



*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 Subhash Chandra Bose**

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## DEVELOPMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO NORTH EASTERN REGION

1. United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) submitted its demands to the Union Home Minister in the presence of Chief Minister, Assam on 5.8.2011 at New Delhi. Government of India's Representative (Shri P.C.Haldar) has been authorized to initiate talks with the ULFA on their demands.
2. Joint Secretary (NE), Ministry of Home Affairs attended the meeting of Joint Monitoring Group with KNO and UPF held, under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Manipur on 11.8.2011.
3. The Suspension of Operations agreement with Kuki National Organization (KNO) and United People's Front (UPF) has been extended for a further period of one year beyond 21.8.2011.
4. The 2nd Meeting of the Empowered Committee on Tirap and Changlang districts was held under the Chairmanship of Home Secretary on 24.8.2011 to discuss implementation of development projects in the two districts. Implementation of the Action Plan for augmentation of the police set up in the two districts as approved also came up for discussion. The meeting was attended by representatives of the State Govt., Planning Commission, M/o Finance and Ministry of DoNER.
5. Implementation of the Assam Accord was reviewed by Joint Secretary (NE), Ministry of Home Affairs in a meeting held on 24.8.2011 with the representatives of the Central and State Governments.

## PROGRAMMES UNDERTAKEN IN NORTH EASTERN REGION BY THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

1. **Private FM Radio (Phase-III) - Special Incentives For North-East Region:**

Government of India recently approved the policy guidelines on expansion of FM radio broadcasting through private agencies- phase-III. One of the thrust areas of FM Phase-III Policy is to promote private FM Broadcaster in Jammu & Kashmir, North East Region and Island Territories. FM Phase-III Policy provides for special incentives for extending

the reach to North East Region for making the operations viable in the region.

- The permission holders in the States of North East (i.e. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura) will be required to pay an Annual Fee to the Government of India charged @ 2 % (4% for other States) of Gross Revenue for each year or 1.25 % (2½% for other States) of Non-refundable One Time Entry Fees (NOTEF) for the city concerned, whichever is higher, for an initial period of three years from the date from which the annual licence fee becomes payable and the permission period of 15 years begins.
- The revised fee structure is applicable to existing operators in these states to enable them to effectively compete with the new operators. The three year period for the existing operators shall be reckoned from the first day of the commencement of the next quarter subsequent to the date of issue of these guidelines.
- Apart from the relaxation, it is also proposed that Prasar Bharti infrastructure would be made available at half the lease rentals for similar category cities in such areas.
- The limit on the ownership of channels, at the national level, allocated to an entity has been retained at 15%. However, channels allotted in NER will be allowed over and above the 15% national limit to incentivize the bidding for channels in such areas.

## 2. Success stories and some important events in the NE Region

(Gathered/reported by the Directorate of Field Publicity during a publicity campaign organized during May-July, 2011)

- (i) **Arunachal Pradesh**
- (a) **Water Shed Project**

Shri Jumbom Remin of Liromoba in West Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh and his family consisting of 5 (five) members were facing financial hardship for a long time. A few years back he got assistance from the Agriculture department under 'WATER SHED PROJECT' a Central Scheme for a pine-apple farm. This has completely transformed his life. After five years of his efforts, he is now a proud owner of a 2 acre pine-apple farm from which he earns Rs. 10,000/- to 15,000/- annually.

- (b) **Kherem Village given "Nirman Gram Puraskar" Award - 2010**

Kherem Village under Chongkham circle of Lohit district in Arunachal Pradesh was selected for "Nirman Gram Puraskar" Award - 2010 for excellent contribution to complete sanitation coverage.

Kherem is the first Panchayat of Khampti community of Lohit district of Arunachal Pradesh to receive cleanliness award "Nirman Gram Puraskar" for full sanitation coverage in household, school, anganwadi & other public places, and for outstanding contribution in promotion of rural sanitation under Total Sanitation Campaign being implemented in Arunachal Pradesh.

