

NE

FOR FREE PUBLIC CIRCULATION

NEWSLETTER

Vol. XIII. No. 2, February, 2011

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

A Monthly Newsletter on the North Eastern Region of India

Also available on Internet at : <http:mha.nic.in>

"Freedom implies not only emancipation from political bondage but also equal distribution of wealth, abolition of caste barriers and social inequities and destruction of communalism and religious intolerance."

– Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose



CONTENTS

- ❖ Developments with Reference to North Eastern Region
- ❖ Recommendations of The Development Seminar on Imphal East District and Ukhrul District held on 18.10.2010 at Imphal.
- ❖ Recommendations of The Development Seminar in Ukhrul held on 19.10.2010 at Ukhrul.
- ❖ Construction of Godowns in NE Division by Food Corporation of India
- ❖ Rural Jobs Scheme in Mizoram
- ❖ Readers Column
- ❖ Letters to Editor

DEVELOPMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO NORTH EASTERN REGION

Meeting of the consultative committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs on matters relating to 'Insurgency in NE: peace process'

The Constitution of India is flexible and resilient enough to accommodate the aspirations of the people of the North Eastern region. The Union Home Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram said this while addressing a meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The subject of the meeting was, "Matters relating to insurgency in NE: peace process". The Home Minister pointed out that the region has over 200 ethnic groups with distinct languages, dialects and socio-cultural identity. These groups want recognition of their identity and participation in governance. This aspiration can be fulfilled under the provisions of the Indian Constitution. Elaborating the position further, Shri Chidambaram said that formation of Autonomous District Councils with the necessary powers and funds is the way forward in the North East. Such Councils have to give adequate representation to minority ethnic groups. These must be pluralistic in structure and must work on the principle of inclusive governance. There are outstanding examples of Autonomous District Councils in the North East and the Government wants to strengthen these institutions.

The Home Minister said that the situation in the North East has shown remarkable improvement in 2010 as compared to the previous year. The number of incidents of violence and the casualties of civilians and security force personnel have come down. The Government is in talks with 9 insurgent groups from the North East and expects to reach agreements with some of them during the year. The Government is open to talks with groups which abjure violence.

Participating in the discussions, members welcomed the initiatives taken by the Government to restore peace in the North East. They expressed happiness over the proposed talks with ULFA. Members also stressed the need to speed up development in the North East with particular emphasis on employment opportunities.

EDITORIAL BOARD

CHIEF EDITOR
SHAMBHU SINGH

EDITOR
J.P.N. SINGH

EDITOR
B.R. DHIMAN

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR ON IMPHAL EAST DISTRICT AND UKHRUL DISTRICT HELD ON 18.10.2010 AT IMPHAL

In October, 2010 issue of the Monthly NE Newsletter it was mentioned that the recommendations made in the two development seminars held in Manipur will be published in the next issue of the NE Newsletter.

The recommendations have now been made available by the State Government of Manipur and the same are indicated below. All concerned have been requested to expedite the implementation of programmes as well as to initiate new schemes/ programmes and project for development of the district:-

RECOMMENDATIONS:-

1. EDUCATION:

- ◆ For opening of a new Kendriya Vidyalaya- State Govt to provide 10 acres of land to be identified by DC/IE.
- ◆ DIET centre location to be finalised by DC- Imphal East within 30th December, 2010.
- ◆ Construction of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Yaralpat to be completed within 2010.
- ◆ Pupil Teacher ratio to be maintained in all schools.
- ◆ Under RMSA additional classrooms will be added. Infrastructure gap in the schools will be bridged.
- ◆ To consider entrusting Primary Schools with the Gram Panchayats.
- ◆ To examine the feasibility of handling over of Primary education to the PRIs/ ULBs under devolution.

2. HEALTH:

- ◆ Establishment of Nursing Institute and District Hospital.
- ◆ Manpower planning in the health department will be ensured.
- ◆ To provide Quarters for Doctors.
- ◆ Purchase of equipment and machineries with Annual Maintenance charges for 5 years. No new proposal for maintenance.

3. RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

- ◆ MGNREGS
 - > To activate a District Planning Committee.
 - > To organize Social Audit regularly.
 - > Need to strengthen Manipur State Employment Guarantee Council.
- ◆ Convergence of various flagship programmes to promote synergy and avoid duplication.
- ◆ SGSY- demand for enhanced allocation for the Self Help groups will be considered.
- ◆ PMGS& - NRRDA to agree to more roads for upgradation.
- ◆ There should be regulatory mechanism for release of fund.

