



NE

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*The crusader for Equity and Social Justice
"My ideal would be the society based on liberty, equality and
fraternity....."*

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

DEVELOPMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO NORTH EAST REGION

1. The area falling under the jurisdiction of 16-Police Stations of various districts of Arunachal Pradesh bordering Assam has been declared as 'disturbed area' alongwith whole of Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts of Arunachal Pradesh for a period of six months w.e.f. 5.5.2015.
2. Joint Secretary (NE) chaired the first review meeting of Monitoring Group for implementation of MoS (Memorandum of Settlement) which was held with the representatives of Achik National of Volunteers' Council (ANVC), ANVC/B and the Govt. of Meghalaya on 6.5.2015 in New Delhi.
3. The 21st Sectoral Level Meeting between India and Myanmar was held on 12-14 May, 2015 in Mumbai, India. The Indian delegation was led by Sh. Shambhu Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and the Myanmar delegation was led by Htun Hla Aung, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Home Affairs and Director General, General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of Republic of the Union of Myanmar.



Myanmar delegation visited Mumbai for Sectoral Level talks

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Shri. Shambhu Singh head of Indian delegation and other delegates

The leader of Myanmar delegation stated that the discussions at these meetings have strengthened mutual cooperation on security front and major issues. The leader of the Indian delegation said that Security cooperation is a crucial aspect of our bilateral relations. Both sides discussed in detail the security related issues like presence of Indian Insurgent Groups (IIGs) along Indo-Myanmar border, exchange of intelligence information, border management issues, arms smuggling, and smuggling of wildlife parts etc. and agreed to take appropriate action against the elements involved in vitiating the peaceful security atmosphere, to share actionable information on



Sh. J. P. N Singh, Director, MHA and Myanmar delegates

real time basis, to designate Nodal Officers for maintaining working level contacts on daily basis.

Both side expressed satisfaction at the working of the exiting Border Liaison officer (BLOs) and agreed to operationalize new BLD as Ukhrul (Manipur) - Somro (Myanmar) as agreed at the 17th National level Meeting. Both sides agreed for joint survey of boundary for maintaining the pillars and construction of additional pillars as agreed in the 9th Meeting of the Heads of Survey Department of Myanmar and India held in Yangon, Myanmar in April, 2015. Myanmar expressed sincere gratitude to the Govt. of India of cooperation in bringing back 312 Myanmar fishermen to Myanmar in January 2015.

The Indian side urged to expedite the finalization of the draft MoU already shared with Myanmar Government to facilitate movement of Indian and Myanmar nationals across the border. Myanmar side responded that draft MoU on free movement regime has been finalized and would be forwarded to India shortly. Other issues discussed included strategy to control wild life smuggling and training to Myanmar Police Officers and officers of Wild Life Crime Control Agency of Myanmar by India.



Indian delegates

4. Union Home Secretary reviewed status of talks with ULFA (United Liberation Front of Assam) on 15.5.2015 in New Delhi.

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

(A) Programmes undertaken by Assam Rifles

(i) **Medical camps:-** Continuing with its endeavour to provide medical care and access to medicines to people living in remote areas, the Assam Rifles have been organizing medical camps in areas where adequate health care facilities are not available to the villagers. Seven medical camps were conducted by various units of the Force in the NE Region during the month of May, 2015. A total of 1273 patients were treated and also provided with free medicines during the camps.

(ii) **Awareness drives.** In another initiative undertaken by the Force towards Nation building and upliftment

of people especially the youth living in remote areas, Assam Rifles conducted various awareness drives to address issues related to health, education, welfare and social upliftment as well as provided information to the populace about various Government schemes and employment opportunities available, for the benefit of the locals. The details of some of the awareness drives conducted by various units of the Force during the month of May, 2015, are as under:-

- (a) **2nd May, 2015.** 28-Assam Rifles organized a lecture on 'hygiene and sanitation' at Tuipang village, district Saiha, Mizoram. 20 villagers attended the lecture.

(b) **4th May 2015.** 12-Assam Rifles conducted a Band Fusion on Nationalistic theme at Nagda village, district Sonitpur, Assam. Over one thousand locals attended the same.

