## Message



Darilyn Syiem Chairperson

"Dear Friends,

I am pleased to introduce the 2015-2016 Annual Report of the North East Network (NEN). The Report describes the work undertaken by the oganization across a wide range of activities, events and projects during the reported period. As we move forward, I am proud of what NEN has accomplished and excited about the future. I must acknowledge the contribution of the Governing Board Members who never fail to support the organization and of course the collective team of NEN. We know that our community is strong and vibrant, and together we will continue our efforts to eliminate inequalities, uphold women's human rights and ensure the realization of a gender just world."



Dr. Monisha Behal Executive Director

"NEN is well into its adult life of 21 years! Great strides made by the wonderful team in the past and now. Yes we also have new members of NEN who are doing commendable work, most of who are working on the three thematic areas that NEN addresses. I recall the first years of our work when we ourselves were trying to find ground on the thematic issues to work on. But the common denominator was always to address the issue of inequality and the strength of women's collective struggle to overcome discrimination. This Annual report is concentrates on some of the testimonials of women who have found strength in NEN's work. The whole of last year involved rural women who we shared knowledge with and who trained to become leaders in their own right. This is a positive change and success for those who have worked continuously in making this change. The investment on making women into leaders in rural governance, livelihood issues and challenging violence, emanates from their collective courage and guidance from NEN colleagues. So cheers to the team that made good progress the past 12 months in Assam, Meghalaya and Nagaland! And cheers on becoming 21 as well!"

## Promoting Women's Leadership

One of NEN's primary aims is to strengthen women's participation in decision-making at the community level. Our efforts to enhance women's leadership capacities include trainings, exposures and advocacy.

Under NEN Assam's grassroots women leaders' programme (initiated in 2013), women have undergone trainings and exposure tours on gender, Violance Against Woman (VAW), domestic violence (DV), new laws and leadership skills. The trained women conducted a district-level pilot study on DV and a fact-finding survey on women's representation in grassroots governance, resulting in useful advocacy reports and fact sheets which were published in 2015.

### This year saw further progress of the programme:

We organised a creative writing workshop with noted litterateur Nirupama
Borgohain and writer Rashmirekha Bora. The idea was to provide a
feminist space to the women leaders trained by NEN to creatively
articulate their thoughts on women's rights and equality. Thereafter, Nari
Katha, a woman's magazine in Assamese, was published.



Following this, trained women leaders have initated community interventions in Golaghat, Kokrajhar, Dhemaji, Darrang, Udalguri
and Chirang and on issues such as women and peace, women's role in panchayat, and roles of the public and the state in
mitigating DV.

Similar initiatives by NEN Nagaland have led to positive changes over the years.





'By associating with NEN I have acquired self-realisation and critical thinking. I got the opportunity to interact with people, understand them and work with them. I also developed the capacity to counter challenges bravely.'

**Usha Rani Devi** NEN grassroots activist, Darrang, Assam

'Over several years of trainings on issues of women's rights such as livelihoods, natural resource management and inequality, we women have begun to raise our agendas in decision-making bodies such as the village council. Our biggest gains have been confidence building and learning to articulate our issues.

Last year we were able to influence our village council to construct a marketing shed for the women in this area. This was an important achievement because our villages are located by the highway, providing ample opportunity for women to start small businesses along it. After the shed was constructed, the women's society has mobilised for vending of local and organic vegetables as a Self Help Group activity. Women are taking turns to vend and earn income. Our livelihoods have improved and we have gained economically.'

### Lasumi Women Society Nagaland



'When I first came into the village council in 2015, I lacked confidence in the midst of all the male members. But I began to prepare myself before every meeting, and within a year, I started participating actively in the discussions. Having women in the highest decision-making body of the village makes a big difference because we can highlight our issues. The women's society proposed wage parity for men and women in 2014 but was rejected. We presented the proposal again in 2015, but it was kept in abeyance. This year, on 5 January 2016, wage parity for men and women was passed by the village council without opposition.'

### **Konyi-u Lohe** Member, Enhulumi Village Council, Nagaland

## Organising Women for Collective Action

NEN has been organising women workers in the informal sector. A total of 1551 women farmers, vendors and weavers from Kohima, Dimapur and Phek have come together under the umbrella of the Self Employed Women Association (SEWA), based in Ahmedabad. SEWA Nagaland, though in a nascent stage, is slowly evolving in terms of structures, processes and leadership.

- Perspective and skill building inputs in financial literacy, organic farming, health and sanitation, gender and women's rights, etc. have been imparted.
- Members are making efforts to address issues related to livelihood resources and access to government support and services.
   An example is the collective struggle of the women street vendors in demanding secured vending spaces and advocating for the implementation of the Urban Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014, in Nagaland, which led to several changes. In 2015–16, two vending spaces a daily market at Keziekie and a night bazaar at Phoolbari at Kohima were secured for women vendors.
- More than 500 women members opened personal savings accounts with State Bank of India and Indian Postal Service.



## Addressing Violence Against Women

Though NEN is not a service provider, many women survivors of violence approach us for support. In 2015–16, 31 cases of VAW pertaining to DV, sexual harassment of women at work place and public place, cyber crime, acid attack and alcoholism came to NEN Assam. Emotional support was provided in most cases, along with information on support services available for them.

### **lohlynti**

lohlynti, the support centre for women in Shillong, jointly established by the Meghalaya government's Health and Family Welfare Department and NEN, received 187 cases in 2015–16. The cases ranged from domestic violence, rape and child sexual abuse to stress-related issues.

Consistent advocacy by NEN Meghalaya led to the state's Social Welfare Department approving a grant-in-aid for the salaries of two full-time counsellors at the centre. NEN and the Social Welfare Department worked closely in the year to provide protection, shelter and schemes to victims of abuse. lohlynti is well on its way to becoming a one-stop crisis centre of the state.



Celebrating International Women's Day at Johlynti

'lohlynti has really helped me. I couldn't have managed without the help of the counsellor from lohlynti. My husband had another wife. When I got pregnant he used to beat me, give me medicines to abort my child. Luckily I met a friend who told me about lohlynti, and came here. Even though my husband and his family threatened me, the counsellor at lohlynti, Ainam, helped me stay strong emotionally. I went through the procedure of filing my case at the Meghalaya State Legal Service Authority. Ainam was always with me during my case, giving me the support I got from no one else.

