

NORTH EAST INDIA WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR PEACE Newsletter

Volume 1 No 3 Issue September 2010

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.

We are also delighted to share the successful completion on 7th August 2010 at Bosco Reachout in Guwahati, Assam our second Consultation on Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace. Please log on to <http://neiwip.blogspot.com/p/photos.html> for the update on this along with pictures and media coverage <http://neiwip.blogspot.com/p/media-coverage.html>

Our office is also organising a Conference on Armed Forces Special Powers Act to be held on 8 September 2010 at Conference Hall No 1, India International Centre, 40 Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi 110003 from 9 am to 5 pm. For more details, log on to <http://neiwip.blogspot.com/p/events.html>

Here is the Volume 1 No 3, September 2010 issue newsletter, positive news of the last two months 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

News on Women and Peace Work from Northeast India for months of July and August 2010

Northeast's women take initiative for peace

Women of the northeast region are joining hands for bringing peace and ensure justice and political rights in a region rocked by decades of conflict under the aegis of 'North-East India Women Initiative for Peace'. In India's northeast, women traditionally play a major role in society, yet they have not found their legitimate place at the negotiation table when it comes to resolving the reasons for the many conflicts in the region. The Northeast India Women's Initiative for Peace second consultative conclave was held at the Don Bosco Reach Out Centre in Guwahati to discuss alternative strategies to end violence here. [Read more](#)

Source : Daily News and Analysis, 7 August 2010

Women body draws government's attention

Imphal, July 06 2010: United Women Front (UWF) conveying the prolonged hardships of people arising out of scarcity of food items in the state has called upon the government for their immediate attention to the sufferings of people. In a press release, Secretary, UWF, Th Rani stated that Naga bodies have been calling frequent prolonged economic blockades in main life lines of the state, pushing the common people towards miserable life. The press release further expressed dissatisfaction over the government for lacking steps to bring down the prices of essential commodities in the state. [Read more](#)

Source: Hueiyen News Service, 7 July 2010

Women rally against artificial scarcity, uncontrolled price

A large number of womenfolk, mostly vendors of Khwairamband Keithel took out a protest rally at Imphal today demanding that essential goods be made available at appropriate prices in adequate quantities and to devise an effective price control mechanism. The rally started from near Family Welfare office and snaked through Alu Gali, Gandhi Avenue, Nagamapal and Maharani bridge where a street corner meeting was held. Later a memorandum was submitted to Law Minister Th Debendra as the Chief Minister is currently out of station. The rally was organised under the aegis of the All Manipur Nupi Marup. [Read more](#)

Source: **The Sangai Express 5 July 2010**

Women's body urges all for NH-53 Development

Decrying the conduct of the Ministers and MLAs who are haggling over the prospect of taking up contract works in the name of development of National Highway 53, Women's United Development Organisation, Manipur has once again drawn the attention of all concerned for proper development of the National Highway. Addressing a press conference in this regard at Manipur Press Club here this afternoon, president of the Organisation L Phajabi pointed out that subsequent to the difficulties faced by the people during the recent over 2 months long total economic blockade imposed by ANSAM and UNC, the one overriding aspiration of the people has been proper development of National Highway 53. The assurance of the Govt of Manipur in this regard is also appreciable. [Read more](#)

Source: The Sangai Express, 3 July 2010

Sharmila's 10 years hunger strike

The Just Peace Foundation (JPF) is launching a "100 Days Countdown" towards the completion of Sharmila's 10 years hunger strike. A release of the JPF said the organisation in collaboration with the civil society in Manipur and beyond, is celebrating Sharmila's indomitable spirit, her audacity to hope in the midst of adversities, her unwavering stand for justice and her deep yearning for peace. [Read more](#)

Source: Imphal Free Press, 22 July 2010

Trafficked girl child from Manipur rescued by Kolkata police

Yet another minor girl from the state has been reportedly rescued from Behrampur, Kolkata by the Titagat police. According to reports, the rescued girl who is about 9 years old is from Bishnupur district and was rescued from the residence of one Submia Adhikari a Medical Representative by profession. [Read more](#)

Source: **Imphal Free Press 9 July, 2010**

<http://ifp.co.in/shownews.php?newsid=10859>

Charges framed in Ms Ramchamphy Hongray Killing Case

Nine months after the murder of 19 year old Manipuri girl Ramchamphy Hongray, the court on Thursday framed the charges for murder and for tampering the evidence of offence against Pushpam Kumar Singh who strangulated and burnt the girl's body at her home in Munirka in South Delhi. On 24 October 2009, Ramchamphy Hongray (19) was attacked by Pushpam Kumar Sinha (29), who resided in the second floor of the same building house number A-80. The youth is pursuing his PhD in Wave Mechanics from IIT, Delhi. [Read more](#)

Source: Hueiyen News Service / Manipur Information Centre 31 July 2010

Armed Forces and Women Empowerment In Manipur?

The 12 Maratha Light Infantry of 9 Sector under HQs IGAR (S) provided self employment to 12 women of Mayang Imphal on July 1 through provision of a food processing unit specialising in pickle and candy making. The unit was inaugurated by the village pradhan namely Radhamani, said a PRO IGAR (S) release and informed that the ladies and girls were provided one week training at Meira Foods, Singjamei with necessary equipment, utensils and raw materials provided by 12 MLI. [Read more](#)

Source: The Sangai Express 2 July 2010

Churachandpur Women Organization demand price roll back

The Churachandpur Women Organization today urged authority concerns to look into the matter of hiking prices of essential commodities while requesting the traders to roll back prices of goods that have hike during the economic blockade on the NH 39 and 53 in the state. A statement of the women body stated that in spite of the availability of food grains at the Food Corporation of India at Imphal, Churachandpur district has so far not receiving its district quota of rice under the Public Distribution System (PDS). [Read more](#)

Source: Hueiyen News Service, 13 July 2010

Armed Violence Against Women Continues in Manipur

High tension has gripped various pockets of Lamlai Assembly constituency in Imphal East district as a housewife succumbed to the bullet injuries she sustained last night. The deceased woman namely nongthombam (O) Indira Devi (44) was shot at by some unidentified persons at around 11 pm at her Sabungkhok Mayai Leikai home, under Lamlai police station. Indira's husband is said to be an active worker of health Minister Ph Parijat. [Read more](#)

Source: **The Sangai Express, 28 July 2010**

Thangjam Manorama Memorial Charitable Trust

Thangjam Manorama was fondly remembered on her 6th death anniversary today in a simple but impressive function at her birth-place of Bamon Kampu, Imphal East. The memorial function was jointly organised by the Thangjam Manorama Memorial Charitable Trust and the Apunba Lup. Speaking at the function, social worker Thounaojam Iboyaima stressed on the need for different organisations to shed their differences and struggle unitedly when it comes to major issues confronting the State. Noting that each and every organisation have their own objectives and principles, Iboyaima, nevertheless, asserted that all the organisations need to stand united and struggle together in times of major issues. [Read more](#)

Source: The Sangai Express 12 July 2010

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