

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

A Monthly Newsletter on the North Eastern Region of India

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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A nation's strength ultimately consists in what it can do on its own, and not in what it can borrow from others.

Smt. Indira Gandhi

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DEVELOPMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO NORTH EASTERN REGION

1. The Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council (HNLC) of Meghalaya has been openly declaring as its objective the secession of the areas in the State of Meghalaya (largely inhabited by Khasi and Jaintia tribals) from the Indian Union. The HNLC has been employing and engaging in armed means to achieve their objective; indulging in acts of intimidation and extortion for collection of funds for their organization; looting of civilian population for collecting of funds; maintaining links with other insurgent groups of North Eastern Region for carrying out acts of extortion and intimidation; maintaining camps in neighbouring country for the purpose of sanctuary and training of their cadres.

The activities of the HNLC are detrimental to the sovereignty and integrity of India, and if these are not immediately curbed and controlled, the said HNLC would regroup and rearm itself, expand its cadres, procure sophisticated weapons, cause loss of lives of civilians and Security Forces and accelerate its anti-national activities.

Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (37 of 1967) the Central Government has declared the Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council (HNLC) along with all its factions, wings and front organizations as unlawful association. The official Gazette notification to this effect was published on 16th November, 2012.

2. The United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) and its various factions, wings and fronts has as its professed aim, the "Liberation" of Assam from the Indian Union through an armed struggle in alliance with other armed secessionist organisations of the North East Region. The ULFA has indulged in various illegal and violent activities intended to disrupt the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India in furtherance of its objective of liberating Assam; aligned itself with other unlawful

associations of North Eastern Region to secede Assam from India; engaged in several unlawful and violent activities during the currency of its declaration as an unlawful association. The unlawful and violent activities which are attributed to ULFA include- killing of eleven persons including four Security Forces personnel during the period from 1st January, 2011 to 31st August, 2012; indulging in spate of extortion and secessionist activities and endangering lives of innocent citizens, in addition to acts of kidnapping for ransom; instructing its cadres to carry out acts by targeting the establishments of security forces and their personnel, political leaders, railways and oil installations; establishing sanctuaries and training camps in neighbouring countries; embarking upon restructuring of its organizational network at the grass root level by launching a quite but systematic drive for recruitment of fresh cadres while continuing its violent and insurgent activities.

The activities of ULFA are detrimental to the sovereignty and integrity of India. If there is no immediate curb and control of unlawful activities of ULFA, it may take the opportunity to mobilize its cadres for escalating its secessionist; subversive and violent activities and openly propagate anti-national activities in collusion with forces inimical to India's sovereignty and national integrity.

Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (37 of 1967) the Central Government has declared the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) alongwith all its factions, wings and

front organisations as unlawful associations. The official Gazette notification to this effect was published on 27th November, 2012.

3. The National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB) has its professed aim, the "Liberation of Boroland" consisting largely of Bodo inhabited areas of Assam and to bring the secession of the said areas from India, in alliance with other armed secessionist organisations of the North East Region. The NDFB has been indulging in illegal and violent activities intended to disrupt the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India in furtherance of its objective of achieving a separate Boroland; aligning itself with other underground outfits of the North Eastern Region in furtherance of its objectives to create a separate Boroland; engaging in unlawful and violent activities thereby undermining the authority of the Government of India and the Government of Assam.

The NDFB was involved in killing of 14 persons including 10 security forces personnel in 36 incidents of violence in 2011; killing of one civilian in eight incidents of violence in 2012 (upto 30th September). The activities of the NDFB are detrimental to the sovereignty and integrity of India.

Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (37 of 1967) the Central Government has declared the National Democratic Front of Boroland as unlawful association. The official Gazette notification to this effect was published on 23rd November, 2012.

ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT UNDER CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMME BY CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES

(A) Programmes undertaken by Assam Rifles

1. Medical Assistance

(i) 2- Assam Rifles organised a medical camp at Batapara, district Gomati, Tripura on 27th October 2012. About 355 patients of different age groups including children from nearby villages were treated. Medical equipments like Baby weigh machines, surgical instruments were gifted to the Regional Health Center by the unit.



Medical camp organised by Assam Rifles

(ii) 42-Assam Rifles in association with Shija Hospitals, Imphal organised a medical camp at Liwa Khullen village of district Chandel, Manipur on 28th Oct 2012. The camp conducted by a team of specialists from Shija Hospital included Gynecologist, Ophthalmologist and Surgeon alongwith the medical/dental officers and paramedical staff of Assam Rifles. About 350 villagers from Liwa Khullen and adjoining villages were provided medical check up and medicines.



(iii) 42-Assam Rifles conducted a medical camp at Chandel, Manipur on 2nd Nov 2012. More than 100 Patients from Chandel and nearby areas were provided medical check-up and medicines. The Medical Officers educated the villagers on HIV/AIDS, malaria, contagious diseases and precautionary measures.

(iv) A Nagaland State transport bus carrying 35-passengers overturned near Jharnapani on 8th Nov 2012. On receipt of the information, a medical team from 20- Assam Rifles immediately rushed to the accident site with a medical officer and ambulance. The troops and the medical team rescued the stuck passengers and provided first aid to the injured on the spot. Those with major injuries were brought to 20-Assam Rifles unit hospital and given treatment.

(v) 23-Assam Rifles donated 18-Beds to the longbang hospital district Tuensang, Nagaland for the surgery patients.

2. Awareness/Education.

(i) 9-Assam Rifles organized a health awareness Programme at Moreh on 4th Nov 2012. About 61 people attended the programme.

(ii) 44-Assam Rifles conducted a lecture on "Health and hygiene of Girls" at Chassad, Kamjong, District Ukhrul,



Lecture on health & hygiene of girls

(v) 9-Assam Rifles organised a national integration tour, comprising of 20 school children and two teachers from



National Integration tour-Interaction with President of India

Manipur on 5th November 2012. The Lecture emphasized on the requirement of periodic medical checkups to help early detection of abnormalities such as breast cancer and cancer in uterus. The locals were educated on basic hygiene and sanitation during pregnancy. More than 300 girls and young women from the adjoining villages attended the event.

(iii) 35-Assam Rifles organized a health awareness program on the occasion of 'National Cancer Awareness Day' at Sajik Tampak on 7th Nov 12. The objective of the camp was to create awareness among local populace about Cancer and preventive measures. The Medical officer conducted an awareness lecture cum poster demonstration to bring out the causes, effects and precautions against the cancer. About 200 people of the area benefited from the programme.

(iv) 44-Assam Rifles in collaboration with association of food scientists and Technologists (I), Manipur Chapter and SDO, Kamjong-Chassad organised a workshop on pickle making at Chassad and Kamjong villages of Kamjong Sub Division, district Ukhrul, Manipur from 9th to 10th Nov 2012. The effort was aimed at imparting training to the residents of remote villages of the area to enable them to raise small scale industry and earn livelihood. About 200 ladies from Chassad, Kamjong and adjoining villages participated in the workshop.



Workshop on pickle making was organised by Assam Rifles

Moreh to New Delhi. The children interacted with the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee at Rastrapati Bhavan on 26th Oct 2012. The children presented the first citizen of India a song based on love and respect for all cultures and religions, which was very well received and appreciated by the entire audience.

3. Sports events

(i) 8-Assam Rifles organized a football competition at Ratanpur, Tripura from 5th Nov to 8th Nov 2012. 12-teams from adjoining villages including Ratanpur participated in the tournament.

(ii) 43-Assam Rifles organised a friendly football match at Phyapou village of Senapati District, Manipur on 6th Nov



Football competitions organised by Assam Rifles

2012. The football team of 43-Assam Rifles, Phyapou and other teams of nearby villages participated in the event. About 300 people from the nearby villages attended the event.