(c) **5th May, 2015.** 16-Assam Rifles organized a lecture for youth in order to encourage them to 'Join Armed Forces' at Yongpoki village, district Ukhrul, Manipur. 26 youths from nearby villages attended the same.

(d) **5th May, 2015.** 24-Assam Rifles conducted a lecture on tobacco awareness at Tengnoupal village, district Chandel, Manipur. About 70 villagers attended the camp.

(e) **6th May, 2015.** 5-Assam Rifles organized a lecture for youth on 'Communal Harmony' at Akuluto village, district Zunheboto, Nagaland and motivated them to join the mainstream.



Awareness campaign on 'Tobacco awareness' and 'Join Armed Forces' organised by Assam Rifles

(f) **8th May, 2015.** 10-Assam Rifles organised a lecture on 'Prevention of Malaria' at Champhai village, district Aizwal, Mizoram. About 30 persons attended the lecture.

(g) **16th May, 2015.** 30-Assam Rifles launched a cleanliness campaign "Mission: Clean Unakoti", Tripura to uplift the historic rock cut carvings. A large number of school students who were part of NSS and NCC joined together actively with the Assam Rifles to clean the area around the ancient relics.



Assam Rifles organised a cleanliness campaign "Mission: Clean Unakoti"

(h) **16th May, 2015.** 28-Assam Rifles conducted a 'Career Counseling' at Saiha village, Mizoram. 30 villagers attended the lecture.

(j) **16th May, 2015.** 16-Assam Rifles conducted an awareness lecture on 'Health and Hygiene' at Nungdam Kuki village, district Ukhrul, Manipur. 18 people attended the lecture.

(k) **20th May, 2015.** 10-Assam Rifles organised a lecture on 'Fight Against Drug Abuse & HIV' at Khawbung village, district Champhai, Mizoram. About 105 villagers attended the lecture.

(l) **22nd May, 2015.** 10-Assam Rifles conducted a lecture on 'Water Borne Diseases' at Hnahlan village, district Champhai, Mizoram. 13 villagers attended the lecture.



Assam Rifles organised a lecture on 'Fight against drug abuse & HIV' & 'water borne diseases'

(m) **27th May, 2015.** 35-Assam Rifles conducted a 'motivational lecture to Join the Armed Forces' for students of High School, Panikheti at T/Akutpa village, district Senapati, Manipur. 52 students participated in the lecture.

(n) **16th & 27th May, 2015.** 25-Assam Rifles conducted 'Operation Milan' at Saikul and T/ Akutpa village, district Senapati, Manipur. About 97 villagers including village chiefs and village Secretaries participated in the same.

(iii). **Assistance by Assam Rifles.** The Force has been providing relief to the socio-economically disadvantaged & marginalized people who have limited economic means, access to basic amenities and living in remote areas of the NE Region by way of diverse kind of activities, such as construction of various kinds of infrastructure, distribution of items to assist in generating self employment and other critical items based on the requirement of the particular group of people. The details of assistance provided by various units of the Force during the month of May 2015, are as under:-

(a) **6th May, 2015.** 35-Assam Rifles provided Medical aid to Mr Kadidenbou of Lengmei village, district Senapati, Manipur who met with an accident near Don Bosco School. He was later shifted to District Hospital, Senapati, Manipur for further treatment. The village authority appreciated the efforts of Assam Rifles for this noble gesture.

(b) **7th May, 2015.** 37-Assam Rifles organised an immunization camp at Ghaspani, district Dimapur, Nagaland under Indradhanush Mission. About 76 children were vaccinated during the camp.

(c) **9th May, 2015.** 8-Assam Rifles constructed a community hall at Kangchup village, district Tamenglong, Manipur. The community hall was handed over to village Authority.

(d) **16th May, 2015.** 35-Assam Rifles distributed 2 sewing machines to Thingba Khullen village Women Society, district Senapati, Manipur.

(e) **17th May, 2015.** 32-Assam Rifles constructed a bus waiting shed for the people of Henkot village in Chandel district, Manipur. The bus waiting shed was handed over to village Authority.

(f) **18th May, 2015.** 45-Assam Rifles constructed a water supply scheme at Nongpok Kakching village, district Imphal East, Manipur. The water supply scheme was handed over to village Authority.

(g) **19th May, 2015.** 25-Assam Rifles distributed eight solar lamps to Markhan village in Senapati district, Manipur.

