

CHAPTER - VII

Constitutional and Administrative Development of Arunachal.

As has already been said, Arunachal Pradesh is, by and large, a mountainous province on the North-Eastern slopes of the Eastern Himalayas and North-Western slopes of the Patkai range. Its total area is approximately 8048 square kilometers and it sustains a population of over five hundred thousand. The province is the home of about 110 tribes and subtribes and has been divided into five districts. The capital was at Shillong till 1972 but was transferred to Itanagar in the Subansiri district from April 1974. Till 1971 the province was known as NEFA and was constitutionally a part of the province of Assam. (1) Its territory was defined in the part B of the Sixth Schedule of the Indian constitution. Its administration was carried on by an Advisor to the Governor of Assam. The Governor in his turn was a deputy of the President of India, acting on the advice of the Union Home Ministry. (2)

At the time of Indian Independence in 1947, NEFA consisted of Balipara, Tirap, Sadiya Frontier Tracts and Naga Tribal Area which lay beyond the regular administrative jurisdictions of Assam. A wall of separation, built from 1875-76 by the application of the Inner Line Regulation of 1873, developed in the tribes an isolationist psychology and attitude and they continued to live in a separate world. Agencies of modernisation like school, postal services, telegraphs, railways, roads, hos-

pitals, administrative offices etc. did not practically exist in the Frontiers during the British period and no systematic attempt was made to provide a regular system of government in the area.

7:1. Changes between 1947 and 1972

The Constituent Assembly of India which was convened just after Independence to prepare the Constitution of the country appointed a sub-committee to recommend the future pattern of administration of the Hill Areas of Assam and the Frontier Tracts. The Committee, headed by Gopinath Bordoloi, visited the tribal areas of Assam and received deputations, but it could not proceed to the Frontiers for lack of communication. Whatever information it received from British officers in the employ of the Frontier affairs formed the basis of its recommendations and these ultimately assumed the form of the Sixth Schedule of Indian Constitution of 1950. It provided for the management of essentially tribal and inter-tribal matters by the tribal people themselves, but the general administration and law and order matters were kept under the government of Assam. It was also provided that the tribes of the Frontiers should continue to be kept under the Political Officers and their assistants until they were developed enough to assume the control of their own tribal affairs and from then only the pattern provided for the Tribal Areas of Assam would be introduced in full swing. (3)

The Bordoloi Committee had envisaged the gradual development of the Frontier Tracts of Assam. In keeping with the spirits of these recommendations, the plains portions of the North-East Frontier were transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the government of Assam in 1951. With a view to follow up the recommendations of the Committee, the Governor of Assam, who, under the new constitution, acted as the deputy of the President of India, undertook a programme of Indianisation of the Frontier Service. Very competent, energetic and highly capable persons, carefully chosen from all over India and preferably from the Assam Cadre, who could give a very favourable impression of India to the tribes of the North-East, were appointed to serve in the sensitive Frontier Service. As a matter of fact, even before the promulgation of the newly-formed Indian Constitution, the first Indian Governor of Assam, Sir Akbar Hydari, and Gopinath Bordoloi, the then Chief Minister of Assam, had already initiated the policy. After 1950, the next Governor, Jairamdas Daulatram, activated the policy only more vigorously and with all sincerity to the best of his remarkable zeal and competence.

(4)

The proper development of the tribal people was a problem of far greater national magnitude, since one-fifth of the total population of the Indian Republic is tribal. The tribes of the north-east in particular were kept outside the

mainstream of Indian life by the British government and the general development that had taken place in India during the British rule had practically resulted in the impoverishment and exploitation of the tribal world of the country. Therefore, it was strongly felt after Independence that it was a just and very urgent necessity of the time to devise a regular, definite, and systematic plan for the proper development and uplift of the tribal population. Hence, the Union Home Ministry convened a seminar to devise workable plans and sensible principles for all-round uplift and development of the tribal areas of the North-East Frontier which was a very sensitive zone in terms of political importance.

