

# NE NEWSLETTER

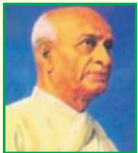
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MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

A Monthly Newsletter on the North Eastern Region of India

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*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*

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## MODULAR EMPLOYABLE SKILLS (MES) UNDER SKILL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE SCHEME (SDIS)

*(Source:- Ministry of Labour & Employment)*

The skill level and educational attainment of the workforce determines the productivity as well as the ability to adapt to the changing industrial environment. A majority of Indian workforce does not possess marketable skills which is an impediment in getting decent employment and improving their economic condition. While India has large young population, only 5% of the Indian labour force in the age group of 20-24 years has obtained vocational skills through formal means whereas the percentage in industrialized countries varies between 60% and 96%. About 63% of the school students drop out at different stages before reaching Class-X. Only about 2.5 million vocational training seats are available in the country whereas about 12.8 million persons enter the labour market every year. Even out of these training places, very few are available for early school dropouts. Thus a large number of school drop outs do not have access to skill development for improving their employability. The educational entry requirements and long duration of courses of the formal training system are some of the impediments for a person of low educational attainment to acquire skills for his livelihood. Further, the largest share of new jobs in India is likely to come from the unorganized sector that employs upto 93 per cent of the national workforce, but most of the training programmes cater to the needs of the organized sector.

(Hon'ble Minister of Finance during the budget speech 2005-06 made the announcement: "To meet the demand for

## EDITORIAL BOARD

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specific skills of a high order, a Public Private Partnership between Government and Industry is proposed to promote skills development programme under the name 'Skill Development Initiative'....").

Accordingly, Ministry of Labour & Employment undertook development of a new strategic framework for skill development for early school leavers and existing workers, especially in the un-organized sector in close consultation with industry, micro enterprises in the un-organized sector, State Governments, experts and academia

which was essential considering their educational, social and economic background. The main objective of the scheme is to provide employable skills to school leavers, existing workers, ITI graduates, etc. Existing skills of the persons can also be tested and certified under this scheme. Priority is given to covering those above the age of 14 years who have been or withdrawn as child labour to enable them to learn employable skills in order to get gainful employment. The Curricula of all MES Courses are available on the website [www.dget.gov.in/mes](http://www.dget.gov.in/mes).

## STEPS INITIATED TO FACILITATE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

(Source:- National Skill Development Corporation)

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is a first-of-its-kind Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in India that facilitates skill development. A large part of its skill development efforts are directed at the unorganized sector. . Shri Pranab Mukherji, Hon'ble Finance Minister, launched the NSDC in a formal function at Vigyan Bhavan on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009. NSDC is mandated to achieve the objective of skilled workforce of 150 million persons (30% of the national target) by 2022 through skill development and up gradation. As a first step towards achieving this target, a comprehensive skill gap study has been completed for 21 high growth sectors, in order to build a base line for formulation of a comprehensive strategy. The NSDC acts as a catalyst in skill development by providing viability gap funding to enterprises, companies and organizations that provide skill



training. To scale up efforts necessary to achieve the objective of skilling / up-skilling 150 mn people, the NSDC will strive to develop ultra low cost, high-quality, innovative business models for segment with marginal economics or involving high risk/uncertainty

NSDC has so far approved three projects which will eventually create 10.5 lakh skilled manpower at the rate of about one lakh per annum over 10 years. Amongst the beneficiaries' Gems and Jewelry Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) has proposed to set up Indian Institute of Gems and Jewelry Jaipur (IIGJJ)Gems and Jewelry Export Promotion Council for crafts IIGJJ estimates to train approximately 18,000 artisans, technicians and new entrants over the next 10 years.

B-ABLE (BASIX Academy for Building Lifelong Employability), a Basix subsidiary, (Delhi based) will skill 1

million people over 10 years. B-ABLE plans to build a franchisee network of training centers across India with emphasis on providing skilling to socially and economically underprivileged youth in 6 sectors: Construction, Tourism & Hospitality, Healthcare, Banking and Insurance, Food Processing, Rural Farm and Non Farm.

