



RF_NGO_14_A_SUDHA



*No Dams
on the
Salween*

NO TO RAPE

NO TO DAMS ON THE SALWEEN

The mighty Salween River flows for 2,400 kilometres from the Himalayan foothills through the Shan, Karenni, Karen and Mon States of Burma into the Indian Ocean. It is the only remaining free-flowing major river in the region.

But now the Salween River is in danger of being dammed.

The Burmese military regime and the Thai government are planning to build a series of dams along the Salween River which will have devastating social and environmental impacts.

Over 10 million people living in the 320,000 square-kilometre Salween River Basin will be affected if these dams are built.

The planned dams lie in ethnic areas of Burma which have been heavily militarized by the Burmese regime, and where the Burmese military routinely oppresses the local peoples. Already over 600,000 ethnic peoples have been forcibly relocated by the regime to secure the areas for military-controlled "development."

The first of the Salween dams is planned in Shan State. On December 20, 2002, Burma's military regime signed a contract with the Thai company MDX to build a giant hydropower dam in Shan State. This dam will have a capacity of 4,500 megawatts and will be the biggest in Southeast Asia.

The dam site lies in the vast area of Central Shan State that has already been devastated since 1996 by the regime's massive forced relocation campaign. Over 300,000 villagers have been driven at gunpoint from their homes; countless villagers have been tortured and massacred, and countless women have been raped by the Burmese military.

In June 2002, the Shan Women's Action Network jointly produced a report called "Licence to Rape" which documents 173 incidents of rape and other forms of sexual violence, involving 625 girls and women, committed by Burmese troops in Shan State, mostly from 1996-2001. 83% of the rapes were committed by officers, in most cases in front of their troops. The rapes involved extreme brutality and often torture, such as beating, mutilation and suffocation. 25% of the rapes resulted in death. 61% were gang-rapes.

Over half of these incidents of sexual violence took place in the areas close to the Salween dam site and the potential flood area.

If the Salween dams are built, these abuses by the Burmese military are sure to worsen.

The income generated by the dam projects will also help fund the regime's military expenditure.

We urge our friends around the world to do the following:

- to write to the Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra to stop any agreements with the Burmese regime to build dams on the Salween River.
- to urge your governments to prevent all international financial institutions from funding or promoting these dam projects.

For further information, contact:

Concerned Individuals: iciab@mailasia.com

We are grassroots activists concerned over international aid to Burma.



*No
to
Rape*

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SWAN
Shan Women's Action Network

Date:

To

The Honourable Prime Minister of India
Mr. A.B.Vajpayee
P.M. Office,
New Delhi.

Respected Sir,

You are well in the know of the Indian Constitutional provision of 5th and 6th scheduling of adhvasi areas to ensure that their identity, culture, forms of self governance, livelihood rights to land, forests and other resources etc are safeguarded. No doubt that such a privilege extended by the Democratic Republic of India has attempted to fulfill one of our basic obligations to the ethnic communities of adhvasis who have inhabited our land from ages immemorial.

Unfortunately this privilege is not enjoyed by their counterparts in a few other States including Tamilnadu where nearly 1.5% of the total population is adhvasis. This has led to the irreparable loss of their identity and rich cultural heritage, alienation of land and forests, migration in search of livelihood and trapping into bondedness, vicious cycle of poverty and debt. Such a situation has opened the floodgates of exploitations of these people known for a self-sufficient economy, forms of self governance and a beautiful cultural ethos.

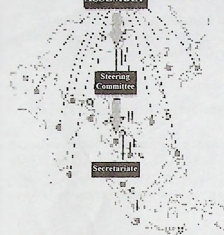
As responsible and loyal citizens of this country and as concerned persons, we feel that we will be failing in our obligations to these people of ours if we still are indifferent to the demands of these adhvasi communities to fifth schedule their areas. Only this will restore them to a modicum of dignified living with legal protections of their identities, culture, livelihood rights and governance by making the Panchayatiraj Extension Act applicable to Tamilnadu so that they become an empowered people to exercise the powers granted to the gram sabhas under the above Act.

And so we appeal to you very fervently to initiate efforts to fifth schedule the adhvasi areas in Tamilnadu. This is the least we can do to a people who continue to contribute to the development of this great nation.

Thanking you

Yours truly,

ASSEMBLY



You are invited to join APA

The general membership of APA is composed of organisations undertaking programs on peace and justice at the local, national and regional levels. APA also welcomes individual members who are encouraged to get the mandate of their respective organisations to become organisational members of the alliance. If your organisation wishes to learn more about APA's work, join APA and participate in its programs and campaigns, you may contact the office of any of the APA founding members in your country, or the **APA Secretariat** at the following address:

THE APA SECRETARIAT

C/o Asian Regional Exchange for New Alternatives, Flat 6, 13th Floor, Block A, Fuk Keung Indus Bldg., 66-68 Tong Mi Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong SAR.

Tel: (852) 2805 6193 / 2805 6270, Fax: (852) 2504 2986, [E-mail: arena@asianexchange.org](mailto:arena@asianexchange.org)

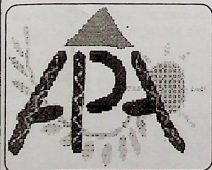
Please indicate the name of your organisation, its programs on peace and peace-related issues, and contact information. You may also get updates and other information on APA's work from the following websites:

www.arenaonline.org www.yonip.com/YONIP/APA

The Asian Peace Alliance is a regional network of national and local groups, organisations, institutions, movements, and coalitions that are undertaking education, research, advocacy and campaign on peace and justice issues in Asia. APA aims to build itself as an expression of the unity and solidarity of various peace movements in the region; as an alliance that will respond to issues such as intensified militarism and militarisation, the continuing US military presence in the region, the waging of the global war on terrorism and its impact on peoples and communities in Asia; and as a transborder and trans-issue alliance that will link militarisation, internal conflicts and violence with issues related to economic globalisation.

ASIAN PEACE ALLIANCE

APA was first formed in October 2001 when representatives of several civil society organisations, coalitions and peace groups in Asia gathered for a consultation in Hong Kong to discuss the regional impact of the '911' tragedy and the outbreak of the US military campaign against Afghanistan, and to explore ways by which civil society organisations could effectively address and respond to emerging peace and security issues in the region. They affirmed the need to form a regional peace alliance that would strengthen peace movements in Asia, muster a regional people's response to address threats to peace in the region, and promote alternative constructs and practices of peace and people's security. This consultation, attended by individuals and groups from Pakistan, India, Philippines, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand, and Hong Kong, saw the beginnings of APA.



APA was formally launched in an inaugural assembly held in the Philippines in August 2002, during which APA organised itself and laid out a program of action that will guide the work of the alliance and its affiliated organisations. Guided by the theme, "Kalinaw: Asian People Speak Up for Peace," more than 100 delegates representing 17 countries and 95 organisations affirmed APA's place within the global movement against war and economic globalisation, with a common vision to help stop the wars and end US militarism, demilitarise the region, transform patriarchal relations in Asian societies, and promote peace and justice.

APA Program of Action

To achieve our goals, as stated in our Declaration, we, APA and APA-affiliated groups, will extend our network all over the Asia region by developing collaboration in peace efforts towards the emergence of global people's power to end violence and bring about peace and justice. To this end, we shall take action in the following areas:

Joint initiatives against the US-led global war on terrorism

Given the imminence of US invasion of Iraq, we will:

- Launch the Asia People's Action against War (APAW), regionally-coordinated actions against the US-led war on terrorism.
- Bring Asian anti-war voices to the US and Europe through messages, position papers and the like to influence public opinion in these regions, especially in the light of the rift within the European alliance vis-à-vis the US-led war against terrorism.
- Closely monitor the movements of the US military and disseminate information on developments on US war efforts within the APA network.

Linkage with anti-globalisation movements

We will participate in and build linkages with anti-globalisation movements and initiatives. In particular, we will participate in the Asian Social Forum (ASF) that will be held in Hyderabad, India on January 2-7, 2003 by sponsoring the conference, seminars and workshops on the sub-theme, Peace and Security.

Linkage with peace efforts and forces

We will build linkages and collaborate with peace efforts and peace forces in other regions, especially at the grassroots level.

Support people's peace initiatives to address internal conflicts

We will undertake action and build broad-based solidarity supportive of people's initiatives to bring about peace with justice in areas of conflict. To this end, we will:

- Undertake simultaneous joint action that will bridge the struggles of peoples and movements across Asia around common issues of conflict in the region—e.g., ethnic and religious conflicts as a common reality in South Asia as well as in many countries in Southeast Asia, nuclear Japan and the India-Pakistan nuclear confrontation.
- Support citizen-initiated peace actions or facilitation in Burma, Aceh, Sri Lanka, and Mindanao/ Philippines—e.g., representations with governments and regional organisations like the ASEAN in support of peace processes.
- Help strengthen local peace initiatives and anti-war efforts already being undertaken by APA-affiliated groups in their respective countries by forging region-wide solidarity, applying international pressure, and adding regional/global dimension to these local campaigns.
- Support processes and programs that would promote the involvement of women and basic sectors in peace initiatives at the grassroots level.

Forms of further action

- **Missions.** Conduct Fact-finding and Solidarity Missions to areas affected by US military action or by internal armed conflicts with the end in view of achieving concrete results particularly in terms of holding governments accountable for reparation and remedial actions by using the facts and information gathered for advocacy in people's tribunals and UN bodies.
- **Media.** Circulate anti-war voices and messages locally and globally through mainstream and alternative media and the Internet, and address the way US-led/global media have affected people's perceptions and sensitivities favouring war rhetoric and limiting their participation for transformative peace.
- **Advocacy.** Undertake and support lobbying, petition-signing campaigns, peace marches, human chain, exhibitions and other forms of demonstration to express demands against war and US military presence/intervention in many countries in Asia.
- **Legal action.** Engage in legal action and court struggle to end the culture of impunity and support victimised people.
- **Research and education.** Promote research and education based on human rights and gender justice and support efforts in reforming history education towards one that does not justify past crime or glorify national/ethnic and religious identities to the exclusion of others.

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR LABOUR (NCL)

(An apex body of labour organisations in the Unorganised Sector)
8/10, Naina Shetty Palya, Bannerghatta Road Cross, Bangalore - 560 076.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

Season's Greetings and New Year wishes from National Centre for Labour (NCL), an apex body of labour organisations in the unorganised sector. Through its constituent members, NCL represents the interests of Agricultural labour, Construction labour, Fish workers, Forest workers, Contract labour, Domestic workers, Hamalis, Granite and Marble workers, Anganwadi workers, Self-employed persons, women workers etc. NCL has a membership of over 7,25,000 from ten states in India.

NCL is organising the following seminars in the Asian Social forum (ASF) in Hyderabad, to highlight the issues of unorganised labour and put forth their demands, concerns and aspirations to the larger audience from Asian countries. Through these seminars, NCL is trying to collate the experiences and knowledge, consolidate its techniques and strategies in organising the unorganised and share the same with others since organising the unorganised is the most challenging task ahead. NCL joins with the effort to examine the impact of Globalisation on the workers so far and prepare the unorganised to challenge the process of Globalisation in India as part of a process facilitated by CEC, New Delhi with the other Central Trade Unions. NCL also shares its experience of working with the organised labour particularly with the mine workers of KGF Town in Karnataka, in terms of its efforts with other social, trade union, women's movements to oppose the closure of Mines.

Joining hands with other social movements like KKNSS (Karnataka Slumdwellers Federation) Women's Voice (Movement for poorer and women involved in the unorganised sector of labour) AVAS (expert on Shelter issues) NCL is paving way to understand the challenges before the Urban Poor in Globalising India. Associating with National Campaign on Dalit Human rights (NCDHR), it is trying to articulate certain issues of labour from Dalit perspective.

Hence, on behalf of NCL, I invite you and your friends to attend the seminars for sharing and learning as well exchange your ideas and views on the following subjects.

LIST OF SEMINARS:

Sl. No.	Date	Time	Topic	Venue
1	03-01-2003	11a.m. to 1 p.m.	Public Rally with other Peoples Movements Organised by APVVU, An affiliate of NCL	From Secunderabad Railway station to Indira Park
2	03-01-2003	1 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.	Public Meeting	Indira Park, Secunderabad
3	03-01-2003	4 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.	Seminar on Globalisation: Challenges of Organising the Unorganised	Andhra Yuvathi Mandali
4	04-01-2003	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	W.T.O. and Agriculture Organised by APVVU	Jayaprakash Narayan Pranganam (Linganpalli Function Hall)
5	04-01-2003	2.30p.m.- 6.30p.m.	Globalisation: Challenges of Organising the Unorganised	ASF open space for Movements. <i>Saraswatha Parishat Hall</i>
6	04-01-2003	2.30p.m -6.30p.m.	Impact of Globalisation on the Mine Workers of K.G.F.	St. Paul's Primary School Hall <i>Bogguke Runlu The Lake Road</i>
7	04-01-2003	2.30p.m -6.30p.m.	Globalisation and the challenges for the Urban poor. KKNSS / Women's Voice / AVAS / NCL/NAWO	Saraswatha Parishat Hall
8	05-01-2003	2.30p.m.-6.30p.m.	Impact of Globalisation on Unorganised Sector Workers and Remedies Facilitated by CEC and initiated by NCL	Andhra Yuvathi Mandali

THE FOLLOWING SPEAKERS HAVE AGREED TO ADDRESS NCL SEMINARS:

1. Dr. L.C. Jain - Former Indian Ambassador to South Africa and Former Member of Planning Commission of India.
2. Shri. R.K.A. Subramanya - Secretary General, Social Security Association of India.
3. Dr. Devaki Jain - Former Member, Karnataka State Planning Board.
4. Dr. Pravin Sinha - Labour Advisor, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, New Delhi.
5. Prof. Abdur Rahim - Dept. of Communion and Journalism, Osmania University. Hyderabad.
6. Dr. Sarath Babu - Karnatak University, Dharwad.
7. Shri. D. Thankappan - President, Kamani Employees Union and Secretary, NCL.
8. Shri. J. John - Director, Centre for Education and Communication(CEC), New Delhi.
9. Shri. M. Subbu - General Secretary, National Federation of Construction Labour (NFCL) and Secretary, NCL.
10. Shri. Chennaiah - General Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Agricultural Workers Federation (APVVU) and Secretary, NCL.
11. Shri. Tom Kocherry - Chairperson, World Fishers Forum and Secretary, NCL
12. Shri. K. Loganathan - President, Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labour Movement.
13. Dr. Ruth Manorama - President, National Allinace of Women (NAWO), Secretary, NCL.
14. Shri. M.A. Patil - President, Sarva Shramik Sangh and Secretary, NCL.
15. Shri. Ashok Choudhry - National Forest Workers and Dwellers Forum and Secretary, NCL.
16. Shri. Ashim Roy - President, Chemical Mazdoor Panchyat, Gujrat.
17. Shri. Arbind Singh - Co-ordintor, National Alliance of Street Vendors.
18. Smt. Anita Reddy - Hon. Director, AVAS.
19. Shri. Kirtee Shah - President, Habitat International Coalition.
20. Shri. N.P. Samy - Hon. President, KKNSS and Secretary, Co-ordination, NCL.
21. Shri. R. James Jeyaraj - Convenor, Bangalore District, KKNSS.

A Series of Conferences and Seminars on

Globalisation and the Corporate Hijack of our Biodiversity, Seed, Food and Water

Date and time	Venue	Event
3 rd January 2.30pm to 6.30pm	Golden Rose School	<i>Seminar on Food Sovereignty.</i> Speakers include P. Sainath, Arun Bhatia, Vandana Shiva, Antonio Tujan (Philippines), K.G. Kannabiran, Kancha Illiha
4 th January 2.30pm to 6.30pm	Press Club	<i>Seminar on Beyond Bhopal and Bt: Taking on the Biotech Giants</i> Speakers include Sathinath Sarangi, Tony Clarke, Pushpa Bhargava
5 th January 2.30pm. to 6.30pm	Press Club	<i>Seminar on Seed Sovereignty</i> Speakers include Vandana Shiva, Ilina Sen, Malla Reddy, PAN Malaysia, SEARICE
6 th January 8am to 1pm	Nizam's College Grounds	<i>Conference on Ecology, Culture and Knowledge: Defending the Earth and People's Rights to Resources.</i> Speakers include Dr. Samdhong Rinpoche, Dr. B.D. Sharma, Vandana Shiva, Tony Clarke
6 th January 2.30pm to 6.30pm	Press Club	<i>Seminar on Water Sovereignty.</i> Speakers include Ramaswamy Iyer, Rajendra Singh, Vandana Shiva, Sripad Dharmadikary, C.R. Bijoy

Organized by Navdanya
Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology
Diverse Women for Diversity

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Asian social forum



CONFERENCE ON

**Dalits,
Other Social Groups
and
Globalization**

[Klobalization] - SDR

Date: January 5th 2003

Time: 8.30 AM to 1.00 PM.

- ◆ National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights and other Dalit Groups in India
- ◆ Indian Institute for Dalit Studies
- ◆ Buraku Liberation League, Japan
- ◆ Federation of Dalit NGOs, Nepal
- ◆ Dalit Groups in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan
- ◆ Asia Dalit Solidarity Network

The Conference on "Dalits, Other Social Groups and Globalization" will address the issue of impact of Globalization and Liberalization of the economy in Asia and Africa on the marginalized groups such as Dalits from India, Nepal and Srilanka, Buraku from Japan and similar groups from Africa. Liberalization of the economies in these countries has led to "withdrawal of the State" and shift towards the channelization of resources through the market mechanism. The Governments in these countries have also gone for massive privatization. The economic planning has also taken a back seat. The withdrawal of the State from Economic and Social Governance has thrown the Marginalized Groups to the market where they face discriminatory access and exclusion. This has lead to increase in unemployment and poverty. This specific conference will discuss the impact on livelihood of the Dalits another Social Group and suggest the new measures.

Programme

Registration and Cultural Programme	
Welcome	Mr. Vincent Manoharan, Gen. Secretary, NCDHR
Introducing the Conference	Prof. S.K. Thorat, Coordinator of the Conference
Will Globalization Help Dalits and Poor?	Dr. Bhalchan Mungekar, Chair Person of the Conference
Liberalization, withdrawal of the state and consequences on Buraku in Japan	Ms. Nozomi Bando, Buraku Liberation League, Japan
Liberalization and Dalits in Nepal	Mr. Padmalal Viswakarma, Dalit Preparatory Committee ASF, Nepal
Globalization and social groups and Plantation worker in Sri Lanka	P. Siva Paragasam, Human Development Organization, Sri Lanka
Structural Adjustment and the Future of the Discriminated Groups in Africa	Dr. Victor Dyke, Nigeria
Liberalization in A.P and the future of the Dalits	Mr. Bojja Tarakam, Republican Party of India
Voices	Mr. Laxman Singh, Rajasthan
New Economic Policy in India and Dalit Women	Dr. Ruth Manorama, National Federation of Dalit Women, Bangalore
Political Economy of Liberalization and Dalits in India	Prof. K.S. Chalam, Andhra University, Vishakapatnam
Concluding Remark	Prof. S.K. Thorat
Vote of Thanks	Mr.P.L.Mimroth, Co-convenor, NCDHR



DESH BACHAO - DESH BANAO

National Campaign to a National People's Movement

The globalisation, privatisation policies have infested our natural resources, our living community, our democracy, economy & polity. Communalism & Casteism has further viciated our lives & attacked our national unity.

We, the toilers & workers facing an attack on our livelihood, our jobs & self employment,

We, Who are up against inhumanity & violence in the name of caste, religion and nationalism,

We, Who care for gender equality & women's rights as human rights,

We, Who assert true democracy against corrupt politics,

We, the displaced & destitution alised for development have to **wake-up and fight,**

Our battles need to be united to attain -

- Community's right to resources & human right to livelihood.
- Democratic development with appropriate technology & co-operative industry
- Decentralised, accountable polity through peoples' power

Activists to artists, lawyers to mediapersons, students & teachers all must join & strengthen -

A National Campaign
from Palakkad (Kerala) to Ayodhya
from Jan. 26th to March 30th

Rise to Acheive A Better Life, A United Nation
True Development With Equity & Justice !

Contact : **NAPM stall at Asia Social Forum**

: **National Alliance of People's Movements**

Haji Habib Bldg, Naigaon Cross Road, Dadar, Mumbai - 400014.

Ph. 022-24150529 (off.) 022-25369724/22184779 (Res.)

Mobile : 94481 32018 (P. Chennaiah A.P.) or 0980324062 (Sanjay M.G. Mumbai)

E mail : sansahil@vsnl.net ● medha@narmada.org



देश बचाओ - देश बनाओ

राष्ट्रीय जनआंदोलन के लिए राष्ट्रीय अभियान

वैश्वीकरण से निजीकरणतक लोकविरोधी आर्थिक नीती की वजह से
अपने जल-जंगल-जमीन जैसे प्राकृतिक संसाधनों परसे उखाड़े जानेवाले भूमिपुत्रों -

अपना रोजगार खो देनेवाले बेरोजगार श्रमिकों -

जाति और मजहब के नाम पर अमानुषता और असहिष्णुता को नकारनेवालों -

भ्रष्ट राजनीती के खिलाफ लोकतंत्र का सही अर्थ खोजनेवाले नागरिकों -

विकास के नामपर विनाश भुगतनेवाले विस्थापितों -

इस भ्रष्टता, अमानुषता, विषमता, विनाश के खिलाफ जाग उठो !

अपने अधिकारों को जानो - पहचानो - छीन लो !

गाँवसमाजों के अपने अधिकारों के लिये,

समता-न्याय-सही विकास के लिये,

जाति-धर्मसे पार-मानवता के रास्तेपर,

जनतांत्रिक नियोजन, सही तकनिक और सहकारिता के आधारपर,

विकेंद्रित, जवाबदेही राजनीती - नहीं, लोकनीती का आग्रह रखते हुए,

चलो, नया समाज बनाएंगे !

जन आंदोलनों के राष्ट्रीय समन्वय द्वारा आयोजित

'देश बचाओ-देश बनाओ' अभियान में जुडीये !

२६ जनवरी से ३० मार्च २००३ तक

पलक्कड, कर्ल से अयोध्या तक

देश को जगाने के लिए, जीने का अधिकार जताने के लिए,
देश बचाने-देश बनाने, सही विकास के रास्ते - चलो, साथ साथ चले...

कलाकार से कार्यकर्ता तक - हर संवेदनशील नागरीक का,
शामिल होना बेहद जरूरी है !

संपर्क : अशियाई सोशल फोरम (A.S.F) में ज.आ.रा.स. (N.A.P.M) के स्टॉलपर

जनआंदोलनों का राष्ट्रीय समन्वय,

हाजी हबीब बिल्डींग, नायागांव क्रॉर रोड, दादर (प.), मुंबई - ४०००१४

फोन : ०२२-२४१५०५२९, २५३६९७२४, २२९८४७७९

ई-मेल : sansahil@vsnl.net • medha@narmada.org

Asian Social Forum, Hyderabad

As the Count down begins.....

Join us in a crucial side event for

.....Sharing experience, ideology and thoughts of how Sustainable Agriculture enkindles the hope of Asian Farmers at large as their right to life has been gradually decreased by the Developed World and Corporate conspiracy.....How the ray of optimism roars high with the alternative of sustainable agriculture via a socio-economic transformation.

Seminar on Sustainable Agriculture Towards Alternative

6th

Monday January '03

2:30-6:30P.M.

At Gandhi Bhavan, Hyderabad

Organized By

Laya

YUVA (Rural)

ICOR

Panel : Dr. Denzil Saldanha (Social Scientist, TISS, Mumbai), Mr. Mohan Surve (Social Analyst, VSP, Mumbai), Mr. Balakrishna Renke (Organic Farmer), Mr. Vijay Jawandia (Farmers' Federation), Dr. Ashesh Tayal (Greenpeace, India), Mr. Raghav Narsalay (Political Analyst, FOCUS on the Global South), Mr. L. V. Prasad (Social Scientist, Laya), Miss. Deepika Singh (Social Activist, ICOR) & Mr. Datta Patil (Social Activist, YUVA).

YUVA (Rural) Association

II Floor, Kamgar Bhawan, Baidyanath Square, Nagpur-3 Maharashtra (India)

Phone : (91) 712-2751811/2 Email : yuvan@nagpur.dot.net in yuvan_conf@indiatimes.com

Website : www.yuvaindia.org

Refreshment will be served at the event site.

Speakers

Sri V.P. SINGH

Former Prime Minister of India

Sri SURENDRA MOHAN

o Socialist Thinker

Sri SITARAM YECHURI

Polit Bureau Member CPI(M)

Sri S. SUDHAKAR REDDY

National Executive Member, CPI

Sri KANU SANYAL

Convenor, CPI(ML) Unity Initiative -
COI(ML) Central Co-ordination Committee

**Sri DEEPANKAR
BHATTACHARYA**

General Secretary, CPI (ML) Liberation

Sri GANGADHAR REDDY

Central Committee Member, MCPI

Sri KRISHNA CHAKRABARTY

Central Committee Member SUCI

Sri K. VENKATESWAR RAO

M.L. Committee

Invitation

Political Convention

**"AGAINST
GLOBALISATION"**

For the last ten years we have witnessed lot of changes and upheavels in the name of globalisation. In different countries whatever resources there may be (the industrial or agricultural) there has been an attempt to destroy them and also to deny the rights of people by the Imperialist International companies and try to impose their monopolistic negetromy by all means. A number of countries who have tried to adopt this path of development their economy is getting worse day by day. They boast of work in the name of progress and development but the fact is that all this is a hoax. It may be pointed out that multinational organisations of the impersialist countries are trying to capture and exploit the markets and resources of Third World countries in the name of development resulting in crippling of industrial and agricultural structure of these countries. And because of this it has become very difficult for general public to survive. A number of farmers committing suicide is the worst example of this globalisation process.

It is unfortunate to note that in our country during 1991-92, the ruling class tried to give a red carpet welcome to these imperialist agents and because of this people of our country are faced with a lot of hard ship. In 1998-99, when the Sangh parivar captured power at the centre they have been engaging themselves to implement this sinister moves by all means. To divert the people's attention from the negative impact of globalisation they have indulged themselves in organising communal clashes by dividing people on the basis of caste and religion. Poverty, hunger and unemployment has increased as result of this process of globalisation. And instead of globalising and channelising people's anger against this process the Sangh Parivar leadership has been acting as the agent of global forces. Thus coming as stumbling block in the progress of our country. Till yesterday their agenda was swadeshi but today they are working as the puppets and dancing to the tune of these exploitative forces.

In the light of this it becomes our duty to expose these communal and castist forces who are active and surviving on the support of multinational and imperialist organisations. It is also very important to create an awareness among the people to fight against such forces. It is in this context that we call upon the people of our country to join us in this historic convention and make it success for a better tomorrow.

5th Jan. 2003 (Sunday) 10.30 a.m.
Prakasham Hall - Gandhi Bhavan, Hyderabad

With Revolutionary greeting.

CPI

CPI(M)

MCPI

CPI(ML) UNITY INITIATIVE

CPI(ML) LIBERATION

SUCI

ML COMMITTEE



Asian social forum



CONFERENCE ON

**Dalits,
Other Social Groups
and
Globalization**

Date: January 5th 2003

Time: 8.30 AM to 1.00 PM.

- ◆ **National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights and other Dalit Groups in India**
- ◆ **Indian Institute for Dalit Studies**
- ◆ **Buraku Liberation League, Japan**
- ◆ **Federation of Dalit NGOs, Nepal**
- ◆ **Dalit Groups in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan**
- ◆ **Asia Dalit Solidarity Network**

The Conference on "Dalits, Other Social Groups and Globalization" will address the issue of impact of Globalization and Liberalization of the economy in Asia and Africa on the marginalized groups such as Dalits from India, Nepal and Srilanka, Buraku from Japan and similar groups from Africa. Liberalization of the economies in these countries has led to "withdrawal of the State" and shift towards the channelization of resources through the market mechanism. The Governments in these countries have also gone for massive privatization. The economic planning has also taken a back seat. The withdrawal of the State from Economic and Social Governance has thrown the Marginalized Groups to the market where they face discriminatory access and exclusion. This has lead to increase in unemployment and poverty. This specific conference will discuss the impact on livelihood of the Dalits another Social Group and suggest the new measures.

Programme

Registration and Cultural Programme	
Welcome	Mr. Vincent Manoharan, Gen. Secretary, NCDHR
Introducing the Conference	Prof. S.K. Thorat, Coordinator of the Conference
Will Globalization Help Dalits and Poor?	Dr. Bhalchan Mungekar, Chair Person of the Conference
Liberalization, withdrawal of the state and consequences on Buraku in Japan	Ms. Nozomi Bando, Buraku Liberation League, Japan
Liberalization and Dalits in Nepal	Mr. Padmalal Viswakarma, Dalit Preparatory Committee ASF, Nepal
Globalization and social groups and Plantation worker in Sri Lanka	P. Siva Paragasam, Human Development Organization, Sri Lanka
Structural Adjustment and the Future of the Discriminated Groups in Africa	Dr. Victor Dyke, Nigeria
Liberalization in A.P and the future of the Dalits	Mr. Bojja Tarakam, Republican Party of India
Voices	Mr. Laxman Singh, Rajasthan
New Economic Policy in India and Dalit Women	Dr. Ruth Manorama, National Federation of Dalit Women, Bangalore
Political Economy of Liberalization and Dalits in India	Prof. K.S. Chalam, Andhra University, Vishakapatnam
Concluding Remark	Prof. S.K. Thorat
Vote of Thanks	Mr.P.L.Mimroth, Co-convenor, NCDHR

SEMINAR ON

**EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRACY: MAKING LOCAL GOVERNANCE
WORK FOR THE MARGINALIZED**

"Democracy is not only the goal of development, it is the primary means of development" stated Nobel Prize winning economist Amartya Sen. Only when all individuals experience greater freedom, voice and opportunity, will each fully bring her or his creative powers to bear on solving the problems of the community.

The present representative democracy paradigm is scuttling local self-governance particularly in India and in other parts of Asia. The world economic forces are supporting the neo-liberal economic policies by joining local oppressive, caste based feudal forces to undermine the constitutional rights and responsibilities of the tribal, women, dalit, urban poor, and rural poor communities to make local-self governance a farce.

The seminar will include presentations on local-self governance at the grassroots levels with regard to tribal, women, dalit, and urban poor and rural poor communities. There will be special reference to local-self governance in India. Following the presentations, a discussion will take place on the concerns, challenges, strategies, and policies of local-self governance. It is expected that the discussion will provide an opportunity to build relationships and resolve to make local-self governance a success. In addition, resolutions on local-self governance will be developed to be addressed to individual national governments.

Eminent academic, social activists, grassroots level elected representatives are being invited to join in the deliberations.

The Asian South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education (ASPBAE), Astha Sansthan, and National Centre for Advocacy Studies (NCAS) is organizing this seminar.

Date : January 5, 2003

Venue : Main Hall, Methodist School, Hyderabad, India

Time : 2.30 PM to 6.30 PM

For further details please contact :

Dr. Om Shrivastava

Astha Training Centre,
Sukhadevi Nagar, Bedla - 313 011
Udaipur (Raj.)

asthatrg@sancharnet.in
astha39@sancharnet.in

Mr. John Samuel

NCAS
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Pashan, Pune - 21 (Maharashtra)

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सेमीनार

प्रजातंत्र के लिए शिक्षा बनाम वंचितों के लिए लोक प्रशासन

"लोकतंत्र केवल विकास का लक्ष नहीं किंतु यह उसका बुनियादी अधिकार है जब तक प्रत्येक व्यक्ति स्वतंत्रता के साथ अवसरों को लेता हुआ अपनी सृजनात्मक शक्तियों के आधार पर समस्याओं के समाधान में नहीं लगेगा तब तक समाज का विकास संभव नहीं है"

— अर्थशास्त्री डॉ. अमर्त्य सेन

एशिया में प्रजातंत्र के विकेन्द्रीकरण को दिशा देने के लिए कई प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं। परन्तु आज इन देशों में आर्थिक आधारों पर निर्मित पूंजीगत विचारधारा ने प्रजातंत्र के मूल्यों को बहुत अधिक प्रभावित किया है। इन विचारधाराओं के पीछे दुनिया की वे आर्थिक शक्तियां भी हैं जिन्होंने वैश्वीकरण, उदारीकरण एवं निजीकरण के द्वारा लोगों से जुड़े सभी संबंधों को प्रभावित किया है। इन्हीं शक्तियों के द्वारा प्रजातंत्र के विकेन्द्रीकरण की मूल भावना को भी बहुत धक्का पहुंचा है, क्योंकि ये शक्तियां लोगों के संसाधनों पर अपना अधिकार करना चाहती हैं जिससे इनका दोहन कर लोक शक्ति को शक्तिहीन किया जा सके और लोगों के हाथों से उनके अधिकारों को छीनकर एक नया राजनीतिक संदर्भ बनाया जावे जिसमें शक्तियों का केन्द्रीकरण हो।

इस संदर्भ में जमीनी स्तर पर लोक प्रशासन को किस तरह से प्रभावी बनाया जाये इसी विषय पर एक सेमीनार आयोजित किया जा रहा है। सेमीनार में विशेष रूप से आदिवासी, महिला, दलित व गरीब ग्रामीण व शहरी समाजों के संदर्भ में विशेषज्ञों द्वारा प्रस्तुतीकरण होगा। इस सेमीनार में भारत के संदर्भ में विशेष रूप से चर्चा होगी। संदर्भ व्यक्तियों के प्रस्तुतीकरण के बात खुली चर्चा होगी जिसमें इनसे जुड़े मुद्दों, चुनौतियों व नीतिगत विषयों पर चर्चा होगी। यह आशा की जा रही है इन चर्चाओं से हमें आपस में मिलकर कुछ ऐसे प्रस्ताव तैयार करने होंगे जिनके आधार पर हम अपने स्तर पर एवं राज्य व राष्ट्रीय सरकारों को इन प्रस्तावों के आधार पर अपनी बात कह सके।

इस सेमीनार में शिक्षाविद्, सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता व चुने हुए महिला व पुरुष जनप्रतिनिधी भाग ले रहे हैं। सेमीनार का आयोजन एशियन साउथ पेसिफिक ब्यूरो, आस्था, उदयपुर व नेशनल सेंटर फॉर एडवोकेसी स्टेडीज, पूणे द्वारा किया जा रहा है।

दिनांक : 5 जनवरी, 2003

समय : दोपहर 2.30 से 6.30 बजे के बीच

स्थान : मुख्य हॉल, मेथोडिस्ट स्कूल, हैदराबाद, भारत

आपकी भागीदारी जमीनी प्रजातंत्र को वंचितों के संदर्भ में मजबूत कर सके इस आशा के साथ।

डॉ. ओम श्रीवास्तव

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GENE CAMPAIGN
1993-2003 A Decade of Campaigning

**OPPOSE UPOV!
SAVE FARMERS!**

**Gene Campaign's Legal
Action against
Indian Government**



Gene Campaign's Legal Action against Indian Government

Viewing the inherent dangers of India joining UPOV, Gene Campaign filed a PIL to block the government's decision to join UPOV

Introduction

Indian PVP Law

India like many developing countries had rejected the patent option offered on plant varieties (seeds) in the WTO/ TRIPS. It selected the *sui generis* option (meaning 'of its own kind') of protection as an alternative to the utility patent model for plant variety protection (PVP).

TRIPS does not specify what constitutes a *sui generis* system, only that the rights granted to the plant breeders (which it does specify), should be "effective". Nothing in TRIPS prevents the grant of Farmers' Rights along with the Plant Breeders' Right. Gene Campaign has been spearheading a campaign in India for the incorporation of the rights of farmers alongside the rights of breeders in India's *sui generis* legislation. The campaign was successful when the Government enacted a *sui generis* plant variety protection law – the Protection of Plant Variety and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 – granting a set of rights to farmers alongside the breeders' rights. (See Box 1)

Box 1: Rights of Farmers granted under Indian PVP Act

- *A farmer shall be deemed to be entitled to save, sow, resow, exchange, share or sell his farm produce including seed of a variety protected under this Act. Provided that the farmer shall not be entitled to sell branded seed of a variety protected under this Act.*
- *A farmer who has bred or developed a new variety shall be entitled for registration and other protection for his variety in like manner as a breeder of a variety under this Act.*
- *A farmer who is engaged in the conservation of genetic resources of land races and wild relatives of economic plants and their improvement through selection and preservation shall be entitled for recognition and reward from the Gene Fund.*
- *Any person or group of persons (whether actively engaged in farming or not) or any governmental or non-governmental organisation may, on behalf of any village or local community in India, make claim attributable to the contribution of the people of that village or local community in the evolution of any variety for the purpose of staking a claim on behalf of such village or local community.*
- *Where an essentially derived variety is derived from a farmers' variety, the breeder shall not authorise the variety for commercial purpose except with the consent of the farmers who have made contribution in the preservation or development of such variety.*

- *A farmer or a group of farmers shall not be liable to pay any fee in any proceeding before the Authority or Registrar or the Tribunal or the High Court under this Act or the rules made thereunder.*
- *A right established under this Act shall not be deemed to be infringed by a farmer who at the time of such infringement was not aware of the existence of such right.*

The Indian PVP law, which has been hailed as a progressive, pro-developing country legislation, has some notable features. Apart from strong and proactive Farmers Rights, it has a well-defined Breeder's Right as well. The Indian legislation succeeds in balancing the rights of Breeders and Farmers and exploits the flexibility granted in TRIPS, in an intelligent manner. The Act incorporating the principles laid down in the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) recognises farmers' role as conservers, breeders and cultivators. It provides legal rights to farmers to "save, exchange and sell seeds of all varieties." The Act has provisions for registering farmers' varieties so that their ownership and innovation is recognised. Though the Indian legislation is far from perfect it is the first law in the world to grant formal, legal rights to farmers.

Sudden turnaround: India decides to join UPOV

After spending about eight years on wrangling, negotiations, consultations and an investigation by a Joint Parliamentary Committee, the Indian law with Farmers Right was finally enacted. There was a general consensus that India had broken new ground and deviated from the UPOV (International Union for

the Protection of New Varieties of Plants) model of sui generis legislation by enacting a legislation that incorporated features of the CBD, and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGR) under which India has also recognised and accepted Farmers Rights. Then suddenly, without any discussions in Parliament, the Cabinet decided to reject the developments of the last few years and its own legislation, and decided to join UPOV.

This decision to join UPOV has stunned national and international experts, particularly when India has also been taking an independent position in the TRIPS Council, seeking greater national flexibility. Many are legitimately asking what elements in the government and for what reason have advocated this complete about turn in India's position. There are questions raised about how the Cabinet without seeking the approval of Parliament, can take a step that would be a grave setback for Farmers Rights. More so, since Parliament had enacted the legislation, only last year, sending a strong message that Farmers Rights must be protected in India.

UPOV, which is an international organization of plant breeders, was established by the large seed industries in 1961 to protect their market interests. UPOV member states are predominantly wealthy developed countries with huge industrialized economies that are not dependent on agriculture. They certainly do not have food security concerns nor do they have small and marginal farmers that need protection. Developing countries with agrarian economies like India must oppose UPOV since it goes against their kind of agriculture, their vulnerability in food sector and their farmers' interests.

In India, farmers supply over 85% of the total seeds planted in the country because today they have

complete right over seed. UPOV denies these rights and propagates strong rights in favour of plant breeders. If the UPOV model is accepted, it will lead to shifting the control over seed supply from the farmers to a handful of multinational corporations. This will lead to livelihood concerns for small farmers apart from posing threats to the national food security. The powerful multinational seed companies, which influence decisions taken in the UPOV, have clearly pointed out that the Farmers' Rights provision in the current PVP (Plant Variety Protection) law of India is not compatible with UPOV Convention and will have to go if India wants to become its member.

Gene Campaign has consistently opposed India joining UPOV and has proposed a developing country alternative called Convention of Farmers and Breeders (CoFaB), which is being discussed in national and international forums. In fact, the UNDP Human Development Report (1999) describes CoFaB as "*a strong and coordinated international proposal which offers developing countries a far better alternative to European legislation, by focusing on the need to protect farmers rights and food and nutritional security goals of their people*".

When India enacted the PVP law in August 2001, it was thought that the fight for Farmers' Rights had been partly won and that now India can provide other developing countries with an alternative to the UPOV model. Unfortunately, even before the ink was dry, India has decided to join the UPOV. The Union Cabinet approved the decision to join UPOV on 31st May 2002.

Gene Campaign made several attempts to discuss the dangers of UPOV with officials of the Agriculture Ministry and appealed to them not to take this retrograde step. When there was no response, Gene

Campaign filed a Writ Petition in the form of Public Interest Litigation in the Delhi High Court on 1st October 2002, to block the government's decision to join UPOV. The Court has accepted the PIL and has asked the Indian Government to file a reply to the Petition.

The Public Interest Litigation

Grounds

The Petition is based, *inter alia*, on the following grounds:

- That India is among one of the richest countries in terms of varied eco-system and bio-diversity especially agro bio-diversity, which contributes significantly to global food security. The Indian farmers have developed and continued to develop through their traditional practices hundreds of new varieties of seeds in all crops. This agro-biodiversity is the only source of the genetic biodiversity sustaining the demands from agriculture, present and in future.

Hence, it is necessary to protect the rich bio-diversity of the country through the traditional conservation practices being followed by farmers, for which protection and promotion of agricultural practices, Farmers' Rights entitled naturally and through national laws and the international treaties as well as bequeathed by the Constitution of India is most important. Article 21 of the Constitution and the Directive Principles, namely, Articles 38, 47, 48 and 48-A provide for protection of environment, Farmers' Rights and the agricultural practices. It is the bounden duty of the Government of India to give effect to these rights.

That it is now a settled principle of law that any aspect of the International Convention/Treaty which is signed/ratified by the country can be read into the constitutional provisions if the obligations in such international instrument are in consonance with our Constitution. The provisions in the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as other international instruments which seek to protect the agricultural bio-diversity, indigenous knowledge and practices can, therefore, be read within Article 21 of the Constitution. The action of the Government in implementing Article 27.3(b) of TRIPS can, therefore, be accepted to the extent it seeks to protect our agricultural practices, rights on seeds and rights of the farmers.

Any action, which is in violation of these rights, will be in violation of the Constitution. The Act of 2001 is a legislative action protecting, to a larger extent, the rights of the farmers as well as the agricultural practices. The Government is, therefore, bound to follow the Act of 2001 nationally as well as internationally protecting the farmers' rights. Taking a decision to join UPOV is, therefore, against the Constitution, against the Act of 2001, as well as against the CBD and other international instruments including the ITPGR (International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture).

That the main objective of the UPOV is protection of the commercial rights of the breeders operating within industrialized agriculture of the developed countries. Unlike the majority of Indian farmers who have small, marginal holdings and meager resource, the farmers of the developed countries are rich, owning large farm holdings with resource

capability for high input and high technology mechanized agriculture. More over, many of these developed countries provide large subsidies on various counts to their farmers as a major national policy. Hence, Farmers' Rights are of little consequence to the farmers from the developed countries. The situation in India is quite different. Moreover, under a liberalized agricultural policy, most of the plant breeder's rights are expected to be monopolized by a few large multinational seed companies. It is therefore crucial to protect the farmer in this situation by the grant of strong and definite rights.

If the provisions of UPOV are compared with the provisions of the Act of 2001, it will be clear that UPOV Convention is totally against the Act of 2001 in respect of definition of farmers, recognition of farmers' varieties, provision of Farmers' Rights, benefit sharing in lieu of commercialization of biodiversity, etc. The decision of the Government to accede to UPOV is, therefore, clearly in violation of the Farmers' Rights which have been safeguarded under the Act of 2001.

- That while the UPOV is an intergovernmental organisation of countries, predominantly developed countries, it is not an international governmental organization created under the United Nations or its charter. Hence, joining UPOV is not binding on any member country of the UN. Since UPOV does not feature in the WTO or TRIPS either, there is no requirement to take cognizance of it. In accepting UPOV by the impugned decision, the Government is acting against its own representation to WTO that India wants to protect its Farmers' Rights and its bio-diversity and is, therefore, opting for an effective

sui generis system. After giving that representation to the WTO on behalf of the people of this country, the Government cannot take an executive decision in violation of this solemn representation in joining UPOV which will not only be contrary to its own stand but also against the public and national interest.

- That if the impugned decision is implemented, it will result in our farmers losing their rights over their seeds and their indigenous agricultural practices. It will mean denial of their rights as innovators of new varieties and as conservers of agro-biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge, etc. Accession to UPOV Convention will essentially result in severe limitation of Farmers' Rights provided in the Act of 2001 to "save, use, sow, resow, exchange, share or sell his farm produce including seed of a protected variety..." and strengthening of large seed industries as the breeders of plant varieties. These seed industry giants through their money power and monopolistic manipulation of seed market will be in a position to totally overwhelm farmers' contribution and misappropriate farmers' varieties with the support of the UPOV Convention. This will ultimately have a grave and debilitating impact on the livelihood of resource poor farmers of this country and its recently achieved self-reliance in food production. There can not be any other peacetime national issue which attracts larger public interest than the livelihood security of the majority of our people and the food security concerns of our nation.

Remedies sought

In light of the above-said grounds, Gene Campaign has prayed to the Court to declare the decision of the Government dated 31.05.02 as illegal and

unconstitutional being violative of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 as well as Articles 14, 21, 38, 47 and 48-A of the Constitution of India. It further requests the Court to direct the Government not to take any action which is not in the interest of protection of farmers' rights in the Act and that those rights are neither impaired nor diluted by any future act of the Government.

Box 2 : Chronology of Events

<p><i>1 January 1995</i></p>	<p><i>The WTO Agreements comes into force. The Agreement on TRIPs requires all the Members to provide protection of plant varieties either by patents or by an effective sui generis system or by any combination there of.</i></p>
<p><i>14 December 1999</i></p>	<p><i>The Protection of Plants Varieties and Farmers' Rights Bill, 1999 gets introduced in the Lok Sabha (Lower House) of the Indian Parliament.</i></p>
<p><i>21 December 1999</i></p>	<p><i>The Lok Sabha refers the Bill of 1999 to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC).</i></p>
<p><i>August 2000</i></p>	<p><i>The Joint Parliamentary Committee submits its report to the Lok Sabha suggesting several amendments. The JPC recommends incorporation of strong Farmers' Rights in the Bill.</i></p>
<p><i>August 2001</i></p>	<p><i>The Indian Parliament passes the revised Bill i.e. "Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Bill, 2001," incorporating the sui generis system for protection of the rights of</i></p>

	farmers. Chapter -VI of the Bill of 2001 is devoted solely to Farmers' Rights.
31 May 2002	The Union Cabinet approves the decision of the Ministry of Agriculture to join UPOV
1 October 2002	Gene Campaign files a Writ Petition in form of Public Interest Litigation in the Delhi High Court challenging the Union Cabinet's decision of 31 May 2002
7 October 2002	Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court, after hearing the Petitioner i.e. Gene Campaign, accepts the PIL and asks the Government of India to file a reply to the petition on 26 November 2002.
26 November 2002	The Government of India seeks more time to file the reply.
8 January 2003	Next date of hearing when the Government of India has to file its reply.

Gene Campaign is a non-government organization working on the issues of bioresources, intellectual property rights, indigenous knowledge, farmers' rights and community rights. It is a grassroots level organisation working in several states in India and its work is focussed on ensuring food and livelihood security for rural and tribal communities. Gene Campaign has played a significant role in formulating national policies on biodiversity and international trade and has been involved with drafting legislation in these fields.

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seminar

contours of
asian solidarity

3 january, 2003

indira priyadarshini auditorium
public gardens

2.30-6.30 p.m.

welcome address: 2.30-2.40 p.m.

session 1: 2.40-4.10 p.m.

perspectives on asian solidarity

walden bello, n. ram, frances quimpo, mohammad tahseen

session 2: 4.10-6.15 p.m.

focus nepal: listening to voices

i) deepening democracy: contours & challenges

hari rokka, krishna kanal, shyam srestha

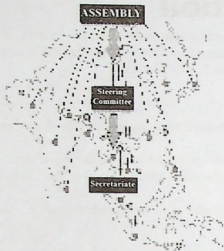
ii) ethnicity, pluralism & neighbourhood

c. k. lal, chitralekha yadav

concluding remarks: 6.15-6.30 p.m.

heinrich boell foundation

pravasi nepali sangh, all india nepalese free students union,
south asia network plan (csds), j p foundation for asian democracy



You are invited to join APA

The general membership of APA is composed of organisations undertaking programs on peace and justice at the local, national and regional levels. APA also welcomes individual members who are encouraged to get the mandate of their respective organisations to become organisational members of the alliance. If your organisation wishes to learn more about APA's work, join APA and participate in its programs and campaigns, you may contact the office of any of the APA founding members in your country, or the **APA Secretariat** at the following address:

THE APA SECRETARIAT

C/o Asian Regional Exchange for New Alternatives, Flat 6, 13th Floor, Block A, Fuk Keung Indus Bldg., 66-68 Tong Mi Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong SAR.

Tel: (852) 2805 6193 / 2805 6270. Fax: (852) 2504 2986. **E-mail:** arena@asianexchange.org

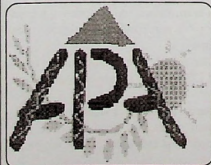
Please indicate the name of your organisation, its programs on peace and peace-related issues, and contact information. You may also get updates and other information on APA's work from the following websites:

www.arenaonline.org www.yonip.com/YONIP/APA

The Asian Peace Alliance is a regional network of national and local groups, organisations, institutions, movements, and coalitions that are undertaking education, research, advocacy and campaign on peace and justice issues in Asia. APA aims to build itself as an expression of the unity and solidarity of various peace movements in the region; as an alliance that will respond to issues such as intensified militarism and militarisation, the continuing US military presence in the region, the waging of the global war on terrorism and its impact on peoples and communities in Asia; and as a transborder and trans-issue alliance that will link militarisation, internal conflicts and violence with issues related to economic globalisation.

ASIAN PEACE ALLIANCE

APA was first formed in October 2001 when representatives of several civil society organisations, coalitions and peace groups in Asia gathered for a consultation in Hong Kong to discuss the regional impact of the '911' tragedy and the outbreak of the US military campaign against Afghanistan, and to explore ways by which civil society organisations could effectively address and respond to emerging peace and security issues in the region. They affirmed the need to form a regional peace alliance that would strengthen peace movements in Asia, muster a regional people's response to address threats to peace in the region, and promote alternative constructs and practices of peace and people's security. This consultation, attended by individuals and groups from Pakistan, India, Philippines, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand, and Hong Kong, saw the beginnings of APA.



APA was formally launched in an inaugural assembly held in the Philippines in August 2002, during which APA organised itself and laid out a program of action that will guide the work of the alliance and its affiliated organisations. Guided by the theme, "Kalinaw: Asian People Speak Up for Peace," more than 100 delegates representing 17 countries and 95 organisations affirmed APA's place within the global movement against war and economic globalisation, with a common vision to help stop the wars and end US militarism, demilitarise the region, transform patriarchal relations in Asian societies, and promote peace and justice.

APA Program of Action

To achieve our goals, as stated in our Declaration, we, APA and APA-affiliated groups, will extend our network all over the Asia region by developing collaboration in peace efforts towards the emergence of global people's power to end violence and bring about peace and justice. To this end, we shall take action in the following areas:

Joint initiatives against the US-led global war on terrorism

Given the imminence of US invasion of Iraq, we will:

- Launch the Asia People's Action against War (APAW), regionally-coordinated actions against the US-led war on terrorism.
- Bring Asian anti-war voices to the US and Europe through messages, position papers and the like to influence public opinion in these regions, especially in the light of the rift within the European alliance vis-à-vis the US-led war against terrorism.
- Closely monitor the movements of the US military and disseminate information on developments on US war efforts within the APA network.

Linkage with anti-globalisation movements

We will participate in and build linkages with anti-globalisation movements and initiatives. In particular, we will participate in the Asian Social Forum (ASF) that will be held in Hyderabad, India on January 2-7, 2003 by sponsoring the conference, seminars and workshops on the sub-theme, Peace and Security.

Linkage with peace efforts and forces

We will build linkages and collaborate with peace efforts and peace forces in other regions, especially at the grassroots level.

Support people's peace initiatives to address internal conflicts

We will undertake action and build broad-based solidarity supportive of people's initiatives to bring about peace with justice in areas of conflict. To this end, we will:

- Undertake simultaneous joint action that will bridge the struggles of peoples and movements across Asia around common issues of conflict in the region—e.g., ethnic and religious conflicts as a common reality in South Asia as well as in many countries in Southeast Asia; nuclear Japan and the India-Pakistan nuclear confrontation.
- Support citizen-initiated peace actions or facilitation in Burma, Aceh, Sri Lanka, and Mindanao/ Philippines—e.g., representations with governments and regional organisations like the ASEAN in support of peace processes.
- Help strengthen local peace initiatives and anti-war efforts already being undertaken by APA-affiliated groups in their respective countries by forging region-wide solidarity, applying international pressure, and adding regional/global dimension to these local campaigns.
- Support processes and programs that would promote the involvement of women and basic sectors in peace initiatives at the grassroots level.

Forms of further action

- **Missions.** Conduct Fact-finding and Solidarity Missions to areas affected by US military action or by internal armed conflicts with the end in view of achieving concrete results particularly in terms of holding governments accountable for reparation and remedial actions by using the facts and information gathered for advocacy in people's tribunals and UN bodies.
- **Media.** Circulate anti-war voices and messages locally and globally through mainstream and alternative media and the Internet, and address the way US-led/global media have affected people's perceptions and sensitivities favouring war rhetoric and limiting their participation for transformative peace.
- **Advocacy.** Undertake and support lobbying, petition-signing campaigns, peace marches, human chain, exhibitions and other forms of demonstration to express demands against war and US military presence/intervention in many countries in Asia.
- **Legal action.** Engage in legal action and court struggle to end the culture of impunity and support victimised people.
- **Research and education.** Promote research and education based on human rights and gender justice and support efforts in reforming history education towards one that does not justify past crime or glorify national/ethnic and religious identities-to the exclusion of others.

ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM

At Nizam College, Basheerbagh, Hyderabad.

2nd - 7th January, 2003



ALL INDIA BANK EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION A TRADE UNION WITH A SOCIAL VISION

*A PRIME MOVER FOR NATIONALISATION,
NOW A FIGHTER AGAINST WILLFUL DEFAULTERS*

During the post second world war, the bank employees in India were the most exploited working classes. They were being paid paltry wages with no regulated service conditions at all. It was a rule of hire and fire. Bank employees were suffering in silence but did not have the necessary courage to form unions. They saw the workers in the factories fighting and making some progress in terms of wages and betterment in service conditions. Bank employees also gathered some courage here and there and started to organize themselves into unions in a sporadic way. All India Bank Employees Association (AIBEA), the oldest and largest national trade union centre of bank employees in India, was founded in 1946 on the 20th of April in Kolkata. With the advent of AIBEA on the scene, this gave a fillip to the formation of unions in different banks. Some protest actions and strikes were undertaken but the disputes were referred to tribunals and employees did not get justice or satisfaction. Hence unrest and dissatisfaction amongst the employees were brewing and there were innumerable agitations, struggles and strikes in the banks. Banking was a State subject at that time and hence there were number of Tribunals and Awards. The growing discontentment amongst the bank employees was sensed by the management and the authorities and banking was made a central subject.

Consequently, there were All India tribunals. The unduly long periods of waiting, the unsatisfactory awards and the bias of the authorities made the AIBEA in 1964 to demand direct bilateral negotiations and settlement. AIBEA succeeded in this effort when in 1966 the first ever industry level Bipartite Settlement was signed between the AIBEA and the bank management's across the table. Today this bilateral agreement constitutes a landmark achievement in the banking industry and 7 Bipartite Settlements have been signed so far by the AIBEA. Thus from 1946 to 1966 - nearly two decades were the periods of organising unions and fighting before the Tribunals.

From 1966, it has been an era of consolidation. Bank unions were recognised by the management's and in each bank many policy issues on recruitment's, transfers and promotions were regulated by mutual agreements. Along with the struggle for improvements in wages and service conditions, AIBEA also campaigned for nationalisation of Banks. After years of continuous efforts and struggle, AIBEA achieved its

objective when major 14 banks were nationalised in July 1969. Subsequently in 1980 another set of 6 Banks were nationalized. This process established the objective of banks as "mass banking" instead of the then prevailing objective of "class objective".

Following is a brief a/c of growth of banking in the post nationalisation era, spanning over three decades.

	Branches	Rural Branches	Deposits in crores	Advances in crores	Agri Advances	Priority Sector	Population coverage ratio per bank branch
1969	8268	1833	4665	3609	162	441	65000:1
Today	65000	32700	1250000	670000	53500	155000	15000:1

Post Nationalization Directed Lending through specialised schemes with concessional rates of interests were formulated with the sole objective of uplifting poorer sections of the society. Even the green revolution the crowning achievement of Independent India would be impossible without the financial support given to the rural farmers by the PSBs under priority sector lending.

GROWTH Vs GREED:

Post nationalisation, the public sector character of the banks phenomenally changed the savings habits of the Indian people. They trusted the national character of these banks and held their hard earned savings in these banks. As more and more people are coming into the fold of these banks, the funds for investment with these banks risen dramatically. Industrialists utilised these funds to expand their business interest. The era of licence permit raj helped the industrialist with political patronage to garner the most of the funds from these PSBs. The ever accommodating hand of politician's involvement made these banks credit decisions favourable to the political climate. Now the industrialists utilised the public money in undue capacity expansion and unrelated business diversification. Even politicians started throwing the public money from banks by conducting loan melas for their supporters to garner their franchise. Foreseeing these acts of Industrialists and politicians will harm the PSBs and came out with a massive campaign highlighting the "HELATH OF BANKING INDUSTRY" during 1987 and conducted a massive rally to the Parliament.

POST REFORMS:

In 1991, Indian economy was going through a grave crisis encompassing all frontiers- abysmally low levels of Foreign exchange, increased oil pool deficit, severe resource crunch, and downgraded credit rating. At this juncture the govt. launched the New Economic Policy ushering in the Structural Adjustment Program under the guidance of WOLRD BANK and IMF. This Program also included bankiing sector reforms and towards the fulfilment of this objective the Narsimhan committee was formed. Major actions that followed the recommendations of the committee which are as follows:-

- i. Deregulation of entry norms for the private sector and foreign banks.
- ii. Allowing banks to access capital markets
- iii. Deregulation of interest rates.
- iv. Greater autonomy to banks: The limit on minimum govt. Equity was brought down to 51%..
- v. Introduction of Prudential Norms:- New comprehensive norms regarding income recognition, asset classifications & provisioning for NPAs have been notified and made compulsory for banks to adopt.

As a furthering of the reforms processthe2ndNarsimhan committee was set-up. Some of the major recommendations were as follows:-

Reduction of govt. stake to 33%:- The ongoing process of PSU divestments has reached the banking sector also, with the committee suggesting that govt. stake in banks should come down to 33%.

Rehabilitation of weak banks with fresh infusion of capital of NPA adjustments.

Allowing consolidation in banking sector then mergers and acquisitions.

Better asset/liability management through the creation and use of Asset Reconstruction Companies.

M.S.VARMA COMMITTEE was formed to look in to the matter of revival and reconstruction of the weak banks. While ruling out the merger of these banks with stronger cousins among PSBs, this committee advocated the freezing of wages to the employees and recommended the downsizing of the manpower for the revival of these weak bank. This committee was humiliatingly silent on the action to be taken on the wilful defaulters who are the main culprits for the huge losses suffered by these banks.

On the plank of above recommendations some vested interests in industrial lobby criticized the public sector banks, and advocated the closing down of the weak PSBs.

AIBEa sensing the ultimate design in their campaign came out with the defaulters lists of PSBs which was nothing but who's who list of So called Industrialist's lobby. with the efforts of AIBEa all bank employees and Officers unions united under UFBU and drawn the fighting lines to protect the PSBs character together.

Especially AIBEa launched the March to Parliament Campaign to highlight the growing burden of NPAs on the health of Indian Banking sector. These rallies were conducted in March, 2000 and during November 2002. Massive demonstrations by the members of AIBEa rallied in protest of wilful defaulters.

The following demands were made by AIBEa to make Public Sector Banks free from growing NPA burden:

- i) publish the list of bank wilful defaulters
- ii) Declare non-payment of bank loans as criminal offence
- iii) Ban on contesting election/holding public positions for bank loan defaulters
- iv) Personal liability of company directors and promoters and attachment of their property.
- v) Revamping of laws relating to bank loans, recovery and limitations etc.

In November, 2002 the much awaited Securitisation Bill was passed by the Parliament.

The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Bill is the culmination of the fighting spirit shown by the AIBEa and its members along with all Other Bank Employees unions. Even though the formation of Asset Reconstruction Company to take over the assets from the lending banks is not acceptable to the AIBEa, as this route will be exploited by the Industrial Lobby to loot the banks once again still this bill strengthen the hands of the lending banker. Armed with this new Bill, now PSBs can drastically lower their NPA figure, which was estimated at 57,000 crores with a overall figure of 1,10,000 crores across the entire Indian banking industry.

THE LOOT OF INDIAN BANKING SECTOR

Company	Amount in crores
Mardia Group	1,450
Lloyds Group	1,012
Modern Group	846
Parasrampur Group	705
Core Healthcare Group	751
Mafatlal Group	598
Nova Group	527.5
Patheja Group	547
Usha Ispat	391.7
Indian Charge	493.3
Chrome Ltd	
Altos India	437
JK Group	698
Rajinder Group	620
Mesco Group	527.5
Prakash Industries Ltd	360

YES, AIBEa IS NOT JUST A TRADE UNION WITH AN AGENDA TO PROTECT ITS MEMBERS, IT'S AN ORGANISATION WITH A SOCIAL VISION, 30 YEARS BACK IT'S FIGHT FOR NATIONALISATION PROVED TO BE THE ROCKBEAD OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF POORER SECTIONS OF INDIAN CITIZENS.

ON THE ONSET OF GLOBALISATION & ECONOMIC REFORMS IN INDIA, AIBEa HEARLDED THE FIGHT TO PROTECT THE FRUITS OF NATIONALISATION AS WELL AS FUTURE OF MILLIONS OF BANK EMPLOYEES IN INDIA. IN EVERY COUNTRY, FINANCIAL SECTOR IS THE FIRST PREY TO REFORMS. IT HELPS TO LOOT THE PATIENT BY REFORMIST'S DOCTORS VIZ., WORLD BANK, IMF, WTO.

IN INDIA, THEY WERE STOPPED IN THEIR TRACKS WITH THE CONCERNED EFFORTS OF AIBEa ALONG WITH ALL OTHER BANKING TRADE UNIONS.



Com.PRABHAT KAR

THE ARCHITECTS OF AIBEa



Com.PARVANA

GLOABLISATION AND ITS IMPACT:

Swami Vivekananda once remarked that a society that systematically exploits one section of population for the benefit of another is like a bird with one wing; it can never aspire to be free and growing. While the context in which he made the remark was different, the saying per se seems to be relevant in the present context of globalization .

Soon after the setback to socialism in Russia and allied countries in Europe, imperialist powers made tall claims about building a crisis-free capitalism using the hi-tech revolution --- the only sustainable system for human progress. These claims are getting thoroughly exposed and discredited today. What we are witnessing today is a different scenario. The capitalist system as a whole is facing a serious crisis and the intensity of this crisis is on the increase. The crisis which overtook Mexico in 1994 and the East Asian countries in 1997-98 were explained as only temporary phenomena. But today we find that even the mighty economies of the world --- the US and Japan which, put together, account for 46 per cent of the world's output ---have plunged into a recession. Other developed as well as the third world countries, too, are facing a serious deceleration in economic growth, the only exception being China. The crisis is all-embracing and pervades even the high-tech sector. Millions of workers in the developed countries have been thrown out of employment; retrenchment and closures are becoming the order of the day. The working masses are everywhere facing a serious threat to their livelihood as their achievements and rights earned through bitter struggles are being increasingly curtailed.

