

NORTH EAST INDIA WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR PEACE

JUNE 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.

Our team is in constant following up, closely monitoring and working very hard with concerned Northeast India Diaspora group, individuals as well as woman organisations and helping in whatever possible we can from our side to ensure justice and to provide to late Ms A.S. Reingamphi alias A.S. Solam from Manipur who was found dead under suspicious circumstances in her rented accommodation at New Delhi. Regarding this, citizens' vigil continues: nearly 1000 signatures collected in support of condemning killing of her. Teams handling case continue to meet press authorities for action. Demand of arrest/interrogation of landlord and his brother-in-law still not done! It's going to be another long fight for justice! The silver lining this time is there is a Collective Team

Please find here June 2013 issue newsletter, positive news of June 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.

Not just AFSPA, Delhi Police Adds to the Woes of the Northeast Community in the Capital

Source: News Click, 1 June 2013

It takes over three days and a minister's intervention to file a FIR in Reingamphi's death case. Protests continue Forget justice, Reingamphi's death shows how even basic investigation proceedings are elusive in this country. Not just her family and the northeast community had to protest for three days to get a FIR registered but also the post mortem report has been brazenly botched up. [Read more:](#)

North-East passage

Source: The Times of India, 15 June 2013

A campaign aims to correct a grievous omission in school textbooks - the near exclusion of the history of the North-East. Binalakshmi Nepram, a 30-something activist from Manipur has traded guns for history. A noted disarmament activist and convener of the 'North-East India Women Initiative for Peace' she is presently canvassing the cause of the history of the North-East, which she feels isn't adequately represented in school and university textbooks across the country. [Read more:](#)

Maharashtra class 10 textbook shows Arunachal as part of China

Source: The Hindustan Times, 16 May 2013

In an embarrassing and glaring error, the northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh is shown as Chinese territory in one of the country maps in the new Class 10 geography textbook of the Maharashtra State Board for Secondary and Higher Secondary Education. More than 17 lakh students will study the updated syllabus from the coming academic year starting June. [Read more:](#)

Class 10 history book too puts Arunachal in China

Source: Hindustan Times, 19 May 2013

After showing Arunachal Pradesh in Chinese territory in the Class 10 state board geography textbooks, a similar faux pas has surfaced in the new class 10 history textbooks with the north-eastern state included as part of China in the world map. The world map published on the jackets of the textbooks, which will be used by more than 17 lakh students, contains an incorrect outline of India by showing the region above Assam as part of China, thus leaving out the border state of Arunachal Pradesh. [Read more:](#)

Women in Peace Building in North East India

Source: Countercurrents.org, 26 June 2013

Based on my limited reading about the people from north east India from my school text books, I had drawn some similarity between the people there and the people in my home state, Jharkhand-that both of them are tribals; are similar to each other and are different from the non-tribals. However it was only during my post graduation, the syllabus of sociology gave a detailed narration of the diversity of the tribal groups [Read more:](#)

Mourning Reingamphi Awungshi: Pratiksha Baxi

Source: Kafi, 11 June 2013

When the police found Reingamphi Awungshi, a twenty-one year woman from Ukhrul district in Manipur brutalised, assaulted and dead in her rented apartment in Chirag Delhi on 29 May 2013, they did not file an FIR. Rather, the Malaviya Nagar police station, a site of anguished protests, began by designating her death as suicide, even as they waited for a post mortem report! [Read more:](#)

Protesters demand justice

Source: The Hindu, 7 June 2013

Sudden rains failed to dampen the spirit of the large number of protesters, mostly from the North Eastern States, who descended on Jantar Mantar on Thursday evening to hold a candle light vigil demanding justice for 23-year-old Manipuri woman Reingamphi Awungshi who was found dead at her rented accommodation in Chirag Dilli [Read more:](#)