Gram Tarang (promoted by Centurion Group, Orissa) will aim to skill youth in the Naxalite belt

of Orissa. Their main trades of skilling will be across Manufacturing, Construction, Tailoring, Plumbing, Textiles, Unorganized sector, Retail etc. The project will aim to train 21,000 people in 5 years.

The information about the National Skill Development Corporation and its various programmes is freely downloadable at [www.nsdcinida.org](http://www.nsdcinida.org).

## **SKILL DEVELOPMENT/VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES IN NORTH EAST THROUGH CENTRAL BOARD FOR WORKERS EDUCATION (CBWE)**

*(Source:- Ministry of Labour & Employment)*

The Central Board for Workers Education was set up by the Government of India in 1958 as an autonomous body under the Ministry of labour (registered under the Societies' Registration Act) to undertake Workers Education programmes. The objectives of the Board are:

- \* To strengthen among all sections of the working class, including rural workers, a sense of Patriotism, National Integrity, Unity, Amity, Communal Harmony, Secularism and Pride in being an Indian.
- \* To equip all sections of workers, including rural workers, for their intelligent participation in social and economic development of the nation in accordance with its declared objectives.
- \* To develop among workers greater understanding of the problem of their social and economic environment, their responsibilities towards family members, and their rights and obligations as citizens, as workers in industry, as members and officials of their Trade Union.
- \* To develop capacity of workers in all aspects to meet the challenges of the country from time to time.
- \* To develop strong, united and more responsible trade unions and to strengthen democratic processes and traditions in the trade union movement through more enlightened members and better trained officials.
- \* To empower the workers as employees of the organization and to develop sense of belongingness as effective instruments of amicable industrial relations and maintaining industrial peace.

\* To meet the needs of workers to have access to ways of acquiring and continuous up-gradation of knowledge and skills that they require to find and hold a job.

2. The headquarters of the board is at Nagpur. The Board has a network of 6 Zonal Directorates (Delhi, Kolkata, Guwahati, Chennai, Mumbai and Bhopal) 50 Regional Directorates and 9 Sub-Regional Directorates located throughout the country. Each Regional Directorate is headed by a Regional Director and has 4 to 5 Education Officers. Each Regional Centre has Regional Advisory Committee to review the progress of implementation of the programme and also to render guidance for proper implementation of the programme.

3. The Indian Institute of Workers Education (IIWE), Mumbai, an apex training institute of the Board, established in 1970, conducts training programmes for representatives of Central Trade Union Organizations/Federations and Voluntary Organizations on different subjects in addition to giving pre-employment training to Education Officers and re-orientation training to Education Officers of the Board as well. It has a research wing for developing and perfecting methods and tools of teaching for workers. In view of the specialized training required to tackle some of the specific issues by the Trade Union, the Board has established three Cells in the Institute in 91-92 namely i) Industrial Health, Safety and environment, ii) Education for Rural and Unorganized Sector Workers; and iii) Women and child Labour.

### **4. PROGRAMMES;**

The Workers Education Scheme is primarily implemented by the Education Officers of the Board

through Training of Trainers and Rural Volunteers. The Trainers and Rural Volunteers after receiving requisite training conduct classes in the respective organizations/area of activity. Specific programmes for the unorganized/rural workers and workers belonging to the weaker sections are other regular activities of the Board.

A 10-days N.E. Rural Leadership Programme was conducted by Regional Directorate, Guwahati at Silpgram, Panjabari, Guwahati from 4<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.

A 3-Day Special Training Programme for Panchayat Functionaries was conducted by the Regional Directorate, Tinsukia from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 at Training Hall, CBWE, Parbotia, Tinsukia. The participants acquired knowledge

about various Govt. schemes, Schemes of DRDA, NABARD, NRHM etc., as well as on Right of Information Act, 2005.