4. TELECOM:

- ◆ OFC cable to Jiribam- payment issue with the BRO to be resolved.
- ◆ For Common Service Centres- Rs. 53 lakh pending with the IT deptt. will be released within a week.
- ◆ Telecom Deptt. to coordinate with CAF&PD for regular issue of fuel.
- ◆ Improvisation in the Police Station Helpline.

5. TOURISM:

- ◆ Entrepreneurship development to promote Tourism in the District.
- ◆ To promote health Tourism.
- ◆ Prohibited Area Permit norms to be relaxed.
- ◆ Land for establishment of Institute of Hotel Management & Tourism to be provided.
- ◆ Eco-park project at Nongmaiching to be handed over to the State Govt.
- ◆ Gourangaor, Sanjenbam Chingoiching to be developed as Tourist destination.
- ◆ Tourist lodge at Jiribam to be completed by February, 2010.

6. JNURMS:

- ◆ To reform the Urban local bodies.
- ◆ To have proper mechanism for Solid Waste Management system.

7. HORTICULTURE:

- ◆ To establish cold storage system.
- ◆ To organize a one day seminar exclusively for the farmers by the SPICE Board on spice cultivation.

8. AGRICULTURE:

- ◆ Agriculture Department will expand area under cultivation and increase productivity.
- ◆ CADA will take up field channels.
- ◆ Tea board will assist in certification for smoked tea of Manipur.

9. FISHERIES:

- ◆ Establishment of 4 (four) model Fishery Estate - one each in 4 Sub-Divisions.
- ◆ Establishment of Modern Whole Sale fish market.
- ◆ Establishment of 4 Modern retail fish market - one each in 4 Sub-Divisions.
- ◆ Identification of suitable sites and preparation of DPRs to be completed within 6 months.
- ◆ NFDB will assist and expedite fishery project.

10. VETY & A.H.

- ◆ Establishment of one Pig breeding centre in Imphal East District.

- ◆ Construction of Vety. Dispensaries - 10 numbers.
- ◆ Employment generation programmes for unemployed youths through Dairy, piggery, poultry and goatery units.
- ◆ Preservation of pasture land for fodder development.
- ◆ Strengthening of technical manpower.
- ◆ Veterinary Deptt. will prioritize activities which have employment generation potential.
- ◆ Marketing network of pasteurized milk will be expanded and duly publicized for popularity.
- ◆ Fodder crops for the animals will be promoted.

11. POWER:

- ◆ Under RGGVY Electrification of 61 villages to be covered by March, 2011.
- ◆ To provide power supply to USOF sites already in operation.
- ◆ To provide power supply to ITI at Phaknung during working hours (10 am to 4 am).
- ◆ Silchar-Imphal transmission line will be in place by June, 2011.
- ◆ NEC funded 132 KV at Kongba to be completed by March, 2011.
- ◆ To take advantage of MNRE for improvement of power supply and submit proposal to the concerned Ministry.

12. WATER SUPPLY:

- ◆ TSC to be implemented through DRDA.
- ◆ Cost of toilet under TSC to be enhanced from Rs. 3000/- to Rs. 5000/-

- ◆ Convergence of IAY and TSC.
- ◆ Project proposal for tapping of river water during rainy season to be submitted by 29th of November, 2010.

13. AIR CONNECTIVITY:

- ◆ Chopper Service between Imphal and Jiribam.

14. BANKING:

- ◆ Branches of Commercial bank to be opened at-
 - i. UBI at Porompat.
 - ii. SBI at Jiribam.
- ◆ Setting up of RVDSTI (Rural Development and Self Employment Training Institute) as already approved by Planning Commission to be taken up in Imphal East District.

15. SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE:

- ◆ Construction of standard playfield for football - 3 in numbers under the fund of DoNER.

16. RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

- ◆ SGSY: Holding of SARAS Mela on annual basis will be considered in Imphal East District.

17. SERICULTURE:

- ◆ Since JICA is reluctant to take up Manipur Sericulture Project Phase - II- it may be taken up under SPA (under AP 2011-12) with a project cost of Rs. 356 crores.
- ◆ Planning Commission and Ministry of Textile may be approached for civil works.
- ◆ Equipments: Central Silk Board may be approached under CDP (Catalytic Development Programme).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR IN UKHRUL HELD ON 19.10.2010 AT UKHRUL.

