

NORTH EAST INDIA WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR PEACE

AUGUST 2013 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace (NEIWP). The journey of a humble initiative of women from India's Northeast that started in 2010 has now entered its third year. A network of over 120 women has been formed from across eight states of the region and efforts are on to further strengthen work for peace, democracy and rights of the people of region through this initiative.

Please find here August 2013 issue newsletter, positive news of August regarding Diaspora, history, peace and news on women empowerment from Northeast India and rest of the world to renew our hopes and strengthen our efforts to work towards peace making.

Manipuri diasporas take part in India Day celebration

Source: The Sangai Express, 12 Aug 2013

Members of the Manipuri Association of Canada (MAC) participated in the India Day Celebration in Toronto, Canada on Sunday, August 10 organized by the Panorama India, a Pan-Canada Cultural Organization for people of Indian Origin in Canada. According to a statement, the celebration featured a cultural parade in the streets of downtown Toronto and an extravaganza at Dundas Square, Toronto. [Read more:](#)

Krishna Limbu from Sikkim wins India's Red Bull Freestyle Football 2013

Source: Sevendiary, 1 Aug 2013

Red Bull Street Style India 2013's winner is Krishna Limbu of Sikkim, who was one of the qualifiers from the Kolkata leg of regional auditions. He will now represent India at the Red Bull Street Style World Final to be held in Japan in the month of September. India's finest freestyle footballers from Chennai, Kolkata, Delhi and Mumbai auditions gathered in Mumbai on Saturday, June 27 at the Orbit Mall in Malad for the Red Bull Street Style National finals 2013. [Read more:](#)

Members of Assamese community of North America gather in Pontiac to share culture

Source: The Detroit News, 6 July 2013

Members of the small but tight-knit Assamese community across North America gathered together Saturday to sip the country's famous tea, watch music and dance performances and share their culture. "We do this to promote our culture and keep the community together," said Dr. Gautam L. Baruah, outgoing president of the Assam Association of North America. "We want to keep the diaspora together." [Read more:](#)

Manipur's Sushila Chanu Pukhrambam led Indian girls created history by winning country's first ever medal in Hockey World Cup

Source: NDTV, 4 Aug 2013

Indian girls created history by winning country's first ever bronze medal in the junior women hockey World Cup as they pipped England 3-2 on penalties, riding on striker Rani's dazzling show, here today. 18-year-old Rani scored India's only goal in the regulation time and then found the net twice in the penalty shoot-out to script India's memorable victory. [Read more:](#)

2 students from Manipur at Indian International Model United Nations

Source: Epao.net, 17 Aug 2013

2 students from Manipur were selected to represent North East India at the prestigious Indian International Model United Nations held from the 12th to 15th August 2013 at the World Trade Centre, Mumbai. The selected students, Ransom Lungleng represented Pakistan at Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). He completed his post-graduation from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai this year. Chirmi Shimray represented China as an observer nation at the European Union (EU). [Read more:](#)

Northeast India's biggest museum to open on Sep 25 at Tripura

Source: IANS, 27 Aug 2013

Vice President Hamid Ansari will Sep 25 inaugurate northeast India's biggest museum, set up in Tripura's royal palace, which was the command hub until the erstwhile princely state's accession to India in October 1949. "The museum set up at the renovated Ujjayanta Palace will showcase northeast India's art, culture, history and ethnic diversity. This is the biggest museum of the region," the official said. [Read more:](#)

Book Release & Discussion on Mizo History Writing

Source: PUCollege, 14 Aug 2013

'Mizo Narratives: Accounts from Mizoram', a book on Mizo history, written along the line of MZU syllabus of 1st Semester B. A, edited by two teachers from Department of History, Dr. Malsawmdawngliana and Rohmingmawii have been released on 14th August 2013 by Mr. R. L. Rinawma, Principal Secretary, Government of Mizoram. In this book, there are 20 articles written by scholars from various Universities [Read more:](#)

Workshop on Tangkhul history held

Source: The Sangai Express, 21 Aug 2013

A two days workshop on the "Unique historical background of the Tangkhul-cum-the Tangkhul Naga Wungnao Long (TNWL) or Tangkhul Village Chiefs' Association and its profile book release was held on August 20 and 21 at Oasis Conference Hall, Hemleikhong in Ukhrul district headquarters under the theme 'Our Culture – Our Identity'. [Read more:](#)

Why is Mizoram a distant dot in the national mind space?

