

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:31  
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2003  
TALKS WITH BLT  
CHELLAMELLA SUGUNA KUMARI

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether talks involving the Central Government, the State Government and Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT) are in final stages and an announcement is expected shortly; and;

(b) if so, the details of the main terms of the agreement?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI)

(a) & (b): A Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) has been signed between the Central Government, the Government of Assam and Bodo Liberation Tiger (BLT) on 10.2.2003 for a durable solution to the Bodo issues. The main features of the agreement include interalia;

(i) 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.

(ii) entrustment of 40 subjects by the Government of Assam to the BTC for their administration. The council shall have legislative, executive, administrative and financial powers in respect of subjects entrusted to them.

(iii) additional financial assistance of Rs. 100 crore per annum (over and above normal plan assistance to State of Assam) for 5 years for projects to develop the socio economic infrastructure in BTC areas.

Adequate safeguards have been built in the Agreement to ensure that the non-tribals 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.