled Tribes resident in the District.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may-

A) prescribe that no one except the holder of a licence issued in that behalf shall carry on the business of money-lending;
(b) prescribe the maximum rate of interest which may be charged or be recovered by a money-lender;

(c) provide for the maintenance of accounts by money-lenders and for the inspection of such accounts by officers appointed in that behalf by the District Council;

(d) prescribe that no person who is not a member of the Scheduled Tribes resident in the District shall carry on wholesale or retail business in any commodity except under a licence issued in that behalf by the District Council:

Provided that no regulations may be made under this paragraph unless they are passed by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the total membership of the District Council:

Provided further that it shall not be competent under any such regulations to refuse the grant of a licence to a money-lender or a trader who has been carrying on business within the District since before the time of the making of such regulations.

(3) All regulations made under this paragraph shall be submitted forthwith to the Governor and, until assented to by him, shall have no effect.

11. Publication of laws, rules and regulations made under the Schedule.-All laws, rules and regulations made under this Schedule by a District Council or a Regional Council shall be published forthwith in the Official Gazette of the State and shall on such publication have the force of law.


(1) Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution-

A) no Act of the 496[Legislature of the State of Assam] in respect of any of the matters specified in paragraph 3 of this Schedule as matters with respect to which a District Council or a Regional Council may make laws, and no Act of the
(a) if any provision of a law made by a District or Regional Council in the State of Meghalaya with respect to any matter specified in sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 3 of this Schedule or if any provision of any regulation made by a District Council or a Regional Council in that State under paragraph 8 or paragraph 10 of this Schedule, is repugnant to any provision of a law made by the Legislature of the State of Meghalaya with respect to that matter, then, the law or regulation made by the District Council or, as the case may be, the Regional Council whether made before or after the law made by the
Legislature of the State of Meghalaya, shall, to the extent of repugnancy, be void and the law made by the Legislature of the State of Meghalaya shall prevail;

(b) the President may, with respect to any Act of Parliament, by notification, direct that it shall not apply to an autonomous District or an autonomous region in the State of Meghalaya, or shall apply to such District or region or any part thereof subject to such exceptions or modifications as he may specify in the notification and any such direction may be given so as to have retrospective effect.

499[12AA. Application of Acts of Parliament and of the Legislature of the State of Tripura to the autonomous District and autonomous regions in the State of Tripura.- Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution,-

(a) no Act of the Legislature of the State of Tripura in respect of any of the matters specified in paragraph 3 of this Schedule as matters with respect to which a District Council or a Regional Council may make laws, and no Act of the Legislature of the State of Tripura prohibiting or restricting the consumption of any non-distilled alcoholic liquor shall apply to the autonomous District or any autonomous region in that State unless, in either case, the District Council for that District or having jurisdiction over such region by public notification so directs, and the District Council in giving such direction with respect to any Act may direct that the Act shall, in its application to that District or such region or any part thereof, have effect subject to such exceptions or modifications as it thinks fit;

(b) the Governor may, by public notification, direct that any Act of the Legislature of the State of Tripura to which the provisions of clause (a) of this sub-paragraph do not apply, shall not apply to the autonomous District or an autonomous region in that State, or shall apply to that District or such region, or any part thereof, subject to such exceptions or modifications, as he may specify in the notification;

(c) the President may, with respect to any Act of Parliament, by notification, direct that it shall not apply to the autonomous District or an autonomous region in the State of Tripura.
Tripura, or shall apply to such District or region or any part thereof, subject to such exceptions or modifications as he may specify in the notification and any such direction may be given so as to have retrospective effect.


(a) no Act of the Legislature of the State of Mizoram in respect of any of the matters specified in paragraph 3 of this Schedule as matters with respect to which a District Council or a Regional Council may make laws, and no Act of the Legislature of the State of Mizoram prohibiting or restricting the consumption of any non-distilled alcoholic liquor shall apply to any autonomous District or autonomous region in that State unless, in either case, the District Council for such District or having jurisdiction over such region, by public notification, so directs, and the District Council, in giving such direction with respect to any Act, may direct that the Act shall, in its application to such District or region or any part thereof, have effect subject to such exceptions or modifications as it thinks fit;

(b) the Governor may, by public notification, direct that any Act of the Legislature of the State of Mizoram to which the provisions of clause (a) of this sub-paragraph do not apply, shall not apply to an autonomous District or an autonomous region in that State, or shall apply to such District or region, or any part thereof, subject to such exceptions or modifications, as he may specify in the notification;

(c) the President may, with respect to any Act of Parliament, by notification, direct that it shall not apply to an autonomous District or an autonomous region in the State of Mizoram, or shall apply to such District or region or any part thereof, subject to such exceptions or modifications as he may specify in the notification and any such direction may be given so as to have retrospective effect.}
13. Estimated receipts and expenditure pertaining to autonomous Districts to be shown separately in the annual financial statement.- The estimated receipts and expenditure pertaining to an autonomous District which are to be credited to, or is to be made from, the Consolidated Fund of the State shall be first placed before the District Council for discussion and then after such discussion be shown separately in the annual financial statement of the State to be laid before the Legislature of the State under article 202.