Source: Misual.com, 16 May 2013

On 13 May, the website of leading English daily carried a story with the headline 'Meghalaya landslide toll rises to 13, more bodies likely to be extricated'. The story quotes the Press Trust of India (PTI) from Aizawl regarding the rescue operation of the massive landslide in Mizoram's capital Aizawl on 11 May. Clearly the English daily had mixed up 'Mizoram' with 'Meghalaya'. This is not the first time that such a goof up has happened. Many a time, the media in mainland India has done the same, maybe with no malicious intent, but out of ignorance. [Read more:](#)

Tripura to have separate directorate for tribal languages

Source: PTI, 9 Aug 2012

Tripura government will form a separate directorate for developing tribal languages in vogue in the state, official sources said today. There are 23 tribes in Tripura and majority of them speak Kokbarak, which is the main tribal language in the state. Tribes like Chakma, Kuki and Halam residing in the state have their own languages. The directorate would be named 'Kokbarak and Minority Language Development Directorate' and would be headed by an IAS officer, the sources said. [Read more:](#)

Re-Visiting the Indigenous Past of Northeast India

Source: Greener Pastures, 9 Aug 2013

With the advent of modern science, the recent decades have seen urban influence penetrating even the lives of those who remain far away from cities. The same applies here in Northeast India. The indigenous peoples of the region, who occupy a remote frontiers consisting of rainforests and Himalayan mountains, have been witnessing the advent of roads and urban goods into their territory which only twenty years back appeared forbidden to the outside world. [Read more:](#)

Bijoya Sawian: The Legend of U Manik Raitong: A Folktale from Meghalaya

Source: Muse India

Once upon a time there lived a great Syiem (a Khasi chieftain/king) who ruled over many provinces. As suited to his lofty position his queen was a graceful and beautiful one. They say her skin was the colour of gold, her lips were coral red and her raven hair tumbled in quiet waves down to her tiny waist. Needless to say, the Syiem loved her very much. It so happened that one day the Syiem was compelled to travel far into the distant frontiers of his kingdom. [Read more:](#)

History of Arunachal Pradesh

Source: Web India 123

There are practically no records relating to the earlier history of this area except some oral literature and the number of historical ruins found mainly in the foot hills dating approximately from the early Christian Era. In 1826, the British exercised their control in Assam after the treaty of Yandaboo concluded on 24th February 1826. Before 1962, Arunachal was popularly called North Eastern Frontier Agency and was constitutionally a part of Assam. [Read more:](#)

First-ever film fest on northeast begins in Shillong

Source: The Times of India, 2 Aug 2013

The first-ever film festival exclusively on the northeast began at St Anthony's College in Shillong on Thursday. The three-day film festival has been organized by the mass media department of the college in collaboration with the state department of arts and culture and directorate of information and public relations. The festival has been organized to highlight filmmakers from the region [Read more:](#)

A Manipuri girl to tour the seven states of Northeast India by cycle to spread message to stop violence against women

Source: Hueiyen News Service, 9 July 2013

Concerned over rising crime and violence against women in north-eastern region, Sougajiam Bidyalakshmi, a 17-year-old girl from Jiribam, has come forward to tour all 82 districts of the seven Northeast States all alone on a bicycle to spread message of stopping violence against women. Bidyalakshmi is a Class-XII student of Jiribam Government Higher Secondary School and a senior volunteer of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan. [Read more:](#)

