

NE

NEWSLETTER

FOR FREE PUBLIC CIRCULATION

VOL. XII. NO. 9, SEPTEMBER, 2010

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>



The teacher gives the spark which will enable you to develop a new outlook on life and new kind of being.

-Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan

CONTENTS

- DoNER MINISTRY SANCTIONS RS 84 CRORE FOR MIZORAM:
- ANNUAL PLAN OUTLAY FOR THE STATE OF NAGALAND FOR 2010-11
- JEETUMONI: THE DANCING SENSATION
- MUSIC FOR PEACE
- NORTHEAST ARTISANS LOOKING FOR NEW MARKETS
- MEGHALEE BORAH: THE NEW FACE OF ASSAM
- CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMME IN NORTH EAST REGION
- GURU DRONACHARYA AWARDEE
- WORLD BAMBOO DAY IN NAGALAND
- KUKI MILITANTS SURRENDER ARMS
- CAREER: COCONUT BOARD PAVES THE WAY
- MARY KOM - THE EPITOME OF WILL POWER
- US KEEN TO HELP NORTHEAST INDIA TAP ITS POTENTIAL
- READERS COLUMN
- LETTERS TO EDITOR

DoNER MINISTRY SANCTIONS RS 84 CRORE FOR MIZORAM:

The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) has sanctioned Rs 67.67 crore to upgrade 43.5 kms of the Mizoram portion of the Thanlon-Singhat (Ngopa- Tuibai) Road.

The expenditure for the project would be met from the Plan Funds of the North Eastern Council to the extent of 90 percent of the approved cost. The project will be implemented by the Public Works Department of the Government of Mizoram. The target date of completion of the project is March 2013.

The Ministry of DoNER has also sanctioned the construction of a State Sports Academy at Zabawk in Mizoram at a total cost of Rs 17.51 Crores. The proposed academy will have a range of state of art facilities for both indoor and outdoor games along with accommodation facilities including Boys' and Girls' Hostels, Guest House, Administrative buildings, etc.

ANNUAL PLAN OUTLAY FOR THE STATE OF NAGALAND FOR 2010-11

The final plan outlay of Nagaland for the year 2010-11 has been finalized at Rs. 1,500 crore. The plan outlay was finalized during a meeting between Nagaland State Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio and Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia in New Delhi.

EDITORIAL BOARD

CHIEF EDITOR
SHAMBHU SINGH

EDITOR
R.R. JHA

EDITOR
B.R. DHIMAN

Nagaland Chief Minister who also met Union Finance Minister and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is learnt to have expressed gratitude for the

consideration that has been shown by the Central Government to solve the serious financial problem faced by the State of Nagaland.

JEETUMONI: THE DANCING SENSATION

Jeetumoni Kalita, a 10-year-old dancing star has brought laurels to Assam by winning a dance reality show. Jeetumoni studies in class six at Railway Higher Secondary School, at Maligaon and originally belongs to Suwalkuchi.

His passion for dancing started at the age of three while watching his cousin brother's dance. Though Jeetu, a sixth standard student is passionate about dance but he has been able to strike a healthy balance between dancing and his studies. He says that winning the competition has given him a boost but feels that he still has long way to go in achieving his dreams.

He owes his success to his family that has been extremely supportive. After winning the competition he was treated as a celebrity on his arrival in Guwahati and hundreds of people turned up to catch a glimpse of the dancing sensation.



According to him all children are talented and they should participate in various competitions. Jeetumoni is a perfect example of this fact and his hard work over years has made him an icon.

MUSIC FOR PEACE

Dima Hasao, an autonomous district in Assam, is home to Dimasas, Zenas, Kukis, and Hmars tribes. It has been in the news for all the wrong reasons like militancy and corruption.

The outlawed DHD or the Black Widow group that once operated in the region brought infamy to the area. But students here are trying to get rid of the negative image through a campaign in which music and theatre play a central role.

Recently a rock concert under the name 'Rock for Peace' was organized under the aegis of Haflong Music Society. The event provided the youth a platform to showcase their talent as well as to raise awareness about social ills that plague the society. Choir groups performed songs on national integration and self-motivation in an effort to end corruption.



Militancy, endless violence and corruption has negatively affected the growth and development of the region. But the consensus here is now for 'peace' and 'development' and now students are doing their bit to bring about a change.

NORTHEAST ARTISANS LOOKING FOR NEW MARKETS

Artisans of Northeast are extremely skilled in their crafts and have been praised for their work both locally and internationally. But even then they have been unable to establish a strong market for themselves within the country. To set this right the Government is making all possible efforts.



