



Demand For Autonomy in Assam

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Why In News

There has been a demand for implementation of **Article 244A for the creation of an autonomous State** within Assam.

Key Points

- **Background:**
 - The appeal to the Centre has been for the creation of an autonomous State for the **Karbi Anglong region**.
This has been a demand since 1986.
 - The districts are currently governed by **two autonomous councils Karbi Anglong and North Cachar hills**.
- **Definition of Scheduled and Tribal Areas:**

The areas inhabited by the socially and educationally backward 'Aboriginals' are called Scheduled Areas.

- **Administration of Scheduled and Tribal Areas:**
 - There are **two schedules (5th and 6th) of the Indian Constitution** which entail the details about the control and management of the Scheduled and Tribal Areas.
 - **Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution:**
 - The provisions regarding the administration and control of **Scheduled and Tribal Areas** of any state **except the four states (Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram)** are mentioned under this schedule.
 - At present, 10 States namely **Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Telangana** have Fifth Schedule Areas.
 - **Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution**
This schedule deals with the administration and control of the scheduled and tribal areas of **the four states** of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram.
 - **Scheduled and Tribal Areas are dealt with two articles:**
 - **Article 244:**
 - This article deals with the administration of the Scheduled and Tribal Areas.
 - It defines **Scheduled Areas as the areas defined so by the President of India** and are mentioned **in the fifth schedule** of the Constitution.
 - **Article 244A:**
Formation of an **autonomous state comprising** certain tribal areas in Assam and creation of local legislature or Council of Ministers or both therefore.

Source:TH