14. Appointment of Commission to inquire into and report on the administration of autonomous Districts and autonomous regions.- (1) The Governor may at any time appoint a Commission to examine and report on any matter specified by him relating to the administration of the autonomous Districts and autonomous regions in the State, including matters specified in clauses (c), (d), (e) and (f) of sub-paragraph (3) of paragraph 1 of this Schedule, or may appoint a Commission to inquire into and report from time to time on the administration of autonomous Districts and autonomous regions in the State generally and in particular on-

(a) the provision of educational and medical facilities and communications in such Districts and regions;

(b) the need for any new or special legislation in respect of such Districts and regions; and

(c) the administration of the laws, rules and regulations made by the District and Regional Councils; and define the procedure to be followed by such Commission.

(2) The report of every such Commission with the recommendations of the Governor with respect thereto shall be laid before the Legislature of the State by the Minister concerned together with an explanatory memorandum regarding the action proposed to be taken thereon by the Government of the State.
(3) In allocating the business of the Government of the State among his Ministers the Governor may place one of his Ministers specially in charge of the welfare of the autonomous Districts and autonomous regions in the State.

503 [(1) If at any time the Governor is satisfied that an act or resolution of a District or a Regional Council is likely to endanger the safety of India or is likely to be prejudicial to public order, he may annul or suspend such act or resolution and take such steps as he may consider necessary (including the suspension of the Council and the assumption to himself of all or any of the powers vested in or exercisable by the Council) to prevent the commission or continuance of such act, or the giving of effect to such resolution.

(2) Any order made by the Governor under sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph together with the reasons therefor shall be laid before the Legislature of the State as soon as possible and the order shall, unless revoked by the Legislature of the State, continue in force for a period of twelve months from the date on which it was so made:

Provided that if and so often as a resolution approving the continuance in force of such order is passed by the Legislature of the State, the order shall unless cancelled by the Governor continue in force for a further period of twelve months from the date on which under this paragraph it would otherwise have ceased to operate.

505 [(1) The Governor may on the recommendation of a Commission appointed under paragraph 14 of this Schedule by public notification order the dissolution of a District or a Regional Council, and-]
(a) direct that a fresh general election shall be held immediately for the reconstitution of the Council, or

(b) subject to the previous approval of the Legislature of the State assume the administration of the area under the authority of such Council himself or place the administration of such area under the Commission appointed under the said paragraph or any other body considered suitable by him for a period not exceeding twelve months:

Provided that when an order under clause (a) of this paragraph has been made, the Governor may take the action referred to in clause (b) of this paragraph with regard to the administration of the area in question pending the reconstitution of the Council on fresh general election:

Provided further that no action shall be taken under clause (b) of this paragraph without giving the District or the Regional Council, as the case may be, an opportunity of placing its views before the Legislature of the State.

(2) If at any time the Governor is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the administration of an autonomous District or region cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Schedule, he may, by public notification, assume to himself all or any of the functions or powers vested in or exercisable by the District Council or, as the case may be, the Regional Council and declare that such functions or powers shall be exercisable by such person or authority as he may specify in this behalf, for a period not exceeding six months:

Provided that the Governor may by a further order or orders extend the operation of the initial order by a period not exceeding six months on each occasion.

(3) Every order made under sub-paragraph (2) of this paragraph with the reasons therefor shall be laid before the Legislature of the State and shall cease to operate at the expiration of thirty days from the date on which the State Legislature first sits after the issue of the
order, unless, before the expiry of that period it has been approved by the State Legislature.]

17. Exclusion of areas from autonomous Districts in forming constituencies in such Districts.- For the purposes of elections to the Legislative Assembly of Assam or Meghalaya or Tripura or Mizoram, the Governor may by order declare that any area within an autonomous District in the State of Assam or Meghalaya or Tripura or Mizoram, as the case may be, shall not form part of any constituency to fill a seat or seats in the Assembly reserved for any such District but shall form part of a constituency to fill a seat or seats in the Assembly not so reserved to be specified in the order.

19. Transitional provisions.- (1) As soon as possible after the commencement of this Constitution the Governor shall take steps for the constitution of a District Council for each autonomous District in the State under this Schedule and, until a District Council is so constituted for an autonomous District, the administration of such District shall be vested in the Governor and the following provisions shall apply to the administration of the areas within such District instead of the foregoing provisions of this Schedule, namely:

(a) no Act of Parliament or of the Legislature of the State shall apply to any such area unless the Governor by public notification so directs; and the Governor in giving such a direction with respect to any Act may direct that the Act shall, in its application to the area or to any specified part thereof, have effect subject to such exceptions or modifications as he thinks fit;

(b) the Governor may make regulations for the peace and good government of any such area and any regulations so made may repeal or amend any Act of Parliament or of the Legislature of the State or any existing law which is for the time being applicable to such area.
(2) Any direction given by the Governor under clause (a) of sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph may be given so as to have retrospective effect.