Guwahati boy made NCERT to remove sentence from geography book

Source: Sevendary.com, 23 June 2013

National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has been asked by Union Tourism Secretary Pervez Dewan to remove a line from the class tenth geography textbook which stated that tourism has not been encouraged in north-eastern states and interior parts of the Himalayas due to "strategic reasons". NCERT geography class tenth textbook in page 92, chapter 7 titled 'Lifelines of National Economy', mentions "there is vast potential of tourism development in the north-eastern states and the interior parts [Read more:](#)

Open Letter to the MPs of NorthEast India

Source: Kangla Online, 16 June 2013

We the undersigned would like to bring to your attention some very serious concerns relating to recent tragic death of Reingamphi Awunshi. We strongly believe that the circumstances that lead to the death of the beautiful daughter of Ukhrul and many insensitive and humiliating incidences following the death are a result of many attitudes and attributes that has been formed through the years. [Read more:](#)

Assamese diaspora called on to 'conquer' state's needs

Source: Assam Chronicle, 1 June 2013

A former British Foreign Office Minister has called on the Assamese community in the United Kingdom (UK) to help the government in Assam tackle problems faced by the country. While addressing the second annual conference of the Assam Forum of Great Britain (AFGB) at the London School of Economics last weekend (Saturday 1 June), Bill Rammell urged delegates to consider the experiences of other countries [Read more:](#)

Assam - The Gateway of India's North - East event at Mayfair, London

Source: Epao.net, 14 June, 2013

Nehru Centre, cultural Wing of The High Commission of India partnering Tea Board of India is organising the flagship event on Assam - "The Gateway of India's North - East" on 14th June 2013, at Mayfair, London. India Tea Board is to promote and offer Assam Tea at the premises. This initiative has been taken by Rini Kakati, NRI Assam Co-ordinator for UK. The summit will address key issues related to the overall socio - economic development of the North - East [Read more:](#)

Delhi University: Admission Guide & Helpline for Northeast students

Source: Sevendary.com, 4 June 2013

Here's quick information for those students seeking admissions for under graduate courses at Delhi University for the academic year 2013-2014. Currently, over 20,000 students from the Northeast India is enrolled with the university. Delhi University has announced the dates for undergraduate admissions for the academic session 2013-2014. [Read more:](#)

Young Assamese Innovator wins prestigious award for innovation

Source: sevendary.com, 4 June 2013

22-year-old Assamese lad Riddhiman Das has been presented with the prestigious "Champions of Change Award" of the United States for his achievement as an immigrant innovator and entrepreneur during an event held at the White House by President Barack Obama recently. [Read more:](#)

North East India-Cambodia Business Conclave

Source: TNT Magazine, 13 June 2013

Intercontinental Hotel Phnom Penh Cambodia:- Indian Chambers of Commerce (ICC) in partnership with the Indian Embassy in Cambodia and the Indian Chamber of Commerce of Cambodia, have organized, North East India-Cambodia Business Conclave, Business to Business Meeting in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. A 40-member business delegation from the North Eastern state in India is visiting Cambodia [Read more:](#)

The Flight Cadet who never gave up

Source: Rediff.com, 22 June 2013

Adapting to disability is perhaps one of the greatest triumphs of human evolution. Flight Cadet Herojit Rajkumar Singh is a living example of it, notes M P Anil Kumar. Not long ago, donning the Indian Air Force uniform was a mere flight of fancy for Flight Cadet Herojit Rajkumar Singh (nicknamed Hero, so apparent). [Read more:](#)

Fiercely Modern: Art of the Naga Warriors on display in New York

Source: Sevendary.com, 29 June 2013

Fiercely Modern: Art of the Naga Warrior - An exhibition about the Naga tribes living on the border between India (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland and Manipur) and Burma has been running from April 26 and it will continue till September 26 at the Rubin Museum of Art, 150 West 17th Street in New York (USA). The Nagas had the reputation for being fearsome headhunters. [Read more:](#)

