

NORTH EAST INDIA WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR PEACE

SEPTEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace (NEIWIP). 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 September 2013 issue newsletter, positive news of September 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.

Meghalaya: Modern Day Matriarchy

Source: The Sydney Morning Herald, 2 Apr 2013

The one and only place in India where the birth of a baby girl is greeted with ecstasy is Meghalaya, where the mother's family, waiting in the corridor of the maternity ward, break into laughter, hugs and clap their hands for joy. "When a boy is born, the reaction is very different, subdued - 'Oh, OK, fine, whatever God gives us must be accepted,'" says Merle Gilford, a nurse at Nazareth Hospital in Shillong, the capital of Meghalaya, a picturesque state of wooded hills and mists in the north-east. [Read more:](#)

Atouzo Neihule: Naga Entrepreneur living the American Dream

Source: Sevendiary, 24 Sep 2013

Here's a Naga entrepreneur with his own story of living the American dream. Atouzo Neihule, a native of Nerhema village under Kohima in Nagaland, is a true explorer, who dared to follow his passion and achieve something what most Northeasterners have not heard of till date. He is the co-owner of Los Angeles luxurious beauty salon named "Niehule" (meaning - To live a happy life, in his Angami-Naga dialect) and co-founder of Dreams by Niehule, a nail lacquer label. [Read more:](#)

Mayong: Assamese film to screen at an American festival

Source: Sevendiary.com, 26 Sep 2013

National Award winning film maker Utpal Borpujari's latest documentary titled "Mayong: Myth/Reality", based on Mayong, a small cluster of villages situated in Marigaon district of Assam known for its witchcraft practices and legends associated with black magic, has been selected for screening at the Silent River Film Festival in California (USA) to be held from October 17 to 20. [Read more:](#)

Sikkim India's greenest state, 47.3 percent land forested

Source: The Province.com, 18 Aug 2013

With a forest cover 47.3 percent of its total geographical area — more than double the national average of 21 percent — Sikkim is India's greenest state, official data shows "The forest cover in the state, based on the interpretation of satellite data, is 3,359 sq km, which is 47.3 percent of state's geographical area," a statement released here Sunday by the Sikkim government said. [Read more:](#)

Arunachal Pradesh to have advance landing grounds for planes

Source: Oneindianews, 3 Sep 2013

With China ramping up its infrastructure near the Line of Actual Control (LAC), work will begin soon on construction and restoration of advanced landing grounds in the border state of Arunachal Pradesh this year. "There is a slow but steady migration towards urban areas" Chief Minister Nabam Tuki said work would begin this year on construction and restoration of identified advanced landing grounds (ALGs) in the border regions of the state, some of which will also be used for civilian purposes. [Read more:](#)

Siang River near Tuting in Arunachal Pradesh

Source: Sevendiary.com, 26 Sep 2013

A stunning view of the Siang river near Tuting village in Arunachal Pradesh. Siang river is the main tributary of Brahmaputra, which originates from southern China. The village is located in the Upper Siang district, which is the fourth least populous district in the country. An ideal place for trekking, camping and other adventure activities. [Read more:](#)

Roundtable on Northeast's role in India's Look East Policy

Source: Sangai Express, 27 Sep 2013

The Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) organised a half-day roundtable on Northeast's Role in India's Look East Policy (LEP) on September 18, 2013. The purpose of this roundtable was to invite specific projects from the northeastern states that could be implemented in the region under the aegis the ASEAN-India Vision Document 2020 as well as India's LEP. Dr. Arvind Gupta (DG, IDSA) chaired this roundtable [Read more:](#)

Initiative to develop confident, self-reliant and self-governing youth

Source: Morungexpress, 8 Sep 2013

Peace Channel family held a consultative meeting with Tulazuama Village, Dimapur on September 7, 2013 in view of launching a youth development for peace, and sustainable youth development program supported by Indo Global Social Services Society (IGSSS). The goal of the project is to develop a generation of confident, self-reliant and self-governing youth to engage in people friendly governance mechanisms, which will enable them to integrate justice, peace and development, said a press release issued by Peace. [Read more:](#)

Manipuris pledge to spread peace in Northeast India

Source: The Telegraph, 29 Sep 2013

Manipuris living in different parts of the Northeast have joined hands to spread the message of love, peace and brotherhood among different communities in the region. Through the newly instituted forum, Manipuri Association North East India, they aim to propagate the need for peaceful co-existence and cultural exchange among the communities to achieve prog-ress for everyone. [Read more:](#)

North-East cultural extravaganza to unfold on September 25

Source: Udayavani, 23 Sep 2013

"Octave 2013- mega cultural event showcasing the folk and tribal traditions of the North-East region, will be inaugurated on September 25." Informed Dr.C.V.Raghuveer, registrar, Yenepoya University. Addressing a press conference Dr.Raghuveer further said "About 150 artists from seven north east regions perform during the event. The main aim of this event is to bring North East India into focus also to propagate the cultural diversities of India, thereby bring about national integration." [Region:](#)

Bikers from western India tour northeast to know region better

Source: The Times of India, 27 Sep 2013

Bir Tikendrajit, Lachit Borphukan, Rani Ma Gaidinliu and Raja Bhagyachandra are heroes of northeast's history whose glory has been confined to history books. The rest of India neither knows their names nor their region of origin. In a bid to know the northeast better, 74 bikers from western India have embarked on a 22-day motorcycle journey of the northeast. Motorcyclists from Maharashtra, Karnataka, Goa and Gujarat under the banner 'West Meets and Greets East and Northeast', are taking part in the tour carrying the message of 'Sashakt Bharat'. [Read more:](#)

