



Naga Ceasefire Agreements Extended

For Prelims: Naga Ceasefire Agreements, Naga peace process, Karbi Anglong Agreement, 2021, Bru Accord, 2020, Bodo Peace Accord, 2020, Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, National Register of Citizens

For Mains: Importance of Vision of Insurgency Free, Prosperous North East, Status of Conflicts in Northeast India

Why in News?

Recently, the centre has **extended the ceasefire agreements** between the Central government and three Naga groups by a year which was signed on 19th April 2022.

What are the Naga Ceasefire Agreements?

- The Naga groups include National Socialist Council of Nagaland-NK (NSCN-NK), National Socialist Council of Nagaland-Reformation (NSCN-R) and National Socialist Council of Nagaland-K-Khango (NSCN-K-Khango).
 - All these groups are breakaway factions of National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN-IM) and National Socialist Council of Nagaland-Khaplang (NSCN-K).
- This agreement is a **significant boost to the [Naga peace process](#)** and in line with Prime Minister of **India's vision of 'insurgency free, prosperous North East'**.
- In September 2021, the Centre had **[entered into a one-year ceasefire agreement](#)** with the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (K) Niki Group.
- The Centre had earlier signed a **“Framework Agreement” with the NSCN (IM)** in August 2015.

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THE NAGA STRUGGLE

1918: Naga Club formed. Seeds of Naga nationalism sown	Agreement interpreted as offer for sovereignty by NNC
1946: Naga National Council (NNC) born under the leadership of A.Z. Phizo	1955: NNC begins armed insurgency. Delhi imposes Assam Disturbed Areas' Act
August 14, 1947: NNC declares independence	1958: AFSPA comes into force
June 1947: Haidari	1963: Nagaland born
1964: Nagaland Peace Mission created, ceasefire signed	
1975: Shillong Accord signed, calls for unconditional ceasefire, termed a 'complete sellout'	
	1980: National Socialist Council of Nagalim (NSCN) formed
	1988: NSCN splits into NSCN (K) and NSCN (I-M)
	1997: NSCN (I-M) signs ceasefire
	2001: NSCN (K) signs ceasefire
	March 2015: NSCN (K) breaks ceasefire
August 2015: Naga peace accord signed	

What is the Naga Peace Process?

- After India became independent in 1947, the **Naga territory initially remained a part of Assam.**
- In 1957, after an agreement was reached between Naga leaders and the Indian government, the Naga Hills region of Assam and the Tuensang frontier division to the northeast were brought together under a single unit directly administered by the Indian government.
- **[Nagaland achieved statehood](#)** in 1963, however, rebel activity continued.

What is the Vision of Insurgency Free, Prosperous North East?

- Recognises that the **North East is very important for the country** from the aspects of security.
- Thus, the **aim is to end all disputes in the Northeast by 2022** and usher in a new era of peace and development in the Northeast in 2023.
- Under this, the **Government is enriching the dignity, culture, language**, literature and music of the Northeast.
- Over the years, the government has also signed several peace agreements with military outfits in northeast India. For example,
 - **[Karbi Anglong Agreement, 2021](#)**: It involved a **tripartite agreement** signed among five insurgent groups of Assam, the Centre and the state government of Assam.
 - **[Bru Accord, 2020](#)**: Under the Bru accord, the permanent settlement of 6959 Bru families in Tripura with a financial package has been agreed between the Government of India, Tripura and Mizoram with representatives of Bru migrants.

- **Bodo Peace Accord, 2020:** In 2020, the Government of India, Government of Assam and representatives of Bodo groups signed an agreement, wherein more autonomy is provided to **Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR)**, in Assam.
- Peace agreement with various military outfits which are involved in **Naga Insurgency** like NSCN(NK), NSCN(R), and NSCN(K)-Khango, NSCN(IM).

What is the Status of Conflicts in Northeast India?

- **National Conflicts:** Involving the concept of a **distinct 'homeland' as a separate nation.**
 - **Nagaland: Naga insurgency** originated from the demand of independence.
 - Although the demand for independence has majorly subsided, the lingering issue of a final political settlement including the demand for 'greater Nagaland' or 'Nagalim' remains.
- **Ethnic Conflicts:** Involving assertion of numerically smaller and less dominant tribal groups against the political and cultural hold of the dominant tribal group.
 - **Tripura:** The State's demographic profile has been altered since 1947 when mass migrations from the newly emerged East Pakistan converted it from a largely tribal area to one with a majority of Bengali speaking people.
 - Tribals were **deprived of their agricultural lands** at throw-away prices and driven to the forests.
 - The resultant tensions caused major violence and widespread terror.
- **Sub-regional Conflicts:** Involving movements which ask for recognition of sub-regional aspirations and often come in direct conflict with the State Governments or even the autonomous Councils.
 - **Mizoram:** The State with its history of violent insurgency and its subsequent return to peace is an example to all other violence affected States.
 - Following an '**Mizo Peace accord**' between the Union Government and the Mizo National Front in 1986 and conferment of statehood the next year, complete peace and harmony prevails in Mizoram.
 - Further, the **boundary issue between Assam and Mizoram** has existed since the formation of Mizoram.
- **Other Reasons: Sponsored terrorism, conflicts generated** as a result of continuous **inflow of migrants** from across the borders, criminal enterprise aimed at expanding and consolidating control over critical economic resources, have also result into clashes.
 - **Assam:** The major ethnic conflict in the State is the grievance against the perceived influx of 'foreigners' i.e. people with a language and culture substantially different from the Assamese from across the border (i.e. Bangladesh).
 - The recent tension in Assam emanates from the **Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019** and **National Register of Citizens** debate.

What are the Different Modes of Conflict Resolution?

- Strengthening security forces/ 'police action'.
- More local autonomy through mechanisms such as conferment of Statehood, the **Sixth Schedule**, Special Provisions under PART XXI of the Constitution.
- Negotiations with insurgent outfits.
- Development activities including special economic packages.



[Source: TH](#)

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