Generally, the living standard of the working people is getting eroded everywhere. Besides, poverty and bankruptcies are on the rise while huge fortunes are being accumulated by the giant multinational companies. The prescriptions of the World Bank, IMF and WTO have failed to save the situation; they have only helped to intensify the exploitation of the weaker nations by big multinational corporations of the imperialist countries. This is the background in which new types of protest actions are developing in different parts of the world against the system of capitalism.

- 1) NO to globalisation that drives down workers' rights and job security;
- 2) NO to globalisation that undermines education and health care;
- 3) NO to globalisation that helps the rich and hurts the poor;
- 4) NO to globalisation that stifles and denies democracy.

IN INDIAN CONTEXT:

In India the government has decided to go ahead with wholesale privatisation of all the public sector industries. Plans about downsizing the government departments and labour law changes, based on the reports of three committee, are copied from the blueprint of the WB-IMF-WTO trio.

The working class of India has to close its ranks, irrespective of political and organisational differences, to fight back and defeat these policies so as to save the country from a disaster.

1. Against thoughtless privatisation of the profit-making and potential viable public sector units including the defence sector industries.
2. Against the withdrawal of quantitative restrictions on imports as per WTO conditionalities much to the detriment of Indian industry, agriculture and national interest as a whole.
3. Against the move to change the labour laws in favour of employers.
4. For immediate enactment of a comprehensive legislation for agricultural workers.
5. Against the policies leading to severe aggravation of joblessness and unemployment.

AIBE is committed to fight back and defeat - the policies of Privatisation of Public Sector Banks, Change in Labour Laws, the policies leading to the sufferings of the common man, worker etc.



*AIBE - Mother of Trade Unions
in Indian Banking Industry*

Corporate Crimes



On 3 December 1984, the world witnessed the worst chemical disaster ever when a gas leak in the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India, killed atleast 8,000 workers and residents in the first 3 days after the disaster and caused permanent and debilitating injuries to more than 150,000 people. The leak was caused mainly by insufficient safety systems and cost cutting measures by Union Carbide. Eighteen years after this tragic disaster, the legacy of poisoning continues. By deflecting responsibility for the disaster to the Indian government, Union Carbide managed to escape its obligations, showing its moral and ethical bankruptcy. Justice remains more elusive than ever for the victims of the disaster.

The **Bhopal Principles** addresses corporate accountability across a wide range of issues. We have chosen to call them "Bhopal Principles" because this disaster highlights the current failure of governments to protect public welfare and the failure of corporations to observe basic standards.

Bhopal Principles

- States must as a matter of priority adopt national and international laws to implement **Principle 13 of the Rio Declaration**, to address liability and compensation for victims of environmental damage
- **Corporations must be held strictly liable** for all damage arising from their activities, whether it be to person, environment or property.
- **Corporations must be liable** for injury to persons or damage to environment and property, **beyond the limits of national jurisdiction**
- Economic activity **must not infringe upon basic human and social rights**. Corporates must respect and uphold these rights
- States must require companies to disclose to the public all information concerning releases to the environment and product composition. **Commercial confidentiality must not outweigh public interests**.
- Consistent with **Rio Principle 14**, States must not permit MNCs to deliberately lower their standards of operation and safety in places where health and environment protection regimes are weaker.
- States must co-operate to **combat bribery** and **eliminate corporate influence on public policy** through election campaign contributions.
- States must ensure that people maintain their **sovereignty over** their own **food supply**, including measures to prevent genetic pollution and patenting.
- States must fully implement the **Precautionary Principle** in national and international law. Corporations must take preventative action before environmental damage or health effects are incurred. Governments must require companies to **undertake Environment Impact Assessments** with public participation.
- States must promote **clean and sustainable development**, phase out hazardous chemicals and use resources in a sustainable manner.



Dow (formerly Union Carbide), Bhopal, India.

Union Carbide was involved in chemical production. The Bhopal plant was primarily producing Methyl Iso Cyanate (MIC) for pesticide manufacture. On December 3 1984, an accident led to leak of gases, chiefly MIC, monomethylamine, carbon monoxide, among 20 others.

Storage of MIC is to be done under very strict conditions, with multiple safety measures. Safety measures were reduced to cut operation costs. The running of the plant was in contravention of company policies strictly practiced in its other plants. Routine maintenance was neglected, staff under-trained, and critical equipment not replaced frequently enough. **There were no Disaster Management Plans.** The accident led to loss of life that amounted to 8000 people in the first 3 days and 150,000 victims who are chronically ill even today. Many in later years died of improper diagnosis due to Union Carbide India Limited's refusal to disclose details of the leaked gases.

Union Carbide has evaded responsibility by paying inadequate compensation and leaving the country. It has merged with Dow. The victims today are still in search for justice, even as they suffer from incapacitating illnesses in the 3rd generation.

Dow Chemicals, Brazil

Dow Chemicals in Brazil has many plants that produce different polymers. In 1999 it absorbed Union Carbide, which also had plants in Brazil. In one such plant, toxic chemical carbon tetrachloride had been stored for 20 years, and was recently sent for disposal. The soil and the river in the vicinity are highly contaminated by organochlorines and heavy metals. The company has not yet taken full responsibility.

Dow Chemicals, India



The company has a pesticide plant in Bombay, manufacturing an organophosphate pesticide that kills animals by attacking the nervous system. The pesticide, Dursban, was known to cause poisoning of people and environment in the US. After strict laws were passed to ban Dursban, Dow continued to market and sell it in India and poorer countries. Studies have not been done in India, but studies in the US show that prior to restriction, it caused 1000 cases of poisoning and 7000 cases of accidental exposure every year in the US alone. Dow continues to follow double standards of production and distribution of its products.

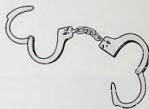
Dow Agrosociences NZ Ltd., New Zealand

This company was formerly Ivon Watkins Dow. IWD had first commenced producing a defoliant (to remove the foliage in a forest) that was used in the Vietnam War. This chemical had dioxins in it that contaminated the environment and people. Subsequently, the company was guilty of producing a weed killer that had dioxins. This was used all over forest and agricultural land in New Plymouth. Further, IWD has buried waste that has leached into the ground, incinerated dioxin contaminated waste and had at least 2 explosions that released dioxins into the atmosphere. There has been no legal action as yet, but the community has taken steps to get assistance in health care. The company must be made to prove that its products and processes are safe.

Dow Chemicals, Louisiana, USA

In June 2002, a former employee of Dow testified in court that Dow has been routinely dumping large amounts (about 5000kgs a month) of Vinyl Chloride next to the railway tracks in Plaquemine for the last 30 years. In this case, Dow is guilty of poisoning the ground water and soil as well as contamination of people, including its own employees.

In each case Dow has been guilty of causing damage, despite knowing the consequences of its actions. The only instance of redressal has been in the US. Dow cannot continue to take advantage of poorer nations with inadequate laws for its own benefits and commit its crimes against the environment and people.





A Profile of Monsanto

Monsanto is a multinational agro-chemical company. It is the second biggest seed company in the world and the biggest Genetic Engineering (GE) seed supplier. Monsanto has introduced GE canola (rape) seed in Canada that has had widespread damage to the existing crops and fields. GE modified canola "superweeds" are emerging on a widespread basis in the Canadian prairies. As they are resistant to a variety of herbicides, the only way to control them is by using known toxic chemicals. Also, those farmers who do not want to grow the GE modified crop cannot do so because the "superweed" spreads uncontrollably. Ironically, instead of owning up its responsibility for widespread contamination, Monsanto is suing farmers for illegal use when the modified canola crop has been found growing on their fields! When the modified canola was imported into Europe, the crops in Europe have also been similarly affected. The GE crops cause contamination to seed supplies in countries where the crop is not even grown.

GE companies like Monsanto dominate the commercial GMO market and hence take away farmers' rights all over the world. There is no system in place yet to protect farmers or the public from the damage that could be caused by these GE plants. GE companies should be held liable for any harm and financial loss caused by genetically modified contamination of seeds and fields.

A Profile of Shell across the World

Shell Brasil S.A. (Subsidiary of Royal Dutch Shell Group, Netherlands)

Shell Chemicals manufactured pesticides in rural São Paulo from 1975 to 1993. While in operation, the plant contaminated ground water with organochlorines. Three instances of leakage of this compound were officially reported. In 1985, sale of these pesticides was stopped in Brasil. However, manufacture of these chemicals continued till 1990. When Shell sold the plant to

Cyanamide Chemicals, it had to evaluate its environmental liability. In the process, it was found that ground water was contaminated and 86% of the population showed chronic contamination. In the legal battle that followed, Shell was forced to provide necessary medical treatment, despite Shell trying to doctor results of groundwater and medical treatment tests.

Shell Brasil, S.A.

The facilities involved at the site stored fuels and pesticides. Beginning in 1993, soil samples at the location found high concentrations of lead, heavy metals, hydrocarbons and organochlorines. In April 2002, tests on artesian wells used by 400 people for drinking water found that concentrations of toxic chemicals were 10 times higher than the maximum allowable limit for human consumption. One report estimates that 30,000 people

who live within 1 km. of the plant may have been affected by the contamination. Since 2000, Shell has removed and incinerated tonnes of contaminated soil and fuel sludge. It has committed to de-contaminating an area measuring 180,000 sq. metres by 2003. Shell did not acknowledge the contamination by "drins", and refutes the possibility that it has contaminated workers and the local community.

Shell Global

Shell chemicals started production of the "drins" (endrin, dieldrin and aldrin) in 1952, and finished completely in 1990. In Pernis, the Netherlands, river sediments, residential areas and dumpsites were severely polluted. Leaking basins and pipes at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, USA, have contaminated 70 sq. kms. of land. There have been many reports of poisoning, for eg., the consumption of bread made from endrin contaminated flour that

affected atleast 936 people and caused 26 deaths. Although the use of "drins" has been virtually banned in the USA and the Netherlands since the late 1970s, Shell continued the production and sales to industrialising countries until 1992. Shell refuses to take full responsibility for the complete removal of stockpiles all over the world.

Shell, Buenos Aires, Argentina

The soil surrounding the area of the Shell gas station is severely contaminated due to leaks from underground fuel tanks. In 1979, leaks from the Shell gas station led to an explosion in a nearby subway station. Shell put new air extractors in the subway station but removed them after some time. A legal verdict requires Shell to replace the contaminated soil with clean soil. Yet it has not done so. All these cases show that transnational corporations such as Shell

must be held accountable for their actions and liable for clean up and compensation of the victims of contamination caused by their pollution



Other Cases in India

Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. (HIL), Kerala

Fully owned by the Government of India, HIL has three factories producing insecticides. In Kerala, the plant produces DDT, dicofol and endosulfan, and also hydrochloric acid and sulphuric acid as by-products. The plant has caused permanent contamination and emits pollutants. HIL releases effluents into a public stream. The effluent contains 111 toxic chemicals and it reaches the river Periyar, which is a major source of drinking water and livelihood for fisherfolk. Many species of plant, fishes and animals have been

affected. 20,000 people are directly affected by the contamination and 100,000 people are potentially exposed to the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Further, 1 million are affected through eating contaminated fish. The public took direct action against the company after which, the company offered to fund part of the clean up. But the company's interest is to dredge the stream so they can continue to dump toxins into it. The sediment will only be discarded into another open dump.

Plantation Corporation of Kerala (PCK)

Located in Kottayam, PCK is primarily involved in pesticide application. Aerial spraying of toxic chemical endosulfan, intended only for agricultural uses has been used over densely populated area without following the basic precaution of covering all drinking water sources. No assessment has been made as to how many people have affected, but at least 15 villages are affected, exposing 200,000 people. The population manifests wide variety of problems that include cancer, hormonal disruptions, weakening of immune systems and nervous system diseases. Workers' rights have been violated and there has been a decline in the population of

many species of animals. Pesticide residues have been found in crops, butter, cow's milk, and cow fat. Three court cases have been filed with the help of the media. The lower courts have temporarily banned aerial spraying but the high court hearing is yet to begin. PCK, meanwhile, has made no efforts to compensate those affected and has gone so far as claiming that endosulfan has not caused any damage.

Both the above companies are State-owned, indicating that they must also be held liable along with the multinationals that create havoc in the environment.



Its time to eliminate Corporate Crime

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Incineration – A Global Hazard

Incineration of industrial waste is considered an alternative to land filling. The common myth is that burning makes waste disappear but the reality is that it creates more toxic wastes. The process of incineration breaks down bulk waste and disperses it into the environment via air, water and ash emissions.

Incineration releases three kinds of dangerous pollutants into the environment: heavy metals, unburned toxic chemicals and entirely new chemicals formed during the incineration process.

Metals are not destroyed during incineration.

Did you know that an average incinerator which burns 32,000 tonnes of hazardous waste per year emits metals at the rate of 92 tonnes a year into the air and 304 tonnes a year into residual ashes and liquids?

These toxic metals include lead, cadmium, arsenic, mercury and chromium from otherwise stable materials like plastics. The impact on health can include cancer, birth defects, reproductive dysfunction, neurological damage, etc.

No incinerator process operates at 100% efficiency.

Smoke stacks of hazardous waste incinerators release gases that contain unburned chemicals. These chemicals also escape into the air as fugitive emissions during storage, handling and transport. Wastes when burnt also transform into ash and effluent.

Did you know that from incinerators, 43 different semi-volatile organic chemicals and 16 organic chemicals were identified in ash and scrubber water respectively? These, in turn, pollute the air, land and water bodies such as rivers and lakes.

During the combustion of hazardous waste, entirely new chemicals are formed due to recombination within smoke stacks, furnaces, etc.

Out of 1000s of such chemicals, 100 have been identified. Among these are dioxins and furans, which cause altered sexual development, reproductive problems, lowered immunity, diabetes, organ toxicity and effects on hormones. Some of them are carcinogenic. Dioxins also have an ability to travel vast distances on air and ocean currents, making them **global killers**.

What are some of the other impacts of incineration?

- The leftover ash can contain above-mentioned metals, dioxins and furans, and disposing of this waste is expensive and quite tricky.

- It is difficult to pronounce the disposal method safe for either human or environmental health.
- Also, emissions into the air lead to the accumulation of pollutants in food crops.

Did you know that 15-50% of the pollutants remain on the crop/vegetable after washing?

Why are developing countries in Asia being swamped with proposals to build waste incinerator plants?

There must be a problem with incineration because developed countries do not want this process on their own land. Apart from its impact on the health and environment it has other difficulties:

- In practice, equipment failure, human error and rapid changes in the waste fed to the incinerator can alter and deviate incinerator performance radically.
- Incinerator plants are capital-intensive and to recover the costs of building them and support profitable operations, owners of the plants encourage generation of waste.
- Continued investment in incinerators inhibits the development of products and processes that do not use toxic chemicals in the first place.
- It also removes the incentive to re-cycle and re-use.

Did you know that only 10% of hospital's waste is potentially infectious and even this can be sterilised?

The remaining 90% is similar to waste coming from hotels, offices and restaurants! By burning hospital waste, a biological problem of disinfecting infectious materials becomes a formidable chemical pollution problem.

Given the serious problem with incineration, Greenpeace believes that rather than seeking to refine regulations, national governments must implement the following policies:

- A moratorium on the construction of new, hazardous waste incinerators or the expansion of existing ones;
- Development of programs to reduce waste and eliminate toxics in the overall waste stream;
- A rapid schedule for phase-out of all existing incinerators

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Your Right to Know

Do you know about the industries in your neighbourhood? Do you know where they are located? If you do, do you know about their nature, risks of hazardous substances, their waste disposal and emissions, and their impact on your health and environment? Are you aware of environmentally sensitive sites in your area? Are they getting harmed in any way? If so, how?

These are things that relate to you and your environment, and if you care about it you must have the **right to know**. Apart from being able to get answers for these questions, you as a citizen must have the access to:

- Information on the assessment of chemicals, their location and management
- Material safety data sheets

There must be a system of pre-notification of use of pesticides and a system for prompt and equitable determination of commercially sensitive information. **You must have access to this as well.**

With information, you as a citizen, have a tool to protect yourself and your environment. Information must be available in what is called Pollutant Inventory. The combination of an inventory that provides information to the public and a general ecological awareness amongst the public has proven to be most effective in improvement of environmental quality. Infact this has shown to result in....

- **Massive reductions in pollution**
- **Commitment to pollution prevention**
- A context for **community health** promotion including worker health and safety.
- **Inform and help policy makers** evaluate how to spend resources

An inventory is the **first critical step toward the greater goal of toxics reduction**

All governments must implement the 'Right to Know' legislation. A global company must also be accountable to its subsidiary units in other countries even if that country doesn't have legislation to that effect. These principles have already been enshrined in Agenda 21 of UNECD.

In the US, it was found, that the promulgation of a 'Toxic Release Inventory' by companies actually resulted in a 20% reduction in release of toxic chemicals into the environment. Inventories have also become popular in Canada, Australia, Netherlands, U.K, and Japan. Material safety data sheets have improved workers' conditions in these countries.

You need to exercise your right to a clean environment and participate in the planning process, **demand your Right to Know.**

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Pesticides: A 'Pest'ering problem

What is a pesticide?

A pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended for **preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest**. Pests can be insects, mice and other animals, unwanted plants (weeds), fungi, or micro-organisms like bacteria and viruses. Though often misunderstood to refer only to insecticides, the term pesticide also applies to herbicides, fungicides, and various other substances used to control pests. Pesticides are useful because of their ability to kill potentially disease-causing organisms and control insects,

weeds and other pests. By their very nature, they create some risk of harm to humans, animals or the environment in which they are used.

Pesticides and their related problems are an impact of the **green revolution**. Recovering from the euphoria of the Green Revolution, India is now battling the residual effects of the extensively used chemical fertilizers and pesticides in the country's soils.

Why are pesticides harmful?

It is now increasingly believed that many of the environmental problems that have come to light in the past 40 years are not isolated from each other at all but rather have been caused by just one class of chemicals: organo chlorines. This class includes **DDT, Dioxins, HCH (HexaChloro Cyclo Hexane), and Aldrin**.

Organochlorines are carbon-based substances that have one or more chlorine atoms. Many organochlorines are persistent, lasting in the world for years before degrading. Wind and air currents take these chemicals far from their homelands, even in areas where the chemicals have never been used.

Unfortunately, 40% of all pesticides used in India are organochlorines. Another 30% are organophosphates, which are equally hazardous. Most of these chemicals are banned in other countries, and the rest are awaiting risk-assessment reports!

Studies show that pesticides can cause health problems such as birth defects, nerve damage, cancer, and other effects that might occur over a long period of time. **World Health Organization (WHO) estimates one million pesticides poisoning cases and 20,000 deaths every year globally!**

Effects on soil health:

- They kill the vital microbial fauna present in the soil.
- They persist in the environment and have been observed to accumulate in the food chain.

- It is due to their tendency to accumulate in the animal fatty tissue, and move up the food chain, that their residues have been found in the mother's milk.

India has been reported to have the highest levels of DDT in breast milk!

What are the alternatives?

The real solution to replacing these chemicals seems to be Integrated Pest Management (IPM). As the name suggests, IPM is an approach to **pest management, not pest elimination**. It looks at the pest in its environment, and comes up with solutions after understanding its life-cycle, natural predators, etc.

Another solution is in replacing the chemical pesticides with **bio-pesticides**. Biologically based pesticides such as botanicals, bio-control agents and microbial pesticides are much safer than traditional pesticides. Researchers are working on this alternative.

India's battle

The decade from 1980 to 1990 alone saw the area under pesticides in India increase a whopping 20-fold, from six million hectare to 125 million hectare. Interestingly, India's consumption of pesticides per hectare is low when compared with world averages. Yet, despite a comparatively low use of pesticides in India, the contamination of food products in the country is alarming. The reason lies in the non-judicious use of the chemicals, lack of awareness among the farming community.

About 20% of Indian food products contain pesticide residues above tolerance level compared to only 2% globally. No detectable residues are found in only 49% Indian food products compared to 80% globally.

Even today, India has the world's largest DDT manufacturing facility. Many other pesticides are manufactured and exported to countries where these chemicals are banned.

The Indian government and Indian pesticide manufacturers have not yet made an inventory of dangerous and date-expired pesticides stored in India.

It is imperative that there is a formulation of national policy on pesticides that is rational. The policy must include establishment of bio control and pesticide residue analysis laboratories. There is also an urgent need for an implementation of a ban on pesticides that are banned in more than 5 countries. The need of the hour is an establishment of facilities for studying organic farming and IPM.

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Clean Production

The recognition that most of our environmental problems- global warming, toxic pollution and loss of bio-diversity- are caused by the way we 'transform natural resources into products' and the rate at which we consume them, is the starting point of **clean production**. Society's need for products can be fulfilled through the use of renewable, energy efficient and water efficient systems and non-hazardous materials. Clean Production also seeks to reduce consumption by looking at alternatives.

Clean production systems are non-polluting, preserve bio-diversity in nature and culture and support the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Clean production has four elements in its approach:

- It reinforces the Precautionary Principle. This principle, accepted in international law, makes it the producer's responsibility to prove that a substance or activity will do no environmental harm, rather than the community's. It stresses the need for decisions on use/manufacture of chemicals be taken by public decision-makers, as they have clear social impacts.
- The Preventive approach emphasizes that it is cheaper and more effective to prevent damage than to undo it. **Pollution prevention** replaces pollution control. It calls for an emphasis on energy efficient practices rather than on developing new fossil fuel energy sources.
- Everybody affected by industrial activities-workers, consumers, communities etc. must have information on emissions, access to pollution registers and toxic use reduction plans, as well as ingredients of products. Right to information and involvement in decision making would ensure democratic control
- A holistic approach would be achieved only by addressing the whole life-cycle of a product. The life-cycle includes all the phases of the product- design, raw-material selection/production, product manufacture, consumer use and waste management at the end of the useful life of the product. An integrated approach helps to phase out existing hazardous materials and to use resources judiciously.

Steps towards Clean Production

Governments have traditionally approached environmental management by setting limits on permissible pollution loads to water, air and land. This is flawed because it assumes that the earth can tolerate a certain amount of stress. It also fragments the approach by separating water, air and land under different regulation authorities. Governments can take steps toward clean production at different levels:

- Introduce national and regional bans and phase-outs on production and use of hazardous products
- Shift focus from waste management policies to policies on resource-use, technical support and education on clean production
- Introduce legislations on producer responsibility, access to information, tax reforms etc. and support measures for worker and consumer health and safety.
- Enter into international co-ordination to prevent transfer of banned technologies/products, and instead aid transfer of clean technologies.

Manufacturers can move into clean production at a small level, which includes improvement in prevention of leaks and spills,

reduction of toxic use and introduction of in-house recycling systems.

Further progress can be made in toxic-use reduction by implementing the following techniques: input substitution, product reformation, product unit re-design or modification, production unit modernisation, improved operations and maintenance and closed loop recycling.

A remarkable change was seen in the State of Massachusetts after implementing these techniques.

Toxics use was down by **24%**, waste generation by **34%**, and total toxics release by **73%**. The economic efficiency achieved led to an overall cost reduction by **US\$ 91 million in 6 years!**

Changing the product design by allowing for reduced consumption of resources, prolonging the useful life of a product, recycling, easy dismantling and safe disposal can impact overall environmental damages.

'**Clean Products**' are non-toxic, energy efficient, made using renewable or re-processed non-renewable materials, durable, reusable, and minimally packaged using reusable recycled or recyclable materials.

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The Ship Breaking Industry- Toxic Trade in Disguise

Of approximately 45,000 ocean going ships in the world, about 700 are put out of service every year. These are then broken-up to recover steel, which constitutes 95% of their mass.

Ship breaking is hazardous to both the environment and human health. It contains asbestos, lead paint, heavy metals, oil and PCBs. It is dangerous for a worker without protection who comes into contact with these ships. Also the wastes and scraps must be disposed of properly, otherwise it is hazardous to the coastal environment

The Basel Ban

The Basel Convention on Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal banned the dumping or exporting of toxic wastes generated in the rich countries, to the poor countries. The treaty also banned the trading of hazardous wastes under the name of re-cycling.

Taking the hazardous nature of ship breaking into account, one can conclude that it is another form of dumping toxic waste on poorer nations.

Why Poorer Nations?

Due to strict pollution laws and health and safety standards in the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation) countries, it is very expensive to dismantle decommissioned ships. On the other hand, economic needs of the poorer nations and their lenient laws and the cheap labour, the third world countries have become a good target for the owners of the ships. The workers here are also ignorant of the

dangers or even their right to know about them. In desperation they take up any job that might earn them a daily wage. The owners can maximise their profit. The other dimension is that ships when broken down are a source of cheap steel for these nations. Sending of ships to shipyards in Asia is a direct violation of the Basel Ban.

The Impact of Ship Breaking

Most ships broken today were built before the 1970s, when environmental laws were not strict. They therefore contain many hazardous chemicals that are banned today.

The worker who is unprotected and exposed to asbestos and lead is susceptible to breathing difficulties, lung cancers, anaemia and damage to the nervous system and kidneys. Arsenic exposure can result in cancers of different organs, damage of nervous tissue and blood vessels and paralysis. Many other toxins can cause respiratory problems, cancers, mutations, reproductive defects and loss of immunity. Workers are also in risk of fire, explosions, suffocations and falling beam plates. The choice for them seems to be between poverty and poison.

The impact on the environment includes contamination of the seas and ground water, and the destruction of marine and coastal life in the area.

A study of ship breaking industries across the world have revealed some shocking facts:

- The poorer a nation is, the more waste it will get. (These include India, China, Phillipines and Bangladesh)
- They all have polluted eco-systems along the shipyard
- Many workers die in cramped conditions every year from lack of care/knowledge/protection/equipment.
(360 deaths occur in Alang, India, every year.)

Greenpeace Demands

Greenpeace is not calling for the closure of the Asian ship breaking industry, but it demands the industry keep the spirit of the Basel Convention. It demands that the rich countries stop using Asia to escape their responsibility of decontaminating their ships before sending them for scrapping.

- No toxic trade
- Toxics free industry
- Clean jobs and clean environment
- Clean ships

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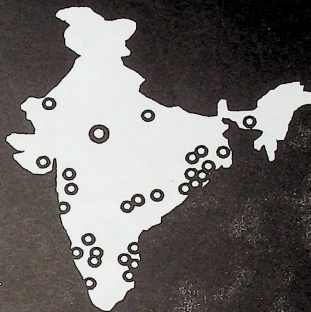
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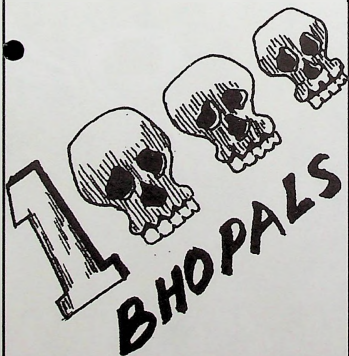
... OUR LAND



WE HAVE NOT JUST
ONE BHOPAL

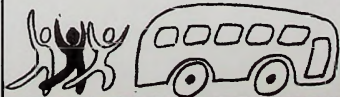


... BUT A



IT IS TIME TO BE
A VOICE
NOT A VICTIM
AND SAY

**NO MORE
BHOPALS**



JOIN US: STRENGTHEN THE
1000 BHOPALS JATHA

HAPPENING IN SLOW MOTION

GREENPEACE





17th December 2002

Amnesty International India and Habitat International Coalition invite you to a Seminar on "Competing Rights and Obligations: Globalisation and Legal Frameworks to Protect ESC Rights" on 4th January, 2003 between 2.30 and 6.30 pm at the Asia Social Forum at Hyderabad. Please find a brief background is on the reverse.

Speakers:

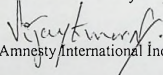
The Changing face of Workers Rights: Babu Mathew

Bhopal: Human Rights Obligations Abandoned: Sathinath Sarangi

Communities at Risk: Usha Ramanthan

Conflicting Obligations: Right to Water and Housing: Miloon Kothari

We look forward to your participation in the Seminar.


Amnesty International India

Habitat International Coalition

**Competing Rights and Obligations
Globalisation and Legal Frameworks for the Protection of ESC Rights**

Background

One of the most important features of globalisation has been the increasing pressure on the legal and policy frameworks that protect ESC rights. The three major sources have been:

1. An institutional approach to human rights protection;
2. Resolving rights related conflicts without considering in full the whole range of human rights obligations;
3. The conflict between obligations contained in trade related instruments and human rights instruments.

The Seminar essentially seeks to explore the three areas above in the context of common property resources (water), labour rights, accountability of capital (Bhopal) and industrial risk.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL INDIA

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ESC rights with respect to common property resources (in the natural resource economy) and labour (in the industrial economy) are two areas that have borne the most significant impacts of globalisation. The institutional mechanisms and policy and legal frameworks governing rights with respect to common property resources have been severely diluted by two: increasing commercial and private control and management of land, water and forests in the natural resource economy and the whittling down of labour laws and protection in the name of increasing competitiveness and efficiency in the industrial economy.

Human rights obligations are increasingly being viewed from the perspective of good governance rather than justice. As a result there is increasingly a tendency for human rights concerns to be addressed from the stand-point of institutional efficiency rather than social and economic justice. Underlying this is the fact that institutions like the WTO are seeking to enforce trade and capital related obligations that are often at conflict with human rights obligations. The instruments governing trade and capital are increasingly using the language of human rights but in a radically different manner.

Judicial interpretation as well as policy making are tending towards resolving conflicts relating to ESC rights independently of human rights obligations. The classic case is industrial relocation involving hazardous industries. The Delhi industrial relocation case essentially involves relocation of risk rather than reduction of risk. While the SC ordered all polluting industries to be relocated outside Delhi to protect environment no specific measures to actually contain their risk in relocated areas was set down. At the same time the SC also paid scant attention to the rights of thousands of workers except offering them an alternative to move with the risk or accept some compensation.

While the forces of globalisation seek to create a level playing field for capital the same is not true in terms of human rights obligations. On the one hand barriers to the movement of capital are being lowered while human rights obligations of companies are increasingly being circumscribed and limited allowing them to pass on the risk rather than enforce obligations. The struggle of the Bhopal Gas Leak victims and survivors to bring UCC to justice is a case in point. While the UCC claims that it cannot be prosecuted in India it also argued successfully against any liability in the USA on the grounds that American courts cannot possibly assess the value of the lives of the (poor) Indians living in Bhopal.



17th December 2002

Amnesty International India and the **Human Rights Law Network** invite you to a Workshop on "Refugee Rights" on 5th January, 2003 between 2.30 and 6.30 pm at the Asia Social Forum at Hyderabad.

Session 1: 2.30 to 4.30 pm

Refugees In India

Nandita Haksar – An Overview

Ravi Nair: Refugee Protection in South Asia – An Overview of Experiences
Discussion

Refugee Experiences- Case Studies

Bhutanese Refugees in Nepal – Tom Adhikary, DNC

Burmese Refugees in India -

Sri Lankan Refugees in India- Fr. Amalraj, JRS

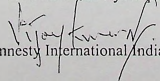
Discussion

Session 2: 4.30 to 6.30 pm

Refugee Law – An Overview of Protection Experience in India

Human Rights Law Network

We look forward to your participation in the Seminar.


Amnesty International India

Human Rights Lawyers Network

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL INDIA

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17th December 2002

Amnesty International India and the *Criminal Justice Initiative* (of the Human Rights Law Network) invite you to a Seminar on "Criminal Justice" on 6th January, 2003 between 2.30 and 6.30 pm at the Asia Social Forum at Hyderabad.

Session 1: 2.30 to 4.30 pm

The Criminal Justice System – An Overview of recent changes and key issues

K.G. Kannabiran : The Malimath Committee and Criminal Justice Reforms

Usha Ramanathan: Fast Track Courts

Ravi Nair: NHRC/SHRCs and Criminal Justice

Discussion

Session 2: 4.30 to 6.30 pm

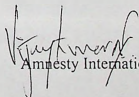
Legal Aid in Prisons and Other Custodial Institutions

D.K. Basu Monitoring by the SC and the Need for Intervention

Human Rights Law Network
Calcutta, Mumbai, Delhi

We look forward to your participation in the Seminar.

Human Rights Lawyers Network


Amnesty International India

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National Alliance of People's Movements



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मुंबई 400014 फोन 536972, 4150529

नर्मदा बचाओ आंदोलन

NARMADA BACHAO ANDOLAN

Dear friends,

We know that Asian Social Forum is to be an event in itself. The tens of conferences, seminars, workshops are presenting an opportunity to come together, exchange and even debate our views, perspectives and plans. This is a unique platform to reach alliance amongst us, the people's organizations and movements with intellectual and professional, artists and associates, to combat communal forces, challenge global powers and also initiate a move towards a national people's movement. Hope you too will try and attend.

Its amidst these massive event and exercise that we bring to you opportunities to interact on various issues of development. **Do Participate.** NARMADA BACHAO ANDOLAN will join NAPM - allied people's movements to organize-

1. 4th January - 2.30 - 6 p.m.

Seminar on Development Planning, Displacement and Resettlement (Manohar Hall) Speakers and resource persons will include **Dr. B D Sharma, L C Jain, Aruna Roy, Shalmali Guttal, Vijay Paranjapye, Shakhiman Ghosh, Thomas Kochery, Ravi Pragada, Alok Agrawal, Sunilbhai and Medha Patkar** with a few others. The NAPM/Activists to facilitate are Sunithi S R, Karuna and Philip (Release of the audio cassettes of Adivasi songs by Adivasis in the Narmada Valley)

2. 4th January - 2.30 - 6 p.m.

Seminar on Communalism : Religion, Communalism and towards a Secular Democracy (IMA Hall) Speakers and Resource persons to include **Anwar Rajan, Vijay Pratap, Rohit Prajapathi (Gujarat) and Sandeep Pandey.** NAPM Conveners/Activists to facilitate are Nandalal/Arundhati Dhurus and Gabriele Dietrich.

3. 5th January - 2.30 - 6 p.m.

Meeting of Peoples Movements present at ASF. To be compered by National Alliance of Peoples Movements. Activists to attend include **Medha Patkar, Aruna Roy, Kishen Patnaik, Thomas Kocherry, Sandeep Pandey, Yogendra Yadav, P Chennaiiah, Sanjay M G** and other conveners of NAPM. To be facilitated by all NAPM Conveners.

Contact : Sanjay M. G - 9820324062, P. Chennaiah - 9848132018

4. 5th January- 2.30 – 6 p.m.

Meeting of Dam –related people's struggles, and concerned academicians, artists, lawyers, activists.. This is to be compeered by Narmada Bachao Andolan (Save Narmada Movement) To be facilitated by all NIBA Activists.

5. 6th January- 2.30 – 6 p.m.

Seminar on Water (Andhra Yuvati Mandal) To be organized jointly by Narmada Bachao Andolan and NAPM Speakers and discussants include **Ramaswamy Iyer (ex-secretary, Water Resources), Rajendra Singh, Himanshu Thakkar, Anand Kapur, D K Mishra/ Kalyan Rudra, Uma Shankari, Shripad Dharmadhikari and Oscar Olivera (Bolivia)** with other discussants. The façilitators include NAPM Conveners/Activists such as Arundhati Dhuru, Suniti S R, Karuna and Philip.

6. 6th January – 2.30 – 6 p.m.

Seminar on Energy (Vasavi Main Hall) To be organized by Narmada Bachao Andolan and NAPM. Speakers and discussants include **Dr AKN Reddy (ex- director, IISc, Bangalore), Subodh Wagle or a representative of Prayas, Pune, Dr Ravi Kuchimanchi, Michael, Surendra Gadekar and Madhu (People's School of Energy).** The NAPM Conveners/Activists to facilitate are Gabriele, Anand, Aravinda and Madhu.

and other events organized by Andhra Pradesh Agricultural Labor Union (APVVU), Dalit Alliance, Human Rights Forum (AP), National Union of Construction Workers and other allies of NAPM.

In Solidarity,

Sanjay M G

P Chennaiah

Medha Patkar

Karuna

Philip

Seminar on Corruption and Governance

Asian Social Forum

Date: January 6, 2:30-6:30 pm

Venue: Manohar Function Hall

Corruption and authoritarian rule are products of corporate globalization.

One significant issue related to the operations of TNCs is how governments especially in Asia and the Third World are being run like corporations in order to implement the neoliberal agenda and squeeze the biggest profits for the TNCs. Such governance results in social neglect, breeds corrupt practices, and coddles dictators.

But multilateral institutions such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank treat the issue of corruption and authoritarian rule like they are simply the wrongdoing of an individual or group of individuals, or only systemic in the run of politics, thus leaving TNCs and neoliberal globalization out of the question. They have even used the issue of good governance as conditionality for aid and debt, in the process gaining the power to dictate the manner governments should be run.

Corruption and bad governance are inherent in backward countries that are foreign-dominated and driven further to poverty by policies of liberalization, privatization and deregulation. TNCs and even the World Bank, by the globalization policies they seek to strengthen, perpetuate corrupt practices and create dictators.

In the Asian Social Forum, the **International Initiative on Corruption and Governance**, in cooperation with IBON and Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) is sponsoring a **Seminar on Corruption and Governance** on **January 6, 2:30-6:30 p.m., Manohar Function Hall.**

The Seminar aims to clarify the frameworks of good governance as peddled by the World Bank against people's governance as should be developed and pushed forward by social movements. The Seminar will also lay out plans for campaigns to counter the concept being promoted by the multilateral institutions as instruments of further globalization.

Program:

I Overview on Corruption and Governance

Tony Tujan, IBON Foundation Inc. - confirmed

II. World Bank's "Good Governance" and People's Governance

Teddy Casiño Plunder Watch / BAYAN- Philippines

III Counter-Campaign

Aruna Roy and Nikhel Dey (MKSS) – India

IV. Export Credit Agencies

Liam Phelan, Aidwatch – Australia

V. Summation

Tony Tujan

Tribunal on Corruption and Governance

People's Movements Encounter at the ASF

January 4, 2:30-6:30 pm

Venue: Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Pranganam, 1st Flr of Bhatriya Theliy Sangh (Theliy Society)
Function Hall, H. No. 3-5-1113/32, Rajamohall Road, Hyderabad

The People's Movements Encounter (PME) at the Asian Social Forum that is taking place from 3-7 January 2003 in Hyderabad, India is an opportunity to articulate people's issues and struggles against globalization as well as their perspectives, demands, aspirations and alternatives.

The PME shall gather social movements from Asia, organize several public hearings, seminars, marches and expressions of people's culture, and bring the message to the broader audience throughout the globe.

The theme of the PME is 'Drive TNCs to Hunger', and one of the significant issues with regard to the operations of TNCs and corporate globalization is how governments especially in Asia and the Third World are being run like corporations in order to implement the neoliberal agenda and squeeze the biggest profits for the TNCs. Such governance results in social neglect, breeds corrupt practices, and coddles dictators.

Multilateral institutions such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, however, treat the issue of corruption and authoritarian rule like they are simply the wrongdoing of an individual or group of individuals, or only systemic in the run of politics, thus leaving TNCs and neoliberal globalization out of the question. They have even used the issue of good governance as conditionality for aid and debt, in the process even gaining the power to dictate the manner governments should be run.

But corruption and bad governance are inherent in backward countries that are foreign-dominated and driven further to poverty by policies of liberalization, privatization and deregulation. Who then should be held liable for corrupt practices? Who are guilty of creating dictators?

In the PME, IBON Foundation, the International Initiative on Corruption and Governance and Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangatan (MKSS) are sponsoring a *Tribunal on Corruption and Governance* on January 4, 14:30-18:30 p.m, at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Pranganam, 1st Flr of Bhatriya Theliy Sangh (Theliy Society) Function Hall, H. No. 3-5-1113/32, Rajamohall Road, Hyderabad.

Testimonies will be heard from India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Hong Kong, and the Philippines on the origin and nature of corruption and authoritarian rule. The experiences shall be summarized and verdict shall be passed in order to confirm that, as alternative to corporate globalization, people's governance is possible.

Program:

Testimonies on Authoritarian Rule and Corruption:

Gujarat for corruption and communal violence;

Jadugoda for secrecy and corruption and the threat to life in uranium mining areas;

Bhopal for the information and corruption related issues in the Bhopal Gas tragedy and its aftermath;

Parivartan (Delhi) for corruption in urban development works;

Madhya Pradesh for World Bank Forestry Project;

Kashipur Orissa for corruption in land acquisition and displacement of tribals for a multinational aluminum mining plant.

Aruna Roy, Nikhel Dey - MKSS

Chan Po Ying - Hong Kong Women Workers Association

Medha Patkar - NAMP India

Irene Fernandez (Tenaganita- Malaysia) Judgement

Teddy Casiño (Plunder Watch/BAYAN-Philippines) - Summation

EVENTS HOSTED
AT
ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM,
NIZAM COLLEGE, 2-7 JANUARY 2003

BY

PEOPLES SCIENCE MOVEMENTS

(All India Peoples Science Network, Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti)

MOVEMENTS WORKING FOR SHAPING SCIENCE AND SOCIETY
FOR
INNOVATIVE ALTERNATIVES TO GLOBALISATION

The All India Peoples Science Network is a federation of 40 Peoples Science Movements that works for people oriented development and resists imperialist globalisation and communalism. The movements are the nodal agency/partners for several innovative movements like literacy and continuing education, science communication, Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (People's Health Movement), and technology alternatives for sustainable development. The main sectors that the movements work on are education, health, sustainable livelihood programmes, ecology and sustainable resource use and womens' livelihood.

List of Conferences, Seminars and Workshops By Peoples Science Movements and Associated Organisations

3rd Jan 2003

S.No	Workshop/ Seminar/ Conference	Title	Organiser	Venue	Speakers
1.	Conference	Social Infrastructure	Action Aid, Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti , Jan Swasthaya Abhiyan, Right to Food Campaign	Nizam College Grounds, Conference Hall 1	Shantha Sinha, Jean Dreze, Antonio Tujan (Philippines), Kavita Srivastava, Harsh Mander, Wirapon (Thailand), Zafarullah Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Anita Rampal, Sarojini Rengam (Malaysia), T.Sundaraman, Mr. P. Sainath
2.	Seminar	Globalisation and Forests	AIPSN	Institution of Engineers	A.K. Baneerjee, Grassroot movement representatives from various states
3.	Seminar	Education for All	Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti	NGOs Hall	
4.	Seminar	Politics of Population	Forum For Women's Health	Jan Sewak Sangh, Room No.1	
5.	Seminar	Environment and Health : A People's Campaign	Community Health Cell	Jan Sewak Sangh, Room No.2	
6.	Seminar	Right To Health Care : Moving From Idea to Reality	CEHAT	Dwaraka Conference Hall	Babu Mathew, Shrinath Reddy, A.H.M. Nouman, Joga Rao, Pradip Prabhu, Brian Lobo, John Samuel, Sadhana Hall, Colin Gonsalves
7.	Workshop	Towards Action For A Tobacco Free World	Community Health Cell	Methodist School, Room No.9	
8.	Workshop	Reproductive Rights in the 21 st Century	Women's Global Network on Reproductive Rights	Methodist School, Room No.17	

4th Jan 2003

S.No	Workshop/ Seminar/ Conference	Title	Organiser	Venue	Speakers
1.	Seminar	Right to Health Care : Moving From Idea to Reality II	CEHAT	Dwarka Conference Hall	H. Sudarshan, Ravi Duggal, Jean Dreze, Father Sebastian, Sarojini, Seeta Prabhu, Ravi Narayan, T.Sundaraman
2.	Seminar	Fluid Finance and Global Crisis	IDEAS	Taj Hotel, Narayanguda	Ashok Mitra, Prabhat Patnaik, C.P. Chandrashekar, Jayati Ghosh
3.	Workshop	Globalisation and Forestry: Agenda for Peoples Movements	All India Peoples Science Network	Methodist School, Room No.7	Open Forum on Land Evictions, Governmance. Displacement etc.
4.	Workshop	Science as a Resource for Transformation	All India Peoples Scicence Network	Methodist School, Room No.8	Ashish Nandy, M.P.Parmeshwaran, T.Jayraman, Lawrence Surendra, Dinesh Abrol

5th Jan 2003

S.No	Workshop/ Seminar/ Conference	Title	Organiser	Venue	Speakers
1.	Seminar	Science and Exclusions: Race, Caste and Genetics; Science and Communalism	All India Peoples Science Network	Institute of Engineers	AKN Reddy, Pushpa Bhargava, Satyajit Rath, S.K.Thorat, T Jayraman, Mohan Rao
2.	Seminar	Privatisation of Infrastructure	All India Peoples Science Network, Jubilee South	Hotel Anmol, Conference Hall	C.P. Chandrashekar, D.K.Sangal, Rob Rees(South Africa), Oscar Olivera (Bolivia), Prabir Purkayastha, Kjeld Jakobsen (Brasil), Ashok Rao, Vinod Raina, VAN Namboodri
3.	Seminar	Patents and Access to Medicines	National Working Group on Patent Laws	Sundaraiya Vigyan Kendra (Mini Hall)	
4.	Workshop	Taking the People's Movement Forward	Community Health Cell	Methodist School, Room No. 9	
5.	Workshop	Pharmaceutical Policy	AIDAN, FMRAI, NCCDP	All Saints School, Room No. 12	

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4th Jan 2003

S.No	Workshop/ Seminar/ Conference	Title	Organiser	Venue	Speakers
1.	Seminar	Right to Health Care : Moving From Idea to Realty II	CEHAT	Dwarka Conference Hall	H. Sudarshan, Ravi Duggal, Jean Dreze, Father Sebastian, Sarojini, Seeta Prabhu, Ravi Narayan, T.Sundaraman
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'MATU'-Peoples' organisation

A movement of people

uprooted from their soil in Uttarakhand

Add-Village Chham, Post-Chham, Tehri, Uttarakhand.

D-105, Ganesh Nagar, Pandav Nagar Complex,

Delhi-110092Ph. -91+11+22063871

<vimal_bhai@hclinfnet.com> <vimal_bhai@indiatimes.com>

'MATU'-Peoples' organisation published a report on Tehri Dam Project: Environment – Rehabilitation "Towards Failure and Devastation". This organisation is raising the issues of oustees since 2001. Hear we are giving some important part of the report.

(For full report please write us. Hindi 30/- & English 35/-)

Affected Population, Families, Township and Villages

The Tehri Dam Project has affected around 125 villages including the old Tehri town. Tehri Township along with 39 villages is going to be fully affected and another 86 villages (number may possibly increase) would be partially affected. Wherever less than 75 percent of the families are in the displaced category and have to be rehabilitated, all those villages have been categorised as partially affected. That means that even where 74 families out of a total population of 100 families are eligible for rehabilitation, they have been classified as belonging to partially affected villages.

According to a new estimate made by the Rehabilitation Directorate, around 5291 urban and 9238 rural families would be affected due to construction of Tehri Dam. 3810 rural families have been partially affected by the Dam. In reality, however the number of affected families is much higher. As of now, the number of urban families displaced by the dam has reached 5,500 and the number of rural displaced families is more than 12,000.

The State Government has deliberately submitted lower figures of the displaced families in the affidavits filed in the Supreme Court of India this year (2002) while ignoring the actual situation on ground. The Govt. has still not compiled aggregate statistics of the affected people. However, if it is assumed that each urban family has roughly 5 and each rural family consists of 7 members, the total number of affected persons, may in fact, be more than 1 lakh.

Land Acquisition Process and Unrealistic Land Distribution Program

There are great irregularities in the policy and practice of land acquisition. Land is not being acquired and rehabilitation measures given effect to in accordance with the principle that the land, which would be submerged, first should be rehabilitated. First Land acquisition and distribution has been carried out in those villages, which are located at a higher level, rather than those villages, which are located at a lower level. It has been observed that in those villages where people were not influential enough in spite of the fact that these villages would be submerged first.

Since there was long gap between the cut off date (1976 in villages) and land acquisition the rates for land was fixed

arbitrarily. Land acquisition is taking place even after 25-26 years of the cut off date there should be rational criteria for determining the rate etc. However, this is not being done. It has been observed that there is as much as ten times variation in fixing land rates for the same kind of land.

The displaced people have not been given residential and agricultural land in spite of the fact that there land had been acquired and compensation paid many years earlier. As a result, the land prices shoot up by as 2-3 times in the rehabilitation sites by the date of rehabilitation. **In the contest of villages, the land acquisition policy is more unrealistic.**

After conditional Environmental Clearance of the Dam

The Ministry of Forest and Environment had given conditional clearance in July 1990 for the construction of the Tehri Dam. One of the stipulated Conditions specified that a comprehensive study of the standard of the life of the displaced the undertaken. The Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad, was asked to conduct the study related to the standard of the life of the affected people due to the construction of Tehri Dam. The report was not only submitted after an inordinate delay of two years in contravention of the recommendations of Ministry of Forests and Environment it also did not take into account the data of urban areas (particularly Tehri township). As a result, the report was unable to truly reflect the educational and literacy levels, economic self-reliance and alternative sources of income in the region. In a similar vein, a rehabilitation package for the rim area could not be worked out as specified by the Ministry of Forests and Environment. The Working Plan, which was enumerated for the cut off area, is still in the preliminary stage. The full working plan is yet to be accepted. The construction work of two important bridges linking Bhagirathi and Bhilangana Valleys is also at a preliminary stage. While on the other hand, the government and the project authorities have announced that November-December 2002 would close Diversion Tunnels No. 1 and 2. The process rehabilitation and construction of the dam could not take place simultaneously, emphasized as condition for Environment Clearance. It is a travesty of imagination that the two affidavits, which have been submitted, by the Uttar Pradesh Government and Tehri Hydro Development Corporation state that generation of hydroelectric power would start by March 2003 while rehabilitation process would be completed by June 2003.

Partial Submergence; Unrealistic Demarcation

86 villages would be partially submerged by the Tehri Dam Project. This includes those villages where 70-75 percent of families and land is going to be affected. However, to be eligible for the status of a fully affected village has been determined as 75 percent or more families and land, even those villages where 25-30 families would remain after submergence, have been affected. Although denomination of villages as partially affected has been done on a mathematical formula (wherever the land of 75 percent of the families is involved), no estimates have been prepared to take into account the existence of link roads, grazing places, local markets, civic amenities, 'Ghats' along the

banks of the river drains and the disintegration of social life.

Cut off Area

Around 80,000 people are going to be indirectly affected by the construction of the dam. The area is in Pratapnagar Tehsil. This area has been dependent on Tehri Township for various civic amenities. Due to the construction of the dam and the resultant reservoir, 6 bridges (two motorable and four pedestrian) on the Bhagirathi and Bhilangana river would be submerged, thereby completely disrupting the roads connecting the district, block, state and national capital and other areas. As a result, the distance to be traversed between these places would increase by 100 to 150 km. A large part of the cut off area falls in the rim area of the dam and partially submerged area.

The Secret Reports Of Geological Survey of India

The idea to construct a big Dam in the unstable and geologically sensitive mid-Himalayan region has been mired by innumerable controversies. The government, on the other hand, claims that the dam design has been prepared keeping in view the geological aspects. Yet many questions arise. What would be the impact of the reservoir on the mountain habitations?

The Geological Survey of India has identified as unstable large tracts above the rim area, which may face land slides in future due to the reservoir. Many villages are located in this area. Though

The report has been classified as secret; many significant issues highlighted by the report have become public. The Geological Survey of India's report on the construction of New Tehri Township has also been kept secret and its findings have been ignored. Government and project officials are guaranteeing the safety of the dam, whereas similar concerns regarding the safety of habitations have not been expressed so far. Rampant use of explosives for the construction of Tehri Dam has shaken the edifice of nearby villages, which are not even going to be rehabilitated.

Why such secrecy is being maintained with sensitive issues of public safety? In the context of Tehri Dam Project, is national interest contradictory to public good?

Main Demands of MATU- Peoples' Organisation: -

The process of land acquisition should be time bound: The process of land acquisition should be based on displacement and rehabilitation, in that order: All adults of 18 years of age and above should be considered when section 4 is applied: The rate for valuation of land should be determined on the basis of rates prevailing in Uttarkashi, Chinyali Sourd and Chamba districts: First give us possession of the land, then acquire our land: A village should be resettled as a community and should be provided with basic amenities: The cut-off date for a village should be determined at par with the Township: A Master Plan must be devised which addresses the question of land and other resources and a work plan be prepared to execute the same: The camps organised by the Rehabilitation Department should be at the village level: After determining all such farms including potato

farms and tea gardens which are running at a loss, should be handed over to the displaced people: The displaced should be given priority in government horticulture projects: The administration should be made responsible to ensure the right of information at the village level: The process of public hearings on village problems should be expedited: The height of the dam should not be increased as long as rehabilitation process is not completed.

Tehri Bhoomidhar Visthapit Sangthan (Tehri Landowners' Organisation) leading a DHARNA, Rally and relay fast from 7-7-2001 in Tehri. Their Main Demands are:- Assistance for construction of houses: A minimum of Rs. 5 lakh should be granted at the rehabilitation sites in New Tehri, which is equivalent to the cost of a two-room tenement in New Tehri. Compensation should be paid in accordance with the recommendations of Tehri Dam Project Rehabilitation Coordination Committee and the Government of Uttaranchal. Land ownership rights should be conferred on the distributed land.

In fact, the amount of silt, which has already accumulated in the reservoir, should have occurred in the next 25 years.

In this context, the following issues are most topical:

- ✓ Why the reports of Geological Survey of India have not been made public so far?
- ✓ Why the meeting of Co-ordination Committee on Rehabilitation has not been held for the past one year?
- ✓ Why the Special Grievance Cell as recommended by Dr. Hanumantha Rao Committee and approved by the Central Government, has still not been constituted?

Now the situation is before of you. It is clear that even if govt. emphasis on the dam to fulfill the needs of power, they are on the wrong path. They are by passing every legal, human, environment, economic, issue and to close down the remaining gates of the tunnel no. 1 & 2. Unofficially they have already closed the tunnel no. 1.

You are requested to send your protest letter to following address. Govt. should take immediate step for proper rehabilitation.

Shri Anant Ram Gite, Power Minister, India
Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi
Ph: 011-23710411, 23717474, Fax: 011-23710065
Residence Ph: - 011-23381901, 23737595

Shri N. D. Tiwari, C. M., Secretariat, Dehradun
Uttarakhand.
Ph. 0135-2677090 Fax: 0135-2678722
Residence Ph: 0135-2755100, 2755103
Fax: 0135-2755102

STOP THE HIJACK OF OUR LAND, WATER, BIODIVERSITY AND KNOWLEDGE

- Western Asia is being pushed to war to feed corporate lust for control over its oil
- Multinational corporations like Monsanto and Syngenta are stealing our seeds, plants and life forms and our knowledge through biopiracy and patents
- Our rivers, lakes and ponds are being handed over to Multinational Corporations like Vivendi, Suez and Coca Cola through water privatization
- Millions of tribal people are being evicted from their forests through corporate-driven policies of the government
- Genetically engineered seeds and plants are being introduced into our agriculture creating new environmental and health hazards, and driving more farmers to suicide

**THE MAIN VICTIMS OF CORPORATE HIJACK OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND KNOWLEDGE ARE WOMEN, CHILDREN, DALITS, TRIBALS,
LANDLESS, AND SMALL AND MARGINAL PEASANTS**

To find out more about these issues, and how to stop the theft, come and hear

Dr. Samdhong Rinpoche, Vandana Shiva, Walden Bello, Tony Clarke,
Sundarlal Bahuguna, Banwarilal Sharma, B.D. Sharma, Rajendra Singh,
Medha Patkar, Oscar Oliviera, Ashok Rao, Jabbar Suleiman, C.R. Bijoy,
Walter Fernandes, Prafulla Samantara, Ravi Rebba Pragada and others

At the

Conference on **ECOLOGY, CULTURE AND KNOWLEDGE: DEFENDING THE EARTH AND PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO RESOURCES**

Organized by Navdanya,
Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology,
Diverse Women for Diversity

Date and time: 6th January 2003, 9am to 1pm
Venue: Nizam's College Grounds

A Series of Conferences and Seminars on
**Globalisation and the Corporate Hijack of
our Biodiversity, Seed, Food and Water**

Date and time	Venue	Event
3 rd January 2.30pm to 6.30pm	Golden Rose School	<i>Seminar on Food Sovereignty.</i> Speakers include P. Sainath, Arun Bhatia, Vandana Shiva, Antonio Tujan (Philippines), K.G. Kannabiran, Kancha Illiha
4 th January 2.30pm to 6.30pm	Press Club	<i>Seminar on Beyond Bhopal and Bt: Taking on the Biotech Giants</i> Speakers include Sathinath Sarangi, Tony Clarke, Pushpa Bhargava
5 th January 2.30pm. to 6.30pm	Press Club	<i>Seminar on Seed Sovereignty</i> Speakers include Vandana Shiva, Ilina Sen, Malla Reddy, PAN Malaysia, SEARICE
6 th January 8am to 1pm	Nizam's College Grounds	<i>Conference on Ecology, Culture and Knowledge: Defending the Earth and People's Rights to Resources.</i> Speakers include Dr. Samdhong Rinpoche, Dr. B.D. Sharma, Vandana Shiva, Tony Clarke
6 th January 2.30pm to 6.30pm	Press Club	<i>Seminar on Water Sovereignty.</i> Speakers include Ramaswamy Iyer, Rajendra Singh, Vandana Shiva, Sripad Dharmadikary, C.R. Bijoy

Organized by Navdanya
Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology
Diverse Women for Diversity



The International College for Sustainable Living Bija Vidyapeeth

Living Waters

March 7 - 22, 2003

with Ricardo Petralla, Oscar and Marcela Olivera, and Dr. Vandana Shiva*

2003 has been declared by the UN as the year of Fresh Water. As fresh water becomes scarcer, village women are walking longer distances to fetch water for their families, city dwellers are paying more and getting poorer quality water, and a handful of companies are looking to cash in on the new "blue gold."

Around the world, water is being privatized. What was once seen as a commonly held resource, to be managed by communities and governments for the public good, is fast being redefined as a commodity to be managed "market forces."

In Bolivia efforts by the Bechtel Corporation and the World Bank to privatize the water supply led to 200% increases in the price of water and resulted in protests, strikes, and riots. In Kerala, southern India, communities are dependant on bottled water as the Coca-cola bottling plant has depleted all the ground water for miles. The French company Suez has even secured a contract to take 685 million litres of water a day from the holy Ganges river.

Will water stay a commons, for communities to conserve, share, and sustain as a resource, or will water become a commodity to be appropriated, exploited, and controlled?

Bija Vidyapeeth invites you to participate in a course designed to explore this question with a set of faculty who are on the forefront of the global movement to safeguard water.

The Course*

The course will begin on the Bija Vidyapeeth campus, set on Navdanya's organic farm (a few kilometers outside of Dehra Dun, Uttaranchal, India). Faculty and participants will explore the ecological and social impact of water management from a local, national, and global perspective. The highlight of the course is a "Ganga Yatra," where we will travel down the Ganges. Starting close to the origins of the river, we will stop at the site of the controversial Tehri dam, and the holy city of Rishikesh. The course will conclude in Delhi, with an optional component of 2 days in Varanasi to visit groups doing pioneering river-cleaning work.

Faculty:

Dr. Vandana Shiva is the founder of Navdanya and director of the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology, founded to do research in a participatory mode with people, not on them - and to do research with an interdisciplinary approach, - reflecting the interconnections in the web of life. She is the recipient of the 1993 Right Livelihood Award -

often called the "Alternative Nobel Prize", the award recognizes "vision and work contributing to making life more whole, healing the planet and uplifting humanity." Her books, "The Violence of Green Revolution," "Stolen Harvest" and "Monocultures of the Mind" have become basic challenges to the dominant paradigm of non-sustainable agricultural practices.

Oscar Olivera is executive secretary, Cochabamba Federation of Factory Workers; spokesperson for The Coalition for the Defense of Water and Life (La Coordinadora). He gained international recognition for leading a grassroots protest against the privatization of water in Cochabamba, Bolivia. In April 2000, Olivera entered into successful negotiations with the government to cancel Cochabamba's water privatization contract with Aguas del Tunari, secure the release of persons arrested during the protests and have troops withdrawn from the city. Management of Cochabamba's water system was turned over to Olivera and La Coordinadora. Olivera, a native of Cochabamba and former shoe-factory worker, has been likened to Cesar Chavez in his appearance and manner as well as in the strength of his populist convictions. A year after the Cochabamba crisis, he was honored as a 2001 Goldman Environmental Prize winner from Central/South America. For Olivera, the struggle in Cochabamba signified more than a collective refusal to pay excessive rates for water. It was, instead, an expression of the belief that "water is a shared right, and that right is not for sale."¹⁰

Dr Ricardo Petrella is a professor of political and social sciences at the University of Louvain, Belgium. He has pioneered an international movement behind his water manifesto, calling for a global contract to guarantee water as a right of all people. His Manifesto is a collective effort undertaken by the Mario Soares Foundation in Lisbon.

About Bija Vidyapeeth

In a world dominated by greed and competition, speed and restlessness, pollution and ecological destruction, war and violence, Bija Vidyapeeth offers a unique opportunity to explore and practice the art and science of sustainability. Bija Vidyapeeth offers a unique insight into the tenets of sustainability and deep democracy through interactions with the foremost intellectuals and sustainable communities of our times.

Based on the principles of sustainability and diversity, the campus is located on Navdanya's organic farm in Doon Valley. Nestled in the foothills between the Himalayas and Shivalik mountains, it offers an ambience that reinvigorates our vital link with nature and promotes contemplation, enquiry and dynamic action.

For more details, contact

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Defend Public Services and Workers' Rights Against Privatization

A global storm of privatization is creeping over us behind neo-liberalistic globalization. Privatization forces all of us to be involved in competition leading to the destruction of our life and employment. Privatization produces poverty. Our demand is very simple: Defend Public Services! Now we call on all people in the world for forming a global network for defending public services against privatization. Please join us in a discussion for the Global Network for Defending Public Services!! Why don't you discuss or form strategies to bloc privatization in the world? This seminar is sponsored by three Japanese workers of rail, postal and telecom services representing ZENROKYO (a Japanese abbreviation), the National Council of Trade Unions fighting against dismissal, intimidation, worsening working conditions and the like in their respective workplace.

In Japan, above all, the privatization of the Japan National Railway (JNR) in 1987 was a major turning point of Japan's politics as well as a warning to us. The government forcibly accomplished privatization of JNR to destroy the movement of trade unions: the government dismissed all workers, and the newly established corporation rehired JNR workers who were not union members and refused employment of union members.

* For your reference, 1,047 rail workers dismissed when privatized have still fought for reinstatement and asked the corporation and government to take responsibility for unilateral dismissal or discriminatory rehirement for sixteen years. The touch of their struggle will make you know the seriousness of privatization in Japan.

The JNR privatization represented a start of the government's attack on social movements as well as trade unions. Traditional big national centers of trade unions accepted privatization and gave up their policy of struggle. Such a compromise or concession as to keep the management rather than workers stable or continued became the best policy to them.

No or little struggle became popular in Japan or preferred by most Japanese. The government initiated deregulation in every field by revising stringent rules in order to make all people so involved in competition as to meet the market needs.

Now, here in Japan, unemployment, unstable employment, dismissal, poor working conditions, less income, recession, etc. are spreading over the whole country. The establishment has everything their own way.

What created such conditions - it is just the JNR privatization in 1987.

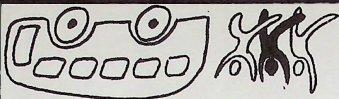
In addition, this forcible step for privatization moved to South Korea. The President Kim tries to follow or imitate a Japanese way for privatization.

Now we'll make every government stop privatization immediately.

We call on all people in the world to struggle against privatization to defend public services for our rights or life.