## (c) Midday Meal Scheme

In Arunachal Pradesh many below poverty line/ underprivileged children are able to attend government run middle schools in Ziro, headquarters of Lower Subansari District of Arunachal Pradesh following the introduction of Midday Meal scheme by the Govt. School dropping out has been largely contained in this poverty stricken remote/backward District. Before Midday Meal scheme was implemented, the DFP Field Functionaries organized special publicity campaign in the school premises on Right to Education, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA) (Universalization of Elementary Education) and Midday Meal Scheme. Live entertainment was also organized during the publicity campaign.

### (ii) Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura

#### (a) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) Scheme

- (i) In Nagaland, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) Scheme, a Flagship Programme of the government has revolutionized inclusive growth & development ensuring the right to work and the dignity of labour. Rural people, especially the marginalized section of society, have benefited to the maximum through this Scheme, which aims at enhancing the livelihood of people in the remote/interior areas. Diphupar, Hovukhu, Hozukhe & Nikhekhu villages under Dimapur district in Nagaland are among many villages that are making progress. Irrigation canals, culverts, market sheds, agri-link road, village footpath, drainage, afforestation etc. are some of the programmes carried out under MGNREGA.
- (ii) During the course of public interaction on MGNREGA, Shri Birendra Bhowmik, Up Pradhan and Shri Prasanta Kumaram Saha, Panchayat Secretary in Agartala District, on behalf of the villagers informed that the village had undertaken many projects under MGNREGA scheme like digging village/community fishery pond, hospital, ground leveling, construction of village approach road and filling & leveling of paddy filed etc. Apart from creating village assets, the villagers could earn @ Rs.100/- per day. They face no problem on payment of wages as payment is received from post office through individual A/c. Nos. They appreciated and thanked the efforts of the Govt. of India in trying to uplift the standard of living of the Rural India through the innovative programme of MGNREGA and hoped that this programme will continue for many years to come.
- (iii) Geographical isolation, poor transportation networks, dearth of industries, soaring unemployment, perennial insurgency have inhibited growth & development in the sensitive border states of Manipur - Nagaland. Nevertheless, MNREGA has ushered in a new era of hope for the downtrodden. It is slowly & steadily transforming the "Geography of Poverty". The villagers profusely thanked the Govt. of India as MNREGA Programme has contained both hunger & poverty. Further, creation of assets like rural roads, water bodies, ponds, tanks, tree plantation/afforestation and market sheds have brought improvement in the livelihood of rural people & have given a fresh impetus to the tottering hope of common people in the interior villages of Manipur and Nagaland.



Successful implementation of village road at New Chayang village, Chandel District under NREGA, 2010-11  
Manipur-Nagaland Region

- (iv) Keithelmanbi Village is one of the poor villages in Chandel District in Manipur. It is about 65 Kms away from District HQ. It has about 40 household NREGS job cards. The scheme has not only provided employment to the families but has also resulted in all round development of the village. Villagers said many changes have taken place post NREGS. There is a marked improvement in village roads and other village infrastructure.

Keithelmanbi villagers are now experiencing benefits of development due to electrification under Bharat Nirman another flagship programme of Government of India. The Village Chairman Shri D.B. Shetwor expressed gratitude to the Government of India as they had not seen good roads & electrification for decades.

- (c) **Midday Meal Scheme:-** Over the years there has been significant spatial & numerical expansion of elementary schools in Manipur-Nagaland region, yet the goal of universal elementary education continues to elude many in the remote/interior parts of the region. The number of children, particularly from disadvantaged groups & weaker sections who drop out of school before completing elementary education, remain very large. However, the Midday Meal Scheme & the provision of free textbooks, uniforms, free school bags & free school fees have brought about dramatic changes in the Rural Education Landscape. There is now an increase in daily



Students served with Midday Meal at Phungkhothang Govt. High School in Churachandpur District-Manipur-Nagaland Region

attendance, enrolment and elimination of hunger in the region.