(5)

The scheme recommended by the seminar found an ideological framework in Verrier Elwin's A Philosophy for NEFA. It envisaged five principles of development. First, the tribes should build upon their traditional heritage and genius, and there should be no imposition of any kind on them. Secondly, tribal right in land and forests should be protected. Thirdly, a team of tribal people should be trained up with the purpose of enabling them to undertake the responsibility of development and administrative works in the Frontiers in course of time, and till such a team would actually come up, technicians and administrators would be employed from outside. Fourthly, the administration should be simple and should not forcibly suppress

the tribal institutions and customs; rather, the traditional tribal culture and institutions should be activated and re-invigorated. And finally, the results of the money spent by the government should be measured in terms of the quality of human character that was likely to emerge as a result of development programmes instead of by complicated statistical data. (6)

Meanwhile, the Chinese occupation of Tibet in 1950 added greater importance to the task of development in the Frontiers, as did the advent of the Chinese general Chao in 1910 across the boundary. The problem of communication in the Frontiers was highlighted by the devastating earthquake of 1950 and the far more important problem of defence of the border now caught the serious attention of the government of India. So long New Delhi had remained content with what the Governor had been doing for the development of the Frontiers; but now the Ministry of External Affairs, under the charge of which the Frontier affairs were held, began to show definite interest in the matter. T. N. Kaul, Joint Secretary of the Ministry, who enjoyed the special confidence of Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India, undertook to organise a special service for the Frontiers, recruiting very specially chosen, tough and competent officers, mainly from among army men with outstanding and brilliant service records. (7)

The Frontier territories which had been divided

into several administrative divisions from time to time were so long known variously as Frontier Tract, Frontier Division, Sub-Agency, and Frontier District. These terms were standardized in 1954 and all the territorial divisions henceforward came to be named after the principal river of the area, instead of after the tribes or place names as was the practice before. Thus now emerged six divisions : (1) Kameng Frontier Division instead of the Se-La Sub-Agency; (2) Siang Division instead of Aboz-Hills District ; (3) Subansiri Division in place of Ballipara Frontier Tract; (4) Lohit Division instead of Mishmi Hills District; (5) Tirap Division instead of Tirap Frontier Tract; and (6) Naga Tribal Area was named Tuensang Division. ⁽⁸⁾ The Headquarters of these Divisions which were mostly located below the hills on plains far away from the interior of the Divisions, were transferred within the Divisions in centrally situated places. Thus, the Headquarters of the Kameng Division were pushed to Bom^dpila at an altitude of 9000 feet, which commanded the territory of the Division on both sides of the Pass; the Headquarters of Subansiri was located at Ziro on a plateau within the Dafila Hills; that of Siang Division was transferred to Along from the foothills at Pasighat; the Headquarters of Tirap was pushed up to Khela and later transferred to Khonsa; and the Headquarters of the Lohit Division was shifted to Tezu from

Saiiya, as the latter place was transferred to Assam in 1951. (9)

Gradually, new administrative Sub-divisions were created, which, in their turn, were again split up into circles for the proper development of the areas. In order to speed up development programmes, responsible higher officers were posted. Thus there were circles usually consisting of thirty to forty villages, and sub-divisions, sometimes consisting of one or even more such circle. Some sub-divisions were put under the charge of an Additional District Officer. It may be mentioned here that the concept of Additional District Officer was something new in Arunachal administrative machinery and it was readily adopted in order to cope with the tempo of the all-round development work that had been initiated in the long-neglected tribal areas so urgently. (10)

The terms of territorial divisions and sub-divisions of the Agency Area were rationalised and standardized in 1954 but it was only in 1963 that the designations of the official hierarchy of the districts of the Agency were assimilated with those existing in the neighbouring state of Assam. Hitherto the officers were designated as Base Superintendent, Assistant Political Officer, and Political Officer. Henceforward they were to be designated as Circle Officer, Assistant Commissioner, and Deputy Commissioner respectively. At the same time, the divisions were to be termed henceforth as Districts as in the state of Assam. In order to rationalize the control from above, the

Agency which so long operated under the Ministry of External Affairs, was transferred to the charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Parliamentary Committee which visited NEFA in May 1966, recommended to transfer the capital or the principal Head quarters of the Agency from Shillong to NEFA territory itself. A committee was appointed to recommend a suitable site for the purpose and as a result steps were taken to establish the new capital of NEFA at Itanagar in the Subansiri district. (11)