Finally, my case came through and now my husband has to pay maintenance for my child. I am doing much better now and can care for my child. I have told all my friends about lohlynti. I help other girls in my village who are going through the same thing I went through.'

### Kong Ibashisha

'Without lohlynti I wouldn't be where I am today. The support I was given is commendable. Even though lohlynti does not provide money, it has given me strength. The counsellor Ainam has shared my burden with me. Even though my case is still in court, I know that with Ainam's help I will be able to deal with the court case. It really helps to have someone to share with and let out my feelings. I know I will get justice one day.

Men should not be violent or mistreat women. I want to ensure that my son grows up to be a good man. I will teach him the right morals.'

### **Kong Mimidoris**

#### **Research on VAW**

NEN conducted an action research titled 'An Enquiry into the Status of Women in Nagaland' conducted in 6 villages under 3 districts of Nagaland. The study maps the various forms of discrimination and violence against a woman in her lifetime. Key findings of the research were shared with 29 participants, representing the 6 communities of the study locations, in a stakeholders' meet in 2016. The study is an addition to the existing database on women of Nagaland. NEN hopes the evidence collected can be used for future interventions.

2016 | ([[

## Events and Campaigns

Participation in international commemorative 'days' and events is an important part of NEN's blueprint for awareness raising and making women of the region feel part of the global gender movement. Some of the events NEN commemorates include:

- International Women's Day (IWD)
- 16 Days Activism against Gender-based Violence
- One Billion Rising (OBR) campaign
- International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women
- International Human Rights Day

### Some highlights:

- For IWD, NEN Assam organised a sports competition, Play for Peace, amongst different communities in Kokrajhar Relief Camp for internally displaced women and girls.
- During NEN Nagaland's IWD celebrations, women's societies from 6 villages of Phek district were honoured for their gender equality initiatives — their achievement in wage parity and inclusion of women in their village councils, the highest decisionmaking body of the village.
- As part of the '16 Days' campaign, radio jingles were aired on the North East-based Jnan Taranga Community Radio (90.4 MHz) to create awareness about laws relating to sexual offences against women.
- NEN Meghalaya organised career counselling programmes for 205 girl students of 2 Shillong schools as part of the '16 Days' campaign.
- Dorbar Shnong Lawsohtun and NEN jointly observed the '16 Days' campaign through a programme for mothers in which
  mothers learnt the means of protecting their children from child sexual abuse and how to teach children about personal safety.
- Women's groups from different parts of Meghalaya participated in an art installation in Shillong as part of the '16 Days' campaign. Careen Langstieh, a prominent woman artist, spoke of her personal experience of domestic violence and how she has channelised her pain through her art.
- On International Human Rights Day, NEN Nagaland conducted an awareness programme on 'Substance Abuse and Mental Health' at Chizami village, Phek district an issue that needs urgent attention according to the community.



NEN Assam along with partners commemorated IWD by organising a public meeting in Guwahati and submitted a set of recommendations to the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup, on effective implementation of pro-women legislations and other aspects.





The highlights of NEN Nagaland's observance of the International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women included talks; a hand print campaign; a debate involving six educational institutions; and a concert featuring local artists Alobo Naga and the Band, Symphony, Tali Angh and others.





NEN Meghalaya observed the '16 Days' campaign through a road show (including a street play) jointly conducted with the Martin Luther Christian University (MLCU) in Shillong.





Local artist Careen Langstieh and Woman from Ri-Bhoi District displaying their creations at the Jamboree organised by NEN



As part of the OBR campaign, NEN Nagaland brought together 23 college students for a conversation on gender-based discrimination and VAW, at the NEN Resource Centre, Chizami. Short films on gender and VAW were screened, which were followed by lively discussions.



YWCA in collaboration with NEN - Poster Competition on VAW, International Women's Day at Shillong

### Advocacy

#### **Domestic Violence**

NEN published a report called 'Unheard/Ashruta: Domestic Violence in Rural Assam' in 2016 after which we started talks with the Directorate of the Social Welfare Department (SWD), Government of Assam, on the effective use of the report. SWD promptly called a meeting to discuss NEN's report with their officials and other concerned government agencies. Media advocacy was also conducted to disseminate the report findings. Our trained women leaders were part of the field work.



NEN made a submission to the Planning and Development Department of the Government of Assam on various social issues towards implementation of Sustainable Development Goals 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11 and 16 for the Assam Vision Document 2030 which was opened up for public inputs in February 2016.

#### Manifesto Related to the Assam Election

In November 2015, NEN published a 'Women's Manifesto' on women's equality and social justice, timed to appear before the Assam state elections in April 2016. The Ant (Chirang), Barak Human Rights Protection Committiee (Silchar), NEST (Golaghat), Matribhumi Block Mahasangha (Dhubri) and Prof. Archana Sharma of Gauhati University collaborated in this initiative.

- The manifesto raised specific demands on economy, education, health, state institutions, safety issues, etc.
- It was endorsed by 104 organisations and groups across Assam.
- 7000 copies of the manifesto were distributed in 14 districts.
- As an outcome of this advocacy, political parties have included points from the NEN Manifesto in their party manifestos.





### **Village Administration Bill**

NEN Meghalaya joined hands with other women's organisations to submit a memorandum to the Governor of Meghalaya requesting him to intervene in the Khasi Hills Autonomous District (Village Administration) Bill, 2015. The Governor was asked to ensure that the Bill regarded Khasi women as full members of the local self-governance institutions at the village level (Dorbars). The memorandum mentioned the discriminatory clauses in the Bill and demanded its re-drafting to make it gender-just.



NEN Chairperson handing over the memorandum to the Governor demanding a gender-just Khasi Hills Village Administration Bill, 2015

## Community Interventions

### Rights and Livelihood

From October 2015, NEN began community interventions in three areas of Kokrajhar inhabited by Internally Displaced Person (IDP) returnees of the Muslim and Adivasi communities. Victims of multiple ethnic conflicts, they now live in deprivation and fear. Our interventions are targeted at generating community awareness on rights and entitlements.