1. Banking Network & Facilities:

It was announced that:

- i) SBI branch will be opened at Somsai in Ukhrul on 30th November 2010.
- ii) ATM will be installed by SBI at Assam Rifles Complex, Somsai by December, 2010
- iii) Another ATM will be installed by SBI at the Assam Rifles Outpost, Wino Bazar, Ukhrul Town by March 2011.
- iv) SBI Branch will be opened at Assam Rifles Campus, Kamjong by 2011-12.
- v) SBI will carry forward the momentum and establish more ATMs at locations to be identified jointly by SBI, District Admn, and the Assam Rifles/ State Police within 2011.

2. Tele-Communication Network & Facilities:

The BSNL Representative pointed-out that the poor and erratic supply of power has been the main hurdle for operating their services. Lack of good road communication facilities for transportation of Tower materials has also

slowed down the installation of communication Towers at the village level. The BSNL Representative announced that;

- i) 3G services shall be introduced soon in the district.
- ii) Wi-Max shall be activated soon.
- iii) Over 350 Kms of optical fibres already laid.

3. Road Connectivity:

Recognising the criticality of road communications and the taking note of the observations made during the Seminar, the following was recommended:

- i) The BRO shall take up Double-Laning of Ukhrul-Yangangokpi-Jessami stretch of NH 150 at the earliest.
- ii) The BRO to take up alignment of the Ukhrul-Tolloi-Tadubi Road via Huining village.
- iii) The Ministry of Defence/ BRDB and DORT & H to re-visit their decision to withdraw the BRO/ BRTF from the Mahadev-Tolloi Road and retain BRO/BRTF till completion of the balance 60% of the work within a specified timeframe.

- iv) State PWD/Works Deptt to expedite implementation of SPA (Rs. 6 crores) funded Imphal-Kasom Khullen Road (68 kms). The public to co-operate with the PWD and the Contractors to complete the construction within March, 2011.
- v) DORT & H to expedite approval and sanction to the DPR submitted by the BRO/BRTF for upgradation of the Shangshak-Tengnoupal Road (202 Kms) include it under Phase-A of SARDP-NE. Instead of starting at Shangshak, BRO/BRTF may consider starting from Finch Corner along NH 150.
- vi) State PWD/Works Deptt. to include the New Heaven-Ukhrul Road via Lamlang Gate (28 km) under Central Road Fund (CRF), DORT & H Programme for upgradation during 2010-11.

4. Power Distribution:

- i) State Power Deptt. to set targets and expedite completion of the 132KV Sub-station at Hundung (March, 2012) and 33/11KV Sub-stations at Hundung, Jessami, Phungyar and Kasom Khullen (March/April, 2011).
- ii) State Power Deptt to complete implementation of the RGGVY scheme for Ukhrul District within 2011-12.
- iii) Ministry of Home Affairs to organize a meeting with Ministry of Power and M/s PGCIL at New Delhi to review and take decision to expedite augmentation of the Transmission Network.
- iv) MANIREDA to provide Solar Lighting and tap Wind Energy for power supply to remote hill villages as identified by the Deputy Commissioner, Ukhrul.
- v) State Power Deptt. to carry forward the Maklang-Tayungbi (65 MW) Hydropower project based on preliminary assessment done by the department.
- vi) State Power & Finance Deptts to consider favourably the DC, Ukhrul's proposal for waiver of the compound interest on past electricity dues and allow the consumers to pay the actual User Charges.
- vii) MANIREDA to include the following Renewable Energy Projects in their Work Programme for 2010-11.
 - a. Wind: Kamnon, Phungrei (15 MW)- more machines.
 - b. Mini hydro project at Chandong (25 KW) to be completed during 2010-11.
 - c. Khamason River Mini Hydro Project.

5. Health Sector:

- 1. Ministry of DoNER to release the 2nd installment for the completion of 50 bedded Ukhrul District Hospital. State Health & Finance Deptts to release Rs. 502 lakhs to MANIDCO, the work Agency. Hospital to be completed and made operational by Dec. 2011.

- 2. Ambulance suitable for hill areas, be provided under NRHM within March, 2011.
- 3. Recruitment of 401 MBBS doctors through MPSC to be expedited and addl. Doctors be posted in Ukhrul District Hospital, CHCs and PHCs in the District within December, 2010.
- 4. Similarly, after recruitment of 274 new Specialist Doctors through MPSC, adequate number of Specialists be posted in Ukhrul District Hospital within December, 2010.
- 5. GNM Training School has been approved by the Union Ministry of Health. Dy. Commissioner, Ukhrul to identify and allot land, as required, within December, 2010.