Inclusion proposal to UNESCO on Assam's Charaideo Moidams

Source: Sevendary.com, 4 June 2013

A Guwahati-based Archaeologist Dr S S Gupta of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has told Assam Tribune that a proposal has been sent to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre by the Union Ministry of Culture's Advisory Committee for inclusion of the Charaideo group of moidams in the list of World Heritage Sites under either Group of Monuments or Cultural Landscape category in April last. [Read more:](#)

Nagaland's head hunters caught

Source: Deccan Herald

During her childhood, Vikeyno Zao, 36, had heard from her elders beguiling accounts of the tattooed headhunters of the Konyak tribe in her home state of Nagaland. She made a 15-minute short film entitled 'Last of the Tattooed Head Hunters' about headhunting, the traditional practice of taking the head after killing a person in ancient Naga society [Read more:](#)

Agartala and Imphal to become International Airports

Source: Sevendary.com, 1 June 2013

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has announced to upgrade the domestic airports in Imphal and Agartala into international airports as part of India's "Look East" policy to boost the region's connectivity and trade with Southeast Asia. The preliminary work has begun and the terminal buildings, air traffic control towers, runway and other necessary infrastructure would be expanded at the budget of over Rs.160 crore. [Read more:](#)

Bodos hope for early talks - NDFB Chief Ranjan Daimary returns home after 27 years

Source: The Telegraph 23 June 2013

It was 3.30 this afternoon when NDFB Chief Ranjan Daimary finally set foot in his Assam-type house alongside an irrigation canal at Odla Khashibari under Harisinga police station in Assam's Udalguri district. Daimary had left home 27 years ago seeking an independent and sovereign state for the Bodos. It was, therefore, no surprise that tears flowed freely as one family member after another welcomed him with tight hugs. [Read more:](#)

First all-women police station opens in Arunachal

Source: PTI, 6 June 2013

The first all-women police station in Arunachal Pradesh has started functioning to specifically deal with crimes against women. With the opening of the all-women police station on Tuesday, the state government has sent a clear message to ensure better safety and security to women, SP Surendra Kumar said on Thursday. [Read more:](#)

Barua's Baandhon to become first Assamese movie for nationwide release

Source: Sevendary.com, 28 June 2013

Acclaimed filmmaker Jahnur Barua's National Award winning Assamese film "Baandhon (Waves of Silence)" is set to become the first Assamese film to be released outside the state. The film with English subtitles is releasing nationwide on July 5 across PVR cinemas in metro cities including Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Ahmedabad and Pune. The movie is based on a story of an elderly couple [Read more:](#)

Shillong Lajong FC signs Trinidad and Tobago 2006's World Cup star Cornell Glen

Source: sevendary.com, 18 June 2013

Northeast India's first I-league club Shillong Lajong FC have signed up Trinidad and Tobago World Cupper Cornell Glen for the forthcoming 2013-14 season. Glen is a regular striker for Trinidad and Tobago since 2002, with 66 international caps and 23 goals to his name. He was also in the squad for the 2006 FIFA World Cup [Read more:](#)

Manipur martial art expert pulls SUV for extreme World Records

Source: Sevendary.com, 18 June 2013

A 35-year-old Thang-Ta expert Sougajam Bhaba Singh (Momocha) pulled an SUV Tata Safari weighing around 2,510 kgs for over a distance of 122.5 feet against the incline surface of Loklaobung Bridge with the help of a pointed spear fitted on his throat in a bid to enter the Limca Book of Records (India) and Guinness World Book of Records at Loklaobung Thong in Imphal West on 16 June, 2013. [Read more:](#)

The shop that has no Keeper in Mizoram

Source: Sevendary.com, 15 June 2013

Possibly this is the only place in the whole planet and one of the rarest traditional barter systems that is still being practice now, where you can shop it yourself at a guard-less roadside store, then drop the purchase items money into a box and walk away with the fresh vegetables. If you are travelling between Seling and Keifang villages in Mizoram. [Read more:](#)

For more information, please contact:

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