

#ENERGY CONSERVATION

What’s The Best Way To Store Carbon Dioxide

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Capturing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it in recycled concrete aggregate or geological reservoirs in Iceland is technically feasible and also has a positive carbon footprint.

Switzerland has set itself an ambitious goal: To reduce the country’s greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. But this will require more than just a massive expansion of renewable energies and saving measures.

The federal government assumes that hard-to-abate CO2 emissions, e.g., from incineration plants, will amount to 12 million tonnes (about 13.2 million tons), a year. Some of the CO2 emitted therefore needs to be removed again from the atmosphere. The question is, how? And what should be done with it?

Researchers investigated these questions as part of a pilot project and explored two solutions for permanent storage of CO2.

Mineralization in recycled demolition concrete manufactured in Switzerland and mineralization in a geological reservoir in Iceland.

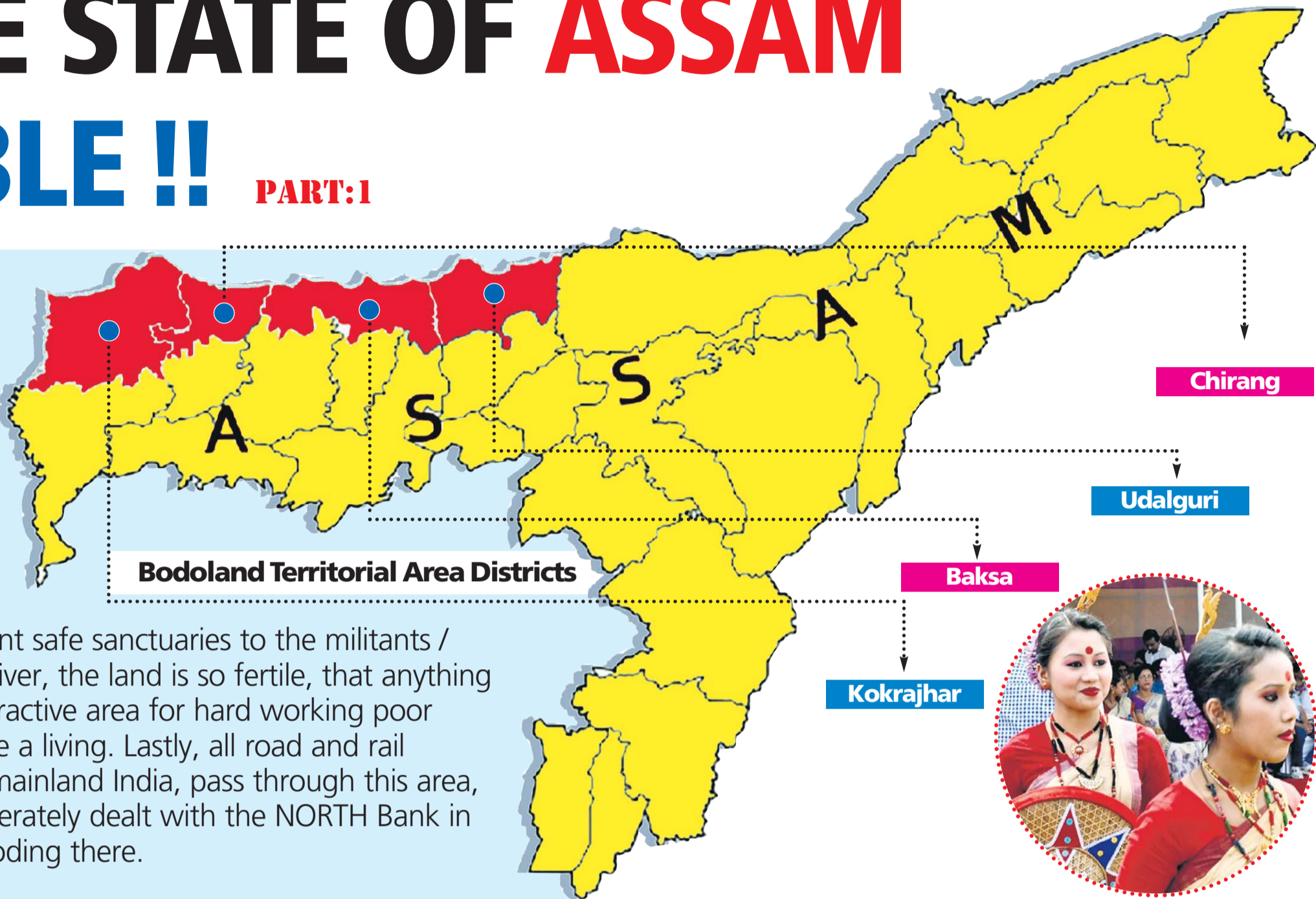
The project used carbon dioxide emissions from a waste water treatment plant in Bern. The researchers performed a life cycle analysis that covered the entire chain, from the capture and liquefaction of CO2 at the point of origin, to its transport and permanent storage. They also calculated how much new CO2 is produced along the entire chain. In addition, they explored different solutions for carbon capture methods and technologies for a waste incineration plant and a cement manufacturing plant.