Though the NEFA territory has for ever been an integral part of the Indian Union, its administrative machinery had become quite elaborate with the passage of years of change and developments. It was appreciated from all corners that NEFA now required to have a separate government of its own and that the people of NEFA who did not so long enjoy any privilege to franchise should be granted this basic and vital fundamental rights to have an elected government and ministry for themselves. To probe into the matter the Government of India set up a committee under the Chairmanship of Daing Ering, the then nominated member of Parliament from NEFA. The committee recommended the introduction of a three-tier system of government in the Agency territory. A regulation known as Panchayati Raj Regulation was duly drawn up in 1967 and the same was put into effect in 1969. The promulgation of this special Regulation provided the popular support for sustaining the Administration

of the North-East Frontier and relieved the Official NEFA Administration of much of its responsibility for local government. (12)

The Panchayati Raj Regulation of 1967 provided for the recognition and reorganisation of the local self-governments in all the districts of NEFA. As a matter of fact, all the tribes of the Agency had some sort of democratic village institutions which dealt with the tribal and inter-tribal issues. The new Regulation now provided legal bases to the existing village institutions and supplied de jure local governments for the newly-created sub-divisions and districts of the territory in conformity with the rest of the country. Thus the villages of the circle had a council which was now termed Anchal Samity; the council which co-ordinated the activities of Anchal Samities of a district was termed Zilla Parishad; and finally, to co-ordinate and supervise the activities of the NEFA Administration and advise the Chief Commissioner on administrative and legislative measures, an Agency Council was provided for at the Agency level in 1972. (13)

The development of the North-East Frontier since Independence has created a sense of unity and oneness among the Frontier tribes. The improvement of the communication system has resulted in the removal of narrow clanish outlook of many tribes. The spread of education and growth of the administrative apparatus have broadened the horizon of the tribal world and

mentality considerably. The operations of Anchal Panchayats and Zilla Parishads have further bound and integrated the different tribes in a common interest on a solid footing. Yet, inspite of all these, the tribes feel that the full security of their interests lie only in the formation of a separate territorial state of their own. The Government of India, therefore, which began with a policy of safeguarding the tribal people's interests, aspirations, and separate identity, had no alternative in the end except to provide a home for the Frontier tribes in a Union Territory, separate from Assam, by reorganisation of the North-Eastern India in 1971. (14)

January 20, 1971, saw the emergence of Arunachal Pradesh as a Union Territory, with a Lieutenant-Governor at its head and a council of ministers to run the administration. But the close association and natural interest of both Assam and Arunachal Pradesh required some amount of common planning and development projects. Therefore an agency known as the North-Eastern Council comprising not only Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, but also the other contiguous states had been formed. This Council consisted of the Chief Executive of each of the constituents except Arunachal Pradesh, which was represented by a member of the Pradesh Council who might be nominated by the Chief Commissioner of the Pradesh. The Council acted through its secretariat having a Secretary, Planning Advisor, a Financial Advisor,

a Security Advisor, and such other officers appointed by the Central Government. (15) This Council was required to undertake economic and social planning, arrange means of transport, communication and flood-control measures for the entire North-East India and thus foster a feeling of unity and oneness among all its constituent member-regions. Officers of the Council were required to undertake extensive tours, meet the people and their representatives, and acquire expert firsthand knowledge about the multifarious problems, requirements and hazards of the areas concerned. (16)

Despite all these various measures for the upliftment and progress of the North-East undertaken by the Union Government, the people of Arunachal with all their peace-loving and tolerant nature could not ignore the fact that theirs was not yet a full-fledged State like those of the other parts of the North-east as Nagaland or Meghalaya which had already been granted full Statehood and thus raised from the point of view of national status. As a Union Territory, Arunachal had now of course its ministry under the leadership of a Chief Minister and a Lieutenant-Governor to head it, as in Mizoram. But that alone did not fully satisfy the need, dream, and aspirations of the Arunachal people. They wanted to have a full-fledged State of their own, free from any intervention or imposition of the Central Government. And that was exactly the next step in the

offing, which was fulfilled right fifteen years and one month after it became a Union Territory. Arunachal became the 24th State of the Indian Republic on a fine morning of February 20, 1987.

7:2. Attainment of Statehood.

It was on December 8, 1986 that the decks were cleared for Arunachal Pradesh to attain full state-hood with the Lok Sabha passing the Constitution (55th Amendment) Bill and a companion bill relating to the Legislative Assembly of the new State. While the constitution amendment bill mustered 338 votes in support and 34 against in the mandatory division, the state of Arunachal Pradesh Bill was passed by a voice vote. The votes cast against the constitution amendment bill, despite the unanimity over the conferment of statehood, reflected the difference of the opposition to arm the state Governor with some special powers.

