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 May 2018, CAFI organized a regional level round table conference in Guwahati, Assam on 2nd of May on the theme of Racial discrimination in Northeast India. Following the success of this event, CAFI and MWGSN in collaboration with MARG organized a briefing of Parliamentarians on the high rise of crime against women as well as diversity in the country on the 30th of May. The purpose of this briefing was to evolve an Anti-Racial law and to table the bill of Women, Peace and Security in the parliament. Moreover, Ms. Binalakshmi Nepram, Founder and Secretary-General, CAFI and MWGSN delivered a lecture on “Women and Gun Violence: Lessons from Abroad” at Duke University. Our commitment to provide support to victims of sexual and racial discrimination continued along with documentation of many sexual and domestic abuse cases all across the Northeast of India. Please find the May 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.
17th May 2018 - CAFI Delhi Team meets with Member of Parliament Shri Bhubhaneswar Kalita in New Delhi.

24th May 2018 - Ms. Binalakshmi Nepram, Founder and Secretary-General, CAFI and MWGSN delivered a lecture on “Women and Gun Violence: Lessons from Abroad” at Duke University.


NEWS OF THE MONTH

NEWS REPORT OF THE MONTH OF MAY

Assam Town Tense Over Death of Woman Under Mysterious Circumstances
The death of a 20-year-old college student belonging to the Karbi tribe, who died under mysterious circumstances last week, has led to a tense situation in Diphu town of Assam's Karbi Anglong district
Read More >>

CAFI IN MEDIA
Parliamentarians for Enabling an Anti-Racial Law and Bill on Women, Peace and Security Bill
be passed in Indian Parliament to Combat Discrimination and to enable a Gender Just Society

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**MP push for law to fight racism**

Rajya Sabha MP from Assam and PCC president Ripun Bora assured a group of NGOs in New Delhi on Wednesday that he would garner support of more MPs to push for an anti-racism law in the country.

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**Parliamentarians for enabling anti-racial law and bill on women, peace and security held**

Control Arms Foundation of India (CAFI) and Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network (MWGSN), Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace in collaboration with Multiple Action Research Group (MARG)

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**ARTICLES**

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**DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

SGPC Asks India to Act Immediately to Control Rising Racial Attacks on Sikhs

Source: sikh24.com, May 29, 2018

'Even in death we are apart, away and outcaste': A Dalit Christian from Kerala narrates the untold story of discrimination

Source: indianexpress.com

**IN SEARCH OF GENDER UTOPIA,**

Source: dailypioneer.com, 28 May 2018

Women & Banking: India's financial inclusion suffers from a gender gap

Source: financialexpress.com, May 19, 2018

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**SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT**

No Forensic Analysis In 13,000 Rape Cases Every Year, Says Maneka Gandhi

Source: ndtv.com

Secretary-General's remarks to the Security Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict [as delivered]

Source: un.org, 22 May 2018

How the Indian government is shifting public focus away from rape culture

Source: dailyprincetonian.com, May 6, 2018

Violence against women as war weapon

Source: thekashmirwalla.com, 30 May 2018

Caste dynamics behind sexual violence in India

Source: dw.com, 10 May 2018

Violence, rape and other fear mongering tactics used by Indian forces in Kashmir Valley

Source: globalvillagespace.com, May 7, 2018

'Victims Are Penalised': UN Is Failing Its Female Employees

Source: thewire.in, 18 May 2018

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**PEACE BUILDING AND DISARMAMENT**

Role of India in Conflict Resolution and Peace Building

Source: kashmirmonitor.in, May 31, 2018

UNGA Debate on Sustaining Peace Calls for Partnerships and Inclusion

Source: sdg.iisd.org, 29 May 2018

Women and Peacekeeping Missions

Source: dialogo-americas.com, 3 May 2018

UN chief launches new disarmament agenda

Source: uniindia.com, 25 May 2018

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**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

What does Sustainable Development mean in an unequal world?