Italian pianist Cesare Picco to perform in Shillong

Source: Sevendiary, 24 Aug 2013

World renowned Italian pianist Cesare Picco has just announced his tour date to perform in a charity event "Harmony of Hope Concert" to be staged at the St Anthony's College auditorium in Shillong on September 2, in an effort that aims to campaign the awareness for disabled children. The upcoming concert that will also feature local artistes — Aroha Choir, Na La Rympei and Bethany Society's band and choir [Read more:](#)

Asian Development Bank (ADB) team surveys Imphal-Moreh route

Source: The Sangai Express, 5 Aug 2013

A team of Asian Development Bank (ADB) engineers is currently preparing a feasibility report for construction of a new Imphal-Moreh road and expansion of the existing road. A high-ranking official of the State Government said that ADB started paying special attention to Imphal-Moreh road acknowledging the crucial link it provides between India and Myanmar in the backdrop of the restoration of some semblance of democracy in Myanmar. [Read more:](#)

UK wants ties with Tripura: British High Commissioner

Source: The Northeast Today, 6 Aug 2013

The UK is looking forward to prospects of building long partnership with Tripura and other states of India for the 21st century, British High Commissioner Sir James David Bevan said. Speaking to reporters at the Agartala Press Club this evening, the British top diplomat said that the United Kingdom is interested to build ties in several sectors like energy, education, health, tourism, manufacturing industry etc with Tripura. [Read more:](#)

India's first cyber forensic lab set up in Tripura

Source: IANS, 12 Aug 2013

India's first Cyber Forensic Laboratory (CFL) has been set up in Tripura, an official said Monday. The lab, established at the Tripura High Court will provide court case related information. "From the CFL, automatic SMS alert would go to both lawyers and the litigant about the fate of the court case. If any lawyer or the petitioner remains absent on the day of trial, the SMS alert would go to all concerned," a law department official told IANS. [Read more:](#)

The International Film Festival of India's (IFFI) to focus on the Northeast

Source: North-East Post, 11 Aug 2013

The International Film Festival of India's (IFFI) 2013 edition will have a special focus on films from the north east states. "There will be special highlight on films produced from all eight north eastern states for the IFFI 2013," Director of film festival, Shankar Mohan said in a press conference after a first meeting of IFFI steering committee. Organisers have also decided to showcase Konkani films, which have contributed significantly to Goans. [Read more:](#)

Anger may brew among Northeast Indian youth if jobs are not created, says economist

Source: North-East Post, 30 Aug 2013

Economist Bibek Debroy said the northeast needs to create more jobs to absorb the youths of the region as absence of proper employment opportunities could lead to frustration among the youth. "Enrollment in educational institutions is rising in the northeast. If jobs are not created in the region, anger will start brewing among the youth," Debroy said at the North East Marketing Conclave organized by Fhere on Thursday. [Read more:](#)

Caravan tourism in Assam soon

Source: North-East Post, 13 Aug 2013

Many of us have seen Western movies featuring holiday buffs hitching a caravan and driving over to some exotic camp site. Now tourists in Assam will soon be able to enjoy the same experience with the Assam Tourism Development Corporation (ATDC) set to introduce caravan tourism in the State from October-November this year. [Read more:](#)

Northeast emerges as the new hotspot for tourists

Source: North-East Post, 11 Aug 2013

The number of tourists, both domestic and international, heading for the northeast has gone up dramatically in the past year. Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland have notched 20%-29% more foreign tourist arrivals while Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, respectively, recorded a 36%-41% increase in domestic travellers. Till recently, these states, beautiful and unexplored as they were, rated low on tourist options. [Read more:](#)

Pride of the Assamese ladies -Muga Silk!

Source: North-East Post, 11 Aug 2013

A dazzling traditional dress (mekhela chadar) woven with 'Muga' silk is indigenous to Brahmaputra Valley in Assam. In fact, it is one of most expensive gifts an Assamese young man can pick to win the heart of his woman. Why, not? This silk is simply magnificent, and almost as worthy as gold! [Read more:](#)

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