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Daily news summary**Meghalaya Assembly Uranium Mining Resolution Sixth Schedule**

UPSC Civil Services • 28 August 2026 • Prelims and Mains

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WHY IN NEWS

- Meghalaya Assembly adopted a resolution opposing uranium mining and processing facilities in the state.

CONTEXT AND KEY RESOLUTION

- The Meghalaya Legislative Assembly unanimously passed a resolution against allowing uranium exploration, mining, and processing inside the state.
- Resolution relies on constitutional protections granted under the **Sixth Schedule**, which reserves land rights for indigenous tribal communities.

UNDERLYING ISSUES AND CONSTITUTIONAL BASIS

- Local tribal bodies and environmental groups have long opposed uranium extraction due to radiation hazards, environmental degradation, and health risks.
- Under **Article 244(2)** and the **Sixth Schedule**, Autonomous District Councils (ADCs) hold land alienation powers, limiting central acquisition without local consent.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Highlights federal tensions between Union strategic energy priorities (atomic minerals under Union List) and **Sixth Schedule** tribal land rights.
- Serves as a case study on environmental justice, public health concerns, and resource governance in tribal areas.

KEY TERMS

- **Sixth Schedule:** Constitutional provision under **Article 244(2)** establishing Autonomous District Councils in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram to protect tribal land and culture.
- **Atomic Minerals:** Minerals specified under the **Atomic Energy Act, 1962** (like Uranium and Thorium) regulated exclusively by the Central Government for strategic energy.

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PRELIMS FACTS

- Land rights and resource regulation in Meghalaya are governed through Autonomous District Councils under the **Sixth Schedule**.

MAINS DISCUSSION

- Examine the constitutional friction between Union authority over strategic atomic minerals and tribal rights under the **Sixth Schedule**.

KEY DATA

- **Constitutional Article:** **Article 244(2)** - Governs administration of **Sixth Schedule** tribal areas in northeastern states including Meghalaya.
- **Parent Act for Atomic Energy:** **Atomic Energy Act, 1962** - Central statute governing the regulation and development of atomic minerals in India.

[Official source](#)

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