

WRITE-UP ON APWWS

The Arunachal Pradesh Women Welfare Society initially had a humble beginning by few committed ladies of the State in the year 1979 to fight against the anti-social practices like Child Marriage/Forced Marriage, Polygamy and better educational opportunities for women of Arunachal Pradesh. The said organization was officially registered under the Societies Act in the year 1981. Besides these issues, APWWS was the only women organization which talked about codification of customary practices with modification wherein women and children rights are protected especially property inheritance, rights of girl child within the ambit of customary Laws.

In 1994, the State Govt. hurriedly passed the Arunachal Pradesh Customary Practices Bills in the State Legislature without much debate/deliberation, thus giving sanction to social practices. The APWWS intervened by withholding assent of President of India for re-examination of the said bills so that the women /girl child rights are protected.

Besides raising social issues, the Arunachal Pradesh Women Welfare Society also mobilized the entire women of the state under one banner during 1994 onward thus forming a strong network of women's group. The movement enabled for establishment of State Commission for Women, Gender Budgeting, and also for inclusion of 33% of seat reservation in Panchayat Level, so that women's political issues and opinion is seen and heard. During the long span of over a decade, the struggle of Apex Women Organization for equality of opportunities and empowerment in the field of economic, political and social to some extent has been achieved in the form of establishment of APSCSW in 2005, Gender Budgeting from 2011, inclusion of 33% reservation in Panchayat Raj, Establishment of Women Police Station in Capital City and distinct headquarters, appointment of women member in Arunachal Pradesh State Civil Service Commission, and A.P. State Information Commission etc are some of the landmark achievements which the APWWS has been able to highlight and enable the policy makers to implement and achieve gender equality.

At present there are more than 30 branches of APWWS and affiliated bodies which work under the banner of the APWWS. The organization has been able to invoke the thought process of young minds of the State to work towards the issues. Till date, the struggle of APWWS continues as there are different forms of challenges in the form of crimes against women and children, are increasing. The organization is trying its level best for inclusive development, peace and harmony and justice to its members. Convergent with all the stakeholders of the society to achieve its target is what the APWWS is working on and the journey still continues.

EVENTS

1. IWD celebrated at Naharlagun 8th March'2013 in collaboration with APSWAB, APSCW.
2. APWWS (Miao Branch) attended the legal awareness camp on various women friendly laws conducted by the APSCW at Miao on 18-09-2013.



3. All Wancho Women Welfare Society (AWWWS), Longding attended the legal awareness camp on various women friendly laws relating to women and children, being conducted by the APSCW at Longding on 21-09-2013.



4. Women welfare society of Namsai attended the legal awareness camp on Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and crime against women conducted by the APSCW at Namsai on 18-11-2013



5. State Level Awareness on POSCO Act, 12 was conducted by APWWS on 30th Nov'13. Chief Guest Local MLA, R.P. Joint Director ICDS, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, collaboration with APLSA & APSCW-PHOTO-



6. APWWS celebrated International Women's Day 2014 at Banquet Hall, Itanagar in collaboration with APSCW and W&CD Deptt. on 08-03-2014. Members of State Commission, former members of APSCW, officers and officials from W&CD Deptt., police officers, various govt. officers, executive members of APWWS, NNA, NES, Students, Anganwadi workers and housewives attended the program.



7. Drawn the attention of NCW team who visited the State on 05.06.2014 on Social-economic issues of women of Arunachal by submitting a representation.

Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society		
Estd. : 10th October 1979 Registered under Societies Registration Act. 1860 Vide No. SRJTA/25 HQ: Itanagar- 791 111, Working Office: Mahila Imdad Bhawan, Naharlagun-791 110 Arunachal Pradesh		
1. Tadeu Yadir Chief Advisor 9436041343	Ref. No. APWWS/ 21 - 2014	Date: 5. 6. 14
2. Gumri Ringu President 9436041443	To,	
3. Goler Tak Vice-President 9436044674	The Chairperson, National Commission for Women, New Delhi.	
4. Samme Ngemu Lego Secy. General 9436271624	Sub: Representation by APWWS.	
5. Kani Nada Making Asst. Secy. General 986217361	Madam,	
6. N.B. Doye Spokesperson 9436041977	While extending our warm regards to the National Commission for Women, (NCW) for their visit to the state Arunachal Pradesh, we the apex Women's Organizations of the state, do take this opportunity to make this submission:-	
7. Radhika Chai Techi Chief Coordinator 9436897003	Madam, the issues of major concern to the Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society, (APWWS) ever since its inception on the 10 th Oct. of 1979 the issues were polygamy, child marriage, forced marriage, women empowerment (economic & political). The issues were highlighted to the government from time to time, though all are not implemented, but to some extent the Govt. has been pro active and these issues has been addressed in/with earnest.	
8. Dipi Benglia Toko Treasurer 9862273496	The State Govt. in the year 1994 passed the A.P Customary Laws and Social Practices Bill in order to provide protection of customary rights including ownership and transfer of land with its resources and the properties thereon as enjoyed by the indigenous communities of Arunachal Pradesh. Since the customary laws and practices are biased towards the basic women's rights, therefore the APWWS alongwith youth bodies like the AAPSU, the ANSU and many other NGOs like the Nylashi Elite Society, the Adi Socio-Cultural Society, the Dorji-Polo Mission and others, were responsible for withholding of the Assent of the President of India on this Bill passed in the State Assembly in November 1994.	
9. Tem Yabi Covener 9436631975	The Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society (APWWS) has been fighting for modification of the patriarchal customs and traditions and proper codification of customary laws for the various tribes of Arunachal Pradesh since the late 80s.	

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1. Tadeu Yadir Chief Advisor 9436041343	1. There are some tribe where 'divorce' is not allowed to women though the same tribe lets the men take as many wives they want or can.
2. Gumri Ringu President 9436041443	2. Polygamy is still very prevalent and more so. And the APWWS wants this to be banned by the various tribes through a codified customary law.
3. Goler Tak Vice-President 9436044674	3. Inheritance rights from parental property is still limited to exceptions when some well-to-do, rich families give some landed properties along with movable ones, traditionally entitled to the girls at marriage.
4. Samme Ngemu Lego Secy. General 9436271624	4. Custody of children is still denied to a widow / divorcee who want to remarry by customs in many tribes that many women have chosen to live as a widow for the sake of children.
5. Kani Nada Making Asst. Secy. General 986217361	5. Child marriages and forced marriages are drastically reduced as compared to the 90s situation although there are still cases from the 90s and early 2000s. But these have seemingly given way to early/adolescent marriages and pregnancies.
6. N.B. Doye Spokesperson 9436041977	Basically, in APWWS, we strongly feel that codified, gender sensitive customary laws are any day preferable to Indian laws because the rural, poor, illiterate women will have better access to customary institutions delivering justice to them than in the courts of Indian laws.
7. Radhika Chai Techi Chief Coordinator 9436897003	Lastly, we express our extreme gratitude to you and your colleagues for sparing some of your valuable moments with us.
8. Dipi Benglia Toko Treasurer 9862273496	
9. Tem Yabi Covener 9436631975	

S. Ngemu Lego
Secretary General
APWWS (CEC)

Gumri Ringu
President
APWWS (CEC)

8. APWWS, Ziro Branch organized a one day Legal Awareness Programme on crime against women at Abotani Hall, Ziro on 07-06-2014. The camp was attended by the NCW Chairperson, Smti Mamta Sharma and her team, APSCW team, Ziro MLA Shri Tage Taki, Ziro Administration Deptt, Police Deptt. govt. officials, NGOs, public, youths and students.



Addressing the mammoth gathering of women folk from all walks of life, NCW Chairperson Mamta Sharma called for a change in the mindset of the society and for proper implementation of laws with strong monitoring mechanism in place. She exhorted the women to be brave, come forward and report any crime or violence against them.

9. APWWS Ziro Branch along with Ziro Police and civil administration destroyed ganja (marijuana) plantations at Dukur, Gano, Pare Ami, Siiro and Taring area of Ziro valley on 10-08-2014.

Illegal ganja plantation destroyed in Ziro valley; LDV steps up against illegal drugs

From a Correspondent
ZIRO, Aug 10: Continuing its drive against cultivation of ganja, the Ziro branch of Arunachal Pradesh Women Welfare Society (APWWS) along with Ziro Police and civil administration yesterday destroyed several illegal ganja (marijuana) plantations at Dukur, Gano, Pare Ami, Siiro and Taring area of Ziro Valley.

The team seized a truck load of ganja (bhanga) plants and disposed it at garbage disposing centre instead of burning them on the spot.