4. Ex-Servicemen Meet.

27-Assam Rifles organized an Ex-Servicemen meet at Unopat village of Chandel district, Manipur on 2nd Nov 2012. The meet was organised with an aim to apprise the Ex-servicemen about the various schemes and benefits being provided by the State and the Central Governments for their welfare. About 50 Ex-servicemen including war widows and their families attended the event.

5. Children's Day Celebrations

(i) 44-Assam Rifles organized 'Children's Day Celebration' at Chassad on 14th Nov 2012. The cultural programmes performed by children included folk songs and traditional dances. The event was attended by prominent personalities, village heads and the local people.

(ii) 37-Assam Rifles organized a debate competition on the occasion of Children's Day celebration at Community Hall Tuijang village in Chandel District, Manipur on 14th Nov 2012. The competition concluded with prize distribution to the winners and consolation prizes to the other participants.

(B) Programmes undertaken by Seema Suraksha Bal (SSB)

Study tour programme consisting of 18-youths of the border areas was jointly organised by 30th & 38th Bn to the places of historical importance in Guwahati, Delhi and Agra as a part of civic action programme.

SSB, Bongaigaon Sector provided round the clock security services in to the village in the vicinity of BoP in BTAD area of Assam affected by communal violence and promoted communal harmony through motivational activities. Medical camps were organised in the villages of the border area for treatment of the villages. About 1018 patients under medical civic action, 234 patients under homeopathy civic action and 1797 livestock received medical treated from the

doctors, para medical & para veterinary staff of SHQ and the field units.

During the ethnic clashes, SSB officers visited the riot affected villages and the relief camps and interacted with the people to restore normalcy and provided relief, shelter and security to the villages residing in the vicinity of the border posts. Intensive patrolling in and around the villages were carried out. The security men at Srimpur, Chautara, Gossaigaon and Fakiragram railway stations have been keeping vigil in the area for uninterrupted movement of the trains. The villagers are being given medical and veterinary aids regularly.

05-sewing machines were distributed by Inspector General frontier Hqrs to three Self Help Groups (SHG) namely development committee, villages Amjuli; North Point Foot Hills Agricultural Society, village Fulbari and Sonakhari women self help group, village Kalajhar in the AOR of 23rd Bn Bhairabkund.

As a part of emergency medical services to the people living in the remote border villages, four mobile ambulances have been provided to the four BOPs under 33rd Bn Rangia, 31st Bn Gossaigaon, 23rd Bn Bhairabkunda & 16th Bn Kokrajhar. These ambulances are being used for transportation of patients from remote villages to the nearest hospitals.

(C) Civic Action Programme organised by 67 Bn CRPF Shillong, Meghalaya.

(i) 67-Bn CRPF distributed 08 Nos of track suits to the students of Zikkak Govt. Aided Secondary School, Zikkak, South West Garo Hills on 05th October, 2012 with aim to build the relationship with the locals and integrate them in to National mainstream.

(ii) On 27th October, 2012 district administration of East Khasi Hills in collaboration with the Meghalaya Tourism Development conducted "The Shillong Half Marathon for Greener Tomorrow" as part of the Autumn Festival 2012. 40 personnel of 67-Bn CRPF participated in the event. The unit also set up booths of drinking water for the participants and deputed the Ambulance for the event.

(ii) Sports event organised by 36 Bn CRPF, Khonsa, Arunachal Pradesh.

On the occasion of Children's Day on 14th November, 2012 sports events were organized by 36 Bn CRPF at Lapnan village of Tirap District (Arunachal Pradesh) for the students of Govt. Primary School and Arunyoti School. Students of both the schools took active participation in all events particularly in high jump, long jump and races. Every student participated with extra zeal and enthusiasm during the competition. Shri B.C. Sharma, Commandant-36 Bn distributed the prizes to the winners. School staff appreciated the effort of Commandant-36 Bn CRPF for organizing the programme and participation

of children and villagers for their cooperation for making the programme a success. The future of any Country depends upon the quality of the children. CRPF will make

every possible effort to encourage the students to take interest in every creative activities like sports, cultural as well as in educational.