- (d) **National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) :-** Shri Suzarin Marak, village Chief of Dadengre Block, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya said that after the implementation of NRHM (National Rural Health Mission) by Govt. of India people are now getting medicines free of cost besides health services from qualified doctors in dental, homeopathic, ayurvedic and ASHAs and ANMs. He further said “many village women are now following Doctor’s advice for hospital/institutional delivery and new mothers have received financial assistance under JSY (Janani Suraksha Yojna),” he added.
- (e) **Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana:-** Monalisha Dharma hails from Warimagre Samanda Block, East Garo Hills District, Meghalaya. She runs a small medical Store at Williamnagar Bazar. From the small amount of working capital, she invested she found it difficult to meet the expenses to maintain her shop. Monalisha applied for a loan of Rs. 95,000/- from the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) to expand her business and got the loan in March 2011. Through this loan she is now a whole sale dealer in medicines and her financial return has increased manifold. Now she is economically independent & self reliant.
- (f) **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA)**
- (i) During the course of public interaction Smt. Loddika N. Marak, Headmistress of the Damagre Village, Upper Primary School in the East Garo Hills informed that many students from poor and needy families have benefited immensely under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme. She said that due to poor financial condition parents earlier could not afford to buy text books for their children and many students dropped out of their studies in the middle of the year. However, now after the implementation of SSA, the poor children could continue their studies due to free text books, free school fees & free mid-day meals.
- (ii) Government of India’s initiative to provide 8 years of quality education to all children in the age group of 6-14 years and achieve universal education is beginning to take shape in certain Districts of Manipur-Nagaland Region. 85% of Government Schools in the Hill Districts of Manipur i.e. Senapati, Chandel, Ukhrul, Tamenglong have the problems of poor infrastructure, shortage of Govt. teachers and absentee teachers and lack of training. Churachandpur District in Manipur is moving ahead in the field of Primary & Elementary School education. In 2010-11, enrolment in Govt. Schools is fast catching up due to the introduction of Midday Meal Scheme. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan driven intervention has promoted inclusive education at the Primary School level and is achieving gender equality in terms of educational attainment & educational opportunities.

### 3. Programmes undertaken by Song and Drama Division, Ministry of I&B.

- (i) Song and Drama Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting organized programmes in the North East Region during the months of April, 2011 to July, 2011. The theme of these programmes included National Integration, Communal Harmony, Patriotism,

the messages of the developmental activities of the Government like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, Hon'ble Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojna, National Rural Water Development Programme, Hon'ble Prime Minister's fifteen points

programmes for the welfare of the minorities, Panchayati Raj, Sanitation, Women and Child Development, Population Control, Bharat Nirman, Right to Information Act, Mid-day-meal, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Publicity Campaign on Right to Vote.

The State wise details of the programmes are given below:

Sl. No.	Months	Number of programmes organized by Song and Drama Division during the months from April, 2011 to July, 2011 in the North Eastern States.								Total
		Assam	Arunachal Pradesh	Manipur	Meghalaya	Mizoram	Nagaland	Tripura	Sikkim	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	April, 2011	89	18	112	40	12	12	12	23	318
2.	May, 2011	12	-	96	12	12	-	-	17	149
3.	June, 2011	-	-	-	-	-	-	06	20	26
4.	July, 2011	92	-	74	08	26	02	26	-	228
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>193</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>721</b>

**(ii) Districts having Border Area development programmes covered during the months of April, May & July, 2011:**

S.I No.	Month	States	Name of the Districts	Number of Programmes
1.	April, 2011	Manipur	Churachandpur = 06- programmes Chandel = 06- programmes	12
		Meghalaya	West Garo Hills = 10- programmes South Garo Hills = 20- programmes	30
		Mizoram	Champhai = 20- programmes	6
2.	May, 2011	Manipur	Ukhrul = 12- programmes Churachandpur = 12- programmes	24
		Sikkim	West Sikkim = 11- programmes	11
3.	July, 2011	Assam	Baksa = 06- programmes Udalguri = 06- programmes	12
		Manipur	Ukhrul = 12- programmes Chandel = 06- programmes	18
		Mizoram	Mamait = 12- programmes	12
		Tripura	Tripura West = 06- programmes	06