6. A. Education:

- 1. Under RMSA 100 additional classrooms have been sanctioned and another 123 classrooms approved- (Rs. 5 cr cost). The additional classrooms to be constructed within December, 2011.
- 2. Transportation cost of MDM rice may be considered for suitable increase from the existing rate of Rs. 1000 per MT.
- 3. Kitchen sheds will be constructed in II phase by the State Education (S) Deptt.
- 4. As of now, only two out of twenty-nine Govt. High Schools have regular Principals. The State Education (S) Deptt. has drawn-up a tentative seniority list for the Principals and Vice-principals. The process be expedited and the vacant posts be filled up by Feb. 2011.
- 5. The Pettigrew College, the only College in the District lacks infrastructure. The State Higher Education Deptt. will on priority assess and take up provision of the required infrastructure for the College within 2011-12. The demand for transportation facilities for students would be looked into.

B. Infrastructure of Autonomous District Council, Ukhrul:

- i) PRIMARY SCHOOLS: There are 158 primary schools under Autonomous District Council, Ukhrul out of which only 69 schools have buildings. The remaining 89 is without proper school buildings. There is no residential accommodation for the School Principals/ Headmasters/ Teachers and hostels for boys & girls. The District Council Schools also do not have Chowkidar quarters. The District Council to prepare and submit proposal for construction of School buildings, Hostels and Quarters etc. to the Hills Deptt. under the Rupees ten crore Package of the Union Finance Minister (Budget, 2008-09 Speech Announcement) within December, 2010.
- ii) DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICE: The District Council Building including the Civil Dispensary and Veterinary Dispensary buildings have been all burnt down in the June, 2010 by elements opposed to the District Council Elections.

Similarly, out of the existing 14 Veterinary Dispensaries, only 7 Vety. Dispensaries have been functioning in a private house. CEO/Ukhrul ADC to propose re-construction under the Union Finance Minister's Rupees ten crore Package announced in his Budget, 2008-09 Speech and submit to Hills Deptt. within December, 2010.

7. Centrally sponsored schemes:

The Ministry of Rural Development may consider the following:

- a. There are 12000 applicants under IAY waiting for assistance to construct Houses. The list has been drawn up based on BPL List of 2003. To expedite provision of IAY Houses, the number of IAY Beneficiaries may be enhanced to 1500 per annum from the present allocation of 600 per annum.
- b. Ukhrul District be included under BRGF.
- c. MGNREGA: State Govt to propose and the Ministry of Rural Development to consider exemption, for the time-being, from uploading data in new software/format for release of 2nd instalment to the district.
- d. State matching share for all Rural Development C.S.S. Scheme be released to the Deputy Commissioners within November, 2010.

8. Infrastructure augmentation:

- i) Mini-Secretariat to be completed and inaugurated by March, 2011.
- ii) Construction of Lungchong Meiphai Tribal Development Block be completed within March, 2011.
- iii) Construction of Mini-Stadium at Hundung be completed within December, 2011.
- iv) Construction of PWD Guest House to be completed within March, 2011.
- v) Buildings for SDO/BDO Offices and Residential Quarters, which were burnt down by those opposed to the District Council Elections, be re-constructed along with boundary walls and approach roads within March, 2012.
- vi) Home Deptt. to station three Fire Tenders, in addition to existing two, at Ukhrul DHQ within March, 2011.
- vii) New Court Complex at Ukhrul to be constructed in consultation with the State Law Department and the High Court within March, 2012.

9. Drinking water and T.S.C:

To expedite the process of:

- i) PHED to complete the Riha Loute, Shangshak and Phungyar Water Supply Schemes under NLCPR within March, 2011.
- ii) New Water Supply Schemes for Augmentation at Lunghar, Talloi, Kamjong, Kasom Khullen, Litan and Senakeithei be considered by State Planning Deptt for inclusion in the priority List under NLCPR for 2011-12.

- iii) Water sources at Shiroi to be protected by taking suitable project.
- iv) State PHED to draw-up a time-bound Action Plan to replace plastic pipes by G.I pipes for existing water supply schemes in a phased manner.
- v) Seminar cum Awareness Campaign on Rain Water Harvest to be taken up at the District.
- vi) Under TSC the amount for construction of Individual Toilet shall be increased from Rs. 2,700 to Rs. 5,000.