The Prime Minister intervened in the debate to explain that it being a highly sensitive border state, it was prudent to vest the Governor with some special powers. In his view, the people of Arunachal had stood by India during the trying times of Chinese aggression and over the years acquired the political responsibilities to be eligible for Statehood. He hoped the pre-

sent Central Government would protect the culture and the local customs of the various tribes and work for their prosperity. The new State will see that there is no infringement on others' rights and the local customs are protected. He thought that in view of the critical situation in the extreme North-Eastern areas, the Governor of the new State should have some special powers which he would not possibly have to use and that the major border dispute in the area would be solved without much trouble. (17)

The then Chief minister of Arunachal said that conferring of Statehood to Arunachal Pradesh has come as a Christmas gift from the Prime Minister for the people of the State. He said that apart from economic developments, emphasis by the government would be given on improvement in the spheres of education, communication, transport and power. He thought that Arunachal was now the most peaceful area in the country. It was rich in natural resources; the harnessing of coal, oil, gas and uranium, available here in plenty, would change the economic character of the State. The centre had been requested to set up a refinery by utilizing the crude reserve tapped in the State. He said that so long Assam had not shown any interest in solving the border problems between the two states and that a mood of non-co-operation on the part of Assam made matters rather strenuous. (18)

With the passing of the State of Arunachal Pradesh

Bill by Parliament in the second week of December 1986, Arunachal, which was till the other day known as NEFA, emerged as the 24th State of the Indian Union. Arunachal has travelled a long way from the days when Jawaharlal Nehru took what was then known as North-East Frontier Agency under his special care. Nehru had made NEFA part of the responsibility of the External Affairs Ministry - a departure which was resented by many who thought it tended to make an unnecessary distinction between NEFA and other centrally administered territories which were all under the Home Ministry. Nehru did not yield, contending that while NEFA was to be brought to the mainstream, it had to be ensured that the tribes of NEFA - Nehru called them Children of Nature - retain, by and large, their culture and way of life. He knew how delicate the task was and brought in the famed Verrier Elwin to advise him. The Bill just passed by Parliament to confer on Arunachal the status of a full-fledged State of the Indian Union is proof that Nehru's patient approach has paid. Even the opposition parties conceded this, for the Bill was passed unanimously. (19)

There was stiff opposition though, to the connected Constitution Amendment Bill which sought to fix the strength of the proposed Arunachal Assembly at not less than 30, instead of the usual 60. Much more controversial was the provision to empower the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh to exercise his own judgement, after consulting the Council of Ministers, in regard

to the action to be taken for the maintenance of law and order. The Opposition found the provision all the more exceptionable because the right of the Governor to decide where to use his individual judgement had been made absolute in the Bill. The special power of the Governor can be terminated by the President on the basis of a report from the Governor himself that he no longer needed it. Clearly, the provision is permissive and not mandatory, and there is no reason to apprehend that the Governor would resort to the plenary power indiscriminately. In fact, he may not have any occasion to invoke it, as has been explained by the Prime Minister. The provision is in the nature of ample precaution, for Arunachal lies in a sensitive area and a part of it is, even at this moment, in alien occupation. The special power is for a special situation and is not meant to be permanently retained in the Constitution. (20)

Right on the eve of the Indian government's decision to grant full Statehood to Arunachal, a fresh complication of a rather sinister nature cropped up in the form of China's vehement protest against the proposed move. India lost no time to reject the Chinese protest by branding it as a clear interference in India's internal affairs. Reacting to the Chinese Foreign Ministry statement issued in Beijing on December 11, 1986, that Arunachal Pradesh was basically an India-occupied area of Chinese territory, Indian External Affairs Ministry

said that this was totally unacceptable and that conferment of full Statehood to the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh, which is an integral part of Indian territory with an elected legislature, was entirely a matter of Parliament of India to decide. The government also sincerely regretted the baseless allegations made by China which was entirely contrary to its professed desire for a peaceful settlement of the boundary question on maintaining peace and tranquility on the so-called line of actual control in the eastern border. The Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh also expressed his definite view that Arunachal was a part and parcel of India, that the Centre's plan to grant it full Statehood was legal and constitutional, and that China's claim over the area was illegal and unfounded.

