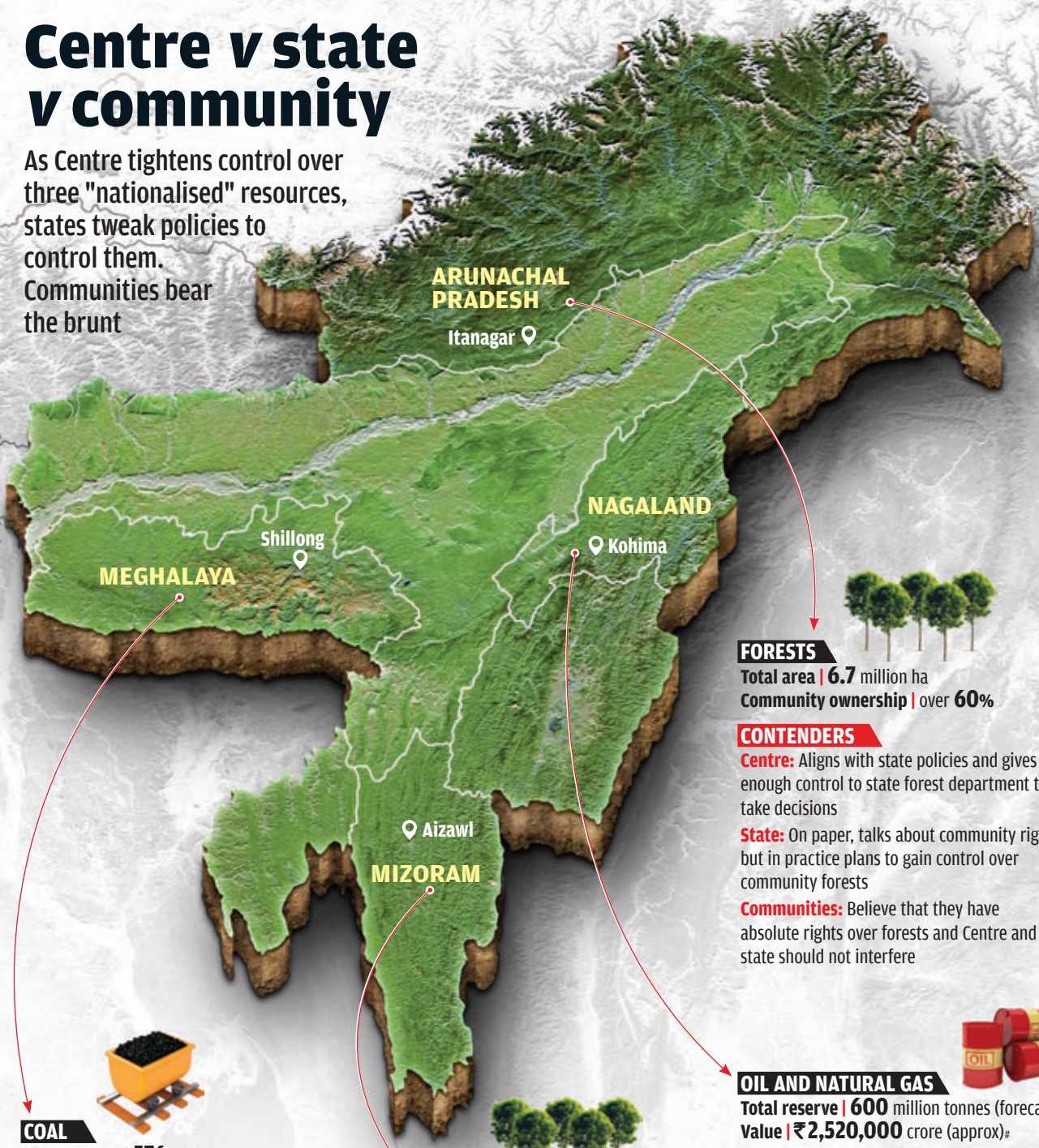


Centre v state v community

As Centre tightens control over three "nationalised" resources, states tweak policies to control them. Communities bear the brunt



GRAPHICS: RAKU / CSE

COAL

Total reserve | 576 million tonnes
Value | ₹2,01,600 crore to ₹4,60,800 crore*

CONTENDERS

Centre: Declares coal as a national asset but leaves its mining to the state government
State: Officially admits Centre's control over coal. Till NGT banned rat-hole coal mining in the state in April 2014, it had turned a blind eye to rampant mining by coal barons
Communities: Believe coal belongs to them, but most do not mine coal on their own due to lack of capital and hazards involved

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Itanagar

NAGALAND

Kohima

MEGHALAYA

Shillong

MIZORAM

Aizawl

FORESTS

Total area | 6.7 million ha
Community ownership | over 60%

CONTENDERS

Centre: Aligns with state policies and gives enough control to state forest department to take decisions
State: On paper, talks about community rights but in practice plans to gain control over community forests
Communities: Believe that they have absolute rights over forests and Centre and state should not interfere

OIL AND NATURAL GAS

Total reserve | 600 million tonnes (forecast)
Value | ₹2,520,000 crore (approx)#

CONTENDERS

Centre: Only the Union government has control over oil resources in the country
State: Constitution has given special powers to Nagaland to govern land and its resources, including oil
Communities: Land and its resources belong to people; they should get the entire royalty

FORESTS

Total area | 1.9 million ha
Community ownership | over 30%

CONTENDERS

Centre: Gives enough control to state forest department to take decisions
State: Says traditional community practices like *jhum* degrade forests; promotes privatisation through plantations
Communities: Want to follow traditional practices but are forced to give up land for plantations

Sources: Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Union Ministry of Mines, Forest Survey of India and Nagaland Industrial Development Corporation. Note: *Value of coal based on the current rate of ₹3,500 to ₹8,000 per tonne; #Value of oil calculated on the basis of approximate international value of US \$700 a tonne; import value fluctuated between US \$670 and US \$820 a tonne between mid-June and October