(3) All regulations made under clause (b) of sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph shall be submitted forthwith to the President and, until assented to by him, shall have no effect.

513[20. Tribal areas.- (1) The areas specified in Parts I, II [514[,IIA] and III of the table below shall respectively be the tribal areas within the State of Assam, the State of Meghalaya [514[,the State of Tripura] and the [515[State] of Mizoram.

(2) [516[Any reference in Part I, Part II or Part III of the table below] to any District shall be construed as a reference to the territories comprised within the autonomous District of that name existing immediately before the day appointed under clause (b) of section 2 of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971:

Provided that for the purposes of clauses (e) and (f) of sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 3, paragraph 4, paragraph 5, paragraph 6, sub-paragraph (2), clauses (a), (b) and (d) of sub-paragraph (3) and sub-paragraph (4) of paragraph 8 and clause (d) of sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 10 of this Schedule, no part of the area comprised within the municipality of Shillong shall be deemed to be within the [517[Khasi Hills District].

[514[(3) The reference in Part IIA in the table below to the "Tripura Tribal Areas District" shall be construed as a reference to the territory comprising the tribal areas specified in the First Schedule to the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council Act, 1979.]

Part I

1. The North Cachar Hills District.
2. The Karbi Anglong District.

Part II

1. Khasi Hills District.

2. Jaintia Hills District.

3. The Garo Hills District.

[Part IIA

Tripura Tribal Areas District.]

Part III

[519]* * * *


2. The Mara District.

3. The Lai District.

[522]20A. Dissolution of the Mizo District Council.—(1) Notwithstanding anything in this Schedule, the District Council of the Mizo District existing immediately before the prescribed date (hereinafter referred to as the Mizo District Council) shall stand dissolved and cease to exist.
(2) The Administrator of the Union territory of Mizoram may, by one or more orders, provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:-

(a) the transfer, in whole or in part, of the assets, rights and liabilities of the Mizo District Council (including the rights and liabilities under any contract made by it) to the Union or to any other authority;

(b) the substitution of the Union or any other authority for the Mizo District Council, or the addition of the Union or any other authority, as a party to any legal proceedings to which the Mizo District Council is a party;

(c) the transfer or re-employment of any employees of the Mizo District Council to or by the Union or any other authority, the terms and conditions of service applicable to such employees after such transfer or re-employment;

(d) the continuance of any laws, made by the Mizo District Council and in force immediately before its dissolution, subject to such adaptations and modifications, whether by way of repeal or amendment, as the Administrator may make in this behalf, until such laws are altered, repealed or amended by a competent Legislature or other competent authority;

(e) such incidental, consequential and supplementary matters as the Administrator considers necessary.

Explanation.- In this paragraph and in paragraph 20B of this Schedule, the expression "prescribed date" means the date on which the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Mizoram is duly constituted under and in accordance with the provisions of the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963.

523 20B. Autonomous regions in the Union territory of Mizoram to be autonomous Districts and transitory provisions consequent thereto.—(1) Notwithstanding anything in this Schedule,—
(a) every autonomous region existing immediately before the prescribed date in the Union territory of Mizoram shall, on and from that date, be an autonomous District in that Union territory (hereafter referred to as the corresponding new District) and the Administrator thereof may, by one or more orders, direct that such consequential amendments as are necessary to give effect to the provisions of this clause shall be made in paragraph 20 of this Schedule (including Part III of the table appended to that paragraph) and thereupon the said paragraph and the said Part III shall be deemed to have been amended accordingly;

(b) every Regional Council of an autonomous region in the Union territory of Mizoram existing immediately before the prescribed date (hereafter referred to as the existing Regional Council) shall, on and from that date and until a District Council is duly constituted for the corresponding new District, be deemed to be the District Council of that District (hereafter referred to as the corresponding new District Council).

(2) Every member whether elected or nominated of an existing Regional Council shall be deemed to have been elected or, as the case may be, nominated to the corresponding new District Council and shall hold office until a District Council is duly constituted for the corresponding new District under this Schedule.

(3) Until rules are made under sub-paragraph (7) of paragraph 2 and sub-paragraph (4) of paragraph 4 of this Schedule by the corresponding new District Council, the rules made under the said provisions by the existing Regional Council and in force immediately before the prescribed date shall have effect in relation to the corresponding new District Council subject to such adaptations and modifications as may be made therein by the Administrator of the Union territory of Mizoram.

(4) The Administrator of the Union territory of Mizoram may, by one or more orders, provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:-
(a) the transfer in whole or in part of the assets, rights and liabilities of the existing Regional Council (including the rights and liabilities under any contract made by it) to the corresponding new District Council;

(b) the substitution of the corresponding new District Council for the existing Regional Council as a party to the legal proceedings to which the existing Regional Council is a party;

(c) the transfer or re-employment of any employees of the existing Regional Council to or by the corresponding new District Council, the terms and conditions of service applicable to such employees after such transfer or re-employment;

(d) the continuance of any laws made by the existing Regional Council and in force immediately before the prescribed date, subject to such adaptations and modifications, whether by way of repeal or amendment, as the Administrator may make in this behalf until such laws are altered, repealed or amended by a competent Legislature or other competent authority;

(e) such incidental, consequential and supplementary matters as the Administrator considers necessary.