PROGRAMMES UNDERTAKEN BY MEGHALAYA POLICE

(1) Celebrations of the 150 years of Indian Police

As a part of the celebrations of 150 years of Indian Police, a friendly football Match between Assam Police and Meghalaya Police was held on 18.10.2012 at Jawaharlal Nehru Sports Complex, Polo Ground, Shillong. Meghalaya Police defeated Assam Police by 3 goals to 1. Dr Mukul Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya did the kick-off. As an extension of the same celebrations, Assam Police hosted another friendly football match at Guwahati on 27.10.2012. Assam Police team won by 4 goals to 3.



Football match between Assam Police and Meghalaya Police

(2) Safe-Secure-Shillong Project Launched

On 20th September, 2012, Meghalaya Police launched SAFE-SECURE-SHILLONG project in a programme held under the chairmanship of Shri N.Ramachandran, then Director General of Police. The project is a unique initiative to forge a strong partnership between the police and the community, towards crime reduction and improving security. Through a process of community consultation, the Police department has engaged local communities in identifying key issues in developing responses to control and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour; ensure security and safety of public places, shops, hotels, business establishments and shopping centres, residential areas etc. by using modern technology to enhance the surveillance capabilities reduce police response time and build a strong partnership between the police and the community.

The strategy consists of installation of CCTV cameras at strategic locations and connecting them to the central control room including to the respective police stations and encouraging shops, business establishments, banks, hotels,

restaurants etc to procure and install CCTV cameras within their premises for continuous recording.

A communication plan is being developed for members of the public to reach out to the police and vice versa through an 'alert network' for information sharing between police and citizens using SMS, mobile phone calls etc. The Project implementation was further reinforced with a series of meetings with general public.



Dr Mukul Sangma, Chief Minister, meghalaya addressing the citizens of Shillong on Safe and Secure Shillong Project

(3) CONFERENCE OF THE SUPERINTENDENTS OF POLICE AND COMMANDANTS AND HEADS OF POLICE UNITS HELD AT PHQ, SHILLONG

On 3rd and 4th October, 2012, a two -day Conference of the Superintendents of Police & Commandants (SP/CO) conference was held at the Police Head Quarters, Shillong.

During the deliberations, the district SsP briefed about the prevailing crime scenario in their respective districts and made presentations on the preparation for the forthcoming Assembly elections. The Director General of Police (DGP), while addressing the Officers, emphasized on the importance of basic policing, reaching out to the common people, attending to the welfare needs of the police personnel etc. DGP also placed on record his appreciation of the excellent work being done by all police personnel.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr Mukul Sangma addressed the conference on 04th Oct 2012. In his address, he highlighted the importance of community participation in policing as a force multiplier on the efforts of the police. The Chief Minister also emphasized the need for secure police housing complexes so as to ensure safety of families when the police personnel are posted out. Initially, two such police housing complexes would be constructed in South Garo Hills and West Garo Hills districts for which necessary funds are being provided by the Dept of DONER, Govt of India.

The Chief Minister later flagged off the five Police Patrol Vehicles for Shillong and Tura, which were meant for round the clock duty to attend to emergency calls. Also, the Chief Minister flagged off two Anti-Human Trafficking vehicles meant for the Anti-Human Trafficking Units established in Shillong and Tura which are funded by the Government of India.

(4) Transparent Recruitment Policy For Recruitment In Meghalaya Police

Following the notification of the Transparent Recruitment Policy (TRP) by the Government of Meghalaya, the Meghalaya Police has started recruitments to the posts of UB and AB Constables and allied posts in the department

involving the use of technological innovations to ensure objectivity and accuracy and eliminate discretionary powers on the part of the recruiting officers as far as possible. The Policy Document is available at Meghalaya Police website- www.megpolice.gov.in.

