



# NE

For FREE public circulation

# NEWS LETTER

Vol. XVI. No. 3, March, 2014

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

A Monthly Newsletter on the North Eastern Region of India

Also available on Internet at: [www.mha.nic.in](http://www.mha.nic.in)



*We are all knit together by bonds of blood..... None can segregate us..... no impassable barriers can be set up between us.*

*Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel*

## DEVELOPMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO NORTH EASTERN REGION

1. On 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2014, a Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri M.P. Bezbaruah, IAS (Retd.) to look into the concerns of the persons hailing from the North Eastern States living in different parts of the country, especially the Metropolitan areas and to suggest suitable remedial measures which could be taken by the Government. The first meeting of the Committee was held on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014. The first interaction meetings with different organizations and individuals of N.E. states were held upto 7<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at Delhi, Hyderabad, Mumbai, and Pune.
2. Joint Secretary (NE), MHA visited Assam on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 to review the security situation in Assam including situation along Assam-Arunachal Border. Blockade along Assam-Arunachal border was lifted on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2014. He also visited Karbi Anglong district in Assam on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 for a meeting with Joint Action Committee. He met the officials of Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council in Assam on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2014. Joint Secretary attended the meeting Chaired by Chief Secretary, Assam to review the situation in Assam including along Assam-Arunachal Border.
3. On 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2014, a Tripartite meeting with the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB/P) was held at New Delhi to discuss their demands. In the meeting it was also decided to extend SoO Agreement further for a period of six month i.e. upto 30.9.2014.

## ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT UNDER CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMME BY CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES

### Programmes undertaken by Assam Rifles

1. **Medical Camps.** The details of medical camps conducted by various units of the Force in the NE region during the month of March,

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SHAMBHU SINGH

**EDITORS**

J.P.N. SINGH • AJAY KANOUIA • B.R. DHIMAN

2014 are as under:-

Ser No	Date	Unit	Place	State	No of Patients treated
(a)	01 Mar 14	9 Assam Rifles	Moreh	Manipur	250
(b)	02 Mar 14	44 Assam Rifles	Kangyum	Manipur	130
(c)	07 Mar 14	4 Assam Rifles	Janunrum	Arunachal Pradesh	148
(d)	09 Mar 14	3 Assam Rifles	Tuiting	Manipur	203
(e)	16 Mar 14	46 Assam Rifles	Kanjang	Nagaland	90
(f)	21 Mar 14	33 Assam Rifles	Wapnyu	Nagaland	210



Medical Camps organised by Assam Rifles

## 2. National Integration Tours (NITs).

- (i) 3-Assam Rifles organised a National Integration Tour for students of Manipur from New Samtal, Manipur to New Delhi from 27th February, 2014 to 9th March, 2014. The students visited number of places in New Delhi and met Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India on 7th March, 2014.
- (ii) 42-Assam Rifles organised "Education and

Motivational Tour" from Jairampur, Arunachal Pradesh to Kolkata for the school children of Arunachal Pradesh from 23rd February, 2014 to 2nd March, 2014. The students visited Science City, Indian Museum, Birla Planetarium, Howrah Bridge, Eden Garden, Victoria Memorial Hall, Saint Paul's Cathedral and a number of Army Establishments. They also had an interaction with Major General Harsha Kakad, Chief of Staff, Bengal Area.



National Integration tours organised by Assam Rifles

- (iii) 7-Assam Rifles organised National Integration tour from Churachandpur, Manipur to Lucknow for the school children of Kingship High School, Churachandpur, Manipur from 27th February, 2014 to 11th March, 2014.
- (iv) 35-Assam Rifles organized National Integration tour from Maram, Manipur to Chennai, Tirupur for the school children of Manipur from 2nd -12th, March 2014.
- (v) 2 Assam Rifles organised a National Integration tour for the farmers of Thoubal district, Manipur to Hissar from 28th February, 2014 to 14th March, 2014. 20 farmers from remote villages of Manipur participated in the programme. The farmers visited different locations of the city including Chaudhary Charan Singh Agriculture University, Hissar and interacted with the local farmers to gain knowledge of the latest farming techniques and get the first hand knowledge of farming equipments.