20C. Interpretation.- Subject to any provision made in this behalf, the provisions of this Schedule shall, in their application to the Union territory of Mizoram, have effect-

(1) as if references to the Governor and Government of the State were references to the Administrator of the Union territory appointed under article 239, references to State (except in the expression "Government of the State") were references to the Union territory of Mizoram and references to the State Legislature were references to the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Mizoram;

(2) as if-
(a) in sub-paragraph (5) of paragraph 4, the provision for consultation with
the Government of the State concerned had been omitted;

(b) in sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 6, for the words "to which the executive
power of the State extends", the words "with respect to which the
Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Mizoram has power to
make laws" had been substituted;

(c) in paragraph 13, the words and figures "under article 202" had been
omitted.]]

21. Amendment of the Schedule.- (1) Parliament may from time to time
by law amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any of the provisions
of this Schedule and, when the Schedule is so amended, any reference to
this Schedule in this Constitution shall be construed as a reference to such
Schedule as so amended.

2) No such law as is mentioned in sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph shall be
deemed to be an amendment of this Constitution for the purposes of article
368.
APPENDIX – VI

Recommendations of Commissions on North East on Local Self Government:

The existing position of local self-governance in the various North-eastern States, the Commission makes the following general recommendations:-

(i) Careful steps should be taken to devolve political powers through the intermediate and local-level traditional political organisations, provided their traditional practices carried out in a modern world do not deny legitimate democratic rights to any section in their contemporary society. The details of state-wise steps to devolve such powers will have to be carefully considered in a proper representative meeting of traditional leaders of each community, opinion builders of the respective communities and leaders of state and national stature from these very groups. A hasty decision could have serious repercussions, unforeseen and unfortunate, which could further complicate and worsen the situation. To begin with, the subjects given under the Sixth Schedule and those mentioned in the Eleventh Schedule could be entrusted to the Autonomous District Councils (ADCs). The system of in-built safeguards in the Sixth Schedule, should be maintained and strengthened for the minority and micro-minority groups while empowering them with greater responsibilities and opportunities, for example, through the process of Central funding for Plan expenditure instead of routing all funds through the State Governments. The North Eastern Council can play a central role here by developing a process of public education on the proposed changes, which would assure communities about protection of their traditions and also bring in gender representation and give voice to other ethnic groups.
(ii) Traditional forms of governance must be associated with self-governance because of the present dissatisfaction. However, positive democratic elements like gender justice and adult franchise should be built into these institutions to make them broader based and capable of dealing with a changing world.

(iii) The implementation of centrally funded projects from various departments of the Union Government should be entrusted to the ADCs and to revived village councils with strict audit by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.

(iv) The process of protection of identity and the process of development and change are extremely sensitive. These twin processes need to be understood in the framework of a changing world and the role of all communities, small and large, in that world. Therefore, the North Eastern Council should be mandated to conduct an intensive programme of public awareness, sensitization and education through non-government organizations, State Governments, and its own structure to help bring about such an understanding of the proposals given below.

(v) The provisions of the Anti-Defection Law in the proposed revised form as now recommended by the Commission, vide paragraph 4.18.2 shall be made applicable to all the Sixth Schedule areas.

(vi) Given the demographic imbalance which is taking place in the North-East as a result of illegal migration from across the borders, urgent legal steps are necessary for preventing such groups from entering electoral rolls and citizenship rolls of the country. The recommendations of this Commission for issuance of multi-purpose identity cards to all Indian citizens be made mandatory for all Indian residents in the North East on a high-priority basis and the Citizenship Act should be reviewed to plug the loopholes which enable illegal settlers to become ‘virtual’ citizens in a short span of time, using a network of touts, politicians and officials.
(vii) A National Immigration Council be set up under law to examine and report on a range of issues including Work Permits for legal migrants, Identity Cards for all residents and the enactment of a National Migration Law and a National Refugee Law, review of the Citizenship Act, the Illegal Migrants Determination by Tribunal Act and the Foreigners Act.

(viii) Local communities be involved in the monitoring of our borders, in association with the local police and the Border Security Force.

Assam: The division of the composite State of Assam led to the drawing of new boundaries. The North Cachar hills sub-division of the United Mikir and Cachar Hills District was upgraded to a District in 1970. The Mikir Hills District section was renamed as Karbi Anglong in 1976. Both the Districts have Autonomous Councils. For each autonomous District, the Sixth Schedule provides for District Council consisting of not more than 30 members for a term of five years. The Governor nominates not more than four members to the Council while the others are elected on the basis of adult suffrage. The Chief Executive Member (CEM), the Chairman and the deputy Chairman (equivalent to Speaker and the deputy Speaker) are elected from among the Members and the CEM selects the other executive members.