(h) **20th May, 2015.** 35-Assam Rifles constructed a waiting shed at Phuba Khuman of Senapati district, Manipur. The shed was handed over to the villagers.

(j) **21st May, 2015.** 32-Assam Rifles constructed 4 toilet blocks at Aibol Joupri village in Chandel district, Manipur. The toilet blocks were handed over to the villagers.

(iv). **Promotion of sports.** In order to encourage sports in the NE Region, Assam Rifles conducts various types of sports training and tournaments in the Region and also distributes sports equipment, to help the youth

and encourage them towards constructive pursuits. The details of sports and distribution of sports items by various units of the force during the month of May, 2015, are as under:-

(a) **10th May, 2015.** 5-Assam Rifles organized a friendly football match at Longkhim village, district Zunheboto, Nagaland to promote communal harmony between security forces and the civil populace. After the match refreshment was served and prize distribution organized.

(b) **20th May, 2015.** 18-Assam Rifles conducted a football week 'Jalukie Soccer Blast' with effect from 15th – 20th May, 2015 at Jalukie for youth of Jalukie and its surrounding villages.

(B) Programmes Undertaken By Border Security Force (BSF)

On 14th May DGP Tripura inaugurated a new composite BOP Rangamura of 29 BN BSF in presence of IG BSF Tripura Ftr and Sh. Deepak Vohra, Special Adviser to PM and Ambassador of three African countries including Sudan. During the inauguration ceremony local villagers and civil authorities were also present. DGP, IG BSF & Sh. Deepak Vohra also interacted with BSF troops, villagers and media. DGP Tripura and Sh. Deepak Vohra praised BSF for its dedication.



Inauguration of New Composite BoP- Rangamura 29-Bn Under Gokulnagar Sector

DEBADHARA-2015: A FESTIVAL OF INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCE AND MUSIC

Debadhara-2015, A Festival of Indian Classical Dance and Music was organised on 30th April 2015 for three days till 2nd May, 2015 at India Habitat Centre and India International Centre. Awards were presented to the dancers and musicians.

Debadhara is constantly involved in promoting and preserving the rich culture of the North East and in the festival, eminent artists of the North East region performed. The performances of these artists were appreciated by the audience. The festival was a grand success.

The first day of the festival was inaugurated by

Padmashree Ranjana Gauhar in the dance form Odissi. Then expanding the horizon of Manipuri was Padmashree Darshana Jhaveri, representing the lineage of Bharatnatyam was Padmabhushan Saroja Vaidyanathan. The day was concluded by the 'Gana Nayak Panchakam' presented by the principle dancers of Debadhara. The second day of the festival started with the duet Odissi dance performance by Guru Gajendra Panda and eminent film actress Ms. Archita Sahu. Padmashree Jayarama Rao & Vanashree Rao with their group showcased beautiful art of Kuchipudi. The evening ended with the poetic presentation of Kathak Dance by Padmabhushan Uma Sharma and her students.

The final day of the festival was the musical day, filled with Hindustani Classical Vocals and melodious instruments. Guru A. Maheshwar Rao mesmerized the audience with his voice. The mellow tune of sarod by Dr. Chandrima Majumdar put the listeners in a trance. The angelic voice of Bidushi Rosey Brahma could be felt straight through heart. The evening was brought to close with violin recital by Guru Biswajit Roychowdhury who was rhythmically accompanied on tabla by Shri Dibyajyoti Changmai.

The Chief Guests for the three evenings were, Shri Jual Oram, Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Suresh

Chandra Panda, Member (Personnel) Prasar Bharati and Shri Shekhar Dutt, Former Governor of Chhattisgarh respectively. The Guest of honor being Shri Shambhu Singh, Joint Secretary Ministry of Home Affairs, Smt. Arvind Manjit Singh, Joint Secretary Ministry of Culture and Shri Ajay Kumar Kanoujia, Director Ministry of Home Affairs correspondingly.

The festival was concluded by vote of thanks to the sponsors, print media and special gratitude was shown towards the audience by Guru Gajendra Panda and Festival Director Guru Binayak Panda.



