

## For the first time, details of Naga agreement emerge

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'Framework agreement' recognises uniqueness of their history

## <u>Highlights</u>

- The government has informed a Parliamentary panel that it signed a framework agreement with the National Socialist Council of Nagaland-Isak-Muivah (NSCN-IM) after it agreed on a settlement within the Indian federation with a "special status."
- On being asked what the special arrangement will be, the Committee was told that with respect to Nagaland...Article 371A of the Constitution makes it clear that they are special and a special status has been accorded to them. A similar kind of status, with some local variation, and some change to the Nagas in the neighbouring States can be explored," the report said
- According to the report, Nagas had now reached a common understanding with the government that "boundaries of the States will not be touched" and "some special arrangements would be made for the Nagas, wherever they are."
- Initially, the Nagas had stuck to the idea of unification of Naga inhabited areas, resolutely maintaining their stand of 'no integration, no solution.' However, they have now reached a common understanding with the Government that boundaries of States will not be touched
- Government has been talking with the NSCN-IM for the last 20 years and their position from the very beginning has been that Nagas were exceptional, Nagas were not Indians, Nagas were sovereign and any settlement could be reached only on the basis of the fact that this is a settlement between two sovereigns

Source: The Hindu