GREENPEACE

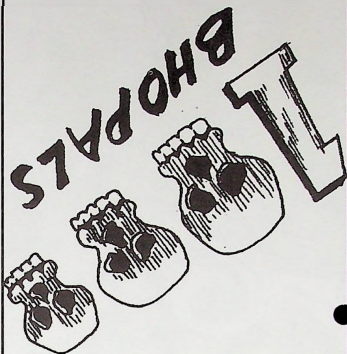
JOIN US: STRENGTHEN THE
1000 BHOPALS JATHA



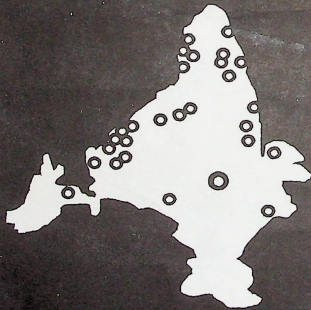
NO MORE
BHOPALS

IT IS TIME TO BE
A VOICE
NOT A VICTIM
AND SAY

HAPPENING IN SLOW MOTION



... BUT A



WE HAVE NOT JUST
ONE BHOPAL



... OUR LAND



SOME BURNING ISSUES OF NEPAL-INDIA RELATIONS

Presented at Asian Social Forum, 1-7, 2003
Hyderabad, India
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Dear delegates, friends, ladies and gentlemen !

At the outset allow me to express my sincere thanks to the organizers for providing me this wonderful opportunity of participating in this exalted Forum. Friends do accept the warm greeting of twenty three million people of Nepal that I have brought with me for you. Nepal has a long history of friendship and close relations with India and all the countries near and far. As far India is concerned, many Nepalese have fought shoulder to shoulder with their Indian friends in their fight for India's independence against British colonialism. One name that stands out prominently in this connection is that of Durga Bahadur Malla, whose statue decorates the beautiful hilly city of Shimla, the capital of Himanchal Pradesh. This historical city of Hyderabad is witness to the strong bond of friendship that exists between Nepal and India, for whose deliverance Nepal had sent a posse of her valiant Nepalese army forces in the aftermath of Indian independence in 1947 at the personal request of their illustrious first prime minister of independent India-Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. Similarly India has actively come to Nepal's help in ushering Nepal to democracy more than fifty years ago.

Friends, it is needless for me to emphasize since we all are well aware of the religious and cultural commonalities existing between Nepal and India. Moreover, the social intercourse and familial ties that have developed between the two peoples in the course of centuries have further strengthened the relationship into indissoluble bond. The geographical proximity and contiguity on three sides have further made good and friendly relations, that are so needed in mutual interest, almost indispensable. Moreover, India's size, huge population, her ever-growing energy crunch and Nepal's unmanageable water resources make it imperative for both countries to jointly exploit the nature's munificent gift to Nepal for common good and benefit. Nepal is the second richest country in water resources in the world. But she is not in a position, either to exploit or market it without the active cooperation of her friends. And one friend that has the motive, means and mechanism to cooperate with Nepal in this sphere is her closest friend and neighbour, India. Unfortunately relations between Nepal and India are not free from serious problems. Despite all the commonalities, despite the proximity and close social intercourse the two countries have not been able to forge ahead hand in hand. The overbearing behaviors of the Indian establishment and the colonial mindset they have still not been able to forsake have continuously muddled the bilateral relations. I am, indeed, much grieved to state that, a small and poor neighbor, Nepal has always been deprived of the equitable share from all the hydro power agreements she has entered into with her friend and neighbor so far.

Her geographical constraints, material backwardness and political inexperience have been exploited to the fullest degree by Nepal's giant neighbor in the south. And this factor has even been a matter of great resentment. That this trend is still persisting with impunity is not only regrettable but is causing big strains in the bilateral relations. Consequently, it becomes the paramount concern of all countries in the region and the votaries of peace and human potential for ameliorating the groveling poverty of one fifth of world's population be harnessed in a manner that will contribute to the well being of the poor billions. As such, for achieving the optimum result from the huge power resources not only Nepal and India but all the countries that are fed by mighty rivers form the Himalayan Catchment area, viz China, Bangladesh and Pakistan, must come together to form a consortium and jointly work for the common good of the region as a whole. This kind of arrangement, if reached by all the countries of the region will not only contribute towards their development but also lessen the tensions persisting between neighbors for decades. However the continuing mistrusts and misgivings bedeviling the relations between bigger nations make it look like and utopian dream. But let me emphasize, dear friends, if we want to improve the living standards of the millions of poor of this region there is no alternative but to sink all our differences and join hands for common endeavor to change our destiny. And, dear friends, it is always the bigger, stronger and more powerful partner that must be prepared to work for the common good and benefit by generating trust, confidence and respect amongst the smaller partner.

My dear colleagues, since this is a very vast topic and can consume a lot of time. I will not like to test your patience. So, I will limit myself to the problems Nepal is facing in her bilateral relations with India only in these spheres. As far as the various agreements Nepal has signed in the hydropower sector with India, Nepal has always been at the receiving end so

much so that the late Nepalese King Birendra was even prompted to say, "Nepal had been cheated by India." Even the latest treaty on Pancheshwar Integrated Project, popularly known as the Mahakali treaty, has generated overwhelming resentment with the Nepalese. Since India is the only potential market for Nepal to sell her excess energy, India's good will and sincere cooperation is almost indispensable for any major hydropower plan to be successfully implemented in Nepal. It might not be irrelevant to bring to your notice here that the Arun III hydropower project that could have changed the face of Nepal to a great extent had to be abandoned on Indian pressure. And also the entire Nepalese people are against the Kosi High Dam project.

Nepal has almost 1800 kilometers of open border with India. Traditionally, since the days of the British-India, the border between the two countries has remained open. If they did not generate serious problems before, after Indian independence in 1947, these open borders have become a grave cause for concern for both the countries and both have started to think seriously what to do about it. Specially, in recent years the Maoist rebels in Nepal are making a free use of the open border in their insurgency against the Nepalese governments. Of course, India has expressed her inability to control the porous border and the problem has become a cause of serious strain in the bilateral relations. As it is, between the north eastern point of Zhin Zhiang and the north -western point of Limpiyadhura, there are sixty two points of border problems, of which mostly are encroachments of Nepalese territory. The Indian outpost at Kalapani inside Nepalese territory in northwestern Nepal near the Chinese border has become a bone of contention and raised Nepalese emotions to fever pitch many a time. In the best interest of both countries, the government of India must seriously think of vacating the Nepalese territory she has been illegally occupying for about four decades.

Beside these border problems, India's unnatural construction of bunds on rivers near the border on the south has inundated thousands and thousands of acres of Nepalese land at many points. Nepal has, no doubt, made serious protest to the government of India but the problems have still to be addressed. In view of the traditional friendly relations, Nepal wants this problem to be resolved through amicable negotiations.

Another burning issue, in the changed political context, in Nepal, is the unequal treaty. Both governments are conscious of the necessity of reviewing the treaties. But no concrete steps are being taken by either side.

At a time when no country, however big and powerful can ignore utility of regional cooperation it is very unfortunate that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) which was founded about seventeen years ago has not yet been able to take off properly. For the speedy economic development of one of the poorest regions of the world, it has become most imperatives that the two bigger, yet belligerent, members of the organization give up the proactive of hurting the development of the organization on account of their bilateral rivalry. This South Asian region is very rich not only in natural resources but human resources as well. The need of the hour is to solve all bilateral issues and to join hands in strengthening SAARC so that the region might be able to face the international competition and forge ahead speedily. Since India is the largest and most powerful of the countries in the region, it becomes her responsibility to take all other member into confidence and work together for the common good of all. Thank you.

STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE
" *Workshop on Action Towards a Tobacco Free World* "

3RD JANUARY 2003

ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM, HYDERABAD, INDIA

FIGHT, TOBACCO THE KILLER !!!

Realising that tobacco and its products including cigarettes, bidis, guthka, and chewed tobacco

- cause serious adverse reactions such as cancer of various organs, diseases of heart and blood vessels, diseases of the lungs and other organs leading to **suffering, disability and death.**
- release poisonous gases including hydrogen cyanide, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, arsenic, nitrosamines and the residual pesticides in tobacco and its products adversely affecting **health**, including **reproductive health** of men and women;
- produce **addiction** directly attributable to nicotine and other chemicals contained in it;
- affects the health of the workforce adversely, draining the **economy** of families, and their countries;
- cause considerable amount of funds to be spent in treating the persons affected, leading to **economic losses** far outweighing any economic gain to the governments.
- are being promoted through aggressive advertisements and **sponsorships of sports and cultural events** by the tobacco companies;
- affect millions of non-smokers and particularly pregnant women, retarding the growth of the foetus and causing abortion through **passive smoking.**

We, the participants of the *Workshop on Action Towards a Tobacco Free World* in the Asia Social Forum, issue this statement and call upon Governments, the civil society, media and the people to take urgent action to ...

- increase awareness among people about the extremely harmful effects of tobacco and its products: smoked, chewed, sniffed or used in any other form and effectively dissuade its use.
- gauge the health problems and economic losses created by tobacco including loss of productivity of the workforce; and hold the tobacco companies responsible for the losses thus incurred.
- ban all direct and indirect advertisements of tobacco and its products including sponsorships of sports and cultural events by tobacco companies and affiliated bodies.
- ban the manufacture and sale of chewed tobacco in any form.
- progressively reduce the area of cultivation of tobacco, utilising the area thus freed, for other beneficial crops.
- prevent effectively the cutting down of trees and denudation of forests for curing and packaging tobacco.
- increase progressively the tax on tobacco and its products and utilise the revenue thus received for health promotion.
- implement effectively the laws for prohibition of smoking in any public spaces. Where there is no effective legislation at

"WORKING TOGETHER FOR TOBACCO CONTROL". TOGETHER WE CAN DO IT !

Fact Sheet

Tobacco and Poverty

Produced by :

PATH Canada
Work for a Better Bangladesh

The contribution of tobacco to disease and death is well-known. But less attention has been given to the ways in which tobacco increases poverty. For the poor, daily spending on tobacco represents a daily drain on scant family resources.

Yet in many countries it is precisely the poor who use tobacco the most. In Bangladesh, smoking rates are twice as high in the lowest income group as in the highest.¹ Tobacco use, even when considering the employment thereby generated, contributes to widening the gap even further between rich and poor.

Tobacco benefits the wealthy, not the poor

The main beneficiaries of the tobacco business are not farmers or factory workers in developing countries, but the businessmen from wealthy countries who take the profits while leaving behind the disease.

National economies

In many countries far more money is spent importing tobacco than is gained exporting it, causing losses of millions of dollars annually for the government. Governments also must utilize scarce health care resources to treat the diseases caused by tobacco use.

Fear of job loss

Given the growth in world population, the tobacco industry is unlikely to decline rapidly enough to cause workers to lose their jobs. Even if tobacco consumption falls, shifts in spending will generate new jobs—often more than were generated by tobacco, as other products are more labor-intensive to produce.³ As shifts in spending gradually occur, those leaving tobacco work over the next few decades are likely to find safer and better-paid employment elsewhere.

Individual workers

Transnational companies are gaining an ever-increasing share of the world tobacco market, replacing less efficient local operations. The manufacture of foreign cigarettes is highly mechanized, employing ever fewer people, even as cigarette consumption rises.

Tobacco farmers often find themselves in a cycle of debts to repay farm input loans in the event of a bad crop or low prices of tobacco.² Those employed in tobacco factories or selling tobacco on the streets often earn starvation wages. Far from growing rich from their work, many of those working in tobacco are facing multi-generational poverty compounded by illiteracy and poor-health.

Food versus tobacco

In the case of the poorest, where food shortage is an ongoing problem, and where a significant share of income is going to purchase food, tobacco expenditures may make the difference between an adequate diet and malnutrition. While tobacco is regarded as a basic need, food for oneself and one's children becomes a luxury.

In both urban and rural areas of Bangladesh, per capita spending on tobacco is higher than on milk. What the average Bangladeshi male smoker spends on cigarettes each day would be enough to purchase almost 3,000 calories of rice. Researchers estimate that in Bangladesh 10.5 million people are going hungry and 350 children are dying *each day* due to diversion of money from food to tobacco.¹

Comparing the price of various brands of cigarettes to food is informative. What food might a family have access to if the main income earner were not buying a pack a day of a well-advertised cigarette? When transnational companies promote high-cost cigarettes in poor countries, and where it is mainly the poor who smoke, the results are obvious. Nutritious foods such as milk, eggs, and meat are considered luxury items for the poor, whereas

tobacco is considered a daily necessity.

In many developing countries men control the income, and have the first access to what food is available in the family. In these cases, when men spend their money on tobacco, they may continue to eat adequately. It is their wives and children who are most likely to go hungry as a result.

While not all the savings people gained from ceasing tobacco purchases would necessarily be invested in basic needs, it is certain that the money they currently spend on tobacco is *not* going towards essential items. Even if only a portion of tobacco users spent some of their savings on basic goods, the net gain could be tremendous.

Tobacco versus basic needs

In Vietnam, national statistics show that annual household expenditure on tobacco is 1.7 times higher than expenditure on education, and 1.5 times higher than that for health.¹ In poor countries, even a small increase in expenditure on education and health could have a large impact

on the prospects of children. Instead, the money is wasted on an addictive, deadly product.

For those who become ill or die young from tobacco-related illness, there are further costs in terms of medical care and the impoverishment of family members if the major wage-earner dies. However, the costs do not begin at the point of illness, but rather from the moment when valuable resources are diverted to tobacco.

Low taxes can be regressive

People often express concern about taxes harming the poor, since they are both most likely to smoke and the least able to afford it. But the opposite argument can equally be made. When tobacco prices are kept low, more poor people use tobacco, and thus waste more of their money on it. In Bangladesh, as prices have remained low over the years, per capita spending on tobacco has increased.² While raising taxes may harm some poor individuals who are unable to quit, in many situations this problem is alleviated by the existence of alternate low-cost tobacco products. To the degree that these

are minimally advertised and unpalatable, they may be a resource to the addicted while being unlikely to attract the uninitiated. In addition, if the policy benefits a large number of poor smokers but harms a few, then the decision may have to be made to tolerate the harm in order to benefit the many. Negative effects can be addressed through programs to help the poor quit, or to subsidize a food substance generally consumed only by the poorest.

The solutions

Advertising and low taxation rates encourage people to spend money on tobacco rather than on food or other basic needs. By both eliminating all forms of tobacco promotion *and* raising taxes on tobacco products, wastage of money can be diminished. For those currently employed by tobacco, job loss is a distant potential, as tobacco use is unlikely to decline sharply in the near future. But where concerns about job loss exist, it is helpful to remember that in many cases, people might *prefer* and benefit from alternate employment. Tobacco control is one area where poverty reduction and health goals go hand in hand.

¹ Debra Efrogmson and Saifuddin Ahmed, *Hungry for Tobacco: an analysis of the impact of tobacco on the poor in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: July 2000.

² John Kapito, "Tobacco Farming And Public Health In Developing Countries The Case Of Malawi," 2001.

³ World Bank, *Curbing the Epidemic: Governments and the Economics of Tobacco Control*, 1999.

⁴ Hoang Van Kinh and Sarah Bales, "Tobacco Consumption Pattern: An Analysis Using Viet Nam National Living Standard Survey data" Vietnam: 1999.

NO DAMS ON THE SALWEEN

RELATED NEWS

ENERGY: MDX signs dam deal with Burma

AFP, Bangkok Post; Business Section page 3.

December 25, 2002.

Burma's military government says it has signed a deal with Thailand's MDX Group of Companies to build a massive hydro-electric dam in southern Shan state, which would help ease the country's chronic energy shortage.

The Ministry of Electric Power said MDX would build the Tasang power plant on the Than Lwin river. Electricity generated from the plant would be sold to Thailand and other countries in Southeast Asia.

"Power will be supplied for local use in accord with the ratio of shares held by Myanmar," the ministry said in a statement.

The semi-official Myanmar Times quoted MDX Group managing director Swarnng Champa as saying that, with a capacity of 4,600 megawatts, the dam would be the biggest in Southeast Asia.

MDX would finance the project through its own resources and loans raised in Thailand, he told the weekly newspaper.

Mr. Swarnng said the project would be a build, operate and transfer project, which would eventually be turned over to government ownership, although details on the transfer and the sale of electricity to Thailand were yet to be finalised.

A preliminary study carried out three years ago had resulted in plans for a dam 800 meters long and about 220 meters high, he said.

The first phase of the project, due to be completed in 2007, involves the installation of a 200 megawatt turbine to provide power for construction purposes and to supply nearby communities.

The second phase covers the installation of another three turbines capable of generating 2,100 megawatts. In the third phase another three 700 megawatts turbines will be installed and the 200 megawatts turbine upgraded to 400 megawatts.

Mr. Swarnng said the phase would require an investment of about US\$400 million, and the Myanmar Times estimated the total cost of the project at \$4 billion.

[END]

Concerned Individuals: iciab@mailasia.com

We are grassroots activists concerned over international aid to Burma.

CONCERNED INDIVIDUALS

Statement on International Assistance to Burma

July 20, 2002

We, individuals from Burma, who have been actively involved in the struggle for democracy and self-determination of ethnic nationalities, and who have been working in the development fields of women's rights, health, education and environment for and with the people at the grassroots level; met on July 13-14th 2002 to discuss the role of international aid in Burma. The following issues and concerns were raised at this meeting.

During the past year, UN agencies and INGO's, together with some governments particularly Japan and Australia, have been calling for large scale increases of international aid to Burma to respond to the ongoing humanitarian dilemma in the country.

A report published in April 2002 by the International Crisis Group states that " the human costs of social deprivation in Myanmar (Burma) are simply too large to be ignored until some indefinite democratic future, which could be years or even decades away...There should be more international assistance in Myanmar, more resources, more agencies and more programs..."

We are concerned that the root causes of the humanitarian dilemma have been ignored in such analyses resulting in an obscured representation of the situation and responses. The ICG report called into question the role for the Burmese opposition in the international aid debate by stating that even Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party "simply does not have the capacity to make professional judgements on priorities or methodology" on international assistance. However, in May 1999, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi stated that the underlying cause of the political, social and economic hardships Burmese people are facing is the lack of good governance in Burma.

Moreover, at a Strategic Consultation Meeting held on 20 January 2002, all leaders of the ethnic nationalities, the democracy movement and women leaders of Burma have agreed that:

"The root causes of the humanitarian crisis in Burma are:

- a) the lack of a democratic government accountable to the people and
- b) the military's focus on power instead of promoting the interest of the people".

We, individuals from the democracy, women, health, education and environment grassroots movements, fully support the analysis that the root cause of the ongoing humanitarian dilemma is the system of military dictatorship.

In addition, we are concerned that international aid delivered through Rangoon in this present environment will:

1. Increase military strength and weaken democracy and human rights activities.
2. Prolong the life of a structure that systematically violates basic human rights and damages the environment.
3. Condone the current denial of the rights of ethnic nationalities.
4. Delay the start of a tripartite dialogue process and the transition to democracy.
5. Potentially reduce attention to both internally displaced persons and refugees.
6. Cause further division among the people of Burma by allowing the regime to dictate to which areas assistance can be delivered.
7. Create divisions between democracy activists and their communities by diverting attention away from the root causes of the ongoing humanitarian dilemma.
8. Create divisions among the people of Burma by fostering false beliefs that international aid can be de-politicized.
9. Strengthen GONGOS which are organizations under the control of the military government.
10. Foster aid dependency among the people and reduce self-reliance.
11. Provide the opportunity for the military regime to use international NGOs as shields to mask their human rights violations.
12. Create an environment whereby increased foreign investment can take place under the current system of military rule.
13. Indirectly subsidize the military regime which will allow it to increase its military expenditures.
14. Strengthen the military regime which in turn is prolonging the civil war.
15. Will not reach the real needy people in the remote areas, internally displaced people and refugees along the borders

Therefore, we call on the international community to respect the above concerns and engage Burman and non-Burman democratic groups and civil society organisations in a transparent and constructive debate before taking any decisions on increasing international aid to Burma to respond to the military made humanitarian crisis.

We demand a role for all people of Burma, including the democratic opposition, in any international assistance delivered to our country.

Signed by individuals concerned for Burma's development:



Concerned Individuals; Email: iciab@mailasia.com

జనవరి 7న చీలొం హైదరాబాద్



తనవల మహా

మీతాగ్నాదాన్ని మట్టుబడదాం! ప్రీసంచీకరణను తలమేదాం!!
అంటరానితీగ్నాన్ని అంతం చేదాం! కులాధిపత్యాన్ని కూల్చేదాం!!



ASIA SOCIAL FORUM

2003, జనవరి 2 నుంచి 7వ తేదివరకు హైదరాబాద్ నిజాం కాలేజీ గ్రాండ్స్లో జరిగే అసియా సోషల్ ఫోరం సభల్లో దేశీయ సీమరభేల మ్రోగిద్దాం

స్వతంత్రత, సాధరత, సమానతలతో కూడిన మరో ఇండియా,
మరో అసియా, మరో ప్రపంచ నిర్మాణానికి ఉద్యమిద్దాం.

7వ తేది ముగింపు సభలో

- ముఖ్య అతిథి : మాజి రాష్ట్రపతి శ్రీ కె.ఆర్. నారాయణన్,
- ప్రధాన వక్త : మాజి ప్రధాని శ్రీ పి.వి. సంగ్

2వ తేది ప్రారంభ సభలో

W.S.F. రూపకర్త బైజాలకు చెందిన రుబినీలికు పెరె, సెనగల్ దేశానికి చెందిన ప్రముఖ రచయిత సమీర్ అమీన్, పాకిస్తానకు చెందిన మానవ హక్కుల నేత శ్రీమతి అస్తద్దా బిఖాంగీర్, పాలస్తీనాకు చెందిన డాక్టర్ సల్వే ఫిలిప్పెస్ కు చెందిన మార్టిన్ బెల్గి, ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ చెందిన దేశీయ నేత బొజ్జా తారకం తదితరులు పాల్గొంటారు.

చైతన్యవంతమైన ప్రజలకు!

గత రెండు దశాబ్దాలుగా ప్రపంచీకరణ, మతోన్మాదం కారణంగా అసియా దేశాల్లోని ఆర్థిక, సామాజిక వ్యవస్థలో అనేక మార్పులు వచ్చాయి. రాజ్యాంగంలో పొందు పరచిన సూత్రాలకు భిన్నంగా పాలకులు పరల్లెల్లాంకి, బహుళజాతి గుర్తు కంపెనీల ఆదేశాలకు అనుగుణంగా పాలన కొనసాగిస్తున్నారు. తమకు జరుగుతున్న అన్యాయాలను సమస్తిగా ఎదుర్కొనేందుకు వీలులేకుండా మతోన్మాదాన్ని రెచ్చగొట్టి మెజారిటీ మతోన్మాదులు మైసూర్ ప్రజలపై దాడులకు ఉసిగొల్పుతున్నారు. సంక్షేమ రాజ్యాన్ని నిర్వీర్యపరుస్తూ ప్రజలకు విద్య, వైద్యం, ఉపాధి కల్పించాల్సిన బాధ్యతల నుండి ప్రభుత్వం క్రమంగా తప్పకుండా ఉంది.

నూతన ఆర్థిక, పారిశ్రామిక విధానాలు, సంస్కరణల పేరుతో ఆర్థిక వ్యవస్థలలో తీసుకొన్న మార్పులు ప్రభుత్వ రంగ పరిశ్రమలకు నష్టమేకే వలన 5 లక్షల చిన్నతరహా పరిశ్రమలు పూర్తిగా మూసివేశారు. దీనివలన ఘమాారు 2 కోట్ల మంది వీధుల్లోకి నష్టమేయబడ్డారు. ప్రపంచీకరణలో భాగంగా, ఐ.యం.ఎఫ్, పరల్లెల్లాంకి సూచనల మేరకు ప్రభుత్వరంగ సంస్థలను పైవేటు సంస్థలకు కారుచౌకగా అమ్మవేయటమే కాక పెట్టుబడుల ఉపసంహరణకు కేంద్రప్రభుత్వం ఏకంగా ఒక మంత్రిత్వ శాఖనే రూపొందించింది. పైవేటికరణను ప్రోత్సహిస్తూ అణగారిన కులాలకు లిబర్టీషన్ల ద్వారా ఉద్యోగాలను పొందే హక్కును హరిస్తున్నారు.

దేశ తిహముజనుల తోసం రాజ్యాంగద్రుద్ధంగా రూపొందించిన విద్య, ఉద్యోగ, ఉపాధి, సంక్షేమ, అభివృద్ధి కార్యక్రమాలను నిర్వర్ణం చేశారు. విద్యను నరుకుగాను, భద్రతలేని కాంట్రాక్ట్ ఉద్యోగ వ్యవస్థను తయారు చేస్తున్నారు. సంక్షేమ, అభివృద్ధి కార్యక్రమాలకు తగినన్ని నిధులు కేటాయించకుండా, నిధులను సక్రమంగా వినియోగించకుండా దాల మళ్లించడం ప్రభుత్వ విధానంగా మారిపోయింది. ప్రపంచద్యాంకి ప్రాతికేలే సంక్షేమ, అభివృద్ధి పథకాలుగా ప్రచారం చేయటం పరల్లెల్లాంకి పట్ల పాలకుల భక్తికి నిదర్శనం. ప్రజల నిత్యావసరాలైన తాగునీరు, సాగునీరు, విద్యుత్, గ్యాస్ తదితర అంశాలపై నియంత్రణ కమాన్వెన్యను రూపొందించి బహుళజాతి కంపెనీల కదింద హస్తాల్లో ప్రజలను బదిందచారు.

వ్యవసాయ, పారిశ్రామిక, సేవారంగాలను బహుళజాతి కంపెనీలకు తాకట్టు పెట్టి ప్రజలపేర కోట్లరూపాయలు అప్పులు తెచ్చి దేశ సామ్రాజ్యమాధికారాన్ని విదేశీయులకు దారాదత్తం చేశారు. వీటి ప్రభావం సమాజంలోని అన్నివర్గాల ప్రజానికం పైపడి తీవ్ర సంక్షోభాలు తలెత్తుతున్నాయి. ఈక్రమంలో వ్యవసాయ కార్మికుల వలసలు అధికమయ్యాయి. రైతులు, చేనేత కార్మికుల ఆశ్చర్యమౌతుల పరిగాయి. యాంత్రికరణవల్ల పనిదినాలు తగ్గిపోయాయి. విదేశీ దిగుమతులు మూలంగా స్పృహకీ ఉత్పత్తులను కొల్లగొట్టి చేతివృత్తులను ద్వంసం చేశారు. నిరుద్యోగం, పేదరికం పెరిగిపోయాయి.

కెన్నెడీలను, ముస్లింలను భయపెట్టేందుకు ఉగ్రహిందూత్వంతో అనేక ఆక్రమణలకు పాల్పడటంకూడా. ఇటీవల హర్యానాలోని జ్ఞాన సంఘటన దీనికి పెద్ద ఉదాహరణ. జ్ఞానలో ఆవుని చంపారాత్రి సేవంతో అమానుషంగా ఐదుగురు దళిత యువకులను హిందూమతీన్వయంగా క్రూరంగా చంపారు. మునిషి కంటి అవే నిలువైందని, ఆవుని చంపటం మతపాపమని విశ్వసించింది వలననే నాయకులు ప్రకటించారు. గుజరాత్ లో హిందూమతీన్వయలు గోదా సంఘటనను అడ్డం పెట్టి ముస్లిం మైనార్టీలను ఉపచోరణ కోశారు. ముస్లిం స్త్రీల గర్భాలను కోసి పిండాలను మంటల్లో విసిరేసి క్రూరాతి క్రూరంగా ప్రవర్తించారు. కెన్నెడీలపై దాడులకు పాల్పడుతూ, చర్చిలను దహనం చేయడంతో పాటు మతపూర్వీక నిరోధక చర్యలను తెచ్చి పౌరుల మత స్వేచ్ఛను అడ్డుకుంటూ భయాందోళనలకు గురి చేస్తున్నారు.

ప్రపంచీకరణ విధానాల వల్ల కుప్పకూలిన ఆర్థిక వ్యవస్థలతో, మనుష్యులుగా జీవించే అవకాశం లేని విధానాలతో విసిగి వేసినార ప్రజల ప్రపంచవ్యాప్తంగా తమ తీవ్ర నిరసనను వివిధ రూపాలలో వ్యక్తం చేస్తున్నారు. ఆస్ట్రేలియాలో లక్షల సంఖ్యలో నిరుద్యోగులు "రోడ్డు దిగ్బంధం" చేస్తూ ప్రపంచీకరణ అనుకూల ప్రభుత్వ విధానాలను నిలదీస్తున్నారు. ఇండోనేషియా, కొరియా, ఉత్తర అమెరికాలో ప్రజల ఆందోళనలు చేస్తున్నారు. 1999 నవంబర్ లో సియాటిల్ లో W.T.O. కు వ్యతిరేకంగా మొదటిసారిగా అనేక దేశాల ప్రజలు విప్లంగా తమ ప్రతిఘటనా స్వర్యాన్ని వినిపించారు. ప్రపంచీకరణ విధానాలకు వ్యతిరేకంగా వివిధ దేశాలలో, బహుముఖ రూపాలలో సాగుతున్న ప్రజల ఆందోళనల మధ్య ఐక్యతను సాధించే ప్రయత్నంలో భాగంగా మొదటిసారిగా 2001లో బ్రెజిల్ లో "ప్రపంచసామాజిక వేదిక" (W.S.F.) ఏర్పడింది. 2002 జనవరిలో వాస్కో ఆబ్రెలిలో జరిగిన వరల్డ్ సోషల్ ఫోరం సదస్సుకు 130 దేశాల నుండి వేలాది మంది ప్రతినిధులు హాజరయ్యారు. ఇటీవల ఇటలీలో జరిగిన సామాజిక వేదిక ప్రదర్శనలో వివిధ దేశాలకు చెందిన ఘమూరు వదిలక్షల మంది ప్రజలు పాల్గొన్నారు.

ప్రపంచంలో నేటికీ అత్యులు జరుగుతున్న కులవివక్ష, అసమరాలితనం, దళితలపై దాడులు, హిందూమత దురహంకారం గురించి ప్రపంచానికి సాటి చెప్పడానికి గత సంతం (2001 ఆగష్టు - సెప్టెంబర్) దాదాపు 300 మంది భారతీయ దళిత నేతలు దక్షిణాఫ్రికా - దర్బన్ వెళ్లి జాతి వివక్షా వ్యతిరేక ప్రపంచ సదస్సులో భారతదేశంలో కులవివక్షను చర్చించాలని ప్రయత్నం చేసి ప్రపంచాన్ని తమ వైపు తిప్పకూర్చి వ్యయం మనందరికీ తెలిసింది. నేడు ప్రపంచం మన ముందుకి వస్తుంది. ఈ రాష్ట్రంలోనూ, దేశంలోనూ దళితుల పట్ల కొనసాగుతున్న ఆర్థిక అసమానతలు, రాజకీయ వివక్షత, న్యాయహక్కుల ఉల్లంఘనల గురించి ప్రపంచానికి వినిపించే మరో అవకాశం మన ముందుకు వచ్చింది. 2003 జనవరి 2వ తేదీ నుండి 7వ తేదీ వరకు మన హైదరాబాద్ నగరంలో ప్రపంచీకరణకు, మతీన్వయంకూ వ్యతిరేకంగా ఆసియా దేశాల సదస్సు జరుగుతుంది. ఈ సదస్సులో ప్రజలు ఎదుర్కొంటున్న మౌళిక సమస్యలపై నిమనారలు వర్కౌట్స్ పాయిన్ ఆఫ్ విక్టిమ్స్ సాంస్కృతిక కార్యక్రమాలు, ఫోటో ఎర్షిషన్, ఫిలిం ఫెస్టివల్ వంటి కార్యక్రమాలు జరుగుతాయి. ఈ సదస్సుకు దాదాపు 10,000 మంది ప్రతినిధులు ప్రపంచ నలుమూలల నుండి హాజరవుతారు. అందులో కుల, జాతివివక్షను ఎదుర్కొంటున్న దేశాల, రాష్ట్రాల నుండి 2000 మంది దళిత ప్రతినిధులు పాల్గొంటున్నారు.

సమావేశాలలో జవహర్ లాల్ నెహ్రూ విశ్వవిద్యాలయం, ఢిల్లీకి చెందిన ప్రొఫెసర్ ప్రభాకర్ ఖట్టాయక్, ప్రొఫెసర్ అశ్రద్ధ ఆరీ, స్వామి అగ్నివేష్, కెప్టెన్ లక్ష్మీ సుపాగల్, ప్రొఫెసర్. ఆర్. ఎన్. రావు, ఇండోనేషియాకు చెందిన ముఖ్యమంత్రి ఉద్యమ, అఖిల భారత ప్రజాతంత్ర మౌళికా సంఘం కార్యదర్శి, బృందా కరంత్, చక్రవర్తికు చెందిన అదిత్యాని ఉద్వమ నాయకుడు రామచంద్ర ముందే, ముంబై విశ్వవిద్యాలయం పైన చైర్మన్ బి.ఎల్. మంగోల్కర్ లు ప్రసంగిస్తారు. అదే విధంగా జాతీయ, అంతర్జాతీయ స్థాయిలో పనిచేస్తున్న దళితమూలన హక్కుల నేతలు పాల్ దివాకర్, మార్లిన మక్కానా, రూత్ మనోరమా, ప్రొఫెసర్ సుభాషిణి ధోరణి తదితరులు పాల్గొంటారు. ప్రారంభం నుండి ముగింపు సభల వరకు ప్రతిరోజు ప్రపంచీకరణ మతీన్వయాలను వ్యతిరేకిస్తూ దేశవిదేశాల నుండి పాల్గొనే వివిధ కళాబృందాలచే సాంస్కృతిక కార్యక్రమాలు ప్రదర్శించబడతాయి. జనవరి 2 నుండి 7 తేదీ వరకు ఆసియా సోషల్ ఫోరం జరిగే నిమనారలు, కాన్ఫరెన్సులు, వర్కౌట్స్ లోను, 7వ తేదీన జరిగే ర్యాలీ, బహిరంగ సభల్లోను అందరు పాల్గొని ప్రపంచీకరణను, మతీన్వయాన్ని తలమితిట్టేందుకు కదలిరావల్సిందిగా విజ్ఞప్తి చేస్తున్నాము.

**జై భీమలతో ...
దళిత బహుజన ఫ్రంట్
దళిత బహుజన వ్యవసాయ వ్యవస్థాపకులు యూనియన్**

Other books available from the Hesperian Foundation



Volver a Vivir/Return to Life

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by David Sanders \$10

Sanders traces the connection between economic development and improved health and argues that both a fairer distribution of resources and people's participation is necessary before genuine improvements in health can be achieved. Available in English only.

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by Christine Miles \$10

In this excellent guide to practice, Miles clearly describes mental disabilities and suggests assessment techniques and strategies for developing realistic teaching programs, focusing on speech, language and communications skills as well as dealing with problem behaviors. Available in Spanish only.

Dos mazorcas de maíz: Una guía para el mejoramiento agrícola orientado hacia la gente

by Roland Bunch \$10

Drawing on his bountiful experience in small agricultural projects, World Neighbors' founder Roland Bunch discusses how to organize and run programs to increase yields and empower small farmers. Available in Spanish only.

Wind in the Blood: Mayan Healing and Chinese Medicine

by Herndn Garcia, Antonio Sierra and Gilberto Balmá,
translated by Jeff Conant \$20

Originally published to help health workers on Mexico's Yucatan peninsula bridge the gulf between Western medical techniques and Mayan medical knowledge, *Wind in the Blood* explains the theoretical roots of Mayan traditional healing practices and their similarities to Chinese medicine, including acupuncture, massage and herbs. The book contains photos and charts of acupuncture points, uses and names of medicinal plants in Yucatec, Spanish, English and Latin, descriptions of traditional Mayan illnesses and their treatments, and more.

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HIV, Health and Your Community: A Guide for Action

Reuben Granich and Jonathan Mermin
Illustrations by Mona Sfeir
paper, 256 pages, \$16

"Clear, concise and accessible."

Bunmi Makinwa, UNAIDS

This book is a comprehensive, easy-to-understand guide for health workers throughout the world. It would be equally welcome in a rural village in southern Africa, a major city in Thailand, or a Peace Corps volunteer's backpack. Designed as a manual for people confronting the HIV epidemic in their communities, it is easily accessible to those without medical or technical knowledge and without prior training in the prevention of HIV and the care of people with AIDS.

Topics range from the biology of the virus to designing prevention programs, from the epidemiology of the disease to writing grant proposals. The authors discuss the risk factors for infection and suggest helpful methods for explaining them and assisting people to change risky behaviors. Instead of extensive discussions of medical treatments not available to the vast majority of people who have HIV, the book focuses on public health interventions that are possible in less developed settings. An appendix aimed at readers with more health training discusses common HIV-related illnesses and their treatments.

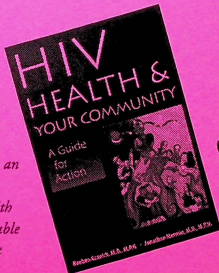


The authors use contemporary examples, most drawn from their experiences on 3 continents, to emphasize the most common problems associated with HIV/AIDS, related illnesses and available treatments.

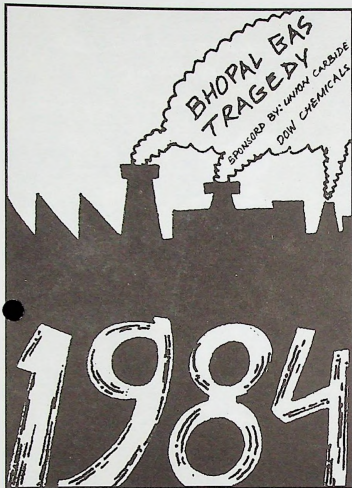
Illustrations are used throughout the book to highlight important topics and to make the text more understandable.

"This excellent work will be of great importance as a guide and manual for primary health care workers as well as lay persons who may have an interest in or may be involved personally with HIV. It is a very readable text written with great clarity."

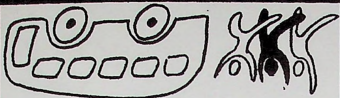
B.D. Schoub, director
National Institute for Virology
South Africa



Authors' proceeds from this book will be donated to community-based AIDS organizations.



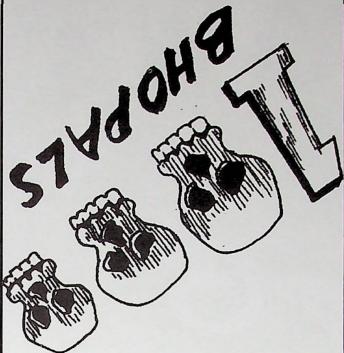
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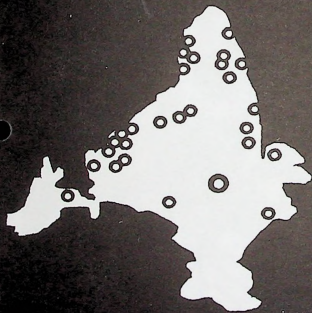
**NO MORE
BHOPALS**

IT IS TIME TO BE
A VOICE
NOT A VICTIM
AND SAY

HAPPENING IN SLOW MOTION



... BUT A



WE HAVE NOT JUST
ONE BHOPAL



... OUR LAND

Another Tamil Nadu Is Possible

PASUMAI THAAYAGAM

PASUMAI THAAYAGAM, which means "Green Motherland" in Tamil, is a mass based voluntary non-Governmental, non-profit, non-partisan citizen organization with a membership of over 65,000 volunteers. The Cardinal objective of our organization is sustainable environmental, social and economic development.

It is a registered trust was founded in 1995 by Dr.S.RAMADOSS, and headed by Dr. R. ANBUMANI. In each and every village as well as urban centres in Tamil Nadu, *Pasumai Thaayagam* has its members and supporters (including five Members of Indian Parliament (MPs) and 19 Members of the Tamil Nadu State Legislative Assembly).

So far, our organization is actively involved in creating awareness and actions for environmental protection, water resources management, education for all, human rights and people mobilization for self-governance.

Among many other activities, National Seminar on Water Resources Management has organized at Chennai on March 2002, Union Cabinet Minister Mr.Arjun Charan Sethi, Former Supreme Court Judge Justice V. R. Krishnayar, and Sri. Mohan Dhariya and others participated.

On August 2002 State level people's seminar had organized in Chennai "Towards Johannesburg: World Summit on Sustainable Development". Union Cabinet Minister Mr. T.R. Baalu and others participated.

Pasumai Thaayagam has recently participated in the World Summit on Sustainable Development at Johannesburg, and also in the CoP8 of UNFCCC at New Delhi.

The Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India declared Vellore as one of the 17 critically polluted districts of India in view of the great havoc caused by the toxic effluents unleashed by the tanning industries in Vellore. *Pasumai Thaayagam* organized a seminar on "Tannery pollution" at Vellore in 1995 followed by 150 kms. Bi-cycle rally by 5000 activists from Vaniambadi to Wallajah led by the Founder Chairman Dr. S. Ramadoss. As a sequel to these actions, the Honble' Supreme Court ordered the closure of tanneries with no effluent treatment plant. But when the captains of tanneries floated the order, the Founder Chairman Dr. S. Ramadoss organized a unique protest of raising a brick wall around the polluting industries. An important event in the fight against the tannery pollution was the organization of a "National Conference of Tannery Pollution" in December 2000 at Vellore in which Supreme Court green Advocate Shri M.C. Mehta, and prominent environmentalists participated

Recently *Pasumai Thaayagam* organized an Exhibition, a Seminar and a Children's Human Chain on the issue with *Greenpeace* at Vellore, as a part of No More Bhopals Jatha.

The River Bavani was another victim of pollution caused by 70 large scale chemical industries, which destroyed about 50000 hectares of productive farmlands. *Pasumai Thaayagam* took up this issue and a protest bi-cycle rally of 4000 volunteers for 120 km, was organized in October 1995. It also released a booklet in Tamil entitled "River Bavani is loaded with poison" highlighting the evil effects of chemical pollution.

Pasumai Thaayagam has taken up the task of restoring the glory of the multi irrigation Tanks and Ponds in Tamil Nadu; it has initiated an innovative programme of desilting thousand Lakes and ponds. The programme commenced in June 2002 and as on 16th August 2002, till date the organization has successfully desilted 240 lakes, tanks and ponds, strengthened the bunds, cleaned the waterways and planted trees on the embankment.

Pasumai Thaayagam will reach the goal of desilting and restoring 1000 lakes, tanks, ponds in the International Year of Freshwater 2003. At local level, a community sponsored and managed water security system will be formed with the help of elected local bodies. It is also planning to undertake watershed development plans in appropriate places.

PASUMAI THAAYAGAM (Green MotherLand)

No. 9, Lynwood Lane, Mahalingapuram, CHENNAI -600 034, TN, India.

Ph : 044 - 2817 2120, 2817 2122, Email : pasumaimail@yahoo.co.in

Dr.R.Anbumani President *Pasumai Thaayagam*, hails from a renowned and reputed family with social and political traditions of Tamil Nadu. Born to an illustrious couple, Mrs. Saraswati Ramadoss and Dr. S.Ramadoss on 09.10.1968. Dr. Anbumani is now emerging as a committed environmentalist and a social reformer. His vision - sustainable environmental, social and economical development for all. His father, the Founder-Chairman of *Pasumai Thaayagam*, is the champion of ecological balance and lover of Green Motherland; besides being a crusader for social justice and upliftment of the poor and downtrodden. Dr. R.Anbumani, who holds a Degree in Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, has grown with a background of exceptional education

He did a signal service by planting 1,60,000 tree saplings in one day on 25.07.2000, which was declared a "**Pasumai Thaayagam Day**" throughout Tamil Nadu. This is perhaps a world record, which no organization has done so far under his visionary initiative, 5,00,000 tree saplings in 5000 places have been planted so far, in schools, hospitals and municipal offices in Tamil Nadu.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FRESHWATER 2003
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WATER

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A PUBLIC GOOD

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Water is a human right

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Clean Production

The recognition that most of our environmental problems- global warming, toxic pollution and loss of bio-diversity- are caused by the way we 'transform natural resources into products' and the rate at which we consume them, is the starting point of **clean production**. Society's need for products can be fulfilled through the use of renewable, energy efficient and water efficient systems and non-hazardous materials. Clean Production also seeks to reduce consumption by looking at alternatives.

Clean production systems are non-polluting, preserve bio-diversity in nature and culture and support the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Clean production has four elements in its approach:

- It reinforces the Precautionary Principle. This principle, accepted in international law, makes it the producer's responsibility to prove that a substance or activity will do no environmental harm, rather than the community's. It stresses the need for decisions on use/manufacture of chemicals be taken by public decision-makers, as they have clear social impacts.
- The Preventive approach emphasizes that it is cheaper and more effective to prevent damage than to undo it. **Pollution prevention** replaces pollution control. It calls for an emphasis on energy efficient practices rather than on developing new fossil fuel energy sources.
- Everybody affected by industrial activities-workers, consumers, communities etc. must have information on emissions, access to pollution registers and toxic use reduction plans, as well as ingredients of products. Right to information and involvement in decision making would ensure democratic control
- A holistic approach would be achieved only by addressing the whole life-cycle of a product. The life-cycle includes all the phases of the product- design, raw-material selection/production, product manufacture, consumer use and waste management at the end of the useful life of the product. An integrated approach helps to phase out existing hazardous materials and to use resources judiciously.

Steps towards Clean Production

Governments have traditionally approached environmental management by setting limits on permissible pollution loads to water, air and land. This is flawed because it assumes that the earth can tolerate a certain amount of stress. It also fragments the approach by separating water, air and land under different regulation authorities. Governments can take steps toward clean production at different levels:

- Introduce national and regional bans and phase-outs on production and use of hazardous products
- Shift focus from waste management policies to policies on resource-use, technical support and education on clean production
- Introduce legislations on producer responsibility, access to information, tax reforms etc. and support measures for worker and consumer health and safety.
- Enter into international co-ordination to prevent transfer of banned technologies/products, and instead aid transfer of clean technologies.

Manufacturers can move into clean production at a small level, which includes improvement in prevention of leaks and spills,

reduction of toxic use and introduction of in-house recycling systems.

Further progress can be made in toxic-use reduction by implementing the following techniques: input substitution, product reformation, product unit re-design or modification, production unit modernisation, improved operations and maintenance and closed loop recycling.

A remarkable change was seen in the State of Massachusetts after implementing these techniques.

Toxics use was down by 24%, waste generation by 34%, and total toxics release by 73%. The economic efficiency achieved led to an overall cost reduction by **US\$ 91 million in 6 years!**

Changing the product design by allowing for reduced consumption of resources, prolonging the useful life of a product, recycling, easy dismantling and safe disposal can impact overall environmental damages.

'**Clean Products**' are non-toxic, energy efficient, made using renewable or re-processed non-renewable materials, durable, re-usable, and minimally packaged using reusable recycled or recyclable materials.

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Pops - Global Killers

What are POPs?

Persistent Organic Pollutants are highly toxic, synthetic chemicals that have been produced and released into the environment: up chimneystacks, down outflow pipes, in agricultural sprays. POP's are contained in some consumer products, such as computers, paints and household products, and can also find their way into the environment when products like these are used, or disposed in landfill or incinerated.

Once released into the environment, POPs can **travel vast distances** across air and sea currents to contaminate areas far away from where they were released. POPs evaporate quickly in warmer climates, and so are found in higher concentrations in cold places. In fact, the Arctic, due to geographical factors, has become a global sink for POPs. Studies have shown that the chemicals can

reach the pole within 10 days of their release from Asia!

POPs take decades to breakdown, and **bio-accumulate** in the environment. They also do not easily dissolve in water, but readily dissolve in fats. As a result they build up in fatty tissues of animals. So, animals with high fat content- humans, whales, dolphins, polar bears- are highly susceptible to the build up of POPs

POPs also **bio-magnify** as they move up the food chain. So, animals at the top of the food chain, like humans, whales and polar bears are again most affected. The magnification or multiplication in concentration of POPs is by factors of millions as they go up the food chain.

Thus, POPs are a **global problem** that needs a **global solution**.

POPs and Health

POPs have been seen to have numerous detrimental effects on global environmental and human health. Their effects on wildlife and humans are not surprisingly similar:

- Multiple cancers and tumors
- Learning disorders
- Reproductive problems/failure
- Hormone dysfunction
- Suppression of the immune system
- Decreased lactation periods
- Increased incidence of diabetes

Affected women who were pregnant had children who suffered from the above problems. The newborn also ingested the chemicals through breast milk.

The Dirty Dozen

The United Nations, through the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), has decided to eliminate POPs from our environment. A list of 12 extremely hazardous POPs have been made, which includes dioxins. Most of these are either industrial by-products like dioxins, or pesticides. Many of these have been banned for use in developed countries but are still manufactured and in use in developing countries.

The 12 POPs that constitute the 'Dirty Dozen' are:

POPs	Source
PCBs	Industrial Chemicals
Dioxins	Industrial By Products
Furans	Industrial By Products
Aldrin	Pesticide
Dieldrin	Pesticide
Endrin	Pesticide
DDT	Pesticide
Chlordane	Pesticide
Hexachlorobenzene	Pesticide
Mirex	Pesticide
Toxaphene	Pesticide
Heptachlor	Pesticide

It is vital that global measures are taken to stop the production and use of the 'dirty dozen' are urgently adopted and plans for their elimination implemented.

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Incineration – A Global Hazard

Incineration of industrial waste is considered an alternative to land filling. The common myth is that burning makes waste disappear but the reality is that it creates more toxic wastes. The process of incineration breaks down bulk waste and disperses it into the environment via air, water and ash emissions.

Incineration releases three kinds of dangerous pollutants into the environment: heavy metals, unburned toxic chemicals and entirely new chemicals formed during the incineration process.

Metals are not destroyed during incineration.

Did you know that an average incinerator which burns 32,000 tonnes of hazardous waste per year emits metals at the rate of 92 tonnes a year into the air and 304 tonnes a year into residual ashes and liquids?

These toxic metals include lead, cadmium, arsenic, mercury and chromium from otherwise stable materials like plastics. The impact on health can include cancer, birth defects, reproductive dysfunction, neurological damage, etc.

No incinerator process operates at 100% efficiency.

Smoke stacks of hazardous waste incinerators release gases that contain unburned chemicals. These chemicals also escape into the air as fugitive emissions during storage, handling and transport. Wastes when burnt also transform into ash and effluent.

Did you know that from incinerators, 43 different semi-volatile organic chemicals and 16 organic chemicals were identified in ash and scrubber water respectively? These, in turn, pollute the air, land and water bodies such as rivers and lakes.

During the combustion of hazardous waste, entirely new chemicals are formed due to recombination within smoke stacks, furnaces, etc.

Out of 1000s of such chemicals, 100 have been identified. Among these are dioxins and furans, which cause altered sexual development, reproductive problems, lowered immunity, diabetes, organ toxicity and effects on hormones. Some of them are carcinogenic. Dioxins also have an ability to travel vast distances on air and ocean currents, making them global killers.

What are some of the other impacts of incineration?

- The leftover ash can contain above-mentioned metals, dioxins and furans, and disposing of this waste is expensive and quite tricky.

- It is difficult to pronounce the disposal method safe for either human or environmental health.
- Also, emissions into the air lead to the accumulation of pollutants in food crops.

Did you know that 15-50% of the pollutants remain on the crop/vegetable after washing?

Why are developing countries in Asia being swamped with proposals to build waste incinerator plants?

There must be a problem with incineration because developed countries do not want this process on their own land. Apart from its impact on the health and environment it has other difficulties:

- In practice, equipment failure, human error and rapid changes in the waste fed to the incinerator can alter and deviate incinerator performance radically.
- Incinerator plants are capital-intensive and to recover the costs of building them and support profitable operations, owners of the plants encourage generation of waste.
- Continued investment in incinerators inhibits the development of products and processes that do not use toxic chemicals in the first place.
- It also removes the incentive to re-cycle and re-use.

Did you know that only 10% of hospital's waste is potentially infectious and even this can be sterilised?

The remaining 90% is similar to waste coming from hotels, offices and restaurants! By burning hospital waste, a biological problem of disinfecting infectious materials becomes a formidable chemical pollution problem.

Given the serious problem with incineration, Greenpeace believes that rather than seeking to refine regulations, national governments must implement the following policies:

- A moratorium on the construction of new, hazardous waste incinerators or the expansion of existing ones;
- Development of programs to reduce waste and eliminate toxics in the overall waste stream;
- A rapid schedule for phase-out of all existing incinerators

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GENE CAMPAIGN
1993-2003 A Decade of Campaigning

Biopiracy

Imitations Not Innovations



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The patent system was put in place by countries to reward inventors. This encouraged the inventors to keep inventing useful products and the society benefited from these products. To get a patent, a product had to be novel, that is, it should not be already existing. Also, usefulness of the product on which the patent was sought, was a necessity. If an invention had no utility for the public, no patent was granted. But in a departure from the philosophy and aims of the original patent system, many provisions are being changed in their implementation at the behest of MNCs (multi-national companies) who exercise a great deal of influence in this area. In the US it is now possible to get patents not only for inventions but also for discoveries. That means even things that are existing and are not novel, can be patented in the American system. These changes have been made to satisfy the economic aspirations of big MNCs. These MNCs are in a hurry to get control of valuable bio-products and are seeking patents on everything under the sun. The patent system has been corrupted to such levels that MNCs can now easily get patents on imitations as well. This has implications for biopiracy because the US patent system allows the grant of patents on products derived from Indigenous Knowledge (IK). Biopiracy is the name given to the unauthorized use of biological material and indigenous knowledge.

Why Biopiracy:

There is an increasing demand from consumers in industrialized countries for herbal products. This has driven pharmaceutical companies to seek possible leads in indigenous systems of medicine and the information present with the traditional healers of indigenous and local communities. India and other developing countries rich in bioresources and IK are favourite targets and victims of biopiracy. Multi-national companies hire people who camp in villages and interact with local communities to identify plants and their local, indigenous use.

Take the case of turmeric (*haldi*). Its use in wound healing, treating common cold, etc. has been known in India for ages. If someone claims to have invented this use now and gets a patent for it, then this is biopiracy. The list of biopiracy is long. Here Gene Campaign gives some examples of biopiracy. You can see how the so-called invention on which the patent has been granted, is nothing but the imitation of indigenous knowledge, by the striking similarity between their traditional use and the modern patented use.

The list is neither exhaustive with regard to plants nor comprehensive with regard to the indigenous and patented uses. However, it does make it amply clear that the patented uses are not innovations but mere imitations of existing indigenous knowledge.

Something urgently needs to be done

Different groups of actors, such as government departments, industry, intellectual property experts, members of local communities, organizations working with indigenous and local communities and members of civil society need to cooperate in order to define mechanisms for preventing biopiracy.

Examples of Biopiracy

S.No.	Plant Name	Indigenous Use	Use for which patent is granted
1.	Aegle marmelos (Bel)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treating diabetes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treating diabetes.
2.	Aloe vera (Ghritakumari)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin disorders • Hair tonic • General weakness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin care formulations • Cleansing articles for hair • Nutritional composition
3.	Commifora mukul (Guggul)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowering body fat • Skin diseases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Method for treating hyperlipidemia (excess fat) • Cosmetics and Skin lightening compositions
4.	Curcuma longa (Haldi)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wound healing • Skin diseases, discolouration of skin, allergic conditions • Jaundice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wound healing • Skin conditioning, anti-irritant, anti-inflammatory agents • Hepatic disorders
5.	Nigella sativa (Kalajira)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral hygiene • Jaundice • Skin disorders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental care • Treatment of hepatitis • Chapped skin
6.	Embllica officinalis (Amla)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin diseases • Grey hair dyeing composition • Health tonic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cosmetic formulations • Grey hair dyeing composition • Nutritional formulations
7.	Piper nigrum (Kalimirch)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment of skin diseases • Arthritic diseases • As a condiment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment of skin diseases • For healthy joints • Flavouring agent
8.	Rauwolfia serpentina (Chandrabhaga)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epilepsy, schizophrenia • High blood pressure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treating impulse control diseases • Treatment of heart diseases

S.No.	Plant Name	Indigenous Use	Use for which patent is granted
9.	Rubia cordifolia (Manjistha)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin diseases • Paralysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin care compositions • Neurovascularization
10.	Tamarindus indica (Imli)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruit drink • Boiled seeds used for dressing boils • Cooling food, anti-inflammatory action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beverages • Wound-covering materials • Food, pharmaceutical, cosmetic and industrial application
11.	Withania somnifera (Ashwagandha)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General weakness • Rheumatism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-fatigue / stress • Arthritis
12.	Terminalia arjuna (Arjuna)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiac tonic, heart diseases • Treating high blood pressure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing cardiovascular performance • Control of high blood pressure and high levels of cholesterol
13.	Terminalia chebula (Harra)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For dysentery and diarrhoea, stomach complaints, ulcers, vomiting and worms • Flatulence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treating and preventing helicobacter-pylori associated stomach gastritis, ulcers
14.	Terminalia bellerica (Bahera)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germicidal • For treating stomach disorders and improving digestion • Enlargement of the spleen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tooth powder • Treating and preventing helicobacter-pylori associated stomach gastritis, ulcers • Hepatoprotective compositions

The globalisation of waste

The past couple of decades have witnessed rapid globalisation of the world economy aimed at merging the economic activities of all countries within a single homogenised model of development. This has fuelled new levels of economic growth, particularly in the industrialised nations of the North¹, and has brought with it side effects, including the generation of new kinds and increasing volumes of waste and new types of global waste flows. The impacts are mostly on the poorest communities within the South.

Prior to the 1970s, countries of the industrialised North disposed most of their waste within their own borders with scant regard to environmental and health hazards.

However, incidents such as the one in the Love Canal,² which occurred in the United States, were eye openers to the public on the consequences of improperly disposed waste. Eventually this resulted in them cleaning up through implementing strict environmental standards and demonstrating a NIMBY (not in my back yard) syndrome.

In the late seventies the world was rocked by news of toxic ships from USA dumping their hazardous waste onto African shores. The export of hazardous waste to unsuspecting Southern countries again gained attention in the 1980s when the media and environmentalists the world over, protested over several incidents of such dumping. Shocking examples include the dumping of toxic fly ash from a Philadelphia incinerator on a beach in Haiti in 1986, or that of an unsuspecting farmer in Nigeria renting his back yard for USD 100 a month to an Italian waste firm for dumping 8000 barrels of PCBs³ and asbestos, labeled as 'fertilizer.' The world was shamed into waking up and huddled for the next decade to come up with international legislation to stop such trade, popularly called 'waste imperialism'. Conventions such as the Bamako Convention, and the Basel Convention came into being.⁴

Today, if anything, the waste trade has changed form and become more sophisticated. It is now carried out in other subtle ways. Besides other types of wastes, estimates show that between 300-500 million tonnes of hazardous waste alone,⁵ are generated annually the world over, with 90 per cent originating in industrialised nations. Much of it finds its way to the South. Global waste flow, like the free flow of finance and goods in the new free trade regime is now a reality akin to imperialistic aggression on our vulnerable ecological space.

Toxics Link Position paper

December 2002

Cleaner North, Dirtier South: New Forms of Waste Flows

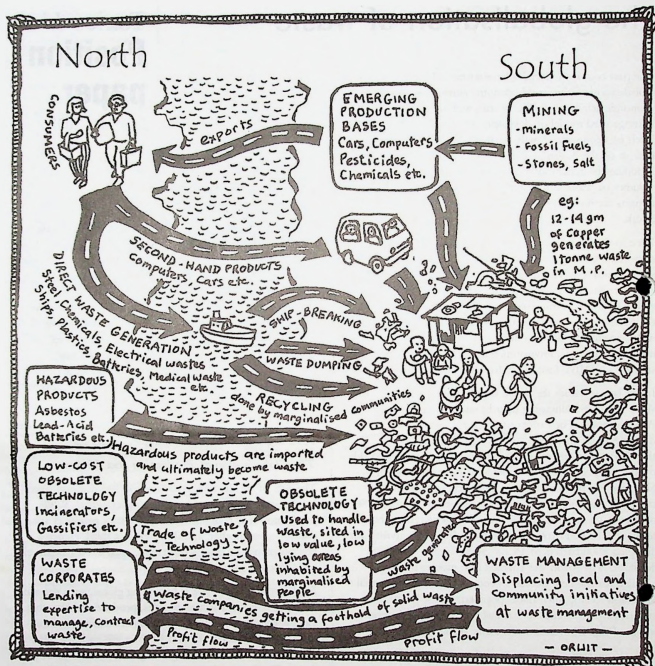
Expensive disposal: Waste became a problem as safe disposal became increasingly expensive and products increasingly toxic. Today plastic wares made of PVC, release toxic fumes when incinerated or recycled; computers contain heavy metals like mercury, lead and cadmium; beverage cans use toxic paints; pesticide containers have residual chemicals; and ships are laden with asbestos, PCBs, TBTs⁶ etc. All these are simply shipped to countries like India and Bangladesh where environment and health standards are relaxed and recycling poses as an issue of livelihood alone, without focusing on the derelict conditions it is carried out in.

From the straightforward waste trade of the eighties, today waste is globalised in hitherto unrecognised ways.

The Globalisation of Production and Products

The acts of production, consumption and disposal have been geographically separated like never before. While production may take place in one country, products are consumed in another, and disposed in a third. Hence a computer may be produced in Asia, used in North America and disposed off in India.

As the product-life-cycle is becoming global, so is the trail of waste it leaves enroute. Besides, production bases that include mining as well as processing are shifting South. Likewise, products at the end of their life-cycle, or when they become waste are being dumped back into the South. As the North gets cleaner, the South gets dirtier. The rich communities and financial institutions of industrialised nations of the North have brought forth alarming side effects for the poorest communities of the South with increasingly huge volumes of new hazardous wastes, emanating from rich countries and being dumped in poor countries. The impact is mostly on the poorest communities of the Southern nations. Global sustainable development has become mere rhetoric once again.



Poor communities at the receiving end of waste

- ◆ Poorly run production and recycling bases pollute the environment
- ◆ Loss of livelihood of farmers is caused due to siting of new production bases
- ◆ Loss of livelihood of recycling workers due to waste corporatisation
- ◆ Health hazards are magnified for people involved in waste scavenging and recycling – especially the poor and marginalised
- ◆ Dumping of waste
- ◆ Dumping of low cost, polluting and obsolete technology
- ◆ Displacement of community waste management by corporates

New forms of waste globalisation

Direct waste dumping: Despite various international conventions, direct dumping still occurs in different guises. Countries such as the United States, which generate the highest volumes of waste, are not parties to these conventions, and flout their provisions routinely. For example, electronic waste labelled as second-hand computers is regularly dumped in India, China and Bangladesh. The US alone exports over 10 million tonnes of it annually. Likewise, over 700 ships⁷ and tankers bearing hazardous waste find their way to scrap yards in China, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh exposing workers to serious occupational health hazards apart from environmental hazards⁸. Plastics are sent overseas under the guise of recycling, driven by improved collection in Europe and North America.

Asides, as regulation is forcing dirty plants out of business in the West, their waste is being exported instead of being locally contained. In February 2001, an international coalition of environmental and labour organisations managed to prevent 118 tonnes of mercury stockpile from a closed chlor-alkali plant in the US from being exported to India, disguised as 'raw material.'

Export of dirty products: Extremely hazardous or difficult to recycle products are also being exported to developing countries in the new globalisation regime, but without the same safety standards under which they are used in home countries.

Lead-Acid batteries (for example invertors and car batteries), which are highly polluting and unsafe if recycled in the type of facilities which exist in India are imported to end up as waste in rudimentary smelters. Asbestos, banned for use in many countries, is exported to India in massive quantities, with more than 80 per cent of it emerging from Canadian mines, even though use of asbestos is banned in Canada. New types of packaging materials, such as multi-layered juice packs, are being sold in India. These are recycled in home countries, but cannot be recovered here and therefore litter the countryside.

Second-hand computers and other end-of-life electronic goods are examples of export of dirty products. Computers, mobile phones, and telephones are discarded and shipped overseas owing to obsolescence. Labelled as donations under the pretext of being useful in the South, they very soon become waste. A similar dynamic occurs when used cars are imported into developing countries.

All the above products, which are at the end of their life cycle eventually become waste. The waste is often extremely toxic, and difficult to dispose or recover.

