



# NEN NEWSLETTER

November 2023 - January 2024

Dear Readers,

North East Network (NEN) has stepped into another year with community initiatives and innovative approaches, envisioning a future that is gender-just. In this journey, grassroots women leaders and youth collectives have been our true strength.

## Promoting Millet-Based Biodiverse Farming in the Millet Festival at Kisama

2nd - 3rd December 2023: NEN Nagaland played a crucial role in advocating for millet-based farming systems, as a technical partner to the Department of Agriculture, in the Millet Festival at Kisama. A highlight of the programme was the 'Voices from the Fields', presented by Wekoweu Tshuhah, State Coordinator NEN Nagaland. Her speech articulated some key points for the government to consider while promoting millet. [Read more.](#)



## Strengthening Gender-Sensitive Local Ecosystem for Survivors of Gender-Based Violence (GBV)



3rd - 5th January 2024: In an ongoing effort to strengthen gender-sensitive local ecosystem for survivors of GBV, NEN Assam conducts workshops for partner NGOs working closely with women. In the second phase of a series of workshops, seven local partner NGOs: SATRA, Sipajhar; Manab Kalyan, Sipajhar; AMSS, Udalguri; ROSS, Udalguri; AROHAN, Boko; CDF, Golaghat and Team Jiban, Golaghat participated. The sessions focused on 'Understanding Gender and Patriarchy'. [Read more.](#)

## Importance of Health Care Response to GBV

8th January 2024: 37 participants, including healthcare professionals, social workers, and NGO representatives from Ri-Bhoi District, joined NEN Meghalaya and Civil Hospital, Nongpoh for an Interface cum Panel Discussion. The interface highlighted the importance of addressing GBV as a public health issue and emphasised the need for survivor-centred, multi-sectoral approaches to tackle it effectively. [Read more.](#)



## 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

"Together We Rise, Together We Unite for violence-free communities for Women and Girls".

25th November - 10th December 2023

In 2002, NEN observed the 16 Days of Activism for the first time in the North East region (NER) of India. Since then, this campaign has been a clarion call to ensure public responsibility and state accountability to end all forms of GBV in NER.



## ASSAM

A marathon was organised across six districts of Assam to foster a collective consciousness among women, youth, teachers, health workers, and communities to end all forms of violence.

## MEGHALAYA

In Meghalaya, varied activities were organised as a part of this campaign, including a Bike Rally, a Travelling Art and Film Festival, and a Capacity Building Programme for women peer leaders.



## NAGALAND

The campaign, organised in 5 locations of Nagaland, focused on creating awareness about Child Rights and issues of Child Sexual Abuse through the Personal Safety Education Programme.



### Soil Matters

Hear from Kedi, a woman farmer from Chizami, about the importance of soil in our lives.





## An Eco-Friendly Diwali

NEN Youth Collective actively engaged community kids and school students in an educational initiative focused on crafting seed bombs, which were strategically dispersed in areas that lack sufficient plant cover.



6th November 2023: NEN Nagaland's State Coordinator, Wekoweu Tsuha, joined 40 members representing 25 organisations from 12 Indian states at Farmer's Share in Shoranur, Kerala, for the General Assembly of Vikalp Sangam, a network of alternative solutions.



25th December 2023: A panel discussion about gender-based violence was aired in Doordarshan Kendra with Iaimanda A. Ryngksai, State Coordinator of NEN Meghalaya, as a panellist.

## Monisha Behal: As a Panellist in the Himalayan Knot



17th November 2023: Monishal Behal, Chairperson of NEN, was one of the panellists in the opening panel of the Himalayan Knot: A Celebration of Sustainable Textile Traditions from the Himalayas. The discussions in the opening panel centred around 'Empowering Communities through Craft and Culture'.

## Heartfelt Congratulations to Anurita Pathak Hazarika and Batskhem Lyngkhoi



The Directorate of Health Services (Family Welfare) cum State Appropriate Authority under the PCPNDT Act, Government of Assam, felicitated Anurita Pathak Hazarika, Executive Director (in-charge) of NEN, for her commendable work and contributions to gender justice for women and girls.



Batskhem Lyngkhoi, a community mobiliser from NEN Meghalaya has received the Champion Award at the state-level launch of the campaign 'Ending Gender-Based Violence'. This award was granted to her by Meghalaya State Rural Livelihoods Society on 27th November.

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

### 15th Biodiversity Festival 2024

6th - 7th March: NEN Nagaland is organising the 15th Biodiversity Festival under the theme "Biodiversity- Building a Shared Future for All Life", at Local Ground, Chizami.

### International Women's Day 2024

8th March: The International Women's Day 2024 will be observed in all the three states of Assam, Meghalaya and Nagaland with the theme "Inspire Inclusion". Stay tuned for further updates.

### Call for Applications: Green Hub

Applications for the 8th edition of Green Hub Northeast India Fellowship 2024-25 are now open. The last date for submission is 28th February 2024. [Apply here](#).

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

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