Exploring the possibilities of an out-of-court settlement of their border dispute, Assam and Nagaland have, in the meantime, agreed in principle to facilitate the resumption of exploration and production of oil and gas in the contested areas which have been suspended for nearly three decades now due to the conflict and equally share the proceeds between them.

According to the petroleum ministry's 'Vision 2030 for Hydrocarbons in the North East,' the Naga Schuppen belt is estimated to have 555 MMTOE (million metric tonnes of oil equivalent) of potential oil and oil equivalent of gas predicted resources.

The 60-year-old dispute between the two states is currently pending in the Supreme Court. Assam and Nagaland share a 434-km long border.