Export of waste technologies: With waste being

transported South, technologies to treat it follow suit. However, these technologies are not the same as are used in the developed world and have the benefit to conforming to the much weaker standards that exist in developing countries. Examples abound. Norms for medical waste incinerators are at least 100 times more rigid in Europe and the US than they are in India. Yet multinationals sell them to India, sometimes along with the carrot of foreign aid. Technology vendors sell obsolete technologies into developing countries espousing their benefits but hiding their polluting nature.⁹ The Royal Dutch government funded two such incinerators in Pakistan in 2000.

Even agencies such as WHO and UNICEF have been party to this. They have been promoting low cost polluting incinerators ostensibly to dispose off new types of plastic syringes used for immunisation drives. There has been no effort to find safer technologies, even though the incinerators being recommended do not meet the weakest of environmental standards.¹⁰

Currently, the municipal waste technology industry is seeing huge emerging markets in the South. There are innumerable proposals for technologies like incinerators and gasifiers (types of incinerators). India has over 20 such proposals, costing upto 300 crore¹¹ rupees, from international companies, some even selling untried technologies.¹²

New markets for international waste companies: Post consumer waste in countries like India had so far remained off limits for corporate entities. But not any more. The international waste industry has descended in India to get a grip on municipalities and municipal waste, as waste quantities are growing exponentially with urbanisation. The finance for these ventures is sourced from national governmental subsidies, financial institutions as well as international agencies like the Global Environmental Facility, the World Bank or the IFC, under mechanisms such as the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).¹³ However, most of the technologies adopted by these global corporations are economically unviable and environmentally hazardous.

Shifting production bases: In many of the above cases there has been a shift of the production base of these products to the global South. Chemicals, electronics and plastics are increasingly being manufactured in Asian countries, which are emerging as major production centres for the North. The waste generated in the production processes are locally dumped, even though the production caters to international consumers.

Mine and Mineral Waste: Waste is produced from all types of mining operations in the form of rubble, destroyed topsoil and toxic tailings. Recovery of minerals

from the ore is a small percentage of what is mined.¹⁴ The most widespread problem associated with mining waste dumps is acid drainage since once the process of acid generation starts, it is difficult to stop. The combination of acidity and dissolved toxic contaminants kills almost all forms of aquatic life.

Impacts of 'wasting' of the South

The problems associated with waste today are looked upon merely as local management issues. However, the management of waste is only a subset of an overall myriad of issues connected with it.

When waste and its associated forms of trade take place it impacts the poorest communities of the world. In fact, even within the South, while richer consumers often use internationally produced products, the poorest communities are left with the greatest burden of the globalisation process. Hence, who suffers is the key question.

As the world globalises, the burden of its waste is being borne by the poorest and most marginalised communities of the world, who are often not protected even in their own national context.

Waste recycling in developing countries: who suffers?

There is a sharp contrast in the technology and conditions in which recycling takes place in developing and developed nations. In the South, recycling occurs in unhygienic and shanty conditions with little or no environmental and health safeguards since the technology used is crude and rudimentary.

Workers earning less than subsistence wages¹⁵ bear the brunt of toxics from imported electronic waste, car batteries, plastics, used syringes, etc apart from the long-term health impacts they suffer from regular injuries at the work place and risks of disease transmission. They have no access to any health care or insurance. For women and children the effects are even greater owing to their very low nutritional status, making them more susceptible to even lower levels of exposures.

Waste siting

In most Asian cities, waste dumps or incinerators are made either on the outskirts or on low value lands.¹⁶ These are the areas where the poor live. Poor communities living around such areas are impacted through polluted ground water and noxious air emissions besides insanitary surroundings.

Effects on farmers, workers and communities: The siting of new emerging production bases, as mentioned above is often carried out in what were agricultural areas.¹⁷ This has a twin impact. Firstly, the farmer loses his/her livelihood and is forced to shift. Often, farmers –

especially small and marginal ones – turn to becoming labourers in cities, upon losing their land for industrial activities, which is often funded or owned by multinationals. Secondly, the adjoining and hitherto pristine agriculture fields are impacted by industrial pollution. Recent studies indicate contamination of food which has grown there.¹⁸

In developing countries workers exposed to hazardous conditions suffer the most in the absence of proper health and safety standards. Over 90 per cent of the workers are casual, migrant workers and not part of any trade union and hence cannot negotiate any compensation claims. It is common to see workers suffering in asbestos factories, recycling units as well as computer plants. Ship breaking workers are almost 100 per cent casual and have no recourse to justice, even though many face risks to their lives on the job.

The Bhopal gas disaster in 1984 showed the double standards that corporations adopt when they site production bases in the South. Contaminants from the factory have sullied the site with extremely hazardous chemicals, which, as studies show, are finding their way in to the breast milk of the surrounding communities.¹⁹ Drinking water is contaminated, even as the survivors of the disaster that killed over 5000 people suffer long-term impacts and struggle with their lives. This is not an isolated instance. The Unilever mercury thermometer plant in Kodaikanal, South India that manufactured solely for export to the US, has irrevocably poisoned its workers as well as the surrounding environment.²⁰

Who gains from privatisation?

Waste corporatisation in cities has led to various types of displacement. Community projects as well as the urban poor who are dependant upon recycling are at risk. In India, communities have made tremendous efforts to manage waste, often with a multistakeholder involvement.²¹ These outstanding and commendable efforts are being decimated through the privatisation of municipal zones, such as in Chennai.

Apart from this, a large number of people are involved in the informal management of waste as a source of livelihood. In India alone, over one million people find livelihood opportunities in the area of waste collection and recycling through informal but well-organised systems.²²

In most cases, international private entry is abetted through government subsidies by government funds and international grants. Their viability depends upon installing polluting waste-to-energy technologies on which they can avail subsidies upto 50% of project cost.²³ Municipalities, lured by international waste companies, instead of helping community projects proliferate and making conditions for recycling of waste safer, are merely displacing both.²⁴

¹ The terms 'North' and 'South' are terms popularly used to connote 'rich and developed' countries and 'poorer and less developed' countries respectively. Other similar words in usage are 'developed countries', 'developing countries', 'OECD', 'non-OECD' countries, 'third world', etc.

² The mother of toxics movements, it is a canal near Niagara River, New York, USA, which was dumped with 20,000 tons of toxic waste and found leaking when proposed for a school site in 1977, causing residents to protest and flee.

³ Poly Chlorinated Biphenyl, an extremely toxic chemical, a POP, or persistent organic pollutant, which is now banned under the new UNEP Stockholm treaty. It was once commonly used as transformer oil, all over the world.

⁴ The Basel Convention on the Trans-boundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes with its Ban amendment is a UNEP multilateral environmental treaty to stop the trade of such waste from OECD to non-OECD countries. The Bamako Convention is a regional African treaty.

⁵ The US is the largest generator of hazardous, and in fact, waste per se in the world. It is not a party to the Basel Convention.

⁶ A toxic paint used on the hulls of ships.

⁷ The US in November 2002, ordained to send its rusting fleet of over 300 old naval ships to Asia for breaking.

⁸ Alang in Gujarat, India, is the largest ship-breaking yard in the world employing over 25,000 casual migrant workers. Intensive action by environmental and labour activists has helped in marginally improving working conditions, and taking the issue to international bodies such as International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Labour Organization (ILO) and UNEP. They are demanding ship owner responsibility. Other large facilities are in China and Turkey.

⁹ Australian and US companies made a baseline for South Asian markets as soon as medical waste became an issue in these countries in 1997. They professed 'pollution free' equipment 'conforming to USEPA standards,' even though in reality new stricter US standards were driving costs of incinerators up exponentially, which resulted in over 4,000 medical waste incinerators closing down in the US alone during the past four years.

¹⁰ In a new drive to rid the world of Hepatitis B, measles, etc, and to limit cross infections from un-sterilised syringes, WHO has been promoting new A/D or single use plastic syringes. India alone administers 4.2 billion injections annually, creating substantial amount of plastic waste. Small furnace like, extremely polluting incinerators are being promoted in Africa, South East Asia, South Asia, Central Asia and China, some of which are imported from Europe, even though these would be unacceptable there. No attempt has been made to use safer alternative technologies such as autoclaves, despite protests by environmentalists.

¹¹ 1 crore is equivalent to 10 million rupees or about 2 million USD.

¹² Cities include Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Chandigarh, Jaipur, amongst others.

¹³ The CDM is a mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol or the Climate Change convention to fund 'clean' and 'renewable' energy in lieu of carbon credits in developing countries. What is renewable is arguable.

¹⁴ India produces 89 minerals, resulting in diverse kinds of potentially hazardous waste. For example every 5 gm of gold produced generates 1 tonne of waste, or 80 per cent of coal mined is waste, while a mere 12-14 gm of copper produces 1 tonne of waste. Toxics Link paper on Mines and Minerals, November 2002.

¹⁵ Less than USD one per day as per Srishri study 'Recycling Responsibility' on informal sector recycling, 2002.

¹⁶ In fact this is true even in developed countries such as the USA, where waste disposal amongst people of color has led to an 'environmental justice' movement, a term which now recognized in US law.

¹⁷ For example hazardous industry was shifted out from New Delhi, through a Supreme Court order in 1996, and ordered relocation near Alwar, to what were agricultural areas.

¹⁸ Ongoing Imperial College, UK, study along Indian partners, show industrial air pollution caused heavy metal contamination of vegetable crops at production sites in Varanasi, 2000-ongoing.

¹⁹ Toxic Past, Toxic Future, A Study of Contamination in Bhopal, Srishri-Bhopal Fact Finding Mission, December 2001, New Delhi.

²⁰ Action was taken by Greenpeace to expose the double standards of Unilever, one of the largest corporate and multinational in India, in March 2001.

²¹ These exist in Chennai, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Delhi, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Shimla, and Bangalore etc.

²² 'Recycling Responsibility' Ravi Agarwal et al. Srishri, New Delhi, 2002.

²³ The Ministry of Non Conventional Energy Sources in the Govt. of India provides upto 50 per cent subsidy for waste to energy projects. These projects do not differentiate between polluting incinerator/gasification technologies from colder bio-methanation ones for example.

²⁴ The Chennai municipality awarded a contract to the international waste giant Vivendi and displaced successful community-led waste management by a NGO, Exnora, from 3 municipal zones in 2001.

²⁵ A contaminated site in the US is cleaned up under their Superfund program which has cost over 35 billion dollars. Some sites cost over USD100 million to cleanup, a typical figure being about USD 30 million, through a polluter's pay principle. There has been a reported slowdown in cleanups of late.

**Contact: Ravi Agarwal/Papiya Sarkar
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papiya25@yahoo.com

Website: www.toxicslink.org

MV ARCTIC SUNRISE

Southeast Asia Choose Positive Energy Tour 2002

Why is the MV Arctic Sunrise here?

The MV Arctic Sunrise is on a five-week tour of Southeast Asia to raise awareness about the problem of climate change caused by burning fossil fuels like coal and to raise support for clean renewable energy alternatives.

We are asking you to reject negative dirty energy such as coal, oil and gas, and to choose positive renewable energy such as solar, wind, and modern biomass.



What is climate change?

Climate change, sometimes called global warming, is affecting the whole world. But it doesn't just mean hotter temperatures. Extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and storms are becoming more unpredictable, more frequent and more intense. Climate change impacts include sea-level rise, coral bleaching, melting glaciers, increased flooding, wild fires, the spread of diseases such as malaria, borne



by insects that thrive in warm temperatures. The average global temperature has steadily increased in the past 100 years, and United Nations scientists have said most of this temperature increase can be blamed on human activities-especially the burning of fossil fuels.

Climate Change Impacts in Southeast Asia:

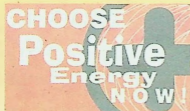
- o Sea-level rise and an increase in intensity of tropical cyclones would displace tens of millions of people in low-lying coastal areas of temperate and tropical Asia.
- o Increased extreme weather events including flooding, droughts, and forest fires.



- o Decrease in agricultural productivity and aquaculture due to thermal and water stress. Sea-level rise, floods and droughts, and tropical cyclones would diminish food security.
- o Increased exposure to vector-borne infectious diseases and heat stress.
- o Increased threats to biodiversity due to land-use and land-cover change and population pressure. Sea-level rise would put ecological security at risk, including mangroves and coral reefs.
- o Many species of mammals and birds could be exterminated.

The Choose Positive Energy Campaign:

Greenpeace is spearheading the Choose Positive Energy campaign, with the support of groups like The Body Shop, which aims to protect the climate by promoting renewable energy such as solar, wind and small-scale hydro power instead of



greenhouse gas - producing energy, such as coal, oil and gas. The campaign aims to secure a commitment at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to provide renewable energy to two billion of the world's poorest people, many of whom are without access to any form of electricity or decent energy services.



What's wrong with coal?

Coal-fired power stations are dirty and dangerous sources of electricity. We are heavily dependent on coal for energy needs, but besides being extremely dirty, the burning of coal is an industrial process that creates huge quantities of carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas causing global warming. This is one of the reasons why coal is no longer popular for new power stations in rich and developed countries.



So why are Northern countries pushing coal in Asia?



Multinational companies that are now having difficulty selling their obsolete coal technology in Europe and North America are looking for new markets, particularly in countries that are not yet putting restrictions on greenhouse gas emissions. To maintain profitability they are trying to dump this old-fashioned, polluting technology on developing nations, where the demand for electricity is rapidly expanding. It's up to

developing countries to reject this dirty energy and demand the best, cleanest, newest energy technology - - and that's renewables.

What choices are there?

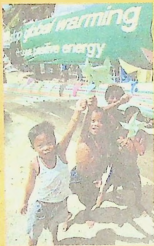
Renewable energy can provide growing communities with the electricity they need, without harming the climate. Solar energy is projected as being able to provide 26% of global electricity demand by 2040, and wind power could provide 12% of global electricity needs by 2020. Asia has the opportunity to utilize this clean energy now.



Why is the tour happening now?

Greenpeace is campaigning for governments to make a commitment at the Johannesburg Earth Summit, to provide renewable energy to the two billion people around the world who currently live without access to sustainable energy services. During the coming weeks, as the world's leaders prepare to meet in Johannesburg, the Choose Positive Energy tour will illustrate that renewable energy is ready and able to replace dirty coal, oil and gas - not only in the future, but today.

Join us, take action now!



**YOU CAN
SAVE YOUR
FUTURE
AND THEIRS
BY TAKING
ACTION
NOW!**

**THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SAVE THE CLIMATE
AND PROMOTE CLEAN ENERGY**

- 1. Internationally**, sign the Choose Positive Energy petition that will go to the Johannesburg Earth Summit, asking for renewable energy for the 2 billion of us who don't have electricity or access to energy services.
- 2. Nationally**, demand heads of government to support renewable energy and reject negative energy like coal-fired power plants.
- 3. Locally**, practice energy saving and energy efficiency where you can, for example, by using energy saving light bulbs, joining a car pool and using electric appliances wisely.

Follow the tour at www.greenpeacesoutheastasia.org

Contact Greenpeace Southeast Asia

IN THE PHILIPPINES:

Unit 329 Eagle Court Condominium
26 Matalino St., Diliman,
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(63-2) 434-7034

IN THAILAND:

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Soi Sailom, Phaholyothin 8
Bangkok 10400, Thailand
(66-2) 272-7100

GREENPEACE



NAVDANYA

Organic Foods and Natural Products

Go Organic

Join Navdanya's Field-to-Table Movement

- conserve biodiversity through your consumption pattern
- protect the environment and your health.

NAVDANYA brings you diverse, nutritious foods and natural products

- diverse organic rice, wheat and corn varieties
- diverse organic pulses like rajma, gath, arhar (toovar), urad and mung
- millets like ragi and jhangora
- pseudocereals like amaranth, buckwheat and bathua
- pure virgin oils like mustard and sesame
- natural organic sweeteners like honey, gur, shakkar
- thirst quenchers like litchi, burans, malta, ginger, pudina, lemon squashes, bel and mango panna, sattu
- homemade pickles, preserves, jams and marmalades

For further enquiry contact:

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Ph: 91-11-6968077, 6853772, 6561868

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Uttaranchal

India

Ph: 91-135-749931

E-mail: navdanya@sancharnet.in

Why are our people dying of hunger?

Why our farmers are committing suicides?

Hear leading farmer and food rights activists on the hijack of our food and agriculture through globalisation and people's alternatives at the

Seminar On

Food Sovereignty

Speakers:

Vandana Shiva, Arun Bhatia, K. G. Kannabiran, Tony Tujan, Colin Gonsalves, K. R. Chowdry, Ramesh Nandwana, Prafulla Samantra, P. Sainath, Kancha Illiha, Gopal Iyer, Sunilam, Atul Kumar Anjan, Suneet Chopra, Gurmeet Singh Dittupur, G. Nammalvar

Date: 3rd Jan 2003

Time: 2:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Place: Golden Rose School

Chapel Road, Opp. Methodist Church
Organised by

Navdanya

Research Foundation for Science, Technology & Ecology
Diverse Women for Diversity

చేట్టలను తెలుసుకోండి

వెర్షియన్లను పరిరక్షణకు ఉద్దేశించండి.

పర్యావరణ పరిరక్షణ లక్ష్యంగా ఉన్న కొన్ని చేట్టలు

నీటి కాలుష్య నియంత్రణ చట్టం-1974: ఈ చట్టం ప్రకారం నీటిని కలుషితం చేయడం నీటి భౌతిక రసాయనిక లక్షణాలు మార్చడం మురికిని విషపూరిత జలాలను వదలడం నేరం. దీనికి ప్రకారం నీటి కాలుష్యమునకు కారణమైన వారికి 6 సం॥ల జైలు 5,000రూ॥లు జరిమానా విధించాలని ఈ చట్టం వివరించింది

వాయు కాలుష్య నివారణ నియంత్రణ చట్టం-1981: దీని ప్రకారం వాయు కాలుష్యానికి కారణమైన వారికి 3 సం॥లు జైలు శిక్ష 5,000 రూ॥లు జరిమానా విధించవచ్చును. నీటి తీరువా చట్టం -1977 దీనిలో కాలుష్య రాష్ట్ర నియంత్రణ మండలు ఏర్పాటు చేసే నియమాలు ఉన్నాయి. 3 నుండి 15 సెక్షన్స్లో విధులు 3 వ అధ్యాయంలో బోర్డు విధులు ఉన్నాయి.

పర్యావరణ పరిరక్షణ చట్టం (ఇ.పి.ఎ.)-1986: పనిసరాలను వాతావరణాన్ని కాలుష్య రహితంగా ఉంచడం ఈ చట్టం లక్ష్యం. పర్యావరణ రక్షణ జీవానికి కాలుష్య ప్రమాదాలను నివారించడం ఈ చట్టం ముఖ్య ఉద్దేశాలు ఇందులో 26 సెక్షన్స్ 4 అధ్యాయాలు ఉన్నాయి. సెక్షన్ 5 క్రింద పరిశ్రమలను వాటి కార్యక్రమాలను నిషేధించవచ్చు. నియంత్రించవచ్చు విధ్యుచ్ఛక్తి నీటి సరఫరా ఆపి వేయవచ్చు. సెక్షన్ 4 క్రింది కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వం ఒక అధారిటీని నియమించ వచ్చు.

అటవీ చట్టం - 1980: దీని క్రింద కొన్ని ప్రాంతాలను అభయారణ్యాలగా ప్రకటించే అధికారం ఉంది. భూసారాన్ని రక్షించడం కోసం ఇతర జలవనరుల రక్షణ కోసం నిషేదాజ్ఞలు జారీ చేయవచ్చు. అడవులను నరకడం కాల్చడం నేరం. దేశంలోని అన్ని ప్రాంతాల అడవులపై కేంద్రానికి పూర్తి ఆధిపత్యం ఉంది. 1927 చట్టంలో డేరిజర్వింగ్ నియమాలను ఈ చట్టం ద్వారా మార్చారు. ఇవికాక 1972 వన్యప్రాణి సంరక్షణ చట్టం 1960 జంతు హింసా నివారణ చట్టం 1950, 1860 భారతీయ శిక్షాస్మృతి సెక్షన్స్ 428, 429 మొదలగు ఉన్నాయి.

STOP BABY TRAFFICKING IN THE NAME OF ADOPTION

Since 1977, Andhra Pradesh has been continuously rocked by scandals have proved of the purchase of babies by private adoption agencies. Peeling layers of the scandals have proved conclusively adoption agencies and their agents prey on vulnerable communities like the Lambada tribe and induce families having more than one or two girl children to part with the newborn girl baby. Deals of liquor or petty amount of money about Rs.100/- 150/- are struck while the baby is yet in the womb. The babies are then supplied to childless women in the west. More than a million rupees per baby make its way of donation to the corpus fund, building fund etc.

WHO ARE DOING THIS?

Under the umbrella of adoption rules and regulations wealthy, healthy, educated sections of the society by using their power of religion, positions in government and access to top level politicians. (In Andhra Pradesh police registered cases against one nun from Tender loving care home of St. Theresa's Hospital (run by the congregation of Jesus, Mary and Joseph), Precious Moments run by one police officer's wife Mrs Anita Sen in the CSI Bible College, Indian council for Social Welfare run by one ex minister Mrs Roda mistry, John Abraham Memorial Bethany Home run by Mrs. Savitamma who has influence in embassies with ambassidors, Mr. Peter Subbaiah who was the congress leader in chittor district was suspended from the party because of the exposure, arrest in 1999, and Mr.Sanjeevarao and Mr. Premkumar who are trained by Mrs Roda mistry) and Sparsh run by Dechu Benarji has influence with one Ex Chief Minister's family. Middlemen are appointed and paid for the delivery of each baby.

In the age of globalization it is to be expected that white western women who face the problem of infertility will turn to the developing countries for cheap supply of babies. We run call centres, we supply cheaper software professionals, we also supply cheap babies.

While globalization removing labour from their fields of work, unable to introduce positive trade ,what kind of impact does this have on the vulnerable communities themselves. Girl children already are being

devalued and the trading of girl children further devalues them and increases gender disparities. The break with traditional culture and values that this entails has enormous consequences for the communities themselves. The white woman who does not have time for carrying a child in her womb, opting a choice to pick up a baby in the adoption market has never known that her act has entailed, at the other end, a tremendous devaluation of the girl child being converted into commodities to be commercialized, the women made into baby producing machines, the men made into sellers of baby crops.

1997 the movement against trafficking in babies in Andhra Pradesh has met great resistance from private adoption agencies, and more importantly from Since Foreign Embassies, especially the U.S. Consulates and Senators, who exert great pressure on the State Government to get their programme of child transfer going.

Our seminar will highlight the changes in the vulnerable communities here represented by their own people, will explain the processes by which trafficking is made possible.

We call on you to attend and help us to dispel the fog around adoption that leads to baby trafficking.

GRAMYA RESOURCE CENTRE FOR WOMEN

VENUE OF THE SEMINAR

Plaza function hall,
Near to Andhra Yuvathi Mandali
Barkathpura, Hyderabad.

Time: 2.30 to 5.30 Date: 5/1/2003

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR LABOUR (NCL)

(An apex body of labour organisations in the Unorganised Sector)
8/10, Naina Shetty Palya, Bannerghatta Road Cross, Bangalore – 560 076.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

Season's Greetings and New Year wishes from National Centre for Labour(NCL), an apex body of labour organisations in the unorganised sector. Through its constituent members, NCL represents the interests of Agricultural labour, Construction labour, Fish workers, Forest workers, Contract labour, Domestic workers, Hamalis, Granite and Marble workers, Anganwadi workers, Self-employed persons, women workers etc. NCL has a membership of over 7,25,000 from ten states in India.

NCL is organising the following seminars in the Asian Social forum (ASF) in Hyderabad, to highlight the issues of unorganised labour and putforth their demands, concerns and aspirations to the larger audience from Asian countries. Through these seminars, NCL is trying to collate the experiences and knowledge, consolidate its techniques and strategies in organising the unorganised and share the same with others since organising the unorganised is the most challenging task ahead. NCL joins with the effort to examine the impact of Globalisation on the workers so far and prepare the unorganised to challenge the process of Globalisation in India as part of a process facilitated by CEC, New Delhi with the other Central Trade Unions. NCL also shares its experience of working with the organised labour particularly with the mine workers of KGF Town in Karnataka, interns of its efforts with other social, trade union, women's movements to oppose the closure of Mines.

Joining hands with other social movements like KKNSS (Karnataka Slumdwellers Federation) Women's Voice (Movement for poorer and women involved in the unorganised sector of labour) AVAS (expert on Shelter issues) NCL is paving way to understand the challenges before the Urban Poor in Globalising India. Associating with National Campaign on Dalit Human rights (NCDHR), it is trying to articulate certain issues of labour from Dalit perspective.

Hence, on behalf of NCL, I invite you and your friends to attend the seminars for sharing and learning as well exchange your ideas and views on the following subjects.

LIST OF SEMINARS:

Sl. No.	Date	Time	Topic	Venue
1	03-01-2003	11a.m. to 1 p.m.	Public Rally with other Peoples Movements Organised by APVVU, An affiliate of NCL	From Secunderabad Railway station to Indira Park
2	03-01-2003	1 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.	Public Meeting	Indira Park, Secunderabad
3	03-01-2003	4 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.	Seminar on Globalisation: Challenges of Organising the Unorganised	Andhra Yuvathi Mandali
4	04-01-2003	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	W.T.O. and Agriculture Organised by APVVU	Jayaprakash Narayan Pranganam (Linganpalli Function Hall)
5	04-01-2003	2.30p.m.- 6.30p.m.	Globalisation: Challenges of Organising the Unorganised	ASF open space for Movements.
6	04-01-2003	2.30p.m –6.30p.m.	Impact of Globalisation on the Mine Workers of K.G.F.	St. Paul's Primary School Hall
7	04-01-2003	2.30p.m –6.30p.m.	Globalisation and the challenges for the Urban poor. KKNSS / Women's Voice / AVAS / NCL/NAWO.	Saraswatha Parishat Hall
8	05-01-2003	2.30p.m.-6.30p.m.	Impact of Globalisation on Unorganised Sector Workers and Remedies Facilitated by CEC and initiated by NCL	Andhra Yuvathi Mandali

THE FOLLOWING SPEAKERS HAVE AGREED TO ADDRESS NCL SEMINARS:

1. Dr. L.C. Jain - Former Indian Ambassador to South Africa and Former Member of Planning Commission of India.
2. Shri. R.K.A. Subramanya - Secretary General, Social Security Association of India.
3. Dr. Devaki Jain - Former Member, Karnataka State Planning Board.
4. Dr. Pravin Sinha - Labour Advisor, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, New Delhi.
5. Prof. Abdur Rahim - Dept. of Communtion and Journalism, Osmania University. Hyderabad.
6. Dr. Sarath Babu - Karnatak University, Dharwad.
7. Shri. D. Thankappan - President, Kamani Employees Union and Secretary, NCL.
8. Shri. J. John - Director, Centre for Education and Communication(CEC), New Delhi.
9. Shri. M. Subbu - General Secretary, National Federation of Construction Labour (NFCL) and Secretary, NCL.
10. Shri. Chennaiah - General Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Agricultural Workers Federation (APVVU) and Secretary, NCL.
11. Shri. Tom Kocherry - Chairperson, World Fishers Forum and Secretary, NCL
12. Shri. K. Loganathan - President, Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labour Movement.
13. Dr. Ruth Manorama - President, National Allinace of Women (NAWO), Secretary, NCL.
14. Shri. M.A. Patil - President, Sarva Shramik Sangh and Secretary, NCL.
15. Shri. Ashok Choudhry - National Forest Workers and Dwellers Forum and Secretary, NCL.
16. Shri. Ashim Roy - President, Chemical Mazdoor Panchyat, Gujrat.
17. Shri. Arbind Singh - Co-ordintor, National Alliance of Street Vendors.
18. Smt. Anita Reddy - Hon. Director, AVAS.
19. Shri. Kirtee Shah - President, Habitat International Coalition.
20. Shri. N.P. Samy - Hon. President, KKNSS and Secretary, Co-ordination, NCL.
21. Shri. R. James Jeyaraj - Convenor, Bangalore District, KKNSS.

జంతుహింసా నివారణ చట్టం మలయ 1972 వన్యప్రాణి

సంరక్షణ చట్టం ద్రాకారం శిక్షార్హమైన నేరములు

జంతు హింసా నివారణ చట్టము P.C.A Act 1960 (Act 59 of 60) Section II ప్రకారం

1) పనిచేయునపుడు జంతువుల పై వ్యతికర్మించుటకు కొట్టుట పొదుచుట గాయపర్చుట నొప్పి కలిగి విధంగా హింసించుట యజమనిగాని ఆతని అనుమతితో పనిచేసే నీట్లంది గాని చేసిన యెడల శిక్షార్హము.

P.C.A. Rule 6 ప్రకారము జంతువు యజమాని ఏ జంతువునైనను సరాసరి 5 గం.లు గాని లేదా రోజులో 9 గం.లు పనిచేయించినను 37c వేదినందు మధ్యవర్తిం 12 గం.లనుండి సాయంత్రం 3 గం.ల మధ్య పనిచేయించినను నేరమగును.

2) (ఎ) అధిక బరువు క్రింద హుజిన దాని కంటే ఎక్కువ బరువుతో జంతువుచే పని చేయించిన శిక్షార్హము.

(బి) రెండు చక్రముల బండి/ వాహనము (సి) జంతువు పై చేయు గరిష్ట భారము / బరువు

రిన్ను ఎద్దులు	500 కే జి లు	చిన్న ఎద్దు	100 కే జి లు
పెద్ద ఎద్దులు	900 ,,	పెద్ద ఎద్దు	175 ,,
గుర్రము	375 ,,	గాడిద	35 ,,
ఒంటి	1000 ,,	గుర్రం	75 ,,
		ఒంటి	185 ,,

వాహనమునందు జంతువులను రవాణా చేయునపుడు కేవలము 4 అవు / గేద / ఎద్దు లను లేదా 40 మేక / గొర్రెలను మాత్రమే అనుమతించాలి. అలో గెంటోలందు రవాణా చేయటం శిక్షార్హము. గుర్రం బండినందు 4 గురు ప్రయాణికులు మరియు ద్రాకార మాత్రమే అనుమతించాలి మరియు 325 కే జి లకి మించి బరువు వేయరాదు.

3) జంతువులను రవాణా చేయుటలో వాటికి హానీకర ఘోషాంక హింస కల్పించుట, కోర్కను తల క్రిందలుగా సైకిల్ పై రవాణా చేయుట వంటి మేక గొర్రెలను కాళ్ళకు కట్టి సైకిల్ వల్లగా నాశనము పై రవాణా చేయుట శిక్షార్హము.

4) మిసీ జంతువులను, సర్పం లందు రవాణా గాని జంతువులను సరిపడ నంత స్థలం లేనిచో వాటి నందు ఉంచుట శిక్షార్హము.

5) పెంపుడు జంతువులకు సరిపడ అచోరము నీరు వసతి కల్పించాలి. జంతువులు అనారోగ్యముగా ఉన్నను, వృద్ధాప్యములో ఉన్నను సకత్తముగా చూడక నిర్లక్ష్యము వహించిన యెడల యజమాని శిక్షార్హము.

6) జంతువులతో చెవి మరియు పక్షుల రెక్కలు, కాళ్ళు కత్తిరించుట లేదా వాటిని పని చేయుటగా నిరోధించే ఏ రకంగా నైనా స్వేచ్ఛకు అటంకం కలిగించినా శిక్షార్హము.

7) జంతువులకు విషపూరిత మైన హానీకరమైన మందులను ఉపయోగించి జంతువుల నుండి ఎక్కువ పాలు తీయుటకు ప్రయత్నించినపుడు డైరీఫారముల పై దాడి జరిపి సెక్టన్ 12 ప్రకారం మూసి వేసేందుకు అధికారం కలదు.

8) జంతువుల పోరాటములు, పోటీల కొరకు స్థలము నిచ్చుట నేరము. పై నేరముల అన్వేషణలో తగిన జరిమానా 3 నెలల కారాగారము తో శిక్షించబడును.

సెక్టన్ 21 ప్రకారము జంతువులను ప్రదర్శించి వాటిని అడించినచో నేరము మరియు వాటి విలాసము కొరకు స్పార్కి చేయుట నేరము. అతిక్రమించిన వారు 500 వందల రూపాయలు జరిమానా మరియు 3 నెలల కారాగార శిక్షకు అర్హులు.

వన్య ప్రాణి సంరక్షణ చట్టము 1972 సెక్షన్ 9, 39, 40 (2) ప్రకారము

1) వన్య ప్రాణులను వక్షులను వెటాయుట పెంచుట గర్హ్యవృత్తి కల్పించుట.

2) కల్పించుటకు పొందుట వన్య ప్రాణులు పక్షులను స్వీకరించుట, రక్షణగా ఉంచుట, అమ్మకము, కొనుగోలు, వాటి అవశేషములు అవయవములు కొమ్ములు చర్మము భద్రపరచుట, ప్రదర్శించుట అమ్ముట శిక్షార్హము.

3) అడవి జంతువులు, పక్షులు చర్మము మాంసము వాటి ద్వారా ఉత్పత్తి అయ్యే నూనెలను అమ్ముట నేరము పై నేరములకి 5000 రూపాయల జరిమానా మరియు ఒక సంవత్సరము నుండి 6 సంవత్సరముల వరకు కారాగారమునకు శిక్షార్హము. భారతీయ శిక్షావ్యవస్థకి 1860 సెక్షన్ 428, 429 ప్రకారము ఏ జంతువు నైనను 10 రూపాయల కంటే విలువ ఉన్న ప్రాణిని చంపినట్లైన జరిమానా మరియు 5 సంవత్సరాల కారాగారముతో శిక్షించబడుదురు.

జంతు సంరక్షణ చట్టాలకు భంగం కలగ కుండా కృషి చేయండి. చట్టము మిమ్ముల్ని చట్టంలోకి పడవేయక ముందే జాగ్రత్త పడండి!

అగ్రహారము,
ఐ.టి.డి.ఎ. దగ్గర,
రాజీవ్ నగర్ కాలనీ
భద్రాచలం - డి 33670

సేవ్ యానిమల్స్ సొసైటీ (సేవన్స్), భద్రాచలం

సభ్యులకి
Ln. వై. వి. యస్. పూర్ణ చంద్రరావు
Lioness. Y.V.S. దుర్గా
లయన్స్ క్లబ్ ఆఫ్ భద్రాచలం వారి సహాయ సహకారములతో

అధ్యక్షులు
Ln. చావా లక్ష్మీనారాయణ
Lioness. చావా ధనలక్ష్మి

ASF Workshop

Peace Movement In Japan Under U. S-led War

Organizer: Asia Peace Alliance—Japan

Date/time: Jan 5 PM 2:30—PM 6:30

Place: Methodist 21—next to the main conference venue

- 1 Testimony by Hibakusya / Miyoko Matsubara
- 2 Peace Movement in Japan Now—Against Bush's War and Militarization of Japan
report: Kenji Kunitomi (APA-Japan)
- 3 Peace Movement and Human Rights Activity
report: Kinhide Musyakhohji(Professor, Chuhbu University)
- 4 Against Intensification of State Oppression System on the pretext of Anti-Terrorism
report: Toshimaru Ogura(People's Plan Study Group)
- 5 Discussion: People's Security and Military Strategy of the United States in Asia-Pacific region

We welcome your contribution in discussion

ACTION TOWARDS A TOBACCO FREE WORLD

Asian social Forum

Hyderabad.

2 - 7th January 2003

TOBACCO KILLS

It contains over 4000 poisonous chemicals
40 of them cause cancer

Do you know ?

- Tobacco use is associated with over 25 major diseases
- Long-term tobacco use could reduce your life span by 15-20 years ?
- Nicotine is as addictive as cocaine or heroine and you could be hooked on for life.
- Chewing tobacco can cause oral cancer or oral cancer progresses fast.

WHY DIE OF HEART ATTACK EARLY

Quit smoking today

Beware !

TOBACCO CAN CAUSE IMPOTENCE

Join the tobacco control initiative in your area
if you have one
or you start because

TOBACCO FREE WORLD IS POSSIBLE!

పోగాకు లేని ప్రపంచం కొరకు కార్యక్రమం

ఆసియా సామాజిక సంస్థ

హైదరాబాద్

2 నుండి 7 వరకు జనవరి 2003,

పోగాకు వాడకం వల్ల చావుకు దగ్గరపడమే

పోగాకు దాదాపు 4000 విషపూరత రసాయనాలతో కూడినది. అందులో 40 రకాలు క్యాన్సరు కారకాలు.

మీకు తెలుసా ?

- పోగాకు వాడకం 25 రకాల పెద్ద వ్యాధులకు మూల కారణం
- దీర్ఘకాలిక పోగాకు ఉపయోగం మీ జీవిత కాలాన్ని 15 నుండి 20 సంవత్సరాలకు తగ్గిస్తుంది.
- కొకైన్, హెరాయిన్ లాగానే పోగాకు నుండి వచ్చు నికోటిన్ కూడా మీ జీవితాన్ని పట్టుకొని వేలాడే విషం లాంటిది.
- పోగాకు నమలడం వలన నోటి క్యాన్సర్ వస్తుంది. అది త్వరగా
- ముదురుతుంది కూడా.

ఎందుకు గుండె జబ్బుతో త్వరగా మరణిస్తారు

ఈ రోజే ధూమపానం నుండి విడుదలకండి

జాగ్రత్త !

పోగాకు ఉపయోగం శక్తిహీనతకు కారణం

మీ పరిసర ప్రాంతాలలో పోగాకు వాడుక నియంత్రణ

కార్యక్రమము లో భాగస్థులు కండి.

పోగాకు లేని ప్రపంచము సంభవం

WORKSHOP
"WIDOWS AND SEPARATED WOMEN
ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE!"

Monday, January 6 2:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Place - Room No. 18th, Methodist School

Low income widows and separated women in Rajasthan, India face many problems - ill-treatment by in-laws and sons, land rights being grabbed by brothers-in-law, being considered inauspicious, corruption in accessing government resources, sexual vulnerability, illiteracy - and the worst - feeling alone.

"Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan: is a Rajasthan-wide "Organization of Strong Women Alone" fighting for their rights! In less than 2 years, over 9,000 low income widows and separated women have joined together, and are making remarkable changes all over the state. Organized and Aware, these women are changing their lives, and are working on other issues of society as well.

Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan is organizing this Workshop, hoping others will come from other countries and states,

- To share their strategies, case studies of successes (and failures)
- To identify reasons for the marginalization
- To identify and analyse the problems low income women alone face
- To explore ways Asian organizations may work together with empowered Women Alone to bring widespread social change

We invite to this Workshop, women and men concerned about the social, economic, educational, health, and political problems of low income widows and separated women.

The languages of the Workshop will be English and Hindi.

Contact Information: Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan (The Association of Strong Women Alone),
39 Kharol Colony, Udaipur, Rajasthan, India. 313 004.
Ph. 0294-245-1348 Fax: 0294-245-1391 E-mail: astha39@sancharnet.in

Asian Social Forum 2003
Hyderabad, India

INVITATION

Testimonial
of a

Hibakusha

(An Atom Bomb Victim of Hiroshima)

MS. MIYOKO MATSUBARA

January 4, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

At:

Hotel Anmol International

(Roof Top)

Chapel Road, Nampally.

(The venue is about 1 km from Nizam College)

Organised by:

APA, CNDP

LOCAL SECRETARIAT: GOVA

**List of Speakers Invited to Make a Presentation at the Seminar
'Right to Health Care: Moving from Idea to Reality'
at the
Asian Social Forum, Hyderabad**

Sr	Name	
<i>3rd January 2003, Day I- Session I (2:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.) Legal and Constitutional Framework for Right to Health Care</i>		
1	Abhay Shukla	Co-ordinator, SATHI Cell, CEHAT
2	Jean Dreze	Professor of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, New Delhi
3	Prof. Joga Rao	Former Professor, National Law School, Bangalore Director, Pegasus Health Law Consultants
4	Colin Gonsalves	Advocate, Supreme Court and India Centre for Human Rights and Law, New Delhi
5	Brian Lobo	Advocate and activist of Kashtakari Sanghatana, Dahanu, Thane District
6	John Samuel	Director, National Center for Advocacy Studies, Pune
<i>Tea Break (4:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) Session II (5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.) Relevant International Experiences towards Right to Health Care</i>		
7	Sadhana Hall	Director, Global Partnerships Department, Global Health Council, U.S.A.
8	Dr. A.H.M. Nouman	Chairperson, PHM Bangladesh Circle, Dhaka, Bangladesh

<i>4th January 2003, Day II- Session I (2:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.) Operational and Financial Mechanisms to attain Right to Health Care</i>		
9	Abhay Shukla	Co-ordinator, SATHI Cell, CEHAT
10	Prof. Babu Mathew	Professor of Law, National Law School and India University, Bangalore
11	Dr. Shrinath Reddy	Professor of Cardiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences Chairperson, Health Committee, National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi
12	Ravi Duggal	Co-ordinator, Centre for Enquiry into Health and Allied Themes, Mumbai
13	Dr. H. Sudarshan	Chairman, Task Force on Health of Karnataka Government
14	Father Sebastian	Director, Catholic Health Association of India, Secunderabad
<i>Tea Break (4:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) Session II (5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.) Campaign Strategy for Right to Health Care</i>		
15	Sarojini	Convener, Medico Friend Circle and Member of SAMA, New Delhi
16	Dr. Ravi Narayan	Advisor, Community Health Cell, Bangalore
17	Dr. T. Sundaraman	Professor of Medicine, Jawaharlal Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and

RIGHT TO HEALTH CARE MOVING FROM IDEA TO REALITY

You are cordially invited to participate
in this two day seminar organised by

CEHAT

(Centre For Enquiry Into Health and Allied Themes)
in partnership with

NCAS

(National Centre For Advocacy Studies) and

GHC

(Global Health Council)
at the

ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM
Hyderabad

on the 3rd and 4th of January, 2003

This seminar is one of the events being organised under the aegis of
'Jan Swasthya Abhiyan'

Day I

*Constitutional and Legal Framework
to attain 'Right to Health Care' and
Relevant International Experiences*

Date- 3rd January 2003

Time- 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Day II

*Operational and Financial Mechanisms
and Campaign Strategy to attain
'Right to Health care'*

Date- 4th January 2003

Time- 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.



We earnestly look forward to your presence at this seminar .

Venue- ^{+hotel} Dwaraka Conference Hall

Hyderabad ^{put}

Lakdi - ka - pool

CEHAT

**Tentative programme schedule of some health related events during ASF,
Hyderabad**

Jan Swasthya Abhiyan / Peoples Health Movement

Date	Time	Topic	Venue
3 rd Jan	9 am to 1 pm	Conference on Social Infrastructure including Health	Nizam College Grounds
3 rd Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Right to Health Care – I Legal / constitutional framework. International exp.	Dwarka Hotel Complex, Lakadi ka Pul, opp. Legislative Assembly
3 rd Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Politics of Population	Jain Sewak Sangh – I
3 rd Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Environment and Health – a peoples campaign	Jain Sewak Sangh – II
3 rd Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Towards action for a Tobacco free world	Taj Mahal Hotel, Abid Rd.
3 rd Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Women and Food sovereignty	Methodist School 17
4 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Right to Health Care – II Operational / financial, Campaign strategy	Dwarka Hotel Complex, Lakadi ka Pul, opp. Legislative Assembly
4 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Right to Food in India	Andhra Yuvati Mandal
4 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Disasters, war, conflict and globalisation	All Saints school 10
4 th Jan	7 to 10 pm	JSA-NCC / NWG meeting (with dinner)	Dwarka Hotel Complex, Lakadi ka Pul, opp. Legislative Assembly
5 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Globalisation and Dalit Womens Health status	IMA Hall
5 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Taking the PHM forward	Taj Mahal hotel Abid Rd.
5 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Early childhood care and development	Methodist school 12
5 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	PIL on Right to Food	All Saints school 8
5 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Health issues in adivasi areas and globalisation	Nizam College 216
5 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Pharmaceutical policy	All Saints school 11
6 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Alma Ata and Primary Health Care: The Asian experience	Taj Mahal Hotel, Abid Rd.
6 th Jan	2.30 to 6.30 pm	Women's access to Health: Proposal for a campaign (strategy building workshop)	Nizam College 210

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We've come all the way from Goa
to participate in the World Social Forum
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www.goacom.com/books (for on-line catalogue and book orders)

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Subscriptions to the following newspapers, magazines and journals. All under one roof! With discounts!

KAMIRIITHU

The first issue of a new tabloid sized newspaper published by the Multiworld Network. The paper is dedicated to undermining the education system (at school and college) in the interests of free learning and to frustrate the easy recruitment of youth into the global consumer economy dominated by transnationals.

SANCTUARY ASIA

Clearly India's best wildlife magazine, brought out by wildlife activists.

ECOLOGIST ASIA

Indian edition of the London-based Ecologist. Carries reports on several major Indian environmental battles and campaigns.

CUB MAGAZINE

A wildlife magazine designed exclusively for children.

THE LAWYERS

The only legal journal that looks at the law from the activist perspective. Edited by Indira Jaising and published by the Lawyers Collective.

THIRD WORLD RESURGENCE

The only magazine surviving today that reports on the Third World through Third World eyes. Excellent reportage of Third World issues. Published by the Third World Network, Malaysia.

THIRD WORLD ECONOMICS

Also published by the Third World Network, Malaysia. Deals exclusively with economic matters, with special emphasis on liberalisation, international trade, Third World debt, WTO, and a host of other important issues.

FARMERS'

**Fruit Juices, Pickles, Preserves
& other products**
farm fresh from the Himalayan foothills

made by
Women's and Small Farmers' Co-operatives
in modern Units with hygienic processes
with minimum preservatives

available in **Food Stalls** area

Many such Co-ops promoted by CTD are successfully running in India including in other sectors such as Leather Tanning/Products, Pottery, Construction etc. To share experiences and discuss such efforts towards forging alternatives:

PLEASE ATTEND!

SEMINAR

on
Sustainable Livelihoods:
appropriate technologies &
alternative development strategies
by
All India Peoples Science Network
&
Centre for Technology & Development
6 January, 2003
Institution of Engineers, Main Hall

Cartoon Festival on International Women's Day 2003, Dhaka

By convention the cartoons are anti-women where women are mostly seen as consumer, if not consumer then a helpless creature. More often they are illustrated as 'greedy', 'seductive', or as 'silly', 'seducer'. Even the body outlines in the cartoon reflects the sexist, gender segregated notion of body. A very common example of it is the women prime ministers in the cartoons of daily newspaper from this continent. This particular offense to women is embedded into the masculinist system. Cartoons are class chauvinist as well. Whether this is the case of Bangladesh or elsewhere.

We want to raise a debate around this practice and also compile the feminist practices on the area, which represent women's reality, or draw images for women. Feminist cartoonists, from the West and from the rest, moved differently to subvert the dominant styles of cartoon. In Bangladesh, initiative of its kind is for the first time taking place from March 8 to 13, 2003 to observe International Women's Day at DRIK Gallery. We also want the festival with Southern responses. Cartoon exhibited in the festival from Bangladesh and South Asian countries altogether at the gallery would satire the male dominant system. Series discussion and feminist cartoon drawing session will accompany the exhibition.

Thus we invite activists, artists, cartoonists, feminists and persons, women's groups and collectives who already are doing such works or would be enthusiastic to work with us in the initiative to join us in this festival.

We await your responses and joyful participation

Saydia Gulrukh
Manosh Chowdhury
S.A. Mayeen Ahmad
Organizers

Cartoon Festival on International Women's Day

March 8 - 13, 2002 Drik Gallery

Drik Picture Library

email: saydia@bd.drik.net

manosh@bd.drik.net

mayeen@drik.net

Notes on the organizers: Some feminists, activists and media professionals unite themselves in this Cartoon festival with Drik Gallery. Drik Gallery is a wing of Drik Picture Library, a library that is committed to promote photographs, images from, for and by the majority world.



UNMASKIN THE WAR ON TERRO

Seminar on GLOBALIZATION and TERRORISM

Asian Social Forum

January 4, 2003; 2:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Birla Science Museum, Hill Fort Rd. (next to Birla Mandir and Planetarium. Take route A bus from Niz College)

People's Movements Encounter (PME)

January 5, 2003; 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

2nd Flr. Bhatriya Theliy Singh Function Hall
Jajomohall Road

International League of People's Struggles, Bayan-Philip

INVITATION

IMPERIALIST GLOBALISATION AND WARS

3rd January 2003

American New Strategy and the War on Iraq

Speaker : H.Rasheed (Iraq)

4th January 2003

Market Wars in Globalisation

Speaker : M.Kassim (Iraq)

VENUE : VASAVI MINI HALL

TIME : 2.30 PM

ORGANISED BY:

BAYTUL HIKMA (IRAQ)

Asia Social Forum

Schedule of Workshops
Organised by

Action Aid

Workshop on Organisation of Disabled People For Assertion of Rights

Date: January 04, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Nizam College Block-6/Commerce Department Room No. 267

Theme of Workshop: Disabled persons are highly invisible and highly discriminated in all spheres and stages of life. For an estimated 50 million disabled persons in India it is a daily battle to keep away from destitution. Welfare provisions have been made, and the needs of the disabled persons have been typified as social welfare concerns and development interventions for the differently abled have followed a paradigm of benevolence. While legal provisions have been made to protect the rights (as typified in the Persons with Disability Act, 1996) in actual practice, there has been a systematic denial of rights.

The workshop plans to bring together disabled activists from across the country, and from some of the Southeast Asian countries. As a case the situation and initiatives in Andhra Pradesh would be shared. Disabled persons would also share their struggles and experiences of collective assertion.

**Workshop on Deprivation ...
Destitution ... Impact of Globalisation
on
Urban Poverty**

Date: January 04, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Nizam College Grounds, Room No. 629

Theme of Workshop: Urban poverty has engaged governments in India far less than rural poverty, in terms of range of interventions and financial allocations. The urban marginalized groups face denial of the basic human right "right to life -right to shelter" as guaranteed in our constitution and are totally left out of the different urban development programmes. The urban poor face an insecure life/low wages under and low employment, poor and uncertain shelter, low access to basic amenities like safe drinking water, sewerage and sanitation and poor nutritional levels.

During the workshop urban communities like rickshaw pullers, homeless persons, rag pickers, street children, streetwalkers, pavement dwellers would share their life struggles/experiences. The panel and speakers will comprise of activists/lawyers/ non-government organizations/community based organisations and community leaders working with these urban vulnerable groups across the Asian countries.

Workshop on Securing Equity in Education

Date: January 05, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Nizam College, Centenary Block Room No. 302

Theme of Workshop: Despite differing cultures and historical legacies, our country has to recognize that education is at the heart of sustainable development. Investing in education, and especially primary education, is the key to shaping the future in an increasingly inter-dependent world. It is not only the fulfillment of a basic human right, but also the bridge toward slower population growth, higher economic productivity and a more peaceful, tolerant and democratic society.

The workshop will focus on the Equality and Equity in education and the need to define these concepts clearly for the attainment of basic quality education for all. Equality has mainly been confined to 'access' however to do justice to this concept it has to extend beyond *mere access*. Equity needs to address issues relating to fairness of operating environment for all people. In education, if source groups or districts are poor, the assumption is that the central government will provide sufficient subsidies to offset the deficit, for even if there is equal access to schooling the prevailing conditions are inequitable.

In addition, to the presentations made by the speakers, children belonging to various age groups would give testimonials.

Seminar on Ordinary People for Peace and Healing

Date: January 05, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Rabindra Bharati Mini Hall

Theme of the Seminar - Events in the world today are compelling all those who believe in peace and harmony to come together, reclaim and restore the humanistic pluralistic traditions of our society, economy and polity.

Today, a stronger civil society action is required to ensure harmony and justice. All of us must reinforce the foundation of our society based on diversity, peace, equity, justice, truth and compassion.

The seminar will discuss these issues with Asian Social Movements. Mr Saeed Mirza would open the seminar with presentation of Voices of India a photo documentation of what the ordinary Indians have to say about peace and harmony. Sharing of experiences on contributions towards building peace and harmony and strengthening pluralistic traditions would follow this. Aman Pathiks from Gujarat, Aman Parirakhshana Vedica from Andhra Pradesh activists from Mynamar, Cambodia and Afghanistan would share their experiences. Approaches for healing including issues of mental health would also be discussed.

Seminar on Search for Dignity

Date: January 6, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Ravindra Bharti Mini Hall

Theme of the Seminar: The magnitude of the situation of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation is complex and has multifarious contributing factors. The trend of migration for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation is ever increasing. Different stakeholders need to come together to play the role of catalyst to enable these women/children to assert their rights. Findings of recent studies on the various dimensions of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children and women conducted in three regions of Andhra Pradesh will also be shared in the seminar.

Speakers will be from different Asian countries like Nepal, Cambodia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and India who have experienced the process of marginalisation and stigmatization leading to acute destitution.

Book release of "Taboo" authored by Ms Fouzia Saeed, an eminent writer and activist from Pakistan.

Workshop on Rights over resources: Empowering Gram Sabha

Date: January 06, 2003

Time: 2.00PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Nizam College Grounds, Room No. 119

Theme of the Workshop: The workshop focuses on bringing out the current realities of the tribals from the states of Orissa, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Chennai and evolving strategies to establish tribal self-rule.

Tribals are undergoing a process of marginalisation irrespective of number of development programs run by government and non-government agencies. Lack of control over their natural resources, ineffective governance and land alienation, eviction are leading to chronic hunger, distress migration and bondage of the primitive tribal groups. The workshop focuses on bringing out the current realities of the tribals from the states of Orissa, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Chennai and evolving strategies to establish tribal self-rule.

Workshop on Changing Scenario on Seed Sector and Sinking Voices of Small and Marginal Farmers

Date: January 06, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Nizam College Grounds, Room No. 606

Theme of the Workshop: Today the windows of economic liberalization have opened new vistas for the multinational companies. The lure of high returns forced thousands of small and marginal farmers to adopt new hybrid seeds irrespective of their investment capacities, available resources and other risk factors such as damage to the environment and land. The workshop will highlight the following:

- *Understanding the responses of the farmers in addressing the situation*
- *Drawing conclusions for further intervention and policy influence*
- *Taking forward the IPR & Protection of traditional sustainable variety*

**EVENTS HOSTED
AT
ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM,
NIZAM COLLEGE, 2-7 JANUARY 2003**

BY

PEOPLES SCIENCE MOVEMENTS
(All India Peoples Science Network, Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti)

**MOVEMENTS WORKING FOR SHAPING SCIENCE AND SOCIETY
FOR
INNOVATIVE ALTERNATIVES TO GLOBALISATION**

The All India Peoples Science Network is a federation of 40 Peoples Science Movements that works for people oriented development and resists imperialist globalisation and communalism. The movements are the nodal agency/partners for several innovative movements like literacy and continuing education, science communication, Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (People's Health Movement), and technology alternatives for sustainable development. The main sectors that the movements work on are education, health, sustainable livelihood programmes, ecology and sustainable resource use and womens' livelihood.

List of Conferences, Seminars and Workshops By Peoples Science Movements and Associated Organisations

3rd Jan 2003

S.No	Workshop/ Seminar/ Conference	Title	Organiser	Venue	Speakers
1.	Conference	Social Infrastructure	Action Aid, Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Jan Swasthaya Abhiyan, Right to Food Campaign	Nizam College Grounds, Conference Hall 1	Shantha Sinha, Jean Dreze, Antonio Tujan (Philippines), Kavita Srivastava, Harsh Mander, Wirapon (Thailand), Zafarullah Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Anita Rampal, Sarojini Rengam (Malaysia), T.Sundaraman, Mr. P. Sainath
2.	Seminar	Globalisation and Forests	AIPSN	Institution of Engineers	A.K. Banerjee, Grassroot movement representatives from various states
3.	Seminar	Education for All	Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti	NGOs Hall	
4.	Seminar	Politics of Population	Forum For Women's Health	Jan Sewak Sangh, Room No.1	
5.	Seminar	Environment and Health : A People's Campaign	Community Health Cell	Jan Sewak Sangh, Room No.2	
6.	Seminar	Right To Health Care : Moving From Idea to Reality	CEHAT	Dwaraka Conference Hall	Babu Mathew, Shrinath Reddy, A.H.M. Nouman, Joga Rao, Pradip Prabhu, Brian Lobo, John Samuel, Sadhana Hall, Colin Gonsalves
7.	Workshop	Towards Action For A Tobacco Free World	Community Health Cell	Methodist School, Room No.9	
8.	Workshop	Reproductive Rights in the 21 st Century	Women's Global Network on Reproductive Rights	Methodist School, Room No.17	

4th Jan 2003

S.No	Workshop/ Seminar/ Conference	Title	Organiser	Venue	Speakers
1.	Seminar	Right to Health Care : Moving From Idea to Reality II	CEHAT	Dwarka Conference Hall	H. Sudarshan, Ravi Duggal, Jean Dreze, Father Sebastian, Sarojini, Seeta Prabhu, Ravi Narayan, T.Sundaraman
2.	Seminar	Fluid Finance and Global Crisis	IDEAS	Taj Hotel, Narayanguda	Ashok Mitra, Prabhat Patnaik, C.P. Chandrashekhari, Jayati Ghosh
3.	Workshop	Globalisation and Forestry: Agenda for Peoples Movements	All India Peoples Science Network	Methodist School, Room No.7	Open Forum on Land Evictions, Governnance, Displacement etc.
4.	Workshop	Science as a Resource for Transformation	All India Peoples Scince Network	Methodist School, Room No.8	Ashish Nandy, M.P.Parmeshwaran, T.Jayraman, Lawrence Surendra, Dinesh Abrol

5th Jan 2003

S.No	Workshop/ Seminar/ Conference	Title	Organiser	Venue	Speakers
1.	Seminar	Science and Exclusions: Race, Caste and Genetics; Science and Communalism	All India Peoples Science Network	Institute of Engineers	AKN Reddy, Pushpa Bhargava, Satyajit Rath, S.K.Thorat, T Jayraman, Mohan Rao
2.	Seminar	Privatisation of Infrastructure	All India Peoples Science Network, Jubilee South	Hotel Anmol, Conference Hall	C.P. Chandrashekhari, D.K.Sangal, Rob Rees(South Africa), Oscar Olivera (Bolivia), Prabir Purkayastha, Kjeld Jakobsen (Brasil), Ashok Rao, Vinod Raina, VAN Nambodri
3.	Seminar	Patents and Access to Medicines	National Working Group on Patent Laws	Sundaraiya Vigyan Kendra (Mini Hall)	
4.	Workshop	Taking the People's Movement Forward	Community Health Cell	Methodist School, Room No. 9	
5.	Workshop	Pharmaceutical Policy	AIDAN, FMRAI, NCCDP	All Saints School, Room No. 12	

6th Jan 2003

S.No	Workshop/ Seminar/ Conference	Title	Organiser	Venue	Speakers
1.	Conference	Alternatives and Peoples Movement	Focus For Global South, All India Peoples Science Network	Nizam College Grounds, Conference Hall 1	Prabir Purkayastha, Walden Bello (Philippines), Sulak Sivrksha (Thailand), Medha Patkar, Rajendra Singh, Ashok Mitra, Kishan Patnaik , Sitaram Yechury, Oscar Olivera (Bolivia), Eva Morlis (Ecuador), M.Parameswaran, Minar Pimple
2.	Seminar	Sustainable Livelihood: Appropriate Technology and Alternative Development Strategies	All India Peoples Science Network	Institute of Engineers	AKN Reddy, D.Raghunandan, Gautam Ray, Joginder Walia, Ajay Khare
3.	Seminar	Privatisation of Infrastructure	All India Peoples Science Network, Jubilee South	Hotel Anmol, Conference Hall	Prabir Purkayastha, Girish Sant, Chittoroopa Palit, Nepomuceno Malaluan (Philippines), Maristela Dela Cruz, Ana Maria Nemenzo, Kusfiardi, Henrikus Bonefasius Henry, Abdul Majeed Kanjoo
4.	Workshop	Whose Information Technology Is It?	All India Peoples Science Network, Free Software Foundation	Nizam College, Room No.302	Ashok Jhunjhunwala, Rajiv Sangal, G.Nagarjuna, P.V.Unnikrishnan, Madan Mohan Rao, P.V.S. Kumar
5.	Workshop	Globalisation and Climate Change	Tamil Nadu Science Forum	Nizam College, Room No. 211	
6.	Workshop	The Marginalisation of Sahariya Tribe	BGVS Rajasthan, BGVS M.P.	Methodist School, Room No. 12	
7.	Workshop	Women Access To Health	Women's Global Network on Reproductive Rights	Nizam College, Romn No.210	
8.	Workshop	Alma Ata and Primary Health Care: The Asian Experience	Community Health Cell		

ASIA SOCIAL FORUM

6th January 2003, Hyderabad.

RIGHTS BASED MOVEMENTS IN NEPAL

Invitation

Nepal is an independent Himalayan Kingdom bordering in between India and China.

A Country where a massive political instability is ongoing

Still people are continuing their struggle for their Rights and dignity.

We need your Solidarity

MAJOR ISSUES :

- ☞ Land Rights
- ☞ Dalit Rights
- ☞ Bonded Labour
- ☞ Indigenous people and their Resource Rights
- ☞ Womens' Rights

Organized by : **ACTION AID NEPAL AND ITS ALLIANCES**

Place : **Nizam College
Centenary Block Room # 325**

Time : **2.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m**

6th January, Monday

**Seminar: Socialism of the Future/
Future of Socialism/
An Alternative Polity**
(Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam,
All India Federation of Trade Unions,
Nation Alliance of People's Movements)

V.V. Function Hall
Contact: Vijay Pratap,
P K Murthy,
Sanjay M.G.

M P Parameswaran, Kishen Patnaik, Bagaram Tulpule,
Chico Whitaker, Geetha, Medha Patkar, Aruna Roy,
Pradip Giri, Karamat Ali, Director Noor, Sandeep
Pandey, Sudhakar Reddy, Vijay Pratap, Sanjay M.G.,
Yogendra Yadav, Tord Björk, [Yet to confirm-
Dipankar Bhattacharya, Samir Amin, Walden Bello]
Moderator: Annanya Bhattacharya, Ajit Jha
Co-Chair: Surendra Mohan, Kanu Sanyal

Workshop: Indo-Pak Dialogue on Desertification
(South Asian Dialogue on Ecological
Democracy-CSDS)

Methodist, Room No. 8
Contact:
Arun Kumar Panibaba

Thardeep (Pakistan), Arun Kumar

8th January, Wednesday

8.00 a.m.-4.30 p.m. Jain Sewa Sangh

New Forms of Global Solidarity/Evaluation of the ASF Experience/Perspectives for Future Struggles for Radical Democracy

Accommodation for participants:

Jain Sewa Sangh (Dharamshala)
Near Kachchi Bhavan & Ram Court Crossing,
Edin Garden Road,
Hyderabad - 500 027

The autorickshaw will take 15-20 rupees from the Hyderabad railway station,
30-40 from the Secunderabad railway station to the dharamshala.
It will take 8 rupees from the dharamshala to Nizam College.