Appreciating the initiative of APWWS, Lower



Subansiri Superintendent of Police (SP) Tumme Amo suggested the Society members to carry out simi-

lar drive at Yachuli, Yazali and Raga along with women groups of those areas.

He encouraged the So-

ciety to take up more such philanthropic activities for the welfare of entire Ziro Valley. (Contd. on P-3)

10. Met Hon'ble MoS Home Govt. of India on 5th July;2014, submitted representation for 33% reservation, repeal of APFSPA, Establishment of HRC, separate Commission for Child Right and fund allocation.

11. Offered comments/feedbacks on Model guideline under POCSO Act 2012 framed by Govt. of India, submitted to Director ICDS- on 11.08.2014.

12. One day legal awareness conducted on 16th Aug'2014 at Mahila Imdad Bhavan in collaboration with Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority.



13. Chandan Women Welfare Society (CWWS), an affiliated body of APWWS in



collaboration with APSCW created one day legal awareness programme in remote Wakka Circle of Longding District on 17-09-2014. The APWWS (CEC) Secy. General Smti Samnem Ngemu Lego spoke about the functioning of NGO and background of APWWS and its movement to eradicate the social evils and empowerment of women in the State.

While the APWWS Treasurer Smti Dipti Bengia Tadar spoke on the importance of girl education, health and hygiene. The awareness camp was attended by the Circle Officer of Wakka Circle, CDPO Smti K.T Tungkhang, ZPM Shri Matpho Kolong, Panchayat leaders, Asst. Commandant of CRPF Sunil Kimar, Ex-ZPM, NGO

day legal awareness programme on Domestic Violence Act 2005 and Anti Rape Law at Seijosa, in collaboration with APSCW on 29-09-2014. The programme was attended by Seijosa ZPM Shri Pani Tayum, Anchal Chairperson Ms. Renu Tayu Kenu, Ancha Samiti Members, Officer-In-Charge Shri H.S Dhami and ASI S.S Rawat and public and youths.



15. Mengder Hender Welfare Society and APWWS Sarli Branch organized a one day legal awareness programme at Sarli, Kurung Kumey District in collaboration with APSCW on 08-10-2014. The programme was attended by Circle officer incharge, CDPO, PI, ASM, Gaon Burahs, Gaon Buris, women groups, gram panchayat, youths and public of Sarli.



16. The APWWS Yachuli Branch organized a legal awareness programme on Prohibition of of Child Marriage Act 2006 and Domestic Violence Act 2005 in collaboration and sponsored by the APSCW at yachuli on 10-10-2014. The programe was attended by the Administration deptt. Panchayat leaders, women NGOs, HGBs, GBs and public of Yachuli area.



17. APWWS representatives had an opportunity to meet Infosy's Chairperson Smti. Sudha Munthy's maiden visit to the State of Arunachal Pradesh on 6.11.2014 at Raj Bhawan.

18. Upper Siang Women Welfare Society along with police personnel and District Administration conducted poppy cultivation damage operation in Sumsing area and destroyed poppy plants of 4 hectares opium cultivation at Bangkyak area 7 KMs steep high away from Sumsing village on 29-01-2015.



19. APWWS, appointed as one of the Member, 19th Dec'2014/State Level Selection Committee (SLSC) for purpose of recommendation of National awards like Shree Shakti Puruskar by Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh.

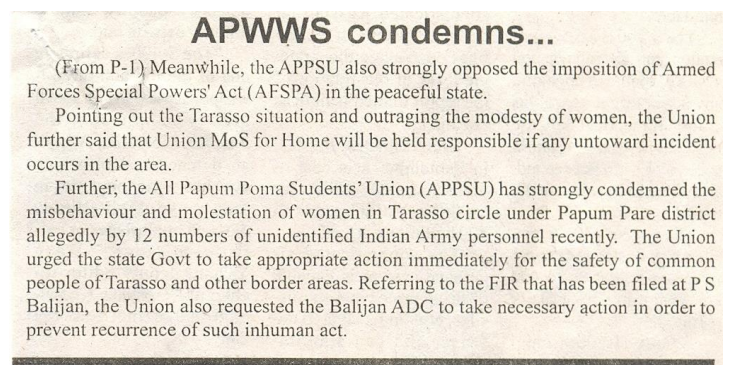
20. Celebrated IWD on 3rd March'2015 in collaboration with department of W&CD, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh. More than 200 Women participated R.P-OSD, APLSA Member Secretary.