**(iii) Public Information Campaign**

1.	Kolkata Centre	11- Programmes have been presented on Bharat Nirman Schemes (PIC) at Ranka, Sikkim.
2.	Guwahati Centre	A. 12-Programmes have been organized on Bharat Nirman Scheme (PIC) from 04.05.2011 to 06.05.2011 at Byrnihat, Ribhoi district of Meghalaya.
		B. 22-Programmes have been organized on Bharat Nirman Schemes (PIC) from 13.05.2011 to 22.05.2011 at Goalpara, Assam.
		C. 12-Programmes have been organized on Bharat Nirman Scheme (PIC) from 19.05.2011 to 21.05.2011 at Goalpara. Assam.
		D. 12-Programmes have been organized on Bharat Nirman Scheme (PIC) from 23.05.2011 to 28.05.2011 at Sairang Distt. Aizawl, Mizoram State.
3.	Guwahati Centre	06-programmes have been organized on Bharat Nirman Scheme (PIC) from 08.06.2011 to 10.06.2011 at Kowhai Block, West Tripura.
4.	Kolkata Centre	05-Programmes have been organized on Bharat Nirman Scheme (PIC) at Block Administrative Centre, Yangang, Distt. South Sikkim from 01.06.2011 to 03.06.2011

**4. World Population Day**

Guwahati Regional Centre organized Special Programmes on the occasion of "World Population Day" on 11.7.2011 in the districts of Kamrup (Assam), East Khasi Hills (Meghalaya), Imphal (Manipur), Aizawl (Mizoram), Kohima (Nagaland) and Agartala (Tripura). Programmes were organized on the themes like Population Control, Mother and Child Care, Women Empowerment, Health and Family Welfare etc.

**5. Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC)**

Under Plan Scheme the above institute has opened four new Regional Centers out of which one centre is located in North East i.e, in Aizawl (Mizoram). The centres have been made functional from 8.8.2011 by starting a Post Graduate Diploma course in English Journalism.

## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION IN NORTH EAST

Independence Day was celebrated with patriotic vigour in all the states of the North East. Large numbers of people turned up to participate on the occasion shunning ban calls by various militant outfits. In Assam, Chief Minister Sh. Tarun Gogoi presided over the occasion and unfurled the national tricolor.

In Manipur, Independence Day was celebrated with great zeal with Chief Minister, Shri O. Ibobi Singh unfurling

the national flag. Police medals for gallantry were presented to 47 state police officers and 2 brave children were honoured on the occasion.

The other states of the North East too celebrated the day with great pomp & show despite the rains. Cultural troupes displayed dances of various tribes braving the wet grounds and rain.



Independence Day celebration in Sikkim.



Independence Day celebration in Manipur.



Independence Day celebrations in Assam.



Folk dances during Independence Day celebrations in Assam.

## DoNER MINISTRY FOCUSES ON TOURISM, HYDEL POWER AS GROWTH DRIVERS

The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) is ramping up its developmental efforts to boost employment in the region by focusing especially on hydel power generation and the growth of the tourism sector in the region.

The eight Northeastern states offer a blend of picturesque landscapes, age-old cultures, exotic food and vast tracts of few world-renowned wildlife and bird sanctuaries to their visitors. Their remoteness has meant that not much is known about them to the outside world. This offers vast opportunities for investment in tourism and allied sectors to open up the region. "Tourism is another sector, which is fast growing and has the potential of creating vast avenues for self-employment," according to Shri Pawan Singh Ghatowar, Union Minister, DoNER

"Northeast is the powerhouse of the country and the region has the maximum avenues for harnessing hydropower, which is eco-friendly and economical. We have to harness the opportunity given by nature in the region. It is a perennial source of power," he added.

It has been said that the Northeast has the potential to "light up half of India". Some of the hydel power projects in the region include-Khandong (50 MW) and Kopili I and II (225 MW) in Assam, Ranganadi (405 MW) in Arunachal Pradesh, Doyang (75 MW) in Nagaland and Loktak (105 MW) of Manipur, Ranjeet (60 MW), Teesta Stage V and Teesta Stage IV of 510 MW and 520 MW each and three power plants in Mizoram, generating a total of 1,526 MW.

It is expected that the Northeast will generate 70,000-mw, once all the projects take off. North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd. (NEEPCO) and National

Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHTEC) are working in coordination to promote the region as a powerhouse of the country.