- An awareness meeting for Adivasi displaced persons was organised in Amthaibari Lower Primary School in November 2015.
- We collaborated with Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI), Kokrajhar in a week-long training (on making incense sticks) for 28 women from Kokrajhar district, under a Ministry of Rural Development

programme. Some of the trained women will soon start their own small-business initiative with loan support from the block,

To celebrate International Women's Day a programme called Play for Peace was organised at Amthaibari camp area where women and girls from both the communities participated.





#### Health

Community health camps Shillong, in Dorbar Shnong Nongrah and Lumsohphoh, were jointly organised by NEN, MLCU and the respective Dorbars. Through these health camps we were able to reach out to community members, especially women and children. At the same time the camps provided a platform for networking among women's groups, community leaders, health care providers and MLCU.

### **Natural Resource Management**

- NEN advocates the sustainable use and management of common resources including forests, land, water, biodiversity and seeds – for sustainable development.
- Diverse strategies have been adopted to engage stakeholders in the conservation and promotion of biodiversity. These include observing campaigns and organising biodiversity festivals, farmers' meetings, trainings and exchange learning programmes.
- We continue to adopt innovative activities such as birdwatching, storytelling, film screenings and photo exhibitions to engage young people in our biodiversity and wildlife conservation programme.
- In a significant achievement, a research paper by the NEN Hoolock Gibbon Eco Club, 'Project Hunt: An Assessment of Wildlife Hunting Practices by Local Community in Chizami, Nagaland, India' was published in the Journal of Threatened Taxa in September 2015.

### **Sustainable Agricultural Practices**

NEN promotes sustainable agriculture with the aim of achieving food, nutritional, ecological and livelihood securities. Our continued efforts in raising awareness of the importance of millet-based biodiverse farming practices have been recognised, and such practices have been strengthened by farming communities of the region. Millet-based farming has regained its place in the farming practices in Nagaland, as seen in the full revival of millet cultivation in Sumi and Phughi villages of Phek district, Similar outcomes are becoming visible in Manipur and Meghalaya where NEN has reached out.





#### **Networks and Alliances**

NEN facilitates in connecting farming communities and their issues within and outside the region through exchange learning visits and knowledge sharing programmes. These have enhanced the leadership capacities of farmers, and led to stronger articulation of their issues at different platforms. They have also helped to solidify alliances among ecological farmers spread across the country.

- NEN's representation in March 2016 at a convention of the Mahila Kisan Adhikaar Manch (MAKAAM), a women farmers' rights forum, has enabled the Naga women farmers' voices and concerns to be reflected in advocacy efforts at the national level.
- As a member of the Millet Network of India (MiNI), we have communicated similar concerns at the national level.
- NEN is a collaborator with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Phek, under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, as a member of its Scientific Advisory Committee. This year we presented emerging concerns of farmers and sought scientific inputs to deal with crop-related diseases.

### **Chizami Weaves: Sustaining Livelihoods for Women**

Keeping traditional Naga textiles alive as well as providing opportunities for women, Chizami Weaves continues to ensure the livelihoods of women weavers. In 2015–16, 174 weavers from 11 villages/towns participated in Chizami Weaves; a new outlet was opened at Kohima. Chizami Weaves products were displayed and sold at 4 exhibitions in the year – Women of India at Dilli Haat, Flo Fiesta (FICCI), Hornbill Festival at Kisama and North East Carnival organised by NEDFI, Guwahati. Chizami Weaves has outlets at NEN centres in Chizami, Kohima and Guwahati. Its products are also sold in other outlets in the country and e-commerce sites, enabling it to engage with other designer-entrepreneurs.

NEN has facilitated a similar model in the Khuzhathede area on the revival and development of natural fibres (Thevo project) in partnership with MORA. Under this project 43 weavers from Zapami and Lasumi villages work on yarn development, producing fine quality varn using traditional methods. The project has also enabled young girls to learn the art of weaving in their leisure time.





'We weave because through this we earn our living. Agriculture requires hard labour so we prefer weaving. Earlier, my husband used to tell me not to weave, but I continued weaving because I can keep myself busy this way. Later he started to help me in making yarn balls. My children now look after the household work and my husband looks after the livestock while I weave. With the income I am earning, I have gained more respect from my family members.'

#### **Aneile Kapfo**

Weaver

### Collaborations

### For Reports and Workshops

- We collaborated with Lawyers' Collective Women's Rights Initiative (LCWRI) to translate two books

   Engaging with the Criminal Justice System: A Guide for Survivors of Sexual Violence and Locating the Survivor in the Indian Criminal Justice System: Decoding the Law into Assamese. With support from the British High Commission, the two books were formally launched in March by the UK Deputy High Commissioner, Janet Ford.
- A collaborative study was carried out by NEN and the Centre for Urban Equity (CUE) of CEPT University titled 'Dynamics of Poverty, Inequality and Violence in Indian Cities: Towards Inclusive Policies and Planning'. Another report done in collaboration with CUE, called 'Safe Mobility for Women: A Case of Guwahati', was shared in a stakeholder meeting in March. NEN's study focused on public transport, issues of violence and the interlinkages with state accountability.
- NEN has been associated with the Voluntary Action
  Network India (VANI) as the regional hub for the North East. In November 2015, we organised a workshop with VANI on the challenges faced by the voluntary sector in the face of the recent changes in Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA); 47 participants from 4 states of the region attended the workshop.
- Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) collaborated with NEN to undertake a joint study is ongoing and focuses on 'Civil Society and Police Reform'. The study focused on the status of police women in Assam.

'There is a long-term association between AMSS and NEN with the common agenda — defending women's human rights. We consider NEN one of the strongest partners especially in advocacy at the larger forum for policy change on the issues of the grassroots women of Assam. We look forward to continuing as a partner in coming days as well.'

### Gita Rani Bhattacharyya

State Project Director, Assam Mahila Samata Society



### **High Commissions**

The British High Commission, Australian High Commission, American Embassy and Canadian High Commission paid formal visits to NEN's office, interacting with NEN members on the situation of Assam and our work.

#### **Assam Police**

In collaboration with the Assam Police, NEN organised a gender sensitisation workshop for Village Defence Parties (VDPs) from 10 districts of Assam in September 2015. VDPs are an offshoot of Assam Police responsible for community policing force. The workshop was a grand success, enabling the attendees to understand women's issues related to violence and abuse.





'During my years of association with NEN, I have been very encouraged and impressed by the dedication of the members of the organisation. The professionalism and the human touch shown by each of its members are exemplary.'

#### Leena Doley

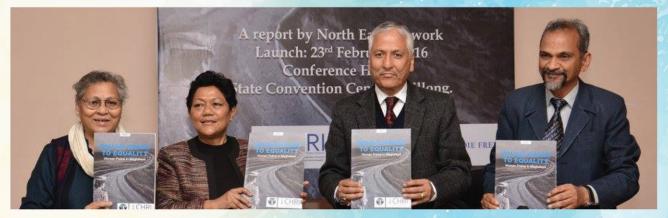
APS, Addl. SP (HQ), East Kamrup, Sonapur

### **Meghalaya Police**

NEN has been working with the Police Department, Government of Meghalaya, since 2009.

- We ensure that police officials are trained to be gender-sensitive and are updated on the latest laws related to women and children. We also train the police on how to counsel victims of violence and in manning the women's helpline effectively. These trainings have proved to be effective: there has been an increase in the number of cases referred by the police to lohlynti for counselling; and feedback from our clients shows that the police have conducted investigations in a gender-sensitive manner after training. In 2015–16, NEN trained 93 police officials on gender, VAW, legal remedies for women and child rights.
- NEN Meghalaya works closely with the North Eastern Police Academy (NEPA). During the year we organised several sessions on human trafficking, legal remedies for women and women's rights with police officials under training at NEPA.
- NEN in collaboration with the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative conducted an exploratory study on the status of women police officers in Meghalaya. The study revealed that Meghalaya ranked the third lowest in India in representation of women in the police force. However, it acknowledged that the Meghalaya Police, in the last year, made concerted efforts to increase women's representation (2.87% in 2014 to nearly 4% in 2015). We submitted a set of recommendations to the Home Department and the Meghalaya Police Department, emphasising the need for a holistic policy framework to guide the intake and integration of women into policing.

Annual Report 2015-2016 |



Launch of 'Rough Roads To Equality - Status of Women Police in Meghalaya'



'The principal, staff and trainees of Police Training School, Shillong, express their gratitude to the staff of NEN for their valuable contribution to the field of learning. Their sessions on various topics concerning the police have been an eye opener for the trainees. Their rich experience in dealing with women's issues, gender, etc. have enriched both the faculty and trainees."

### **Police Training School** Meghalaya



NEN Nagaland collaborated with the Nagaland Police Kohima DEF in conducting training on 'Gender sensitisation on Violence Against Women and new laws for change' for 46 police personnel at Kohima in April 2016



### Health Department, Meghalaya

NEN Meghalaya's work with the Health Department dates back to 2007 when we worked on building a multi-sectoral approach to addressing violence against women.

NEN carries out trainings of trainers, awareness programmes and workshops with nurses, doctors and counsellors in various hospitals and nurses training institutes in the state. The trainings focus on developing a health sector responsive to violence against women. In 2015-16, 180 health care providers in Meghalaya have been trained on gender, VAW, basic

counselling skills and legal remedies.

- In collaboration with the Centre for Enguiry into Health and Allied Themes (CEHAT), we have also trained 3 trainers from among doctors, who now organise programmes in their community, and Primary and Community Health Centres. The trained doctors also help in organising health camps in different districts focusing on women's well-being.
- Our collaboration with the Health Department has led to the Hospital for Women and Children referring all cases of violence against women and girl children to NEN's centre, lohlynti, for counselling and legal support.
- As a result of our collaborative efforts, the Civil Hospital and Ganesh Das Hospital of Shillong has officially instituted the medicolegal protocol guidelines for sexual violence cases issued by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

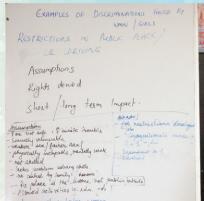




## Engaging with Civil Society Organisations

### **CEDAW Workshop**

NEN organised a workshop on 'Application of Convention to End all forms of Discrimination Against Women from Global to Local' in December, 2015 with the objective of enhancing understanding of the Convention and how it can find resonance at a local level. 21 women from different backgrounds — NGO workers, academicians, researchers, activists — participated in the workshop conducted by Sreekala MG, an international trainer and advocate of women's human rights.









### **Reinforcing Relationships**

NEN prioritizes building and strengthening relationships with like-minded organisations and women's groups. One approach is by capacitating our partners.

- We conducted a training on gender and VAW
  for the women's group Faith Foundation (which
  works on women and child rights) of Kyndong
  Tuber village, West Jaintia Hills. 9 members of
  the organisation received orientation on CEDAW
  and child rights. This has helped them in their
  programme activities and in better advocacy for
  child rights.
- NEN mentored a group of women with disabilities to launch Bijoyini, a North East network of women with disabilities formed under the aegis of Sishu Sarothi, a disability rights organisation and partner of NEN. This included conducting gender trainings, orientation on community mobilisation and survey techniques, organising a creative workshop, helping with press releases and a poster. Bijoyini was formally launched on World Disability Day in 2015.

### NEN in News

## Video documentation centre inaugurated at Tezpur

TEFFC May 3.—A who does not be compared to the contract of the

AT. 4/5/15. Nen orneus

### NEN M Nums : 22 gan 2016 **NEN** initiates exclusive women manifesto for political parties

GUWAHATI, Jan 21: North East Network (NEN), an NGO, has initiated a women's NGO, has initiated a women's-manifesto to all the political parties of the state, for the first time in our state, highlighting the key issues related with equality and social justice for

every woman. In a statement, NEN senior programme associate Sheetal Sharma said, "Women's Mani-festo is a first-of-its-kind in our state, which highlights key de-mands before all the political parties to achieve equality and social justice. The manifesto lists expectations from the political parties in areas pertaining to economy, education. ing to economy, education, beaths, safety, representation and state obligation towards women. Some demands are sike to adopt, achievable and time bound gender sensitive employment and wigne Act, policy for women and supplementation of Minimum Wage Act, policy for women affect sensor work of the supplementation and the supplementation of the supplementation of the supplementation of the supplementation of the supplementation in the supplementation of the supplementation in the supplementation of the s ement mrough educational in-itiatives, antenatal care to en-sare monitoring of anaemia and other risk factors for women, added Sharma.

BY OUR STAFF REPORTER universalize gender budgeting universalize gender budgeting and promote it at all levels to and departments by year end, implement Women Reservation Bill with 1/3 representatives in political parties, establish func-tional helpline for women in distress and others."
"Through a localized par-

ticipatory process of dialogue, we have collaborated with Barak Human Rights Protection Committee (BHRPC), NEST, The ANT, Matribhumi Block Mahasangha (MBM) and Gau-hati University Professor Archhati University Professor Arch-ana Sharma to weave the initia-tive. The process was wel-comed by the citizens of the state and reflects people's ex-pectations from their govern-ment. 104 organizations and groups arcses the state have ment. 104 organizations and groups across the state have endorsed the manifesto and are looking towards its practical realization by the political par-ties. We, therefore, request all the political parties to have no-tice on the women's manifesto. tice on the women's manifesto

### **Bringing women together** Towards gender parity by 2030

### কৰ্মক্ষেত্ৰত সমঅধিকাৰৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত ৰাজ্যৰ নাৰী

## অসম আৰক্ষীত মাত্ৰ ৮.২৯ % মহিলা, ২৭.৪২ % স্থানীয় প্ৰশাসনত

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### The Telegraph

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NGOs to move Assam govt

- Plea for implementation of anti-witch hunt act



ahati, March 6: Five prominent NGOs will move the Assam go International Women's Day, demanding immediate implementation of the anti-witch hun act and activation of a helpline to assist women in distress, among others.

The NGOs will meet here on Tuesday to celebrate Women's Day, after which they will submit a memorandum to the state government through the deputy commissioner Kam

The five NGOs are North East Network, Asom Mahila Sangha, Young Women's Chr-istan Association, Sadou As-om Pragatisheel Nari Sanstha and All India Democratic Women's Association.

### Seeds germinate into Biodiversity Festival in Chizami



## Art installation on violence against women held

on prepare a food item during an "art installation on violence aga cum jambores" at Fire Brigade ground in the city on Thursday.

### News Capsule

### One Billion Rising

The North East Network will organize the One Billion Rising campaign at State Convention Centre on at 5 PM on February 14 under the theme "rising for love, peace and equality". The North East Network will also conduct a flash mob under the theme "Rise for Equality" at Khyndailad at 3 pm the same day.

## Convention of women farmers at Chizami

### Workshop on Discourse on Government Policies & Schemes on Agriculture & Allied sector' held



### Health Camp

North East Network in collaboration with Allied Health Department, Martin Luther Christian University, will organise a free health camp with a special focus on women and children's health for residents of Nongrah on April 25 from 10 am at MLCU Campus, Dongktieh Nongrah Shillong.



### Ai jinghikai ka NEN halor ka jingshah ban bein ki kynthei thomborki kynthei hapoh

Jowai, Lber 03: Kum shi jingshah ban bein ki khynnah ha kiba bua ki. Wanbiang Pharlangki. kynthei khynnah kaba la rukon kaba la pynlong ha President Sein Kyntu nangjur kat nangmih ki sor Jowai. sngi ki por hapoh ka Jylla, Network ryngkat ka ki Sengbhalang bapher Network jingiatreilang bad ka Manbha Foundation, Integrity Perseverance. Awareness Frogram kaza pynsngewinin ua kifiew ai jinggalad taki kyninel sinen kun kifie i jingshah ba kynthup jingshahban bein ki del Voilence Against Women ia 1 kong Ibadasuklin naduh ki jingshah bar wan Pule Sta-7

Ha kane ka sngi la

wan ban iashim bynta da Phanbuh naka North East kynthup naduh ki Sengkynthei bad kiwei, ha kaba la wan ban ai

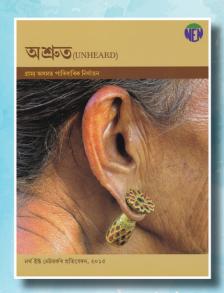
kaba ktah iaka pyrkhat Shaphrang Kynthai la Nartiang bad I kong Gina

> ong ba ka sorkar ruh kala shna iaki Ain kiba lah ban ai jingiada iaki kynthei

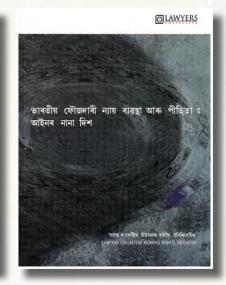
pyrdain had jingsngew, shah shoh pynmynsaw, byrngem byrsit bad kiwei. Kumta I kyntu ia ki nongwan iashim bynta bad kane na ka liang kine ba dei peit iaka bha ka ki riew shemphang kila miarka imlang sahlang ba thaw jong ki ba lada ki shem kum kine ki

# 4TIME TO BREAK THE SILENCE' International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women observed in Kohima Konsulagrass Book Stational Segment Specific Spec

### **PUBLICATIONS**



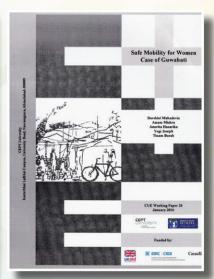








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### PUBLICATIONS

ACTIVITIES:

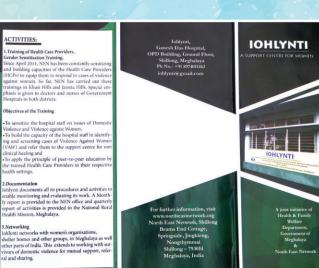
ealth settings.

ral and sharing.

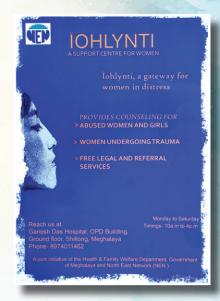
lealth Mission, Meghalaya.