Recently a 10-day fair was organized in Ahmedabad and Chennai by the Government in collaboration with the Northeastern Handicraft and Handloom Corporation. The fair helped the artisans to showcase their products to a new market.



Over 100 artisans from Northeast participated in the fairs and showcased their artifacts and crafts including utility items, clothing, showpieces, and foot wear, bags and ornamental jewellery. Baskets made of bamboo and cane, bamboo carvings and cane furniture caught one's eye.

The artisans received an overwhelming response from the customers. Such fairs not only bring the artisans into the limelight but also provide an opportunity to the customers to find out more about arts and crafts from Northeast.

MEGHALEE BORAH: THE NEW FACE OF ASSAM

“If there is a will, there is a way” - the saying perfectly fits Meghalee Borah, an entrepreneur from Jorhat, who is a source of inspiration for upcoming entrepreneurs in the region.

2. She set up the “Meghalee Mini Fruit Processing Unit” funded by District Rural Development Agency in 1997. It has grown by leaps and bounds over the years and today it provides jobs to many local women. Recently, Borah received the prestigious 2009 Special Recognition Award for her outstanding efforts in entrepreneurship in Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises on 31st August in New Delhi. Meghalee has already won 10 National and state level awards.



3. She believes that the Government cannot provide jobs to everyone. Therefore people should utilize the available resources and create jobs for themselves, while the Government provides guidelines and support.

4. Meghalee Fruit processing unit uses locally available agricultural produce to make products ranging from squashes, pickles and Jams. The Bhoot Jalukia pickle made from the hottest chilies in the world and the bamboo shoot pickle are widely appreciated. Other products too are in high demand both in the state and outside.

Meghalee Bora has set an example, which is worthy of emulation.



CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMME IN NORTH EAST REGION

Civic Action Programme By ITBP

Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) is actively involved in various Civic Action initiatives as part of border management work in their Area of responsibility with a view to create awareness amongst the local population in far-flung areas and to integrate them into the national mainstream. All the border units of ITBP are engaged in such tasks, which lead to better understanding between the force and security of the area.

Recently, ITBP carried out following activities under Civic Action Programme in the North East:-

a) Educational Excursion Tour:-

An educational excursion tour was organized under Civic Action Programme from 4th July to 13th July, 2010 for school/ college going boys from remote areas of Arunachal Pradesh. The students were from class 9th to BA final year, between age groups of 14 to 20. The talented students were not only brilliant in studies but were keenly

interested in reading, sports, music, and cultural activities.

2. The aim of this excursion tour was to promote national integration, inculcate a sense of belonging in these students towards their country, to expose them to developmental activities in other parts of the country and to show and share our unique cultural heritage. During this excursion tour, these students were taken to Agra and places of historical & cultural interest in Delhi. These students interacted with Ajay Maken, MoS (Home). They also had an interaction with DG, ITBP and other officers and personnel.

3. The tour was successful in exposing these young students to the glorious cultural heritage of their country as well as in firing up their ambition to achieve higher ideals.

b.) Civic Action Programme By CRPF In N.E. Region

A series of functions were organized by 119 Bn. CRPF under the Civic Action Programme



2010-11 in Jorhat (Assam). These programmes were aimed at helping the people and inculcate a feeling that CRPF is with them and is working not only as a fighting force but also for peace and welfare of the people of the area. The programme/ activities included:

- (i) 18 sewing machines with pedals were distributed amongst locals/ self-help groups at Majuli, Jorhat (Assam) to generate employment.
- (ii) 04 desk-top Computers along with accessories were distributed to local schools at Jorhat (Assam) for promoting Computer education among local students.
- (iii) Books on various subjects were distributed to 10 schools for their library to promote reading habit among students of remotely located schools.
- (iv) Musical instruments along with accessories

were distributed to musical band/ groups of local people at Jorhat (Assam) for cultural programmes.

- (v) Two football tournaments were organized from selected schools for youth affected by insurgency in Jorhat. In all 18 teams were formed. 08 teams participated in one tournament, while 10 teams participated in the other tournament. Trophies and cups were distributed to the Champions and Runners up teams. T-shirts, caps and footballs etc were provided to all teams that participated in the tournament.

The programmes were organized with the objective to motivate the youngsters to join the mainstream for participating in development and engage them in constructive work. These efforts proved fruitful, as people have been quite enthusiastic in responding to such initiatives.