Bidushi Rosey Brahma



Guru Gajendra Panda & Ms Archita Sahu



Padmashree Darshana Jhaveri



Prof. Biswajit Roy Chowdhury & Sh. Dibyajyoti Changmai



Group photo of participants

PROGRAMMES UNDERTAKEN BY MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT

During the month of April, 2015 the Regional Directorates of North East Zone i.e. Guwahati, Tinsukia, Imphal and Siliguri have conducted 12 programmes for 319 workers. Highlights of the programme are as under:-

(i) CBWE Regional Directorate, Guwahati

During the month, CBWE, Guwahati conducted two Need Based Seminars of two days duration for construction workers at Baksa district of Bhatepowa village, Baksa, Assam from 13th to 14th April, 2015 wherein 25 construction workers in each programme were trained. The programmes were inaugurated by Shri Bhupen Das,

President, Baksa district construction workers union and Smt. Anjali Basumateri, Secretary Borpeta District Workers Union, Bagmara village. They were enlightened on their rights and responsibilities as a construction workers. The participants were impressed with the training programme and started mobilization of their membership for making a strong and united trade union for construction workers in the Baksa district.

(ii) CBWE Regional Directorate, Imphal

During the month, Regional Directorate, Imphal conducted 8 need based seminars as follows:

S. No.	Venue of the programme	Date of the programme	No. of workers trained
1.	At Recent Youth Club, Moidangpok Mayai Leikai, Imphal West.	10-11/4/2015	23
2.	At community Hall, Angtha Piruk Khunou Leikai, Keirao, Imphal East.	13-14/4/2015	18
3.	At Anwandi Centre, Kiyam Wangmataba Awang Leikai, Thoubal district of Manipur	16-17/4/2015	27
4.	At O/o the Loyalam Construction Workers Welfare Union, Kamong, Imphal West.	17-18/4/2015	27
5.	At Yumbimacha High School, Kakching Ningthou Leikai, Thoubal district of Manipur.	20-21/4/2015	25
6.	At Community Hall, Wangoo Naodakhong, Bspr dist. of Manipur.	23-24/4/2015	30
7.	At BMS Office, Keisampat, Imphal of Manipur	27-28/4/2015	31
8.	At Community Hall, Nilakuthi, Imphal East of Manipur	28-29/4/2015	42

Shri N. Tomba Singh, Member, Regional Advisory Committee, CBWE, Imphal and National Secretary, BMS in his inaugural speech appreciated the effort of CBWE in educating working class of their basic rights, obligation and other welfare facilities. Ms. N. Amusana Devi, Member, Manipur Building and other construction workers Welfare Board appreciated the programme in Valedictory speech for enlightening construction workers and appealed them to commit to their works.

(iii) CBWE Regional Directorate, Silliguri

A two days Self Generation of fund programme for organized sector was conducted at Alkem Laboratories Conference Hall, Samurdung South Sikkim from 13th

to 14th April, 2015 in which 20 workers from Alkem Laboratories were trained. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Peeyush Mittal, General Manager. Shri Vivek Nandi, Assistant General Manager (HR) also attended the programme. After observing the two days deliberations given by the faculties of CBWE Shri P. Mittal, General Manager in the valedictory session expressed that the information and knowledge bestowed upon participants in the programme will obviously help his industry to accomplish its declared multinational corporate objectives. He declared that their industry will strive to train all the 600 rank and file workers of the industry during 2015-16 by conducting one programme at least every month with the help of CBWE Siliguri.

HIGHWAY PROJECTS IN NORTH EAST

Two major Highway projects have been taken up in the North Eastern Region to ease travel from Guwahati towards Shillong and other parts of the North East. These include Shillong Bypass and four laning of Jorabat-Barapani Section of NH-40. The Shillong Bypass will connect NH 40 and NH 44 (New NH 6) and will decongest traffic in Shillong from trucks and heavy vehicles coming from the North Eastern parts of Assam and other states- Mizoram and Tripura. The Bypass will have a length of 48.76

km. starting from NH 40 at Umiam in Ri-Bhoi district and ending at NH 44 (new NH 6) at Mawryngkneng in East Khasi Hills district. The 61.80 Km. bypass has been constructed by NHAI on BOT mode. Four laning of Jorabat-Barapani provides robust road connectivity between Guwahati and Shillong. The project stretch passes mostly through the hilly terrain covering major urban areas like Byrnihat and Nongpoh. A sum of Rs. 15000 Cr worth of projects will be funded by the Centre for North Eastern States this year.