The Chinese government, on the contrary, reacted by pointing out that Arunachal, which is a part of Chinese territory illegally occupied by India will never be recognised by China, that it is entirely futile for the Indian authorities to try to legalise its occupation through domestic legislation, that this act of India has seriously violated China's territorial integrity and sovereignty, deeply hurts the feelings of the Chinese people, and that the consequences arising therefrom will be serious. The Chinese statement goes on to point out that the boundary between China and India has never been formally delimited. However, a traditional customary boundary, respected by

the two peoples, has long taken shape on the basis of the extent of each side's administrative jurisdiction. The McMahon Line, contrived by the colonialists in 1914 during their rule of India, is illegal and null and void and has never been recognised by any of the successive Chinese governments. (21)

The Chinese statement further continues to state that, after Independence, India has not only carried on with the occupation of Chinese territory in the most disputed eastern sector of the Sino-Indian boundary, but further pushed northwards in Chinese areas lying between the traditional customary line and the illegal McMahon Line and that Chinese Government and people will never accept it. (22) Chinese foreign office then goes on to regret that India has deliberately taken this step during the on-going Sino-Indian talks on the boundary question and asserts that this has created obstacles to a settlement of the boundary question, further complicated the problem, and may even give rise to serious consequences.

It would have been out of character with China if it had let pass the Government of India's move to confer statehood on Arunachal Pradesh without a protest. The Chinese had created a row over the inclusion of the speaker of the Arunachal Assembly in an Indian delegation to an international conference in

Chinese protest it may be assumed that China has no intention of vacating its intrusion into the Union Territory and will continue to hold the territory under its illegal occupation for an indefinite period. May be the Chinese occupation is designed to buttress on the ground its claim to Indian territory south of the McMahon Line. ⁽²⁶⁾ Despite the threat ^a of serious consequences given by the Chinese, it can not be overlooked that China has re-affirmed its willingness to settle the boundary question in a spirit of mutual accommodation and understanding. This is India's stand also. The Indian Prime Minister said that he was not in favour of aggravating the situation created in the North-East by the Chinese encroachment and that India was keen to settle the issue through negotiations. As long as the two countries adhere to their preference for a negotiated settlement, peace on the border ⁽²⁷⁾ may not be disturbed.

Fortunately, no further complication or disturbance cropped up in the matter and the Parliament agreed to confer the status of full Statehood on Arunachal Pradesh with a 60 member Assembly instead of 40. Considering the vastness of the area, the rough terrain and to give proper representation to various tribes, Arunachal Pradesh was allowed to have at least 60 members in the Assembly. The Chief Minister of Arunachal said on the occasion that historically, traditionally and culturally the people of Arunachal were always with India. He remembered thankfully

that during the 1962 Chinese Agression, though some areas of Arunachal were occupied by China and even administered by them for about two months, they could not win the mind of a single Arunachali and this should be a good lesson for China to remember. (28)

February 20, 1987, was a red-letter day for Arunachal and its people. On this day it became the 24th State of the Indian Union, with the Prime Minister personally inaugurating the conferment of Statehood ceremony, promising solemnly to promote its all-round development. Emphasizing the need for preserving the cultural heritage of the State, he reminded the people that with the attainment of statehood their responsibility increased manifold. He expressed the hope that the people would certainly live up to it. Calling Arunachal an "island of peace", he said, it was the only state which always maintained its distance from the turmoil elsewhere (29) and he expressed his firm conviction that the people of the place would continue this noble record of performance in the years to come. Along with our leader, let all Indians also join in according our warmest welcome and heartiest greetings to Arunachal and its people, with their age-old cultural heritage and glorious contribution to Indian civilisation, on their noble integration with the mainstream of national life.

Notes and References to Chapter VII.