### CENTRAL SECTOR PLAN SCHEME

The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region for introduction of a new Central Sector Plan Scheme titled “Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources-Central- (NLCPR-Central)”.

The purpose of this proposal is to make available funds for the projects which are critical to the development of the north eastern region and are in accordance with national priorities. The scheme as it is envisaged, will address this issue and projects having the potential for extensive social and economic impact in the region will be taken up under the scheme.

The Central Pool of Resources for development of North Eastern Region was created in 1998 which makes it mandatory for Central Ministries/Departments, excepting some specified ones, to earmark 10 percent of their budgetary resources less allocation for EAPs and local or event specific schemes/projects for programmes in the North Eastern States. The expenditure of the Ministry of DoNER under the plan scheme of Non-Lapsable Pool of Resources (NLCPR) is debited annually to the pool of unspent portion of the earmarked outlays accrued at the end of the financial year. Currently, the balances stand at Rs. 9217.32 crore.

### FOOD GRAIN PRODUCTION IN ASSAM

Under food grains (category II), the Union Agriculture Ministry has given the best performance award for the year 2010-11 to Assam. There were a total of seven awards including three for the best performing States with highest foodgrain production in three identified categories in terms of production level. The other four awards were given for the highest production under rice, wheat, pulses and coarse cereal crops.

The reward amount for the highest foodgrain producing State is Rs. 2 crore and Rs. 1 crore given for individual crop category. Selection for the reward is done in two steps. Initially the States performance is assessed on a weightage card of 90 points on the criteria of highest production, contribution to national production, expenditure under agriculture development schemes, and human resource management.

The States are divided into three categories based on the highest production level of foodgrain achieved by a State in the previous five years. Assam came under category II along with other States i.e. Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Gujrat, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.

In 2010-11, Assam was able to produce 52.31 lakh metric tone of foodgrains. During the year, Assam produced a record all time high production of 50.86 lakh metric tonne of rice. This has been possible due to proper implementation of different schemes like National Food Security Mission-Rice, Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana, different irrigation and mechanization programmes, newly introduced hybrid variety of rice etc.

### NEW SCHEMES TO BOOST AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY IN ASSAM

Assam Government is making all possible efforts to increase agricultural productivity by initiating schemes and projects under which farmers in the region are provided technical and monetary assistance.

Recently, the State Government in collaboration with the Centre has launched the Thengal Swaniyojan Scheme, 2011. The Thengal Kachari Autonomous Council (TKAC) has taken charge of the operation of the project under which it has distributed 50 power tillers and tractors in the region. The scheme can be availed only by marginal farmers in the region. The minimum requirement is that the applicant should belong to Thengal Autonomous Council and have at least 3-5 bighas of agriculture land.

The council provides half the amount as subsidy and provides bank loan for the rest. “This year the TKAC has distributed 50 power tillers to marginal farmers and altogether the council has distributed 179 numbers of

power tillers to the farmers. This scheme will continue till it achieves its target,” said Shri Kumud Ch. Kachari, Chief Executive Member.

Shri Gunaram Saikia, a TKAC beneficiary, said: “I am very happy, as the government has provided me a tractor. The traditional methods of farming are time consuming. The tractor saves a lot of time.” “My father got a tractor from TKAC. Since then his work has become easier. The tractors are of great benefit to farmers and I hope the agricultural productivity will increase,” said Shri Bhaarti Saikia, daughter of Shri Gunaram Saikia. The Central Government has initiated many projects for the farmers in the northeast. They have been provided training in modern methods of farming, high yielding seeds and farm equipment.

Since 2005, the State Government of Assam has distributed more than 1000 tractors and 3000 power tillers to promote agriculture productivity in the state.

## DAIRY FARMING GAINING POPULARITY AMONG ASSAMESE YOUTH

With peace and normalcy gradually returning to Assam, small-scale ventures like dairy farming are increasingly gaining popularity in the region. This is not just engaging the youth in the socio-economic development of the region, but is also promoting a sense of entrepreneurship. Take the case of Mamu Begum, a dairy farmer in Assam's Borholla District. Today, she is economically independent and is able to pay for her children's studies. However, it was not like this a year ago, when she decided to join the local dairy farming society.