Coordination among North-Easterners, local Delhi residents, 'Aunties' and Police go a long way in solving many problems

Source: The Statesman, 23 Sep 2013

Recently, the Young Paite Association, Delhi, organised a workshop on security, safety and the problems faced by people of the North-east in the capital. Problems like harassment by landlords/ homeowners, non-payment of salary by employers and insecurity while travelling in public transport/ metros were raised and discussed. In Delhi, when someone from the North-east rents a room or a flat, he/she is not given any formal written agreement. [Read more:](#)

Council on Northeast India fashion unveiled

Source: The Telegraph, 8 Sep 2013

Fashion-conscious Northeast now has a fashion and design council to promote the region's traditional weaves apart from the pool of talent. The Northeast India Fashion and Design Council, formed with a core committee of seven members, was "The council has been formed to guide and promote talent in the field of fashion and design. It will also address issues faced by the industry and assist the state government in policy formation with regard to textiles, handloom and handicraft promotion. [Read more:](#)

Weaves from Seven Sisters to wow Kolkata

Source: The Assam Tribune, 17 Sep 2013

Exotic prints and weaves of the northeastern states, blended with West Bengal's 'kantha' will be showcased here during a week-long exhibition beginning Friday. The Seven Sisters exhibition at the Weavers Studio will exhibit products culled from each of the seven states in the northeast, including the intricate loom weaves, and workshops. Loin loom or back-strap loom is a portable bamboo loom popular in Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland and some parts of Assam. [Read more:](#)

'Eastern border more important than western'

Source: The Times of India, 25 Sep 2013

A noted scholar and expert on Southeast Asian geopolitics, Bertil Lintner, said at a seminar in the city on Tuesday that India's eastern border is more important than its western border as the eastern corridor of the border holds more strategic and geographical importance for the country. Lintner was speaking at a seminar on 'Myanmar: Opportunities and Challenges' at the Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development. [Read more:](#)

23 Students from 11 northeast towns of India get leadership training

Source: ThisWeekGuwahati.com, 25 Sep 2013

Twenty three student leaders from 11 northeast India towns had 3 day leadership training at Kharguli, Guwahati. The Young Catholic Students/Young Students Movement Training of Animators was organized by the YCS/YSM Regional Office, NERYC, Guwahati from 19th to 21st September, 2013. The occasion provided an opportunity to fulfilling the aim of the movement "Building a new society" – a relationship of peace and harmony. [Read more:](#)

Historical significance and culture of Sikkim

Source: Indian Express, 1 July 2013

Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram and Tripura are collectively known as the Seven Sisters. What happened in 1975 that caused them to be referred to as the Seven Sisters and One Brother? [Read more:](#)

Hope Cooke, former Queen of Sikkim, Speaks to Yale Himalaya

Source: Himalayan Connections, 24 June 2013

Hope Cooke Queen of Sikkim LOC ppmsca.30180 201x300 Hope Cooke, former Queen of Sikkim, Speaks to Yale HimalayaFor historians and fans of Sikkim, the recent interview of Hope Cooke by the Yale Himalaya group is a delightful window into the past. Hope Cooke met the King of Sikkim in 1959 while on a summer trip to India during her freshman year at Sarah Lawrence. [Read more:](#)

Brief History of Meghalaya

Source: Webindia123

Meghalaya is the home of the Tribals especially the Khasis, Jaintias, Mikirs and Cacharis, who are said to have inhabited this region before the start of the Christian era. These tribes evolved out of the migration into north east by the migrants who belonged to the Indo-Chinese linguistic family, the Mon-Khmer and Tibeto-Burman. The Khasis came from the Khasis and Jaintias. The Tibeto-Burman sub-family were the Naga, Kukichin and Bodo. [Read more:](#)

Brief History of Mizoram

Source: Webindia123

Mizoram was inhabited by the tribal groups of Tibeto-Burmese race. During the period 1750-1850 migrations led to settlements in the hills. The tribal groups were governed under a hereditary chieftainship. The Lushais are the most predominant tribe besides a few others like Panei, Lakher, Chakma, Riang. Agriculture is the main occupation of this region. During the British period, Mizoram became a part of the territory of the British India in 1891 though the administration of the villages was left to the local chieftains. [Read more:](#)

Sikkim Bags Agriculture Leadership Award 2013

Source: Voice of Sikkim, 19 Sep 2013

Minister for Food Security Agriculture and Horticulture Cash Crop Development Department Mr. D.N Thakaripa handed over the "Agriculture Leadership Award 2013" to the Chief Minister Mr. Pawan Chamling at his official residence Mintokgang, today. The Agriculture Leadership Award 2013 was received by Mr. Arbind Kumar, Residence Commissioner Sikkim House, New Delhi cum Secretary Forest, Environment, Wild Life Management Department on behalf of the State Government of Sikkim on 19th September during the Agriculture Leadership Award Summit at Hotel Taj, New Delhi. [Read more:](#)

For more Information, please contact:

Manipur Women Gun Survivor Network
C/o Control Arms Foundation of India
B 5 / 146, First Floor, Safdarjung Enclave,
New Delhi - 110 029,
India

Ph: +91 11- 46018541 Fax: +91 11-26166234

[Feedback](#)

Email: Cafi.communicue@gmail.com

Website: www.neiwip.blogspot.com