Major Initiatives and Peace Process in North Eastern Region (NER)

1. **Improved security situation in NER:** There has been significant improvement in security situation in the North Eastern (NE) States since 2014. Compared to 2014, there has been 76% reduction in insurgency incidents, 90% in Security Forces casualties and 97% in Civilian deaths in 2022.

2. **Reduction of ‘disturbed areas’ under AFSPA:** Due to significant improvement in the security situation in North Eastern States, Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) has been removed from 24 districts & partially from 1 other district of Assam, 15 Police Station areas in 6 districts of Manipur and 15 Police Station areas in 7 districts of Nagaland in 2022. In Arunachal Pradesh, AFSPA has been reduced gradually from 16 Police Stations/Outposts areas bordering Assam to 2 Police Station areas in Namsai district besides Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts. Earlier, AFSPA had been removed completely from Tripura and Meghalaya in 2015 and 2018 respectively.

3. **Peace accords/agreements in NER:**

   (i) **NLFT(SD) Agreement (2019):** A Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) was signed with National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT/SD) on 10.08.2019 following which 88 cadres of NLFT(SD) surrendered with 44 arms.

   (ii) **Bru Agreement (2020):** An Agreement was signed with representatives of Bru migrants on 16.01.2020 for permanent settlement of Bru(Reang) families in Tripura.

   (iii) **Bodo Accord (2020):** A Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) was signed on 27.1.2020 with Bodo Groups of Assam to solve the long pending Bodo issue following which 1615 cadres of NDFB groups surrendered on 30.1.2020 and disbanded on 9th-10th March, 2020.

   (iv) **Karbi Accord (2021):** A Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) was signed on 04.09.2021 with representatives of Karbi Groups to end the decades old crisis in Karbi Anglong area of Assam,
following which over 1000 armed cadres have abjured violence and joined the mainstream of society.

(v) **Adivasi Peace Accord (2022):** A Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) was signed on 15.09.2022 with representatives of 8 Adivasi Groups to end the decades old crisis of Adivasis and tea garden workers in Assam, following which 1182 cadres of Adivasi groups have joined the mainstream by laying down arms.

4. **Other peace process in NER :**

(i) United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) (pro talks) is under Suspension of Operation (SoO) agreement with the Government of India for indefinite period.

(ii) A Framework Agreement with NSCN(IM) was signed on 03.08.2015.

(iii) Ceasefire agreements with NSCN(NK) and NSCN(R) of Nagaland have been extended for a further period of one-year w.e.f. 28.04.2022 i.e. upto 27.04.2023. Ceasefire agreement with NSCN(K-Khango) of Nagaland has been extended for one-year w.e.f. 18.04.2022 i.e. upto 17.04.2023.

(iv) A Ceasefire Agreement with National Socialist Council of Nagaland(K)Niki group was signed on 08.09.2021 for a period of one year and more than 200 cadres of this group along with 83 weapons joined the peace process. Ceasefire agreement with NSCN(K)Niki group has been extended for one-year w.e.f. 08.09.2022 to 07.09.2023.

(v) Suspension of Operation (SoO) agreements with United Peoples’ Front [UPF] and Kuki National Organization [KNO] of Manipur have been extended for a further period of one-year w.e.f. 01.03.2023 to 29.02.2024.

(vi) A Cessation of Operation (CoO) Agreement with Zeliangrong United Front (ZUF) group of Manipur was signed on 27.12.2022 and ZUF agreed to abjure violence and join the peaceful democratic process as established by law of the land.
5. Mass surrender:

(i) 644 cadres of various outfits (viz. ULFA/I-50, NDFB-8, KLO-6, RNLF-13, CPI/Maoist-1, NSLA-87, ADF-178 and NLFB-301) surrendered on 23.01.2020 at Guwahati (Assam) along with huge quantity of arms and ammunition.

(ii) 1040 Leaders/Cadres of various underground Karbi groups (viz. KPLT, KLNLF, PDCK, UPLA and KLF) surrendered on 23.02.2021 at Guwahati (Assam) along with huge quantity of arms and ammunition.

(iii) 708 Underground Cadres of various outfits (viz. UGPO-169, TLA-77, RNLF-28, ADF-61, UPRF-29, NLFB-303 and NSLA-41) surrendered on 27.01.2022 at Guwahati (Assam) along with huge quantity of arms and ammunition.

(iv) A total of 1,179 Cadres of United Democratic Liberation Front of Barak Valley (UDLF/BV-545) and Bru Revolutionary Army of Union (BRA/U-634) surrendered along with 335 arms on 12.12.2022 in Hailakandi district of Assam.

6. Inter-state boundary agreements:

(i) Assam-Meghalaya: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in New Delhi on 29.03.2022 by the Chief Minister of Assam and the Chief Minister of Meghalaya to resolve the decades long problem of interstate boundary between the States of Assam and Meghalaya in respect of six areas of difference out of total twelve areas of difference. Both States have constituted Regional Committees to finalize settlement of remaining 6 areas of difference.

(ii) Assam-Arunachal Pradesh: The States of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh have signed a Declaration on 15.07.2022 at Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh to minimize the border dispute between the two states in respect of 123 villages. 12 Regional Committees have been notified by the both State Governments to resolve the areas of differences.

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