CSDS Events Coordination Office:

Taj Mahal Hotel
Phone: 24758221, Fax.: 24760068
1. Office, Room No. 37
2. Arun Kumar, Room No. 55

For anything regarding ASF secretariate:

1. Anil Mishra - 9818220556
2. Uma Shankari - 23392726

Vijay Pratap, Dialogue Convener, Lokniti, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, 29, Rajpur Road, Delhi - 110 054
Email: vijaypratap@vsnl.net Mobile for ASF: 9885059445

**You are invited to the events organised by the
Centre for Study of Developing Societies (CSDS)
and its programmes in collaboration with other organisations/networks at the**

ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM

2nd-7th January 2003 • Hyderabad



3rd January, Friday

Title & organisers

**Seminar: Religiosity, Identity and Democracy I -
the Spiritual Quest and Global Struggles**
(CSDS, Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam)

**Workshop: Nepal India Dialogue on
Water and Floods**
(South Asia Dialogues on Ecological
Democracy-CSDS)

Seminar: Contours of Asian Solidarity
(Heinrich Boell Foundation, South Asia Study
Centres, Pravasi Nepali Sangh, All India Nepali
Free Students Union, South Asia Network Plan
(CSDS), JP Foundation for Asian Democracy)

Venue & Contact

Hall - A.V. College of Arts,
Science & Commerce,
Gaganmahal
Contact: Rajni Bakshi

Nizam College
Room No. 606
Contact: Hemant,
Gopal S. Chintan

Indira Priyadarshini
Auditorium
Contact: Mukul Sharma,
Richa Singh

Speakers

Prabhash Joshi, JPS Uberoi, D.L. Sheth
Ashis Nandy, Shail Mayaram,
Moderator: Rajni Bakshi
Chair: V.B. Singh

Shubhamurti, Sudhrendra Sharma,
Gopal S. Chintan, Hemant

Walden Bello, N. Ram,
Frances Quimpo, Mohammad Tahseen,
Hari Rokka, Krishna Kanal,
Shyam Srestha, C. K. Lal, Chitralekha Yadav

4th January, Saturday

Conference: Democracy, Nation State & Exclusions
(HBF, CSDS, National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights, Pakistan Human Rights Commission, Dawn)

Seminar: Religiosity, Identity and Democracy II—Towards Liberation Theology
(CSDS, Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam)

Workshop: Strengthening Democracy: A View from Below
(CSDS, CADAM & YK)

Workshop: Rethinking AIDS as Social Responsibility
(CSDS, Swasthya Panchayat-Lokayan, Action Aid)

Workshop: Corporatisation and Privatisation of Water in India
South Asia Dialogues on Ecological Democracy—
(CSDS, Manthan Adhyayan Kendra)

Workshop: Alternative to Globalisation: The Experience with Cooperatives
(CSDS)

Nizam College Grounds
Contact: Mukul Sharma,
Richa Singh

A.V. College Hall
Contact:
Gabriele Dietrich

Methodist, Room No. 15
Contact: Ashok Bharati

Methodist, Room No. 16
Contact: Ritu Priya

Methodist, Room No. 14
Contact:
Shripad Dharmadhikary,
Suresh Nautiyal

Methodist, Room No. 1
Contact: Yogendra Yadav,
Archana Prasad

Amiya K. Bagchi, Aruna Roy,
Ashis Nandy, Gopal Guru

Swami Agnivesh, Valsan Thampu, Sandeep Pandey, Ali Anwar, Amarjeet Singh Narang, Suresh Sharma, Keshav Rao Jadhav
Chair: Andreas D'Souza
Moderator: Gabriele Dietrich

Gopal Guru, Arun Kumar Pani Baba,
Kanval Bharati, Ashok Bharati

Deepak Singh, Vijay Thakur, C. Sathyamala, Alpona Sagar, Manimala, Roy Laifungbam, Pradeep Krishnatray, Flavia Agnes

Shripad Dharmadhikary, Anastasia Laitila, Sudhendra Sharma, Arun Kumar Panibaba, Uma Shankari (Release of Neethi Samakhya book 'Let the Waters Flow', a backgrounder for citizen's on water issues in A.P.)

Presentations on Tawa Fishworkers Coop. (MP), Malar Women's Cooperative (TN), Land Cooperative of Shramajivi Samaj (Gujarat), Rope Making Coop. (HP), Mustard Oil Producers' Coop. (Haryana), *Moderator*: Thomas Franco

5th January, Sunday

Seminar: Religiosity, Identity and Democracy III—Islam, Muslims and Democracy
(CSDS, YK)

Workshop: Plight of Rickshaw Pullers and Equal Road Rights
(CSDS & South Asia People's Transport Network)

Workshop: Engagement with Gandhi
(CSDS, YK)

Workshop: Alternatives to the Media Empires
(Sarai - CSDS)

Workshop: Dangers of Nuclear Power
(CNDP, CSDS)

Workshop: Uranium Mining, Nuclear Power: Issues of People, Security and Safety
(CSDS, CNDP)

Workshop: Survival of Adivasis Globally
(Working Group on Ecological Democracy—Y.K.)

Workshop: Democracy in Nepal
(South Asia Study Centres, Think India, South Asia Network Plan (CSDS), Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam)

A.V. College Hall
Contact: Javeed Alam

All Saints, Room No. 7
Contact: Rajendra Ravi

Methodist, Room No. 5
Contact: R. Manivannan

Room 19, Methodist college
Contact: Ravi Sundaram

Methodist Room No. 20
Contact: Kamal Chenoy

Methodist, Room No. 16
Contact: Bela Bhatia

Methodist, Room No. 15
Contact:
Prof. B.K. Roy Burman

Methodist, Room No. 11
Contact: Arun Joshi

Rakesh Bhatt, Fatima Shahnaz, Haji Abdul Saitar Ansari, Sardar Ali Khan, Harsh Mander, Mohammad Tahseen and Karamat Ali (Pakistan)
Moderator: Javeed Alam *Chair*: D.L.Sheth

Geetam Tewari, Dinesh Mohan, Anchita Ghatak, Rickshaw Pullers Union Kolkata

Shudhhabrata Sengupta, Ravi Kant, Aditya Nigam, Sunil Abraham, Shekhar Krishnan

Ram Dayal Munda, Netaji Raigadkar, Sukhdev Babu Uika, Roy Laifungbam, Vilas Bhongade Gini Shrivastav (Adivasi Mahila Samaj)

Shyam Shreshtha, C.K. Lal, Hari Rokka, Suneel Manander, Pradip Giri
Moderator: Deepak Bhatt *Chair*: Vijay Pratap

Seminar

Urban Land Rights in the context of Evictions and Livelihoods

Date : 4/1/2003

Time : 2:30 p.m.

Venue : Sundarayya Vigyan Kendra (Mini Hall),
Opp. Garden, Baugh Lingan Palli

First Session : Sharing experiences of struggle and alternatives that are ongoing in cities like Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, Madurai etc.

Second Session : **Presentations by Experts** :

- Urban Planning - Issues and Alternatives with respect to Eviction and Livelihoods
- Oppression of Women and their struggle.

Third Session : **Open Forum** :
Means of struggle, alternatives and process of networking Urban poor at the National level.

Fourth Session : Consolidation of issues by the Chairperson.

"Sawaal Jeene Ka" film will be screened at the end of the Seminar. The film essays problems of Hawkers, Economy of Urban Poor and linkages with agriculture, globalization, privatization and liberalization policies.

Organised by :

- YUVA - Maharashtra
- National Alliance for People's Movement
- Lokayan - Delhi
- Pennurimai Eyyakam-Tamilnadu

सेमीनार

शहरोंमें विस्थापन और जिवनमापन के संदर्भ में जमीन का अधिकार

दिनांक : 4/1/2003

समय : 2.30 बजे

स्थान : सुन्दरय्या विज्ञान केन्द्र (भीनी हॉल),
गार्डन के सामने, बाग लिंगन पल्ली.

सत्र पहला : मुंबई, दिल्ली, नागपुर, कलकत्ता, चेन्नई, मदुराई इत्यादि शहरोंमें चल रहे संघर्ष और पर्याय के संदर्भ में अनुभवों का आदान प्रदान.

सत्र दुसरा : तज्ञों द्वारा रजुआत

1. शहरी नियोजन - विस्थापन और जिवनमापन के परीपेक्षमें सवाल और पर्याय
2. महिलाओंके उपर हो रहा दमन और उनके संघर्ष

सत्र तीसरा : खुला मंच :

संघर्ष की पद्धतियों, पर्याय और राष्ट्रीय स्तरपर शहरी गरीबोंके गठजोड़ की प्रक्रीया.

सत्र चौथा : सेमीनार के अध्यक्ष द्वारा चर्चा के मुद्दो का एकत्रीकरण

सेमीनार के अंत में "सवाल जीने का ?" यह फिल्म दिखायी जायेगी।

यह फिल्म फेरीवालोंकी समस्याओका, शहरी गरीबों की अर्थव्यवस्था, कृषी व्यवस्था के साथ संबंध, वैश्वीकरण, निजीकरण और उदारीकरण की नीतिओंकि परीपेक्षको विश्लेषीत करती है।

आयोजक :

- युवा संस्था (महाराष्ट्र)
- जनआंदोलनोका राष्ट्रीय समन्वय (NAPM)
- लोकायन, दिल्ली
- पेनुरमा, तामीलनाडू



DESH BACHAO - DESH BANAO

National Campaign to a National People's Movement

The globalisation, privatisation policies have infested our natural resources, our living community, our democracy, economy & polity. Communalism & Casteism has further viciated our lives & attacked our national unity.

We, the toilers & workers facing an attack on our livelihood, our jobs & self employment,

We, Who are up against inhumanity & violence in the name of caste, religion and nationalism,

We, Who care for gender equality & women's rights as human rights,

We, Who assert true democracy against corrupt politics,

We, the displaced & destituted for development have to **wake-up and fight,**

Our battles need to be united to attain -

- Community's right to resources & human right to livelihood.
- Democratic development with appropriate technology & co-operative industry
- Decentralised, accountable polity through peoples' power

Activists to artists, lawyers to mediapersons, students & teachers all must join & strengthen -

A National Campaign

from Palakkad (Kerala) to Ayodhya

from Jan. 26th to March 30th

Rise to Achieve A Better Life, A United Nation

True Development With Equity & Justice !

Contact : **NAPM stall at Asia Social Forum**

: **National Alliance of People's Movements**

Haji Habib Bldg, Naigaon Cross Road, Dadar, Mumbai - 400014.

Ph. 022-24150529 (off.) 022-25369724/22184779 (Res.)

Mobile : 94481 32018 (P. Chennai A.P.) or 0980324062 (Sanjay M.G. Mumbai)

E mail : sansahil@vsnl.net • medha@narmada.org



देश बचाओ - देश बनाओ

राष्ट्रीय जनआंदोलन के लिए राष्ट्रीय अभियान

वैश्वीकरण से निजीकरणतक लोकविरोधी आर्थिक नीती की वजह से
अपने जल-जंगल-जमीन जैसे प्राकृतिक संसाधनों परसे उखाड़े जानेवाले भूमिपुत्रों -
अपना रोजगार खो देनेवाले बेरोजगार श्रमिकों -

जाति और मजहब के नाम पर अमानुषता और असाहिष्णुता को नकारनेवालों -
भ्रष्ट राजनीती के खिलाफ लोकतंत्र का सही अर्थ खोजनेवाले नागरिकों -
विकास के नामपर विनाश भुगतनेवाले विस्थापितों -

इस भ्रष्टता, अमानुषता, विषमता, विनाश के खिलाफ जाग उठो !

अपने अधिकारों को जानो - पहचानो - छीन लो !

गाँवसमाजों के अपने अधिकारों के लिये,

समता-न्याय-सही विकास के लिये,

जाति-धर्मसे पार-मानवता के रास्तेपर,

जनतांत्रिक नियोजन, सही तकनिक और सहकारिता के आधारपर,
विकेंद्रित, जवाबदेही राजनीती - नहीं, लोकनीती का आग्रह रखते हुए,

चलो, नया समाज बनाएंगे !

जन आंदोलनों के राष्ट्रीय समन्वय द्वारा आयोजित

'देश बचाओ-देश बनाओ' अभियान में जुडीये !

२६ जनवरी से ३० मार्च २००३ तक

पलक्कड, केरल से अयोध्या तक

देश को जगाने के लिए, जीने का अधिकार जताने के लिए,
देश बचाने-देश बनाने, सही विकास के रास्ते - चलो, साथ साथ चले...

कलाकार से कार्यकर्ता तक - हर संवेदनशील नागरीक का,
शामिल होना बेहद जरूरी है !

संपर्क : अशियाई सोशल फोरम (A.S.F) में ज.आ.रा.स. (N.A.P.M) के स्टॉलपर
जनआंदोलनों का राष्ट्रीय समन्वय,
हाजी हबीब विल्डींग, नायगांव क्रॉस रोड, दादर (पू.), मुंबई - ४०००१४
फोन : ०२२-२४१५०५२९, २५३६९७२४, २२९८४७७९
ई-मेल :- sansahil@vsnl.net • medha@narmada.org

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR LABOUR (NCL)

(An apex body of labour organisations in the Unorganised Sector)
8/10, Naina Shetty Palya, Bannerghatta Road Cross, Bangalore – 560 076.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

Season's Greetings and New Year wishes from National Centre for Labour(NCL), an apex body of labour organisations in the unorganised sector. Through its constituent members, NCL represents the interests of Agricultural labour, Construction labour, Fish workers, Forest workers, Contract labour, Domestic workers, Hamalis, Granite and Marble workers, Anganwadi workers, Self-employed persons, women workers etc. NCL has a membership of over 7,25,000 from ten states in India.

NCL is organising the following seminars in the Asian Social forum (ASF) in Hyderabad, to highlight the issues of unorganised labour and putforth their demands, concerns and aspirations to the larger audience from Asian countries. Through these seminars, NCL is trying to collate the experiences and knowledge, consolidate its techniques and strategies in organising the unorganised and share the same with others since organising the unorganised is the most challenging task ahead. NCL joins with the effort to examine the impact of Globalisation on the workers so far and prepare the unorganised to challenge the process of Globalisation in India as part of a process facilitated by CEC, New Delhi with the other Central Trade Unions. NCL also shares its experience of working with the organised labour particularly with the mine workers of KGF Town in Karnataka, in terms of its efforts with other social, trade union, women's movements to oppose the closure of Mines.

Joining hands with other social movements like KKNSS (Karnataka Slumdwellers Federation) Women's Voice (Movement for poorer and women involved in the unorganised sector of labour) AVAS (expert on Shelter issues) NCL is paving way to understand the challenges before the Urban Poor in Globalising India. Associating with National Campaign on Dalit Human rights (NCDHR), it is trying to articulate certain issues of labour from Dalit perspective.

Hence, on behalf of NCL, I invite you and your friends to attend the seminars for sharing and learning as well exchange your ideas and views on the following subjects.

LIST OF SEMINARS:

Sl. No.	Date	Time	Topic	Venue
1	03-01-2003	10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Public Rally with other Peoples Movements Organised by APVVU, An affiliate of NCL	From Secunderabad Railway station to Indira Park
2	03-01-2003	1 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.	Public Meeting	Indira Park, Secunderabad
3	03-01-2003	4 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.	Seminar on Globalisation: Challenges of Organising the Unorganised	Andhra Yuvathi Mandali
4	04-01-2003	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	W.T.O. and Agriculture Organised by APVVU	Jayaprakash Narayan Pranganam (Linganpalli Function Hall)
5	04-01-2003	2.30p.m.- 6.30p.m.	Globalisation: Challenges of Organising the Unorganised	ASF open space for seminar with Movements, Parvath Hall
6	04-01-2003	2.30p.m -6.30p.m.	Impact of Globalisation on the Mine Workers of K.G.F.	St. Paul's Primary School Hall
7	04-01-2003	2.30p.m -6.30p.m.	Globalisation and the challenges for the Urban poor. KKNSS / Women's Voice / AVAS / NCL/NAWO	Saraswatha Parishat Hall
8	05-01-2003	2.30p.m.-6.30p.m.	Impact of Globalisation on Unorganised Sector Workers and Remedies Facilitated by CEC and initiated by NCL	Andhra Yuvathi Mandali

THE FOLLOWING SPEAKERS HAVE AGREED TO ADDRESS NCL SEMINARS:

1. Dr. L.C. Jain - Former Indian Ambassador to South Africa and Former Member of Planning Commission of India.
2. Shri. R.K.A. Subramanya - Secretary General, Social Security Association of India.
3. Dr. Devaki Jain - Former Member, Karnataka State Planning Board.
4. Dr. Pravin Sinha - Labour Advisor, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, New Delhi.
5. Prof. Abdur Rahim - Dept. of Communtion and Journalism, Osmania University. Hyderabad.
6. Dr. Sarath Babu - Karnatak University, Dharwad.
7. Shri. D. Thankappan - President, Kamani Employees Union and Secretary, NCL.
8. Shri. J. John - Director, Centre for Education and Communication(CEC), New Delhi.
9. Shri. M. Subbu - General Secretary, National Federation of Construction Labour (NFCL) and Secretary, NCL.
10. Shri. Chennaiah - General Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Agricultural Workers Federation (APVVU) and Secretary, NCL.
11. Shri. Tom Kocherry - Chairperson, World Fishers Forum and Secretary, NCL.
12. Shri. K. Loganathan. - President, Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labour Movement.
13. Dr. Ruth Manorama - President, National Allinace of Women (NAWO), Secretary, NCL.
14. Shri. M.A. Patil - President, Sarva Shramik Sangh and Secretary, NCL.
15. Shri. Ashok Choudhry - National Forest Workers and Dwellers Forum and Secretary, NCL.
16. Shri. Ashim Roy - President, Chemical Mazdoor Panchyat, Gujrat.
17. Shri. Arbind Singh - Co-ordintor, National Alliance of Street Vendors.
18. Smt. Anita Reddy - Hon. Director, AVAS.
19. Shri. Kirtee Shah - President, Habitat International Coalition.
20. Shri. N.P. Samy - Hon. President, KKNSS and Secretary, Co-ordination, NCL.
21. Shri. R. James Jeyaraj - Convenor, Bangalore District, KKNSS.

ASIA SOCIAL FORUM

2 - 7 January 2003

Hyderabad

Seminar
on

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT - A FRONTIER OF RESISTANCE.

Date: 5 January 2003 2.30-6.30pm Venue: Saraswatha Parishad Hall (2 km away from Main ASF Venue-Nizam College)

Considering the ongoing corporate globalisation and liberalisation process on the one hand, localization and decentralisation process on the other, it is extremely important to pitch on the latter set of developments to combat the former. For that, local self-governments have to be empowered with adequate powers and capabilities to put restraints on free market forces that destabilize local systems in diverse ways-water privatization, waste management, assigning waste lands to private players in the name of waste land development and tourism development. In this scenario we believe that local governments are focal points of resistance to increasing centralisation. Strengthening the democratic governance institutions at various levels to question and challenge the present paradigm of development, proactively lobbying for alternative regulatory mechanisms that will provide leverage to the local community and governance systems to challenge the disempowering process unleashed by globalisation are important pointers to the way ahead.

Objectives

- To critically assess the functioning of Panchayats and locate the role of Panchayats in Tourism Development.
- To unearth the pressures of liberalisation on Local Governments-in terms of water usage, waste disposal and land exploitation and focus on the resistance points of Panchayat

Issues to be deliberated

Stocktaking of a decade of Decentralisation

It is ironic that the age old localization process has got turning point by way of constitutional mandate in 1992 while this empowering process has been put under great risk due to initiation of globalisation process at the same time. The behavior of various state governments in translating the vision of Constitutional Amendment during the last decade (1992-2002) is to be critically looked in to and learn lessons out of it to arrive at logical conclusions.

Local Self-Governments and Tourism

This current practices and trends in tourism as well as allied tourism developments have come in to conflict with people's interests and local bodies as these plans are formalized at higher level without consultation and participation of local stakeholders and their institutions. The downward accountability and transparency have been largely ignored in the process of economic development. Micro planning is largely remain as rhetoric without much practical operational space. These have made Panchayats perpetually subservient to agencies of State Government and hamper the democratic functioning of these bodies. The interface between Panchayats and these tourism initiatives need to be analysed. The congruence between tourism development and Panchayats and inter-linkage is forming a core part of our investigation

Local Self- Government and Issues of Liberalisation

Water privatization and waste disposal services which hitherto were considered as public services and handled by Local Self Governments-both urban and rural-as civic services -are going to be put under litmus test because of present globalisation policies. The introduction of wasteland development concept is also leading to directly harmonizing the laissez-faire policies and bring in alien elements in control over common property resources which are precious and scarce in our country. The pressures that local self-government is confronting with liberalisation process and resistance by local governments are going to be deliberated upon here.

The Programme

Theme: Local Self-Government: A Frontier of Resistance

Introduction to the Seminar: Dr.P.Krishnamoorthy, EQUATIONS

Chair: K.T.Suresh, EQUATIONS

Session I: A decade of Experiences of Decentralisation in the Backdrop of 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment

Key note address: Dr.L. C. Jain, Former Planning Commission Member

Session II: Experiences of Tourism Development (Site- specific)

Chair: L.D.Sagayam, People's Governance Cell (PGC)

• Kumarakom Panchayat and Tourism Development-Jojo Kootunnal, *Environment Cell Coordinator -Kerala Shashtra Salitya Parishad and Kumarakom Nature Club*

Voices of Panchayat: P.G.Padmanabhan, Member, Kumarakom Panchayat

• Masinagudi -Tourism in Ecologically sensitive region - *M.S.Selvaraj, Vivasaya Thozhilargal Munnetra Sangam*

Voices of Panchayat: Varghese, Member, Masinagudi Panchayat

• Uttranchal - *Dr.Sunil Kanthola, Janadhar*

Session III: Experiences from other Sectors

Chair: Joseph P.John, Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA), South Zone

• Wasteland Development - *Fatimason, Environmental Activist Madurai & Martin Taylor, Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA)*

• Dalits, Globalisation & Panchayats-*Dr.Kancha Ilaiah, Osmania University*

• Privatisation of Public Services - *Antonymamy, Tamilnadu Social Action Movement (SAM)*

• Adivasis & Globalisation, *Ranganathan, Tribal Associations for Fifth Schedule Campaign*

Session IV: Discussion

For more information contact:

Dr. P.Krishnamoorthy, EQUATIONS - Mobile 09886013551

L Antonymamy, TNEC - Mobile 09842125020

Sagayam, PGC - Mobile 09884164725

Ranganathan, TAFSC - Mobile 09842742192

Organised by:

★EQUATIONS, Bangalore ★The TAMIL NADU ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL, Dindigul ★ SOCIAL ACTION MOVEMENT, Tamilnadu ★ PEOPLES GOVERNANCE CELL-Chennai ★ TRIBAL ASSOCIATIONS FOR THE FIFTH SCHEDULE CAMPAIGN, Salem ★ CHURCH'S AUXILIARY FOR SOCIAL ACTION (CASA), Chennai

Asia Social Forum 2003

2-7 January 2003, Hyderabad, India

Connecting Across Asia

Asia's own diversity and spread invites and demands interaction and connections across the continent. The variety of Asian cultures, faiths and traditions provides to the process a rich resource to explore. The Asia Social Forum 2003 proposes and seeks participation from all the many Asian sub-regions so that the process builds and yields a rich exchange bringing together Central Asia, West Asia/Middle East, South Asia, North Asia, South-East Asia, and reaching out to the Pacific.

The WSF India is working to build contacts across Asia to develop an initiative to form an Asia Solidarity Group/Network, which will mobilise participation, support and assistance from organisations, movements and networks from all over Asia. We welcome ideas, advice, and suggestions for the WSF-India Working Committee, to help make the Asian Social Forum a working example of unity in diversity. We invite proposals on content and specific activities and events. We hope especially for interest and response from groups and networks in Asia, to give the Hyderabad setting a genuinely truly Asian heart and character.

To join the network, organisations and interested individuals can register (add your email in 'Join the ASF Network' on the website www.wsfindia.org)

The Forum Focus

WSF India has identified key issues and broad themes:

- ⇒ Peace and Security
- ⇒ Debt, Development, Trade, Finance and Investment
- ⇒ Nation State, Democracy and Exclusions
- ⇒ Social Infrastructure
- ⇒ Ecology, Culture and Knowledge
- ⇒ Alternatives and Peoples Movements

Proposals for the organization of conferences /seminars/workshops are invited from interested organisations and movements. Interested organisations are requested to make their initial proposals for the proposed activities online to meet the deadline given below:

Conferences	October 20
Seminars	November 15
Workshops	November 30

Joining the Asia Social Forum 2003:

Design your own process and event!

The 6 days of the Asia Social Forum will offer a variety of events:

- ⇒ 2 public/pleitary sessions, i.e. opening session on 2nd afternoon/evening and closing session on 7th morning.
- ⇒ conferences daily (2 per day -- total 8) from 3rd to 6th Jan.
- ⇒ 25 parallel seminars daily (total 100)
- ⇒ Upto 50 workshops daily (total 100-200)
- ⇒ Testimonies, Panels, Peoples' Voices, and open "spaces" for mass movements

All participating networks and organisations must arrange to cover costs of their travel and local stay, and to pay basic costs of Forum facilities. These are:

Event	No. of Participants	Facilities	Costs
Conference	Upto 4000		Rs.2,50,000 (\$5000)
Seminar	1000-1200	AC, Auditorium	Rs. 30,000 (\$600)
Seminar	800-1000	Non AC Hall	Rs. 3,000 (\$60)
Seminar	200-300	AC, Auditorium	Rs.25,000(\$500)
Seminar	200-300	Non AC Hall	Rs. 2,000 (\$40)
Workshop	50-75	AC, roundtable	Rs.20,000(\$400)
Workshop	50-75	AC Hall	Rs.15,000(\$300)
Workshop	50-75	Non-AC, Simple	Rs.500 (\$10)

Note: All Events are of four hour duration. AC -- air-conditioned

Equipment such as OHP, Slide Projector and LCD Projector are additional costs:

Equipment	Cost	Equipment	Cost
OHP	Rs.400 (\$10)	LCD Projector	Rs.2,500 (\$60)
Slide Projector	Rs.500 (\$10)		

Meeting Spaces and Services: Conference halls, meeting rooms, open forum space; translation and on site interpretation (limited languages, please enquire); display and exhibit space; audio-visual and photocopying services, limited internet facilities (Please enquire on rates).

Delegate Registration: The individual registration fee for the Asian Social Forum will be Rs.100 (\$2) per delegate, for individual delegates and Rs.25 per head for groups (of groups with 50-200 delegates).

Local Stay/Accommodation: Delegates will have to pay separately for their board and lodging directly to the providers. The Hyderabad local organising committee will help with information regarding logistics and help with bookings, etc. for delegates. For all other details, contact 'WSF India, (Delhi) Secretariat'.

Forum Schedule

Date	9.00 am to 1.00 pm	1.30 pm to 2.30 pm	2.30 pm to 6.30 pm	5.30 pm to 7.30 pm	7.00 pm to 11.00 pm
2nd Jan. Thursday	Registration		Opening Plenary (open to public)		
3rd Jan. Friday	Conferences 2 per day	People's Voices	25 Seminars in parallel 50-100 W'shops in parallel	Testimonies, Panel Discussions	Film shows; Cultural Performances
4th Jan. Saturday	Conferences 2 per day	People's Voices	25 Seminars in parallel 50-100 W'shops in parallel	Testimonies, Panel Discussions	Film shows; Cultural Performances
5th Jan. Sunday	Conferences 2 per day	People's Voices	25 Seminars in parallel 50-100 W'shops in parallel	Testimonies, Panel Discussions	Film shows; Cultural Performances
6th Jan. Monday	Conferences 2 per day	People's Voices	25 Seminars in parallel 50-100 W'shops in parallel	Testimonies, Panel Discussions	Film shows; Cultural Performances
7th Jan. Tuesday	Closing Plenary (open to public)				

If you are interested in submitting films or participating in the cultural events please contact us with your proposals.

Youth Camp: Young people are organising a special space for themselves within the Asia Social Forum. Focusing mainly on the under privileged, the unemployed, the marginalized the youth camp will feature special workshops, films, music, and other events of, by and for Asian youth. Details about participating in the youth camp and its activities are available on: www.youth4wsf.org. Log in and join the mailing list.

WSF-India Secretariat,
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WSF-India, Hyderabad Secretariat
1st Floor, Green Channel
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Khairatabad
Hyderabad - 500 007
Andhra Pradesh, India.
Ph: 91-40-3392726.
Email: wsfhyd@hd2.dot.net.in

Register online at:
www.wsfindia.org

Another World is Possible!

Another Asia is Possible!

Let's Build It!

World Social Forum - India invites you to join the process of conceiving and constructing alternatives to globalisation in Asia.

People's movements across the world are working to identify and demonstrate that the path to sustainable development and social and economic justice does not lie in neo-liberal globalisation but in alternative models for people-centred and self-reliant progress.

In 2001 and 2002, the World Social Forum process has explored and proposed such alternatives, and questioned the rules of governance and investment being set by the World Economic Forum. The people's argument is that Another World is Possible. It is an argument based on both vision and reality.

The World Social Forum developed as a response of the growing international movement questioning the neo-liberal economic policies being pursued in most countries, and contesting both the merit and inevitability of capitalist-led globalisation.

As the clock moves towards the 3rd international gathering of the 2003 World Social Forum at Porto Alegre in Brazil, WSF-India invites you to the city of Hyderabad, to take leadership in dialogue, discourse and design to formulate an Asian blueprint for building another world – a plural, just, responsible and shared world which accords equal dignity and rights to all its people.

The Asia Social Forum 2003 will focus not only on the impact but also the processes of neo-liberal globalisation that is creating a small global, 'over-class' and a vast, increasingly marginalised and vulnerable under-class in every country. Every part of the process seeks to draw out people's perceptions regarding the impact of neo-liberal economic policies and their attendant divisiveness on their daily lives. Local forms and idioms will inform the language of resistance and the formulation of alternatives.

**Jubilee South Asia/Pacific
Asia/Pacific Movement on Debt and Development
Seminar on Ecological Debt**

“Debt, Trade and Development” and “Ecology, Culture and Knowledge”

4 January 2003

Banquet Hall, Hotel Harsha, Nampally, Hyderabad, India

Sponsors –

Jubilee South Asia/Pacific – Asia/Pacific Movement on Debt and Development (JSAP-APMDD)

Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC)-Philippines

Asian Regional Exchange (ARENA)

Southeast Asia Regional Institute for Community Education (SEARICE)

Objectives:

1. Familiarize participants with the notion of Ecological Debt.
2. Provide basic information and understanding of key issues within the Framework of Ecological Debt
3. Provide information on ongoing initiatives on Ecological Debt

Proposed Program: (Time Slot: 2:00 to 6:00)

Moderators: Aditi Chowdhury (ARENA) and Ian Rivera (FDC-Philippines/KALAYAAN)

Time	Session
1:45 to 2:00	Registration
2:00 to 2:15	Welcome Remarks – K.S. Gopal, Center for Environment Concerns
	Major In-puts:
2:15 to 2:50	The Notion of Ecological Debt – VINOD RAINA, Chairperson JSAP-APMDD
2:50	Issues and Case Studies
2:50 to 3:20	▪ Extractive Resources and the Mining Industry, Philippine Experience – Rowil Aguillon, FDC Philippines / Kalayaan
3:20 to 3:50	▪ Earth and Forest, Indonesian Experience – Titi Soentoro - Solidaritas Perempuan/KAU
3:50 to 4:00	▪ Break
4:00 to 4:30	▪ The Experiences of the Pacific Island Countries – Shelly Emalin Rao, Ecumenical Center for Research, Education and Advocacy (ECREA) Fiji
4:30 to 5:00	▪ Thai Experience – Ms. Preeyanut Ponpai, NGO COD North East
5:00 to 5:30	▪ Indian Perspectives - Carbon Debt – C.E. Karunakaran – Tamilnadu Science Forum
5:30 to 6:00	Open Forum
5:30 to 6:00	Wrap Up – K.S. Gopal

SANGAT

(South Asian Network of Gender Activists and Trainers)

SEMINAR ON

MILITARISATION, GLOBALISATION AND RESURGENT PATRIARCHIES

ON

4th January at 2-30 to 6-30 p.m.

IS NOW AT

Ambedkar Bhavan, Lower Tank Bund Road

Speakers :

Anuradha Chenoy, *India*

Neloufer Demel, *Srilanka*

Nasrene Huq, *Bangladesh*

Indira Shreshtha, *Nepal*

Neelam Hussain, *Pakistan*

Gigi Francisco, *Philippines*

Meghna, *North East India*

and Others

-: There will also be songs :-

A Bus will leave at 2 p.m. From Nizam College Gate
Opposite the Registration Area (Route No.1)

Another World is Possible!

Another Asia is Possible!

Let's Build It !

Building Another World

World Social Forum – India invites you to join the process of conceiving and constructing Asian alternatives to globalization

People's movements across the world are working to identify and demonstrate that the path to sustainable development and social and economic justice does not lie in neo-liberal globalisation but in alternative models for people-centred and self-reliant progress.

In 2001 and 2002, the World Social Forum process has explored and proposed such alternatives, and questioned the rules of governance and investment being set by the World Economic Forum. The people's argument is that Another World IS Possible. It is an argument based on both vision and reality.

The World Social Forum developed as a response of the growing international

movement questioning the neo-liberal economic policies being pursued in most countries and capitalist-led globalisation.

As the clock moves towards the 3rd international gathering of the 2003 World Social Forum at Porto Alegre in Brazil, WSF-India invites you to the city of Hyderabad, to take leadership in dialogue, discourse and design to formulate an Asian blueprint for building another world – a plural, just, responsible and shared world which accords equal dignity and rights to all its people.

The Asia Social Forum 2003 will focus not only on the impact but also the processes of neo-liberal globalisation that is creating a small global, 'over-class' and a vast, increasingly marginalised and vulnerable under-class in every country. Every part of the process seeks to draw out people's perceptions regarding the impact of neo-liberal economic policies and their attendant divisiveness on their daily lives. Local forms and idioms will inform the language of resistance and the formulation of alternatives.

Asia Social Forum 2003

2-7 January 2003

Hyderabad, India

Connecting Across Asia

Asia's own diversity and spread invites and demands interaction and connections across the continent. The variety of Asian cultures, faiths and traditions provides to the process a rich resource to explore. The Asia Social Forum 2003 proposes and seeks participation from all the many Asian sub-regions so that the process builds and yields a rich exchange bringing together Central Asia, West Asia/Middle East, South Asia, North Asia, South-East Asia, and reaching out to the Pacific.

The WSF India is working to build contacts across Asia to develop an initiative to form an Asia Solidarity Group/Network, which will mobilise participation, support and assistance from organisations, movements and networks from all over Asia. We welcome ideas, advice, and suggestions for the WSF-India Working Committee, to help make the Asian Social Forum a working example of unity in diversity. We invite proposals on content and specific activities and events. We hope especially for interest and response from groups and networks in Asia, to give the Hyderabad setting a genuinely truly Asian heart and character.

To join the network, organisations and interested individuals can register (add your email in 'Join the ASF Network' on the website www.wsfindia.org).

The Forum Focus

Joining the Asia Social Forum 2003:

Design your own process and event !

The events that are envisaged over a period of 6 days, from 2nd to 7th January are:

- 2 public/ plenary sessions, i.e. opening session on 2nd afternoon/evening and closing session on 7th morning.
- 2 conferences daily (total 8)
- 25 parallel seminars daily (total 100)
- Upto 50 workshops daily (total 200)
- Testimonials, and open "spaces" for mass movements

All participating networks and organisations must arrange to cover costs of their own travel and local stay, and to pay basic costs of Forum facilities.

The individual registration fee for the Asian Social Forum will be Rs.100 (\$2) per delegate. Delegates will have to pay separately for their board and lodging directly to the providers. The Hyderabad local organising committee will help with information regarding logistics and help with bookings, etc, for delegates. For all other details, contact 'WSF India, Delhi Secretariat'.

Forum Schedule

Date : 2nd January 2003	
9.00 am to 1.00 pm	: Registration
2.30 pm to 6.30 p.m.	: Opening Plenary (open to public)
7.00 to 11.00p.m.	: Film Shows; Cultural Performances; Testimonials, Open spaces
Date : 3rd January 2003	
9.00 am to 1.00 pm	: Conferences - 2 per day (3-4,000 people);
2.30 pm to 6.30 p.m.	: 25 Seminars in Parallel (200-300 people); 50-100 Workshops (50-100 people)
7.00 to 11.00p.m.	: Film Shows; Cultural Performances; Testimonials, Open spaces
Date : 4th January 2003	
9.00 am to 1.00 pm	: Conferences - 2 per day (3-4,000 people);
2.30 pm to 6.30 p.m.	: 25 Seminars in Parallel (200-300 people); 50-100 Workshops (50-100 people)
7.00 to 11.00p.m.	: Film Shows; Cultural Performances; Testimonials, Open spaces
Date : 5th January 2003	
9.00 am to 1.00 pm	: Conferences - 2 per day (3-4,000 people);
2.30 pm to 6.30 p.m.	: 25 Seminars in Parallel (200-300 people); 50-100 Workshops (50-100 people)
7.00 to 11.00p.m.	: Film Shows; Cultural Performances; Testimonials, Open spaces
Date : 6th January 2003	
9.00 am to 1.00 pm	: Conferences - 2 per day (3-4,000 people);
2.30 pm to 6.30 p.m.	: 25 Seminars in Parallel (200-300 people); 50-100 Workshops (50-100 people)
7.00 to 11.00p.m.	: Film Shows; Cultural Performances; Testimonials, Open spaces
Date : 7th January 2003	
9.00 am to 1.00 pm	: Closing Plenary (open to public)

Those interested in submitting films or participating in the cultural events are welcome to get in touch with their proposals.

Youth Camp:

Young people are organising a special space for themselves within the Asia Social Forum. Focusing mainly on the under privileged, the unemployed, the marginalized the youth camp will feature special workshops, films, music, and other events of, by and for Asian youth. Details about participating in the youth camp and its activities are available on: www.youth4wsf.org. Log in and join the mailing list.

WSF-India, Delhi Secretariat,

204, Elite House, 36 Community Centre

Zamrudpur.

New Delhi: 110048

Tel: + 91 11 6476580 Tele-fax: 91 11 6435441

wsfindia@vsnl.net

Registration for events is online at :

www.wsfindia.org

WSF-India, Hyderabad Secretariat

1st Floor, Green Channel

opp. Nasr High School,

Khairatabad

Hyderabad - 500 007

Andhra Pradesh, India.

Ph: 91-40-3392726.

Email: wsfhvd@hotmail.com

wsfhvd@hd2.dot.net.in

**Jana Swasthya Abhiyan
People's Health Movement
at Asia Social Forum**

2-7th January 2003, Hyderabad

An evolving plan of the Jana Swasthya Abhiyan / People's Health Movement process and related events at ASF.

The People's Health Movement including Jana Swasthya Abhiyan, India, is a process of 'conceiving and constructing' alternatives to globalisation and its 'ill effects on health' so we are an integral part of the evolving movements around the world, in Asia and in India. Our enthusiastic and collective presence in ASF Hyderabad is an imperative!

Overall Objectives

1. To meet in Hyderabad as JSA, 32 months after we all launched Jana Swasthya Sabha in Hyderabad on 7th April 2000 and 24 months after JSS became Jana Swasthya Abhiyan in Kolkata / Dhaka, to (a) take stock, (b) share initiatives and campaigns and (c) plan future strategies.

2. To enhance collaboration with PHM Asian partners so that Asian PHM solidarity and collectivity is enhanced.

3. To discuss certain newer emerging concerns and to link them into PHM / JSA mobilization process.

These include :

- Right to Health
- Environment and Health

- Right to Food
- Access to Drugs and Patent Law
- Externally funded Health Sector Reform programmes – Social Audit
- Globalisation and women access to health.
- Right to water / privatization of water
- War, conflict and Natural Disasters and Health
- Tobacco and Health

4. To utilize the strategic intersectoral opportunity of ASF to link health concerns on the agenda of other movements and in turn recognise the intersectorality of health and its deep socio-economic-political-cultural determinants. All the themes of WSF India have a health dimension

- Peace and Security;
- Debt development and trade;
- Democracy and exclusion;
- Social infrastructure;
- Ecology and culture;
- Alternative development and people's movement.

The closest link will be sessions on social infrastructure.

5. To initiate the celebration / reflection of 25th Anniversary of Alma Ata Declaration and its links with the People's Health Charter and the movement – in India and Asian region by evolving a Hyderabad declaration as an expression of concern and collectivity. This will re-endorse the Alma Ata Declaration and its 2000 AD enlarged version the People's Health Charter.

6. To enhance information – perspective – enthusiasm – solidarity sharing with JSA – PHM and boost the ongoing JSA/PHM morale, spirit and strategy.

Tentative Programme (As of 1st November, this will include)

1. Social Infrastructure (Conference – 1)

Focus Will cover Education in the Era of globalization; Health in a globalised world; food security under threat; Entitlements and "safety nets".

2. Right to Health Care – Moving from idea to reality (Seminar 1)

Focus will cover the content, constitutional, legal, operational and financial aspects of the Right to Health Care.

3. Environment and Health (Seminar 2)

Focus Will cover testimonials and reports from 20 situations in India where toxins / pollutants are affecting environment and health of local communities and where local action and campaign have begun. (It will be preceded by a Green Peace 'jatha' which between 10th November 2002 and 3rd January 2003 will link all these 'hotspots' as part of the 1000 Bhopal's campaign.

4. Right to Food (Seminar - 3)

5. Externally funded Health Sector Reform Programmes

A cross country Social Audit (Workshop – 1)

Focus There are many states in India which have large externally funded health sector reform programmes. The experience of EAPs in Health will be reviewed and subjected to a social audit.

6. Access to Drugs and Patent Laws (Workshop 2)

7. Building People's Action for Right to Health (Workshop 3 - Sharing experiences)

Focus Report on experiences / campaigns from different states and PHM / JSA constituents, learning from each others experiences.

8. Taking the PHM forward : A sharing and conceptual discussion (Workshop 4)

Focus Many participants from India and Asia have also been involved with follow up action after PHM Dhaka and Kolkata. Those who have been actively involved as individuals, organizations, networks will be invited to share their initiatives and make suggestions for follow up action and strategy.

9. Privatization of Water (Workshop 5)

Focus Issues of privatization of water supplies; Right to safe adequate, potable water, issues of water quality and impacts on health.

10. War, Conflict and Disasters (Workshop 6)

Focus The People's Health Charter has a separate section on war, conflict and disasters and their health implications. The focus will be on Gujarat, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Palestine.

11. Women's Access to Health Care in a Globalising Economy (Workshop 7)

Focus WGNRR are in the process of developing an International working circle on this theme and have welcomed all health activists and researchers interested in the topic to participate in the workshop.

12. Tobacco and Health

Focus Will present a canvas of the entire range of activities and effects related to Tobacco production; supply; distribution; consumption; health effect etc and include an overview of

Tobacco control initiatives (at the global and local level). Discussions will be held on working together at various levels for Tobacco control.

13. An Alma Ata Anniversary Reflection (Working Group)

Focus 2003 is the 25th Anniversary of Alma Ata Declaration which was re-endorsed and strengthened by the People's Health Charter. Depending on the number of Asian country participation, this will be an Anniversary Reflection focusing on 'where are we in Asia' in the context of both AAP / PHM. It will also be an occasion to strengthen the signature campaign. 'The million for Alma Ata' being launched soon.

14. Pesticide Action Network (Public Hearing)

A public hearing on Pesticides and Health is being planned by Pesticide Action Network and Asian partners

Details are awaited.

For Further information on the Jana Swasthya Abhiyan related conference, seminars and workshops, write to one of the following :

Dr. Ravi Narayan,
Community Health Cell,
#367, 'Srinivasa Nilaya',
Jakkasandra I Main,
I Block, Koramangala,
Bangalore - 560 034.
Phone : 080-553 15 18
Telefax : 080-552 5372
Email : sochara@vsnl.com

Dr. Amit Sen Gupta,
Delhi Science Forum,
B-1, 2nd Floor,
LSC, J Block, Saket,
New Delhi - 110 017.
Phone : 011-6862716 / 6565036 (O)
Email : ctddsf@vsnl.com

WORKSHOP
"WIDOWS AND SEPARATED WOMEN
ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE!"

Monday, January 6 2:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Place - Room No. 18th, Methodist School

Low income widows and separated women in Rajasthan, India face many problems - ill-treatment by in-laws and sons, land rights being grabbed by brothers-in-law, being considered inauspicious, corruption in accessing government resources, sexual vulnerability, illiteracy - and the worst - feeling alone.

"Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan: is a Rajasthan-wide "Organization of Strong Women Alone" fighting for their rights! In less than 2 years, over 9,000 low income widows and separated women have joined together, and are making remarkable changes all over the state. Organized and Aware, these women are changing their lives, and are working on other issues of society as well.

Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan is organizing this Workshop, hoping others will come from other countries and states,

- To share their strategies, case studies of successes (and failures)
- To identify reasons for the marginalization
- To identify and analyse the problems low income women alone face
- To explore ways Asian organizations may work together with empowered Women Alone to bring widespread social change

We invite to this Workshop, women and men concerned about the social, economic, educational, health, and political problems of low income widows and separated women.

The languages of the Workshop will be English and Hindi.

Contact Information: Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan (The Association of Strong Women Alone),
39 Kharol Colony, Udaipur, Rajasthan, India. 313 004.
Ph. 0294-245-1348 Fax: 0294-245-1391 E-mail: astha39@sancharnet.in

For thousands of years, women have produced their food and guaranteed food security for their children and communities. Even today, the primary work of maintaining household food security through local food production, processing and distribution is done by women.

The patriarchal mindset not merely devalues women's role in food security, it also destroys biological and cultural diversity through the concepts of monoculture and corporate monopolies on life and knowledge embodied in Intellectual Property regimes and technologies that tamper with life itself such as genetic engineering.

Globalisation of the market puts trade above sustainability and profits above life. The commodification of all resources and relationships that ensure sustainability and peace has led to a global increase in hunger and starvation, in violence and terrorism.

Keeping Food Security in Women's Hands



The Diverse Women for Diversity (DWD), an international network of women, emerged as a Southern response to the threats to cultural and biological diversity posed by globalisation. Founded in 1997, following the Conference on Plant Genetic Resources in Leipzig in June 1996, the movement today has a presence in all continents. The movement aims at building and concentrating women's energies to articulate and provide alternatives based on equality, justice, sustainability and peace.



**DIVERSE WOMEN
FOR
DIVERSITY**

DWD's Statement of Concern

We women, in all our vibrant and fabulous diversity, have witnessed the increasing aggression against the human spirit, human mind, and human body and the continued invasion of and assault upon the Earth and all her diverse species. And we are enraged.

We demand of governments, international organisations, transnational corporations and individual men who share our rage, that they address the crisis that has been caused by the creation of monocultures and the reduction, enclosure, and extinction of biological and cultural diversity.

We insist that those who would address the crisis listen to and take leadership from women, indigenous peoples, farmers, and all who have raised these concerns at the local level. We ask them to heed those whose wisdom, stewardship, knowledge and commitment has already been demonstrated by the preservation of the diversity we celebrate today.

Excerpts from The Leipzig Appeal for Women's Food Security

FOOD SECURITY IN WOMEN'S HANDS: FOOD SOVEREIGNTY FOR ALL, NO TO NOVEL FOOD AND NO PATENTS ON LIFE

For thousands of years women have produced their own food and guaranteed food security for their children and communities. Even today, 80 percent of the work in local food production in Africa is done by women, in Asia 50 to 60 percent and in Latin America 30 to 40 percent. And every where in the world, women are responsible for food security at the household level. In patriarchal society, however, this work has been devalued.

All societies have survived historically because they provide food security to their people. This policy, however, has been subverted by the globalisation, trade liberalization, industrialization and commercialization of all agricultural products under the auspices of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the World Bank/IMF.

World-wide, women are resisting the policies which destroy the basis of their livelihood and food sovereignty. They are also creating alternatives to guarantee food security for their communities based on different principles and methods than those governing the dominant, profit-oriented global economy. They are:

- ♦ localization and regionalisation instead of globalisation
- ♦ non-violence instead of aggressive domination
- ♦ equity and reciprocity instead of competition
- ♦ respect for the integrity of nature and her species
- ♦ understanding humans as part of nature instead of as masters over nature
- ♦ protection of biodiversity in production and consumption

Food security for all is not possible within a global market system based on the dogma of free trade, permanent growth, comparative advantage, competition and profit maximization. On the other hand, food security can be achieved if people within their local and regional economies feel responsible, both as producers and as consumers for the ecological conditions of food production, distribution and consumption, and for the preservation of cultural and biological diversity where self-sufficiency is the main goal.

Our food security is too vital an issue to be left in the hands of a few transnational corporations with their profit motives, or up to national governments that increasingly lose control over food security decisions, or to a few, mostly male national delegates at UN conferences, who take decisions affecting all our lives.

Food security must remain in women's hands everywhere! And men must share the necessary work, be it paid or unpaid. We have a right to know what we eat! No to Novel Food and No to Patents on Life. We will resist those who force us to produce and consume in ways that destroy nature and ourselves.

Leipzig, June 20, 1996
Maria Mies, Vandana Shiva



DWD organised a Women's Day of Food at the World Food Summit in Rome in November 1996 to highlight women's concerns about the impact of globalisation on household and national food security



Children plant the Neem tree with Diverse Women at Nairobi to reaffirm their nurturing relationship with the Earth

DWD Statement on Biodiversity

Biodiversity is a gift of nature.

We have used our biodiversity and knowledge cooperating with other life forms.

We have created and sustained the basic knowledge, which meets our societies' needs for food, health, clothing and shelter.

Our knowledge is now being pirated and locked up in patents. Our relationship with the Earth and all its beings is being ruptured and poisoned, and our community rights destroyed.

Biodiversity deprived of its local roots and rights is being turned into a commodity.

We will resist with all our talents and strengths and imagination this destruction of our biological and cultural diversity.

We will rebuild our connections with the earth and all her species, and we will rebuild our communities for the well being and happiness of all.

In the face of corporate takeover, such defence and recreation of community rights requires solidarity and COOPERATION BETWEEN all people.

We call upon governments to abolish patents on life and recognise community rights and strengthen the Convention on Biological Diversity for this purpose.

DWD Statement on Water Resources

Water is life. It's a gift of nature.

The access to water is a natural and fundamental right. It is not to be treated as a commodity and traded for profit. People shall have the right to freedom from thirst, and shall have adequate access to safe water for all of their living needs.

The increased walk of women to access water and the pollution, depletion and diversion of water have undermined women's ability to keep their families healthy and their homes clean.

Citizens across the world are committed to work globally in solidarity for the defence of community rights to local water resources.

For us, the "global water commons" means the global solidarity of defending and recreating such rules, rights and responsibilities.

Diverse women of the world will not allow our water to be made a commodity for profit.

We demand that governments acknowledge community rights to water, protect them globally and initiate an international legally binding framework for such protection at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002.

Women of different regions have organised as Diverse Women to provide an alternative voice and vision to the dominant paradigm of commercialization and corporatisation of Food Security and the privatization of natural resources through the Agreement on Agriculture and TRIPs Agreement of the WTO at the World Food Summit in Rome (1996 and 2002) WTO meetings in Seattle in 1999, the World Bank meetings in Prague in 2000, the Convention on Biological Diversity in Bratislava (1998) and Nairobi (2000) and Rio+10 at Johannesburg (2002).

Diverse Women and Raging Grannies organised a candle light march during the protest against the WTO Ministerial Meet at Seattle, 1999



Charter of the National Alliance for Women's Food Rights

Women and children suffer most when food rights are threatened therefore women's and children's food rights must be at the centre of our country's concerns:

1. We women from diverse groups and organisations demand that our Food Rights as enacted in the Constitution be protected under any economic regime, and by all governments.
2. We demand that the government immediately act through policy intervention to arrest rising food prices and inflation which are clearly linked to structural adjustment policies.
3. We call for the reintroduction of the Essential Commodities Act since unregulated markets create freedom for hoarders and black marketeers and make the ordinary public victims of harsh scarcities of essential commodities like food.
4. We call upon the Government to strengthen the public distribution system (PDS). We demand an expanded system which will include many more essential commodities. We demand that ration cards be given without hindrance to all those who require them. Foodgrains at half the price of ration supplies must be supplied to those below the poverty line. In particular, tribal areas must be given priority in the distribution of cheap foodgrains and other essential commodities. Women should be given a special role in the running of these PDS networks and the community should be encouraged to play a bigger role. This is essential to make a system more accountable and to prevent pilferage and black marketing. A multi-tiered system needs to be established consisting of; national grain banks in which the Government must play a stronger role, all the way to the micro level where community run and women run grain banks become the basis for household food security and a community level public distribution system.
5. We demand proper land use policy guidelines to prevent diversion of agricultural land for commercial purposes including aquaculture and horticulture. Common land and panchayati land is being handed over to commercial interests depriving the village poor of their use. We demand this practice be stopped and that the land be used for production of fodder, fuel etc. We demand a full and genuine implementation of land reforms, and an immediate halt to the removal of land ceiling laws and a stop to foreign direct investment (FDI) in agriculture. The removal of land ceilings and the opening of FDI in agriculture is increasing the numbers of landless and increasing the burden on the landless.
6. Declining public investment and encouragement of the corporate sector in agriculture leaves the farmers vulnerable to rural capitalists and multi-national corporations (MNCs). We call upon the Government to encourage public investment and restrict MNC investment in agriculture.
7. We women call on the WB to stop the deliberate creation of hunger and malnutrition in India through structural adjustment policies especially those forced on agriculture.
8. We demand safe and healthy food for all. We demand the Government ensures that our food is free from chemical and non-chemical adulteration. Effective food safety provisions need to be in place to prevent adulteration, thereby enabling the public access to safe and healthy foods of our choice.
9. We outrightly reject genetically engineered foods. Genetically engineered foods are proving to cause retarded growth and immune deficiencies (The Hindu, 13/8/98). Since women and children are the worst victims of malnutrition, health hazards due to the consumption of genetically engineered foods will be most severely felt by poor women and children.
10. We call upon the Government to immediately stop the license free importation of 1 million tonnes of soyabean (for our edible oil industry) which is not necessary - from a point of view of people's food rights and will pose threats to livelihoods of farmers, a large section of whom are women. It will also pose a threat to women and children's health since the Government has failed to take action to ban the importation of genetically engineered soya or demand the separation and labeling of all genetically engineered foods.
11. We demand a halt to the use of imported food and unsafe food for welfare schemes such as the ICDS (Integrated Child Development Scheme) Mid day Meal programme, in which such foods as pre-processed corn soya blend is being used extensively. Not only is such imported food hazardous to our health due to the use of genetically engineered soya, but our local, nutrient-high cereal and grain economy is being marginalised to support resource intensive production systems of the developed countries.
12. The government price support system must be reoriented to ensure the meeting of basic food needs for women and children. We call upon the Government to increase procurement prices of staple foods, especially those of millets and legumes, in order to encourage farmers to return to growing essential food crops. Non-food crops (for example, cotton, tobacco and jute) cultivated as raw materials for industries should have no government procurement prices since industries can directly pay remunerative prices to farmers.
13. Women have always played an important role in the production and processing of food. Cottage and small industries in the food processing sector which gave some employment and income are being taken over by MNCs and big business companies encouraged by the Government. Apart from destroying women's livelihoods, this also leads to the flooding of the market with expensive, unhealthy junk food. Food resources are being diverted on a large scale to this elite consumer market, creating scarcity for households and rising price rises. We demand that food processing should be reserved for the small scale sector. Such a reservation of the food processing industry for the small scale sector would be consistent with WTO requirements of national treatment, since we would be treating domestic industries in the same way as MNCs by excluding both from entry into the food processing industry.
14. We call upon the Government to restrict and ban all exports of essential food till all are fed. We demand that the food needs of women and children of this country are met first, and only the surpluses from meeting this need should be used for trade exports. Instead of women eating last and least relying on the leftovers for their sustenance, we demand that global trade be left with the leftovers only after the food rights of all within the country are met. The Government needs to maintain vigilant monitoring of production, consumption and the food needs of all.

In India, DWD articulates its commitment to diversity and non-violent technology to ensure food security through the National Alliance for Women's Food Rights, which has been in the forefront in protecting women's and children's right as producers and consumers of food.

In 1999, women came together to protest the entry of Cargill, the agribusiness giant in world food trade, in India's domestic markets. Besides taking over larger flour mills, which led to the closure of thousands of small, cottage-industry based mills in the country, they introduced their brand of flour "Nature Fresh".

Consumers have a right to know... how fresh is "Nature Fresh"?

Women Demand:

- That Cargill immediately withdraw the "Nature Fresh" advertisements and render an apology for insulting all women and workers of India who use their hands to work.
- That Cargill allow representatives of the National Alliance for Women's Food Rights and ordinary women to visit the Cargill processing mill to issue a report on the actual processing.

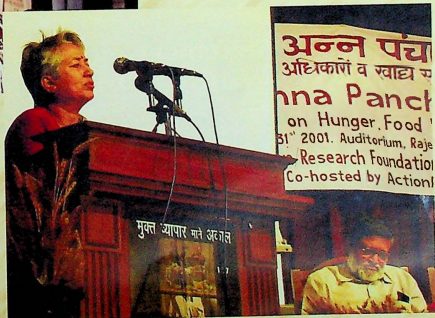


Highlighting the voices of farmers and consumers



◀ Together with farmers' unions and Navdanya, DWD organised the People's Seed Tribunal – Bija Panchayat in 2000, where small farmers from across the world gave evidence of the crisis in agriculture as a result of globalisation.

► Globalisation has resulted in the re-emergence of famine. DWD, together with Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology, organised the Public Hearing on Hunger and Food Rights – Anna Panchayat – in May 2001 to highlight the crisis of widespread human and starvation and the total collapse of People's food security.



Women Say "No" to Genetic Engineering



Women visionaries who have founded the DWD movement have provided alternatives to a global economy dominated by capitalist patriarchy and have pioneered the resistance to genetic engineering at the scientific and movement level. DWD has been organising a series of BIODEVASTATION workshops and public panel discussions to focus attention on the hazards of the patriarchal technology of genetic engineering.



The NAFWR spearheaded the movement against GE in India by taking up issues such as the 1998 dumping of GE soya that had been rejected by European countries and Japan, under pressure from corporations like Cargill,

and which resulted in the destruction of the local mustard oil economy. Through demonstrations, rallies, and public awareness campaigns, women protested the destruction of their oil economy as well as their cultural diversity that mustard represented. DWD is also campaigning against policies that lead to the destruction of natural sources of Vitamin-A to make way for genetically engineered rice and mustard.



DWD Statement on Contraceptive Corn

We call for an immediate halt to any further development and application or release of contraceptive corn, a corn genetically engineered by EPICYTE of San Diego using a rare human disease to create human infertility.

Any release to the environment can spread the pollen of such corn and turn one of the major food sources into a contraceptive hazard.

Therefore we also call for strengthening of regulation and strict implementation of biosafety and human rights laws to prevent any further development of this technology to prevent any such disasters.



DWD's Memorandum sent to the Health Minister of India in July 2000, to prevent the dumping of GE corn-soya blend as food aid for the victims of the Orissa supercyclone

STOP DUMPING GE FOOD!

Our demands:

- ◆ We call on the Government of India and Government of Orissa to immediately withdraw the corn-soya blend from distribution in Orissa and introduce mandatory segregation and labeling of all food entering the country for presence of GE constituents.
- ◆ We call on the US Government to stop using public finances to subsidise their gene giants.
- ◆ We demand that the World Bank stop using public funds to create market for US biotech corporations.
- ◆ We call on the Government of India to explore alternatives for food and nutrition aid which strengthen local economies, protect farmers' livelihoods and ensure safe and culturally appropriate foods.
- ◆ We call on all aid agencies to not use GE in children's food aid.
- ◆ We call on all relief agencies to stop dumping of inappropriate and unsafe food and to subscribe to ethical principles of food aid.

Women as knowledge keepers and custodians of cultural diversity

Nature has given us abundance, women's indigenous knowledge of biodiversity, agriculture and nutrition has built on that abundance to create more from less, to create growth through sharing.

- Women farmers share seeds freely and with sharing as a base, there can never be scarcity.
- The giving and sharing of food in abundance has been the basis of ensuring food security.
- The giving and sharing of knowledge has been the basis of the growth and evolution of knowledge. An economy of sharing is an economy of abundance.
- This worldview of abundance is based on sharing and on a deep awareness of humans as members of the earth family. This awareness that in impoverishing other beings, we impoverish ourselves and in nourishing other beings, we nourish ourselves is part of our present ecological knowledge and ancient wisdom.
- Without giving and sharing there can be no sustainability; without sustainability, there can be no peace.
- DWD movement celebrates sharing for sustainability and peace through food festivals, exposure tours, training programmes in biodiversity conservation, sustainable agriculture, indigenous healing systems, water conservation, capacity building for leadership and good governance.



BRINGING MILLET BACK. DWD's Forgotten Foods organic lunch brought nostalgic memories of grandmother's millet and amaranth based recipes.

DWD celebrated the Basmati Victory – the revocation of the broadbased patent claims of RiceTec Inc. by the USPTO with a rice dinner. Over 20 rice dishes from various parts of India gave an insight to participants of the role of cultural diversity in food.



*Flowers of Tesu (flame of the forest)
are the traditional cause of colour for the spring festival of Holi.*





We, Diverse Women for Diversity (DWD) committed to a peaceful world, celebrate our differences. From our differences come our strengths. We come from all the continents, and from different cultures and races, and are united in our vision for peace and justice for

the world today. We want to leave a peaceful and just world for our children and for the generations to come. We celebrate and uphold cultural and biological diversity. We will defend all forms of diversity and resist all forms of monoculture, fundamentalism and violence from which intolerance and hatred arise.

The tragedy on September 11 has shown us another face of terror.

We join in the pain of all people who have faced the terror of those who do not value the sanctity of human life. We especially abhor the use of human beings themselves as weapons. In this regard the terror of September 11 cannot be viewed as a lone event. Many acts of such terror have been inflicted on the peoples of this earth. The sacredness and dignity of life, and the right to peaceful existence and justice have been destroyed through imperialistic globalization and all forms of fundamentalism.

Among the many tools of terror in the modern world are:

- ◆ economic sanctions and structural adjustment policies by the WB, IMF WTO, the transnationals, and their accomplices in the different governments that lead to starvation and disease epidemics;
- ◆ biotechnologies that threaten the roots of life;
- ◆ monocultures that destroy social and biological diversity;
- ◆ degradation of the environment for monetary gain;
- ◆ widespread application of pesticides that lead to deformities, illness and death;
- ◆ pollution of soils, water and ecosystems at large;
- ◆ the pursuit of profit by global corporations which is the driving force behind terrorism - terrorism which destroys sustainable livelihoods, cultural identities and the right of people to basic necessities of life;
- ◆ the marginalization of indigenous peoples through continuing colonization, and the loss of sovereignty;
- ◆ the growing disparity between the rich and the poor between countries, and within countries, including countries of the "developed" nations;
- ◆ the US-led NATO alliance with its new strategy which is fostering war all over the globe, with other governments being blackmailed to join in this leads to further militarization and violence within all countries.

Given the extent of such structural terror in the world it is perhaps surprising that direct terrorist attacks, like that of September 11, are not more common. If we want to end terrorism we must pay attention to all sources of injustice that widen the gap between rich and poor, men and women, nature and human beings, and which create the hopelessness that can lead to terrorism. We stand with those who are working to remove the structural causes of injustices.

Women, children, the differently-abled and the aged are the worst victims of this reign of terror:

- ◆ the terror of not having water to drink and food to eat;
- ◆ the terror of food and water contamination;
- ◆ the terror of loss of livelihood;
- ◆ the terror of losing home, homeland, family and community and becoming a refugee;
- ◆ the terror of persistent poverty that leads to the sale of life and body organs;
- ◆ the terror of being forced into prostitution as a means of survival;
- ◆ the terror of living in communities where drug abuse has become a way of life;
- ◆ the terror of losing our children to a culture of violence;
- ◆ the terror of increased violence, in all forms, against women;
- ◆ the terror of patriarchy, racism, and casteism which affects the vast majority;
- ◆ the terror of living in a society where basic human rights for women are not respected.

We, Diverse Women for Diversity, pledge to overcome this capitalist patriarchal terrorism. We will work towards a world free of war, hunger and social and economic injustices. We condemn all acts of war and call on all nations to boycott pacts of aggression. We invite all women of the world to join with us in stopping governments from rushing into a mindless global war. Together, we will find peaceful, creative and non-violent ways to end terrorism in all its forms.

We ask all peoples of the world to stand with us in defending and celebrating diversity, peace and hope.