Source: downbearth.org.in, 17 May 2018

NITI Aayog to rank states on SDG parameters

Source: livemint.com, May 10 2018

Financial inclusion, the key to women's empowerment in India

Source: yourstory.com, 8 May 2018

Pan Africa e-network: India's Africa outreach

Source: orfonline.org, 4 May 2018

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**NEWS FROM NORTHEAST**

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**ASSAM**

Girl, woman raped and killed in 2 separate incidents in Dhubri

Source: The Shillong Times, 1 May 2018

7-year-old girl murdered in Dhubri district by teenager, rape suspected
Cop Held For Molesting Minor In Police Outpost
Source: The Shillong Times, 3 May 2018

Workshop On Sexual Harassment At Workplace
Source: The Shillong Times, 4 May 2018

Woman allegedly gang-raped, murdered at tea garden in Cachar District
Source: The North east Today, 7 May 2018

Two women assaulted by tea estate labourers after branding them as 'Witch'
Source: The North east Today, 13 May 2018

Assam: Jorhat man arrested after video of him masturbating in front of girls goes viral
Source: The North east Today, 14 May 2018

35-yr-old woman allegedly molested in Sivasagar district; FIR filed
Source: The North east Today, 16 May 2018

10-yr-old allegedly raped in Goalpara district
Source: The North east Today, 17 May 2018

Human trafficking bid foiled, 5 minors boys rescued from Kamrup district
Source: The North east Today, 17 May 2018

585 children from NE rescued from trains
Source: The North east Today, 18 May 2018

Teacher arrested for molesting 13-yr-old
Source: The North east Today, 21 May 2018

MANIPUR

Rape convict absconding for 10 years
Source: The Sangai Express, 1 May 2018

Life Imprisonment for Home Administrator: For raping and intimidating minors
Source: The Sangai Express, 6 May 2018

Daughter of rape victim pleads for speedy justice
Source: Imphal Free Press, 9 May 2018

Students’ body threatens boycotts of 2 MLA over rape issues
Source: IT News, 16 May 2018

Rape accused remanded
Source: The Sangai Express, 16 May 2018

‘Appointment of Rapist MLA as Chairman of a labour board is an insult to women community'
Source: IT News, 18 May 2018

Rape victim lost hopes; says she is in dilemma whether she will be able to wait for justice or not
Source: IT News, 19 May 2018

Thanga Gang Rape case handed over to crime branch Imphal; 2 accused plead for anticipatory bail
Source: IT News, 19 May 2018

Meet held on crimes against women, children
Source: The Sangai Express, 21 May 2018

Minor girl raped, alleges mother
Source: The Sangai Express, 21 May 2018

MEGHALAYA

Media Barred From Revealing Identity Of Rape Victim
Source: The Shillong Times, 11 May 2018

14 Accused Charge-Sheeted
Source: The Shillong Times, 12 May 2018

One Held, Another Absconding As WJH Records Rise In POCSO Cases
Source: The Shillong Times, 16 May 2018

SPARK Awareness on Women & Child Abuse
Source: The Shillong Times, 18 May 2018

Activists Raise Concern Over Abuse Of Women On Social Media
Source: The Shillong Times, 22 May 2018
14-Year-Old Raped
Source: The Shillong Times, 22 May 2018

MIZORAM
Mizoram: Man given 10 years imprisonment for raping minor girl
Source: The North east Today, 21 May 2018

NAGALAND
Consultative meeting on violence against women and children
Source: The Nagaland Post, 3 May 2018

Consultative meeting & sensitization programme for police personnel
Source: The Nagaland Post, 10 May 2018

Workshop on violence and sexual harassment
Source: The Nagaland Post, 13 May 2018

TRIPURA
Tripura: Monk accused of assaulting minor girl sent to 14-day police custody
Source: The North east Today, 12 May 2018

DELHI NCR
Urban Assertion by North-East Immigrants in Delhi
Source: e-pao.net

NAM highlights the significance of the DDPA
Source: newdelhitimes.com, 21 May 2018

In Delhi, The 'Rape Capital Of India', Five Women Were Raped Each Day In First Quarter Of 2018
Source: indiatimes.com, 07 May 2018

Delhi’s Tis Hazari Court Is A Sexual Harassment Nightmare, Women Lawyers Say
Source: huffingtonpost.in, 24 May 2018

Delhi man gets 10-year jail for raping wife’s sister
Source: timesofindia.indiatimes.com, May 31, 2018

Woman dragged into car near Gurugram mall, gangraped in Delhi’s Vasant Kunj
Source: indiatoday.in, May 31, 2018

Rape Accused Delhi Man Kills Kin of Minor Victim for Not Taking Back Case
Source: news18.com, May 31, 2018

Woman abducted from Gurugram mall, gang-raped; 5 held
Source: timesofindia.indiatimes.com, May 30, 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE MONTH OF MAY

Training on Diversity and Gender Justice in Imphal, Manipur
Launching of handbook and posters on the theme "Addressing sexual offences against Women"
Advocacy meetings with Parliamentarians on the theme "Diversity, Inclusion and Gender Issues".

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