*National Integration tours organised by Assam Rifles*

3. **First Aid Course.** 14-Assam Rifles conducted two weeks first aid course from 5th March, 2014 for the youths of Hnahlam Village, district Serchip, Mizoram. 10 locals participated in course.
4. **Motivational Lecture.** 5-Assam Rifles organised a motivational lecture on 'Career Opportunities in the Armed Forces' for the students of Government College of Zunheboto, district Zunheboto, Nagaland. The Youth were apprised about the benefits of joining the Armed Forces and the various schemes under which recruitment is carried out. About 195 students attended the lecture.



Students Union of Wokha district, Nagaland. Civil society members put forward their points of view and issues relating to development and upliftment of the district. The IGAR emphasized on the importance of the Civil Society and the Assam Rifles to work together towards achieving a common goal of bringing peace and tranquillity in the region.



*First Aid Course and Motivational Lecture organised by Assam Rifles*

#### 6. **Computer sets and accessories.**

- (i) 17-Assam Rifles distributed four computer sets with accessories to the Government School of Yikhum village, district Wokha, Nagaland on 8th March, 2014.
- (ii) 42-Assam Rifles distributed four computers with accessories and printers to Government Higher Secondary School, Kharsang village, Changlang district, Arunachal Pradesh on 21st March, 2014.



5. **Interaction with Student Unions.** Inspector General Assam Rifles (North), on his visit to Wokha district, Nagaland interacted with the members of the Lotha Hoho, Kyong Eloie HoHo representatives of Kyong



Computer sets with accessories distributed by Assam Rifles



Cemented water tank constructed and plastic water storage tanks distributed by Assam Rifles

## 7. Solar street lights.

- (i) 11-Assam Rifles distributed seven solar street lights to Tesimekhuma village, district Kohima, Nagaland on 4th March, 2014.
- (ii) 42-Assam Rifles distributed solar lanterns to the villagers of Longman village, district Changlang, Arunachal Pradesh on 16th March, 2014.



Street lights distributed by Assam Rifles

## 8. Construction of cemented water tanks.

- (i) 16-Assam Rifles constructed a cemented water tank at Jalenbung village, district Sangsak, Manipur and handed over to the village authority on 3rd March, 2014.
- (ii) 31-Assam Rifles distributed four plastic water storage tanks of 1000 Liters each to Watiyim and Mayamiti villages of Mokokchung district, Nagaland on 4th March, 2014.

- (iii) 24 Assam Rifles distributed plastic water storage tanks to New Narum and Sita villages of Chandel district, Manipur.
- (iv) 20 Assam Rifles constructed a water supply scheme at Corner Stone Academy, Lhunnajang village, district Chandel, Manipur and handed over the same to the locals.
- (v) 31-Assam Rifles constructed cemented water storage tank in Lempong Hostel, Nyenching village, Longleng district, Nagaland and handed it over to the village authorities on 17th March, 2014.



Water storage tanks constructed and distributed by Assam Rifles

- (vi) 21-Assam Rifles constructed cemented water tanks at Bongpijang, Gelngai and Hengmil villages, district Chandel, Manipur and handed over these tanks to village authorities on 21st March, 2014.
- (vii) 32-Assam Rifles constructed a cemented water tank at Journal village, district Chandel Manipur and handed it over to the village authorities on 21st March, 2014.

**9. Construction of Community Halls.**

- (i) 2-Assam Rifles constructed a community hall at Lungthar village, district Imphal West, Manipur and handed over the same to the village authorities on 18th March, 2014.
- (ii) 40-Assam Rifles constructed a community hall at Lilong Village, district Imphal West, Manipur on 24th March, 2014.



*Community halls constructed by Assam Rifles*

**10. Construction of Public Waiting Sheds.**

- (i) 22-Assam Rifles constructed a public waiting shed at Kakching Lamchai village, district Thoubal, Manipur and handed it over to the village authorities on 16th March, 2014.
- (ii) 22-Assam Rifles constructed a public waiting shed at Komnao village, district Thoubal, Manipur and handed over to village authorities on 18th March, 2014.

