

NORTH EAST INDIA WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR PEACE

Newsletter

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For more than a century women and women's organizations and movements have mobilized support for social empowerment, economic justice, democracy, human rights and conflict prevention. Women groups in Northeast India have developed many a powerful programme of direct, non-violent, action designed to confront the fire of insurgency that has for long engulfed this strategic region since the late 1940s. In India's northeast, women have always played a major role in many peace and social movements. However, most of their actions remain in "protest" form and after the initial action dies down, nothing much happens. We, the women of Northeast India need to make ourselves understand the issues of war, conflict, peace. Only through our joint, continued and persistent efforts peace would one day follow.

On 17th June 2011, Manipur Women Gun Survivor Network and Control Arms foundation of India organised a conference as a part of "Global Week of Action on Gun Violence", Community Conference, "10 Years of United Nations Programme on Small Arms & Manipuri Women's Leadership Role in Humanitarian Disarmament Efforts". Also on 26th June 2011 Control Arms Foundation of India & Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network's organise a programme on, "Gender and Humanitarian Disarmament Series of Conversations." A Talk On, "Victimhood Vs Agency" Northern Women Confronting the Post-War Reconstruction and Development in Sri Lanka, at Conference Room, Control Arms Foundation of India.

Please find here Volume 7, June 2011 issue newsletter, positive news of the May to June 2011 from Northeast India and rest of the world to renew our hopes and strengthen our efforts to work towards peace making.

With kind regards,

Binalakshmi Nepram
Founder, Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network
Secretary General, Control Arms Foundation of India

Nobel Women Peace Laureates Urge Government of India, Manipur & Northeast States to Protect Women in Armed Conflict

Source: [Kanglaonline](#), May 31, 2011

From May 23-25, Nobel Peace Laureates Jody Williams, Shirin Ebadi and Mairead Maguire led an unprecedented conference in Canada, to develop strategies for ending rape as a weapon of war. They were joined by over 120 civil society activists, corporate and security sector leaders, military and peacekeeping personnel, and academics to discuss and share ideas at the conference, entitled Women Forging a New Security: Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict. [Read more:](#)

Meet notes role of women as peace promoters

Source: The Sangai Express, June 25, 2011

The need for all the women organizations of various ethnic communities in Manipur to come together as one in fighting against the ills afflicting the State today has been underscored in a day-long talk programme on 'women as promoter of peace in the present scenario of Manipur'. Organised jointly by Kasturba-Gandhi Institute for Development, Manipur and Department of Library & Information Science, Manipur University in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, the programme held in the conference hall of Department of Library & Information Science, MU was attended vice chairperson of Gandhi Smriti & Darshan Samiti Tata Gandhi Bhattacharjee, president of Kasturba Gandhi Institute for Development, Manipur Kh Momon Singh among other personalities. [Read more:](#)

Tine Mena: First Woman from North East India to conquer Everest

Source: NE Blogger, May 11, 2011

Tine Mena, the 25 year old woman from Roying, Arunachal Pradesh has become the first woman from North East India to scale Mount Everest, the world's highest peak. She scaled the Everest at 10:30AM on 9th May 2011 and made everyone in North East India proud. However, due to communication trouble, the news of her ascent was not confirmed till Wednesday, said Nabin Trital, executive manager of Explore Himalaya, the Kathmandu-based mountaineering agency that facilitated Tine Mena's climb by finding her expedition partners so that the high climbing permit fee could be shared. [Read more:](#)

Mother's Hope' completes ten yrs

Source: The Nagaland Post, June 9, 2011

'Mother's Hope', established on June 1, 2001 celebrated its 10th anniversary on Wednesday at Mother's Hope premises, Model Village 7th mile, Chumukedima. Celebrating 10 years of providing sanctuary for pregnant girls experiencing crisis pregnancies, Moamenla Jamir, founding director 'Mother's Hope' said faith in God and education are the two most important things in life and guaranteed anything can be achieved in life with these two qualities. Considering that parents play a pivotal role in a child's life and builds the child with pearls of wisdom, she said one must always believe and trust our parents. [Read more:](#)

Man assaults wife

Source: The Shillong Times, May 26, 2011

The CSWO on Wednesday lodged an FIR against one Raju Shabong of Mawbah, Barapathar for allegedly assaulting and harassing his wife. In a statement issued here, CSWO president Agnes Kharshing said Raju beats his wife using an iron rod and even broken bottles in front of her mother. According to CSWO, irked with the torture of Raju, the victim even tried to end her life by burning herself.

Don't give daughter to family sans bank account: RBI Government.

Source: Tripurainfo, May 18, 2011

RBI Governor D Subbarao coined a new slogan for the country: "Don't get your daughter married off to a family which does not have Bank account". "We have embarked on this slogan to strengthen 'financial inclusion' of the poor and rural people of India", he said while addressing a seminar organized by Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) at Prajna Bhawan here on Wednesday. The RBI governor said, about 95 percent of the rural people of the country do not have access to banking services and this poses a great challenge not only to the RBI, banks and financial institutions but also to the governments. [Read more:](#)

Girl under lock & shackle for 10 yrs

Source: The Nagaland Post, May 9, 2011

Touching story of a 14-year-old girl has left one and all flabbergasted here. The girl is living like a chained animal inside the periphery of her own residence for the last ten years. A resident of Meteka village, under Howraghat Police Station; the girl is clamped with chains that is kept fastened to a pillar inside the compound of her house from crack of dawn to dusk. It was revealed she has been kept in chains due to "mysterious ailment" which she is suffering for the last ten years. Sources said the girl lost her mental balance since suffering from a certain illness at an early age of three. She can neither speak nor communicate in any manner. [Read more:](#)

Sit in protest staged against bomb threat

Source: Hueiyen News Service, June 30, 2011

Local people of Kwakeithel Thokchom Leikai today staged a sit-in-protest against the bomb blast in the court yard of Executive Engineer (CADA) Thokchom Kesho on Wednesday night. Reacting against the life threatening incident which occurred in the heavily populated area, local people carried out the protest from 10 am to 4 pm at the community hall near Tiddim Ground, Imphal. According to family members of Kesho, no monetary demands of any organisation or UG group was made to them. [Read more:](#)

Developing innovative Naga apparels

Source: The Nagaland Post, June 9, 2011

The department of women development, having initiated a project on 'Textile Weaving & Designing' recently with one of its major objectives to develop new and innovative contemporary Naga apparels, conducted a training programme on Eri rearing for women SHG members on Tuesday at Indira Gandhi Stadium, Meriema. Silk, as a raw material, has been chosen during the pilot phase of the project as rearing of silkworms in large quantity was viable in most parts of the State and potential of taking it up as a regular means of income generation, particularly for womenfolk. [Read more:](#)

North East Cultural Centre to be established at New Delhi- Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Govt of India –

Source: E-pao.net, June 1, 2011

"I am happy to announce that the North East Cultural Centre (NECC) will be established within the complex of Centre for Cultural Resources & Training (CCRT) at Dwarka, New Delhi. This is one of the outcomes subsequent to the discussions of Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh with a delegation of Students from the Region in December, 2009", said Shri. Bijoy Krishna Handique, Union Minister of DoNER at New Delhi today. [Read more:](#)

Two women attempt 'self-immolation' near Secretariat

Source: Tripurainfo, June 13, 2011

For the first time in the history of Tripura two women attempted self-immolation near Civil secretariat on Monday afternoon. The two women-Sefali Acharjee and Lakshi Saha- were part of the agitating members of Bhoomi Suraksha Committee, who had entered the civil secretariat earlier on Monday and caused raucous. [Read more:](#)

Women Training Centre at Dhansiripar inaugurated

Source: Morung Express, May 9, 2011

Nagaland Handloom & Handicrafts Development Corporation (NHHDC) Ltd, Inaugurated training centre for women under the scheme Support to Training & Employment Programme (STEP) sponsored by Ministry of Women & Child Development Government of India at Dhansiripar Sub-Division on May 9. [Read more:](#)

19 Manipur children rescued

Source: The Assam Tribune, June 8, 2011

At least 19 children from Tamenglong district of Manipur who had been trafficked to Maharashtra in 2007 on the pretext of providing free education have on Tuesday been brought back to the State. The children were handed over to their parents today. Some 25 children from Tamenglong district had been trafficked to Karjat district of Maharashtra in the pretext of providing free education in Dethaba Children Home. This comes close on the heels of the Supreme Court directive in 2010 that children below 12 years or those of primary school level should not be sent outside Manipur for pursuing education. [Read more:](#)

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