10. Agriculture and Allied Sector:

- i) Spice board to organise a Seminar jointly with the Tea Board at Ukhrul during 2010-11 in consultation with the KVK, ICAR and D.C, Ukhrul.
- ii) Minor irrigation scheme to be extended to hill areas: so as to build embankments and other protection steps to prevent erosion and further intrusion of river banks.
- iii) Agriculture Deptt to take up construction of rooms for installation of Soil Testing Equipment which has already arrived at Imphal.

The following District-specific issues shall be addressed through existing schemes by concerned Ministries of the Govt. of India.

- iv) Kachai Lemon @ 700 hac, productivity 8 Q/Ha-Mini scale processing unit.
- v) Orange production at Kamjong & Kasom Khullen - Mini processing unit.
- vi) Floriculture - Gladiolus, Rose, Gerbera & Orchids
- vii) Strengthening of Block Seed Multiplication farm-Potato @ L-M Block (20 Hac)
- viii) Mushroom production unit at Ukhrul.
- ix) Identification of suitable spice crop for Ukhrul district in consultation with Deptt.

11. Tourism:

- (i) The ongoing project of Tourism circuit at 5 places along NH 150 to be completed with in 2011.
- (ii) Tourist Guest House at Shiroi Village be completed within 2011.

12. Social welfare:

- (i) About ten thousand applicants are awaiting sanction of Old Age Pension under Central NOAPS. State Social Welfare Deptt to propose and Central Govt to consider increase of number of beneficiaries of old age pensioners in Ukhrul district from the existing 42967.
- (ii) Rate of monthly Pension to be enhanced by Central Govt. from the existing Rs. 200 per month to Rs. 500 per month.
- (iii) Only 272 Widows out of 5000 registered Widows receive Pension, Ministry of Rural Development to increase the number for the District to at least 3000.

- (iv) Against 1677 Disabled Persons, only 23 are being assisted under the Indira Gandhi National Disability scheme. The number of beneficiaries to be increased.

13. Commerce and industries:

- (i) Longpi Handicrafts & pottery to be promoted through an integrated project for training, Workshed & Marketing. The construction of road (3 Kms) between the stone quarry and the pottery production centres may be taken up.
- (ii) Finding new avenues for marketing of the unique and famous black pottery products available only at Ukhrul District.
- (iii) Integrated Handloom Development scheme- 2 clusters.

- (iv) Food Processing Industry and Cold Storage Facility to be set up at Ukhrul District.
- (v) Market-linkage to be provided to tap the potential and empower the local fruit growers.
- (vi) Shiroi National Park to be notified by the Ministry of Environment & Forests by December, 2010 and due compensation to be paid to the affected local people.

The position has been reviewed by the Chief Secretary, Manipur and it is reported that action has already been initiated/completed on all most all the recommendations which were to be complied with by 28.02.2011.

CONSTRUCTION OF GODOWNS IN NE DIVISION BY FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA (Source: Department of Food and Public Distribution)

During the current financial year, 64 Village Grain Banks have been sanctioned in Tripura State (NE Region) with the total grant of Rs. 60,11,238/-. In 2011-12 plan allocation an amount of Rs. 1 crore has been earmarked for the setting of Village Grain Bank in NE Region.

The budget provision for the scheme of Construction of godowns in NE Region of FCI during 2010-11 was Rs. 10 Crores which has been revised to Rs. 25 crores in RE considering the strategic importance of the NE region. The Ministry has released an amount of Rs. 25.00 crores to FCI (as on 20.1.2011) and FCI has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 14.65 crores (upto 31.12.2010) for construction of storage godowns in the NE Region. In the plan allocation of 2011-12 Rs. 57.94 crores will be provided to FCI as equity for construction of godowns capacity totalling 5.25 lakh tonnes at an estimated cost of Rs. 568 crore for augmentation of storage capacity of Foodgrains and POL items in the North Eastern States is being finalized in consultation with Planning Commission/ MHA.

Integrated information System for Foodgrains Management (IISFM) project has been successfully implemented in all FCI depots including the depots under the three FCI Regions in North East Zone covering all seven

North Eastern States. In order to achieve 100% daily stock reporting, workshop-cum-demonstration of IRRS software has been organized at Guwahati on 15.09.2010. Upon creating of separate FCI Region for Arunachal Pradesh, login Ids for the newly created Depot/ District offices under this Region have been created in all applications of IISFM. Data entry in these newly created Depots has been started in IRRS (IISFM Rapid Reporting Service) w.e.f. 01.01.2011. In order to augment the present ICT infrastructure in North Eastern regions, it has been decided to supply Laptops with mobile connectivity to all the depots where hardware/ software/internet connectivity are not available besides upgrading the current hardware in place.