A strong and effective grievance redressal mechanism has been set up and candidates can approach the senior most officer at the venue of recruitment in case they have any complaints. They can also address their grievances to the Chairman of the Central Recruitment Board at bishondro@gmail.com and also send their grievances directly to the DGP at dgpmeghalaya@gmail.com.

NORTH EASTERN RURAL LIVELIHOOD PROJECT

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved implementation of North East Rural Livelihood Project (NERLP) on 16th November 2011 at an estimated cost of Rs. 683.2 crore, comprising assistance as a soft loan from the World Bank of Rs. 614.8 crore and the Central Government funding of Rs. 68.4 crore, in two selected districts in the States of Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.

The North East Rural Livelihood Project has become effective in March, 2012. Recruitment process for Regional Project Monitoring Unit and eight District Project Management Units is in final stages.

The objective of NERLP is to improve rural livelihoods especially that of women, unemployed youth and of most disadvantaged by providing access to economic opportunities, improving adaptation of sustainable agricultural and natural resource management through establishing participatory and accountable community based institutions. Targeted outcome indicators of project development objectives are:-

- (i) At least 60% of women Self Help Group members achieve minimum increase of 30% in income, in real terms by end of the project.

- (ii) At least 30% of the project-benefited unemployed youths are employed.
- (iii) At least 50% of disadvantaged households achieve minimum of 30% improvement in livelihood indices from entry into the project.

The project aims at providing resources to engage various private and public sector organisations who in turn will assist Producer Organisations and Self Help Groups to access better market information and latest technology, obtain higher returns for their produce and help communities align their produce better with market demands. Following strategies are proposed for marketing and for establishing marketing linkages around them:

- Support for production cluster development, collective marketing, market infrastructure development, market intelligence collection, analysis and dissemination;
- Value chain analysis and linkage support;
- Public-private partnership;
- Linkage with nodal agencies to facilitate marketing;

DEVELOPMENT TAKING DEEP ROOTS ALONG SINO-INDIA BORDER IN ARUNACHAL

Development is taking deep roots on this side of the Sino-India border unlike the common impression that other side of the border was highly developed.

This was the message conveyed by Lumla lawmaker and Civil Aviation Parliamentary Secretary Shri Jambe Tashi while inaugurating the community mushroom farms here in Tawang district along the tri-junction of Bhutan, Tibet and India.

The farms are set up by New Delhi-based Inspire Network for Environment (INE) and Yuva Arunachal, both voluntary organizations engaged in improving the lot of the people living in the border areas.

Addressing a public meeting, Shri Tashi lauded INE and Yuva Arunachal and ICICI bank and its Foundation for their path-breaking initiative in six border villages by launching community mushroom cultivation farming to provide solace to the villagers looking for sustainable development alternative with cultivation becoming less remunerative with the passage of time.

Appreciating former chief minister, late Dorjee Khandu, who desired greater welfare of the state and present Chief Minister Shri Nabam Tuki for giving priority to agri-horticulture sector for improving the lot of the people of the agrarian state, Shri Tashi assured all possible support to INE and Yuva Arunachal in making their all endeavours successful.

CULTURAL GRANDEUR OF NORTHEAST SHOWCASED AT 32ND IITF

Craftspersons and entrepreneurs from North Eastern States participated in the recently held 32nd India International Trade Fair (IITF), which provided them a big platform to showcase their products and skills. More than 250 crafts persons and entrepreneurs from the eight states of the northeast participated in the trade fair. Each state had a dedicated pavilion at the fair with different themes.

Around 27 exhibitors from Nagaland showcased a variety of products like handloom, artificial jewellery, decorative items, paintings and cultural artifacts.

