Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from Control Arms Foundation of India & Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network.

India is a land of great diversity consisting of 29 states and 7 union territories. Often the term "Unity in Diversity" has been used to reflect the country's immense diversity. It has also been used to promote the various socio cultural differences of the many communities settled in vastly different regions. "Diversity" means more than just acknowledging and/ or tolerating differences. The concept signifies respect and appreciation of different cultures, race, ethnicity, gender, socio - economic status, age, physical abilities etc; and in our country, there is much need to support and protect diversity. Individuals and groups must be valued and be freed from prejudice. Hence, it is extremely important to foster a climate of equity and mutual respect which are intrinsic for a peaceful nation to grow and develop.

"Deepening Diversity Women Rights and Democracy in India" is a program Control Arms Foundation of India (CAFI) started with an aim to address the issues of increasing violence against women and girls in conflict zones as well as the rise in case of growing intolerance and racial violence in India. CAFI is closely working with committed stakeholders to contribute in solving the issues of Gender Based Violence (GBV) especially in conflict zones of India and racial discrimination in the country. The goal is to deepen diversity and to raise awareness on the injustice prevailing all across India. By adopting mechanisms such as improved and strengthened civil society responses, taking initiatives, engaging local authorities and government structures as well as international efforts, the focus is on the need to solve these issues. Through these efforts, CAFI hopes that it will help in ensuring an inclusive and sustainable growth in India.

In the month of August 2018, CAFI and MWGSN organized the first part of the training of trainers on Diversity and Gender Justice in Guwahati, Assam. Teaming up with Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), the training was aimed to train individuals and representatives of Northeast India from various Civil Society Organisations (CSO's), educational institutes, government and private organizations having different backgrounds on the module for further promotion of the module in educational institutes and organizations. The second part of this training is to be followed in New Delhi on October 4 and 5 2018. Team CAFI and MWGSN have also been intensely working to launch the much awaited book titled "Addressing Democracy, Diversity, Racial and Gender-Based Violence with special emphasis in Conflict Areas" to be published by the New York Universal Publishing House, on September 21 2018 at the India Habitat Centre. Moreover, the team continues to work on providing support to victims of sexual and racial violence all across the northeast of India. Please find the August newsletter here, providing news related to the aforementioned conference, Peace Building processes, Gender Based Violence, Sexual Violence, Racial Discrimination and the efforts of CAFI and MWGSN to ensure diversity and inclusion.

**RECENT CAFI AND MWGSN ACTIVITIES**

Two-Day Regional Level Training of Trainers on Module on Diversity, Gender Justice and Inclusion, Guwahati, Assam
ARTICLES

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Spice of life: Unity in diversity, our idea of India
Source: hindustantimes.com, Aug 29, 2018

Why linguistic diversity does not mean India is cosmopolitan
Source: hindustantimes.com, Aug 30, 2018

Independence Day 2018: Must ensure nation free of religious, caste, racial discrimination, says Pranab Mukherjee
Source: indianexpress.com, August 15, 2018

Independence Day 2018: To bring country together, we need to end racial discrimination, steer clear of labels
Source: firstpost.com, Aug 15, 2018

Inclusion means both being there and feeling like you belong
Source: qz.com, August 28, 2018

Promote tolerance, respect diversity, UN chief urges ahead of International Day against racial discrimination
Source: news.un.org, 20 March 2018

PEACE BUILDING AND DISARMAMENT

The Road towards a National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security for Lebanon
Source: reliefweb.int, 20 Aug 2018

UN Women, Generations For Peace unveil partnership for gender equality through sports
Source: jordantimes.com, Aug 05, 2018

Kofi Annan, Champion for Women’s Rights
Source: cfr.org, August 21, 2018

Experts Seek More Women Involvement In Peace Building
Source: altonline.tv

SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

The Dual Victims Of Wartime Rape - OpEd
Source: eurasiareview.com, August 31, 2018

The cost of conflict: Violence against women in Kashmir
Source: alaraby.co.uk, 14 August, 2018

Book launch - Silenced Victims of Wartime Sexual Violence
Source: griffith.edu.au, August 13, 2018

Sexual Violence In Conflict Continues To Be Associated With Stigma
Source: forbes.com

Sexual violence, child soldiers & war crimes: UN report slams all sides of Yemen conflict
Source: rt.com, 28 Aug, 2018

NEWS FROM NORTHEAST

ASSAM

8 minor girls rescued from railway station at Sivasagar
Source: The NorthEast Today, 8 August 2018

Man from Manipur held for attempting rape in a moving train
Source: The NorthEast Today, 8 August 2018

Assam bureaucrat held for molesting minor
Source: The NorthEast Today, 12 August 2018

Guwahati-based journalist apprehended for blackmailing and harassment
Source: The NorthEast Today, 13 August 2018

Two Sisters File FIR Against Union MoS Railways Accusing Rape
Source: The Shillong Times, 14 August 2018

GNRC hospital ward boy molests patient, arrested
Source: The NorthEast Today, 21 August 2018
MANIPUR

Death Sentence by Court for rape and murder convict
Source: The Sangai Express, 1 August 2018

Police Officers who investigated minor Rape deserves “Gallantry Award”
Source: IT News, 4 August 2018

Rape accused examined
Source: The Sangai Express, 5 August 2018

Bike rally on crime against women
Source: The Sangai Express, 7 August 2018

Police Station fails to arrest an Army Personnel who raped a 17 yrs old minor from Andro- YFPHR
Source: IT News, 12 August 2018

3 non-locals caught molesting girl
Source: The Sangai Express, 13 August 2018

Mother wants death penalty for rapist, who raped her minor children
Source: The Sangai Express, 19 August 2018

MEGHALAYA

Man Gets 3-Yr RI in 2015 POCSO Case
Source: The Shillong Times, 7 August 2018

BSF Man Held For Molesting Minor
Source: The Shillong Times, 10 August 2018

CJ For End To Human Trafficking
Source: The Shillong Times, 12 August 2018

Teen Abducted, Sexually Harassed In SWGH
Source: The Shillong Times, 14 August 2018

Man Held for Raping 5-Yr-Old Stepdaughter
Source: The Shillong Times, 17 August 2018

MIZORAM

Mizoram | Man gets 20-year jail time for raping mentally challenged woman
Source: The NorthEast Today, 11 August 2018

NAGALAND

Man arrested for rape in Kohima
Source: The Morung Express, 5 August 2018

A 53-year old gets sixteen years imprisonment for rape of a minor
Source: The Morung Express, 24 August 2018

TRIPURA

2 women brutally attacked in separate incidents; one dead, another recovering
Source: The NorthEast Today, 12 August 2018

DELHI NCR

Man Arrested For Stabbing Pregnant Wife; Carjackers Busted
Source: THE QUINT, 30.08.18

HC lawyer held for rape and blackmail of intern
Source: TNN | Updated: Jul 20, 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

September 21, 2018 - Book Launch of the Seminal Research on “Addressing Democracy, Diversity, Racial and Gender-Based Violence with Special Emphasis on
October 4 and 5, 2018 - Training of Trainers on Diversity and Gender Justice
Seminar Hall I and II, India International Centre, 40, Max
Sexual Violence in Conflict Areas
Casuarina Hall, India Habitat Centre, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road New Delhi 110003
6:30pm - 9:00 pm

Mueller Marg, New Delhi - 110003
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Delhi
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