**11. Construction of Toilet Block.** 34-Assam Rifles constructed three toilet blocks for Govt School building at Santing village, district Churachandpur, Manipur and handed them over to the School authorities on 19th March, 2014.

**12. Distribution of sports items.** 17-Assam Rifles distributed sports items to Chukitong Range Sports Association of Chukitong village, Wokha district, Nagaland 8th March, 2014.



*Toilet block constructed by Assam Rifles*



*Sports items distributed by Assam Rifles*

**13. Distribution of furniture and educational books.**

- (i) 16-Assam Rifles distributed furniture and educational books to Government School Moukut Chepu, district Sangsak, Manipur on 3rd March, 2014.
- (ii) 16-Assam Rifles distributed books and furniture to Government Schools at Shangshak and Phaikoh, district Ukhrol, Manipur on 21st March, 2014.



*Furniture and Educational Books distributed by Assam Rifles*

14. **Assistance to Tabitha Enabling Academy.** 19-Assam Rifles handed over 10 wheel chairs and two computers

with printers as assistance to Tabitha Enabling Academy, Kohima, Nagaland on 3rd March, 2014.

## OIL EXTRACTION PLANT IN MANIPUR PROVIDES EMPLOYMENT TO MANY

Manipur's SMART society is working towards providing job opportunities to unemployed youth in the region by utilizing easily available natural resources. It recently set up an oil extraction and refinery plant in Imphal, the first of its kind in the Northeast.

The first compact oil extraction and refinery plant in the North Eastern region has been set up by the SMART society under the Salai Agro Products Pvt. Ltd. at Tera Loukrakpam Leikai in Imphal.

The plant operates with international level advanced oil technologies and equipments. It has the capacity to process five tonnes of mustard oil per day and it plans to extract other oil seeds in the future. It aims to market its finished product outside the state and export it to other countries as well.

The SMART society, which was set up on 21st November 2008, is the brainchild of a few educated unemployed youths of the state. The organization was formed with the main &

objective of generating job opportunities and to promote bio-resources development in the state.

The new oil plant set up by the society has come as a boon for over 2000 farmers. With encouragement from the society, farmers are now utilizing barren paddy fields to cultivate mustard and other commercial value oil seeds.

"As a farmer we are getting work and are earning money through this. It's very helpful and good initiative," said Yaima Singh, a contract farmer. "SMART society is doing a good job for the people. Smart society gave us work and it is a kind of big development for our society and for us," added Jateshwore Singh, another contract farmer.

Manipur has abundant natural resources which if utilized properly can speed up economic development of the state. Such small initiatives not only provide employment to many people but in the long run will also bring about agricultural and industrial growth in the state.



## SHILLONG BECOMES THE MOST FAVOURED TOURIST DESTINATION IN THE NORTH-EAST

Meghalaya, known as the Scotland of the east, is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the northeast. And Shillong, the state capital, attracts a large number of visitors.

If you believe there's no nightlife in the northeast!

Think again! Shillong comes alive in the late evening with the opening of roadside eateries, discos, theaters and shopping malls. "Earlier there were few hotels, clubs and restaurants because people were scared to do business, but things have



changed now. Shops and hotels are open till late night," said Siddarth Das, a hotel staff manager.

"The situation is very good in Shillong. One can find activities going on till late in the night. Shops, hotels, and restaurants are open till late night, and there is 24 hours taxi or cab available in the city," said Bishnu, a petrol pump manager. With the increase of tourists in the city, new hotels and business establishments have set up shops. There are

seventeen recognized tourist spots in the city and the State Government is planning to open a few more.

"Few years back people were scared of going out in the night, so we did not find any tourist or locals coming out after 5-6 pm, but now the situation is quite different, people can roam around peacefully and they can get taxis anywhere, even at late night," added Roshan Lyngdoh, a cab driver.

## MANIPUR'S FIRST MILK PROCESSING PLANT- A BOON TO THE UNEMPLOYED YOUTH

Several non-profit organizations in Manipur have been working towards providing better employment opportunities to youth and the under privileged population.

Manipur's Youth Volunteers' Union (YVU) has recently set up the state's first milk processing plant at Thoubal Wangmataba with an aim to provide employment to the local unemployed youth. The plant, being run by the Youth Volunteer Union Milk Producer Company Ltd. will be the first to produce pasteurized and toned milk in the state.