The project demonstrated that both pathways are technically feasible and have a positive climate impact. In all the



WHY IS THE STATE OF ASSAM SO UNSTABLE !! PART:1

A large number of tribes which are mainly DOMINATED by the BODOS who are the original domiciles of Assam and claim that “If not the entire Assam, at least the NORTH BANK, belongs to them.” Apart from that, the maximum number of BANGLADESH migrants have settled there as well. The other features of significance are that the hills/mountains of Bhutan and Arunachal, which are in close proximity to the north, provide excellent safe sanctuaries to the militants / miscreants. Also, all along the bank of the river, the land is so fertile, that anything can be cultivated there, making it a very attractive area for hard working poor Bangla peasants, to slowly creep in, to make a living. Lastly, all road and rail communications connecting Assam to the mainland India, pass through this area, giving it high STRATEGIC value. I have deliberately dealt with the NORTH Bank in greater detail, as the current trouble is exploding there.



Let me open this subject on a spiritual cum philosophical note. When the almighty created this world, it consisted of two realities, nature’s GEOGRAPHICAL relief with fauna on it and life in the form of human and other beings. All these species were born with two basic instincts: survival of the fittest, might is right, chartering a boundary for themselves with their own jurisdiction of authority. The humans also followed similar evolutionary instincts, but having been endowed with a thinking mind, used it to satisfy their inherent desire of uncontrolled greed. This single factor gave birth to the evolutionary process, which soon started to get recorded as HISTORY. To fathom the GENESIS of the PROBLEM therefore, it is vital to examine all current political problems against the backdrop of geographical location of that region and evolutionary history of its citizens. The continued insurgency/instability in the entire NE as well as in ASSAM is a result of their UNIQUE GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION and PECULIAR DEMOGRAPHICAL CONFIGURATION.



GEOGRAPHY

Let me briefly dwell on GEOGRAPHY first. Geographically, Assam is so isolated from our mainland that if you ask a common Indian to name the seven sisters of the NE, he will fail. This remoteness has never been properly understood by our political leadership. Coming to the actual geographical configuration of Assam, the state’s dominating geographical feature is the mighty BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER. This has not only carved out its long, complex history, but also still controls all current events. WHY? Because, despite its three bridges and many unsafe ferries, it divides Assam into two distinct halves, the NORTH and the SOUTH. This division is politically significant, as the NORTH is checkboard / juxtapose of a large number of tribes, which are mainly DOMINATED by the BODOS, who are the original domiciles of Assam and claim that “If not the entire Assam, at least, the NORTH BANK belongs to them.” Apart from that, the maximum number of BANGLADESH migrants have settled there as well. The other features of significance are that the hills/mountains of Bhutan and Arunachal, which are in close proximity to the north, provide excellent safe sanctuaries to the militants/miscreants. Also, all along the bank of the river, the land is so fertile, that anything can be cultivated there, making it a very attractive area for hard working poor Bangla peasants, to slowly creep in, to make a living. Lastly, all road and rail communications connecting Assam to the mainland India, pass through this area, giving it high STRATEGIC value. I have deliberately dealt with the NORTH Bank in greater detail, as the current trouble is exploding there.

Now to the other part of the state, THE SOUTH BANK and THE BARAK VALLEY. The South Bank

has always remained the location of governance. Earlier, it was Sibsagar and now, it is Dispur. Politically, it has remained comparatively more stable than the North Bank, because it has been dominated by the AHOMS, who ruled Assam, for almost 600 years. This single fact has and continues to remain a flash point of conflict between the settlers of North and the South Banks. The South Bank has a number of tribes also but since they are confined to the Hill Areas of Karbi Anglong Hills, North Cachar Hills and the Meghalaya Hills, their interference in South Bank affairs therefore is limited, thereby not creating conflict situations like those on the North Bank.



so many tribes of different origins, the Barak valley is comparatively more peaceful than other parts of Assam. This is a very relevant reality of that region.

