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Country/ entity India
Bodoland

Region Asia and Pacific
Asia and Pacific

Agreement name Memorandum of Settlement

Date 27 Jan 2020

Agreement status Multiparty signed/agreed

Interim arrangement Yes

Agreement/ conflict level Intrastate/intrastate conflict (India-Adivasi Conflicts (1955 -) (Northeast India))

Stage Implementation/renegotiation

Conflict nature Government/territory

Peace process India Bodoland peace process

Parties Lawrence Islary
General Secretary, ABSU

Pramod Boro
President, ABSU

Ranjan Dalmary
NDFB

Gbbinda Basumatary
NDFB

B. Saoraigwra
NDFB

Dhirendra Boro
NDFB

Mihineswar Basumatary
President, UBPO

Kumar Sanjay Krishna
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Assam

Satyendra Garg
Joint Secretary (NE) MHA


Third parties Signing of the agreement is witnessed by: -

Hagrama Mohilary
(CEM, BTC)

Himanta Biswa Sarma
(Cabinet Minister, Assam)

Sarbananda Sonowal
(CM, Assam)

Description This agreement deals primarily with development initiatives and the running of Bodoland territories. It also includes provisions related to the disarmament and reintegration of NDFB factions.

Agreement document [IN_200127_Memorandum-of-Settlement-BTAD-2.pdf](#)  | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/ youth	Groups→Children/youth→Other Page 5, 10. Special Developmental Package 10.2 Bodo youth will be considered for recruitment in Army, Paramilitary forces and Police to increase their representation in the forces. Pre-recruitment training rallies will be organized by the agencies to facilitate the process.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.

Racial/
ethnic/
national
group

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive
Also see cross-reference with indigenous group.

Page 1,

1. The Government of India and Government of Assam have been making concerted efforts to fulfill the political, economic, social, cultural and identity related aspirations of Bodo people. Tripartite agreements in 1993 and 2003 were signed leading to creation of Bodoland Autonomous and Bodoland Territorial Councils under the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution for Bodo inhabited areas in Assam. ABSU and its associated organizations as well as various factions of NDFB continued with the demand for separate Statehood. Negotiations were held with Bodo organizations for a comprehensive and final solution to their demands while keeping intact the territorial integrity of the State of Assam.

Page 1, 2. Objectives of the MoS

- i. to augment area and powers of BTC and streamline its functioning;
- ii. to address issues relating to Bodos residing outside BTAD;
- iii. to promote and protect social, cultural, linguistic and ethnic identities of Bodos;
- iv. to provide legislative safeguards for land rights of tribals;
- v. to ensure accelerated development of tribal areas; and
- vi. to rehabilitate members of NDFB factions.

Page 1, 3. Alteration of Area of BTAD

3.1 A commission will be appointed under Paragraph 14 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution soon after signing of the MoS to examine and recommend on the following:-

- i. Inclusion of villages contiguous to BTAD and having majority tribal population, as demanded by Bodo organisations.
- ii. Exclusion of villages currently under BTAD which are contiguous to non-Sixth Schedule areas and have majority non tribal population.
- iii. Increase in constituencies of BTC upto the maximum of 60 seats after alteration in the area, without adversely affecting the existing percentage of reservation for tribals.

3.2 The Commission will include representatives of the State Government as well as other stakeholders including ABSU and BTC as its members. It will submit its recommendation within six months from the date of notification.

3.3 The existing Bodoland Territorial Areas District (BTAD) shall be renamed as Bodoland Territorial Region comprising area covered under BTAD.

3.4 Government of Assam may consider reorganizing the districts consequent to alteration of area of BTAD on administrative considerations.

Page 2, 4. Review of Powers and Functions of BTC

4.1 The process of BTC to have more legislative, executive, administrative and financial powers in respect of additional subjects as enumerated at Annexure-I will be initiated within 90 days.

4.2 Principal Secretary, BTC will have monitoring powers of Registration Department within BTAD area.

4.3 Amendments to Article 280 and the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution as per the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2019 to improve the financial resources and administrative powers of BTC has been initiated. The Constitution Amendment Bill was introduced in the Parliament in January, 2019.

Religious groups No specific mention.

Indigenous people → Groups → Indigenous people → Substantive
Also see cross-reference with indigenous group.

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Other groups No specific mention.

Refugees/
displaced
persons No specific mention.

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women,
girls and
gender No specific mention.

Men and
boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of
state
(general) No specific mention.

State
configuration No specific mention.

Self
determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)	<p>Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references Page 2</p> <p>4. Review of Powers and Functions of BTC</p> <p>4.1 The process of BTC to have more legislative, executive, administrative and financial powers in respect of additional subjects as enumerated at Annexure-I will be initiated within 90 days.</p> <p>4.2 Principal Secretary, BTC will have monitoring powers of Registration Department within BTAD area.</p> <p>4.3 Amendments to Article 280 and the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution as per the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2019 to improve the financial resources and administrative powers of BTC has been initiated. The Constitution Amendment Bill was introduced in the Parliament in January, 2019.</p> <p>4.4 Executive functions of BTC shall be exercised through its Chief Executive Officer not below the rank of Principal Secretary to Government of Assam. Senior most officers of various Departments of BTC shall not be below the rank of Addl. Secretary to Government of Assam.</p> <p>4.5 Deputy Commissioners and Superintendents of Police of the districts within BTAD will be posted normally in consultation with Chief Executive Member of BTC.</p> <p>4.6 Deputy Commissioners in BTAD will report to Chief Executive Member of BTC through Chief Executive Officer in respect of all developmental activities in their districts with regard to the responsibilities assigned to them by BTC.</p> <p>4.7 A tripartite mechanism, headed by the Cabinet Minister of Government of Assam looking after BTC affairs, and with Chief Executive Member of BTC and a representative of MHA as members, shall be set up to periodically review (not less than once in six months) the status of all laws/regulations passed by BTC and sent to the State Government for assent of Governor of Assam.</p> <p>4.8 A tripartite mechanism headed by the Chief Secretary of Government of Assam and having Chief Executive Officer of BTC and a representative of MHA as members, shall be set up to periodically review (not less than once in six months) status of all proposals of BTC pending with the State Government relating to creation of new posts and posting of officers to the vacant posts.</p>
Elections	No specific mention.
Electoral commission	No specific mention.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.

Civil society	Page 4 9. Settlement with NDFB factions ... 9.3 A committee headed by IGP, Special Branch, Assam with representatives of other Departments as members will make an assessment of rehabilitation needs of the cadres based on age profile, educational qualification, general area of residence, etc. The Committee may also involve successful entrepreneurs/NGOs in this effort.
Traditional/ religious leaders	No specific mention.
Public administration	No specific mention.
Constitution	Governance→Constitution→Constitution affirmation/renewal Page 2 4.3 Amendments to Article 280 and the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution as per the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2019 to improve the financial resources and administrative powers of BTC has been initiated. The Constitution Amendment Bill was introduced in the Parliament in January, 2019. Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making Page 2 4. Review of Powers and Functions of BTC ... 4.3 Amendments to Article 280 and the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution as per the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2019 to improve the financial resources and administrative powers of BTC has been initiated. The Constitution Amendment Bill was introduced in the Parliament in January, 2019.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional No specific mention.
Laws

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
Page 1
2. Objectives of the MoS

...

v. to ensure accelerated development of tribal areas;

Page 3

5. Provisions for Bodos outside BTAD

5.1 Government of Assam shall set up a Bodo-Kachari Welfare Council for focussed development of Bodo villages outside BTAD in the lines of other existing Councils for Plains Tribes. State Government will consult Bodo organisations and existing Councils before notifying areas to be included in the proposed Bodo-Kachari Council.

5.2 An Advisory Committee comprising representatives of Government of Assam, BTC and Bodo-Kachari Welfare Council shall be set up to identify specific developmental needs of Bodo villages outside BTAD and advise the State Government.

Page 5

10. Special Developmental Package

10.1 Government of Assam may earmark a sum of Rs. 250 crores per annum for a period of three years for development of area under BTC. GoI may contribute an additional amount of Rs. 250 Crores per annum for the same period. Illustrative lists of specific projects to be taken up on priority under the Special Development Package are appended at Annexure- II, III & IV.

10.2 Bodo youth will be considered for recruitment in Army, Paramilitary forces and Police to increase their representation in the forces. Pre-recruitment training rallies will be organized by the agencies to facilitate the process.

Page 9

Annexure - III

Industries and Employment generation projects

GoI

1. Development of Industrial Estates at Ramphalbill (Kokrajhar District) and Kokilaribari (Baksa District) for setting up small/medium industries.

2. Food processing plants with cold storage facilities at identified centers.

3. Training, production and marketing centres for Handloom and Textile products at identified locations.

4. Bamboo Nursery cum production and Processing Centre

5. Promotion of Eco Tourism in (a) Manas National Park (b) Bornadi Wild Life Sanctuary (c) Chakrasila Wild Life Sanctuary (d) Bhairabkunda (e) Kalamati (f) Bagamati (g) Ullapani (h) Kachugaon (h) Jam Duar (i) Diplai Lake (j) Dheer Lake (k) Saraichar lake, and (l) Daranga Mela

6. Mother Dairy plants at identified locations.

7. Railway Coach Factory in BTAD

Government of Assam

8. Formulation of suitable Industrial Policy for BTAD

9. Farm machinery bank at identified centers with infrastructure to support livelihood and agricultural development.

10. Organic Horticultural Park.

11. Animal Feed plants at identified centers

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/ rights Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Other land rights

Page 1
2. Objectives of the MoS
...
iv. to provide safeguards for land rights of tribals;

Page 3
5. Provisions for Bodos outside BTAD
...
5.3 Government of Assam shall take effective measures to confer rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 on tribals living in the forest areas outside BTAD in accordance with prescribed procedure under the Act.

Page 4
7. Issues related to Land Rights
7.1 Government of Assam may consider enacting a special legislation to provide adequate safeguards to land rights of STs living outside tribal Belts and Blocks in areas outside BTAD.
7.2 Government of Assam will take effective measures to protect khas land, grazing land and water bodies from illegal encroachment.

Pastoralist/ nomadism rights	<p>Page 4</p> <p>7. Issues related to Land Rights</p> <p>...</p> <p>7.2 Government of Assam will take effective measures to protect khas land, grazing land and water bodies from illegal encroachment.</p>
Cultural heritage	<p>Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Tangible</p> <p>Page 3</p> <p>6. Issues relating to identity, language, education, etc.</p> <p>6.1 Government of India will implement the commitment made in the earlier agreement in 2003 to include Bodo-Kacharis living in Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao Districts in the ST (Hill) list of Assam in a time-bound manner.</p> <p>6.2 Government of Assam will notify Bodo language in Devanagri script as an associate official language in the State.</p> <p>6.3 Government of Assam will initiate measures to provincialise (i) schools and colleges established in BTAD, and (ii) Bodo medium schools outside BTAD, as per special need and requirement. The State Govt. will also take measures to appoint lecturers in Bodo Departments in colleges outside BTAD as a special consideration.</p> <p>6.4 Government of Assam will establish a separate Directorate for Bodo medium schools in the State.</p> <p>6.5 A Cultural Complex-cum-Centre of Excellence in the name of Bodofa Upendranath Brahma will be established at Thulunghapuri (Kokrajhar District). The Centre will study and recommend measures for protection and promotion of language, culture, identity, etc. of Bodos residing in Assam as well as other States of India. The Centre will be managed by BTC with financial assistance from both Central and the State Governments.</p> <p>Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Promotion</p> <p>Page 1</p> <p>2. Objectives of the MoS</p> <p>...</p> <p>iii. to promote and protect social, cultural, linguistic identities of Bodos;</p>
Environment	No specific mention.
Water or riparian rights or access	<p>Page 4</p> <p>7. Issues related to Land Rights</p> <p>...</p> <p>7.2 Government of Assam will take effective measures to protect khas land, grazing land and water bodies from illegal encroachment.</p>

Security sector

Security Guarantees	No specific mention.
Ceasefire	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	<p>Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions</p> <p>Page 4, 9. Settlement with NDFB factions 9.1 All NDFB factions under SoO shall abjure path of violence, surrender their weapons and disband their armed organisations within one month of signing of this MoS.</p> <p>Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes</p> <p>Page 4, 9. Settlement with NDFB factions</p> <p>...</p> <p>9.2 Government of India and Government of Assam will take necessary measures to rehabilitate the cadres in consultation with NDFB factions. Such measures may inter alia include (i) lump sum payment of ex-gratia, (ii) funding economic activities through existing Government schemes relating to fisheries, piggery, organic farming, poultry farming, etc., (iii) trade/vocational training based on locally available resources, and (iv) recruitment in appropriate Govt. jobs as per eligibility.</p> <p>9.3 A committee headed by IGP, Special Branch, Assam with representatives of other Departments as members will make an assessment of rehabilitation needs of the cadres based on age profile, educational qualification, general area of residence, etc. The Committee may also involve successful entrepreneurs/NGOs in this effort.</p>
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/ rebel and opposition group forces	<p>Page 4, 9. Settlement with NDFB factions 9.1 All NDFB factions under SoO shall abjure path of violence, surrender their weapons and disband their armed organisations within one month of signing of this MoS.</p>

Withdrawal of foreign forces No specific mention.

Corruption No specific mention.

Crime/organised crime No specific mention.

Drugs No specific mention.

Terrorism No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper
Page 4
9. Settlement with NDFB factions
...
9.4 Criminal cases registered against members of NDFB factions for non-heinous crimes shall be withdrawn by Government of Assam as per procedure established by law. Criminal cases registered in connection with heinous crimes shall be reviewed case by case according to the existing policy on the subject.

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release No specific mention.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims No specific mention.

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism Page 5
11. Joint Monitoring Committee
A Joint Monitoring Committee shall be constituted with representatives from MHA, Government of Assam, BTC and Bodo organisations to monitor implementation of this MoS.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Available at <https://axomson.net/download-the-bodo-peace-accord-2020-signed-document-pdf/> (Accessed on 2/2/2021)