There are different internal rules for different Autonomous District Councils. In some Councils like Mara in Mizoram, the electorate are eligible adults and in certain others like Karbi Anglong right to access to traditional lands and length of stay in the region are regarded as qualifying criteria for being included in the voters' list for the ADCs.

As regards Assam, the Commission recommends that (1) the Sixth Schedule should be extended to the Bodoland Autonomous Council with protection for non-tribal, non-Bodo groups, (2) other Autonomous Councils be upgraded to Autonomous Development Councils with more Central funds for infrastructure development; within the purview of the 73rd Amendment but also using traditional governing systems at the village level.
Mizoram: In Mizoram, there are three Autonomous District Councils (ADCs), namely, the Lai, Mara and Chakma. The Chakma ADC has 13 elected members and 3 nominated members. The Lai ADC has 23 elected and 4 nominated members. The Mara ADC has 19 elected and 4 nominated members.

As regards Mizoram, the Commission makes the following recommendations:-

(1) An intermediary elected 30-member tier be developed at the District level in areas not covered by the Sixth Schedule, i.e., excluding the Chakma, Lai and Mara District Autonomous Councils. There would thus be two tiers below the State Legislature: the District and the Village.

(2) Village Councils in non-Scheduled areas be given more administrative and judicial powers; two or more villages be combined to form one village council, given the small population in the State.

(3) Consideration be given to groups seeking Sixth Schedule status, depending on viability of the demand, including size of population, territorial and ethnic contiguity.

(4) Central funding as outlined in general recommendations be provided to the ADCs.

(5) Nominated seats for women, non-tribal and Sixth Schedule tribes in non-scheduled area (not to exceed six over and above the size of the Councils, making a total of 36 members); current size of ADCs be increased to 30 with a similar provision for women and non-scheduled tribes.
APPENDIX VII

Map of Assam and BTC

UNLESS SPECIFIED NAME OF DISTRICT AND HEADQUARTER IS SAME OTHERWISE INDICATED.
APPENDIX VIII

Mandate of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs:

Introduction: The Ministry

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs was constituted in October, 1999 by bifurcation of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment with the objective of more focused attention on integrated socio-economic Development of the most under privileged section of Indian society, the Scheduled Tribes (STs) in a coordinated and planned manner. During the period prior to the formation of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs matters concerning tribal welfare and development were dealt at Government of India level by the Ministries, as named below, at different point of time:

1. As a Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs known as Tribal Division since after independence up to September 1985.


The Ministry started functioning in October 1999 with the Schemes/Programmes dealt by the erstwhile Tribal Division of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and continued with these schemes in the year 1999-2000. The following Schemes of tribal welfare and development were transferred to this Ministry during the current year:

Post-Matric Scholarship

Coaching a Allied Scheme
Coaching a Allied Scheme
Up-gradation o merit Scheme; and
National Overseas Scholarships

The process of the Constitution of National Level Tribal Development & Finance Corporation by bifurcation of National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has been completed during the year making it possible for the new corporation to commence its concentrated operation on economic development of Scheduled Tribes from April 2001.

MANDATE OF THE MINISTRY

The following is the mandate of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs:

(i) Tribal Welfare-Planning, Policy formulation, Research and Training.

(ii) Tribal development including scholarships to STs

(iii) Promotion of voluntary efforts in development of STs

(iv) Administrative Ministry with respect to matters concerning:

☐ Scheduled Areas;
- Autonomous Districts of Assam excluding roads and bridge works and ferries thereon;

- Regulations framed by Governors of State for Scheduled Areas and for Tribal Areas specified in pat a of Table appended to paragraph 20 of Sixth Schedule to the Constitution;

- National Commission for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes in so far as they relate to STs; and

- Issue of directions regarding the drawing up and execution of Schemes essential for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the Nodal Ministry for overall policy, planning and coordination of programmes of development for Scheduled Tribes.

**CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES:**

For the protection, socio-economic and political development of Scheduled Tribes, the Constitution of India guarantees:

(i) Social:

Equality before Law (Article 14)

The State to make special provisions for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes and the
Scheduled Tribes [Article 15 (4)]

Equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State (Article 16)

The State to make provisions in matters of promotion to any class or classes of posts in the services in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Article 16 (4A)) ·

A National Commission for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes to investigate, monitor and evaluate all matters relating to the Constitutional safeguards provided for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Article 338) ·

Appointment of a Commission to report on the administration of the Scheduled Areas and the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the States (Article339) ·

Appointment of Commission to investigate the conditions of socially and educationally backward classes and the difficulties under which they labour and to make recommendations to remove such difficulties and to improve their conditions (Article-340) ·

To specify the Tribes or Tribal communities to be Scheduled Tribes (Article 342)

(ii) ECONOMIC:

The State to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the
Scheduled Tribes and protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation (Article 46)

Grant-in-aid from the Consolidated Fund of India each year for promoting the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes and administration of Scheduled Areas [Article 275(1)]

The claims of the members of the Scheduled Tribes in the appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State to be taken into consideration consistent with the maintenance of efficiency of administration [Article 335]