Now, she is planning to expand her business. A similar success story is that of 22-year-old Shri Pradip Hazarika, a dairy farmer from Morangaon village in the Borholla District. Shri Hazarika took a loan from his father and set up his business with the Lakhimi Joint Liability Swabalambi Group, the local dairy farming society, in the region.

He now contributes significantly to his family's income and is even able to save money to do further studies. "I earn Rs.12000 from this business. Next year I will take the

examination as I want to become a doctor," said Hazarika. "Since I started this business, my monthly income has increased. I am now able to send my children to school and my financial position has improved immensely," adds Mamu Begum.

The Lakhimi Joint Liability Swabalambi Group is the brainchild of 41-year-old Shri Abidur Rehman, a dairy farmer in Borholla district. It had just three members in 2009. Initially, they produced 20 liters of milk a day and sold it in and around their village. But over a period of time, the society has expanded operations to different vendors in nearby districts and government institutions. Today, the Lakhimi Joint Liability Swabalambi Group has over 20 active members with 30 cows and 20 calves.

The main aim of the group is to market milk produced by the dairy farmers. The milk is tested before it is packed and sent to different places. The monthly income of the society is Rs.80000. It has also started a small milk stall in the Borholla Market area for sale of fresh milk, cheese, curd, cream and other milk products.



Members of Lakhimi Swabalambi Group in milk distribution centre in Borholla village, Jorhat, Assam.

## BOXING STAR MARYKOM SENDS MESSAGE OF PEACE FOR MANIPUR

Ms. M C Marykom, the boxing sensation from Manipur, has appealed for restoration of peace in Manipur, saying instability has come in the way of development and progress in the state. In her message she said, "time and again, the people in Manipur have taken to the streets to protest against militant activities like bomb blasts, killings and extortions. Frequent strikes and shut downs have adversely affected normal life in the state. "When we go out to play, we hear lot of bad news like killing, kidnapping, bomb blast in different places, so we always have mental disturbances and cannot do training peacefully. We cannot concentrate on our preparation for competitions," said Marykom.

The five-time world-boxing champion was born on March 1, 1983 in a poor family, and believes that it is easy to run away from problems, but it takes a true champion to fight against all odds. She began boxing in Class 8 and won her first boxing title in December 2000. She then went on to win her first world boxing title at USA in 2001.

Two decades ago it was impossible to believe that any one from Manipur could win a world championship title, not because there was dearth of talent, but because instability caused by militancy prevented the youth from realizing their potential. "I want to give a message that we want peace in Manipur. If there is peace in Manipur, then we can focus on our field," said Marykom. She says that Manipur has no dearth of talent. This was proved at the Commonwealth Games 2010 where athletes like Sandhya Rani, Renubala Chanu and Monica Devi from Manipur won laurels for the country.

"Young sportspersons from the region are coming up. There are even world champions among the youth, not only in Manipur, but in other northeast states also. If these youth are trained properly, then I am sure, they can achieve laurels at all levels," she said.

For years people in the Manipur have been reeling under the dark shadows of militant activities that delayed

the development of the region. The success stories of Marykom and others inspired people and have given them

hope. It is time to restore peace and normalcy in the state and contribute in nation building.



Ms. M C Marykom, boxing sensation from Manipur.

## 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, requests for inputs for the Newsletter from the State Governments, 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 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 the writer's full name and postal address. The selected articles will be published in the monthly NE Newsletter with due editing.

## LETTERS TO EDITOR

1. I have read the NE Newsletter. I find it very useful to know more about NE region. I shall be highly obliged if you kindly send me a free copy of NE Newsletter in English on the following address.

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S.Heranjit Singha  
Secretary General  
Rural Edn. Dev. Institute,  
Vill & P.O- Rongpurll,  
Silchar-9, Dist- Cachar (Assam)- 788009*

2. I would like to beg your honour to subscribe the monthly free copy of the NE Newsletter of the English version. So, I humbly request you to kindly send me the Newsletter regularly at the following address..

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