With this brief geographical and demographic profile of the existing scenario in Assam, let us analyze the influence of history which has resulted in this configuration. However, just before that, let us list out the prominent factors of influence, which will help us analyze the current conflict situation better. These are listed below:-

a) Assam’s basic attraction originally lay in the fertile Brahmaputra valley. Later,

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however, when the tea plantation was introduced and rich oil and mineral resources were discovered, its importance assumed a new dimension.

b) The valley is surrounded by high mountains and hills which lends it natural security.

c) The demography is a check-board of tribes mixed with men of the Indian mainland, mainly Bengalis, Kochs, Biharis and Adivasis.

d) The original domiciles of the valley are only BODOS.

e) Ahom are actually from Yunnan province (China). After their entry, they have dominated



Assam till the advent of the Brits. Strategically, the only link with the Indian mainland is through the narrow SILIGURI CORRIDOR which is controlled by the NORTH BANK which lends special status to BODOS, who dominate that area.



ence are:

a) A Bodo Territorial Area District (BTAD) will be formed consisting of four contiguous districts of Kokrajhar, Baksa, Udalguri and Chirang. In addition, territory will be carved out also from the neighbouring districts of Bongaigaon, Barpeta, Nalbari, Kamrup, Darrang and Sonitpur.

b) All BLT cadres will surrender their arms.

c) A Bodo Territorial Council (BTC) will be formed after election and it will administer the BTAD.

d) The Assam Govt. will allot selected subjects to be administered by the BTAD.

After being hounded by the security forces, they decided to come to the negotiation table and accept a ceasefire. This was only a ruse, to ward off threat of security forces, retain some cadres

hidden away in safe sanctuaries for operations, and enroll disgruntled BLT cadres into their ranks and CONTINUE THEIR OPERATIONS BY EXTORTION, INSIGHTING COMMUNAL DISCORD AND VIOLENCE TO HUMILIATE THE BTC.

With this brief backdrop of the Bodoland militancy as well as the demographic scenario, it is easy to identify the flash points of violence which can be ignited. These can be surmised as under:-

a) The Bodo Accord has not solved the problem, but instead, has accentuated it because of the following reasons:

i. The BTAD jurisdiction has trespassed on traditional settlers who were living in peace in their habitats since ages. This has caused them avoidable hardship and consequent frustration.

ii. BTC is ruled by militants and

not by experienced administrators.

iii. The subject of ‘Law and Order’ is vague and diffused between BTC and the state govt.

iv. The NDFB, though under ceasefire agreement, is more at large, to ignite violence under its ‘protection’.

v. The breakdown BLT cadres are having a free run as they are being used for extortion, inciting violence and other nefarious activities by both BTC and NDFB.

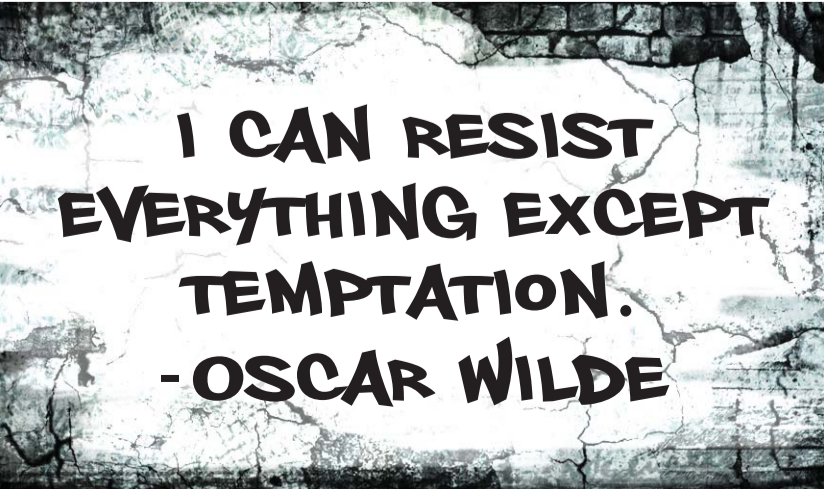
vi. The so called ‘Refugee Camps’ are not only like slums but also, are secure sanctuaries for militant operations.

vii. To add to these simmering violent conditions, the unimpeded ILLLEGAL IMMIGRATION OF BANGLADESH REFUGEES has acted like ADDING FUEL TO FIRE.

To be continued....

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THE WALL



BABY BLUES



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

ZITS



By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman