

NORTH EAST INDIA WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR PEACE

Newsletter

Volume 1 No 10 Issue October 2011

For more than a century women and women's organisations and movements have mobilised 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 12th and 13th October 2011, Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace - an initiative of Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network and Control Arms Foundation of India organised WORKING TOGETHER FOR A VISION FOR PEACE IN NORTHEAST INDIA – Peace Conference and Livelihood training at Conference Hall no. 2, India International Centre, New Delhi. Please find here Volume 10, October 2011 issue newsletter, positive news of the September 2011 from Northeast India and rest of the world to renew our hopes and strengthen our efforts to work towards peace making.

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

Three women's rights activists win Nobel Peace Prize

Source: Los Angeles Times, 7 Oct 2011

REPORTING FROM CAIRO -- The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to three women from Africa and the Middle East who symbolized the nonviolent struggle to improve their nations and advance the role of women's rights throughout the world. The winners were Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Africa's first democratically elected female president; her countrywoman Leymah Gbowee, a peace activist who challenged warlords; and Tawakul Karman, a Yemeni human rights leader seeking to overthrow an autocratic regime as part of the so-called Arab Spring. [Read more:](#)

Women participation in green movement

Source: The Shillong Times, 18 Oct 2011

SHILLONG: Concerned over the growing destruction of forests, wildlife and the green economy, the women folk of Meghalaya, who are quite confident of their role in this 'Green Movement' have come together to voice their opinion on these issues and sort out solutions to get this message across the other women of the state especially in the rural areas. [Read more:](#)

Tripura tops in crime against women: NCRB

Source: Tripurainfo, 28 Oct 2011

Agartala, Oct 28, 2011 : Even as there is an over all 4.9 percent increase of crimes in 2010 as compared to 2009 National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) found crime against women in Tripura is highest in the entire country. [Read more:](#)

Documentary on conflict screened

Source: The Assam Tribune, 26 Oct 2011

GUWAHATI, Oct 23 – Three robust efforts in a single venue today raised the need to have a serious rethink on armed conflict in the North East with special reference to Nagaland and Assam . [Read more:](#)

'Listen to your mother before you kill your brother'

Source: Info Change India, 30 Oct 2011

The women of the Northeast have halted violence between warring villages and tribes, campaigned against AFSPA by stripping naked, as the Meira Paibis did, or by fasting for 11 years as Irom Sharmila has done. But though women have been at the forefront of peace-building, writes Rita Manchanda, there is not a single woman in the state assemblies of Mizoram, Nagaland and Manipur: clearly, women can be relied on to stop the violence, but not to shape the peace. [Read more:](#)

Sharmila campaign moves on

Source: The Telegraph, 29 Oct 2011

Imphal, Oct. 29: The India chapter of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom will take up Manipur's rights crusader Irom Sharmila's issue and build international pressure on New Delhi so that the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958 is repealed. [Read more:](#)

Mother's School and Vocational Training Centre (right) inaugurated in the city

Source: The Shillong Times, 18 Oct 2011

DoNER Minister Paban Singh Ghatowar inaugurates the new buildings of Mother's School and Vocational Training Centre (right) at Sri Aurobindo Institute of Indian Culture, in city, on Monday. [Read more:](#)

Activists-Nobel Peace Prize will inspire African women

Source: trustlaw , 7 Oct 2011

Two Liberian women being among the three joint winners of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize is recognition of the vital contribution women play in conflict resolution and an inspiration to other women in Africa, women's groups said on Friday. [Read more:](#)

SAVE DEMOCRACY: REPEAL ARMED FORCES (SPECIAL POWERS) ACT 1958

Source: e-pao.net, 2 Oct 2011

New Delhi, 2 October 2011: Gandhi, the father of India and the epitome of peace and non-violence ,taught the world a way of protest unheard of before in the history, a path of love and tolerance that would gradually soften the heart of the perpetrator when adorned with a sense of rationale and informed logic. 53 long years of struggle and tyranny inflicted by the oppressive political structures on the common people of North-East have lead to a sense alienation and mistrust. [Read more:](#)

Government must repeal AFSPA: Northeast civil society

Source: MSN, 12 Oct 2011

New Delhi, Oct 12 (PTI) Civil society groups and other representatives from the Northeast today demanded the government to completely repeal the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), saying it was a "blot" on the Indian democracy."AFSPA is a blot on India's democracy," Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network (MWGSN) founder Binalaxmi Nepram said in a conclave held here as an initiative for peace in Northeast. [Read more:](#)

Ningol Khudol Mela kicks off

Source: Hueiyen News Service , 18 Oct 2011

Imphal, October 18 2011: The 10 days Ningol Khudol Mela - 2011 organised by the Manipur Apex Handloom and Handicrafts Weavers' Artisans' Co-Operative Society Ltd (AWAS) kicked off at Yumjao Leirembi Lai Lampak, Yumnam Leikai today. [Read more:](#)

Workshop on HR and peace on 27, 28 Oct

Source: Tripurainfo, 26 Oct 2011

Agartala, Oct 26, 2011 : Sanskriti, North eastern Institute of Culture & Religion and Jana Unnayan Samiti, Tripura will organize a workshop cum consultation on Human Rights, Development and Peace on October 27 and 28 at Agartala Press Club. [Read more:](#)

Human rights of people at Bangla border violated

Source: The Assam Tribune, 27 Oct 2011

LAFASIL (Indo-Bangla border), Oct 27 – The Government has been violating the constitutional and human rights of hundreds of people in Karimganj district by keeping them locked away from their own country for 12 hours a day and these people are also deprived from the basic amenities. The security of these people is also at stake as they are left at the mercy of Bangladeshi nationals every night. [Read more:](#)

Home Ministry for AFSPA amendment

Source: The Assam Tribune, 27 Oct 2011

NEW DELHI, Oct 27 – Even as the Centre dithered over taking a final call on the demand for repeal of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), the Home Ministry has recommended amendments to the controversial Act, advocating strong grievance redressal mechanism to tackle abuse of the Act by armed forces. [Read more:](#)

Northeast India emerging as rubber hub of India

Source: The Assam Tribune, 26 Oct 2011

GUWAHATI, Oct 26 – The Northeast is emerging as the rubber hub of India as experts believe that large-scale cultivation of the crop there can meet the shortfall in supply against rising demand. [Read more:](#)

Don Bosco Museum to document all Northeast tribes

Source: The Shillong Times, 29 Oct 2011

Shillong: The Don Bosco Centre for Indigenous Cultures (DBCIC), popularly called the Don Bosco Museum (DBM) at Gawlai, Shillong which provides a historical treasure to the North East, will soon embark on setting up an exhaustive gallery showcasing all the tribes and sub tribes of the region. [Read more:](#)

Bamboo, medicinal plants plantations to be encouraged

Source: The Shillong Times, 30 Oct 2011

Agartala: The autonomous Tripura Forest Development and Plantation Corporation has decided to encourage bamboo cultivation and medicinal plant and rare herb plantations besides rubber, officials said on Saturday. [Read more:](#)

Chidambaram to visit blockade-hit Manipur

Source: The Shillong Times, 30 Oct 2011

Imphal: Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram will visit Manipur, where an economic blockade to press for a separate district has resulted in soaring prices of various commodities. The blockade continued for the 90th day Saturday, officials said. [Read more:](#)

Army inputs on AFSPA with MHA: Gen Singh

Source: The Shillong Times, 28 Oct 2011

NEW DELHI: Amid talk of withdrawal of AFSPA from some areas of Jammu and Kashmir, Army Chief General V K Singh on Thursday said his force has given its inputs on the issue, but refused to specify those saying the matter was under the purview of the Home Ministry. [Read more:](#)

Save Sharmila Solidarity Campaign completes in national tour

Source: The Shillong Times, 28 Oct 2011

Imphal: After soliciting support from the people of 11 states in their drive against the 'draconian' Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), the 'Save Sharmila Solidarity Campaign' on Thursday completed its nation-wide tour as it reached Imphal valley. [Read more:](#)

Child rights panel to hold public hearing in State

Source: The Shillong Times, 18 Oct 2011

SHILLONG: The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is not happy with the state government for overlooking the issue of child rights and is contemplating to hold a public hearing in the State to address the various issues where the government has failed in protecting the rights of children. [Read more:](#)

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