

Photo: Pung Cholom, Manipur

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network & Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace.

MWGSN & NEIWIP believes in the human right of every woman, man, youth and child to peace. War and violence result in the systemic and sweeping denial of civil and political rights, along with economic, social, and cultural rights as scarce resources are expended on weapons and preparation for war. Whats more, the aftermath of wars can be destructive and devastating on the lives of the people that are constantly exploited and assaulted. Our work continues and we resolutely stand by our belief that enduring peace will be attained only when all human rights are fulfilled. We continue our journey in ensuring that the human rights of all persons to peace is inextricably linked to all other human rights - rights that are universal, indivisible, interconnected and interdependent.

In our first issues of 2024, we shared articles and stories covering three key issues related to our work. This is followed by important news from Northeast India where MWGSN and NEIWIP have been working for the past 15 years.



### NORTHEAST INDIA WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR PEACE (NEIWIP)

**Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace (NEIWIP)** is a network of women organizations that are working for peace in the northeast region of India. Northeast India comprising of the eight states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim is facing the onslaught of multiple armed conflicts since the late 1940s. A level of militarization has engulfed India's Northeast under the garb of insurgency and counter-insurgency. And in the process women are assaulted, humiliated, raped and murdered during conflicts which are not of their making.

**NEIWIP** brings together women from all over Northeast states to strategize an action plan to strategise an action plan for building peace, providing justice and political rights in the region ruptured by years of conflict.



Art for peace and healing - Painting Workshop at Department of Veterinary & Animal Husbandry,Farmers' Hostel Relief Camp, Porompat,Imphal east - 3 August 2024



Art for peace and healing - Painting Workshop at Lamboikhongnangkhong Relief Camp, Imphal West - 4 August 2024



Celebrated International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples - 9 August 2024



Celebrated National Handloom Day - 8 August 2024



Psychosocial Support and Healing - community counselling and group therapy session at

Khoyo keithel Relief Camp, Moirang Lamkhai - 10 August 2024

## **NEWS FROM NORTHEAST**

#### ASSAM

#### High alert issued in all Assam districts bordering Bangladesh

Source: North East Now, 6 August 2024 The Assam government has issued a "high alert" in all districts bordering Bangladesh in response to the recent turmoil in the neighboring country. Districts in Assam... read more>>

### Assam rights activists attacked for opposing five-star hotel in Kaziranga

Source: North East Now, 8 August 2024 In a shocking act of violence in Assam's Kaziranga, a mob of over 100 people brutally attacked activists working to protect the rights of displaced villagers on Wednesday... read more>>

#### Nearly 48,000 foreigners detected in Assam in four decades

Source: North East Now, 23 August 2024 The Assam government disclosed on Thursday that between 1971 and 2014, a total of 47,928 individuals were identified as foreigners in the state... read more>>

#### MANIPUR

#### Meitei, Hmar Representatives Meet In Manipur's Jiribam, Agree To Bring Normalcy

Source: NDTV, 1 August 2024 Representatives of the Meitei community and the Hmar tribe held a peace meeting in Manipur's Jiribam today, and agreed to work for normalcy nearly two months after ethnic violence reached the district bordering Assam... <u>read more>></u>

### 10,675 illegal immigrants detected in Manipur: CM N Biren Singh

Source: Imphal Free Press, 3 August 2024 As many as 10,675 illegal immigrants were detected in the state during the last five years, Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh during the sixth session of 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly on Friday... read more>>

#### Manipur: Kuki-Zo protest against withdrawal of Assam Rifles continues

Source: Imphal Free Press, 4 August 2024 The 15th Remembrance Day of the Kuki-Zo community was marked by a massive demonstration and solemn ceremonies aimed at drawing attention to the precarious security situation in the region... read more>>

#### Displaced students of Churachandpur Medical College stage protest

Source: Imphal Free Press, 9 August 2024 Displaced students of Churachandpur Medical College held a sit-in protest on Thursday at the COVID Hospital in Kiyamgei, Imphal... read more>>

#### Manipur: IDPs stage sit-in demanding safe return to their homes

Source: Imphal Free Press, 11 August 2024 Yearning to return to their original lands and homes, the internally displaced persons (IDPs) seeking refuge in various relief camps staged a sit-in on Saturday... read more>>

### Manipur Violence: Clashes between Kuki groups leaves four dead in Tengnoupal district

Source: Imphal Free Press, 12 August 2024 At least four people were killed in Molnoi village, located east of Pallel under the Tengnoupal Police Station in Tengnoupal District, during a fierce gun battle between Kuki militant groups on Friday around 9.30 am... <u>read more>></u>

#### Manipur: Former MLA Yamthong's wife killed in bomb blast

Source: Imphal Free Press, 12 August 2024 Wife of former MLA Yamthong Haokip succumbed to her injuries after being injured in a suspected IED blast at Ekou Mullam under Saikul Police Station in Kangpokpi district on Saturday around 3 pm... <u>read more>></u>