1. Vide APPENDIX I (1)
2. Vide APPENDIX II (2)
3. S. M. Dubey (ed.) : North - East India : A Sociological Study (Delhi 1977), pp. 276-281.
4. Dubey : Ibid.
5. Dubey : Ibid.
6. Contributed feature
Article: Landmarks in NEFS's Constitutional Growth (NEFA Information, Dec. 1969).
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid.
9. L. N. Chakraborty : 'Evolution of the Administrative set-up of Arunachal' (Arunachal News, Dec. 1970).
10. Chakraborty : Ibid.
11. P. N. Luthra : Constitutional and Administrative Growth of the NEFA (Shillong 1971), pp. 9-33.
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13. M. C. Joshi : 'Tribal Panchayats to Panchayati Raj' (Economic Times, Jan. 20, 1973).
14. Joshi : Ibid.
15. Special Supplement : 'Socio-Economic Progress of Arunachal Pradesh' (Statesman, Jan. 29-31, 1970).
16. Ibid.
17. 'Decks cleared on Arunachal' : News Article, Amrita Bazar Patrika (Calcutta), 9.12.1986.
18. 'Christmas Gift' : News Item, Amrita Bazar Patrika (Calcutta), 11.12.1986.

19. 'Welcome to Mainstream' : Editorial Item, Amrita Bazar Patrika (Calcutta), 12.12.1986.
20. Amrita Bazar Patrika : Ibid.
21. 'Statehood for Arunachal' : News Item, Amrita Bazar Patrika (Calcutta), 13.12.1986.
22. Amrita Bazar Patrika : Ibid.
23. 'China Repeats the Charge' : Editorial Item, Amrita Bazar Patrika (Calcutta), 13.12.1986.
24. Amrita Bazar Patrika : Ibid.
25. Amrita Bazar Patrika : Ibid.
26. Amrita Bazar Patrika : Ibid.
27. Amrita Bazar Patrika : Ibid.
28. 'Move for 60 - Member Arunachal Assembly' : News Item, Amrita Bazar Patrika, (Calcutta), 19.12.1986.
29. 'Mozoram, Arunachal given Statehood' : News Item, The Statesman (Calcutta), 21.2.1987.

APPENDIX : 1

1. Chronological statement of Territorial Adjustments in NEFA .

1914

1. The Central and Eastern Section, North-East Frontier Tract.
2. Lakhimpur Frontier Tract.
3. The Western Section, North-East Frontier Tract.

1919

1. The Sadiya Frontier Tract.
2. The Lakhimpur Frontier Tract.
3. The Balipara Frontier Tract.

1943.

1. The Sadiya Frontier Tract.
2. The Lakhimpur Frontier Tract.
3. The Tirap Frontier Tract.
Sela Sub-Agency.
Subansiri Area

1946.

1. The Sadiya Frontier Tract.
2. The Lakhimpur Frontier Tract.

3. The Tirap Frontier Tract.
Se La Sub-Agency.
Subansiri Area.

1948.

1. The Abor Hills District.
The Mishmi Hills District.
2. The Lakhimpur Frontier Tract.
3. The Tirap Frontier Tract.
Se La Sub-Agency.
Subansiri Area.

1950.

1. The Abor Hills District.
The Mishmi Hills District.
2.
3. The Tirap Frontier Tract.
Se La Sub-Agency.
Subansiri Area.
Naga Tribal Area.

1954.

1. Siang Frontier Division.
Lohit Frontier Division.

2.

3. Tirap Frontier Division.

Kameng Frontier Division.

Subansiri Frontier Division.

Tuensang Frontier Division.

1957.

1. Siang Frontier Division.

Lehit Frontier Division.

2.

3. Tirap Frontier Division.

Kameng Frontier Division.

Subansiri Frontier Division.

1963.

1. Siang District.

Lehit District.

2.

3. Tirap District.

Kameng District.

Subansiri District.

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Excerpt from

Regulation No. 1 of 1954.

The North-East Frontier Areas (Administration) Regulation, 1954.

A Regulation to provide for the re-adjustment of the administrative units of the North-East Frontier Tract specified in part B of the table annexed to the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution, and for certain matters incidental thereto.

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (2) of article 243 of the constitution, read with sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 18 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution, The President is pleased to promulgate following Regulation made by him.

1. (i) This Regulation may be called the North-East Frontier Areas (Administration) Regulation, 1954.

2. It shall come into force on such date as the Governor of Assam may, by notification in the official Gazettee, appoint.

3. On and from the commencement of this Regulation,

(a) The North-East Frontier Tract, including the Bali-para Frontier Tract, the Tirap Frontier Tract, the Abor Hills District, the Mishmi Hills District shall be known as the North-East Frontier Agency.