Tipini, an entrepreneur from Tuensang district in Nagaland, was exhibiting her handicrafts in Delhi for the first time and was thrilled by the response of the people. "We have displayed handmade items - like the dresses, waistcoats, bed sheets, even the necklaces," said Tipini.

Exhibitors from Tripura, Manipur, Mizoram, Assam, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh also took part in the fair. Dressed in traditional attires, they also promoted the culture of their state.



Large crowds thronged the Arunachal Pradesh pavilion for its cane and bamboo products. Other than handloom, many innovative products like designer lampshades and sofa sets made from horns of bullocks were on display. "We have displayed handicraft items of Arunachal Pradesh and they all are handmade. We are making profit with good sales," said Shri Tai Tatvp, Manager for textile and handicrafts, Arunachal Pradesh.

The exhibitors benefit from such fairs as they gain experience about customer demand and the changes they need to make in their products to market them in Delhi and other places. The event provided them a platform to generate business, and boost incomes of the artisans and craftsmen from the region. "We have got lots of international and domestic queries for these products. We will promote rural artisans to make these products," said Shri Manoj Kumar, exhibitor, Tripura.

The IITF 2012 was a perfect blend of commerce and culture. During the fair, every state was allotted a day to celebrate its State day to promote awareness about cultures and traditions of the region.



DURGA PUJA IN NORTHEAST SENDS OUT MESSAGE OF PEACE AND HARMONY

Durga Puja was celebrated across the northeast recently which saw a large number of people from all walks of life taking part. Massive pandals were set up for the festival where people offered prayers to goddess Durga and wished for a prosperous future.

With most insurgent groups in talks with the central government, there is confidence among the people about peace in the region.

"It is a great feeling to participate in this festival. People from all tribes and communities participated in the festival. This festival clearly sends a message of peace

and harmony in the region," said Gitanjali Choudhary. The festive mood was visible in Tripura. This time people spent long hours in the pandals due to drop in the insurgent activities in the region. Roads in Agartala, which once used to be deserted because of threats from insurgents, were packed with people through nights.

"We seek the blessings of Goddess Durga so that permanent peace and harmony could be established in the region," said Shri Surat Choudhary. The festival brought together people from all communities, promoting unity and brotherhood.

MANIPUR BODYBUILDER WINS 'MR. SOUTH ASIA' TITLE

HIV positive Manipuri muscleman Khundrakpam Pradip Kumar recently bagged the "Mr. South Asia" title in Ludhiana, Punjab. Shri K Pradip Kumar won the title in 65 kg weight category. "People were amazed when they came to know that I am infected with HIV. My message to all is that even with HIV, it is possible to lead a normal life like others," said Shri Pradip Kumar.

The All Manipur Gymnasium Welfare Association, his family, well-wishers and members of Self Support Group, recently felicitated Pradip Kumar at a function here.

"He told us about winning the gold medal. We all cried out of joy. I was worried for him since he went alone, but when I heard the news, I was overwhelmed and proud of him," said Pradip Kumar's mother Smt. Kh Memma Devi. Shri Pradip Kumar stood 8th in the Mr. World Competition last year.

He is undergoing Anti Retroviral Therapy and is preparing for Mr. World championship scheduled to be held in Bangkok.

READERS COLUMN

The NE monthly Newsletter is published in English, Assamese, Bengali and Manipuri and has a 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, requests for inputs for the Newsletter from the State Governments, agencies, institutions and individuals highlighting the area specific issues, problems, special features, potential for tourism, environmental protection or special efforts/achievement in various fields. Views and write-ups from general public are also solicited on specific issues/problems including on measures for resolution thereto in the North East.

Articles should be sent in a hard copy format accompanied by floppy/CD version along with photographs. Articles should be accompanied by an abstract of maximum of 150-200 words. Readers are encouraged to send comments and suggestions (upto 300-400 words) on published articles. All letters should have writer's full name and postal address. The selected articles will be published in the monthly NE Newsletter with due editing.

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