### 'Don't Club Us With Others,' Says Manipur's Thadou Tribe, Waits For Peace Plan

Source: NDTV, 15 August 2024 A top global body of the Thadou tribe has welcomed Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh's statement in the assembly that all communities are working hard to bring peace in the ethnic violence-hit state, except for a few agenda-driven leaders who are misleading the people of the state.... read more>>

#### Manipur government threatens prosecution on The Wire report

Source: Imphal Free Press, 20 August 2024 Responding to the reports published by The Wire on the allegedly doctored audio clips of Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh, the state government on Monday issued a strong warning that those involved in spreading such "false and fabricated information" through any media will be prosecuted. In a three-part serial... read more>>

#### Manipur transport announces free bus service for Internally Displaced Persons

Source: India Today NE, 20 August 2024 The Manipur State Transport (MST) has announced a 100 per cent concession on bus fares for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) with immediate effect... read more>>

#### UNC Peace Committee Urges Meitei and Kuki-Zo community to Engage in Urgent Dialogue to Ease Manipur Crisis Source: Ukhrul Times, 25 August 2024

The United Naga Council (UNC) Peace Committee has once again appealed to the Meiteis and the Kuki-Zo community to hold dialogue. ... read more>>

### MEGHALAYA

### Meghalaya imposes indefinite night curfew along Bangladesh border

Source: North East Now, 6 August 2024 In response to the escalating violence in neighboring Bangladesh, the Meghalaya government has announced the immediate imposition of an indefinite night curfew along its international border with Bangladesh.Meghalaya, which shares a 443 km border with Bangladesh,... read more>>

#### Bernard Marak urges Meghalaya CM to help displaced tribals from Bangladesh

Source: East Mojo, 8 August 2024 Tura MDC and BJP spokesperson, Bernard N Marak, has written to Chief Minister Conrad Sangma, urging the establishment of camps to accommodate Garo, Khasi, and other tribal groups displaced by the ongoing crisis in Bangladesh... read more>>

#### MIZORAM

#### Mizoram CM likely to mediate Kuki-Meitei talks to end crisis in Manipur

Source: North East Now, 2 August 2024 Mizoram chief minister Lalduhoma is expected to mediate between Kuki-Zo organizations and the government, as well as with groups representing the Meitei community, to facilitate peace talks in Manipur... <u>read more>></u>

#### Mizoram: Restrictions imposed near Bangladesh, Myanmar borders in Lawngtlai

Source: North East Now, 7 August 2024 The district administration of Mizoram's southernmost Lawngtlai district, which shares borders with Bangladesh and Myanmar, has imposed restrictions near India's borders with Bangladesh and Myanmar given the unrest in neighbouring Bangladesh... <u>read more>></u>

#### Mizo body to mediate peace between rival Chin groups in Myanmar

Source: East Mozo, 9 August 2024 On August 7, 2024, a significant meeting took place at the Mizo Zirlai Pawl (MZP) General Headquarters in Pisapui, where leaders from the MZP and the Interim Chin National Consultative Council (ICNCC) convened to discuss pathways to peace among various Chin groups in Myanmar's Chin State... read more>>

### Mizoram gets Rs 8 crore central aid for over 43,000 refugees

Source: North East Now, 20 August 2024 The Mizoram government has secured Rs 8 crore in central funding to support over 43,000 refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Myanmar, Manipur, and Bangladesh, Home Minister K. Sapdanga informed the state legislature on Tuesday... read more>>

#### NAGALAND

### Nagaland activates security measures amid Bangladeshi influx concerns

Source: East Mojo, 9 August 2024 Nagaland's Home Commissioner, Vyasan R, on Friday informed that security measures have been activated across the state amid concerns over potential influx of immigrants from Bangladesh... <u>read more>></u>

#### Myanmar-based NSCN-K YA, ULFA (I) declare total shutdown on August 15

Source: East Mojo, 10 August 2024

Myanmar-based NSCN-K Yung Aung and the ULFA (I) have announced a total shutdown on August 15, rejecting what they term as India's "false Independence Day" across the states of Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh... read more>>

# ARTICLES

### Unregulated vigilante armies push Indian state of Manipur to brink of civil war

As the sun began to slip behind the verdant Manipur hills, Kolom Rabi prepared for a long night ahead. Hurriedly he slung a cartridge belt over his shoulder, strapped on a walkie-talkie and grabbed his shotgun.... <u>read more>></u>

#### Muhammad Yunus returns to Bangladesh to lead interim government

Nobel Peace Prize-winning economist Muhammad Yunus has returned to Bangladesh to head an interim government after weeks of student-led protests forced Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to resign and flee to India... read more>>

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