

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST, 2017

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.

Please find the August 2017 newsletter here, providing news related to the recent Inter-generational Dialogue on Sustainable Development Goals at the UN Headquarters along with news related to Peace building processes , Gender Based Violence, Sexual Violence, Racial Discrimination and the efforts to ensuring diversity and inclusion.

RECENT CAFI ACTIVITIES



CAFI attended and gave a speech at the Inter-generational Dialogue on the Sustainable Development Goals at UN Headquarters
August 1, 2017

[Read more >>](#)

[Watch speech >>](#)

News of the Month

CAFI'S WORK REPORTED IN THE MEDIA IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST



[Binalakshmi Nepam at Inter-generational Dialogue on the Sustainable Development Goals at UN Headquarters](#)

[Watch Speech>>](#)

ARTICLES

:: Diversity and Inclusion ::

'Racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism or Islamophobia are poisoning our societies' - UN chief

Urging people everywhere to speak out against hate speech and hate crimes, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres today reiterated his call for tolerance, respect for the other and the importance of recognizing diversity. [Full Article>>](#)

'We must save India's religious diversity'

A hundred and one prominent Christians belonging to various denominations wrote an open letter to the Church leadership on Friday asking them to support the civil society in its struggle to safeguard India's cultural and religious diversity. [Full Article>>](#)

India Needs The Right System To Protect Its 'Unity In Diversity'

India's celebrated "unity in diversity" is in peril. Even as the country marks its 70th year of independence, there are nearly a dozen festering insurgencies or secessionist movements. The outgoing Vice President Hamid Ansari has just announced that the nation's minorities are insecure. [Full Article>>](#)

PM Narendra Modi underlines: Will not tolerate any violence

"No one has the right to take the law into one's own hands in the name of one's beliefs," the PM said in the 35th edition of his monthly radio address, Mann Ki Baat, on Sunday. The death toll in the clashes triggered by Gurmeet Ram Rahim's conviction of rape rose to 38. [Full Article>>](#)

:: Peace Building Process ::

Investing in women key to sustainable peace in DR Congo and Nigeria – UN deputy chief

Investing in women and girls must be central to global efforts towards sustainable peace and development in both Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the United Nations deputy chief said today. [Full Article>>](#)

Youth for peacebuilding and conflict resolution in Sudan

UN Volunteers in Sudan, in collaboration with UNDP Sudan, other UN agencies and International Youth Forum celebrated International Youth Day in Khartoum, under the theme 'Youth4Peace'. [Full Article>>](#)

Sustained international involvement vital to breaking Guinea-Bissau's political crisis, Security Council told

Only by fulfilling the minimum conditions of the Conakry Agreement can Guinea-Bissau make progress towards breaking its years-long political crisis, the United Nations envoy for the country told the Security Council today, calling for better coordinated, sustained international involvement. [Full Article>>](#)

UN chief highlights youths' role in peace building

UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres has said youths can play a 'critical role' in creating a peaceful world for the generations to come, reports UNB. [Full Article>>](#)

:: Sexual Violence in Conflict ::

Towards an Inclusive Peace: Women and the Gender Approach in the Colombian Peace Process

According to Dag Nylander and Hilde Salvesen, the peace agreement signed by the Colombian government and the FARC in September 2016 was the most inclusive in history. [Full Article>>](#)

UN: Sexual violence marks conflicts in Nigeria and Congo

Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed says conflicts in Nigeria and Congo are marked by extremely high levels of sexual and gender-based violence – and both countries have –dismal low levels of women's political participation. [Full Article>>](#)

Home is often as dangerous as a war zone for women

After decades of advocacy, a global summit was finally convened in London three years ago to find a way of ending sexual violence in conflict situations. The aim was to focus attention on this often-overlooked aspect of warfare. [Full Article>>](#)

UNSOM holds training on sexual and gender-based violence for South West state police officers

United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) is holding a three-day workshop on sexual and gender-based violence and conflict-related sexual violence for police officers to help tackle the vice in South West state. [Full Article>>](#)

Why home, even when there's war, is the most dangerous place for women

After decades of advocacy, a global summit was finally convened in London three years ago to find a way of ending sexual violence in conflict situations. [Full Article>>](#)

Provocation lies in man's minds

The rate of crime committed against women is alarming. More than a decade has gone by with many cases of rape in Manipur. The situation is still getting worse day by day. Every single second is buffering to hear a new rape case in the state. Probably, women from other states of India must have assumed Manipur to be quite safe for them but the situation is just the opposite. [Full Article>>](#)

:: Sustainable Development Goals ::

Binalakshmi Nepram at Inter-generational Dialogues on the Sustainable Development Goals at UN Headquarters

Manipur born, renowned writer, social activist, Ms Binalakshmi Nepram spoke at Plenary Session on 1 August 2017 at United Nations Headquarters in New York on Inter-generational Dialogue on Sustainable Development Goals. [Full Article>>](#)

Solidarity across generations is vital for sustainable development, UN special event hears

The wisdom, experience, energy and ideals of the old and the young are vital to realizing the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres said today, stressing that they together can help break the cycles of poverty that have lasted for generations. [Full Article>>](#)

The new sustainable development goals advocate for peace and justice. Is Brazil listening?

Brazil is struggling to deliver on the newly minted sustainable development goals (SDGs). This is hardly surprising. The country is bogged down by a series of monumental political and economic crises which is distracting politicians and civilians. [Full Article>>](#)

[Achieving Sustainable Development Goals](#)

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), officially known as Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a set of 17 "Global Goals" with 169 targets and 200 indicators. [Full Article>>](#)

NEWS FROM NORTHEAST

ASSAM

[Slum area girls imparted self-defence training](#)

Source: *The Sentinel*, 2 August 2017

[5 - yr old raped by 16 - yr old, accused nabbed in Assam](#)

Source: *Meghalaya Times*, 3 August 2017

MANIPUR

[World Day Against Child Trafficking observed](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 1 August 2017

[Woman found dead in police station](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 2 August 2017

[CBI forms 5-member team to probe Manipur encounter killings](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express / TNN*, 2 August 2017

[15 yr old raped, brutalised at Senapati](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 3 August 2017

[One held for uploading photo](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 3 August 2017

[Rape accused convicted](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 5 August 2017

[Death of two housewives: JACs demand justice](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 7 August 2017

[Form village level committees to stop trafficking: MACR](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 8 August 2017

[Rape accused shot, injured](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 9 August 2017

[One day awareness program on combating crime against women](#)

Source: *IT News*, 10 August 2017

[Rape accused sentenced to five years rigorous imprisonment](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 12 August 2017

[Body fished out](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 19 August 2017

[Minor girl rescued](#)

Source: *The Sangai Express*, 20 August 2017

MEGHALAYA

[Two FIRs on Assault Of Woman](#)

Source: *The Shillong Times*, 6 August 2017

[Father Rapes 8-Year-Old](#)

Source: *The Shillong Times*, 8 August 2017

[Doctors In Jowai Indifferent To Minor Rape Victim](#)

Source: *The Shillong Times*, 13 August 2017

[Sensitization Programme on POCSO & Juvenile Justice Acts Held](#)

Source: *The Shillong Times*, 18 August 2017

[Crime Graph On The Rise In Meghalaya](#)

Source: *The Shillong Times*, 19 August 2017

[African students feel 'racially discriminated' in Shillong](#)

Source: *Meghalaya Times*, 20 August 2017

[21-Yr-Old Gang Raped](#)

Source: *The Shillong Times*, 21 August 2017

MIZORAM

[Two Men sentenced to 10 years rigorous imprisonment for Rape](#)

Source: *The Mizoram Post*, 14 August 2017

[No discrimination against genuine Chakma residents: Lal Thanhawla](#)

Source: *The Mizoram Post*, 21 August 2017

NAGALAND

[Organisations condemn murder of minor in Peren & rape attempt in Zunheboto](#)

Source: *The Nagaland Post*, 17 August 2017

[1 held for allegedly molesting minor](#)

Source: *The Nagaland Post*, 20 August 2017

DELHI-NCR & OTHERS

[Bezbaruah Committee Report in Parliament](#)

Source: *The Mizoram Post*, 2 August 2017

[Friend allegedly rapes 20-year-old chef in Delhi, throws her off building](#)

Source: *Hindustan Times*, Aug 14, 2017

[9-Year-Old Girl Allegedly Raped By 13-Year-Old Friend In Delhi](#)

Source: *ndtv.com*, August 24, 2017

Upcoming Events

**Participatory Community Meeting in Munirka
- 15th September 2017**

**Participatory Community Meeting in Noida
- 30th September 2017**

Delhi

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Assam

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