21. Letter of appreciation received from Chief Minister, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh on 3rd March'2015.

22. APWWS along with was one of the fact finding team constituted by APCSW to visited Tarasso, where there was alleged atrocities/molestation of three women on 6th April'2015. The team visited on 18th April'2015.



23. While raising the dissent note on extension of AFSPA in another 12 district of the State by the centre, the APWWS join with other NGO's and issued a press release on 17.04.15.



24. While acting sharply to the rape/murder of a woman at Khamdu Village, the APWWS, requested to book the culprits as per the latest anti-rape Law and press note on 29th April'2015 was issued.

APWWS condemns
ITANAGAR, Apr 28:
While expressing deep shock and anguish at the rape and murder of a mother at Old Khamdu village under Jairampur in Changlang district yesterday, the Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society has condemned such kind of repeated inhuman act on women and children in the state. Societies requested the law enforcement agencies to fast track the case and book the culprit as per latest anti-rape law and give exemplary punishment.

25. Facilitated HRLN for an awareness on reproductive Health on 30th/31st May'2015. Branch/affiliated members attended.

COLLECTION					DEPOSITED TO ACCOUNT SAVINGS		EXPENDITURE
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)			
Recorded	Purpose of collection	Donor's Name	Amount received	Mode of handling			
Page No. 12 of Cashbook	APWWS Boundary Wall Construction	Aalo Branch	6,000/-	Received in cash			
		(CEC) Members	16,200/-	-do-			
Page No. 13	-do-	APSCW (G.Ringu Team)	76,000/-	-do-			
	-do-	APWWS Members	47,000/-	-do-			
Page No. 14	Affiliation Fee, Mariyang APWWS	Mariyang, APWWS Branch	500/-	Cash			
Page No. 15	Boundary wall construction	Minister/ MLAs	4,37,632/-	-do-			
Page No.16	Office Contingency Fee	APWWS (CEC) Members	6,500/-	-do-			
Page No. 17	APWWS Foundation Day	Mrs. N.B. Doye	500/-	-do-			
-do-	-do-	Membership Fee collected	400/-	-do-			
-do-	-do-	Sagalee Branch	5,000/-	-do-	Account deposited	5,000/-	
-do-	-do-(¹ / ₃)	Ziro Branch	5,000/-	-do-	Account deposited	5,000/-	
-do-	Affiliation Fee	Taliha Branch	500/-	-do-	Account deposited	500/-	
-do-	Land use rent	APID COL	75,000/-	Cheque	-do-	75,000/-	
-do-	-do-	-do-	75,000/-	-do-			
-do-	Membership Fee (¹ / ₃)	Dumporijo Branch	3,330/-	Cash			
-do-	Annual Membership Fee	General Members	2,000/-	-do-			
-do-	(¹ / ₃) Membership Fee	Tezu Branch	5,000/-	-do-			
-do-	IWD Celebration (Cheque)	W &CD (975978)	35,000/-	Cheque	Account deposited	35,000/-	
-do-	Awareness Programmed Fee	Chardon Women WS	60,500/-	-do-	-do-	60,500/-	
-do-	IWD Celebration	W & CD	30,000/-	Cash	-do-	30,000/-	
-do-	IWD Celebration	APSSWB	25,000/-	-do-			
-do-	IWD Celebration for Sagalee	APSCW	40,000/- (drawn from CEC)	Cheque	-do-	40,000/-	
			Total=Rs.9,52,062/			Total= Rs.2,51,000/-	
			(1) Vijaya Bank-Previous Balance=Rs.1,93,160/- (2) UCO Bank-Previous Balance =Rs.27,808/- Total= Rs. 11,73,030/- ↓ (A)				

Rs.48,520.00 } Expenditure on awareness,
Rs.1,95,395.00 } Stationeries etc.
Rs.16,460.00
Rs.2 60,375.00
+ 6,20,000.00 → Boundary Wall
+ 53,440.00 → Office renovation
Rs.9,33,815.00 → (B)

(A) Total Collection + With Previous Balance =Rs.11,73,030.00
(B) Total Expenditure= - Rs.9,33,815.00
Total approx Balance =Rs.2,39,215.00

