

## Assam-Arunachal Pradesh Border Dispute

### Why in news?

Chief ministers of both the states of Assam and Arunachal signed memorandum of understanding (MoU) to resolve the long-standing border dispute.

### What is the border dispute between the two states?

- During the formation of Arunachal Pradesh in 1954 around 3500 kms plain area were transferred from Arunachal Pradesh to Assam.
- When Arunachal Pradesh was made as union territory in 1972 the areas belonging to hill tribal chiefs of Arunachal Pradesh was unilateral transferred to Assam.



### What are the earlier efforts taken to resolve the dispute?

- **High-powered tripartite committee** - Was constituted to delineate the boundary on the basis of Survey of India maps.
- Around 489 km of the 800 km were demarcated by 1983-84 but it was not accepted by Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Local boundary commission** - Several recommendations were made including
  - Arunachal Pradesh to have back its territories
  - Both states should arrive at a consensus through discussions.
- **123 villages** - Border dispute to be confined to 123 villages of Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Notified boundary** - Boundary line delineated by the high powered tripartite committee in 1980 would be taken as the notified boundary.
- **12 regional committees** - Was constituted covering the 12 districts of Arunachal Pradesh and the 8 counterpart districts of Assam for joint verification of the 123 villages.
- **Namsai Declaration** - The dispute over 37 of 123 villages had been resolved with the

signing of the Namsai Declaration.

### **What are the shortfalls of the MoU?**

- Tirap, Changlang and Longding People's Forum (TCLPF) has said that the MoU is totally against the interest of people of Arunachal Pradesh.
- The people of 13 villages on either side of the border strongly opposed the boundary deal.
- The ground survey was done leading to faulty factual positions of the villages in the border.
- The MoU was not taken considering the opinion of the village people.

### **Quick facts**

- The two states share a roughly 800-kilometre long border.
- Arunachal Pradesh was formed in 1954 by carving out of Assam.

### **References**

1. [The Hindu| Shortfalls Of The MoU](#)
2. [The Indian Express| Features Of The MoU](#)