3. Civic Action Programme In NE Region By Assam Rifles

Ser No.	Name of Projects	Amount
1. Manipur		
(a)	Construction of Pottery shed at Longpi Kajul village, Ukhrul District.	2,00,000/-
(b)	Installation of 03 nos Solar lights at Laiching Minou village	90,000/-
(c)	Construction of Community Hall at `Kholmenien village.	3,50,000/-
(d)	Establishing of Computer Centre for youth at Yaingangopkpi village.	3,00,000/-
(e)	Conduct of National Integration Tour of school children Tamenglong to Delhi-Agra and back	2,00,000/-
(f)	Construction of dormitory and one computer for Orphanage Home at Namp-isha village	3,00,000/-
(g)	Construction of Community Hall at Kampongs village	3,00,000/-
(h)	Installation of Computer, TV and DTH at Community Hall Atlitan village.	3,00,000/-
2. Nagaland		
(a)	Construction of waiting shed on NH-39 at Medziphema village.	1,00,000/-
(b)	Providing of TV and DTH at Zamai Village	60,000/-
(c)	Establishing of Computer Centre at Thenylzumi village	1,20,000/-
(d)	Establishing of Computer Centre at Solam Christian School at Chedima village	75,000/-
(e)	Establishing of Computer Centre at Marima village	1,30,000/-
(f)	Providing of TV and DTH at New Garihema village	60,000/-
3. Mizoram		
(a)	Providing of Sports goods to Youth Sport Club and School at Tulpang	50,000/-

GURU DRONACHARYA AWARDEE

Manipur gave a warm welcome to boxing coach Leishangtem Ibomcha who was recently conferred with the prestigious Guru Dronacharya award at the Rashtrapati Bhawan by President Smt Pratibha Patil.

The boxing guru who also got Rs 5 lakh in cash along with the national level trophy was facilitated by sportspeople and general public who lined up the streets from the Tuliha airport itself.

He was taken in a cavalcade across Imphal.

Guru Ibomcha trained many boxers who are the pride of India today -four times world champion Mary Kom, Asian gold medallist Laishram Sarita, Ng Dinku, Nanao, and Suranjoy. Leading the welcoming team was State Education Minister Shri Jayantakumar. A welcome ceremony was also held at the Khuman Lampak Indoor Stadium.

WORLD BAMBOO DAY IN NAGALAND:

Nagaland unfolded a grand extravaganza at its Kisama Heritage village, complete with bamboo spear wielding dancers, youth walking on bamboo stilts and musicians playing *sare jahan se accha* with bamboo instruments, as the State hosted the World Bamboo Day on the 18th of September, 2010.

Vice President Dr. Hamid Ansari graced the occasion with his wife Lady Salma Ansari as chief guest. The event, which is held globally to promote the growing of bamboo and the use of its products for sustainable development of people, economy and environment, saw the participation of 17 countries.

The celebrations in Nagaland started from 16th of September included various programmes viz. flori show, bamboo investors meet, display of bamboo crafts, awarding of people involved with bamboo crafts all over our country etc.

Dr Ansari, Vice President, Nagaland's Governor and other dignitaries highlighted the fact that with over 68% of the country's bamboo reserves, NE should work more to realize the full potential of this natural resource which is often called Green Gold.

KUKI MILITANTS SURRENDER ARMS:

In a significant development toward bringing peace in the region, the 15th of September, 2010 saw the KNF or the Kuki National Front, currently under Suspension of Operation with the Govt. depositing their arms to the Assam Rifles, 59 Mountain Brigade, at the Ebenezer Peace camp which is located near Natheljang village in the Koubru Range, under Kangpokpi police station.

The Surrender of Operation(SoO) Agreement was first reached on the 27 August 2008, but the cadres had not surrendered their weapons even though they were staying in the camp. This surrendering of arms signifies the consent of the Kuki militants for a political dialogue instead of

taking to violence. The weapons are now kept in separate locked enclosure.

In another related significant move, the Zomi Revolutionary Army or ZRA which is another kuki militant group and Zoumi Reunification Organization of Manipur opened its designated camp called Muvanlai at New Teikot in Churachandpur district. The militants deposited their arms in a double Lock Depot. The ZRO's spokesperson said on the occasion that the steps are being taken to bring about a peaceful political solution to the kuki problems. He urged for an early starting of peace talks.