A 5-day Training Programme for NGOs of N.E. Region was conducted at Seminar Hall, Baluakhani, Gangtok, Sikkim by the Regional Directorate, Siliguri from 18-01-2010 to 22-01-2010.

A 3-days Training Programme on "Workers Participation in Management" was organized between 15-02-10 to 17-02-10. 28 participants, Senior Officers, Farm Managers and Staffs attended.

A 5 days Special Training Programme for NGO's activists of N.E. Region was conducted at Dibrugarh. The role of NGO's in the various Govt. schemes and Skill Development initiatives were discussed.

## BEAUTY CULTURE AND HAIRDRESSING TRAINING OF SASHAstra SEEMA BAL UNDER CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMME 2009-10

*(Source: - Pers Coord, MHA)*

Laying emphasis on the capacity building for sustainable livelihood among the youths and their placement, SSB (Sashastra Seema Bal) has recently tied up with Directorate of Employment and Craftsman Training, Government of Assam as a Joint Venture for conducting Beauty Culture and Hairdressing training based on Modular Employable Skills (MES) Courses designed by the Director General. Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour, New Delhi under Civic Action Programme of SSB (Sashastra Seema Bal.)

Sashastra Seema Bal Frontier Hqrs. Guwahati sponsored 20 girls from the remote border villages situated on Indo-Bhutan Border for imparting Beauty Culture and Hairdressing training in ITI (Women), Guwahati. The seven weeks training programme was formally inaugurated at ITI for women, Guwahati on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2010.

### **Study Tour at different places of India from North East.**

A Study tour of 50 youths (including 15 women) from Bomdilla Tawang and Dirang of Arunachal

Pradesh to Bodh Gaya, Varansi and Patna was organized by SSB in February 2010.

Another study tour of youths from Rangia was also organized by SSB in February, 2010. The youths visited Delhi, Chennai and Kanyakumari.

### **Private Security Guard training as part of vocational training.**

Under Civic Action Programme, 2009-10 Passing Out Parade of 50 (fifty) selected boys from remote villages of Assam was held on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 at ITI Tezpur. They had been imparted private security guard training by the NE Security Pvt. Ltd. under the Department of Labour and Employment training, Ministry of Labour as apart of vocational training under Civic Action Programme 2009-10. Out of 50 trained boys, 19 have been offered job at HDFC Bank. Besides, out of 50 girls who completed the same training, four of them have been selected as instructor in the NE security Pvt. Ltd. and the task of providing job to remaining girls is under progress.

## FISHERY TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SURRENDERED MILITANTS OF ASSAM

(Source: - DG, CRPF)

Besides executing the operation task to control insurgency in the area of responsibility, 156 Bn CRPF has been organizing Fishery training programme for surrendered militants of Assam under Civic Action Programme in coordination with Fisheries Department, Government of Assam. The training

courses are of 15 days duration and are fully residential. The entire expenditure on these training courses are met by CRPF. In the year 2009-10, two training courses under this programmes were organized in the months of February and March, 2010.

## NORTH EASTERN MUSICAL CONCERTS PROGRAMME HELD IN PUNJAB

(Source:- Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangthan)

Under schemes/proposals on issues and initiatives to be taken up by NYKS in North Eastern States Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India had sanctioned North Eastern Musical Concerts Programme as part of Knit India Yuva Yatra Programme. A 30 Member amateur popular Rock Band Group including folk singers and musicians from the state of Nagaland, Manipur & Mizoram were given the opportunity to visit the State of Punjab, Maharashtra & Tamil Nadu respectively for a period of 10 days in every host state and give musical performances at 05 different locations. The purpose of this programme was to popularize the prevalent Musical Traditions of North East in different parts of the country and also introduce the young participants from North East with the historic, cultural and religious traditions of host states.

The first Musical Concert Group comprising 27 Youth from Nagaland visited the state of Punjab from 11<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 and gave performances at 05 places as per schedule prepared by NYKS, Zonal Office for Punjab & Chandigarh. These programmes were dedicated to a nationwide campaign against communal and disruptive forces as Knit India Yuva Yatra Programme (KIYYP). The objective of this was to popularize different forms of music (modern & traditional both) prevalent in the state of **Nagaland** and dedicate these concerts to the cause of promoting national harmony, peace and brotherhood.