(b) The Dalipara Frontier Tract shall be divided into two separate units of administration called the Subansiri Frontier Division and the Kameng Frontier Division.

(c) Each of the areas specified in Column 1 of the table below shall be known by the name mentioned in the entry corresponding thereto in column 2 thereof.

Existing name of areas	New name.
Tirap Frontier Tract	Tirap Frontier Division.
Abor Hills District	Siang Frontier Division.
Mishmi Hills District.	Lohit Frontier Division.

A. Any reference in any existing law ... to any of the areas specified in column 1 of the table shall be construed as a reference to the area specified in the entry corresponding thereto in column 2 of the said table.

Explanation:-

In this section "existing law" means any law, ordinance, order, bye-law, or regulation passed or made before the commencement of this Regulation by any legislature, authority or person having power to make such law, ordinance, order, bye-law, rule or regulation.

Rajendra Prasad,
President.

No. FA.140/30/122 - In pursuance of the sub-section (2) of the North-East Frontier Areas (Administration) Regulation, 1954 (Regulation 1 of 1954), the Governor of Assam is pleased to appoint the 26th January, 1954, as the date on which the said Regulation shall come into force.

N. K. Rustomji,
Adviser to the Governor of Assam.

Regulation No. 7 of 1965.

North-East Frontier Agency (Administration)
Regulation, 1965.

Promulgated by the President in the Sixteenth Year
of the Republic of India.

A Regulation to make further provision for the administration of the North-East Frontier Agency and for certain matters connected therewith.

In exercise of the powers conferred by article 240 of the Constitution, read with sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 18 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution, the President is pleased to promulgate the following Regulation made by him.

1.(1) This Regulation may be called the North-East Frontier Agency (Administration) Regulation, 1965.

2. It shall come into force on such date as the

Central Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint.

2. In this Regulation

(a) "Division" means any of the Frontier Divisions referred to in section (2) of the North-East Frontier Areas (Administration) Regulation 1954.

(b) "Existing law" means any law, ordinance, regulation, order, bye-law, rule, scheme, notification or other instrument having the force of law in India or any part thereof.

(c) "North-East Frontier Agency" shall have the meaning assigned to it in the North-East Frontier Areas (Administration) Regulation, 1954.

3. On and from the commencement of this Regulation, each of the Divisions of the North-East Frontier Agency specified in column 1 of the table below shall be known by the name mentioned in the entry corresponding thereto in column 2 thereof.

Table

Existing name of Division (1)	New Name (2)
Kameng Frontier Division.	Kameng District.
Subansiri Frontier Division.	Subansiri District.
Siang Frontier Division.	Siang District.
Lohit Frontier Division.	Lohit District.
Tirap Frontier Division.	Tirap District.

4. Any reference in any existing law to any of the Divisions specified in column 1 of the table annexed to section 3 shall be construed as a reference to the District specified in the entry corresponding thereto in column 2 of the said table.

5. Whenever an expression mentioned in column 1 of the table below occurs in any existing law as applicable to the North-East Frontier Agency, there shall be substituted therefor the expression set opposite to it in column 2 of the said table, and there shall also be made in any sentence in which the expression occurs such consequential amendments as the rules of grammar may require.

Table

(1)	(2)
Political Officer	Deputy Commissioner.
Additional Political Officer.	Additional Deputy Commissioner.
Assistant Political Officer.	Assistant Commissioner.

S. Radhakrishnan,
President,
R.C.S. Sarker,
Secretary to the Government of India.

APPENDIX - II

2. Chronological statement of changes in the Pattern of Administration in NEFA.

1914.

Administered by the Government of Assam.

1919

Administered by the Government of Assam with special safeguards.

1937.

Administered by the Governor of Assam acting in his discretion independently of the Provincial Ministry.

1947.

Administered by the Governor of Assam acting on the advice of the Provincial Ministry.

1950.

Administered by the President through the Governor of Assam as his Agent acting in his discretion under the general supervision and control of the Ministry of External Affairs.

1963.

Administered as before by the Governor as Agent of the President but under the general supervision and control of the Ministry of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

1972.

Administered as a full-fledged Union Territory, under the newly acquired name of Arunachal Pradesh, by a Lt.-Governor with an elected popular Ministry.

1987.

Attains full-fledged Statehood as the youngest member of the Indian Union (Feb. 20).