(iii) POLITICAL

Through the Fifth Schedule, the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and the Scheduled Tribes in any State, other than the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram by ensuring submission of Annual Report by the Governors to the President of India regarding the Administration of the Scheduled Areas and setting up of a Tribal Advisory Council to advise on such matters pertaining to the welfare and advancement of the Scheduled Tribes [Article 244 (1)]

Special provisions through the Sixth Schedule for the administration of Tribal Areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram by designating certain tribal areas as Autonomous Districts and Autonomous Regions and also by constituting District Councils, Autonomous Councils and Regional Councils [Article 244 (21)]

Reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the House
of the People [Article 330] · Reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assemblies of the States [Article 332]

Reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes for the Scheduled Tribes in every Panchayat [Article 243D]

Extension of the 73rd and 74th Amendments of the Constitution to the Scheduled Areas through the Panchayats [Extension to the Scheduled Areas] Act. 1996 to ensure effective participation of the tribal in the process of planning and decision making.

RECENT INITIATIVES OF THE MINISTRY

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has taken up the following initiatives for more focused attention on tribal welfare and development.

(i) Direction to States for adoption of Maharashtra pattern of planning and devolution of funds earmarked for Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) areas. In Maharashtra, the funds earmarked for TSP are placed with Tribal Development Department of State Government which releases funds to different line departments for execution of developmental works under TSP. This process ensures better utilisation of TSP funds for tribal areas.

(ii) Introduction of a new central sector Scheme exclusively for development of the most underdeveloped group among the tribal, the Primitive Tribal Groups.

(iii) Promotion of more, Non-Governmental organisations [NGOs] in the field or tribal development.
(iv) Enforcement of strict monitoring mechanism in performance of NGOs through the officers of the Ministry and also by involvement of State Government machinery to identify the non-performing NGOs and weeding them out.

(v) Identifying non-Governmental Organisations which have an all India character and known for their selfless service. Such identified NGOs be known as Established Voluntary Agencies [EVA].

(vi) Setting up of a National Institute for research & Training in Tribal Affairs [NITA] as an apex body of state level Tribal Research Institutes.

(vii) Revision of Schemes raising the cost heads to realistic and workable limits.

(viii) Enlistment of more work programmes/activities mostly on income generation & skill development to the list of projects for Grants-in-aid to NGOs and also making provisions for cent per cent project cost as grants in most deserving cases.

(ix) Enhancement of rates of fellowships, scholarships and grants for supporting projects, seminars and publications.
Memorandum of Settlement of the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) 2003

New Delhi, Magha 21, 1924
February 10, 2003

The Centre, Government of Assam and the BLT today signed a Memorandum of Settlement for resolving the Bodo problem. The MOS was signed in presence of Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister, Shri L.K. Advani, and the Assam Chief Minister, Shri Tarun Gagoi at the North-Block office in New Delhi. The following is the details of the agreement:

In response to the policy of the Central Government for peace negotiations; the Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT) had unilaterally suspended its operations w.e.f. July 14, 1999. Subsequently, Union Home Minister had made a statement in both the houses of Parliament on the suspension of operations by Security Forces against BLT. The Chief Minister, Assam had also made similar announcement at Guwahati.

The BLT had subsequently submitted a Memorandum of Demands to resolve the Bodo problem. Tripartite talks were held between the Government of India, Government of Assam and BLT and as a results of these discussions a memorandum of Settlement (MoS) has been signed with BLT on 10th February, 2003 in the presence of Shri L.K. Advani, Deputy Prime Minister and Shri Tarun Gogoi, Chief Minister.

The main provisions of the MoS relate to creation of an Autonomous self governing body to be known as Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) within the State of Assam and provision of Constitutional protection under the Sixth
Schedule of the Constitution of India to the said Autonomous Body; to fulfill economic, educational and linguistic aspirations, socio-cultural and ethnic identity of the Bodos; and to speed up the infrastructure development in BTC area. The existing Bodoland Autonomous Council will be abolished with the creation of BTC.

The area of the proposed BTC will comprise of 3082 identified villages and areas. These villages and areas will be divided into 4 contiguous Districts after reorganization of the existing Districts of Assam within a period of 6 months of the signing of the agreement subject to clearance of the Delimitation Commission. A Committee comprising one representative each from Governments of India & Assam and BLT will decide by consensus on the inclusion of additional 95 villages and areas in the BTC on the basis of the criteria of tribal population being not less than 50% contiguity or any other agreed relevant criteria within a period of three months of signing of the MoS.

Adequate safeguards have been built in the Agreement to ensure that the non-tribal in the BTC area are not disadvantaged in relation to any rights and privileges including land rights presently enjoyed by them at the commencement of BTC.