Selection of Implementing Agencies for implementation of Pilot Scheme for Computerisation of TPDS Operations in Assam is under process.

CWC (Central Warehousing Corporation, an undertaking of Govt. of India) under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) are creating Rural based community marketing infrastructure at Village Pahamriniai Distt. Ri-Bhoi (Meghalaya) and at Village Topatali, PO Durung, Distt. Kamrup (Assam). The cost of the project is Rs. 12,62,408.

RURAL JOBS SCHEME IN MIZORAM (Source-Yojana)

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has been adopted as a community work by the well-knit, classless society in Mizoram. Unlike in other States, people in Mizoram do not apply for jobs; it is the village council or local administration which sends out invitations to each household to send at least one job holder to execute the work in their village or area.

The village council, an elected body, has been created under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution and exercises control at the grass roots level. However, dissolution of some of these councils falling within the jurisdiction of the capital city of Aizwal is on the cards now with its transition towards governance through a municipal body. The first election to its 19 wards was held recently.

In villages, however, the councils are evolving the development process with greater ingenuity, particularly after the introduction of MNREGS which has given them the leeway to club a number of schemes.

A case in point is Sakeiram--- Tiger Land. Sake means tiger in Mizo language and Ram stands for land as in the case of Mizoram- land of Mizos. More than 700 men and women of all ages are collectively cutting a 6 km pathway in the mountains with the objective of setting up an altogether new locality in Serchhip district. The village council has issued a call and the job card holders responded as if they were taking up a community work. Of course, the wage rate is Rs. 110 per person day.

It sure is a multipurpose road suggestive of a unique model of convergence of various schemes taken up with the idea of not only linking Thensal village with the main road but also to facilitate construction of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) hospital,

ring in a new mode of agriculture and give a fillip to horticulture and floriculture.

Several programmes are thus clubbed, but primary importance is attached to construction of roads, MGNREGS doubles up even with Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY) as the hilly terrains are still inaccessible.

Horticulture and floriculture are among the schemes permitted under the MGNREGS to develop the land of BPL and Scheduled Tribes households. This is being used to wean them away from jhum cultivation which typifies the shifting cultivation.

To save ecology, the government recently launched a New Land Use Policy (NLUP) with the promise to provide at least two hectares to 1.2 lakh families over the next three years. With people living on the higher slopes of the mountain, water is a major problem despite several rivers crisscrossing the State. MGNREGS has come in handy for taking up water conservation schemes. It is being combined with other structures for setting up reservoirs.

READERS COLUMN

The NE monthly Newsletter is published in English, Assamese, Bengali and Manipuri and has 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, would request for inputs for the Newsletter from the Government agencies, institutions and individuals highlighting the area specific issues, problems, special features including potential for tourism, environmental protection or special efforts/achievement in various fields. Views and write-ups from general public are also

invited on specific issues/problems and possible measures for resolution thereto related to 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 a maximum of 150-200 words. Readers are encouraged to send comments and suggestions (upto 300-400 words) on published articles. All letters should have the writer's full name and postal address. The selected articles will be incorporated in the monthly NE Newsletter in its subsequent editions with due editing and contribution will be welcomed and suitably rewarded.



LETTERS TO EDITOR

1. I have read the NE Newsletter Vol.XII No. 7 July and I find it useful about main issues of North-East for my students. I will be obliged if you kindly send me a copy of NE Newsletter regularly in English language at the following address.

Sd/-
Theko Rova,
C/o Chakhesang Mission High School,
T. Chikri, Pfutsero,
P.O Pfutsero Dist: Phek, Nagaland

2. I shall be highly obliged, if you kindly send me a copy of NE Newsletter in English at the following address.

Sd/-
Monish Dam,
Sontipur Last Colony,
Nagaon-782002, Assam



Gaan Ngai Celebration in Delhi

3. Please send me a copy of NE Newsletter regularly in English language at the following address.

Sd/-
Mihin Kaning,
Vice Principal,
Govt. Higher Secondary School, Ziro,
Lower Subansiri District, Arunachal Pradesh-791120



Dignitaries with members of the Zeliangrong Welfare Association Delhi

MHA requests the readers to send their response through e-mail at: nenchiefeditor@nic.in/neneditor@nic.in/donedc-mha@nic.in

Readers are also requested to e-mail their e-mail address for getting a copy of the N.E. News Letter through e-mail.

Request for free copy of the NE Newsletter indicating language preferred or suggestions, if any, may be sent to the chief Editor/Editor at the address given below: