



NEN NEWSLETTER

August - October 2023

Dear Readers,

With an unwavering commitment towards building a society free of gender-based discrimination and violence against women and girls, North East Network continues to take steps towards building feminist leadership and promoting an equitable and sustainable environment. In the past few months, NEN has created a platform for multiple voices, including grassroots women leaders, farmers, vendors, home-based workers, youth and weavers from Assam, Meghalaya and Nagaland. This newsletter will provide you with a glimpse of our initiatives.

PAVING WAY FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP



NEN organised several programmes which acted as a catalyst in creating a collective consciousness about social and gender realities among youth from our work areas. Many of these programmes also supported them in taking up youth-led projects in their communities. The NEN Youth Leadership Programme (Nagaland), Zine Making Workshop for Youth Collective (Assam), NEN Farm School (Nagaland), Video for Social Change (Nagaland), and the Workshop on Building Youth Leadership for Sustained Change (Assam) were some of the initiatives NEN has taken during this period.

CELEBRATING HOME-BASED WORKERS DAY

My Work, My Identity

19th - 20th October: Women home-based workers contribute greatly to informal economies. However, their contribution is rarely recognised. NEN is committed to bringing visibility to the work carried out by home-based workers. In this, we thank Homenet South Asia for their continuous support.



Strengthening the network of home-based workers in the districts of Dimapur, Kohima and Shamator in Nagaland



Highlighting contributions of and challenges faced by home-based workers in the districts of Darrang, Dhemaji, Kamrup, Golaghat, Sonitpur and Udalguri in Assam



Cross-learning initiatives for Women's Collectives of NEN in East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya

JOURNEY OF LEARNING (JOL)



9 September: Dialogues unfolded about a future marked by coexistence with nature, about a future where collective experiences are valued in the third event under the banner of JOL in Joypur, Dhemaji, Assam. From multicultural performances to performed conversations, this simple, yet visionary initiative was an amalgamation of both learning and celebrations. Our gratitude to Green Hub team, Papori Medhi, Arghadeep Barua, Gaurab Talukdar, and Ratan Bora for being with us on this journey.

ENVISIONING SAFE FUTURE FOR CHILDREN

August: Conducted in the villages of Umsaw, Rymbai, Nongshillong and Wahlielong in Meghalaya, the Personal Safety Education Programme focused on building capacity amongst teachers, parents and other community members so that they can together address cases of child abuse. In all, 13 schools joined the programme, which has been a stepping stone towards ensuring a safe and secure childhood for all.



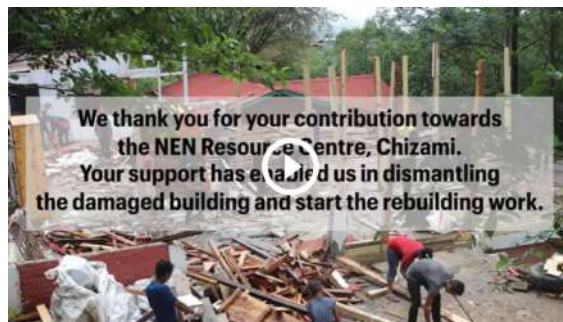
MILLETS FOR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



August: NEN Nagaland celebrated the 3rd edition of the Millet Festival held in the public grounds of Shamator. It was jointly organised by the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA), Department of Agriculture, Millet Network of India and NEN. Attended by around 370 people, the celebrations were about reintegrating millet as a part of the communities. In the Millet Festival organised by the Millet Sisters, New Phor Village in collaboration with NEN, around 200 millet farmers, leaders and elders from five villages including New Phor, Phor, Wuzu, Shatuzha and Yisisotha participated.

Greens around our GMKs!

With the recent workshop ‘Building Transformational Leadership: Towards Equitable and Sustainable Change’, women farmers from Assam are engaging themselves in varied methods of natural farming.



A Token of Gratitude

The NEN Resource Centre in Chizami village collapsed in 2021 as it had to bear the brunt of the two-lane highway constructions on NH-29 in Chizami. However, with support and contributions of many, we were able to dismantle some damages faced by the centre and conserve some essential raw materials before the monsoon arrived. We express our gratitude to all our well-wishers who have stood by us in this hour of crisis.

Feminist Spaces Ahead: XVII National Conference of IAWS



7th - 10th September: Monisha Behal, one of the co-founders of NEN, attended the Conference of Indian Association of Women’s Studies (IAWS) in Thiruvananthapuram as an Executive Committee (EC) member. Meanwhile, Anurita P. Hazarika, the Executive Director (in charge) was one of the sub-theme coordinators for sub-theme 8 titled "Human Rights Violation: Gender-Based Violence and Resistance." Another highlight

of NEN's involvement in the conference was the launch of the "Gender Responsive Shelter Homes: A Trainers Manual" by LCN Network of Women Shelters. The exhibition called 'Sisters of Tezpur,' co-organized by Tezpur Mahila Samiti, IAWS, and NEN, showcased the women's struggles in Assam, receiving widespread praise for its historical insights conveyed through photographs, notebooks, and textiles. The conference issued a statement condemning all forms of violence against women in Manipur and appealed for sustainable peace in the state.



General Body Members at NEN AGM, held in Shillong on 28th September

AKGCT
Women Subcommittee Kozhikode District
inauguration

Talk On
'WHAT AILS MANIPUR'

Resource person
Dr. Monisha Behal
 (Women activist, co-founder and chairperson of North East Network)

Programme schedule

- Welcome speech : Dr. Shyri P (AKGCT women sub-committee district convenor)
- Presidential address : Dr. Jasmine Mathew (AKGCT women sub-committee (magfala convenor)
- Inauguration : Dr. Sunitha Ganesh (AKGCT women sub-committee state convenor)
- Chief guest : Dr. Monisha Behal (Women activist, co-founder and chairperson of North East Network)
- Felicitations : Dr. Baby Sheela (State Working Committee member)
- Vote of thanks : Dr. Freetha P V (AKGCT convenor, Govt. College, Madhav)

20.10.2023 7pm

Monisha Behal shares her insights on women and conflict situation in Manipur



Farewell, Gina M. Phanbuh

We proudly celebrate two decades of your contributions at NEN. Thank you, Kong Gina.

RETREAT IN KALIMPONG

With team-building sessions, drama therapy, games, yoga, cultural evening, and local tours, the Retreat for North East Network, Nenterprise and Green Hub was all about forming connections, learning and fun.



To learn more about our projects, click [here](#)
To learn about NEN's publications, visit [Knowledge Hub](#)

[Nenterprise](#) | [Green Hub](#)

We thank all our donors, partners, well wishers and our General Body members for their staunch support of our work.



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