Government has also agreed to consider favourably the Bodos demand for inclusion of the Bodo language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. A Centrally funded Central Institute of Technology will be set up to impart education in various technological/vocational disciplines. This Institute will be subsequently upgraded to a Centrally funded State University. Government has also agreed to provide Rs.100 crores per annum over a period of five years for infrastructure development in the BTC area. Government
will also sympathetically consider demand of Bodo Cacharis living in the jurisdiction of Karbi Anglong District area for ST (Hills) status.
Landmark developments culminating in the signing of the Bodo Accord, February 10, 2003

The BLT [earlier the Bodo Liberation Tiger Force (BLTF)] had been observing a ceasefire with the government that it announced unilaterally responding to the government's offer of talks in 1999. This ceasefire was formally agreed to in March 2000 and subsequently at the January-20, 2003 tripartite meeting was extended till February 21, 2003.

Formation
BLTF was established on June 18, 1996, under the leadership of Prem Singh Brahma. Currently the outfit is known as the Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT).

Objectives
BLT's projects its major objectives as:

- creation of a separate State of Bodoland in the north bank of the Brahmaputra;
- creation of an autonomous District council in the south bank of the Brahmaputra;
- inclusion of the Bodos of Karbi Anglong District in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

Leadership
Hagrama Basumatary is the 'Chairman-cum-commander-in-Chief' of BLT. Other important leaders of the BLT include Kamal Mushahray alias Chandran Narzari, 'vice-Chairman'; and Mainao Daimary, 'publicity secretary' and the 'secretary general' Derhasat Basumatary.

Areas of Operation
The BLTF is active in the Nalbari District of Assam.

Linkages
The BLTF is reported to have hideouts in Bhutan.

Incidents 2003
• August 6: Lok Sabha (Lower House of Indian Parliament) passes the BTC bill.

• August 1: BTC bill tabled in Lok Sabha (Lower House of Indian Parliament).

• July 30: BLT Chairman Hagrama Basumatary says that BLT cadres under the Karbi Anglong and Tiwa, Mising and Rabha-Hasong Autonomous Council jurisdictions in Assam would not surrender arms until Bodos there are given 'status' at par with the other tribes.

• July 14: Parliamentary Standing Committee clears BTC Bill, agreement for which was signed with the BLT.

• July 14: Parliamentary Standing Committee clears the BTC Bill.

• June 30: BLT Chairman Hagrama Basumatary urges the Government for a speedy implementation of the BTC Accord signed on February 10, 2003 and also appeals to the rival outfit NDFB to join the peace process.

• June 22: NDFB terrorists ambush a motorbike-borne BLT group at Dhigalpara under the Bismuri police outpost, Kokrajhar District killing a BLT cadre identified as Bhatra Basumatary.

• June 17: Report indicates that the BLT has issued 'directives' to timber smugglers in Kokrajhar District not to fell any tree or carry them from the reserve forests.

• June 11: Media reports indicate that the NDFB has issued threats, among others to the leaders of its rival BLT.

• May 28: Railway Protection Force identifies four insurgency prone sectors in the Northeast and says that the BLT is active in the Guwahati-Rangiya-Srirampur and the Rangiya-Rangapara sector.

• May 27: Report indicates that the Union Government is likely to promulgate an ordinance to give effect to the provisions of the Agreement signed on February
10, 2003 with the Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT) stipulating creation of an autonomous Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC).

- May 9: Bodo Members of Parliament, U.G. Brahma and S.K. Bwismutiary, meet Deputy Prime Minister L.K. Advani and discuss the status of the Bodo areas as proposed under the BTC agreement which was signed on February 10, 2003.

- May 6: Union Cabinet decides to amend, among others, the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution to incorporate necessary changes required for the passage of the BTC Bill by the Parliament.

- April 17: Supreme Court admits petition filed by former Bodoland Autonomous Council (BAC) Chairman Kanakeswar Narzary challenging the Memorandum of Settlement (MoS), signed, on February 10, 2003, between the Union and Assam Governments and the BLT.

- March 25: BLT 'Chairman' Hagrama Basumatary reassures non-Bodos in the proposed BTC area of the protection of their rights and 'privileges'.

- March 24: Suspected BLT cadres kill a correspondent of a vernacular daily at Banyatari, Gauripur police station-limits, Darrang District.

- February 11: BLT Chairman Hagrama Basumatary says if the BTC Accord signed on February 10 is executed in letter and spirit, the Bodos will not have to go for another accord in future to assert their rights and development.

- February 10: At tripartite meeting in New Delhi, representatives of Union and State governments sign agreement with Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT) delegation approving formation of the BTC in Bodo dominated areas of Assam.

- February 8: Prime Minister Vajpayee expresses confidence that negotiations with BLT would yield a "positive agreement" while speaking at a Chief Ministers' Conference on Internal Security in New Delhi.
• February 5: BLT says it might sign agreement with the Union and the Assam governments at the next round of tripartite meeting likely be held on February 10.

• February 3: Assam Cabinet meeting in Guwahati endorses decision to reserve 30 seats for Bodo community, five for non-Bodos and that five more are left open for contest in the proposed 40-member Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC).

BLT 'vice-Chairman' Kamal Mushahary says the outfit is ready to accept Assam government's modified formula for reservation of seats in the proposed BTC for tribal and non-tribal.

• January 27: Suspected BLT terrorists kill colleague and four members of his family, including two women, at Duligaon, Dhubri District.