The first programme was organized at Shivalik Public School, Sector 56, Phase-VI, SAS Nagar (Mohali) on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2010, the second at Khalsa College Patiala on 13<sup>th</sup> February, the third at Govt College Sri Mukatsar Sahib on 15<sup>th</sup> February, the



fourth at Virsa Vihar Kapurthala on 16<sup>th</sup> February and the fifth & the last programme at Attari Border (Sri Amritsar) on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

During their 10 days visit to the Punjab, the youth participants were given exposure & orientations to understand the essential features of oneness of all religions, traditions, and languages and above all the unity in diversity of Indian life. They were taken to the places of historical and cultural important places as mentioned above and also given opportunity to see the rural life of people in Punjab. The earnest efforts on the part of youth affiliated to NYKS of Punjab Zone and their interaction with participants not only enthused them with high spirits but also made them aware about the efforts being put in by the Government to address youth issues and its commitment to resolve youth problems. On the other hand youth of Punjab in general got first hand exposure to the north-east culture and they also tried to give some

fusion cultural of both the regions during Musical Concerts organized at different places.

During these presentations apart from the officials of NYKS some of the dignitaries who were present included Sh. Devinder Singh Bedi, Director Shivalik public School Mohali, Sh. Ranbir Singh Khatra SSP Patiala, Sh. Dharminder

Singh Ubha, Principal Khalsa college Patiala, Sh. Gulzar Singh Multani Ex-Minister Punjab Govt and Sh. Raj Kumar IAS, DC Kapurthala. More than 500 audiences witnessed the programmes at each of the four places and about 20,000 were present at Attari border along with the Retreat Ceremony.

## NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR CONTROL OF BLINDNESS.

*(Source: Lions Eye Hospital, Silchar)*

The Government of Assam has declared Lions Eye Hospital, Silchar as the BEST NGO in Assam, for the year 2008-09, under the National Programme for Control of Blindness.

The Hospital was inaugurated on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 1997. It is established on a land donated by Government of Assam. The Hospital has all the facilities for treatment of Posterior segment, like Cataract (IOL), Glaucoma and other surgeries. It is now doing anterior segment treatment also. The Hospital is only of its type in this part of the Country & caters to the needs of people of not only Barak Valley, but also of adjoining districts of North Cachar Hills, Karbi Anglong & towns of Lumding/Diphu. The people of the bordering areas of the States of Tripura, Meghalaya & Manipur also frequently take advantage of the strategic location of the Hospital.

The Hospital has 16000 Sft. of built up area. It organizes 70/80 Free Eye Operation Camps & 30/40 Free Vision Check up Camp for School Children, every year. The Hospital has got project Partnership with an International philanthropic Organization Christoffel Blindenmission, Germany (CBM).



The Hospital employs 5 Ophthalmologists & 25 nos. technical and non-technical staff. This Hospital alone is fulfilling 50% of the Govt. target for Cataract Operations in the district of Cachar.

## NO TAKERS FOR ULFA'S SEPARATIST IDEOLOGY

*(Source: - Asian News International)*

People of Assam do not want bloodshed and violence. They want peace and normalcy. And this is the case in Sibsagar too, the birthplace of ULFA, where the first ULFA meeting was held at Rang Ghar, an amphitheatre of the Ahom Royalty in 1979.

Once a hotbed of militancy, Sibsagar, now is a tourist hotspot. Hundreds of tourists from all over the country and abroad visit Sibsagar to see the 200-year-old Sibsagar Tank and Rang Ghar, the oldest amphitheater in Asia. And as peace gradually returns trade and commerce activities have got a boost in the state. ULFA is largely responsible for instability in the region for the past three decades.