COCONUT BOARD SHOWS THE WAY

Off late, the Coconut Board has intensified its activities in NE. Workshops are being held even in remote districts and coconut growers are being

given incentives. For instance Rs 8000 is given to farmers for planting 160 palms, Rs 20,000 is given for development of vermicompost unit, Rs 2 lac is

given for development of coconut nursery and so on.

Coconuts can be an excellent source of income for those between the age group of 20-50 years. This was evident from the recent 15-day training programme in Guwahati wherein enthusiasts were taught how to make various beautiful handicrafts from coconut shells.

From busts of Gautam Buddha, Rabindranath Tagore to decorative and utility items, the trainees created wonders helped by ace trainer,

national award winner craftsperson, Chinmay Kar from Murshidabad West Bengal, who was brought in by Coconut Board for the purpose.

Apart from handicrafts, Coconut Board, which is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Agriculture, also provided training on how saleable edible items can be made from coconuts.

All this would definitely improve the livelihoods of many people involved with coconut trade in NE. Youth desirous to enter this trade can contract the Coconut Dev. Board.

MARY KOM - THE EPITOME OF WILL POWER

5 time winner of world women Boxing Championship MC Mary kom received a rousing welcome in her state, Manipur as she returned victorious from the championship at Barbados.

She was felicitated warmly at the Tulihal airport of Imphal, where a huge crowd had come to see and welcome her. The feisty lady boxer was received by State Sports Minister N Biren and her Guru Dronaharya award winning boxing coach, Laishangthem Ibomcha. She was taken in cavalcade to the Khuman Lampak stadium where

she was honoured by the Chief Minister, and a line up of Ministers and dignitaries including DG Police.

Mary Kom's was honoured with a cheque of Rs 10 lakh by the State Govt., which also promoted her to the rank of Additional Superintendent of Police, and donated 2 acres of land for her boxing academy. An overwhelmed Mary kom said that she is a proud Manipuri and Indian, and that she would train youngsters to follow in her footsteps.

US KEEN TO HELP NORTHEAST TAP ITS POTENTIAL:

"Northeastern States of India have tremendous potentiality of natural and human resources. These capabilities must be utilized for the economic development of the backward region," said the US Consul for Political and Economic Affairs Clinton S Tad Brown. The United States is willing to help Northeast India utilize its potential and wants the region's capabilities to be harnessed for its economic development according to a diplomatic official.

The Kolkata-based US diplomat, who was on a two-day tour to the Northeastern region, addressed the National Institutes of Technology (NIT) in Agartala and Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India (ICFAI) University. He mentioned that US has been focusing on investments and collaborations in northeast India. "For example, the US-based General Electric (GE) would provide the all important turbine to the 726-MW thermal power project in southern Tripura," he said, adding that such collaborations can be executed in many projects.

The state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation's (ONGC) is now commissioning first major commercial gas based power project in south Tripura's Palatana, about 65-km south of capital city Agartala. The plant is expected to be operational by March 2012. According to the US Government India-Bangladesh economic and trade integration would help each other for further enlargement of business in many areas.

"Use of Chittagong international port and establishment of new rail link between the two neighbors would boost the trade and economic activities and increase people to people contact," said Brown and added: "This part of India can deliver many things to the rest of the country and world."

He added: "Greener technologies are the future of the world as it can be seen from the present climatic scenario. Scientists and engineers should come up with better options of clean technologies since this is very essential for the entire world."

READERS COLUMN

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

It is requested that articles/columns 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. Papers should not have been simultaneously submitted for publication to another journal or Newspaper. 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. I shall be much obliged and grateful to you if you kindly send me the copies of NE Newsletter

regularly at the earliest. My full name and address are given below:-

Sd/
AshokKumar Gogoi
Dilli Bari
P.O Dilli Bari
Via- Tingkhong
Dibrugarh, Assam
Pin- 756612

2. I am happy to say that the NE Newsletter of May issue sent to the Chairperson, Karlao Gram Panchayat has been gone through by me and found a very useful and effective magazine. So, I have chosen to be the regular reader, if you kindly accept my humble request.

I shall be very much grateful to you for your kind co-operation.

Sd/-
(Mr. lacgar Jongkey)
Village Karlao
P.O & PS. Jengging
District, Upper Siang
Arunachal Pradesh-791002

3. Please do send me a copy of your bulletin entitled "NEWSLETTER," English edition published by the Ministry of Home Affairs starting from October 2010 onwards to my address given below:-

Lamminthang Ta Wmbing M.A. (Eco.)
Mualkawi,
B.P.O Mualkawi P.O.
Churachandpur, Manipur
Pin-795128

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