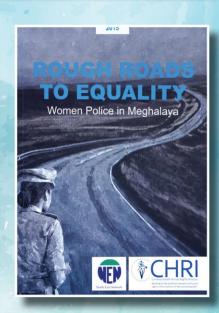
Training of Health Care Providers.





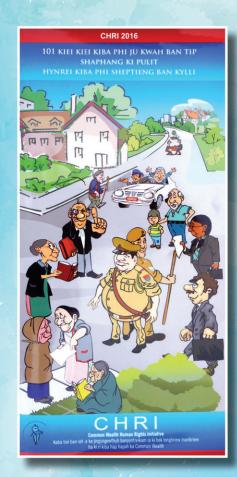


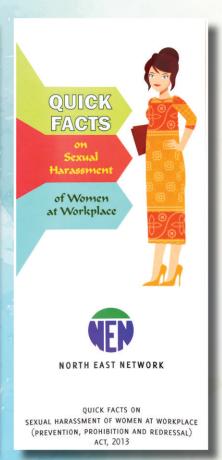




**(E)** 

## PUBLICATIONS







## Your Support - Our Strength



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM ASSAM STATE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN Beltola, Maidamgaon, Guwahati-28 Ph – 0361-2220013, 2220150 (F) Email- ascwguwahatia@gmail.com

The North East Network (NEN) has been actively associated with all issues pertaining to women's rights and their socio-economic development. Its association with Assam State Commission for Women has also been long and enriching to the common cause of women, especially those marginalized and deprived.

North East Network (NEN) was a part of the "Expert Committee" constituted for the project on "Socio-Economic and Political Status of Women in Assam" and Assam State Commission for Women acknowledges its contribution to the study.

We hope, the North East Network (NEN) will continue to strive for the causes of women including equality of rights, opportunities and empowerment.

> Smt. Monidipa Borkotoki, ACS Member-Secretary Assam State Commission for Women

"It has been over 20 years now. Recalling the days of its formation, the initial struggles, and the developments till now can only rekindle one's hopes that change is possible. It has been a privilege to remain actively associated with NEN all these years; and I wish the organisation and its entire team ever growing success."

Joshomayee Devi NEN Governing Body Member



"I have been working with NEN on institutionalising 'Outcome and Impact Orientation — OlO' in their organisation's monitoring system. It is not an easy task when a long-established and reputed NGO is suddenly requested to "think differently" and change its perspective towards effects and changes. NEN has taken the challenge positively and I see the learning curve going up every time we meet. There is seriousness and commitment in this learning process and the team allows space for lively discussions, learning from mistakes and voicing critical concerns.

When I recently visited the project in Chizami, Nagaland, I met outstanding women who have struggled against corruption, violation of women's rights, gender bias and other social evils in their male-dominated villages. NEN has strengthened these women to play an active role as negotiators and leaders to give them essential rights that were at times denied by their own communities. This struggle has had a profound impact on governance and conflict resolutions and reshaped gender relations in their own societies. This is exactly the change we want to assess with OIO!"

Anke Schuermann Independent Consultant



reen Hub, set up in Tezpur, Assam, in April 2014 in collaboration with Dusty Foot Productions (New Delhi), is making a name for Citself. A video documentation centre/digital archive, its main aim is to engage youth of the North East in biodiversity conservation through the digital platform. Its youth and community based fellowship trains young people in video documentation focused on wildlife, environment, indigenous knowledge and social issues in the North East Region.

Green Hub Fellows are trained by eminent resource persons from across the country. The fellowship includes an internship period with key organisations in the sector – such as Wildlife Institute of India, WWF, Foundation for Ecological Security, Eco Systems India, Aaranyak, Wildlife Trust of India, NEEDS. The fellowship programme, now in its second year, skills the participants for employability in video documentation and communication platforms.

The digital archive of video material is being optimised for multi-purpose outputs - education and outreach among schools, colleges, universities, civil society and government bodies. Green Hub has collaborated with TISS Guwahati on digital textbooks, Shrishti Design School for final diploma films, and Tezpur University for training programmes and the Green Hub Festival.

### Behind NEN

### **NEN Team**

### **Governing Body Members**

- Darilyn Syiem, Chairperson
- Monisha Behal, Founder and Executive Director
- Bandana Hazarika
- Bano Haralu
- Baruni Barua
- Anungla Aier
- Farida Warjri
- lamon Syiem
- Jnanshree Pathak
- Joshomayee Devi
- Roshmi Goswami

### **NEN Nagaland Team**

- Wekoweu Tsuhah, Programme Manager
- Seno Tsuhah, Project Team Leader
- Dilo Koza, Administrator
- Kekhrope-u Mekrisuh, Assistant Administrator
- Programme Associates: Dolly Wotsa, Hraveine David, Molungnenla Longchar, Subotola Aier, Thuiguonglung Gangmei
- Programme/Project Assistants: Kezunyipe-u Tsuhah, Neitshope-u Thopi, Kewekhrozo Thopi
- Office Assistants: Alole Thopi, Tshezote-u Lasuh, Wekhrolo Lohe
- Vilie Tsuhah, Driver
- Medowelo Kapfo, Night Watchman
- Short Term: Amit Thapa, Neimhanu Kulnu, Tshetsholo Naro, Vitsino Tsuhah

#### **NEN Assam Team**

- Anurita Pathak, Programme Manager
- Sheetal Sharma, Senior Programme Associate
- Devyani Borkataki, Programme Associate
- Aneesha Goswami, Programme Associate
- Puja Konch, Programme Assistant
- Rashmi Rekha Borah, Consultant
- Enakshi Dutta, Consultant
- Gitimoni Das, Finance and HR Manager
- Monmi Baruah, Administrator
- Bipul Telenga, Accountant
- Promila Begum, Office Assistant
- Piar Ali, Driver
- Puran Singh, Support Staff
- Rita Banerjee, Project Director
- Imrana Khan, Programme Manager
- Bonti Saikia, Administrative Officer
- Rupam Das, Accounts Officer
- Krishna Upadhay, Security Officer
- Chandni Upadhay, Office Assistant
- Ruma, Office Helper

### **NEN Meghalaya Team**

- Joy Grace Syiem, Programme Manager
- Balarisha Lyngdoh, Senior Programme Associate
- Persara Thangkiew, Programme Associate
- Ainamlin Dkhar, Counsellor, lolyhnti
- Colleen Michelle Lyngdoh, Assistant Counsellor, lohlynti
- Gina Phanbuh, Senior Administrative Officer
- Donkupar Wahlang, Part-time Accountant
- Sushila Swer, Office Assistant
- Matthew Dkhar, Driver

#### Field Assistants/ Mobilizers/Volunteers/Interns

Ashali Semy • Atsope Sangtam • Chingme Marak • Cicily Y • Dyuti • Kevilekhonuo Pheiinuo • Khontele Seb • Khriesino Rikha • Kuzote Lohe • Kuthonelu Ringa • Miriam Rengma • Meenal Gandhe • Meher Jelkie • Meenakshi Buzar Baruah • Nidarshana Deka • Puja Das • Renemsongla Ozukum • Sevonelu Ringa • Tekhewulo Chirhah • Tongpangkumzuk Longchar • Tshenyilo-u Chirhah • Uddipana Goswami • Vinita Singhi • Vizoli Khamo

### **NEN** as Resource Person

#### **NEN Assam**

- Resource Persons- Anurita P. Hazarika, Sheetal Sharma, Devyani Borkataki
- Issues- Gender, Women's rights, VAW, Gender and Social Work, Legal Amendments and Women's Rights
- Institutions- North Eastern Police Academy; Foundation for Social Transformation; Bethany Society, Gorchuk; Assam Administrative Staff College, NIPCCD, DDK PPC (North East), Shishu Sarothi, Assam Don Bosco University

### **NEN Meghalaya**

- Resource Persons- Darilyn Syiem, Joy Grace Syiem, Gina, Namrata Rynjah, Ainam
- Issues- Gender, women's rights, VAW, Communication Skills, Legal Remedies for Women and Children, Community Policing, ethics in law enforcement and principles of police conduct, Universal Declaration of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, Child Psychology, Life Skills
- Institutions- North Eastern Police Academy; Nongkasen district Church, West Khasi Hills; State Committee for Adolescent
  Health; Lion Women Social Welfare Organization; Dorbar Shnong, Jowai; Urban Affairs Department, Umpling; Faith Foundation;
  Police Training School, Mawroh; Unitarian Church; St. Mary's BEd College; Social Welfare Department.

### **NEN Nagaland**

- Resource Persons- Wekoweu Tsuhah, Seno Tsuhah
- Issues- Gender, women's rights, VAW, Good governance, Biodiversity conservation, Sustainable development, Millet based biodiverse food farming systems
- Institutions- Nagaland Development Outreach; Integrated Rural Management Association (IRMA); Chizami Women Society;
   Chizami Town Women Welfare Society; Chizami Students Union; Chizami Baptist Church; Thsinger Baptist Church; Phuhgi Baptist Church; Dzulhami Baptist Church; Green Hub.

### **NEN** as Member of Committees/Forums/Networks

- Gender Core Committee, Nagaland
- Mahila Kissan Adikhar Manch (MAKAAM)
- Millet Network of India (MiNI)
- Nagaland Alliance for Child and Women Rights (NACR)
- Nagaland State Unorganised Workers Labour Board (NSUWLB)
- Phek District Food Security Mission
- Sustainable Development Forum of Nagaland (SDFN)
- Scientific Advisory Committee, KVK-ICAR, Phek
- Internal Complaints Committee of FST, Handique Girls College, NF Railway Maligaon and International School, Guwahati (Monisha Behel, Anurita and Sheetal, NGO representatives);
- Coordination Committee for National Human Rights Commission, Jan Swaystha Abhiyaan (NHRC-JSA)
- Laadli Media Awards, Population First (Anurita as jury member)

### **Donors/Project Funders**

#### **Institutional Donors**

- Bread for the World (BFDW), Germany
- Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability (CBGA), New Delhi
- Deccan Development Society (DDS) Hyderabad/Oxfam Novib
- · Dream Foundation, California
- Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF), New Delhi
- Lawyers Collective, Mumbai
- Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), Mumbai
- Millet Network of India, Hyderabad, New Delhi
- MISEREOR, Germany
- MORA, Punjab & New Delhi
- Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), New Delhi
- Oxfam Novib, Holland
- · SEWA Bharat, New Delhi
- Unitarian Universalist Holden India Program(UUHIP), USA
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), New Delhi
- Voluntary Action Network India, New Delhi
- Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

### **Individual Donors**

- Anurita Pathak
- Arundhati Agarwala
- Bishov Lal Pathak
- Dr. A.S. Ganguly, Former MP, Rajya Sabha, MPLADS
- Enakshi Dutta
- Hridaya Nanda Agarwala (HUF)
- Indranee Phukan
- Joshomayee Devi
- Monisha Behal
- Mrinal Newpane
- Nazim Ahmed
- Pirojsha Godrej Foundation
- Pranab Kalpa Hazarika
- Roopam Baruah
- Seno Tsuhah
- Siddhartha Mukherji

### **Project Partners/Collaborations**

- All Shillong Nepali Mahila Samiti
- Chizami Student's Union, Chizami, Nagaland
- Civil Society Women's Organisation
- Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Shillong
- Dorbar Shnong of Lawjynriew, Lumsohphoh, Lawsohtun, Nongrah and Jaiaw Laitdom
- Enfold Proactive Health Trust, Bangalore
- Exotic Echo, Diezephe, Nagaland
- Faith Foundation, Shillong
- ILead, Shillong
- Integrated Rural Management Association (IRMA), Senapati, Manipur
- Khiamnuingan Baptist Church Council (KBCA), Noklak, Nagaland
- Khuzhalhu Zawe, Phek, Nagaland
- Kohima Municipal Council
- Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Phek, Nagaland
- Lamjingshai, Shillong
- Manbha Foundation, Shillong
- Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong
- Meghalaya Women's Association, Shillong
- Millet Network of India (MINI)/Deccan Development Society, Hyderabad

- Nagaland Police, Kohima
- Nagaland State Resource Centre for Women (SRCW), Kohima
- New Creation Ministry, Sekrezu, Phek
- North East Slow Food & Agro-biodiversity Society (NESFAS), Meghalaya
- RNBA, Manipur
- Shishu Sarothi, Guwahati
- Sacred Heart Higher Secondary School, Mawlai, Shillong
- SEWA, Gujarat
- St. John's School, Shillong
- St. Joseph's College, Jakhama, Nagaland
- Sustainable Development Forum of Nagaland (SDFN), Kohima
- Tamil Nadu Women's Collective, Chennai
- Thma U Rangli Juli, Shillong
- Unitarian Church, Shillong
- Women Societies of Chizami, Dzulhami, Enhulumi, Lasumi, Leshemi, Phuhgi, Sakraba, Sumi, Thetsumi, Thurutsuswumi, Ruzazho, Zapami Villages
- Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), Shillong

### **Speakers/Resource Persons**

Ashipri Zho, Akheto Sema, Alemtemshi Jamir, Angela Rangad, Annie Sohtun, Anurita P. Hazarika, Amba Jamir, Anke Schuermann, Bano Vinito, Bita Majaw, Budhiswatya, Daisy Mezhur, D. Luikang Maram, Dr. Anungla Aier, Dr. Francisco J. Rosado May, Dr. Keviu Shuya, Dr. Lhishelo Tsuhah, Dr. T.K Bamon, Dr. Adreena Lyngdoh, Dr. Sangeeta Saxen, Dr. R. Allya, Dr. Wanswet, Dr. Myrboh, Hewoto Sema, Imtilepzuk, Ivyreen Warjri, Ibadasuklin Kharshandi, Joseph Hesso, Kekhwengulo Lea, Kewepelo Tsuhah, Kerdamika Pyrbot, Kesonyu Yhome, Lithrongla G. Chishi, Mezivolu T. Therieh, Moalemba, Moa Lemtur, Nalini Nayak, P. Kharbamon, Petevilie Khatsu, R.K. Singh, Rovilatuo Mor, Rebina Subba, Sreekala M.G., Samhita Barooah, Soma K.P., Watienla Jamir, Wanbiang Phalyngki.

## Moments of NEN





















## Audited Annual Report

#### NORTH EAST NETWORK GUWAHATI, ASSAM

#### RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2016

RECEIPTS		AMOUNT (Rs.)	PAYMENTS		AMOUNT (Rs.
To Opening Balance			By Project Expenses (Schedule 'A')		
Fixed Deposit	19,879,330.62		Capital Expenses	2,504,894.00	
Cash at Bank	6,581,575.67		Revenue Expenses	24,818,556.94	27,323,450.9
Liabilities	(876,053.60)		-	21,010,030.74	27,020,400.7
Advances	1,055,307.70		" Workshop & Programme Expenses		243,363.00
Cash in Hand	238,476.00	26,878,636.39	* Vocational Training Expenses		1,507,047.00
" Donation & Contribution Received			* Administrative Expenses		
Project Fund (Schedule 'A')	23,014,209.81		Salary & Wages	1,285,188.00	
General Fund	1,497,136.04	24,511,345.85	Audit Fees	25,900.00	
		000000000000000000000000000000000000000	Printing & Stationery	11,285.00	
" Interest on savings Account			Bank Charges	4,078.11	
Project Fund	78,262.52		Books & Periodicals	26,775.00	
General Fund	106,218,42	184,480,94	Travelling & Conveyance	49,101.00	
-			Postage & Courier	28,894.00	
" Interest on FD Account			Telephone & Internet	40,069.39	
General Fund		1,544,592.88	Repairs & Maintenance	64,754.00	
		-26 - 126 - 116 - 1	Office Expenses	1,353.42	
" Weaves Sale		2,540,200.00	Insurance Premium	82,080.00	
" Other Receipts		535,273.93	Food & Accomodation Cost	183,152.00	
			Electricity Charges	1,661.00	
			Fuel Cost	140,715.00	
			Professional Fees	14.672.00	
			Miscellneous Expenses	15,518.00	
			Registration Fees	5,450.00	
			Vehicle Repairs & Maintenance	44,760.00	
			General expenses	60,662.00	2,086,067.92
			" Capital Expenditure		
			Purchase of car	200,000.00	
			Construction of Building	17,152.00	217,152.00
			" Closing Balance		
			Fixed deposit	20,275,387.44	
			Cash at Bank	3,604,521.83	
			Liabilities	(282,339.00)	
			Advances	842,297.55	
			Cash in Hand	377,581.31	24,817,449.13
Total ( Rs.)	_	56,194,529.99	. Total ( Rs.)	-	56,194,529.99
or and on behalf of				As per our re	port of even date
North East Network			-		vala & Associates
			grawala & Asa		red Accountants
A. S. A.		EAST	180 180 N	Chart	FRN 3192931

Menerla Della

Place: Guwahati Date: 28.06.2016

Membership No: 54776

### NORTH EAST NETWORK GUWAHATI, ASSAM

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 2016

LIABILITIES		AMOUNT (Rs.)	ASSETS		AMOUNT (Rs.)
FC FUND ACCOUNT			FIXED ASSETS		
Opening Balance	9,978,222.16		(As per Schedule 'B')		6,324,719.00
Add: Net surplus transferred					
from I & E Account	1,589,719.35		CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS	S & ADVANCES	
	11,567,941.51		Fixed deposit	20,275,387.44	
Less: Transfer from Project Fund	2,487,704.00	14,055,645.51	Advances	842,297.55	
			Cash at Bank	3,604,521.83	
PROJECT FUND ACCOUNT			Cash in Hand	377,581.31	25,099,788.13
(As per Schedule 'A')		(792,000.38)			-
CORPUS FUND ACCOUNT		17,878,523.00			
CURRENT LIABILITIES		282,339.00			
	TOTAL (Rs.)	31,424,507.13	TOTAL (R	ts.)	31,424,507.13

Schedule 'C' - Notes on Account and Significant Accounting Policies

For and on behalf of North East Network

As per our report of even date For: H.K.Agrawala & Associates Chartered Accountants FRN 319293E

Guwahati

Nemila Dela ( 1957)

CA Harish Kr. Agrawala

Place : Guwahati Date : 28.06.2016

Membership No : 54776