October 1, 2001

New Delhi, INDIA



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अरावली में जल बचाओ, जोहड़ बनाओ

अरावली पर्वत माला दिल्ली के फेफड़े हैं। इस पर्वतमाला के जंगल ही दिल्ली को स्वस्थ रख सकते हैं। दिल्ली की बढ़ती जनसंख्या को जिन्या खरना है तो अरावली का खनन तुरन्त बन्द कराना होगा। जब तक यहाँ खनन जारी रहेगा, तब तक दिल्ली की तरफ पहाड़ का नंगापन, दूषित वायु बढ़ती जायेगी। परिवेश और मानसून बदलेगा। सूखे, अकाल तथा बाढ़ के हालात बनेंगे।

अरावली के खनन से चन्द परिवार माला-माल बन गये। लाखों बेघर, बेकार बन गये हैं। पूरी अरावली में अवैध खनन चालू हो गया है। इससे सरकार को केवल 300 करोड़ का वार्षिक लाभ होता है, लेकिन 1,500 करोड़ रु. की वार्षिक हानि हो रही है। इस हानि से तभी बचा जा सकता है, जब अरावली में सभी खदानें बन्द होंगी।

भारत सरकार ने 7 मई, 1992 को अरावली पर्यावरण सुरक्षा हेतु अधिसूचना जारी की थी, लेकिन आज तक उसकी भी पालना ठीक से नहीं हो रही है। गैर मुमकिन पहाड़, राडा, बीड, बंजड़, रुन्ध क्षेत्रों को वन भूमि माना था। आज इनमें भी खनन के पट्टे दिये जा रहे हैं। यह क्षेत्र उच्चतम न्यायालय ने खनन हेतु 1992 में बन्द कर दिया था। लेकिन आज ग्यारह वर्ष बाद भी वर्ष 2003 में भी इस क्षेत्र में खनन जारी है। उच्चतम न्यायालय की स्पष्ट अवमानना हो रही है। हरियाणा, राजस्थान और गुजरात सरकार मजे से अवमानना करवा रही है।

अधिकतर खदानें उच्चतम न्यायालय द्वारा दिये गये अक्टूबर, 1991 आदेश के बाद चालू हुई थीं। कुछ खदान बन्द जरूर रहें जब उच्चतम न्यायालय ने अरावली की सभी खदानों को बन्द कराने का आदेश दिया था। लेकिन उच्चतम न्यायालय ने पता नहीं क्यों अपना आदेश बदल कर दुबारा खदानें चालू करा दी हैं ?

अरावली का समाज जाग गया तो खदान मालिक भी सचेत होकर खनन का शोषण बन्द करेंगे। हमें अरावली के आंसू पोंछने हैं। इन आंसुओं को रोकना जरूरी है। यह जितनी जल्दी काम शुरू होगा, उतना अच्छा है। खदानें चलाने वाले समाज, सरकार, सृष्टि सबका विनाश कर रहे हैं। इन्हें अपने भविष्य की चिन्ता करनी पड़ेगी। इनका भविष्य भी साझा है। साझा भविष्य, साझे प्रयास से ही सुधरेगा। जंगल के बाहर खनन करें, जंगल में जल, जंगली जीव, जंगलवासी सबको मिलकर बचाना पड़ेगा, तभी तो सब सुखी होंगे।

अब अरावली के समाज को देखना पड़ेगा। हमें यह सब देख कर अपनी जिम्मेदारी को समझ कर सुरक्षा करना है। इस कार्य में तुरन्त लगने हेतु एक अरावली बचाओ यात्रा गांधी समाधि, राजघाट, नई दिल्ली से 23 दिसम्बर, 2002 को शुरू कर दी है। इस यात्रा के दौरान अरावली को पुनः हरा-भरा बनाने का संकल्प लिया है। इससे ही खान मालिक, नेता, अधिकारी, व्यापारी सब सचेत होंगे। ये भी अरावली को हरा-भरा बनायें, तो ही इनका भविष्य शुभ बनेगा।

यात्रा हेतु राष्ट्रियों के सम्पर्क

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जल बचाओ, जोहड़ बनाओ, कम पानी खपत की फसल उगाओ

राजस्थान को पानीदार बनाने का प्रयास

जब जन-जन जल सहेजेगा, तब साथ राष्ट्र पानीदार बनेगा

राजस्थान में नये दिन से जल जागरण की शुरुआत विश्व जल वर्ष 2003 के पहले दिन से जल चेतना यात्रा द्वारा हो रही है। जल जागरण का राष्ट्रीय अभियान समाज के सफल प्रयास-स्थल लावा का वास जोहड़ से पहली जनवरी को प्रातः दस बजे शुरू होगा। इसे शुरू करने हेतु देश भर के प्रसिद्ध जलयोद्धा इकट्ठे हो रहे हैं। ये राजस्थान भर में जल जागरण यात्रा करके 20 जनवरी को भीकमपुरा में इकट्ठे होंगे। यहाँ 20 से 22 जनवरी तक राष्ट्रीय जल सम्मेलन होगा। इस सम्मेलन में पूरे देश में चलने वाली राष्ट्रीय जल चेतना यात्रा की टीम सदस्य, पड़ावों की व्यवस्था आदि का निर्णय होगा। यहीं से तैयार यात्रा दल साबरमती आश्रम के लिये चलेगा।

30 जनवरी को साबरमती आश्रम से शुरू होकर जल यात्रा गुजरात, म.प्र., उड़ीसा, छत्तीसगढ़, झारखण्ड, बिहार, उ.प्र. मई में पुनः राजस्थान आयेगा। यहाँ से हरियाणा, दिल्ली, महाराष्ट्र, कर्नाटक, आन्ध्र प्रदेश, तमिलनाडु, केरल, गोवा में जायेगा। गोवा से तीसरा चरण शुरू होगा - बंगाल, आसाम, मणिपुर, नागालैण्ड, सिक्किम आदि उत्तर-पूर्वी राज्यों में होते हुए आईजोल में सम्पन्न होगा। आईजोल से उत्तर की तरफ अभियान चलेगा, उत्तराखण्ड, हिमाचल, जम्मू-कश्मीर में यात्रा का 13 फरवरी, 2004 को समापन होगा।

इस जल जागरण का लक्ष्य है, समाज को पानीदार बनाना। समाज स्वयं पानी बचाने के कार्यों में जुटेगा, तभी 21वीं शताब्दी में सब को पीने को पानी और खाने के लिए अन्न मिलेगा। अब अन्न सुरक्षा अधिनियम की तरह जल सुरक्षा अधिनियम की जरूरत है। ऐसा अधिनियम बनवाना उसकी पालना कराना है। तभी जल के निजीकरण व व्यापारीकरण पर रोक लगेगी। क्योंकि हमारे देश में एक वर्ग में जल खरीद कर पीने की क्षमता नहीं है। सरकार का दायित्व है वह सबको पीने का पानी उपलब्ध कराये। सब को पीने का पानी तभी मिलेगा जब हम जगह-जगह पर जल बचाने, वर्षा जल को सहेजने, सब जगह धरती का पेट भरने के काम में जुटेंगे।

समाज जहाँ जल बचाने का काम करता है, उस काम में सरकारें बाधक बनती रही हैं। ऊपर-नीचे के किसानों में झगड़े करवाती रही हैं। भविष्य में समाज को जल का हक मिलेगा। तभी समाज जल प्रबन्धन में जुटेगा। पूरे समाज और प्रकृति को जल का हक दिलाने की प्रक्रिया चलानी है। समाज के जल हक मारने वाली व्यवस्था बदलने के लिए जगह-जगह, जन-जन खड़ा होवे, ऐसा करने से हमारा समाज पानीदार बनेगा।

पानीदार बनने की चाह रखने वाले सब जनों से प्रार्थना है। इस जल जागरण में जुड़ें। सभी जगह जल बचाने का आन्दोलन चले। नये जोहड़, तालाब, टांके, कुण्ड, झराले, बावड़ी बनें। पुरानों की मरम्मत होवे। शिक्षक-विद्यार्थी, किसान, पशुपालक, उद्योगपति, व्यापारी, सभी जन इस कार्य में जुटें। जो पानी बचाने में जुटेगा, उसे जलदान देने का पुण्य लाभ मिलेगा ही। जीवन चलाने की सभी जरूरत भी पूरी कर सकेगा। भूपेट अन्न, पानी का सन्तोष मिलेगा। इससे सुख-समृद्धि, शान्ति भी मिलती है। आत्म-गौरव व आत्मविश्वास भी बढ़ता है। नये काम करने की नई ऊर्जा भी श्रम निष्ठा से बढ़ती रहती है। तभी तो राजस्थान के समाज ने जगह-जगह जल बचाने के काम सदियों पहले शुरू कर दिये थे।

कुछ वर्षों से इस कार्य की अनदेखी बढ़ी, जल संरक्षण की परम्परागत कार्यों की अनदेखी ने जल बचाने वालों को कमजोर मान कर उपेक्षित कर दिया। एक जमाना था, जब जल बचाने वालों को गजधर, ओढ़, मेघवाल, पालीवाल, आदि सम्मानजनक उपाधियां दी गई थीं। अब तो ये भी सामान्य जातियां बन गई हैं। इनमें अब भी पानी का ज्ञान होगा। लेकिन जरूरत किसे है ? इनसे कुछ सीखने की ? पानी को समझने का अहसास जगाने, पानी को सब मिलकर बचा सकते हैं, यह आभास उभारने हेतु हमें जगह-जगह उत्प्रेरक बनाना होगा। यह राष्ट्रीय जलयात्रा जल उत्प्रेरक बनने का अवसर है। आओ हम सब जल बचाने की रचनात्मकता शुरू करें, जल को साझा संसाधन बनाये रखकर जल जीवन का आधार के साथ-साथ जीवन का मूलभूत हक भी है। इसे पाने हेतु संघर्ष करना पड़े तो जलकर्मी के साथ जलयोद्धा भी बने। आओ हम अब पानीदार बनने की शुरुआत करें।

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अनावली बचाओ तेतना सान्ना

दस वर्ष पहले अनावली को बचाने के लिए तलण भारत संघ के श्री राजेन्द्र सिंह के नेतृत्व में एक यात्रा हिममनार, गुजरात से शुरू होकर दिल्ली तक की गई थी। उस समय तलण भारत संघ ने एक यात्रिका माननीय उषावती न्यायालय में पद की थी। उस यात्रिका ने अनावली के जीतने व पहाड़ी को बचाने के लिए मांग की थी, नतीजतन न्यायालय ने हरीयाणा के गुजराह एवं पारसलण के अलवर जिले को संदर्भितकर मानकर अनावली के नगरपालिका बनाइ, रावा, भीरड, बजरा व क्षेत्र डेरा को जंगल मानते हुए, इनके संरक्षण के लिए खान एवं प्यारलण विवेकी सभी गतिविधियों को बंद कर के फंसा दिया था। 7 मई 1982 को भारत सरकार के परदायन मंत्रालय ने एक अधिसूचना जारी करके अनावली परत मालाओं एवं होने वाली विनाशकारी सभी गतिविधियों पर रोक लगा दी थी, लेकिन सरकार ने इस अधिसूचना पर केल्वी रिवाइज। स्वयं भारत सरकार ने अपनी अधिसूचना की क्रियान्विति करने के लिए कोई अभियान एक नहीं बनाया। इस हेतु तलण भारत संघ अविश्वसनीय से गतिवत करके उस अधिसूचना को क्रियान्विति करने की कोशिश की थी। अंत में सरकार की केल्वी के कारण तलण भारत संघ ने अनावली क्षेत्र में 2 अक्टूबर 1993 को 14 परदायन क्षेत्रों के मध्यम से पूरे अनावली क्षेत्र में अनावली बचाओ धेनना परदायन का आयोजन किया था। और अंत में दिल्ली पहुंचकर प्रथममंत्री लोक सभामें अध्यक्ष को अनावली बचाने का झाणन किया था।

सरकार की केल्वी के कारण ही मननीय उषावती न्यायालय ने अनावली के बारे में बहुत महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय सुनाया है। आज 9 दिसम्बर, 2002 को उषावती न्यायालय ने सरकार से कह दिया है, कि सबसे पहले अनावली के खान के बंद होने में बहुत महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय सुनाया है। आज 9 दिसम्बर, 2002 को उषावती न्यायालय के जीवन के आधार की बराबरी खान से अनावली क्षेत्र में हुई। इस खान के कारण ही परसलण को आकाश की कुहाई दे रहे हैं। उसकी अबत 100 गुणा केरत गरीब गृहीहीन के जीवन के आधार की बराबरी खान से अनावली क्षेत्र में हुई। इस खान के कारण ही परसलण को आकाश की अबत मार भेजने पड़ रही है। सब पहाड़ नंगे होते जा रहे हैं। नंगे पहाड़ के कारण यहाँ का मौसम गरमा रहा है, मानसून बदल रहा है। इस तरह सबसे है कि अनावली के खान से बंद पनितारों को बहुत ज्यादा फायदा हुआ है, लेकिन ताजे लोग इससे बेचर भी हुए हैं। जिन क्षेत्रों में अधिक खान की गतिविधियां चल रही हैं। वहां के परिवार टूट रहे बेचर हुए हैं खेती, गोधर, जंगल, अन्यत्र सब अनुत्पादाकर बना गए हैं। कुलों का पानी सूख गया है व खान पानी से भरती जा रही हैं। सब क्षेत्रों में खान के पहाड़ और नदरों के डेरा अनावली के बड़े भूभागों को उत्पादाकर भेज रहे हैं। सरकार ने जिन सभी समूह अनावली को दिल्ली से लेकर गुजरात तक खानों कि हुए देकर अनावली के संदर्भण करने कि प्रक्रिया यादु कि व पराधन कि दृष्टि से विनाश कि और अग्रस किया है। अनावली में खान द्वारा जारी बराबरी का एक याग खेत जारी है। अब भी समय है इसे तलगत बंद किया जाना चाहिए। उषावती न्यायालय के आदेश की पालन करना हमारे सामक और सरकार की सझी जिम्मेदारी है।

समान सझी जिम्मेदारी का अहसास तथा अनावली में चल रहे अकेर खान को बंद करवा सकता है। इसका आगास करने तथा उषावती न्यायालय के आदेश की पालन करना हेतु पूरे अनावली में नगीनी, किसानों, पशुपालकों, शिक्षकों, विद्यार्थियों, बुद्धिजीवियों सबको तेकत उन्हें अनावली के खान क्षेत्र में अनावली बचाओ धेनना यात्रा का पुनः आयोजन करना आज की पवती जरूरत है। अनावली का नंगाना दूर धारो तो परीसान को पृथुओं का था। मितेगा और यहां के लोगों के जीवन में सुख, समृद्धि और शांति बचाओ। इतनी अनावली जिम्मेवारी से अलवि है कि अनावली की बचाने के लिए समाधि हो जारो और पहाड़ी को बचाव लिए जायें। जब प्यारलण का जन-जन अनावली परत को खानेंगे तभी अनावली की तभी अनावली इन्ही-न्ही होगी व सतका पट भंगेगी। यह सझी सझी है इसको सतका पट भंगने के लिए ही सारे प्यारलण को जन-जन अनावली परत को खानेंगे तभी अनावली को हरा भरा बनाने के लिए 977 करोड़ केल्वीया जमान से कर्वा किया जा और दूसरी तरफ पहाड़ी से जंगल कटावने के लिए खान करने की पूरी छूट देकर खेती है। यह सझी सझी है कि हमारे द्वारा समाज को धोखा दिया जा रहा है। इस धोखे का बला पहाड़ी सरकार सुनात भी चुकी है। जिर इस सरकार ने खान नहीं रिया तो यह भी भुगतनी। हमारी सरकार से प्रथमग है, कि अनावली में चल रहे खान को पूर्ण बंद करवाए। इससे समाज का सरकार के प्रति सतका बहाना। समाज से प्रथमग है कि यह खान मालिकों से बात करें और उन्हें अनावली को नस्ट करने से रोके। जिन खान परदायों को जरूरत है उनके सतक कुछ क्षेत्रों को विकरि करके केवल उनमें ही खान कार्य करें व उषावती न्यायालय के आदेश की पालना का पूरा खान करें।

अनावली पहाड़ी में हरियाली लाने के लिए अनावली का पूरा समाज दिल्ली से लेकर हमारे नगर गुजरात तक अनावली के खान वही खानों को बंद करवाके इन क्षेत्रों में खेतरोपाण, बागईरवती, आदि का काम भी तलगत शुरू करने की जरूरत है। जिनसे हमारे अनावली परत पुनः हरा भरे से सके तथा यहाँ पर चल रहे पहाड़ी के विनाश को रोकने इतकी समृद्धि के रासत पर हरा चल वरते, पहाड़ी की समृद्धि से ही हमण जीवन समृद्ध होगा। अनावली क्षेत्र की हरियाली लाने हेतु अनावली धेनना यात्राओं का आयोजन तलगत शुरू करें।

यात्रा हेतु राज्यों के सचिवरुं

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धरती का पेट पानी से भरा रहेगा तभी धरती हम सबका पेट भरेगी

राष्ट्रीय जलयात्रा

(30 जनवरी 2003 साबरमती, अहमदाबाद से शुरू इसमें सब जुड़े)

अकाल-सूखे-बाढ़ के कारण हमारे देश में पानी का संकट गहरा हो गया है। योजना आयोग के अनुसार आजकल पानी की कमी या प्रदूषण के कारण 70 प्रतिशत व्यक्तियों को पीने योग्य शुद्ध पेय जल की कमी है। पानी के लिए व्यक्ति गांव, जिले-जिले व राज्य-राज्य के झगड़े खूब सुनने को मिल रहे हैं। इन सबसे बचने हेतु केन्द्र सरकार ने सबको पीने का पानी पिलाने हेतु जल का निजीकरण करने की नीति बना दी है। नदियों को जोड़ने की घोषणा कर दी है। जब सरकार से पेयजल सुरक्षा की जिम्मेदारी की बात करते हैं तो पानी की कमी के कारण जल का निजीकरण समाधान बता दिया जाता है। जब सरकार-बाढ़ मुक्ति का सवाल आता है, तो पिछले 40 वर्षों से नदियों को जोड़ने की बात कही जाती है। इस काम के लिए पाँच लाख साठ हजार करोड़ रूपया लागत की घोषणा हो जाती है। भूजल भण्डार पुनः भरण की आकर्षक योजना भी बताई है। लेकिन ये सब कहीं दिख नहीं रही है।

आजादी के समय हमारे 231 गांव जल संसाधन रहित थे। 2002 में 9000 गांव जल संसाधन रहित बन गये हैं। 2/3 भूजल भण्डार खाली हो गये हैं यह सब हजारों-हजार खर्च के बावजूद हुआ। आजादी के समय हमारा पेट तथा अनाज के भण्डार खाली थे। अब हमारे अनाज के भण्डार भर गये हैं। लेकिन धरती का पेट खाली है धरती का पेट (भूजल भंडार) खाली होने पर हमारे अनाज के भण्डार नहीं भरेगे। इतना ही का पेट भरने हेतु अनाज है। लेकिन पेयजल का संकट है। यह बढ़ता जा ही रहा है। कुछ वर्षों बाद फिर अनाज का संकट भी होगा। क्योंकि जल का निजीकरण हमें आगे इस प्रकार अनाज पैदा नहीं करने देगा। नदियों को जोड़ने वाली योजना हमें आपस में लड़ायेगी। समाज को तोड़ेगी। छोटी नदियों का जुड़ना अच्छा लगता है। लेकिन भ्रामक व कटिन है।

अपने भ्रामक हालात से ऊपर उठने वास्ते। हमारी, समझ मिलाकर अपना अहसास बनाकर, श्रम से कुछ जल बचाने का काम करने लग जायें। छोटे-छोटे जल के काम करने का आभास जायेगा तो हमें नैतिक ताकत मिलेगी। फिर हम सरकारों के निजीकरण के स्थान पर सामुदायिकरण की व्यवस्था कर सकते हैं। जल को आज तक किसी ने अपनी निजी सम्पत्ति घोषित नहीं किया था। जल समाज-सरकार-सृष्टि का साझा प्राकृतिक संसाधन है।

इसको बचाने, उपयोग करने, प्रबन्धन आदि का भी हमें बराबर हक है। अतः भारत सरकार जल को राष्ट्रीय साझा संसाधन घोषित करने वाली नीति बनाये। अभी की नीति में इसे 'सम्पत्ति घोषित' करके बहुराष्ट्रीय कम्पनियों वास्ते नीजि मालिकाना दिया है। पानी का पट्टा, परिवहन, जल संचयका सब हक निजी कम्पनियों को दिया है। इस नीति के कारण समाज पानी प्रबन्धन से दूर हट जायेगा, इसे उलटने हेतु समाज को जल से, नदियों से जुड़ने की जरूरत है तभी साझा - विकेंद्रित जल प्रबन्धन होगा।

राष्ट्रीय जलयात्रा 30 जनवरी को साबरमती आश्रम, अहमदाबाद से शुरू करेंगे। इस यात्रा के उद्देश्य विद्यालयों, विश्वविद्यालयों के शिक्षक-विद्यार्थियों को जल संरक्षण के प्रत्यक्ष कार्यों से जोड़ना। किसानों के खेत-घर में जल संरक्षण शुरू करवाना। शहरों-गाँवों-कस्बों के समाज में पानीदार बनाने के संस्कार खालना।

समाज द्वारा हुए जल संरक्षण कार्यों के अनुभवों को आपस में बाँटकर धरती के भूजल भण्डारों को पुनः भरण करना। जल को सरकार, समाज सृष्टि का साझा राष्ट्रीय संसाधन घोषित कराने वाली जल नीति बनाने तथा जल निजीकरण को रोकना तथा जल का सामुदायिकरण करवाना।

नदियों को जोड़ने के स्थान पर नदियों के साथ लोगों को जोड़ना। नदियों को सदा शुद्ध,पवित्र बनाने के प्रयास शुरू करवाना। जल संरक्षक को जल उपयोग का हक दिलाना। जल शोषक को जल संरक्षक के प्रति देनदार बनाने का मानस तैयार करना है।

इस यात्रा में हम जल प्रभात फ़ैरी निकालेंगे। जल नाटक,ड्रामा,एकंकी मंचन को जल समस्याओं के समाधान के उपायों पर संवाद संगोष्ठी, श्रमदान शिविरों में जल संरक्षण हेतु कुछ प्रत्यक्ष काम करेंगे। क्षेत्रीय लोगों के साथ मिलकर जल विवादों के निदान के उपाय भी करेंगे। पंचायत प्रतिनिधियों की क्षमता बढ़ाकर जल संरक्षण के कार्यों को समने पर जोर देंगे। यह यात्रा जल बचाने वाले पानीदार लोगों को जोड़ने वाली बने, ऐसा निर्णय है। पानी के उपयोग का समाज को हक व पानी बचाने में समाज की जिम्मेदारी बनाने वास्ते जल संरक्षण के सब कार्य शुरू करवाना है।

नदियों को जोड़ने के स्थान पर समाज को नदियों से जोड़ने की चेतना जानाना। नदियों का प्रदूषण रोकना है। इस हेतु समाज से काम शुरू करवाना है। समाज द्वारा हुए जल संरक्षण कार्यों के अनुभवों को आपस में बाँटकर भूजल का पुनः भरण करना है। इस हेतु छत का जल धरती में उतारने के काम चालू करवाना है। जल को सरकार, समाज व सृष्टि का साझा संसाधन घोषित कराने वाली जल नीति बनवाना। जल संरक्षण करने वालों को ही जल उपयोग का हक दिलाना। जल शोषक को जल संरक्षक के प्रति देनदारी। इस हेतु समाज में सरकार से संघर्ष की तैयारी करवाना है।

समाज में जल संरक्षण के प्रति पुनः चेतना जानाना व गांव गांव में पानी चेतना मंच, जल विरादरी बनाना। शहरों में पानी का सदुपयोग व पानी की बर्बादी रोकना है। हम चाहते हैं कि पूरे देश में उक्त कार्य शुरू हों। इन कार्यों को शुरू करके ही आप जलयात्रा के साथ जुड़ेगे तो अच्छा होगा। राष्ट्र सुखी,शान्त,समृद्ध बनेगा।

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The International College for Sustainable Living Bija Vidyapeeth

Biodiversity, Biotechnology, Biopiracy

February 9 - 22, 2003

with Pat Mooney, Jacqueline McGlade, and Dr. Vandana Shiva*

Biodiversity today is being threatened by attempts to pirate and control it through patenting and by the biotechnology of genetic manipulation. But biodiversity is also being conserved, and communities around the world are fighting to ensure that the natural heritage they have preserved for centuries is not stolen or destroyed.

Biotechnology and Biopiracy

Genetic Engineered (GE) seeds such as "BT Cotton" and "Round Up Ready Soya" are replacing biodiverse agriculture around the world, and spreading genetic pollution. Contrary to claims, Genetic Engineering is not bringing new benefits to farmers or consumers, though it is creating new risks.

New definitions of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRS) are creating an infrastructure for an epidemic of piracy, which has already started. A handful of multinational companies are claiming to have invented, and thereby patent, centuries-old staples such as Wheat Flour, and Rice, as well as traditional uses of everything from the Neem tree to Haldi (Turmeric).

Biodiversity Conservation

Since 1987, Navdanya (of which Bija Vidyapeeth is an educational programme) has been working to preserve biodiversity through promoting sustainable organic farming (from the field to the table), and by fighting the threats of biotechnology and biopiracy. Navdanya has set up a network of community seed banks across the country, helping preserve and promote the incredible diversity of Indian agriculture. It successfully fought and won cases to prevent foreign companies from patenting India's indigenous Neem tree and Basmati rice, by forming the largest conservation movement in the area of agro-biodiversity and seed conservation. Navdanya is also working on defending community rights, especially over traditional knowledge and local resources, through its living Democracy movement.

The Course*

The course will begin on the Bija Vidyapeeth campus, set on Navdanya's organic farm (a few kilometers outside of Dehra Dun, Uttaranchal, India). Faculty will provide a framework for exploring the impact (ecological, social, and environmental) of current trends in modern agriculture. We will also look at the benefits of sustainable farming, which produces more nutrition per acre without destroying the ecological base. The highlight of the course will be a field trip in the Himalayas to visit communities who have been practicing sustainable agriculture to conserve biodiversity. The course will then proceed to Delhi for the final day of exploring how we can integrate theory and practice.

Faculty:

Dr. Vandana Shiva is the founder of Navdanya and director of the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology, founded to do research in a participatory mode with people, not on them - and to do research with an interdisciplinary approach, - reflecting the interconnections in the web of life. She is the recipient of the 1993 Right Livelihood Award - often called the "Alternative Nobel Prize", the award recognizes "vision and work contributing to making life more whole, healing the planet and uplifting humanity." Her books, "The Violence of Green Revolution," "Stolen Harvest" and "Monocultures of the Mind" have become basic challenges to the dominant paradigm of non-sustainable agricultural practices.

Jacqueline McGlade is the Natural Environmental Research Council Professorial Fellow in Mathematical Biology at University College London. Her research is primarily concerned with developing a theory of governance of natural resources. Professor McGlade is the author of *Governance of Natural Resources* and *Theoretical Ecology*, and has appeared in many radio and television programmes, including her own BBC series *The Ocean Planet* and *Learning from Nature*. She is chairman of the Millennium Project, The Earth Centre, a Board Member of the Environment Agency, and a member of the UK-China Forum.

Pat Mooney is Executive Director of ETC group, (formerly RAFI - the Rural Advancement Foundation International), and was the first to inform the world about Terminator seed technology. For more than thirty years, Pat Mooney has worked with civil society organisations (CSOs) on international trade and development issues related to agriculture and biodiversity. Born in Brandon, Manitoba, Canada, Mooney has lived most of his life on the Canadian prairies. The author or co-author of several books on the politics of biotechnology and biodiversity, Mooney received The Right Livelihood Award (the "Alternative Nobel Prize") in the Swedish Parliament and the American "Giraffe Award" given to people "who stick their necks out".

About Bija Vidyapeeth

In a world dominated by greed and competition, speed and restlessness, pollution and ecological destruction, war and violence, Bija Vidyapeeth offers a unique opportunity to explore and practice the art and science of sustainability. Bija Vidyapeeth offers a unique insight into the tenets of sustainability and deep democracy through interactions with the foremost intellectuals and sustainable communities of our times.

Based on the principles of sustainability and diversity, the campus is located on Navdanya's organic farm in Doon Valley. Nestled in the foothills between the Himalayas and Shivalik mountains, it offers an ambience that reinvigorates our vital link with nature and promotes contemplation, enquiry and dynamic action.

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GMO's: The Failed Promise

September 2002 saw the large-scale failure of Bt cotton in India, which had been commercialized with much fanfare in barely six months earlier in April, when the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) had given permission to Monsanto/MAHYCO for commercialization of three Bt varieties. The failure was so total that farmers, researchers and academics joined voices in denouncing Bt cotton.

Failure of Bt. Cotton

Despite the Research Foundation's case in the Supreme Court against Monsanto and Mahyco for the illegal and inadequate trials of Bt. cotton as well as a worldwide citizens movement against GMO's, the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests gave the approval for commercialization of Bt. cotton in March this year.

The Bt. was planted in 40,000 hectares in seven states but has been found to be a total failure in controlling the American bollworm, as it was designed to do. The maximum yield is expected to be not more than 4 quintals as found by the field study team of the Research Foundation in the states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka. In most of the Bt. fields the plants are almost matured and farmers have uprooted their Bt. plants to sow another crop while the other varieties have yet to give second and third flush and expected to reach an yield of 12 quintals. In Vidharba farmers have got only 30% yield from Bt. while in Andhra due to heavy pest attack farmers had to spray the same amount as on any other hybrid cotton variety to control American bollworm. Moreover almost every Bt. farmer made several sprays to control sucking pests like Jassids, aphids and trips after 40 days with the reduction in expression of the treated chemicals to control sucking pests. RFSTE field study proved that the claims made by Monsanto-Mahyco about Bt. cotton as an effective pest resistant crop has been proved false by large scale commercial planting this year.

The Bt. farmers have not only lost their savings in protecting the Bt. crop but their cotton staple is of lower middle grade which has not much demand in the market hence the farmers would lose on the market front too, keeping in mind that the cotton prices have already gone after US declaration of export subsidy to its farmers under the new farm bill.

Neglecting Biosafety

The GEAC has stipulated that farmers sowing Bt cotton must plant 20% of their fields with non-Bt varieties. However, there is confusion amongst scientists as to what is the distance of pollen transfer. The ranges claimed vary from 2 metres to 3 miles.

In addition, rather than making Monsanto-MAHYCO responsible for ensuring that the refugia conditions are met, the rules put the onus on the farmer for compliance. In the case of small farmers, compliance will be practically impossible.

The failure of Bt. cotton has completely exposed the companies who are trying to market their GM seeds at the cost of the farmers' live and livelihood.

The GEAC is equally responsible for a great loss that Bt. cotton growers are facing, a loss caused by the GEAC's hasty and irresponsible decision to give clearance to an untested technology.

Rather than learning any lesson from the Bt fiasco that has pushed farmers to penury. Instead of accepting their mistake, the MoEF Minister insisted that the failed Bt. cotton crop is successful and hence cleared the way for approving the Bt. for northern region as well as the other GM crop that is in the pipeline - transgenic mustard.

GM Mustard: creates a risk of food contamination

The adulteration in mustard in 1998 caused more than 50 deaths in Delhi, which led to banning of mustard oil in several states. This ban resulted in the import of genetically engineered soya oil into India. It also led to the collapse of the Indian mustard growing farmers, who reduced the acreage under this oilseed, thus paving the way for the introduction of a new type of adulteration of mustard - through transgenic mustard.

The new type of adulteration through genetic engineering is by introducing different bacteria, *Barnese* - a highly toxic male sterile gene (which is an RNA and if not controlled, can code for destruction of any living cell) and *Bar*-the glufosinate tolerance gene from *Streptomyces hygroscopicus*.

If a little extra mixture of argemone weed seeds can cause a dreaded disease like dropsy and can kill hundreds of people, no one knows how these living organisms would behave and create what new disease and how many more people will die. The Multinational company PGS-Aventis-Bayer with the help of an Indian company ProAgro claims to have spent just 5 crores on its trial in 5 years, and is now putting pressure on the government, even through media, to get the clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests. By spending just 5 crores, the corporations are ready to play with the lives of more than 50 crores Indians who use mustard oil every day as edible oil. These companies have acknowledged the fact that the oil and oil meal of the glufosinate resistant transgenic mustard was not very extensively tested for safety on human beings. Through the transgenic mustard, these Biotech companies basically wants to sell their herbicide glufosinate as the GE mustard is supposed to be resistant to glufosinate.

Besides being harmful to humans, it would also be dangerous to our biodiversity and the various wild and local mustard varieties, of which India has many. These could be transformed

into weeds and super weeds through cross pollination and other means of pollen transfer.

So far the citizens' movements e.g. RFSSTE, Greenpeace and others have managed to put pressure on the GEAC and the government in delaying the clearance to this dreaded and most toxic food product. However, the way the failed Bt. cotton crop has been magically been declared as successful, this transgenic mustard can also be declared as safe and get a clearance from GEAC.

Corporate Motto: GMO's or No GMO's, chemicals should kill

It is not just in the case of Bt. cotton or the glufosinate resistant transgenic mustard that corporation like Monsanto or Aventis (now Bayer) are deceiving poor farmers. All corporate seeds are chemically intensive seeds. Monsanto is pushing the farmers of drought stricken and famine-ridden Udaipur and neighbouring districts of Rajasthan to take to industrial farming of maize, and to use its hybrid corn and its herbicide *Roundup*, no doubt as a prelude to introducing the genetically engineered *Roundup Ready* varieties once the poor and debt-ridden farmers are further pushed on to this ecologically genocidal herbicide trap.

Monsanto claims that as a result of the *Humsafar* programme, the yield of maize rose from 25 quintals per hectare to 50 quintals per hectare and the profitability of the farmers also doubled, from Rs. 7500 per hectare to Rs. 15000 per hectare. In fact, its publicity brochures distributed among the farmers is claiming even much higher yields i.e. 50-90 quintals per acre (125-225/ ha).

However, a study conducted by RFSSTE shows that Monsanto's claims are utter lies. Monsanto's own field staff at Wana and Menar villages in Udaipur reported that the varieties have yielded only 12 quintals/acre (30 quintal/hect.).

Three Different and Contradictory Productivity Claims by Monsanto:

- ❖ Reported by Monsanto field staff:
2.4 qtls/bigha; 12 qtls/acre; 30 qtls/hectares
- ❖ Reported by Monsanto for the *Humsafar* Award:
4 qtls/ bigha; 20 qtls/acre; 50 qtls/hectares
- ❖ Reported by Monsanto in its brochure:
18-20 qtls/bigha; 50-90 qtls/acre; 125-225 qtls/hect.

However discussion with farmers growing Monsanto varieties and desi (local) varieties reveals that there is hardly any difference in the yield compared to the desi maize varieties. While desi maize varieties yield 6 quintals per acre (15 quintals per hectare) Monsanto varieties yield 7 quintals per acre (17.5 qtls/ hectare).

Moreover the price of Monsanto seeds vary from Rs. 250 to 275 for a packet of 5 kg., whereas the same quantity of Desi/Local varieties costs only Rs. 25/-. However there have been no tests, whether these "high yielding" hybrid varieties seeds are genetic engineered. This is urgently required since Monsanto has

recently extended its operation to 98 villages in Udaipur, Chittorgarh and Banswara districts of Rajasthan and so far about 80 tonnes of seed have been sold to the farmers of the region.

For corporations like Monsanto, profit making through the sale of chemicals is vital. Thus even while they proclaim that their GE crops require less pesticides, they are actually promoting the use of chemicals, even as they point their fingers (as done in the Bt. cotton case in SC) at RFSSTE as stooge of pesticide lobby for opposing the Bt. cotton. Actual commercialization of Monsanto's Bt cotton in India resulted in farmers having to use far more pesticides to control not just other pests, but also the American bollworm against which Bt is supposed to provide protection. Monsanto's much-lauded project "Humsafar" actually involves the introduction of its eco-narcotic, *Roundup* (the controversial glyphosate-based herbicide) to small and marginal peasants of Udaipur, and turning an important local food and fodder crop into raw material for industry,

For *Roundup*, farmers are being totally misled about its safety in a region, which is drought prone, the ready recipe for desertification.

Herbicide use is supposed to reduce labour involved in tilling and weeding, and at the same time, reduce competition for nutrition and space by killing of the weeds. The concept of weeds as competing for nutrition and space with cultivated crops is the result of monocultures, where all crops other than the one being "cultivated" is considered a weed. However, small farmers, such as the farmers in Rajasthan, traditionally cultivate more than one crop at a time. In fact, in typical traditional Indian agriculture, there is no concept of weeds. Plants that are not sown often provide food for humans, cattle, and finally for the soil as green manure. Many of these plants and their roots form the most critical ingredient of food security in the drought-stricken region, where people stave off famine through consuming these plants.

Often, the supposed weeds are a source of medicine for humans, for animals and for plants; they also may have pesticidal or other beneficial properties. Udaipur region in fact, is rich in its naturally growing medicinal plant diversity used by thousands of traditional healers for ayurvedic preparations.

The killing of agro-biodiversity by the broad spectrum herbicide will not only wipe out the rich medicinal plants biodiversity but also the fodder for animals, which has become more scarce due to drought. Already hundreds of animals have died in Rajasthan; the scarcity of fodder will lead to increased starvation and deaths of animals.

The case of both Bt. cotton and hybrid corn-*Roundup* sales confirms that the corporations like Monsanto are not selling farmers' prosperity but disaster. It is time for an independent assessment of Monsanto's seeds and products worldwide. Meantime the scientific call for a freeze on commercial release of any genetically engineered crop must be headed if poor peasants have to be saved.

IPRs & Biodiversity: How New Laws Promote Biopiracy & Biopatenting

India has passed the Patent (Second Amendment) Act, 2002, the Plant Variety Protection Act, 2001, and the Biodiversity Act, 2002. These acts open the door for biopiracy and biopatenting.

The Convention on Biological Diversity provides a comprehensive and internationally binding legal framework for the protection of biodiversity for the recognition of sovereign rights of the Third World over biodiversity and its components, and to protect and to strengthen the indigenous knowledge systems and patents of use of biodiversity by local communities.

The TRIPs Agreement of the WTO, on the other hand, promotes corporate hijack of biodiversity and knowledge, as well as the patenting of life forms. The changes in the Indian IPR laws reflect a commitment to WTO rather than to CBD.

Whether it is the Patent (Amendment) or the Plant Variety legislations or the Biodiversity legislation, the national implementation process increasingly moved from openness to secrecy, from the protection of public interest and national interest to the protection of global corporate interest.

Corporate Pressure Shapes National Laws

The conflict between the global corporate interest and the national public interest was very apparent on the processes of drafting all legislations related to IPRs and biodiversity.

But ultimately under the pressure from the US government and corporations our national legislations on IPRs, which got through the Indian Parliament in last couple of years, ignored the national interest and favoured the corporate interest through its provision for the patenting of life and indigenous knowledge. The biodiversity law, passed during the winter session in 2002, has been made an access law endorsing for biopiracy and allowed IPRs on our seeds and genetic resources.

Amending Patent Laws

In 1995, the Government tried to amend the Indian Patent Act to implement TRIPs but failed.

In 1996, the US initiated a dispute against India on non-implementation of TRIPs.

In September of 1997, the WTO ruled against India in the TRIPs dispute.

In October 1997, the Government set up a committee to implement articles 70.8 and 70.9 of TRIPs.

In March 1999, the Government of India amended the Patent Act 1970, through the Patents (Amendment) Act, 1999 to allow Exclusive Marketing Rights (EMRs) when the review of TRIPs was due in the same year 1999 in the Ministerial at Seattle. This was also done despite the disclosure of patent on Basmati taken by the RiceTec Inc in US.

The 1999 Act provided for the grant of Exclusive Marketing Rights (EMRs) with regard to pharmaceuticals and food articles to those who apply for product patent in these areas pending the disposal of their patent applications. Under the amendment, these EMRs shall be granted if the applicant has obtained a product patent for that product in any other member country

which is a signatory to the new GATT Agreement. The only examination before the grant of such EMRs has been restricted to the matters mentioned under Sections 3 & 4 of the Indian Patents Act. Thus a person having obtained a product patent in a member country would be almost automatically be granted Exclusive Marketing Rights (EMRs) for the sale and distribution of that product in India merely on his making a patent application in India. Though the Amendment makes a provision for the grant of compulsory licence for marketing the product in India, there is no provision made for the grant of compulsory licence for manufacturing the product in India.

The Act does not provide any safeguards against biopiracy of indigenous knowledge systems. It does not have any provision to safeguard against the allopathisation of the Indian traditional medicine systems.

It has not exempted plant-based medicines and drugs from patentability. India is a rich source of medicinal plants, many of which are commonly used everyday - e.g. ginger, turmeric, tulsi, ajwain, etc. Patents on these plants and drugs and medicines derived from them, leading to biopiracy. Once these patents become legalised in our country, our people will, over time, lose all access to these plants and will be forced to buy the patented drug from the companies holding the patents. Often they may not even be able to use these plants as foods. This will have a very serious impact on indigenous medical practitioners, who now cater to over 70% of the health needs of the country. In addition, granting these patents will turn a free and freely accessible resource into a highly priced, difficult to access product of the company.

In April 1999, RFSTE challenged the Patents (Amendment) Act, 1999 as being against public interest, public health, national interest and violative of the Constitution of India. Though the case continued till 2001, on 8th January 2002 the Bench comprising Justice Kripal, Justice Bala Krishanan, and Justice Pasyad heard the case for hardly 5 minutes and dismissed it, but, on the appeal of our counsel Mr. Prashant Bhushan, gave us the liberty to come to the court again if the government failed to protect the public interest in this law.

The Doha Declaration

The Doha Declaration aims at providing 'access to medicines for all' and recognises and reaffirms the flexibility of TRIPs provisions and the right of Members to use to the maximum these flexibilities by adopting effective compulsory licences systems to provide affordable medicines for its citizens. Unfortunately India failed to address the public interest angle of the Doha Declaration in the Patent (Second Amendment) Act, 2002. The amended Act does not reflect the spirit of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPs Agreement and Public Health.

The Doha Declaration: silent on patents on seeds and life

The Doha TRIPs declaration completely fails to include the same for seeds and farmers' rights. Therefore the NGO

community issued a statement on "TRIPs, genes, seeds and medicines" at the Doha Ministerial, which stated:

The fundamental rights to rural livelihoods, food and health, depend on affordable seed and affordable medicine.

TRIPs is threatening farmers survival by creating seed monopolies, and making seeds more expensive. Farmers particularly in the developing world are being pushed into heavy debt and suicide as a result of rising cost of seed and related inputs.

There are 900 patents on staple food crops with half of them controlled by just 4 multinational corporations. Seeds that small farmers have evolved over centuries such as the famous Basmati from India and Pakistan, have been claimed as being the "invention" of corporations such as Texas based RiceTec. TRIPs is unbalanced and asymmetric and is promoting such biopiracy.

Surprisingly, the Ministerial Declaration issued at Doha did refer to "protection of traditional knowledge and folklore" but the mandatory review of 27.3 (b) which started in 1999 and which should have addressed issues of biopiracy is being stalled by the rich countries. Further, neither the ministerial declaration nor the TRIPs declaration addresses the issue of seed monopolies or farmers rights under *sui generis* systems, which recognise their collective, cumulative contributions to breeding.

The Government of India had already amended the Patent Act 1970, in March 1999, and in the same year introduced the patent (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999 when the review was due the same year. Government's rush to introduce the second amendment within the same year was not a response to TRIPs obligations but to the pressure of global pharmaceutical and agri-chemical and biotech industry.

Patents on Seeds and Life Forms Allowed

The Patent (Second Amendment) Act, 2002 was cleared by the Parliament in May 2002 under the cover of the national emergencies - the genocide in Gujarat, the spread of terrorism, and an impending war. And the main reason to clear this Bill in May was not only providing product patent for drugs; it was done to have the IPR system in place to ensure protection for the genetically engineered seeds through allowing patents on life. It was in the month of March that the first genetically engineered seed, Bt. cotton of Monsanto and Mahyco was cleared for commercialization by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and in May the patent amendment bill law was cleared.

The amended legislation provides for changes in the scope of patentable inventions, grant of new rights, extension of the term of protection, provision for reversal of burden of proof in case of process patent infringement and conditions for compulsory licenses.

There are two amendments in the definition of what is not an invention that has opened the floodgates of patenting of genetically engineered seed.

First, in Section 3(i) "plants" have been omitted.

According to Section 3(i), the following is not an invention: Any process for the medical, surgical, creative, prophylactic or other treatment of human beings or any process for a similar

treatment of animals or plants or render them free of disease or to increase their economic value or that of their products.

The omission of "plants" from this section implies that a method or process modification of a plant can now be counted as an invention and can hence be patented. Thus the method of producing Bt. cotton by introducing genes of a bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* in cotton to produce toxins to kill the bollworm can now be covered by the exclusive rights associated with patents. In other words, Monsanto can now have Bt. cotton patents in India. The Amendment of 3(i) is clearly a Monsanto Amendment.

The Second Amendment has also added a new section 3(j). This is also a Monsanto Amendment since it allows production or propagation of genetically engineered plants to be counted as an invention, and hence patentable. The section 3(j) excludes as inventions "plants and animals.....including seeds, varieties and species and essentially biological processes for production or propagation of plants and animals". However, the emergence of new biotechnologies is often used to define production of plants and animals through genetic engineering as not being essentially biological. Without a clear definition that all modifications of plants and animals, is essentially biological, 3(j) allows patents on GMOs patentability and hence opens the flood gate for patenting transgenic plants. The language of 3(j) is a verbatim translation of Article 27.3 (b) of TRIPs into India law. Article 27.3(b) of TRIPs states:

Parties may exclude from patentability plants and animals other than micro-organisms, and essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals other than non-biological and microbiological processes. However, parties shall provide for the protection of plant varieties either by patents or by an effective *sui generis* system or by any combination thereof. This provision shall be reviewed four years after the entry into force of the Agreement establishing the WTO.

It is not surprising that the Monsanto Amendments have been made in India's patent laws according to TRIPs. After all Monsanto had a hand in drafting the TRIPs agreement.

As a result of sustained public pressure, after the agreement came into force in 1995 many Third World countries made recommendations for changes in Article 27.3 (b) to prevent biopiracy. India in its discussion paper submitted to the TRIPs Council stated:

Patenting of life forms may have at least two dimensions. Firstly, there is the ethical question of the extent of private ownership that could be extended to life forms. The second dimension relates to the use of IPRs' concept as understood in the industrialized world and its appropriateness in the face of the larger dimension of rights on knowledge, their ownership, use, transfer and dissemination

Informal system, e.g. the *shrutis* and in the Indian tradition and grandmother's portions all over the world get scant recognition. To create systems that fail to address this issue can have severe adverse consequences on mankind, some say even leading to extinction.

Clearly there is a case for re-examining the need to grant patents on life forms anywhere in the world. Meanwhile, it may be advisable to:

1. Exclude patents on all life forms.
2. If (1) is not possible then exclude patents based on traditional/ indigenous knowledge and essentially derived products and processes from such knowledge.
3. Or at least insist on the disclosure of the country of origin of the biological source and associated knowledge, and obtain the consent of the country providing the resource and knowledge, to ensure an equitable sharing of benefits.

A global movement is calling for a ban on patents on life and recovering of the generic basis of life as "commons" which cannot be owned and privatised.

On 26th March, Monsanto used GEAC to get its own Biosafety clearance for Bt. Cotton, while earlier it had instigated the GEAC to declare Navbharat Seeds' Bt cotton as unsafe, and had it uprooted. However, if Monsanto's Bt. cotton is now deemed to be safe and Navbharat's Bt. cotton would have to be declared safe, and hundreds of Navbharats would multiply and sell Bt. cotton seeds, undercutting Monsanto's market monopoly.

To prevent competitors from selling seeds and to prevent farmers from saving seeds, Monsanto has now turned to the patent laws to get monopoly rights. The Monsanto Amendments of India's patent laws are a logical consequence of the clearance for the commercial planting of GMOs in Indian agriculture.

Corporations like Monsanto genetically manipulated seeds to get control over seed sector not to help farmers. If the seeds could be freely reproduced and patented, Monsanto's monopolies would not have been established.

Patents on seeds are a necessary aspect of corporate deployment of GM seeds and crops. When combined with the ecological risks of genetically engineered seed like Bt. cotton, patents on seeds create a context of total control over the seed sector, and hence over our food and agricultural security.

There are 3 ways in why the 2nd Amendment of the Patent Laws jeopardised our seed and food security and hence our national security.

Firstly, it allows patents on seeds and plants through 3(i) and 3(j). Patents are monopolies and exclusive rights which will prevent farmers from saving seeds and seed companies from producing seeds. Patents on seed transform seed saving into an "intellectual property crime".

Secondly, since genetic pollution is inevitable, and the condition of 2% refugia in the GEAC clearance is a recognition of the inevitability of genetic pollution, Monsanto will use the patents + pollution to claim ownership of crops on farmers fields where the Bt. gene reached through wind or pollinators. This has been established as precedence in the case of a Canadian farmer, Percy Schmeiser whose canola field was contaminated by Monsanto's Round up Ready Canola, but instead of Monsanto paying Percy on the basis of the polluter principle, Monsanto demanded \$200,000 fine for "theft" of Monsanto's "intellectual property". Thousands of U.S. farmers have also been sued. Will Indian farmers be blamed for theft when Monsanto's GM cotton contaminates their crops? Or will the government wake up and enforce strict monitoring and liability?

Finally, the emergence of resistance in pests like Bollworm and creation of super pests is another inevitable consequence of Bt. cotton. Monsanto's research strategy of "gene pyramiding" is an acceptance of the creations of super pests. As super pests spread, farmers will be forced to turn to Monsanto for seed supply and hence will be trapped in Monsanto's patent monopoly.

The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Legislation

The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Bill, 2000, (PVP Bill) was passed in both the Houses of the Parliament in the Monsoon Session in August 2001. This Act, made under the obligation of TRIPS Agreement, allows

MONSANTO VERSUS PERCY SCHMEISER: PATENTS AND POLLUTION

Mr. Percy Schmeiser, a farmer in Bruno, Saskatchewan of Canada has been farming in the region for more than 50 years. Since the early 1950s he has primarily been planting canola (also known as rape-seed) from his own seed stock. He has been following the practice of growing canola year after year by saving his own canola seed from his annual crop.

In 1997, Percy's crop was contaminated by Monsanto's Roundup Ready canola which was being grown by neighbouring farmers. Monsanto used a private detective agency, Robinson Investigation, to illegally collect samples of canola from Percy's fields. In 1998, they sued Percy for having infringed their patent No. 1,313,830.

On March 29, 2001, Judge Mackay ruled in favour of Monsanto. Instead of Monsanto the polluter paying Percy, Percy is being asked to pay Monsanto. The "polluter-pays principle" is being perverted through patents, into "the polluter-gets-paid principle".

By doing so a wrong precedent is set - the judgment in effect implies that farmers can be compelled to pay damages to the company owning patents of GE seeds for such seeds found on the farmers' land, irrespective of how they got there. Percy did not buy Monsanto's seeds and neither did he obtain the GE seeds illegally; the GE canola had drifted into his farm.

With GE technology being ushered in Indian agriculture, it is not unlikely that Indian farmers whose seeds are contaminated through pollution may be accused of IPR infringement, even if they do not buy GE seeds!

The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 does not provide against situations of GE contamination by seed MNCs. The Indian farmers must be protected against such contamination and subsequent erroneous legal action against patent infringement. Likewise, changes in other IPR-related legislation do not provide adequate safeguards to our farmers. The Patent (Second Amendment) Act, 2002, provides product patents to MNCs on agri-chemicals. The Biological Diversity Act, 2002, does not appropriately provide for biosafety measures to deal with genetic pollution, nor does it reinforce the farmers' right to save seeds. Seed saving is a fundamental right of farmers. This needs to be adequately protected by all IPR related legislations.

Intellectual Property Right (IPR) protection on seeds of all agricultural crops, and thus denies farmers' their rights to agricultural biodiversity.

The government believes that the plant variety protection to commercial plant breeders will lead to increased food production, greater food security and development of new varieties. But the fact is the commercial seed sector is primarily engaged in research on hybrid technology in a few commercial crops like sunflower, maize, soybean, cotton etc. The food production is almost entirely in the hands of small farmers who largely use farm saved/ open-pollinated seeds. The focus of the private sector is to convert over 80% of farmers who still use farm saved seeds to hybrids (and increasingly to transgenic varieties) and thereby, wittingly or unwittingly, from primarily growing food crops to cash crops. Providing for private monopolies in agriculture will only encourage private companies to mount increased pressure on the small farmer to purchase their commercial seed which will adversely affect cropping patterns and food production. Several attempts is being made in different parts of the country to replace farmers collection of indigenous varieties with hybrid and HYV varieties to make them dependable on purchased seeds.

India is one of the world's twelve mega-biodiversity centres. Indian farmers have used this diversity for thousands of years to develop varieties with desired characters like taste, cooking quality, aroma, medicinal properties, resistance to pests, etc. It is this knowledge that is being appropriated by companies which are then seeking IPRs on their "inventions" as seen in the case Basmati. Once granted, patents or other IPRs discourage rather than encourage the development of new varieties.

The PVP legislation does not provide against situations of GE contamination by seed MNCs, even as the Biological Diversity legislation does not appropriately provide for biosafety measures to deal with genetic pollution, nor does it reinforce the farmers' right to save seeds. Seed saving is a fundamental right of farmers. This needs to be adequately protected by *sui generis* law.

Plant Variety Protection is a life and death issue for India's small peasants. The suicides of farmers in different states of India in recent years can be clearly linked to the irresponsible marketing and promotion of hybrid seeds by the private seed industries. The phenomenon will become worse with companies equipped with monopoly rights. The PVP fails to prohibit irresponsible marketing by seed companies, which is at the root of farmers indebtedness and suicides. It also totally fails to legally protect our farmer variety such as Basmati, which was patented by RiceTec Inc, but due to peoples efforts USPTO cancelled the patent claims on Basmati. The case of the Basmati biopiracy creates urgency for a *sui generis* law for India that recognises and protects the breeding embodied in our seeds and crop variety.

- ❖ The PVP legislation provides that in the case of derived varieties "novelty" is not the primary criterion for seeking protection (as also given under UPOV, '91). Under essentially derived varieties, the Act allows IPR protection for varieties derived from farmers' as well as any existing variety (extant variety) as long as it contains the genes and

combination of parent lines. Given the wide patent and IPR claims made by MNCs' this would in effect mean that the genes from farmers' varieties and extant varieties become the breeder property. By doing this, the government has gone beyond the TRIPS Agreement. There is no novelty involved in the derived variety and therefore no exclusive rights to be given to the breeders. The 'essentially derived varieties' provision also seeks to restrict the rights of the researchers and broadens the rights of the plant breeders. Researchers have to take permission of the breeders for repeated use of a protected variety as parental lines. No breeder would ever authorize others for repeated use of his protected variety for commercial propagation. And no researcher would ever do research on a variety if he can not commercialize it.

- ❖ The PVP legislation stipulates four basic criteria for the protection of a plant variety, which has been taken from the UPOV (1991) – that is besides distinctiveness, uniformity and stability as the basic criteria for a variety to be registered and legally protected, "novelty" has been added. This requirement is also applies on farmers' varieties. Under this new provisions farmers' varieties cannot be protected, as they show no "novelty".

Besides this the farmer varieties or extant varieties are bred for diversity and not for uniformity or stability of the essential characteristics. Hence the Act restricts the scope of the farmers varieties and extant varieties by subjecting them to fulfill basic requirement for protection.

- ❖ The PVP legislation has enlarged the coverage of number of plants and species under the proposed legislation, by bring in the entire plant range, going far beyond even UPOV (1991) demands.
- ❖ The new legislation severely limits the rights of farmers to save and exchange seed, or even to varieties of plants, which are not proprietary. Though with the pressure from the people organisations and farmers unions, a separate chapter on farmers' rights has been added but in effect it restricted the fundamental rights of the farmers to save and sell the produce as seeds. Under Clause 39(1)(iv) the farmers will not be able to sell the produce from protected variety as seeds which the right holder will be selling under his registered brand name. This is true for even essentially derived varieties developed from farmers varieties with little or no improvements. And if a farmer dare to sell seeds of any variety which has got IPR protection, he will have to pay a fine upto Rs. 5 lakhs (half a million rupees) or jail upto two years or both.
- ❖ The legislation does not have any provision to ensure that all the millions of farmers who have contributed to develop a farmers' variety will get royalty if a corporation gets IPR protection for that variety. It only pays lip service to the idea of royalty payment to farmers when essentially derived varieties are based on their varieties, and no novelty criteria is attached. However, given the fact that farmers' varieties have been developed by millions of farmers across large geographical regions, it is difficult, even in a well-structured system to identify the beneficiaries and distribute equitably the benefits among them.

The Biodiversity Act: facilitation or Prevention of biopiracy?

By Dr. Vandana Shiva

The Biodiversity Act passed by the Parliament was to implement India's obligations under the Convention on Biodiversity Conservation (CBD) of the United Nations.

The breakthrough achieved in the CBD was

1. The need to conserve biodiversity;
2. Recognition of community rights and indigenous culture and knowledge (Art.8 (j));
3. The prevention of adverse impact on biodiversity by mega development projects and by the release of genetically engineered organisms (GMOs) (Art 19.3) and
4. The potential to prevent biopiracy — the theft and patenting of indigenous knowledge related to biodiversity.

Earlier drafts of the Bill in which I was involved had all four components. However, the draft passed by Parliament has no conservation element, no recognition of community rights to Biodiversity (even though this is necessitated by the Panchayati Raj Amendments of the Constitution and the extension to Schedule Areas) no regulation of adverse impacts. Given that the Environment Ministry, through the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee has been rushing ahead to commercialise genetically engineered crops like Bt. cotton in spite of known risks to biodiversity and in spite of exaggerated claims of benefits, it is clear that pressures were put on the ministry to drop clauses on regulating adverse impact in earlier drafts. The act is reduced to an act to facilitate access to biodiversity and indigenous knowledge for intellectual property rights. It facilitates and legalises Biopiracy, instead of preventing it. All that Biopirates will need is a cosy relationship with the National Biodiversity Authority based for some inexplicable reason in Chennai!

In the case of indigenous seeds and agricultural crops, the Biological Diversity Act has allowed full scope for Biopiracy.

Section (6) on intellectual property has an exemption 6(3).

The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person making an application for any rights under any law relating to protection of plant varieties enacted by Parliament.

Laws protecting plant varieties include the Patent (Second Amendment) and the Plant Variety Protection Act. Exemption 6(3) in the Biological Diversity Act in effect says that companies

can take varieties farmers have evolved over millennia with unique traits of aroma as in Basmati, salinity resistance as in drought resistance as in as in floor resistance and patent the traits and qualities which are a result of farmers breeding.

The biopiracy that the Texas Company RiceTec engaged in and we fought against in the U.S. would be allowed in Indian law.

Recently, we as an alliance of movements against Biopiracy forced Syngenta to cancel its MoU with the Indira Gandhi Agricultural University which holds Dr. Richaria's invaluable collection of 20,000 rice varieties. Syngenta's access to this rice diversity would have allowed it to patent traits tribal farmers of Chattisgarh had evolved collectively over centuries. The Biopiracy which was stopped by people's movements would be allowed under the Biological Diversity Act.

The Act fails doubly to do what it was designed to do — stop Biopiracy.

Firstly, it has failed to recognise the legal standing of local communities and their inalienable rights to their biodiversity and collective innovation in spite of the Constitutional framework provided to 73rd and 74th Amendment and Art. 8(j) of CBD. Secondly, it has deliberately excluded the gene giants and seed giants like Monsanto, Syngenta, Dow, Avantis, Dupont, from regulation to prevent pirating and patenting farmers varieties, thus undermining farmers' rights which are recognised in the FAO treaty on Plant Genetic resources.

The law is not designed to regulate the seed giants and stop Biopiracy. But like the earlier Forest Laws, carried the risk that it could allow the huge new Biodiversity Bureaucracy that the Act creates to criminalise innocent tribals and rural communities, since every day life and survival in rural areas is dependent on biodiversity. Communities will have to be vigilant to not allow the Act to become another weapon in an unaccountable bureaucracy's arsenal against the people of India. Art. 59 of the Act prevents ordinary citizens from bringing legal action against arbitrary decisions made by the National Biodiversity Authority or State Biodiversity Board by allowing only these authorities to bring complaints to courts.

Movements for biodiversity conservation defend people's right to biodiversity and people's resistance against biopiracy will have to continue to be the prime movers for Biodiversity Conservation. Biodiversity will be conserved and people's rights defended in spite of the Biodiversity Act, not because of it.

Syngenta's Attempts to Rob the World's Rice Genes Foiled

On December 10, Syngenta India announced that it had no intention of collaborating with the Raipur-based Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV) for developing new rice hybrids from the collected local germplasm held in the University's gene bank. Ten days later, the ICAR director general, Dr. Panjab Singh, said that the germplasm was the property of the National Biodiversity Board and the State Biodiversity Boards.

The news that Syngenta and IGKV were entering into a MoU to give the corporation access to India's largest rice collection came in the wake of Syngenta's joining the Board of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research

(CGIAR). CGIAR controls the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases (ICRAD) and the International Livestock Centre for Africa (ILCA).

The Indian collection being handed over to Syngenta was the collection made by Dr. Richaria, the rice sage of India. He had collected thousands of rice varieties first in the Cuttack Rice Research Institute (which later became the Central Rice Research Institute, and is older than IRRI) and then the Raipur Research Institute (now called the Indira Gandhi Agricultural University). Dr. Richaria then director of CRRRI was removed when he resisted handing over his collection of rice germplasm to IRRI, and when he asked for restraint in the hurried introduction of HYV (High Yield Varieties) from IRRI.

The Madhya Pradesh Government gave a small stipend to Dr. Richharia the ex-director of CRRI so that he could continue his work at the Madhya Pradesh Rice Research Institute (MPRRI) at Raipur. On this shoestring budget, he conserved near about 20,000 indigenous rice varieties *in-situ* in India's rice bowl in Chattisgarh. Later the MPRRI, which was doing pioneering work in developing a high yielding strategy based on the indigenous knowledge of the Chattisgarh tribals, was also closed down due to pressure from the World Bank (which was linked to IRRI through CGIAR) because MPRRI had reservation about sending its collection of germplasm to IRRI.

Since this news became public several groups working on people's rights to natural resources from Chattisgarh and outside firmly opposed this deal between Syngenta and IGAU. Several peoples organisation came together and a mass based agitation was started from 3rd December, the Bhopal Gas Tragedy Day and a *Chattisgarh Seed Satyagrah* was launched on

10th December 2002, the International Human Rights Day.

Under the "Chhattisgarh Seed Satyagrah" thousands of workers, peasants, women and youth from all over Chhattisgarh started their protest by courting arrests in large numbers to protect their sovereignty for survival and sustenance of human community and to re-assert their rights over the rare varieties of rice seeds. They were agitated over the decision taken by the Vice-Chancellor of Indira Gandhi Agriculture University, Raipur, to sell the 22,972 varieties of paddy germplasm, collected by the great scientists, Dr. Richharia, which is in their custody to a gene giant Syngenta.

Peoples' victory and challenges:

The mass agitation by the peoples organisation, farmers unions and civil liberty groups, women groups, students groups and biodiversity conservation movements against Syngenta and IGAU borne result and Syngenta called off the deal

Intellectual Piracy: ConAgra's Patent on Indian Atta Chakki

THE US Food major, ConAgra, has taken a US patent No. 6,098,905 on the Indian *atta chakki* - flour grinding device (see box for story). ConAgra is not a new multinational corporation for India. Before taking patent on *atta chakki* ConAgra has already established its base with the help of Indian companies and Government agencies to capture the *atta* market, especially the packed *atta* market, in India. With the help of patent ConAgra will get rid of all the competitors including millions of small *chakkis*. As seed saving is considered as a crime because the saving of seed will create dent in the profit margin and seed monopoly of the gene giants. Similarly the small *chakkis* will now be considered as a rival of ConAgra because if people will continue to buy *atta* from small *chakkis*, it will affect the *atta*

market monopoly and create a dent in the profit margin of the food giant ConAgra.