The construction of the processing plant, which includes a 5000 litre cold storage started in January last year and the plant has been producing pasteurized milk since December. "YVU is providing employment to 1000 youth and if other NGOs also set up seminar ventures, it will reduce unemployment & boost the state economy leading to overall improvement in law & order," said Akoijam Tikendrajit Singh, Chief Executive Officer, YVU.

"Through this income we can sustain our livelihood & manage our small family," said Borno Singh, a farmer.

The Youth Development Union has been undertaking developmental projects in the state with an aim to improve the lives of the underprivileged people by providing them employment opportunities.

The organization has been running the largest Dairy farm in Manipur since 1988. Under the Dairy Foundation Farm, 3 societies and 30 home dairy units have been set up till now.

The union plans to provide 50 more cows to the farmers, taking the total number of the union's cows to 260. It also provides dairy training to the youth of the state. "It is very good for the farmers. Earlier we faced difficulty in selling milk in the market but now YVU comes and collect the milk," added Leimapokpam Nimobala Devi, another farmer.

Projects like this are a boon for the local dairy farmers as well as the unemployed youth, who are now able to make a decent living. Such initiatives by small groups make a considerable change in the life of the people.



## MANIPUR YOUTH RECEIVE TRAINING IN BAMBOO PRODUCTS

About 30 trainees are undergoing a month long residential artisans' training programme on bamboo handicrafts and furniture at the Naoremthong Laishram Khulem Leikai Community Hall in Imphal.

The training programme has been organized jointly by the Cane and Bamboo Technology Centre, Burnihat Assam and Lifeline Development Organisation and State Bamboo

Mission, Manipur. The objective is to make the youth self-reliant and provide them a source of income.

Joysana Singh, one of the trainees, said: "I joined this workshop to learn something from here so that in the future I can do something and earn a livelihood." These youth are quite happy to learn new bamboo crafts and designs, under master trainers from Assam, Tripura and Manipur.

Manik Das, a trainer from Tripura, said: "I tell them to learn properly. I come from a far off place to teach them. They are doing well, let's see what happens in the future." "Lifeline Development Organization" was established in 2000.

The centre has been conducting month-long intensive training programmes, where more than 30 to 80 trainees are being trained per batch. The motto of Lifeline Development Organization is to promote skills that will make handicrafts a sustainable venture. Such skill development programmes will enable the rural men and women artisans to become self-reliant and to compete in outside markets.

Smt. Kriparani Devi, another trainee, said: "It will benefit us a lot. There are many people who do not have work. If we all work together and learn and get help in marketing the product marketing it will improve our life in the future."

Lourembam Linthoingamba Singh, the President of Life Line Development Organization, said: "I am very much interested in making such bamboo items. Such intensive training programme will help us earn our livelihood as bamboo available in our state."



The Northeast has huge reserves of bamboo, which make a significant contribution to the region's economy. Professional training in making bamboo products can give a boost to the region's economy and generate employment for the youth.

## READERS COLUMN

The NE monthly Newsletter is published in English, Assamese, Bengali and Manipuri and has a circulation of 40,000 copies. Ministry of Home Affairs brings out the publication incorporating important information/developments concerning North Eastern States.

Ministry of Home Affairs, through the Newsletter, requests for inputs for the Newsletter from the State Governments, agencies, institutions and individuals highlighting the area specific issues, problems, special features, potential for tourism, environmental protection or special efforts/achievement in various fields etc. Views and

write-ups from general public are also solicited on specific issues/problems including on measures for resolution thereto in the North East.

Articles should be sent in a hard copy format accompanied by floppy/CD version along with photographs. Articles should be accompanied by an abstract of maximum of 150-200 words. Readers are encouraged to send comments and suggestions (upto 300-400 words) on published articles. All letters should have writer's full name and postal address. Selected articles will be published in the monthly NE Newsletter after due editing.

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**Edited and Published by N.E. Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi - 110 001**

**Printed by: Chandu Press, D-97, Shakarpur, Delhi-92, Ph.: 22526936**