MARY KOM REGIONAL BOXING FOUNDATION HONES TALENT OF BUDDING MANIPUR BOXERS

The Mary Kom Regional Boxing Foundation in Imphal has been playing a major role to groom budding boxers from the Northeast. Founded in 2006 at Langol by Olympic Medalist and 6-time world boxing champion MC Mary Kom, the foundation aims to tap the potential of the underprivileged but talented youth from the state

and groom them to become the World Champions.

Around 35 boys and girls from different parts of the Northeast are currently undergoing training at the academy. Affiliated to Manipur Amateur Boxing Association, the foundation provides free training, boarding, lodging and other expenses for the students.

Grace, one of the boxers at the foundation, said that she wants to become like Mary Kom. "I want to become a well know player like Mary Kom. My uncle inspired me. He is a kick boxer and he told me to join so, I joined here," she said.

Mary Kom has herself borne the entire expenses besides the help received from trustees, local government, contributions from well-wishers and SAI Extension Scheme in the recent years. The construction work is on to expand the Academy and provide indoor training facilities to the students. The land has been allotted by the state government.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has also provided financial support to the academy for



construction of a gymnasium hall and procurement of various equipments. The players from the academy have been performing quite well at state and national level boxing events. "Seven of the students have received Gold medals in the state level. At national level, the students have received Gold, silver and bronze medals. Two of the students have won bronze medals in senior level category," said Raju Singh, a boxer from the foundation.

Youth in the Northeast are naturally inclined towards sports and have the potential to bring accolades to the country when provided with the right kind of training and guidance. The Mary Kom Regional Boxing Foundation is a step in that direction.



Talented youth from the North East being groomed to become the world champions

IN TRIPURA, SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING ORGANIZED TO TURN 'JHUMIAS' INTO ENTREPRENEURS

The Indo-German Development Cooperation Project (IGDC) has organized a six months training programme aimed at encouraging forest dependent 'Jhumias' of Tripura to become entrepreneurs. The training is being conducted at the forest training school at Sepahijala in Tripura.

The main agenda behind the training is to gradually reduce the number of jhum (wandering) farmers by encouraging them to take up other trades. The training is expected to reduce their dependence directly on the forest which in turn would help in protecting the green cover in the state.

Forty youth from jhumia families have been identified through the village development committees for vocational training under the IGDC. The youths will be undergoing skill development training in making traditional bamboo handicraft using modern tools. This would ensure them better return while focusing on the demand from market outside the state.

Special care has been taken to ensure that the tribal youths are trained in such a trade of which they are traditionally aware. During the six months of residential training, the trainees will be provided free food and lodging along with a monthly stipend of around Rs 2000 so that their families get some financial benefit during their absence.

The aim behind the innovative programme is to encourage the trainees to continue their new vocation so that they do not return back to activities which may be harmful to the forest or nature. The training not only develops the skill of the trainees but also gives firsthand knowledge and exposure about the market - for both availability of raw materials and selling their products.

Moreover, it has been noticed that even after successful completion of vocational training the candidates often cannot continue in the trade as they are unable to procure tools or materials due to poverty or some other reason. Hence under the IGDC project the initiative of the distribution of tools and raw materials has been taken.

Bikash Debbarma, a trainee, said that the training will be of great help to him. "We are learning to make lamp shades, baskets and various corner lamps and it will be a great help for us because we can do business with these items. In spite of easily available raw material i.e. bamboo in the country side we do not produce these items as we have not learnt this trade," he said.

"But now under the IGDC we are getting trained in this skill. We are getting accustomed in using various machines during our training. After completion of the training every group will get the required machines set

with which we are planning to open a centre in our village and produce various items," he added.

Dilip Debbarma, another trainee, said that the training will help him a lot in earning the livelihood. "Even before we joined this training we had some knowledge about them but we were not aware about marketing

these products. We used to sell our products in the rural areas for our livelihood. So I am learning to make these items along with others so that we can teach others in my village what I learnt here," he said. IGDC project has been engaged in helping the young generation in villages to be self dependent.



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, 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.

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