Chief commanders of the banned outfit except Pares Barua have been under judicial custody in Guwahati since December 2009. The Centre has been trying to bring ULFA to the negotiating tables, so that a solution to the problems can be found through a political dialogue within a democratic framework. The people of Assam have suffered a lot in the last 3 decades of militancy, which has affected the development and growth of the state.

Whether it is Sibsagar, the birthplace of ULFA or any other part of Assam, there is one common theme - peace. And, if there is peace there will be economic growth. And this is what the people want.

## UNION BUDGET TARGETS INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHEAST

(Source :- Asian News International)

The union Budget presented by the Finance Minister on February 26, aims at developing infrastructure in the northeast. The budget focuses on developing a smoother farm to market connectivity to enhance trade and commerce.

Rs 1,114 crores have been earmarked for development of infrastructure under the Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojna. The Rail budget also focused on connecting remote areas of northeast with the rest of the country. Connectivity with South Asian nations like Bangladesh and Nepal has been given a high priority to promote India's Look East Policy.

Proposal of a direct rail link between Tripura and Bangladesh will improve bilateral relations between both the countries. Business community has welcomed this move as it would save a lot of time in moving cargo between the two regions and indirectly add to their profits.

Keeping in mind the welfare of people, the apex agency for development in northeast, DONER, has been allocated an additional Rs 285 crores, raising its funds to Rs 1760 from Rs 1475 crore. To promote better air connectivity and facilities, Rs 121 crore has been set aside for the development of airports. In



Home secretary GK Pillai (extreme left) with other dignitaries at the fest



addition, Rs 80 crore has been added to the funds allocated to the Northeast council. The council will now be given Rs 623 crore instead of Rs 543 crore for the development projects it has undertaken.

Though the subsidy for the Assam gas project has been reduced but regular funding will be maintained. The Finance Minister has also committed liberal funding for ongoing projects. Development of the Northeast region is a thrust area for the government, which has been delayed by the activities of various militant groups operating in the region.

### READERS COLUMN

The NE monthly Newsletter is being published in English, Assamese, Bengali and Manipuri and has circulation of 40,000. 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



### A toast to Luira Phanit Festival

Tangkhal Naga Society Delhi (TNSD) recently celebrated its Foundation Day cum Cultural Program Luira Phanit, the seed sowing festival of the Nagas at Grih-Kalyan-Kendra, Samaj Sadan, Lodhi road complex in the Capital with much pomp and gaiety.

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. The views and write ups from intellectuals professionals and others in North-Eastern States are also invited on specific issues/problems and possible measures for resolution thereto.

It is requested that specific articles/columns should be sent in a hard copy format accompanied by floppy/CD version alongwith photographs.

Articles should be accompanied by an abstract of a maximum of 150-200 words. Papers should not have been simultaneously submitted for publication to another journal or News paper. Readers are encouraged to send comments and suggestions (300-400 words) on published articles. All letters should have the writer's full name and postal address. The selected articles will be suitably incorporated in the monthly NE Newsletter in its subsequent editions and contribution will be welcomed and suitably rewarded.

## LETTERS TO EDITOR

1. Request for monthly NE Newsletter:

Mr. Richard Zothankima,  
Assistant Secretary, JERC (M&M),  
D-31, M.G. Road, Upper Khatla,  
Aizawl, Mizoram – 796001.

2. I read the NE Newsletter November, 2009 issue, it gives me an immense knowledge of other states of our sister and the programmes generously provided by our Mother India.

I will be very much grateful if the free copy of the NE Newsletter is sent to me at the following address.

(Vanlalmuana)  
Kan In,  
U-8/A, Laipuitlang, Aizawl,  
Mizoram - 796012.

3. We have been able to go through the monthly NE Newsletter on the North Eastern Region of India published by Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India and we are impressed by the news items pertaining to the region. Kindly include our office in the mailing list.

Superintending Engineer,  
North Eastern Investigation Circle,  
Central Water Commission,  
"Rebekka Ville", Near Barik Point,  
Temple Road, Lower Lachumiere, Shillong – 793001.

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

**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:**

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