• January 20: Cease-fire with BLT extended till February 21 at the end of a tripartite meeting between Assam government, BLT and Union Home Ministry officials in New Delhi.

• January 13: Deputy Premier L.K. Advani expresses optimism that peace process with BLT would succeed and difficulties in creating the BTC would shortly be overcome.

• January 9: BLT demands that proposed BTC should consist of 45 constituencies instead of 40 when its delegation led by vice-president Kamal Mushahary meets Assam State Health Minister Bhumidhar Barman and Minister of Fisheries and Welfare of Plain Tribes and Backward Classes Bharat Narah.

• January 6: BLT secretary general Derhasat Basumatary announces that the outfit would not observe cease-fire beyond January 21 if decision on proposed BTC is not arrived at.

• January 6: BLT alleges that all-party meetings delay the resolution of differences over boundary of the BTC.
• January 2: State-level all party meeting to finalise the BTC boundary and share of non-Bodos in the proposed Council ends indecisively in Guwahati.

• January 1: Assam police personnel rescue civilian from Akashi Ganga, bordering Nagaon and Karbi Anglong Districts of Assam following encounter in which two abductors alleged to be BLT terrorists are killed. The civilian was held captive since December 21, 2002.

2002

• December 18: Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi appeals to Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT) to act responsibly over the creation of the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC). He also asks the BLT to accept extension beyond December 22 of the cease-fire agreement with the Union government.

• December 17: BLT threatens to resume violence if the BTC is not formed.

Reports indicate that the BLT has 'ordered' businessmen not to indulge in 'illicit trade' of liquor and lotteries in Assam's Kokrajhar District.

• September 10: Deputy Prime Minister L K Advani discusses Bodo issue with a BLT delegation that included 'vice Chairman' Kamal Mushahary and 'publicity secretary' Mainoo Daimari. Advani informs the BLT leaders that an inter-ministerial meeting would be held on October 13 and 14 to work out an economic package for Bodo areas.

• August 6: BLT sets free 17 Utterkuchi villagers held hostage since August 3 in Nalbari District Assam.

• August 3: Suspected BLT cadres beat up and threaten forest officials near Boko, Kamrup District, following the officials refusal to let go a raft they had seized and which was allegedly carrying illegal timber consignment. Suspected BLT cadres abduct 17 non-Bodo villagers from Utterkuchi village, Nalbari District.
July 18: At a tripartite meeting in New Delhi, Union government agrees to defer the ban on the BLT and continue to suspend operations, for another six months beginning July 21, against the outfit.

July 16: BLT alleges that Adivasi Cobra terrorists were responsible for the July 14-massacre of nine Adivasis in Kokrajhar District.

June 18: BLT observes Sixth 'foundation day' in Kokarajhar.

May 15: BLT executive committee reiterates that boundaries of the proposed BTC should be in conformity with its demands. Also, it says it may stop participating in the tripartite meetings.

May 6: Delhi tripartite meeting on the BTC between the BLT, Assam government and Union government ends inconclusively.

May 4: BLT president Hagrama Basumatary is quoted as saying that the BLT would rethink on its further participation in the tripartite talks with the State and Union governments on the BTC issue.

March 23, 24: BLT leaders participate in the tripartite meeting with the Assam government and the Union government. Decision taken to allow the Assam government to formulate modalities for amendment to the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution taken.

February 13: State Cabinet formally approves the formation of Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) under the modified Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India, with adequate and specific safeguards of the rights of the non-Bodos.

February 12: Suspected BLT terrorists allegedly kill a businessman at Basugaon in Kokarajhar. Victim's father was also seriously injured in the incident.
- February 10: Sub-Committee of the Assam State Cabinet meets leaders of the BLTF at Dispur.

- January 31: The Sonitpur 'District Chairman' of the BLT, Shanti Basumatary killed at Gajenpathar, under Gohpur police station limits, by the suspected National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) terrorists.

2001

- September 15: Decision taken to extend cease-fire with the BLTF till January 21, 2002.

- March 20: 10 BLTF terrorists arrested at Rani while collecting an extortion amount of Rs 80,000.

2000

- December 23: Government of Bhutan blames the BLTF for the massacre of its citizens in Assam.

- December 21: Sixteen civilians, including ten Bhutanese traders, killed in separate incidents by suspected BLTF terrorists in Barpeta, Darrang and Nalbari District.

- December 12: 11 BLTF terrorists killed in an internecine clash with terrorists of the rival National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) in Barpeta District.

- September 12: Suspension of operations by security forces against the BLTF in Assam further extended for one year following an agreement between the Central government, the Assam Government and the BLTF. The extension comes into effect on September 15.

- March 29: Union government and BLTF arrive at an agreement on 'ground rules for truce' and to set up a Joint Monitoring Group to oversee the ceasefire.
• March 15: Union Home Minister L.K. Advani informs Parliament that operations against the BLTF have been suspended after the group agreed to abide by the Indian Constitution.

1998 October 11: BLTF terrorists kill 13 Assamese and Bengali-speaking people in Darrang District.

• August 15: BLTF terrorists kill seven people.