ConAgra has an Indian subsidiary called Agro Tech Foods Ltd (ATFL), ATFL, formerly known as ITC Agro-Tech Ltd. ConAgra, a \$24 billion food major, has acquired 51.3 per cent stake in ITC, through CAG-Tech Ltd, Mauritius, three-and-a-half years ago from ITC Ltd. In 1995, ITC acquired the edible oil brands from ITC for a consideration of Rs 25 crore. Last fiscal, the company made a turn-around and, for the first time since its acquisition, posted a net profit of Rs 1.9 crore. ConAgra expect that it will become a \$500-million company within the next five years. ConAgra is expecting ATFL's sales to grow at a rate of 20 per cent per annum.

Now, a US Patent for *atta Chakkis*

New Delhi, December 9: Now it is the turn of *atta chakkis*. The traditional knowledge of producing *atta* has become a victim of the patent rights regime. Hundreds of *atta chakkis* and modern flour millers and wheat exporters may fall into the trap being laid by a Nebraska-based company, ConAgra.

The US Patent Office has granted patent rights to ConAgra Inc for the "method for producing an *atta* flour" vide no 6,098,905.

The patent application filed by ConAgra said, "the present invention relates to a method for producing an *atta* flour, which is typically used to produce Asian breads such as *chapoti* and *roti*. The *atta* flour method includes passing an amount of wheat through a device designed to crack the wheat so as to produce an amount of cracked wheat, followed by passing the cracked wheat through at least two smooth rolls designed to grind the cracked wheat into flour, with the smooth roll importantly grinding the wheat to a smaller particle size and shearing the wheat to cause starch damage in the finished *atta* flour. The *atta* flour will have an amount of starch damage equal to between about 13% and about 18% and an amount of ash equal to at least 1%."

The declaration made by ConAgra does not claim any novel innovation in the plant or machinery needed for processing flour, but on the very traditional method for producing *atta*. Incidentally, the three co-inventors mentioned in the ConAgra's application - Ali Salem, Sarath K. Katta and Sambasiva R. Chigurupati - have Asian ancestry. The patent application, however, admits that "*atta* flour is typically used in the countries of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Indonesia and is the flour of choice for making food products such as *chapoti*, *naan*, *parota*, *roti* and *roti*-breads."

Dr O.P. Agarwal, advisor and head of R&D, CSIR said, "The filing of such patents rights by foreign companies should be a wake-up call for us to not only go for documentation of our traditional knowledge on a war footing but also to immediately identify areas of traditional knowledge which are likely to fall as an easy prey to piracy in a fast growing industrial economy."

Deputy DG of ICAR, Dr Mangla Rai, said that "not only attempts should be made to document and preserve our traditional knowledge but also we should make innovations on the basis of our traditional knowledge and patent the same."

CSIR DG, Dr Raghunath Anant Mashelkar, however, said that "there is no need for panic as the patent right is only valid in US. The domestic *atta chakkis* and roller flour millers can do business as usual."

Indian Express, 10th December 2002, New Delhi

SANGAT

(South Asian Network of Gender Activists and Trainers)

SEMINAR ON

MILITARISATION, GLOBALISATION AND RESURGENT PATRIARCHIES

ON

4th January at 2-30 to 6-30 p.m.

IS NOW AT

Ambedkar Bhavan, Lower Tank Bund Road

Speakers :

Anuradha Chenoy, *India*

Neloufer Demel, *Srilanka*

Nasrene Huq, *Bangladesh*

Indira Shreshtha, *Nepal*

Neelam Hussain, *Pakistan*

Gigi Francisco, *Philippines*

Meghna, *North East India*

and Others

-: There will also be songs :-

A Bus will leave at 2 p.m. From Nizam College Gate
Opposite the Registration Area (Route No.1)

A Socialist World is necessary

Enough is Enough

The System of Capitalism world over stands damned. Capitalism, which came on to the scene with the objective of development of the world, has failed miserably in its primary and fundamental task. From Americas to Zimbabwe without exception, this system of the greedy and profiteers has ruined the lives of ordinary working class people & their families. The so-called, sovereign countries have become subjects in a neo-colonial world. Imperialism has returned in a different avatar as the New World Order.

● Global capitalism ruthlessly plunders the whole world, especially Africa, Asia & Latin America. Multinational companies, which are the main profiteers of world capitalism, account for 80% of the world industrial output and nearly 70% of the world trade. While boom periods have only increased the profits of the rich, the slumps and recession have further intensified the poverty and squalor of the working class and the poor. **The fact that over half the world's population lives in poverty and billions lack food, clean water, education and health care demonstrates the crisis of 21st century capitalism.**

Global capitalism can not find solution to the fundamental contradiction of its system, i.e. the productive forces outliving the framework of capitalist nation states and the private ownership of the productive forces. This eternal crisis of capitalism forces it to seek new markets. The capitalist vulture agencies such as IMF, World Bank and WTO which came as a result of that crisis to facilitate a way out for world capitalism.

Globalisation, neo-liberalism & "reforms", the buzzwords of the big business that we hear these days are the latest tricks to force the ordinary working people to pay for the crisis of the bosses. Capitalist globalisation & neo-liberalism are not new phenomena as the capitalists and their bafoons persuade us to believe. It is the intensification and universal application, which is a new trend in the last two decades.

We the working people and youth are not fooled by the jugglery of words. The enormous suffering of our brethren in the Latin American and African countries, brought upon them by the forces of imperialism through capitalist globalisation and neo-liberalism is a warning example for the entire human world.

One need not quote distant examples to explain the devastating nature of neo-liberalism. Our neighbor Sri Lanka is a bleeding victim of that monster. Neo-liberal policies of withdrawal of state from essential sectors of the economy were introduced in this country not in the 1990's, but way back in late 1970's itself. The ruination of the people of Sri Lanka, by this suicidal policy of neo-liberalism is hard to believe but yet a stark reality. Thirty years ago Sri Lanka's human indices were the best in relation to

education, health and nutrition in the whole of South Asia, but now they have slipped to the last in the table.

Preying on India

The economic terror of neo-liberalism and capitalist globalisation has not spared India either. The neo-liberalism, which was intensified in the early nineties, has turned India from a giant manufacturing economy in the region in to a vendor economy. The spree of neo-liberalism introduced by the successive governments from P V Narasimha Rao to Vajpayee has taken a toll on the ordinary working people both in urban and rural areas.

The backdoor privatisation in the name of disinvestment is rendering thousands of workers in public sector units' jobless. The voluntary retiring schemes has preyed upon many a thousands of workers in the Banks, Insurance and State Sectors. To many of the workers both in private and public sector who accepted the golden handshake, it was an experience of the Kiss of Death. Since the WTO regime started to rule India nearly, 500,000 thousand factories have closed in the State of Maharashtra alone. While Bangalore boasts of being the Silicon Valley of India, more than 200,000 workers have lost jobs in the small scale industries due to closures.

The naked dance of the monster capitalist globalisation & neo-liberalism is starker in rural India. Marginal and small farmers of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Karnataka are committing suicides. The fall in commodity prices and the resultant impoverishment is growing rapidly into epidemic proportions.

Over a period of struggle, the downtrodden of India, the Dalits had earned few reforms in education and jobs. With the IMF prescription of austerity, there are overall attacks on jobs, employment, and education both at the central government level and at the state level. Dalits hard won right of Reservations is being proved useless.

In every country women face the sharp edge of any capitalist offensive. WTO and American imperialism's rules on textile quotas have proved disastrous for lakhs of women employed in the garment industries. Having been uprooted from the nearby villages to the urban manufacturing ghettos, they have been forced to prostitution to eke out a life.

The smashing of the public distribution system in the name of creamy layer policy (all Indians who earn just Rs.2000 per month are not poor!) is nothing but following the orders of the IMF bosses to cut food subsidies. This has resulted in mass scale mal nutrition of the children and deaths of the aged.

The politics of hate

The bankruptcy of capitalist class in solving any one of their fundamental tasks is universal, but in India, it is a specific feature. The Indian capitalist rulers instead of solving

the problems faced by the masses have perfected the art of deception. The political lesson of 'divide and rule', which they learnt from their British imperialist masters, is coming handy to them to this day. The recent Gujarat pogroms and the subsequent communally charged victory of the BJP in Gujarat is a warning to the working class and its organisations. Using the communal poison BJP has tried to polarise the class on communal lines.

In this atmosphere of communal tensions in the past many anti-working class and anti-poor legislations have been pushed in the parliament to please the capitalists. In the coming period, the crucial laws such as the draconian labour "reforms" are waiting to be enacted. The working class must defeat all the attempts of the bosses to divide them on religion, language, region and caste lines. Working class unity is the only answer to the communal cancer spread by the BJP & co.

Only an independent working class mobilisation based on a socialist programme can defeat communalism and capitalism. The working class must reject the class collaborationist politics of the so called communists who are stuck in their wrong theories of people's democracy and national democracy which are nothing but fig leaves to cover their sheer opportunism. It is time that the Indian working class moves to establish a mass working class party to challenge and defeat capitalism.

Say NO to War

Since the collapse of Stalinism, the world imperialism led by the American imperialism has found a new whipping toy 'terrorism'. The 9/11 events have further intensified the attempts of the imperialists to bully errant countries. The war on Afghan people in the name of routing out al-Qaeda has literally bombed Afghanistan to the Middle Ages. Workers & youth internationally have rejected the American imperialism's theory of 'Axis of evil' through the mass mobilisations against the war on Iraq.

The looming war on Iraq by the American Imperialism will see further deterioration of lives of ordinary working class people not just in Iraq but in the entire world. It is time that we fight and defeat this world system of bosses, which breeds poverty, unemployment, violence, environmental degradation, terrorism and wars.

The process of capitalist globalisation and neo-liberalism are not unstoppable as some apologists for capitalism claim. A mass anti-globalisation movement has developed internationally over recent years, and has taken on an increasingly anti-capitalist complexion. From Seattle to Florence protests have taken place at every economic summit of the capitalists involving millions of young people and workers. On a world scale, the capitalist globalisation is the most hated political phenomena. As long as the system of capitalism remains on the face of the earth, such draconian measures continue to haunt humanity. Hence, it is the duty of every anti-capitalist individual to join the forces of genuine socialism to defeat capitalism on a world scale.

Socialism is the Answer

When we advocate socialism we definitely do not mean the caricature of socialism in the Stalinist States of former Soviet Union or for that matter the beauracratic regimes of China and Cuba. What we mean by Socialism as an alternative to Capitalism is Socialist planning. The combination of public ownership and the planned use and distribution of resources through democratically elected committees of workers and poor poeple, which would enable the world's resources to be used to meet humanity's needs, instead of the profits of a few.

The Committee for a Workers' International (CWI), an organisation of socialists with members in 35 countries on every continent, is engaged daily in the struggle of workers, of young people, of the oppressed and of the poor, against capitalism and all its consequences. We fight for jobs for all, for a shorter working week, against privatisation, for decent pay, homes, education, health and democratic rights.

In the South-Asian region we have organisations and parties in India, Kashmir (POK), Sri Lanka and Australia. The CWI strives to channel the anger of all workers and youth against the capitalist system into a struggle for genuine socialism as the only way to eradicate the mighty problems that capitalism has created. The time has come for 'system change'. A Socialist world is necessary and should be made possible.

Join us in the New Socialist Alternative (CWI - India) to fight against global capitalism. Fight together with us for a socialist future.

New Socialist Alternative

dudiyorahoraata@vsnl.net

#10, Siddartha Road, Deepanjali Nagar, Bangalore - 560 026. Tel: 080-6742616

Fill in and return to : **New Socialist Alternative, P.O. Box 1828, Bangalore -560 018**

Name : _____

Address : _____

E-mail : _____ Tel: _____

(Contact us in Hyderabad, Mobile : 9848320317)

Committee for a Workers' International

www.worldsocialist-cwi.org CWI PO BOX 3688, London E11 1YE, Britain cwi@worldsoc.co.uk

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*Grab an opportunity to know the
current situation of Nepal.*

**SARWANAM Presents :-
DEATH FESTIVAL**

a street play with installation Art

Venue : Nizam College Ground

Time : 5.00 P.M.

Date : 5 January 2003

SARWANAM

SARWANAM is the pioneer of Street Theatre and the leading proscenium theatre group in Nepal.

It has been involved in various current social issues through street theatre to make people aware to use their fundamental rights in their own development process.



SARWANAM

G.P.O. 8367

Kathmandu, Nepal.

E-mail: sarwanam@enet.com.np

SARWANAM

SARWANAM is a group of energetic personalities working for the development of drama of multi-dimensional objectives. Established in 1982 and registered under His Majesty Government in Kathmandu Districts in 1992, it is an intellectual group, which is also active in intellectual exercises. It is a membership organization and has formed 42 member groups in different parts of the country. Currently, it has a pool of 42 member actors/actresses including 5 staff directly associated with the group and they are active players in the field of theatre, especially the street drama.

SARWANAM is a pioneer in many respects adding new dimensions in the history and development of drama in the country. SARWANAM introduced street drama in 1982 and experimental drama for the first time in the history of drama, breaking the sequel of traditional dramas in Nepal. It pioneered Poetry and Stories Performances in the country. SARWANAM introduced the new chapter of The Play Back Theatre in Nepali drama and initiated advertisement drama for the first time in the history of drama in Nepal.

Synopsis of Drama for ASF :

The drama "Death Festival" portrays the trauma the Nepali society is going through. The drama revolves on the burgeoning poverty scenario in the country, which is a layman's story and portrays how the politicians has been cashing on this problem for their individual and "ideology's" benefits. The story sketches the ongoing Maoists warfare, politicians' and the government's attitude to this war and how the people are sandwiched between the state and rebellion. It also deals with the state's dilemma of resource scarcity and how it perceives and presents the poor to acquire the fund from the donors. The dialogues like "You are Nepali. You must die of hunger and conflict!" and "You commoner must not die. If you do, who will we present in front of the developed world (donors) to extract money!?" reflects the fate that the underprivileged section of the Nepali society (the majority of populace) have to live up with. And the killing of the same populace by the rebellion in the name of People's War is another brutal reality, which the drama pictures. Also the concluding dialogue of the triumphant politician (bursting into laughter) that..." ..I am the ruler of corpses...emperor of demised...king of the dead city..." is an attempt to show the feature of the Nepali rulers.

The drama will be performed with installation Art along with typical Nepali Music.

Director : ASHESH MALLA
Duration : 30 Minutes
Presented by : SARWANAM

ASIA SOCIAL FORUM

6th January 2003, Hyderabad.

RIGHTS BASED MOVEMENTS IN NEPAL

Invitation

Nepal is an independent Himalayan Kingdom bordering in between India and China.

A Country where a massive political instability is ongoing

Still people are continuing their struggle for their Rights and dignity.

We need your Solidarity

MAJOR ISSUES :

- ☞ Land Rights
- ☞ Dalit Rights
- ☞ Bonded Labour
- ☞ Indigenous people and their Resource Rights
- ☞ Womens' Rights

Organized by : **ACTION AID NEPAL AND ITS ALLIANCES**

Place : **Nizam College
Centenary Block Room # 325**

Time : **2.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m**

Revisiting the 73rd Amendment in Indian Constitution from the Perspective of the Vulnerable Groups

A WORKSHOP

ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM (JANUARY 2-7, 2003)

Since India's independence several efforts have been made to strengthen grass root level democracy, particularly with regard to involvement of common people. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment to the Indian Constitution, passed in 1992, is a milestone in democratic decentralization in India. This amendment is an effort to ensure participation of the women, dalit, tribal, and backward communities in local-self governance.

Since 1992, local-self governments (Panchayati Raj) have been initiated in many locations. In some cases, the local-self-government has completed one cycle of five years and is running on the second cycle. During this period we have gained enormous experience with regard to functioning of grass root democracy. However, there is a need to critically analyze these experiences to provide further direction in decentralizing democracy.

To fulfill this need, the Panchayati Raj Resource Centre of Astha Sansthan, Udaipur (Raj.) is organizing a workshop at the Asian Social Forum. We envision this workshop to be a participatory event so that we can share our experiences, learn from each other's experiences, and develop strategies to make local-self governance effective.

The workshop attendees will include elected representatives as well as non-governmental organizations who work in the field of local-self governance. Presentations at the workshop include:

- Panchayati Raj Sahyogi Sangh (a forum of 28 NGOs and peoples' organization) will present their work with the tribal communities.
- ALOCHANA (Pune) will share their work with women elected officials.
- A dalit organization from northern Rajasthan will discuss their experiences.

The workshop is limited to duration of two and a half hours; therefore presentations from various groups need to be in an effective and useful format. The material may be presented in several ways (discussion, case studies, role plays, photo exhibitions, video presentations etc.).

We look forward to your participation in this workshop. Please contact us by telephone (0294-243130, 0294-2441884) or email (astha3@vsnl.com, asthatrg@sancharnet.in) if you would like to participate and inform us of any special needs you may have for your participation.

Revisiting 73rd Amendment in Indian Constitution from the Perspective of the Vulnerable Groups

Date : January 4th, 2003

Time : Between 2.30 PM to 6.30 PM

Venue : Room No. 13, Methodist School, Hyderabad

Organised by : Astha Sansthan, Udaipur, India

एशिया सामाजिक मंच, हैदराबाद

जनवरी 2-7, 2003

कार्यशाला

73वां संविधान संशोधन : गरीब के परिप्रेक्ष्य में

भारत में लोकतन्त्र को मजबूत करने के लिए स्वतन्त्रता के उपरान्त कई प्रयत्न किये गये हैं और इन्हीं प्रयत्नों के द्वारा इसे जनता का, जनता के लिए, जनता द्वारा बनाने का पूरा प्रयास किया गया है। 73वां संविधान संशोधन लोकतन्त्र को जमीन पर उतारने में एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण कदम है। इसी संशोधन के द्वारा महिला दलित आदिवासी व पिछड़ी जातियों को स्वशासन में भागीदारी निभाने के लिए उनकी भूमिका सुनिश्चित की गई है। कुछ राज्यों को छोड़कर सभी राज्यों में पंचायती राज्य के अन्तर्गत चुनाव भी कर लिये गये हैं, और कहीं कहीं तो 5 वर्ष का एक दौर पूरा भी कर लिया गया है। इस दौर ने हमें अनुभवों का काफी बड़ा भंडार दिया है इन अनुभवों के आधार पर, इस संविधान संशोधन को गहराई से आंकने की आवश्यकता है, जिससे प्रजातन्त्र को प्रभावी रूप से जमीन पर उतारने के लिए आगे की दिशा मिल सके।

इसी विचार के साथ एक कार्यशाला एशिया सोशल फोरम के अन्तर्गत आयोजित किया जा रहा है। कार्यशाला में हम इस संविधान संशोधन के अन्तर्गत चुने हुए प्रतिनिधियों एवं अन्य संस्थाओं के अनुभवों को बांटना चाहते हैं। इस विषय में कई संस्थाओं व संगठनों से चर्चा हुई है और वे कार्यशाला में अपने अनुभवों को प्रेषित करना चाहते हैं।

हमारा विचार है कि भारत के सभी प्रान्तों से इन अनुभवों को बांटने का एक प्रयास होना चाहिए। अभी हमें राजस्थान से पंचायती राज सहयोगी संघ (28 संस्थाओं व संगठनों का एक फोरम) ने अपनी भागीदारी के लिए बताया है जो आदिवासियों के साथ कार्य कर रहे हैं। इसी प्रकार दलितों के साथ काम करने वाले संगठनों ने भी अपनी बात कहना तय किया है। महाराष्ट्र से "आलोचना" समूह ने भी अपने अनुभवों को बांटने की बात कही है और इस प्रकार अन्य संगठन भी इसमें भाग लेने की रूचि दिखा रहे हैं।

गरीब के परिप्रेक्ष्य में 73 वां संविधान संशोधन

दिनांक : 4 जनवरी, 2003

समय : दोपहर 2.30 से 6.30 बजे के बीच

स्थान : कमरा नं.13, मेथोडिस्ट स्कूल, हैदराबाद

कार्यशाला को हम सुजनात्मक रूप से संचालित करना चाहते हैं जिससे हम एक दूसरे की बात को अधिक से अधिक जान सकें एवं एक दूसरे के अनुभवों से भी अधिक लाभ उठा सकें, इसलिए यह विचार है कि सभी अनुभव बांटने वाले साथियों को अपना प्रस्तुतिकरण इस प्रकार करना चाहिए, जिससे हम कम समय का अधिक से अधिक उपयोग कर सकें। हम सुजनात्मक रूप से अपने अनुभवों की प्रस्तुति केस स्टडी, फोटो स्टोरी, न्यूज पेपर कटिंग, प्रदर्शनी व विडियो प्रस्तुतिकरण के द्वारा कर सकते हैं। कृपया जल्दी से जल्दी अपनी भागीदारी को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए हमें लिखें जिससे कि कार्यक्रम की आयोजना आप ही के सहयोग से की जा सके।

हमारा सम्पर्क पता इस प्रकार है :-

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आस्था प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र, सुखदेवी नगर, बेदला - 313 011, उदयपुर (राज.)

फोन : 0294-2441884, 2440130, ईमेल : asthatrg@sancharnet.in

WORKSHOP
"WIDOWS AND SEPARATED WOMEN
ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE!"

Monday, January 6 2:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Place - Room No. 18th, Methodist School

Low income widows and separated women in Rajasthan, India face many problems - ill-treatment by in-laws and sons, land rights being grabbed by brothers-in-law, being considered inauspicious, corruption in accessing government resources, sexual vulnerability, illiteracy - and the worst - feeling alone.

"Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan: is a Rajasthan-wide "Organization of Strong Women Alone" fighting for their rights! In less than 2 years, over 9,000 low income widows and separated women have joined together, and are making remarkable changes all over the state. Organized and Aware, these women are changing their lives, and are working on other issues of society as well.

Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan is organizing this Workshop, hoping others will come from other countries and states,

- To share their strategies, case studies of successes (and failures)
- To identify reasons for the marginalization
- To identify and analyse the problems low income women alone face
- To explore ways Asian organizations may work together with empowered Women Alone to bring widespread social change

We invite to this Workshop, women and men concerned about the social, economic, educational, health, and political problems of low income widows and separated women.

The languages of the Workshop will be English and Hindi.

Contact Information: Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan (The Association of Strong Women Alone),
39 Kharol Colony, Udaipur, Rajasthan, India. 313 004.

Ph. 0294-245-1348 Fax: 0294-245-1391 E-mail: astha39@sancharnet.in

Speakers

Sri V.P. SINGH

Former Prime Minister of India

Sri SURENDRA MOHAN

Socialist Thinker

Sri SITARAM YECHURI

Polit Bureau Member CPI(M)

Sri S. SUDHAKAR REDDY

National Executive Member, CPI

Sri KANU SANYAL

Convenor, CPI(ML) Unity Initiative -
COI(ML) Central Co-ordination Committee

**Sri DEEPANKAR
BHATTACHARYA**

General Secretary, CPI (ML) Liberation

Sri GANGADHAR REDDY

Central Committee Member, MCP

Sri KRISHNA CHAKRABARTY

Central Committee Member SUCI

Sri K. VENKATESWAR RAO

M.L. Committee

Invitation

Political Convention

"AGAINST GLOBALISATION"

For the last ten years we have witnessed lot of changes and upheavels in the name of globalisation. In different countries whatever resources there may be (the industrial or agricultural) there has been an attempt to destroy them and also to deny the rights of people by the Imperialist International companies and try to impose their monopolistic negemony by all means. A number of countries who have tried to adopt this path of development their economy is getting worse day by day. They boast of work in the name of progress and development but the fact is that all this is a hoax. It may be pointed out that multinational organisations of the impersialist countries are trying to capture and exploit the markets and resources of Third World countries in the name of development resulting in crippling of industrial and agricultural structure of these countries. And because of this it has become very difficult for general public to survive. A number of farmers committing suicide is the worst example of this globalisation process.

It is unfortunate to note that in our country during 1991-92, the ruling class tried to give a red carpet welcome to these imperialist agents and because of this people of our country are faced with a lot of hard ship. In 1998-99, when the Sangh parivar captured power at the centre they have been engaging themselves to implement this sinister moves by all means. To divert the people's attention from the negative impact of globalisation they have indulged themselves in organising communal clashes by dividing people on the basis of caste and religion. Poverty, hunger and unemployment has increased as result of this process of globalisation. And instead of globalising and channelising people's anger against this process the Sangh Parivar leadership has been acting as the agent of global forces. Thus coming as stumbling block in the progress of our country. Till yesterday their agenda was swadeshi but today they are working as the puppets and dancing to the tune of these exploitative forces.

In the light of this it becomes our duty to expose these communal and castist forces who are active and surviving on the support of multinational and imperialist organisations. It is also very important to create an awareness among the people to fight against such forces. It is in this context that we call upon the people of our country to join us in this historic convention and make it success for a better tomorrow.

*5th Jan. 2003 (Sunday) 10.30 a.m.
Prakasham Hall - Gandhi Bhavan, Hyderabad*

With Revolutionary greeting.

CPI

CPI(M)

MCPI

CPI(ML) UNITY INITIATIVE

CPI(ML) LIBERATION

SUCI

ML COMMITTEE

1. About the Philosophical Society of Perspective Independence

The Philosophical Society of Perspective Independence is a non-profit organization striving to promote social justice worldwide through innovative application of Information Technology. It is registered in Andhra Pradesh, India on September 28, 2001 with a registration number of 6666.

During the Asian Social Forum, Hyderabad, we propose an initiative of good governance named 'Public Democracy'. We intend to use this forum to demonstrate the public interest associated with the above topic.

2. What is Public Democracy?

Public Democracy is a comprehensive design solution consisting of an incentive for participation known as Public Interest Intellectual Property Right and infrastructure providing a non-discriminatory opportunity of participation known as Internet Panchayat System.

In the proposed model, the rights of the educated citizens will be promoted to that of proposing and proving social visions in a public forum. In addition, there is an element known as 'Coordinating Business' and another element for resolving social concerns effectively. During the Asian Social Forum, Hyderabad, we are releasing a small 30-page booklet titled 'Unite & Serve' which provides sufficient details of the proposed design.

3. Invitation for Social Action

In modern democracy, in order to realize a vision, we must demonstrate the public interest first. Hence we intend to utilize the opportunity to set up a stall in the Asian Social Forum as a means of gathering the feedback of concerned citizens. We request everyone to come to our stall for learning about the overview of the concept.

Those interested in may buy a carefully developed brief booklet, which provides the details clearly. We are gathering the signatures of the concerned citizens who believe that the media, business leaders and the government of India should investigate the concept in detail in order to protect the fundamental rights of the citizens and in order to promote the competitiveness of India in the international arena.

4. Sources of Additional Information

Have information about our initiative hosted at the web site www.reformindia.com under the section "Dear People of India". Our web site www.perspectiveindependence.org will be a good source of information about the development of our ideas. Our web site is not ready yet and we hope to have it hosted sometime after the Asian Social Forum.

The booklet 'Unite & Serve' will be made available for the general public after the Asian Social Forum. This booklet will be an ideal source of information. We make every attempt to have the book distributed through various channels.

5. About the Founder

Balarama K. Varanasi, the founder of the Philosophical Society of Perspective Independence has a Bachelors degree in Mechanical Engineering from SVU College of Engineering, Tirupati, AP, India and a Masters Degree in Industrial Engineering from The University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma, USA.

The founder is an Information Technology professional with about a decade of experience in the field, which includes opportunities to work in USA, India and Finland. The founder believes in utilizing his design skills to develop robust fixes to contemporary social problems and also believes in motivating the fellow professionals in Information Technology to follow the example.

Perspective **i**ve We, The Philosophers
ndependence

Another World is Feasible

Ideas shared during the Asian Social Forum (2nd Jan to 7th 2003)

Please visit stall 1 in zone D1
for further information

**Venue : Nizam College Grounds,
Hyderabad.**

**The Philosophical Society of
Perspective Independence.**

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2-7 January 2003

Hyderabad, India

Labour
in Asia
SOCIAL
FORUM

Against Privatisation and Disinvestment

January 3, 2003

Sundarayya Vignana Kendram (Auditorium), Hyderabad

Speakers

Mahadevan, AITUC
Michael Fernandes
C.H. Narasingha Rao, CITU
Janardhan Reddy, APPSEF

Ashok Rao
Nageshwar Rao
S. Fernandes, NTUI
Chairperson: Umraomal Purohit

Communalism and Impact on Workers

January 3, 2003

Rabindra Bharti, Hyderabad

Speakers

M.K. Pandhe, CITU
Surendra Mohan
Shanti Patel
Narsimha Reddy
Ashim Roy
P.K. Murthy
Chairperson: K.L. Mahendra

Globalisation and Labour Rights

January 4, 2003

Sundarayya Vignana Kendram (Auditorium), Hyderabad

Speakers

Sukomal Sen, AISGEF
Tazreen Javadi, Pakistan
Babu Mathew on "FDI, Subcontracting and Labour Rights (Labour and Capital Intensive)"
AITUC on "Globalisation, Migration and Labour Rights"
V. S. Nirmal on "Impact of Globalisation on the Rural Sector"
Swami Agnivesh on "Globalisation, Bonded Labour and Child Labour"
Sujata Ghoshkar on "Women, Labour Rights and Globalisation"
AMRC on "International Jurisprudence Instruments"
Nurul Anwar, Bangladesh
AICCTU on "Globalisation and Impact on Agricultural Workers"
Shaladru Chatopadhyay on "Impact of Globalisation on Plantation Workers"
Arvind Koshal on "Globalisation, Media and Labour Rights"
Chairperson: Shanti Patel

Financial Sector Reforms

January 5, 2003

City Central Library-Hall, Hyderabad

Speakers

N.M. Sundaram, AIIEA

Akbar Zaidi, Pakistan
Venkatchalana, AIIEA
UTI
IDBI
IRRB
Gautam Mody, NTUI
Chairperson: Venkatesh Athreya

Impact of Globalisation on Unorganised Sector Workers and Remedies

January 5, 2003

Andhra Yuvathi Mandali, Hyderabad

Speakers

N.P. Sarmy, NCL
Thomas Kochery, NFF on "Globalisation and Fish Workers"
K. Hemleta, AITUC on "Globalisation and Anganwadi Workers"
Sharafat Ali, Pakistan
Thai Labour Campaign on "Impact of Globalisation Home Based Workers"
Nalini Nayak on "Women and Unorganised Sector"
M. Subbu, NFCL on "Impact of Globalisation on Construction Workers"
Ruth Manorama, Women's Voice on "Impact of Globalisation on Domestic Workers"
Shaktiman Ghosh, Hawker Sangram Committee on "Impact of Globalisation on Hawkers"
AITUC on "Impact of Globalisation on Bidi Workers"
Ashok Choudhry, NCL on "Impact of Globalisation on Forest Workers"
J. John, CEC on "Umbrella Legislation for Workers in the Unorganised Sector"
HMS
Chairperson: D. Thankappan

Impact of Globalisation on Working Class and Building Global Resistance

January 6, 2003

Sundarayya Vignana Kendram (Auditorium), Hyderabad

Speakers

HMS
KCTU on "New Forms of Organising in a Global World"
Thai Labour Campaign on "Trade Union and Peoples' Movement Linkages"
AMRC on "Role of IT in International Labour Solidarity"
GEFONT on "Building Regional Solidarity"
W.R. Vardarajan, CITU
AITUC
Gul Rehman and Qamar-ul-Hassan, Pakistan
Sriatala Swaminathan, AICCTU
D. Thankappan, NTUI
Chairperson: Amarjeet Kaur

These seminars are being jointly organised by Trade Unions.

The Trade Unions that have come forward are:

Central Trade Unions: AICCTU, AITUC, CITU, HMS and UTUC.

Others: AIAWU, AIBEA, AIBOA, AIFTU, AIEA, AIKS, AIRE, AISGEF, ALIEF, APPSEF, BEFI, BKMU, Chemical Mazdoor Panchayat, CPSTU, HKMS, Hyderabad PSU Co-ordination Committee, IFTU, MKSS, NCL, NMPS, TUCC and UTIE.

Your organisation is also requested to join this effort.

The Centre for Education and Communication (CEC), New Delhi is the facilitator.

For these seminars kindly contact:

Centre for Education and Communication, 173-A Khirki Village, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi - 110017, Phone: 91-11-26688455/ 26671084/ 26686841, Fax: 91-11-26686842, Email: pallavi@labourfile.org or cec@nda.vsnl.net.in

WSF-India Secretariat, 204, Elite House, 36 Community Centre, Zamrudpur, New Delhi: 110048, India, Tel: +91-11-26476580, 26435441, email: wslindia@vsnl.net

WSF-India, Hyderabad Secretariat, 1st Floor, Green Channel, Opp. Nasir High School, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 500007, Andhra Pradesh, India
Ph: 91-40-23392726, Email: wsfhyd@hd2.dot.net.in

A S I A N S O C I A L F O R U M

దళితులు - ప్రపంచీకరణ

Dalits on Globalization

दलित - विश्वीकरण



Making Another World Possible



National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights

ASF Event Committee



03 January 2003 (Friday) Time: 15.00 hrs.

1. Dalit Women's Access to Credits

Synopsis

Dalit women have not benefited from the micro-finance programmes provided by the A.P. Government neither in absolute terms nor proportionately. The main concern regarding Dalit women access to micro-finance programmes is that, how much stake Dalit women have in DWCRA? The scope and the actual participation of Dalit women in them need to be examined thoroughly. The DWCRA programme was started by the A.P. Government with a big fanfare. The ground realities are very different and other programs have not delivered as per the expectations. The need for new strategies to ensure that these vulnerable categories of women are catered to under micro-finance programmes.

Proposer : Ankuram Sangamam Poram

Resource Team : Neeliah, C.S. Reddy, Devarajan,

Vijayalakshmi Das, Pushpa Vivek

2. Globalisation and Fisherfolk

Synopsis

The fate of fisherfolks needs to be examined in this age of Globalisation. The adverse impacts of Globalisation are felt by the fisherfolks in a big way. The fishing rights vis-à-vis the source of livelihood of the fisherfolks. The concept of aqua farming and unregulated commercialisation of fishing sector is hitting the common fisherfolks very hard up to the extent that they are not allowed to continue in this profession any longer by big companies and also the MNCs. Now the time has come to spearhead a movement to protect the rights of the fisherfolks in a much more organised way.

Proposer : Dalit Bahujan Front

Resource Team : Veera Raju

3. Impact of Globalisation on Dalit Women's Livelihood

Synopsis

Dalit women right and source of livelihood needs to be safeguarded in this age of Globalisation. Dalit women face three kinds of major problem on account of gender, class and caste. 1) Working in organised and unorganised sectors are exposed to various kinds of discriminatory practices. 2) The adverse impacts of Globalisation are felt by Dalit women on their prospects of better sources of livelihood. 3) The space for this vulnerable section is shrinking very fast under the impact of Globalisation. There is a need to be more vigilant about protecting the rights of Dalit women as far as their livelihood is concerned

Proposer : NFDL

Resource Team : Ruth Manorama, Jyothi Raj, Indu Agnihotri, Neela Kumari

4. Dalits and Housing

Synopsis

Right to proper housing to Dalits has been denied to Dalits over the years by the successive Governments. As it was and still being practiced the houses of Dalits are to be located outside the main village. The housing policies pursued by the Governments under various schemes have followed this tradition. Even then they are not provided with good quality houses with minimum shelter. The question that needs to be asked here is that, how long Dalits would be treated as unworthy of being a human being? Are Dalits not entitled to proper housing? If the Government will not provide these basic requirements, then who else?

Proposer : Dalita Chaitnya VEDIK

Resource Team : Narasimhulu, Boss

5. Peace, Security and Development in Crisis Situation in Sri Lanka

Synopsis

Peace, security and development in crisis situation in Sri Lanka has become an important issue to be discussed now at this stage itself. The process of Globalisation has affected the people of Sri Lanka in more ways than one. The long years of internal conflict situation and the diversion of development funds by the Government to fight it has badly effected the development activities there. Then the question of heavy borrowing from International Monetary Fund and other Donor agencies put unnecessary burden on the Government of Sri Lanka to go for cut in the Budget for Development activities. The global integration of the economy and also the global reach of terror regime have deprived the people of Sri Lanka the much needed development. There is certainly a need to discuss and strategise ways and means to redress the People's wretchedness and also give peace the much needed chance.

Proposer : Internal Movement Against Discrimination and All Forms of Racism

Resource Team : Vasudevan, Nanayakkara, Anton Marcus, Ramaya, Rev. Fr. Guy Fontgaland, Nimalka Fernando

04 January 2003 (Saturday)

Time: 15.00 hrs.

1. Dalit Women and Health

Synopsis

Dalit women and their access to health has not improved even in this age of Globalisation. As a matter of fact access to health has become limited. The non-availability of Doctors, Midwives/Nurses and also lesser number of Primary Health Centres have further aggravated the health problems of Dalits in general and Dalit women in particular. The privatisation of health sector has further limited their access to health facilities. Health has become a very profitable business venture which made the treatment of health problems costly. In this age of Globalisation, right/access to health has been turned into capacity to afford health.

Proposer : Joint Women's Programme and Jana Vignana Vedika

Resource Team : Alex George, Rema Devi, R. K. Padma, Brahma Reddy, Rajini Tilak, Rabiyl Mallaick, Dr. Vijay Kumar

2. Dalits and Local Governance

Synopsis

Dalits have never been provided representation of any worth in the local governance. There are provisions for a meaningful participation of Dalits in the local governance through 73rd and 74th Amendment i.e. new provisions regarding Panchayati Raj Institutions and Municipal Bodies, but the fact is various obstacles actually nullifies the provisions of meaningful participation. Under the influence of Globalisation and new economic policies, which are being pursued, many problems are being created to debar Dalits from even contesting the elections for the Panchayat bodies. Under two children norm as a precondition for contesting Panchayat elections has specifically targeted Dalits. Under the garb of reforms, the Government is further delegitimising the Panchayati Raj Institutions by creating new associations and giving more powers to them. Now the time has come to take a stock of the emerging situations in this age of Globalisation and make new strategies to protect Dalit rights.

Proposer : Sampark

Resource Team : Sabastin Raju, Parthasarathi,
Anwar Pasha

3. Communalism, Dalit and Muslim Alliance

Synopsis

The problem of communalism has acquired a monstrous character in recent years. A deeper analysis would reveal that it is not merely a Hindu-Muslim conflict over trivial issues. There is a greater design by the Caste Hindu anti-national forces to keep Dalits and Muslims at loggerheads. By doing this the Caste Hindu forces can maintain the status quo in society, economy and polity. Any challenge to their hegemony is also thwarted. Dalits and OBCs are insigated to fight against a perceived common enemy. The togetherness of Dalits and Muslims would certainly herald a new era. The initiative must be taken jointly. After all Dalits and Muslims are the natural allies in their fight against the Caste Hindu Nation.

Proposer : Dalit Bahujan Front

Resource Team : Kanwal Bharti, Syed Salim

4. Dalit and Education

Synopsis

How much impact Globalisation is having on education vis-à-vis Dalits. It is a matter of common knowledge that States have lagged behind in providing education to Dalits. As per the 1991 Census the literacy rates among Dalits was only 37.41%. A very pathetic condition indeed. The curse of illiteracy has not been wiped even after 55 years of independent governance. Though the participation of Dalits, Adivasis and women have improved in the last 5 decade relatively, the unequal development in a hierarchical social class continues to be reflected in the educational status of various communities. What needs to be asked today is that - how much progress is made regarding education for Dalits? What does it mean to be a Dalit child in school in the rural Bharat and also the urban India? Is social opposition to Dalit education an aberration of the past? These are the basic questions that this country owes an explanation.

Proposer : Bhavitha

Resource Team : Anitha B. Singh, Prof. Ratnam,
Ravichandran, Sukumar David

5. Impact of Globalisation on workers in Kolar Gold Mines

Synopsis

Mines have been badly affected in this age of Globalisation and thus Kolar Gold Mines is not an exception. The present policy of the Government under the influence of Globalisation is heavily tilted in favour of privatisation and also retrenchment of the workers. The closure of mines is also an option, which the Government has decided to pursue seriously. It is actually a total sell-out to private parties without bothering much about the workers interest. The golden goose is being handed over to the private parties at a much lower prices. The other Mines are also facing same situations as the Kolar Gold Mines. The question which needs to be asked here is that, are workers not human enough to be consulted before deciding their fate?

Proposer : National Agricultural Forum

Resource Team : Dr. Le.Jain, Ruth Manorama,
J. Bhagyanathan,

6. Relevance of Ambedkar in the context of Globalisation

Synopsis

Ambedkar's relevance in the context of Globalisation has become a reality which can not be ignored anymore. The credit goes to Ambedkar who single handedly fought for the rights of the disadvantaged (Dalits, Adivasis, Women and others). It was Ambedkar who long years ago talked about the need to fight against Brahmanism and Capitalism, because Ambedkar thought them to be the main enemy of Dalits and other disadvantaged sections of society. It was Ambedkar again who insisted on incorporating adequate safety measures for weaker sections of society when Constitution was being drafted. Be it the question of social security, decent living and working conditions, education, health and many other aspects concerning Dalits life and dignity, Ambedkar played a revolutionary role and emerged as a champion. He worked very hard to ensure that rights of these vulnerable sections are protected at any cost. Even now Ambedkar is the rallying point for mass mobilisation and his ideas are still relevant very much.

Proposer : Bojja Tarakkam

Resource Team : Bojja Tarakkam

05 January 2003 (Sunday) Time: 15.00 hrs.

1. Dalits and Land Alienation

Synopsis

Landlessness has been a characteristic feature of Dalits life. Land is not only a source of income but also a symbol of social status in rural India. It is under that an overwhelming majority of Dalits have been deprived of possessing land. Consequently, a very large proportion of Dalits population is found to be in the ranks of landless labourers. Under the influence of Globalisation, Government has initiated new policy measures which certainly helps the Caste Hindu land owners and not the Dalits. Commercialisation and mechanisation has further alienated Dalits from land. Land reforms has been a failure mainly because the State lacks political will.

Proposer : Dalit Bahujan Front

Resource Team : Paul Raj, Karuppan IAS

2. Changing Forms of Jogini System

Synopsis

The tradition of religious prostitution has its origin in the caste system. The jogini system is made by birth and by caste. This system is practiced in various forms in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra and some other states under different names. The sexual exploitation of women is rampant. In the name of religion, how can this kind of exploitation be allowed to exist? The State and the civil society must be held accountable for highly deplorable system of sexual exploitation. The callous attitude of the Government in not implementing the existing legislations against the practice of Jogini system has deteriorated the Jogini's exploitation. The laxity of the Government and the civil society can not be pardoned under any circumstances as far as the case of Jogini's are concerned.

Proposer : Jogini Vethireka Poratta Singshthana

Resource Team : Lalitha, Alok Pareshwar

3. Rights of the Differently Abled People

Synopsis

The concerns of the differently abled people can not be seen in isolation in the sense that indifferent attitude and unconcernedness of the larger civil society towards the problems of the disadvantaged sections of the Indian society is nothing new. There is a need for sensitisation of the vulnerable sections of society. A law, however good, can not operate in a vacuum. Persons with disability constitute a forgotten minority. This is evident in the lack of consideration of the implications of social, economic and political policies. Even on the social plane, barring highly specific and specialised social interaction situations, the consciousness is not encouraging at all and attitudes towards persons with disability range from total indifference to total non-cognisance.

Proposer : Differently Abled Peoples Collective

Resource Team : Sudhakar Reddy, Savio Charles, Galin

4. Globalisation and its impact on drought prone areas

Synopsis

Is Globalisation having any impact on drought prone areas? The ground realities confirm an affirmative answer to this question. The welfare programmes meant for the people are being cut down to maximum limit. People die of hunger and in many places food for work programmes are not taken seriously by the administration. It is a very paradoxical situation - on one hand the proponents and the defenders of Globalisation are selling dreams to chosen few and on the other hand the lesser humans are allowed to die as there is paucity of food, water and the sources of livelihoods are being threatened in a big way. These issues must be highlighted to present a true picture.

Proposer : Voluntary Action Network

Resource Team : Mr. Gopal Reddy, Prof. Purshotham, Y.V. Mallia Reddy, Babulu Ganguly, Vandana Shiva

06 January 2003 (Monday) Time: 15.00 hrs.

1. Dalit Rights in Agency Areas

Synopsis

Despite recognition as Hill Tribes, the Dalits in agency areas are not treated at par with the Scheduled Tribes. They face discrimination in various forms. They are neither provided any benefit at par with the tribals of the agency areas nor with the Dalits of plain areas as they are not covered under any schemes of the SC Corporation or the Indian Tribal Development Agency (ITDA). As per the Act 1/70, vide G.O. No. 3, they can not be appointed in any department in the agency areas. There is an urgent need to provide them Constitutional protections as well as other welfare programmes for these people as well.

Proposer : Dalit Bahujan Front

Resource Team : Round Table with Dalit and Tribal Leaders

2. Eradication of the practice of Manual Scavenging in India

Synopsis

In the social hierarchy, the scavengers occupy the lowest of the low position as they are the night soil removers. The scavenger's marginalisation in the Hindu Social Order has been evident in religious, social, economic and even spatial aspects and their degradation, deprivation and exploitation fostered their separate identity. India still has around 6 lakh scavengers engaged in the sub-human and defiling task of removing night soils. The schemes that have so far been implemented for the rehabilitation of scavengers have met with only limited success. It has been observed that authorities have exhibited apparent biases against the scavengers. Now the question that needs to be asked is, for how long a situation like this would be allowed to continue? Is it not time to say enough is enough and demand a complete ban on manual scavenging?

Proposer : Safai Karamchari Andolan

Resource Team : Rakesh Bahadur, S.R. Shankaran

3. Budgets and Dalits

Synopsis

There are Constitutional provision for separate allocation of funds for the social, economic, educational development and other kinds of welfare for Dalits. The Special Component Plan (SCP) was introduced by the Government of India during the Sixth Plan Period (1980-81) with the assumption and conviction that neither 50 years of planning nor thousands of crores of rupees allocated for SC welfare brought any meaningful change in the lives of SCs. Over the years, the callous attitude of State Governments regarding SCP implementation bears a testimony to the fact that there is no political will as far as the development and welfare of Dalits are concerned. Not only the allocation of funds in right proportion are not being done but there are instances so far reported that there is diversion of funds from SCP to other heads. New strategies and proper implementation are needed at this hour to protect Dalits from further pauperisation in this age of Globalisation.

Proposer : Tamil Nadu Social Forum

Resource Team : Chitudoss, Manu Aphonse, Dayalan, Ashok Bharti

4. Globalisation and Displacement of Dalit Livelihood-A study on Kolleru Lake Region

Synopsis

The process of Globalisation has resulted in displacement of Dalit livelihoods in more ways than one. Kolleru Lake Region is one such example, where Dalits have been affected very badly as a result of aqua farming, which started in the region on a large scale to cater to international markets. The involvement of some big companies (both national and international) into the region for aqua farming not only deprived the local Dalits of any chance of being a partner in these projects but also turned many agricultural lands into ponds thereby not providing any stake to Dalits at all. The amount of water it needs and the extent of pollution it leads to have become a source of major problem affecting Dalit lives in various ways. This aqua (shrimp) farming has been having a disastrous impact on Dalit livelihoods in the Kolleru Lake Region since last one decade or so. Can Dalits demand for a decent source of livelihood?

Proposer : SABHA

Resource Team : Chitti Babu, Sudha Rani

5. Culture and Communalism

Synopsis

Does culture breeds communalism? This needs to be asked as communalism has raised its ugly head menacingly once again in this age of Globalisation thereby threatening the very existence of a secular and democratic India. Where does intolerance come from? Is intolerance rooted in the culture? These and some other question needs to be addressed now or else it might be too late to intervene at a later stage. There is a need to further probe the matter and devise strategies to counter the rising tide of religious bigotry, intolerance and obscurantism. A counter culture based on progressive ideas must be made part of social and cultural life in order to check the growth of divisive forces.

Proposer : Madhyam

Resource Team : Sonia Gupta, Jaya, Meliekal SDB, Lalitha

National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights

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Seminar and Workshop Co-ordination Committee

Thomas Pallithanam SDB

Paul Mike SJ

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Ms Angela

Mr.Surendranath

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GENE CAMPAIGN
1993-2003 A Decade of Campaigning

OPPOSE UPOV! SAVE FARMERS!

Gene Campaign's Legal
Action against
Indian Government



- *A farmer or a group of farmers shall not be liable to pay any fee in any proceeding before the Authority or Registrar or the Tribunal or the High Court under this Act or the rules made thereunder.*
- *A right established under this Act shall not be deemed to be infringed by a farmer who at the time of such infringement was not aware of the existence of such right.*

The Indian PVP law, which has been hailed as a progressive, pro-developing country legislation, has some notable features. Apart from strong and proactive Farmers Rights, it has a well-defined Breeder's Right as well. The Indian legislation succeeds in balancing the rights of Breeders and Farmers and exploits the flexibility granted in TRIPS, in an intelligent manner. The Act incorporating the principles laid down in the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) recognises farmers' role as conservers, breeders and cultivators. It provides legal rights to farmers to "save, exchange and sell seeds of all varieties." The Act has provisions for registering farmers' varieties so that their ownership and innovation is recognised. Though the Indian legislation is far from perfect it is the first law in the world to grant formal, legal rights to farmers.

Sudden turnaround: India decides to join UPOV

After spending about eight years on wrangling, negotiations, consultations and an investigation by a Joint Parliamentary Committee, the Indian law with Farmers Right was finally enacted. There was a general consensus that India had broken new ground and deviated from the UPOV (International Union for

the Protection of New Varieties of Plants) model of sui generis legislation by enacting a legislation that incorporated features of the CBD, and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGR) under which India has also recognised and accepted Farmers Rights. Then suddenly, without any discussions in Parliament, the Cabinet decided to reject the developments of the last few years and its own legislation, and decided to join UPOV.

This decision to join UPOV has stunned national and international experts, particularly when India has also been taking an independent position in the TRIPS Council, seeking greater national flexibility. Many are legitimately asking what elements in the government and for what reason have advocated this complete about turn in India's position. There are questions raised about how the Cabinet without seeking the approval of Parliament, can take a step that would be a grave setback for Farmers Rights. More so, since Parliament had enacted the legislation, only last year, sending a strong message that Farmers Rights must be protected in India.

UPOV, which is an international organization of plant breeders, was established by the large seed industries in 1961 to protect their market interests. UPOV member states are predominantly wealthy developed countries with huge industrialized economies that are not dependent on agriculture. They certainly do not have food security concerns nor do they have small and marginal farmers that need protection. Developing countries with agrarian economies like India must oppose UPOV since it goes against their kind of agriculture, their vulnerability in food sector and their farmers' interests.

In India, farmers supply over 85% of the total seeds planted in the country because today they have

Campaign filed a Writ Petition in the form of Public Interest Litigation in the Delhi High Court on 1st October 2002, to block the government's decision to join UPOV. The Court has accepted the PIL and has asked the Indian Government to file a reply to the Petition.

The Public Interest Litigation

Grounds

The Petition is based, *inter alia*, on the following grounds:

- That India is among one of the richest countries in terms of varied eco-system and bio-diversity especially agro bio-diversity, which contributes significantly to global food security. The Indian farmers have developed and continue to develop through their traditional practices hundreds of new varieties of seeds in all crops. This agro-biodiversity is the only source of the genetic biodiversity sustaining the demands from agriculture, present and in future.

Hence, it is necessary to protect the rich bio-diversity of the country through the traditional conservation practices being followed by farmers, for which protection and promotion of agricultural practices, Farmers' Rights entitled naturally and through national laws and the international treaties as well as bequeathed by the Constitution of India is most important. Article 21 of the Constitution and the Directive Principles, namely, Articles 38, 47, 48 and 48-A provide for protection of environment, Farmers' Rights and the agricultural practices. It is the bounden duty of the Government of India to give effect to these rights.

That it is now a settled principle of law that any aspect of the International Convention/Treaty which is signed/ratified by the country can be read into the constitutional provisions if the obligations in such international instrument are in consonance with our Constitution. The provisions in the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as other international instruments which seek to protect the agricultural bio-diversity, indigenous knowledge and practices can, therefore, be read within Article 21 of the Constitution. The action of the Government in implementing Article 27.3(b) of TRIPS can, therefore, be accepted to the extent it seeks to protect our agricultural practices, rights on seeds and rights of the farmers.

Any action, which is in violation of these rights, will be in violation of the Constitution. The Act of 2001 is a legislative action protecting, to a larger extent, the rights of the farmers as well as the agricultural practices. The Government is, therefore, bound to follow the Act of 2001 nationally as well as internationally protecting the farmers' rights. Taking a decision to join UPOV is, therefore, against the Constitution, against the Act of 2001, as well as against the CBD and other international instruments including the ITPGR (International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture).

That the main objective of the UPOV is protection of the commercial rights of the breeders operating within industrialized agriculture of the developed countries. Unlike the majority of Indian farmers who have small, marginal holdings and meager resource, the farmers of the developed countries are rich, owning large farm holdings with resource

capability for high input and high technology mechanized agriculture. More over, many of these developed countries provide large subsidies on various counts to their farmers as a major national policy. Hence, Farmers' Rights are of little consequence to the farmers from the developed countries. The situation in India is quite different. Moreover, under a liberalized agricultural policy, most of the plant breeder's rights are expected to be monopolized by a few large multinational seed companies. It is therefore crucial to protect the farmer in this situation by the grant of strong and definite rights.

If the provisions of UPOV are compared with the provisions of the Act of 2001, it will be clear that UPOV Convention is totally against the Act of 2001 in respect of definition of farmers, recognition of farmers' varieties, provision of Farmers' Rights, benefit sharing in lieu of commercialization of biodiversity, etc. The decision of the Government to accede to UPOV is, therefore, clearly in violation of the Farmers' Rights which have been safeguarded under the Act of 2001.

- That while the UPOV is an intergovernmental organisation of countries, predominantly developed countries, it is not an international governmental organization created under the United Nations or its charter. Hence, joining UPOV is not binding on any member country of the UN. Since UPOV does not feature in the WTO or TRIPS either, there is no requirement to take cognizance of it. In accepting UPOV by the impugned decision, the Government is acting against its own representation to WTO that India wants to protect its Farmers' Rights and its bio-diversity and is, therefore, opting for an effective

sui generis system. After giving that representation to the WTO on behalf of the people of this country, the Government cannot take an executive decision in violation of this solemn representation in joining UPOV which will not only be contrary to its own stand but also against the public and national interest.

- That if the impugned decision is implemented, it will result in our farmers losing their rights over their seeds and their indigenous agricultural practices. It will mean denial of their rights as innovators of new varieties and as conservers of agro-biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge, etc. Accession to UPOV Convention will essentially result in severe limitation of Farmers' Rights provided in the Act of 2001 to "save, use, sow, resow, exchange, share or sell his farm produce including seed of a protected variety..." and strengthening of large seed industries as the breeders of plant varieties. These seed industry giants through their money power and monopolistic manipulation of seed market will be in a position to totally overwhelm farmers' contribution and misappropriate farmers' varieties with the support of the UPOV Convention. This will ultimately have a grave and debilitating impact on the livelihood of resource poor farmers of this country and its recently achieved self-reliance in food production. There can not be any other peacetime national issue which attracts larger public interest than the livelihood security of the majority of our people and the food security concerns of our nation.

Remedies sought

In light of the above-said grounds, Gene Campaign has prayed to the Court to declare the decision of the Government dated 31.05.02 as illegal and

unconstitutional being violative of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 as well as Articles 14, 21, 38, 47 and 48-A of the Constitution of India. It further requests the Court to direct the Government not to take any action which is not in the interest of protection of farmers' rights in the Act and that those rights are neither impaired nor diluted by any future act of the Government.

Box 2 : Chronology of Events

<p><i>1 January 1995</i></p>	<p><i>The WTO Agreements comes into force. The Agreement on TRIPs requires all the Members to provide protection of plant varieties either by patents or by an effective sui generis system or by any combination there of.</i></p>
<p><i>14 December 1999</i></p>	<p><i>The Protection of Plants Varieties and Farmers' Rights Bill, 1999 gets introduced in the Lok Sabha (Lower House) of the Indian Parliament.</i></p>
<p><i>21 December 1999</i></p>	<p><i>The Lok Sabha refers the Bill of 1999 to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC).</i></p>
<p><i>August 2000</i></p>	<p><i>The Joint Parliamentary Committee submits its report to the Lok Sabha suggesting several amendments. The JPC recommends incorporation of strong Farmers' Rights in the Bill.</i></p>
<p><i>August 2001</i></p>	<p><i>The Indian Parliament passes the revised Bill i.e. "Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Bill, 2001," incorporating the sui generis system for protection of the rights of</i></p>

	farmers. Chapter-VI of the Bill of 2001 is devoted solely to Farmers' Rights.
31 May 2002	The Union Cabinet approves the decision of the Ministry of Agriculture to join UPOV
1 October 2002	Gene Campaign files a Writ Petition in form of Public Interest Litigation in the Delhi High Court challenging the Union Cabinet's decision of 31 May 2002
7 October 2002	Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court, after hearing the Petitioner i.e. Gene Campaign, accepts the PIL and asks the Government of India to file a reply to the petition on 26 November 2002.
26 November 2002	The Government of India seeks more time to file the reply.
8 January 2003	Next date of hearing when the Government of India has to file its reply.

Gene Campaign is a non-government organization working on the issues of bioresources, intellectual property rights, indigenous knowledge, farmers' rights and community rights. It is a grassroots level organisation working in several states in India and its work is focussed on ensuring food and livelihood security for rural and tribal communities. Gene Campaign has played a significant role in formulating national policies on biodiversity and international trade and has been involved with drafting legislation in these fields.

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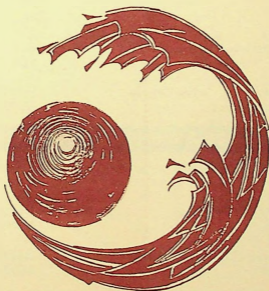
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http: //www.genecampaign.org

Maro Prapancham, Maro Prapancham
Maro Prapancham Pilichindi
Padandi Munduku, Padandi Thosuku
Podam Podam Pai Paiki

- Srisri



ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM

**CULTURAL EVENT
PROGRAMME SCHEDULE**

2-7 January, 2003

ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM
Cultural Event Programme Schedule Jan 2-7

Sl. No.	Organisation	Form	Duration	Sloted in Minutes	Date Time
INDIRA PRIYADARSHINI AUDITORIUM					
01	Action Aid	Habib Tanvir 2 Hindi Plays	120	6.00 to 9.00 PM	3rd Jan
02	Asmita Delhi	Court Martial-Play	120	6.00 to 8.00 PM	4th Jan
03	Action Aid	Lushan Dubey's Play	120	8.00 to 10.00 PM	4th Jan
04	Bubbles Sabharwal	Women in Black Play	180	6.00 to 9.00 PM	6th Jan
05	Janapadam - Denchanala Srinivas	Donga Sattaiah	60	9.00 to 10.00 PM	6th Jan
NIZAM COLLEGE GROUNDS CONFERENCE HALL 1					
06	Prajanatyamandali	Songs	10	3:00 to 3:10pm	3rd Jan
07	APPNM	Songs	20	3:10 to 3:30Pm	3rd Jan
08	Adivasi Aikya Vedika	Savara Dance	30	3:30 to 4:00Pm	3rd Jan
09	Prajanatyamandali	Pittala Dora	15	4:00 to 4:15Pm	3rd Jan
10	Raga Samudaya	Songs	20	4:20 to 4:40Pm	3rd Jan
11	T.P.Vedika	Songs	20	4:45 to 5:10Pm	3rd Jan
12	Puvi Arangam	Dance	20	5:10 to 5:30Pm	3rd Jan
13	Dalita Kala Mandali	Jana Katha	30	8:00 to 8:30Pm	3rd Jan

Sl. No.	Organisation	Form	Duration	Sloted in Minutes	Date Time
14	APPNM	Bhoo Bhagotam	45	8:30 to 9:15Pm	3rd Jan
15	APPNM	Songs	10	3:00 to 3:15Pm	4th Jan
16	Elavatam (Madhurai)	Instrument Play	20	3:20 to 3:45Pm	4th Jan
17	Padugami Sai Kuzu	Songs	5	3:50 to 4:00Pm	4th Jan
18	IPTA (Assam)	Songs	10	4:10 to 4:25Pm	4th Jan
19	APPNM	Pittala Dhora	10	4:30 to 4:40Pm	4th Jan
20	RRDS	Yanadi Dance	30	4:50 to 5:30 Pm	4th Jan
21	COVA	Quwali	45	8:30 to 9:30Pm	4th Jan
22	Prajanatyamandali	Mahila Dappu (Dance)	20	9:30 to 9:50Pm	4th Jan
23	A.P. Girijana Sangham	Lambada Dance	20	10:00 to 10:30Pm	4th Jan
24	Madyam	Songs	15	3:00 to 3:30Pm	5th Jan
25	APPNM	Kolatam	45	3:40 to 4:30Pm	5th Jan
26	A.P.Girijana Sangam	Yanadi Dance	25	4:30 to 5:00Pm	5th Jan
27	Prajanatyamandali	Dance	10	5:00 to 5:30Pm	5th Jan
28	COVA	Guitar	30	8:30 to 9:00Pm	5th Jan
29	APPNM	Poli Keka (Play)	60	9:00 to 10:00Pm	5th Jan

Sl. No.	Organisation	Form	Duration	Sloted in Minutes	Date Time
30	Prajanatyamandali	Oggu Katha	30	10:00 to 10:30Pm	5th Jan
31	STEP	Songs	15	3:00 to 3:20Pm	6th Jan
32	APPNM	Suddulu	15	3:30 to 3:50Pm	6th Jan
33	Prajanatyamandali	Chidathala Katha	15	3:55 to 4:15Pm	6th Jan
34	Prajanatyamandali	Dappu Dance	15	4:20 to 4:40Pm	6th Jan
35	A.P. Girijana Sangham	Dimsha Dance	30	4:45 to 5:30Pm	6th Jan
36	Chetna (M.P)	Songs	10	8:30 to 8:40Pm	6th Jan
37	APPNM	Oggu Katha	20	8:40 to 9:00Pm	6th Jan
38	APPNM	Halikuloo - Kshemama?	60	9:00 to 10:00Pm	6th Jan
39	Prajanatyamandali	Mantra Ghaadu	20	10:00 to 10:30Pm	6th Jan

NIZAM COLLEGE GROUNDS CONFERENCE HALL 2

40	JNM Hindi Folk (Chathees Ghad)	60	3:00 to 4:00pm	3rd Jan	
41	STEP	Dance	30	4:00 to 4:30Pm	3rd Jan
42	Jare Banda	Play	35	4:30 to 5:10Pm	3rd Jan
43	APPNM	Songs	20	8:30 to 8:45 pm	3rd Jan
44	Arunodaya (Divi Kumar)	Freez Shot Play	15	9:10 to 9:30Pm	3rd Jan

Sl. No.	Organisation	Form	Duration	Sloted in Minutes	Date Time
45	Praja Natyamandali	Tribal Dance	25	8:40 to 9:10Pm	3rd Jan
46	Arunodaya (Divi Kumar)	Appula Bharatam (Yakshaghanam)	45	9:45 to 10:45Pm	3rd Jan
47	MCA Adilabad	Gondu Khel	30	3:00 to 3:30Pm	4th Jan
48	APPNM	Dappu Dance	30	3:40 to 4:10Pm	4th Jan
49	APPNM	Gangireddulu	15	4:10 to 4:30Pm	4th Jan
50	Praja Natyamandali	Mahila Dappu	30	4:30 to 5:00 PM	4th Jan
51	Arunodaya	Kindri Dance	25	5:00 to 5:30 PM	4th Jan
52	COVA	Play	15	8:30 to 8:45 PM	4th Jan
53	Chindu	Telugu Drama	30	8:50 to 9:20 PM	4th Jan
54	APPNM	Ballet	40	9:20 to 10:10 PM	4th Jan
55	Rupanthar	Hindi Folk	60	10:10 to 11:00 PM	4th Jan
56	Praja Natyamandali	Pandari Bhajana	20	3:00 to 3:30 PM	5th Jan
57	Puvi Arangam	Tamil Drama	20	3:40 to 4:00 PM	5th Jan
58	Arunodaya	Thappetagullu	30	4:00 to 4:30 PM	5th Jan
59	Karika Kuyuli	Songs	15	4:30 to 4:445 PM	5th Jan
60	AP PNM	Dappu Dance	30	4:45 to 5:15 PM	5th Jan

Sl. No.	Organisation	Form	Duration	Sloted in Minutes	Date Time
61	Praja Natyamandali	Suddulu	15	5.15 to 5.30 PM	5th Jan
62	AP PNM	Brathuku Bandi Suddulu	20	8.30 to 8.50 PM	5th Jan
63	Praja Natyamandali	Mantragadu	20	8.50 to 9.20 PM	5th Jan
64	AP Girijana Sangham	Koya Dance	30	9.30 to 10.10 PM	5th Jan
65	Shali	Tamil Dappu Dance	30	3.00 to 3.30 PM	6th Jan
66	Puvi Arangam	Tamil Play	30	3.35 to 4.10 PM	6th Jan
67	Praja Natyamandali	Kolatam	45	4.15 to 5.00 PM	6th Jan
68	APAEV	Savara Dance	30	8.30 to 9.00 PM	6th Jan
69	Jagruti	Telugu Play	45	9.00 to 9.45 PM	6th Jan
70	Praja Natyamandali	Padya Natakam	40	9.45 to 10.30 PM	6th Jan
71	Women's Collective	Tamil Dance	15	10.30 to 11.00 PM	6th Jan

**NIZAM COLLEGE GROUNDS
STREET PLAY ARENA**

72	Minuguru	Street Play	30	3:00PM	3rd Jan
73	North East Group	Street Play	30	3:30PM	3rd Jan
74	Bhavaikyatha Vedhika	Street Play (Karnataka)	30	4:00PM	3rd Jan
75	Action Aid	Street Play	90	4:30PM	3rd Jan
76	Haryana BGVS	Street Play	30	5:45PM	3rd Jan

Sl. No.	Organisation	Form	Duration	Sloted in Minutes	Date Time
77	Jananaty Manch	Street Play (Rajasthan)	30	6:15PM	3rd Jan
78	Prajanaty Mandali	Street Play	60	6:45PM	3rd Jan
79	Jagur(mumbai)	Street Play	30	7:45PM	3rd Jan
80	West Bengal Democratic Writers & Artists Association	Street Play	30	8:15PM	3rd Jan
81	BGVS Assam	Street Play	30	8:45PM	3rd Jan
82	Samudhaya (Karnataka)	Street Play	30	3:00PM	4th Jan
83	Vidhayal Kalai Kuju (Chennai)	Street Play	30	3:30PM	4th Jan
84	Ipta Assam	Street Play	30	4:00PM	4th Jan
85	Action Aid	Street Play	90	4:30PM	4th Jan
86	BGVS Himachal Pradesh	Street Play	30	5:45PM	4th Jan
87	Janam(Delhi)	Street Play	30	6:15PM	4th Jan
88	Bhirangan(Bengal)	Street Play	30	6:45PM	4th Jan
89	Samudaya (Karnataka)	Street Play	30	7:15PM	4th Jan
90	Raga Samudaya (Banglore)	Street Play	30	7:45PM	4th Jan
91	Janavadi Lekhak Sangh (Jarkanahd)	Street Play	30	8:15PM	4th Jan
92	Prajanaty Mandali	Street Play	60	8:45PM	4th Jan
93	Action Aid	Street Play	90	3:00PM	5th Jan
94	Disha (Mumbai)	Street Play	30	4:45PM	5th Jan
95	Swarnam(Nepal)	Street Play	30	5:15PM	5th Jan

Sl. No.	Organisation	Form	Duration	Sloted in Minutes	Date Time
96	Jana Vignana Vedika Andhra Pradesh	Street Play	30	5:45PM	5th Jan
97	APPNM	Street Play	60	6:15PM	5th Jan
98	Jananaty Manch (Delhi)	Street Play	30	6:45PM	5th Jan
99	PNM (Sholahpur)	Street Play	30	7:15PM	5th Jan
100	Kalakuju	Street Play	30	7:45PM	5th Jan
101	Action on Disabilities & Developments Karnataka	Street Play	30	8:15PM	5th Jan
102	Prajanaty Mandali	Street Play	60	8:45PM	5th Jan
103	BGVS (Madhya Pradesh)	Street Play	30	3:00PM	6th Jan
104	Action Aid	Street Play	90	3:30PM	6th Jan
105	Chetana (Madhya Pradesh)	Street Play	30	5:00PM	6th Jan
106	Janavadi Sanskritika	Street Play Morcha (Bihar)	30	5:30PM	6th Jan
107	Prajanaty Mandali	Street Play	60	6:00PM	6th Jan
108	Prerana(Bihar)	Street Play	30	7:00PM	6th Jan
109	Madhyam (Hyderabad)	Street Play	30	7:30PM	6th Jan
111	Action Aid Voice of Asia	Street Play Daily	15		
110	YOUTH CAMP	Mrigaya Play			5th Jan

NOTE : Scheduling can be changed depending upon convenience of organisers.

**CULTURAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE
ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM**

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Asia Social Forum

Schedule of Workshops
Organised by

Action Aid

Workshop on Organisation of Disabled People For Assertion of Rights

Date: January 04, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Nizam College Block-6/Commerce Department Room No. 267

Theme of Workshop: Disabled persons are highly invisible and highly discriminated in all spheres and stages of life. For an estimated 50 million disabled persons in India it is a daily battle to keep away from destitution. Welfare provisions have been made, and the needs of the disabled persons have been typified as social welfare concerns and development interventions for the differently abled have followed a paradigm of benevolence. While legal provisions have been made to protect the rights (as typified in the Persons with Disability Act, 1996) in actual practice, there has been a systematic denial of rights.

The workshop plans to bring together disabled activists from across the country, and from some of the Southeast Asian countries. As a case the situation and initiatives in Andhra Pradesh would be shared. Disabled persons would also share their struggles and experiences of collective assertion.

**Workshop on Deprivation ...
Destitution ... Impact of Globalisation
on
Urban Poverty**

Date: January 04, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Nizam College Grounds, Room No. 629

Theme of Workshop: Urban poverty has engaged governments in India far less than rural poverty, in terms of range of interventions and financial allocations. The urban marginalized groups face denial of the basic human right "right to life -right to shelter" as guaranteed in our constitution and are totally left out of the different urban development programmes. The urban poor face an insecure life/low wages under and low employment, poor and uncertain shelter, low access to basic amenities like safe drinking water, sewerage and sanitation and poor nutritional levels.

During the workshop urban communities like rickshaw pullers, homeless persons, rag pickers, street children, streetwalkers, pavement dwellers would share their life struggles/experiences. The panel and speakers will comprise of activists/lawyers/non-government organizations/community based organisations and community leaders working with these urban vulnerable groups across the Asian countries.

Workshop on Securing Equity in Education

Date: January 05, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Nizam College, Centenary Block Room No. 302

Theme of Workshop: Despite differing cultures and historical legacies, our country has to recognize that education is at the heart of sustainable development. Investing in education, and especially primary education, is the key to shaping the future in an increasingly inter-dependent world. It is not only the fulfillment of a basic human right, but also the bridge toward slower population growth, higher economic productivity and a more peaceful, tolerant and democratic society.

The workshop will focus on the Equality and Equity in education and the need to define these concepts clearly for the attainment of basic quality education for all. Equality has mainly been confined to 'access' however to do justice to this concept it has to extend beyond mere access. Equity needs to address issues relating to fairness of operating environment for all people. In education, if source groups or districts are poor, the assumption is that the central government will provide sufficient subsidies to offset the deficit, for even if there is equal access to schooling the prevailing conditions are inequitable.

In addition, to the presentations made by the speakers, children belonging to various age groups would give testimonials.

Seminar on Ordinary People for Peace and Healing

Date: January 05, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Rabindra Bharati Mini Hall

Theme of the Seminar - Events in the world today are compelling all those who believe in peace and harmony to come together, reclaim and restore the humanistic pluralistic traditions of our society, economy and polity.

Today, a stronger civil society action is required to ensure harmony and justice. All of us must reinforce the foundation of our society based on diversity, peace, equity, justice, truth and compassion.

The seminar will discuss these issues with Asian Social Movements. Mr Saeed Mirza would open the seminar with presentation of Voices of India a photo documentation of what the ordinary Indians have to say about peace and harmony. Sharing of experiences on contributions towards building peace and harmony and strengthening pluralistic traditions would follow this. Aman Pathiks from Gujarat, Aman Parirakhshana Vedica from Andhra Pradesh activists from Mynamar, Cambodia and Afghanistan would share their experiences. Approaches for healing including issues of mental health would also be discussed.

Seminar on Search for Dignity

Date: January 6, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Ravindra Bharti Mini Hall

Theme of the Seminar: The magnitude of the situation of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation is complex and has multifarious contributing factors. The trend of migration for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation is ever increasing. Different stakeholders need to come together to play the role of catalyst to enable these women/children to assert their rights. Findings of recent studies on the various dimensions of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children and women conducted in three regions of Andhra Pradesh will also be shared in the seminar.

Speakers will be from different Asian countries like Nepal, Cambodia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and India who have experienced the process of marginalisation and stigmatization leading to acute destitution.

Book release of "Taboo" authored by Ms Fouzia Saeed, an eminent writer and activist from Pakistan.

Workshop on Rights over resources: Empowering Gram Sabha

Date: January 06, 2003

Time: 2.00PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Nizam College Grounds, Room No. 119

Theme of the Workshop: The workshop focuses on bringing out the current realities of the tribals from the states of Orissa, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Chennai and evolving strategies to establish tribal self-rule.

Tribals are undergoing a process of marginalisation irrespective of number of development programs run by government and non-government agencies. Lack of control over their natural resources, ineffective governance and land alienation, eviction are leading to chronic hunger, distress migration and bondage of the primitive tribal groups. The workshop focuses on bringing out the current realities of the tribals from the states of Orissa, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Chennai and evolving strategies to establish tribal self-rule.

Workshop on Changing Scenario on Seed Sector and Sinking Voices of Small and Marginal Farmers

Date: January 06, 2003

Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM

Venue: Nizam College Grounds, Room No. 606

Theme of the Workshop: Today the windows of economic liberalization have opened new vistas for the multinational companies. The lure of high returns forced thousands of small and marginal farmers to adopt new hybrid seeds irrespective of their investment capacities, available resources and other risk factors such as damage to the environment and land. The workshop will highlight the following:

- *Understanding the responses of the farmers in addressing the situation*
- *Drawing conclusions for further intervention and policy influence*
- *Taking forward the IPR & Protection of traditional sustainable variety*

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS ORGANISED BY

- ▶ Human Rights Law Network
- ▶ India Centre for Human Rights and Law
- ▶ Indian Peoples Tribunal on Environment and Human Rights
- ▶ Amnesty International
- ▶ National Centre for Promotion of Employment of Disabled People
- ▶ National Forum for Housing Rights
- ▶ Fredrick Ebert Foundation
- ▶ Citizen Initiative
- ▶ Bharat Jan Andolan
- ▶ National Front for Tribal Self Rule

ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM
Hyderabad, India
2-7 January 2003

Human Rights Law Network

Human Rights Law Network is a nationwide network of lawyers and social activists who offer quick response and pro bono expertise to those who have little or no access to the justice system. The network undertakes public interest litigation, conducts trainings, monitors human rights violations and campaigns for justice.

India Centre for Human Rights and Law

India Centre for Human rights and Law was founded to defend human rights by opposing violations, strengthening human rights mechanisms, sensitizing the public and campaigning for constitutional and legal reform.

Indian Peoples Tribunal on Environment and Human Rights (IPT)

The tribunal is positioned as an alternative "People's Court" consisting of senior retired judges of the High Courts and Supreme Court of India. In the present context of rising state repression, rapid globalisation and communalism the need to develop jurisprudence and laws that effectively protect the rights of groups and communities that are marginalised and vulnerable is of vital importance. It was with this objective the Indian People's Tribunal was established in 1993.

ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM
Hyderabad, India
2-7 January 2003

Meetings at a Glance

Date	Event Title	Type	Organisers	Venue
03/01/03	Communalism and the Law	Seminar	Human Rights Law Network, India Centre for Human Rights and Law	Nizam College Centenary Block
03/01/03	Labour Rights, 2nd Labour Commission Report	Seminar	Human Rights Law Network, Frederick Ebert Foundation	Nizam College Tennis Court
03/01/03	Legal Initiative on Violence against Women	Workshop	India Centre for Human Rights and Law / Human Rights Law Network and others	Methodist-12
04/01/03	Labour Rights, Changes in Labour Law	Seminar	Human Rights Law Network, Frederick Ebert Foundation	Nizam College Tennis Court
04/01/03	Tribal Evictions following the Supreme Court case	Workshop	Human Rights Law Network, Bharat Jan Andolan, National Front for Tribal Self Rule & Campaign for People's Rights Over Resources	Methodist-20
04/01/03	Housing Rights, Evictions	Workshop	India Centre for Human Rights and Law / National Forum for Housing Rights and others	Nizam College Centenary Block
04/01/03	Right to Food Campaign	Seminar	Support Group of the Right to Food Campaign	Andhra Yuvathi Mandali
05/01/03	Collective Rights, Group Violations and Need for Peoples Tribunal	Seminar	Human Rights Law Network, Indian Peoples Tribunal on Environment and Human Rights	Nizam College Centenary Block
05/01/03	Refugee Rights	Workshop	Human Rights Law Network & Amnesty	Nizam-323
05/01/03	PIL in the Supreme Court on right to food	Workshop	Human Rights Law Network	All Saints 8
06/01/03	Disability Rights	Seminar	Human Rights Law Network, National Centre for Promotion of Employment of Disabled People	Nizam College Tennis Court
06/01/03	Criminal Justice Initiative	Seminar	Human Rights Law Network, India Centre for Human Rights and Law and Amnesty International India	Nizam College Centenary Block
06/01/03	Environmental Justice, Linking Environment and Human Well-being	Seminar	Human Rights Law Network, Environmental Justice Initiative and Centre for International Environmental Law	Methodist 22

GUJARAT GENOCIDE (Seminar)

Date: 3rd January 2003

Time: 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Nizam College, Centenary Block

Organised By: Citizens' Initiative & India Centre For Human Rights And Law

Section 1: History

Build up to the Gujarat Genocide over the past years

A campaign of hate against the state's minority Christian and Muslim communities began years before the 2002 carnage. After the desecration of the Babri Masjid in 1992, the Bharatiya Janta Party led by L.K. Advani renewed the tradition of a Rath Yatra (public religious procession by Hindus) across the city of Ahmedabad that invariably led to flaring up of communal riots. A 1999 Human Rights Watch report documented the August 1998 distribution of fliers in the Dang district that later witnessed a ten day spate of violent and premeditated attack on Christian communities and institutions between December 1998 and January 1999. The fliers proclaimed "India is a country of Hindus... Our religion of Rama and Krishna is pious. To convert [or] leave it is a sin. Another flier by the VHP warned, "Caution Hindus! Beware of inhuman deeds of Muslims... Muslims are destroying Hindu Community by slaughter houses, slaughtering cows and making Hindu girls clope. Crime, drugs, terrorism are Muslims' empire".

Growth of the Sangh Parivar

The Hindu organizations considered most responsible for the violence in Gujarat are the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, the Bajrang Dal and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), which along with the Bharatiya Janta Party collectively form the Sangh Parivar. The RSS since its' founding, has propagated a militant form of Hindu nationalism which it promotes as the sole basis for national identity in India.

The speaker will also contextualise the Gujarat carnage within the larger framework of globalisation.

Duration: 20 mins

Speaker: Darshini Mahadevia

Discussion + Question Answer Session: Duration ½ hour

Section 2: Sequence of Events

What actually happened?

"We have no orders to save you" was what the innocent victims of the genocide were told by the police when they asked for protection against the mobs. Many evidences point to the complicity of the police, bureaucracy, use of state machinery. A visual representation of what happened will also be put up in the exhibition spaces at the venue besides the actual details given by the speakers.

This section of the presentation will deal with the impact of the genocide on women, children, how the call for economic boycott affected livelihoods of families that belonged to the informal sector, how land sharks took advantage of the insecurity of both the communities and bought land at 1/3 it's price; how that demographics of Gujarat and Ahmedabad in particular has been changing since the past ten years due the growing fear of the "other".

Duration: 20 min.s

Speaker: Rohit/Guzala

Discussions + Question and Answer session

Duration: 15 minutes

Section 3: Impact Of The Recent Elections And Civil Society Response

Positive impact of Citizens Initiative's first response

Citizens' Initiative, a coalition of 34 social organisations and individuals to begin with, first commenced their work from the 1st of March 2002. This coalition made representations to all the commissioners and different fact-finding missions that came in the early days to Gujarat. NHRC in its recommendations to the State government specifically mentioned that suggestions made by the citizens' initiative should be taken into account.

- Efforts by other sections of civil society

Shah Alam, in Ahmedabad was one of the first camps to begin on the night of 28th February 2002. It was one of the last to close down in October 2002. Even three months after the carnage had ceased it housed 13000 people. All throughout it had the highest population of refugees. Camps in different towns of Gujarat sprung up due to the emergence of community leaders also known as camp managers who took up the responsibility of providing shelter and food in the initial days of the carnage. Camp managers were mainly small businessmen who emerged as leaders in this severe time of crises. Without camp managers, even social organisations would have found it difficult to co-ordinate their relief efforts.

This section of the presentation will also focus partly on the legal responses by civil society, the filing of affidavits and public litigations on behalf of those that had been victimised.

What the future looks like in Gujarat given the election results and what implications will they have on the democratic spaces of the individual. What are the implications of the Gujarat Genocide on India and it's possible implications for South Asia. Are the Gujarat elections precursor of things to come all over India? A number of people feel that Gujarat elections lay aside similar attempts at genocidal polarisation between the two communities across the country. To what extent is this likely? How do we meet these challenges and what is the best way to go about fighting communalism at the national level?

Duration: 20 min's

Speaker: Ashim Roy

Discussions - Question and Answer session

Duration: 30 minutes

The legal response to the carnage and the ways to deal with genocide

Failure of the legal system and constitutional provisions

Gujarat saw and continues to witness complete breakdown of law and order situation. The breakdown was because of deliberate inaction and complicity on part of the state authorities. The mobs were allowed to loot, burn, rape and kill and most of the culprits have not even been booked. There have been various initiatives from within Gujarat and outside to provide some legal succor to the victims. To what extent are our laws effective in dealing with such situations?

Various international initiatives have also been tried out in similar cases of genocide. Can we use any of them in Gujarat? What is the impact of India not ratifying the international criminal court?

Duration: 20 min's

Speaker: Mihir Desai/Vrinda Grover

Discussions - Question and Answer session

Duration: 19 minutes

Chairperson for 1st and 2nd session

Chairperson for 3rd and 4th session: Justice Bhargava (Retd, Chief Justice Sikkim High Court and presently Chairman of Human Rights Commission, Manipal)

Labour Rights: 2nd Labour Commission Report (Seminar)

Date: 3rd January 2003

Time: 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Nizam College, Tennis Court

Organised By: Human Rights Law Network & Fredrick Ebert Stiftung (FES) Foundation

<i>Introduction:</i>	Colin Gonsalves / Pravin Sinha	(10 Min)
<i>Indian Labour in the era of Globalisation</i>	Ashok Rao	(10 Min)

Session 1 2nd Labour Commission Report - Organised Labour 1 ½ hr

Suggested Panel:

- Patel / H. Paudhya (Gujarat Federation of Trade Unions and Jan Sangharsh Manch, Gujarat)
- C. Fonseca(AITUC) Goa
- Trade Union Solidarity Committee (Bombay)
- Punjab Group
- Adv. Narsimhan (Bangalore)

Discussion

Globalisation And Trade Union Movement 15 min

Kjed Jakobson (General Secretary C.U.T Brazil)

Session 2: 2nd Labour Commission Report - Unorganised Labour 1 ½ hr

Suggested Panel:

- Babu Mathew (Bangalore)
- Vinod Shetty (Bombay)
- G Vidhyasagar / S M Subhan (Andhra Group)
- (U.P Group)

Legal Initiative on Violence against Women (Seminar)

Date: 3rd January 2003

Time: 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Methodist 12

Organised By: Human Rights Law Network & India Centre for Human Rights and Law

When thinking about violence against women in the Indian context, it is important to consider the unraveling legal framework that is increasingly absorbing the language of human rights, as well as all the changes that are still needed in the fight to achieve real safety for women.

To this end, in 1997 the Supreme Court of India passed a landmark judgement on the issue of sexual harassment at the workplace, known as the Vishakha judgement. Recognising sexual harassment as a human rights violation, the judgement contains broad guidelines that define sexual harassment and assign the responsibility of prevention and filing of complaints to employers. Yet five years later, most private employers have not taken any steps to comply with the guidelines, while many government offices remain oblivious to the very existence of the judgement.

Similarly, the incidence of domestic violence in India has not abated, making women vulnerable in the "sanctity" of their homes. The NGO community is doing all it can to provide counseling and support to victims, while maintaining vigorous advocacy and campaigning efforts. Yet there is no legal apparatus to protect victims, because at the policy making level, key legal and political players are lagging in passing the needed domestic violence bill.

This aim of this seminar is to provide a platform for concerned organizations and individuals to share ideas and strategies, to plan a sustained campaign on sexual harassment and domestic violence respectively.

Given below the programme is as follows:

Sexual Harassment

Post Vishakha work in various States

Renuka Mukadam - ICHRL,

Mumbai

Specific cases of SH at the workplace

Kavita Srivastava - MAVJA

(Mahila Atyachar Virodhi Jan

Andolan), Jaipur

Strengths and Limitations of Vishakha

Shalini Singh - HRLN, New Delhi

General discussion on bolstering the campaign against sexual harassment

Domestic Violence

W. Bengal Initiative on DV Bill

Anuradha Kapoor - Swayam

National Scenario and activities of HRLN

Ruvena - HRLN, Kolkata

New Delhi and Kolkata

Domestic Violence Bill

Sheela Ramanathan - ICHRL,

Mumbai

Tribal Evictions following the Supreme Court Case (Workshop)

Date: 4th January 2003

Time: 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Venue: *Methodist 20, Classroom*

Organised By: Human Rights Law Network, Bharat Jan Andolan, National Front for Tribal Self Rule & Campaign for People's Rights Over Resources

Session 1	The Supreme Court Orders in Godavarman's Case	30 min
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Suggested Panel Pradeep Prabhu Colin Gonsalves

Discussion

Session 2	1990 Policy Framework	30 min
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Suggested Panel Dr. B.D Sharma

Discussion

Session 3	Experiences from the field - Eviction from Forest Areas	2 hrs
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Session 4	Strategies and the way forward	1 hr
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Labour Rights: Changes in Labour Law (Seminar)

Date: 4th January 2003

Time: 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Nizam College, Tennis Court

Organised By: Human Rights Law Network & Fredrick Ebert Stiftung (FES) Foundation

Session 1	Sickness, Closures, Recovery of dues, etc	1 ½ hr
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Suggested Panel

- Vagai (Chennai)
- A K J Rao / G Shivaji (Andhra Group)
- Balagopal (Bangalore)
- Dutta Iswalkar (G.K.S.S)

Discussion

Session 2:	Contract Labour	1 ½ hr
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Suggested Panel

- Vivek Monterio (CITU)
- Sudha Bharadwaj (Chattisgarh)
- K S Mohamed Hashim / Ashok B Shenoy / N Nagesh (Kerala Group)
- Paramanand Pandey (M.P Group)
- Calcutta Group
- Trade Union Solidarity Committee (Bombay)

Discussion

Programme schedule for the Seminar

PART I- Introducing the Right to Food Campaign		
Introduction to the Campaign	By Kavita Srivastava, PUCL Rajasthan	10 min
The Campaign strategy so far	By Harsh Mander, Acton Aid India	10 min
Approach of public hearings and social audits	By Jean Dreze	10 min
Open Session for discussions/Questions/ sharing of experiences	Commentators Sidharatha Vradarajan (tentative)	40 min
PART II- Right to Food and the legal process		
Introduction to the PIL on the Right to Food in the Supreme Court	By Colin Gonsalves, Human Rights Law Network	10 min
Presentation on International principles on the right to food	By FIAN, Tamil Nadu	10 min
Presentation on legal intervention on behalf of farmers	By Ravi Verma Kumar	10 min
Presentation on Mid Day Meal Scheme guidelines of Karnataka	By Muthappa, Right to Food Campaign, Karnataka	10 min
Presentation on NHRC intervention in Orissa	By Sanjay Parekh	10 min
PART III- Towards Right to Work		
Lead Presentation	Anuradha Talwar and/or Swapan Ganguly (Paschim Banga Khet Majoor Samity)	20 mins
Presentation on Maharashtra's EGS	Subhash Lomte (Shekan Khet Majoor Panchayat)	5 mins
Critique of Maharashtra's EGS	(Speaker to be identified by Anuradha)	5 mins
Drought and the right to work	Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan	5 mins
Critique of SGRY	(speaker to be identified by "support group")	5 mins
Grassroots experiences of struggle for the right to work	2-3 speakers, to be identified by Anuradha	5 mins
Concluding presentation on "future of the right to work"	Possibly by Mihir Shah	5 mins
Open discussion on the right to work		45 mins

Refugee Rights (Workshop)

Date: 5th January 2003

Time: 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Nizam 323

Organised By: Human Rights Law Network & Amnesty International India

Session 1	Refugees in India	1 hr
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Panel

- Nandita Haksar- *An Over View*
- Ravi Nar- *Refugee Protection in South Asia- An Overview of Experiences*

Discussion

Session 2	Refugee Law – An Overview of Protection Experiences in India	2 hr
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- Colin Gonsalves- *Introduction*
- Bushan Ora- *Refugees and Judicial Response*
- Aparna Bhat- *Domestic Legislation and State Practice*
- Sambhita Nandi- *Rights and Special Protection needs of Refugee*
- Colin Gonsalves- *Transit Zones and Refugees*

Discussion

Session 3	Refugee Experiences – Case Studies	1 hr
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- Tom Adhikary, DNC- *Bhutanese Refugees in Nepal*
• *Burmese Refugees in India*
- Fr. Amalraj, JRS- *Sri Lankan Refugees in India*

Discussion

Collective Rights, Group Violations and Need for People's Tribunal (Seminar)

Date: 5th January 2003

Time: 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Nizam College, Centenary Block

Organised By: Indian People's Tribunal on Environmental and Human Rights

In the present context of rising state repression, rapid globalisation and communalism the need to develop jurisprudence and laws that effectively protect the rights of groups and communities that are marginalized and vulnerable is of vital importance.

It was with this objective the Indian People's Tribunal was established in 1993. The Tribunal is positioned as an alternative "People's Court" consisting of senior retired judges of the High Courts and the Supreme Court of India.

Building on the enormous respect judges command in India, the IPT collaborates with eminent jurists who join the Tribunal to:

- Deliver decisions on crucial human rights issues that would act as models for the judiciary to follow.
- Investigate and report on instances of environmental degradation and gross human rights violations with a view to expose them and obtain relief for the victims.
- Give a voice to the struggles of grassroots organisations and affected communities especially in cases of group violations where the existing judicial procedures do not adequately redress or provide relief to the affected parties.

The purpose of this seminar is to discuss the effectiveness, scope and issues that need to be dealt with by 'people's tribunals'

Given below the programme is as follows:

Need for People's Tribunals Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer

Presentation on citizen's tribunals investigating the following:

Communal Riots	Justice P.B. Sawant & Justice H Suresh
State Repression & Police Firing	Justice D.K. Basu
Displacement & Forced Evictions	Justice R. Sachar
Environment, Health & Pollution	Justice S. N. Bhargava

Discussion:

In today's political climate the role 'people's tribunals have to play
Justice S. Sukumaran

The judges will present their experiences on the various people's tribunals followed by a feedback from the groups who requested for the tribunals to be conducted.

PIL in the Supreme Court on Right to Food (Workshop)

Date: 5th January 2003

Time: 2:00 p.m

Venue: All Saints 8

Organised By: Human Rights Law Network

This workshop will be an open forum to discuss the legal process of the right to food case and its role in strengthening the right to food and work campaign. The workshop is also an opportunity to review the BPL selection process and the Draft Right to Work Bill.

Organisations and people interested in legal action for the right to food are cordially invited. Organisations already involved the legal process at the local level are welcome to share the petitions filed by them in different courts.

The workshop is divided into three broad areas

- Suggestions on the Supreme Court PIL
- Discussion on BPL selection process
- Discussion on "Draft Right to Work Bill"

Colin Gonsalves (Human Rights Law Network) will coordinate the workshop. Other invited contributors include Bikash Das (CLAP, Orissa), Binayak Sen (PUCI, Chattisgarh), Dr Abhay Shukla (Cehat, Maharashtra), Pradeep Bhargava (IDS, Jaipur) and Nikhil Dey (MKSS, Rajasthan), among others.

Topic	Panel (Suggested)
Suggestions on the Supreme Court PIL	Bikash Das, Madhuri Krishnamurthy, Colin Gonsalves, Binayak Sen
Discussion on BPL selection process	Abhay Shukla, Pradeep Bhargava, Ration Kruti Samiti
Discussion on "Draft Right to Work Bill"	Nikhil Dey, Binayak Sen, Swapna Ganguly

Criminal Justice Initiative (Seminar)

Date: 6th January 2003

Time: 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Nizam College, Centenary Block

Organised By: Human Rights Law Network, India Centre for Human Rights and law & Amnesty International India

Session 1 Criminal Justice System – Overview of Recent Changes & Key Issues 2 hrs

Panel:

- K.G. Kannabiran: The Malimath Committee and Criminal Justice Reforms.
- Usha Ramanathan: Fast Track Courts.
- Ravi Nair: NHRC – SHRCs and Criminal Justice.

Discussion

Session 2 Legal Aid in Prisons and Other Custodial Institutions 2 hrs

- Building Up Criminal Justice Initiative
- Networking National Prison Reform Campaign
- Setting Up Legal Aid Centers in Different Quarters of the Country for Prisoners, Children, Beggars, Mentally Ill, etc.

Panel: Human Rights Law Network, Calcutta, Mumbai, Delhi.

Discussion

Session 3 D.K. Basu Monitoring by the SC and the Need for Intervention – Groups in Various States 1 hr

- S.C. is monitoring implementation by States of Guidelines passed by the Apex Court in the matter of D.K. Basu vs State of W.B. States have filed affidavits saying that all the guidelines are being implemented in their true letter and spirit. Civil Liberty Groups and NGOs need to intervene giving details of breach of the Guidelines.

Panel:

- Kirti Roy
- Vikas Das
- Vinayak Sen
- Girdhar

Discussion

Disability Rights (Seminar)

Date: 6th January 2003

Time: 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Nizam College, Tennis Court

Organised By: Human Rights Law Network & Centre for Promotion of Employment of Disabled People

Session 1	Legal Hurdles Faced By Disabled Persons	2 Hrs
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Presentations by Disability Rights Activists before Judges of the Indian People's Tribunal (IPT)

- Smt. Anuradha Mohit, Special Rapporteur on Disability, NHRC
- Shri. Sudharkara Reddy, President, Society for Equal Opportunities to Persons with Disabilities, Hyderabad
- Ms. Usha Parthasarathy, Vice President, Haemophilia Federation (India), Chennai
- Dr. Sruti Mohapatra, Vice President- East, Disabled People's International-India, Bhubneshwar
- Shri. P.K. Pincha, Action Aid, Guwahati
- Shri. Rajiv Rajan, Coordinator, Advocacy & Ms. Mallika Vidhya Sagar, Chennai
- Ms. Rama Chari, Executive Officer, National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People
- Shri. Chidambaramanathan, State President, Federation of Tamil Nadu Physically handicapped Association, Chennai (not confirmed)
- Shri. J.P. Gadkari, Parivaar, Bangalore (not confirmed)
- Dr. Alka Nizame, Deepshikha, Ranchi (not confirmed)
- Shri. M. Moideen, General Secretary, All Kerala Parents Association of Hearing Impaired, Thiruvananthapuram (not confirmed)

Session 2	How the Law can be used by Disability Activists	1 1/2 Hrs
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Panel

- Javed Abidi, Executive Director, National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People
- Colin Gonsalves, Executive Director, Human Rights Law Network
- Neeru Vaid, Lawyer, Supreme Court
- Dr. Amita Dhanda, Registrar, Nalsar University of Law

Discussion

Session 3	Release of Preliminary Report of the Indian People's Tribunal	1/2 Hr
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**Environmental Justice: Linking Environment and Human
Well-being (Seminar)**

Date: 6th January 2003

Time: 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Venue: *Methodist 22*

Organised By: Human Rights Law Network Environmental Justice Initiative & Centre for
International Environmental Law

There is an ever widening gap between Environmental and human rights movement, therefore there is a need to make connections between environmental and social issues and to provide an opportunity building broad-based coalitions in order to enhance the quality of life for people. In a discussion on environmental justice, several questions merit attention: What does environmental justice really mean? What are its implications? What policies and legal reforms can help guarantee environmental justice? Who should bear the cost for environmental protection, conservation and degradation? Does environmental justice extend only to humans or to non-human species as well, and to what extent?

There is much to be done in order to foster solidarity and help build a movement to address environmental and social justice struggles. The first step is to foster better understanding and to develop networks. We hope this workshop will contribute towards that goal.

Panelists:

- Colin Gonsalves / Sunita Dubey, Human Rights Law Network: Overview of Environmental Justice
- Ravi Agarwal, Toxics Link: Toxics and Health
- Leo Saldanah, Environment Support Group: Corporate Crime and Corporate Accountability
- Marvic Leonen, Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center, Philippines: Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act and other Comparative Perspectives
- Sunita Dubey, Environmental Justice Initiative: Environmental Impact Assessments
- Prashant Bhushan, Supreme Court lawyer: Industrial Development and Land Acquisition
- Shivani Chaudhry, Center for International Environmental Law: Strategies for Achieving Environmental Justice

During the workshop there will also be a screening and discussion of Krishnudu Bose's film *Jardhar Diary*

For any assistance please contact us at :-

Colin Gonsalves: 0 98106 15811

Deepika D'Souza: 0 98200 39557

Mihir Desai: 0 98211 38056

Asmita office (Hyderabad): 040 27733251

Sutapa Chakraborty: 0 98301 72462

Amarjit Singh: 0 98202 14688

E-mail: hrIndel@vsnl.net/huright@vsnl.com

Dalit Rights: Advocacy Materials and Documents

Produced by: National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights

© 2002

Introducing a CD compendium of materials and documents related to advocacy interventions against caste, or work and descent based discrimination, at both the National and International levels, primarily undertaken by the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights and its partner groups across India between 1998 and 2002. These documents invite serious attention to the unjust discrimination faced by Dalits through the caste system and the practice of untouchability. The common goals of all advocacy interventions are encapsulated in the call on the State and civil society to 'Cast out Caste,' and affirm that Dalit Rights are Human Rights.

This CD contains extensive information on:

- Official data on Dalit rights aspects, particularly the rights to life, land and labour, education, employment and reservations, livelihood and life and security of life.
- First-ever National Public Hearing on Dalit Human Rights Violations in India, highlighting the innumerable forms of violations that daily occur in Dalits' lives.
- Proceedings and document outcomes of major conferences on Dalits and Caste Discrimination that have occurred in the country between 1998 to 2002.
- Dalit Women's Charter of Rights.
- Advocacy Submissions at the National and International levels.
- Papers on discrimination based on caste, or work and descent.
- United Nations bodies' responses on the issue of caste discrimination, including the recent CERD General Recommendation on Discrimination based on Descent, that places caste within the purview of the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
- Dalit report on the World Conference against Racism, held in Durban, South Africa, 2001.
- Papers on the International dimensions of caste, or work and descent based discrimination.

This resource material presents the viewer with multiple levels of advocacy on caste, or work and descent based discrimination at the grassroots, state, national and international fora.

It catalogues both the struggles of groups across the country to change casteist mindsets at the grassroots, national and international levels, as well as the shifting discourse on caste at the national and international level.

This CD also contains many well-researched advocacy materials that have found their way and been highly utilised in both national and international fora, it can also serve as an advocacy tool on how to build an issue-based campaign.

The inclusion of key national and international developments in the field of caste, or work and descent based discrimination, provides crucial human rights criteria for any advocacy-research based interventions on this issue.

Contribution: Rs. 100/-

CD Available with:

National Office, NCDHR
1-4-879/87/1, H. No. 942, Bakaram
St. No. 7, SBI Officers' Colony
Gandhinagar, Hyderabad – 500 080
Andhra Pradesh
Telefax: 040 – 2753 3657
Email: info@dalits.org
Website: www.dalits.org

Books for Change
139 Richmond Road
Bangalore – 560 025
Karnataka
Tel: 080 – 558 6682
Fax: 080 – 558 6284
Email: shobaramc@actionaidindia.org

ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM

2003-HYDERABAD, INDIA

INVITATION

6th January 2003

Seminars on

Democratic and Identity Anxieties of Muslims and Dalits

2:30 - 5:30 pm, Madina Hall,

Opp. Public Gardens, Nampally

(The venue is about 1 km from Nizam College grounds.)

Speakers: Prof. Imitiyaz Ahmed,

Ms. Ruth Manorama, Dr. Syeda Hameed,

Prof. K. S. Challam, Prof. Kancha Ilaiah,

Prof. Hasan Mansur, Mr. Bojja Tarakam

Organised by: COVA, Lokayan

oo

Towards a Child Friendly Society

2:00 - 6:00 pm, 7th Day Adventist School,

Opp. Stanley School, Chapel Road

(The venue is about 1 km from Nizam College Ground)

Speakers:

Dr. Sridhar (Globalization & Vulnerabilities of Children),

J. Kameshwari (Moving Towards Child Friendly Societies:

Need for Cross-Sectional Approach Towards Children),

I. Phillips (Developing Child Friendly Indicators)

Organised by: COVA and Divya Disha

GENE CAMPAIGN
1993-2003 A Decade of Campaigning

IMPORTANCE OF INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE



What is Indigenous Knowledge?

Indigenous Knowledge (IK) is a valuable and sophisticated system of knowledge developed by *adivasi* and rural communities over a period of time. IK has been developed pertaining to all the important fields related to human life, ranging from human and animal health, home building, food and agriculture, textiles, handicrafts, natural resources management etc. This vast repertoire of knowledge, which is still being developed, is transmitted from one generation to the next in oral form. Usually IK is treated as public information, freely available for use by anybody.

Importance of Indigenous Knowledge

IK which is of immense importance, transforms 'biodiversity' to 'bioresources', that is to say, it adds economic value to biodiversity. Biodiversity, and the indigenous knowledge associated with it, is a special strength of today's developing countries. When you and I walk through a forest we may come across a plant bearing yellow flowers and appreciate its beauty, but an *adivasi* will identify it as having important medicinal properties. Maybe the root of the plant is used for preparing medicine for arthritis and its leaves, flowers and seeds for preparing a medicine to flush out intestinal worms. Indigenous and local communities have developed this form of utility based knowledge with regard to local biodiversity, and use it for meeting their needs. This IK now has a global appeal to an environmental and holistic health conscious population, particularly in the industrialised nations.

The rural and *adivasi* communities of India are the custodians of a wealth of knowledge developed over generations. This knowledge is under threat from neglect by our own policy makers. On the one hand, we are the victims of biopiracy, the west running away with our valuable knowledge. On the other, we have failed to put in place a system to protect our IK and the local communities who have

generated this important knowledge system. We need to be aware of its immense richness and find ways to incorporate the need for its conservation and sustainable use, into national policy.

Importance of IK in Agriculture

The importance of indigenous knowledge in the field of agriculture and breeding new crops, can be understood when one realises that there are no rice or wheat plants nor cotton or mustard to be found lying around in the forests. What are found in the forests are wild plants out of which communities of men and women over generations have bred races of several food and cash crops. These communities have bred out of the wild plants of the forests the thousands of land races (i.e., the local varieties) which are the basis of the world's agriculture. The land races bred by farming communities are the foundation materials of modern plant breeding and global food security. These land races are the self-same varieties that plant breeders use to breed other varieties and for which they seek special and exclusive privileges like Plant Breeders Rights. One could quite easily say that if the breeding of a crop variety involved 100 steps, then IK contributed at least the first 70 or 80 steps and laboratory science contributed the next 20 to 30 steps. It stands to reason therefore that credit, reward and recognition for a new variety should be similarly shared.

Apart from creating several races of food and cash crops, these communities have also identified and managed a series of genes conferring valuable traits for commercial and domestic needs through a highly sophisticated system of crossing and selection. So, it is that genes for traits as diverse as disease resistance, pest resistance, high salt tolerance, resistance to water logging, and drought tolerance have been maintained in the repertoire of communities. It is IK that provides the know-how for developing crop varieties suited to

diverse climatic regions ranging from the cold desert in Ladakh to the scorching sands of Rajasthan and again from the flood prone belts of Bihar to the coastline of Andhra Pradesh.

Faced with the threat of global warming and climate change across agricultural zones, scientists are on the look out for crop varieties that are more heat tolerant. They acquire this information by going to deserts and hot regions and asking local farming communities about the varieties that grow in that region and that can withstand extreme heat. Armed with the benefit of indigenous knowledge, these scientists return to their laboratories and experimental farms and engage in a breeding and selection program that will result in the combination of traits that they seek to achieve in the new variety that is to be designed for post global warming agriculture. Thus, the basic information needed for conducting researches and breeding programs to develop new and improved breed of crops is often derived from indigenous knowledge.

IK in Human health

The role of IK in the realm of medicinal plants and herbal products is even more obvious than in the case of crop varieties. According to the All India Coordinated Research Project on Ethno-botany, the indigenous communities are acquainted with the use of over 9000 species of plants and specifically for the purpose of healing they know the use of some 7500 species of plants. This amount of knowledge is staggering considering the fact that the allopathic system of medicine is based on the use of some 100 species of plants only and even the Indian System of Medicine comprising the Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani traditions, uses only about 2000 species of plants in its various healing formulations. There is a need to properly document this knowledge existing among the indigenous communities because the youth does not appear to have a stake in it. The

younger generation lacks respect and appreciation for such knowledge and so, the absence of willing heirs to this knowledge has resulted in the precarious situation where the death of an IK holder can result in the loss of an entire tradition and knowledge system.

The global market for herbal products, with its appeal ranging from pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals and health foods to cosmetics, toiletries and ethnic products, is estimated to touch US \$ 5 trillion by 2020. This turnover is largely based on the know-how of local and indigenous communities. According to the WHO, Traditional Medicine (TM) serves the health needs of almost 80% of people in the developing countries, where access to "modern" health care services and medicine is limited by economic and cultural reasons. For instance, the per capita consumption of TM products in Malaysia is more than double that of modern pharmaceuticals.

TM is also significant in more advanced developing countries such as South Korea, where the per capita consumption of TM products is about 36% more than modern, allopathic drugs. TM has also come to play an important role in developed countries, where the demand for herbal medicines has grown in recent years. The world market for herbal medicines has reached, according to one estimate, US\$ 43 billion. For China, the leading country in this field, WHO estimates that TM generated income of about US \$ 5 billion in 1999 in the international market and \$ 1 billion in the domestic market.

IK leads to finding new compounds

Recent advances in biotechnology have increased the ability of scientists to investigate organisms at the molecular and genetic levels and to find ways to commercialise products developed from such investigations. This is recognised by the increasing number of companies involved in bioprospecting. Prospecting for biological materials like plants with medicinal or other economically valuable properties like fibre or

oil, is becoming a dynamic activity. With growing environmental consciousness, benign biological substitutes are being sought for certain categories of chemical products.

Following the German ban on chemical Azo dyes in the textile sector, the search is on for suitable vegetable dyes for leather and textiles. Plant-based colouring agents, known from IK are also being sought for the food processing industry due to the rising incidence of allergies to chemical colours and additives. So, a number of industry programmes are under way to research and record traditional uses of plants as a starting point for commercial product development by companies. These companies mostly come from the pharmaceutical, agricultural, personal care and cosmetic sectors, each of which depends upon IK as the primary source of information. A number of pharmaceutical companies rely extensively and sometimes exclusively on the knowledge of indigenous and local peoples when they screen forests for plants with medicinal value that could be turned into blockbuster drugs.

IK in conservation of biodiversity and environment

IK plays a key role in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Indigenous peoples' traditional economic systems have a relatively low impact on biological diversity because they tend to utilize a great diversity of species, harvesting small numbers of each of them. The indigenous peoples also try to increase the biological diversity of the territories in which they live, as a strategy for increasing the variety of resources at their disposal and, in particular, reducing the risk associated with fluctuations in the populations of individual species.

The indigenous communities have several strategies for conservation, like establishing sacred groves, recognising taboos relating to nature and giving special status to totemic species. The degree of sanctity of the sacred groves varies. In some forests even the dry

foliage and fallen fruits cannot be touched. In others, the deadwood may be picked up, but never the live trees or their branches. It is believed that such sacred groves date back to several thousand years and many of these have been turned into the 'Biosphere Reserves' of today. These sacred groves are important today because they are the best samples of the forests that might have flourished in the region, housing rare and endangered plant species, many of which may have disappeared from the region outside the groves. For example, in the Uttara Kannada region of southern India, the only remaining natural strands of *Dipterocarpus* and a large patch of *Myristica indica* persist in a sacred grove of the Goddess Karikanamma.

Among the indigenous communities the practice of certain taboos with regard to resource use can be interpreted as conservation practices cast in religious mould, as most of them allow for regeneration and perpetuation of species. The *Phasephardis*, an endogamous group found in the semi-arid regions of Western Ghats, never harm the pregnant doe, or fawns, of antelopes or deer. The females of most species are less hunted as they are the progenitors. Similarly, there are taboos against hunting and fishing during breeding and spawning seasons to allow the prey species to increase its population.

Indigenous communities have also developed strategies to ensure that critical species do not get over-hunted or over collected. A typical strategy is like the one reported from little Andaman Island. Here, the Onges, who love to hunt wild pigs have developed a novel way of ensuring that the pig does not get over-hunted in any particular location. Every time an Onge kills a pig, he half breaks a branch of the largest tree in the area. The broken branch is then left hanging to serve as a signal to other Onges that a pig has been killed there recently. No one else would then hunt a pig in that locality, but move to some other locality. After some time the branch would dry and fall off, once again opening the area for hunting.

Gene Campaign is a non-government organization working on the issues of bioresources, intellectual property rights, indigenous knowledge, farmers' rights and community rights. It is a grassroots level organisation working in several states in India and its work is focussed on ensuring food and livelihood security for rural and tribal communities. Gene Campaign has played a significant role in formulating national policies on biodiversity and international trade and has been involved with drafting legislation in these fields.



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GENE CAMPAIGN
1993-2003 A Decade of Campaigning



CAN INDIA HANDLE GM TECHNOLOGY ?

If proof were needed that India was not ready to absorb and implement a complex technology like GM technology, one only has to watch the performance of the agencies set up to regulate this sensitive technology, the GEAC (Genetic Engineering Approval Committee) in particular. The GEAC had convened a meeting on 7 November, 2002 to grant approval to ProAgro's GM mustard varieties. NGOs and farmers organisations raised a storm of protest before and during the meeting, opposing the release of the GM mustard. The committee decided to defer the decision, sensibly to 'review' the data.

It is believed that the decision was delayed so as to ride out the protests and clear the variety when things were quiet again. Amidst a barrage of allegations that the GM mustard had not cleared safety tests and not been sufficiently tested in the fields, NGOs like Gene Campaign had been demanding the release of the field data presented by ProAgro, and that the company should be required to do new field tests monitored by independent experts. The GEAC has been adamant that no data would be released and no further field trials would be done. Now suddenly, with nothing having changed, it has decided to hold a meeting on 10 December to take a decision on the GM mustard variety.

In the meantime, the conduct and bias of the GEAC has come in for criticism from an unlikely source. Dr. Panjab Singh, Director General of ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) has said that the mustard data are not sufficient to justify commercial release and that additional tests would have to be

done, specially since most of the data provided to the GEAC have been generated by the company itself. Dr. Singh added, "no exceptions can be made in the case of ProAgro", implying that this had been the case. The clear cut conflict of interest – the industry providing the data on which its performance will be judged, does not seem to disturb the GEAC, so intent are they on granting approval to ProAgro.

The GEAC is the regulatory body that is charged with the responsibility of assessing the results of field trials of GM crops and decide whether or not the results are clean and convincing enough to warrant approval for commercial release. This should not be a difficult task. There are supposed to be reference standards for testing GM crops, the field trial results have to be evaluated against these standards and a considered decision taken if the results are convincing. If not, more tests should be done. If even then the results are not clear, the Precautionary Principle should be invoked and the commercial release of the crop should be deferred or denied.

All this naturally needs to be done in an open and transparent manner and with accountability to the public. The laws of countries like the US, Canada, Australia and the EU have statutory provisions for public participation in decision-making, public discussions on risk and benefits of GM crops, the nature and location of field trials, the results of such trials and other aspects of the testing of GM crops. Most information (except some kinds of confidential Business Information) is in the public domain and access to that information cannot be denied to the public. Here in India however, the GEAC is a law unto itself. It functions like an insider club, cloaked in secrecy and about as transparent as a concrete wall. The GEAC refuses to respond to enquiries from the public. It even refuses to acknowledge phone calls, e mails and registered letters from civil society asking for appointments to discuss public concerns or requests for information about field trials of GM crops (Bt cotton or GM mustard). The question that many are asking is that if the GEAC has nothing to hide, why is it so secretive, why is it hiding behind its concrete wall? And should such a secretive, non-transparent (and many would say, incompetent) body be allowed to take decisions of such importance?

Hiding facts about the GM field trials is a violation of India's Right to Information Act under which, barring sensitive areas like defence, the public has a right to know the basis of government conduct and its decisions. In an area which could so directly impact on the health of humans and their livestock, on the agro-biodiversity and the environment of this region, on the livelihoods of farmers and on the sustainability of agriculture for future generations, withholding information and denying the public the right to participate in taking decisions amounts to a criminal offence. If for nothing else, the GEAC should be called up to explain its conduct on this alone.

But this is not all. The way the scientific administration and the regulatory agencies responsible for evaluating the GM crops on offer from the MNCs (there are no crops yet from public research institutions) are conducting themselves, should be the subject of investigations by the Central Vigilance Commission. In fact, fearing corruption and irregularities, civil society organisations have petitioned the Chief Vigilance Commissioner to institute an enquiry into the behaviour of the regulatory agencies concerned with GM crops.

It is commonly known that when government officials go to monitor the field trials and tests of the GM crop (in this case, Monsanto's Bt cotton and ProAgro's GM mustard), the entire bill for travel, boarding and lodging and hospitality is paid by the industry whose crop is being evaluated. This is not all. The officials are also paid an honorarium! Talking about irregularities, to assess whether the GM crop parts (seeds, leaves, oil, oil cake etc are safe for humans and animals, studies have to be conducted to see whether they are toxic or not. The cost of these studies on the safety of GM crop products and crop parts for food and animal feed is borne by the concerned industry. This must be the only instance in the world where the industry in question itself controls the data on which the sanction of its product depends.

The conflict of interest within the government agencies running the GM show does not end here. Within the GEAC, all the members are those who are researching GM crops and hope to have their own GM crops coming up for approval before the same committee. A very 'I scratch your back- you scratch - mine' situation. A senior scientist of the ICAR is a member of the GEAC when ICAR itself is an applicant to the GEAC seeking approval for its transgenic crops. What objectivity should one expect in such a situation? In addition to this, there are no scientists from different fields like social sciences, economics, etc. who would be needed to bring in other perspectives.

The GEAC has no soil scientists or ecologists or entomologists (to understand insect resistance, as in the case of Bt cotton for example.), nor experts in any of the environmental sciences. The body is incapable of taking a competent or comprehensive view on the safety and efficiency of the GM crop on the basis of the data provided.

GENE CAMPAIGN DEMANDS:

- 1. Before India's present regulatory agencies precipitate an environmental or human health disaster with their incompetence and their great enchantment of multinational companies, they should be disbanded.*
- 2. The GEAC must be revamped. Its members must include a range of scientists from diverse fields that touch upon agriculture, environment and ecosystems. NGOs, farmers' organisations and*

representatives of civil society must be part of the GEAC.

3. India should put on hold the release of GM crops until its regulatory procedure is demonstrably more competent and transparent.
4. Independent scientific experts not working on GM crops must monitor field trials of GM crops.
5. All data obtained from field trials of GM crops must be made available to the public.
6. There must be a public discussion on the risks and benefits of the proposed crop and the traits that are to be deployed.
7. The farming community, especially women farmers, other stakeholders and members of the public must be included in the setting of the research agenda and decisions on crops and traits selected for GM research.
8. There must be a clear cut, standardised framework for the monitoring of GM crops and for risk assessment.
9. Provisions must be made for long-term environmental and ecological studies on the impact of GM crops both on agro ecosystems and natural ecosystems.
10. The Regulatory system should have definite and unambiguous penalty provisions to be applied in the case of violations so that the ridiculous spectacle of the Navbharat Bt cotton is not repeated.
11. There should be clear cut policy on the protection of Centres of Origin and Diversity.
12. The GM science establishment should prepare a long-term vision document, which should be discussed in a public forum, before any further steps are taken on GM crops.



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वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् बिरादरी

Vasudhava Kutumbam Biradari

- New Delhi.

समग्र लोकतंत्र के लिए
गठबंधन

लोकायन,

साउथ एशियन डायलॉग ग्रुप (केपा)

एवम्

सेंटर फॉर द स्टडी ऑफ़ डिवेलपिंग सोसाइटीज़

'वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्' अर्थात् 'विश्व एक परिवार' व्यापक स्तर पर समग्र लोकतंत्र हासिल करने के उद्देश्य से बने एक गठबंधन का सपना है। इसका मकसद जीवन से जुड़े आर्थिक, सामाजिक, राजनीतिक, सांस्कृतिक, पारिस्थितिकीय और स्त्री-पुरुष समानता जैसे क्षेत्रों में स्थानीय सं लेकर विश्वव्यापी स्तर तक लोकतंत्र को गहरा अर्थ देकर, मजबूत करना और आगे बढ़ाना है।

लोकतंत्र के विचार की साधना

आज के युग में वैज्ञानिक, सामाजिक और आर्थिक क्षेत्रों में वैश्व प्रक्रियाओं व राज्यंत्र को प्रमुख धारा में जीवन और उससे जुड़े मुद्दों को छिन्न-भिन्न करके देखने वाले नजरिये की प्रवृत्ति दिखाई देती है। स्थिति यह है कि लोकतंत्र को चुनवाते प्रतिनिधित्व वाले राजनीतिक ढांचे तक ही सीमित मान लिया गया है। पिछले 200 से 500 वर्ष में इस संस्थान्त चरित्र पर जोर दिये जाने की ही परिणति वैश्वीकरण जैसी वर्तमान नगरात्मक प्रक्रियाओं में हुई है। यह एकाधिकारवादी, आधिपत्यवादी और मानव से उसके अधिकार छीनकर शक्तिहीन बना देने वाली है। लेकिन, इस सबके बावजूद लोकतंत्र का एक और रूप है जो कि बौद्धिकता और सहजबोध, दोनों के स्तर पर व्यापक रूप में अभी भी लोगों में आत्मसात है। वास्तव में यह ऐसा विचार है जो मनुष्य के सभी सम्बंधों में समानता, परस्परता, और सम्मान पर आधारित संबंधों को उजागर करता है। यह चाहे परिवार के सदस्यों के बीच का संबंध हो, समुदायों के बीच का परिस्वाद अथवा मानव और प्रकृति के बीच की निकटता, स्त्री-पुरुष के बीच के रिश्ते, या देश-राज्य अथवा बाजार व नागरिकों के बीच, और राज्य-राज्य के बीच के परस्पर सम्बन्ध हों। हम सबके लिए चुनौती है ऐसी राजनीतिक धारा का ताना-बाना बुनना जिससे समाज की तमाम संस्थायें लोकतंत्रीकरण को और गहरे तक ले जाने और बढ़ाने के काम में लग जाएं।

दक्षिण एशिया में लोगों ने लंबे समय से ऐसे मूल्यों को संजोया है जो आज के आधुनिक युग में सर्वमुक्तिवाद व सार्वभौमवाद के शीर्षक और लोकतंत्र के विभिन्न आयामों के तहत सर्वश्रेष्ठ अभिव्यक्ति पाते हैं। पश्चिम के औपनिवेशिक हस्तक्षेप से पहले और विदेशी मूल के शासकों के यहाँ रहते हुये भी शासन का स्वरूप नीचे से शुरू होकर ऊपर तक जाने वाला था। यानी शासन की इकाई जनता से शुरू होती

थी। राजनीतिक शक्ति का विकेन्द्रीकरण भी सभी स्तरों तक था। सांस्कृतिक बहुलवाद यानी विभिन्न संस्कृतियों के बीच समन्वय तब के सामाजिक-राजनीतिक व्यवहार का प्रमाण था। पर, जाति आधारित छुआछूत जैसा घृणित और आपत्तिजनक व्यवहार हमारे लिए कलंक साबित हुआ। जाति व्यवस्था के माध्यम से फले-फूलें समुदायों (communitarian) सिद्धांत का पतन पदानुक्रमी या यूँ कहें कि ऊँच-नीच के रूढ़िवाद में हो गया।

लेकिन तमाम तरह की असफलताओं के बावजूद वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् की चेतना यानी पूरे विश्व को एक परिवार मानने की चेतना अनंत काल से ही हमारी सांस्कृतिक भावप्रणवता व संवेदनशीलता का अंग रही है। इसीलिए हमारी सामाजिक-सांस्कृतिक विविधता शक्ति का स्रोत बनी रही है। वास्तव में यह बुनियादी तौर पर हमारी अदृष्ट पहचान को परिराहित करने वाली ताकत है। निश्चय ही छिष्टपुट दौर आये और गये हैं जब विचारधारा अथवा सामाजिक-राजनीतिक आधारित धुवीकरण हुआ है। लेकिन सदैव ही धुवीकरण के खिलाफ सर्वमान्य परिदृश्य यानी साझी विरासत का ताना-बाना पुनः बुनना रहा है। इस विवेचना की मूल अवधारणा यही है कि कोई भी सम्प्रदाय व धर्म, कोई भी धर्म अथवा किसी भी सामाजिक-राजनीतिक विचारधारा वाला समूह, कोई भी राज्य अथवा धर्म को निर्देशित करने वाला मठ या चर्च, अंतिम सत्य पर अपने एकाधिकार का दावा नहीं कर सकता। हाँ, प्रत्येक व्यक्ति का अपना सच, अंतिम सत्य के कुछ पहलुओं को छु भर अवश्य लेता है। यह किसी को भी उत्कर्ष के स्तर पर निर्भर करेगा। सत्य को पूरी तरह से पाना या आत्मसात करना कठिन है। शेष आयाम हमारे शत्रु और हमारे सहभागियों के 'सच' में छिपे हैं।

लोकतंत्र के लिए खतरा

इतिहास में तमाम युग प्रवर्तक और रूपान्तरकारी क्षण दो विपरीत संभावनाओं से भरपूर रहे हैं। प्रकाश अथवा अंधकार। इस कठिन समय में अंधेरी की कौन सी ताकतें सक्रिय हैं ज़रा विचारें।

विश्वस्तर पर देखें तो जनसंचार व बाजार के माध्यमों से उपभोक्ताओं को स्वर्ग का भ्रामक सपना दिखाया जा रहा है। इस तरह के वैश्ववाद (globalism) को आरे एक 'पागल दौड़' लगी हुई है। इतिहास को तौड़-मरोड़कर 'सभ्यताओं के टकराव' के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया जा

रहा है। सामाजिक-राजनीतिक ताकतें (जिनका विश्व-दर्शन और स्वप्न इस विशिष्ट इतिहास-दृष्टि पर आधारित है) उपभोक्तावाद को पागल दौड़ जैसे सामाजिक विकारों से ग्रसित हो रही हैं। विभिन्न सामाजिक इकाइयों के नजरिये तीखे हो रहे हैं और वह सीधे-सीधे, आक्रामक प्रतियोगिता में उतर रही हैं। इन ताकतों का तर्क है कि वे अपने-अपने अस्तित्व को लड़ाई लड़ रही हैं क्योंकि लोकतांत्रिक अभिव्यक्ति में उन्हें पर्याप्त स्थान नहीं मिल पा रहा है।

लोकतांत्रिक अजेंडा

जीवन के तमाम पहलुओं में लोकतांत्रिक मूल्यों की प्राप्ति के लिए कोई एक संगठन सभी तरह के हस्तक्षेप नहीं कर सकता है। लोकतंत्र की समग्र परिभाषा के अनुसार तो 'वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्' की कोई एक अवधारणा हो ही नहीं सकती।

लेकिन यह धारणा एक माध्यम है एक-दूसरे से स्वयं को जोड़ने की। यह वैविध्य को एकीकृत अथवा समरूपी बनाने का ढांचा नहीं है यह। यह एक-दूसरे को 'आत्मसात' करने और मतभेदों के बावजूद एक-दूसरे के लोकतांत्रिक हस्तक्षेपों का पोषण करने का प्रयास है। अर्थात् वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् कमावेश लोकतंत्र की चिंता वाले विचारों व विभिन्न तरह के लोकतांत्रिक हस्तक्षेपों के लिए एक खुला मंच हो सकता है। यह ऐसा मंच भी हो सकता है जहाँ विभिन्न पृष्ठभूमि वाले लोग और लोकतंत्र का अर्थ व्यापक रूप में खोजने वाले लोग मिल-बैठकर अपने विचारों, अपने अनुभवों एवं संघर्षों से एक-दूसरे को अलगत कराएँ। साथ ही, अपनी संस्थागत/संगठनात्मक पहचान को खत्म किये बिना नये गठबंधन बनायें।

ऐसी पहल को समाज के विभिन्न तबकों को महत्वपूर्ण मसलों पर संवाद कायम करने के लिए विभिन्न स्तरों यानी स्थानीय, क्षेत्रीय और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तरों पर, शामिल करने की कोशिश भी माना जा सकता है। इसके आयाम निम्न प्रकार से परिभाषित हो सकते हैं:

- ◆ दिवदानारायण यानी समाज के अंतिम छोर पर खड़े व्यक्ति को अधिकार सम्पन्न बनाना (आर्थिक लोकतंत्र),
- ◆ पारिस्थितिकीय संजीवन और प्राकृतिक संसाधनों पर जनाधि कार (पारिस्थिकीय लोकतंत्र),

- ◆ मानव गरिमा सुनिश्चित करना (सामाजिक लोकतंत्र),
- ◆ बहुलवाद यानी सभी समाजों/समुदायों का सह-अस्तित्व सुनिश्चित करना (सांस्कृतिक लोकतंत्र),
- ◆ लोकतांत्रिक संस्थाओं को मजबूत करना और उनके आधार को बढ़ाना (राजनैतिक लोकतंत्र),
- ◆ परस्परता, समानता और सम्मान पर आधारित स्त्री-पुरुष संबंध विकसित करना (लिंग एकात्म लोकतंत्र)

हमारी निष्ठा

हमारा समान दृष्टिकोण है कि स्वार्थपरता और लालच मनुष्य की जीवन-यात्रा का केवल एक हिस्सा हैं। ये मानव की विशिष्टता को निचिंत करने वाले निष्पक्षकारी लक्षण नहीं हैं। 'आवश्यकताओं' को बिना महिमांडित किए भी उनकी पूर्ति हां सकता है, उन्हें भोगा भी जा सकता है।

आज लोकतंत्र की स्थापना करने का काम बिना किसी रेडीमेड या बने-बनाए 'वाद' के पूंजीवाद को सुधारने अथवा बदलने के विश्वव्यापी संघर्ष से संबद्ध है। यह ऐसा काम है जो अहिंसा, करुणा, न्याय, समानता, स्वतंत्रता और सत्य के मूल्यों पर आधारित है।

अनेक परिवर्तनवादी आंदोलनों की धारणा है कि दलित, शोषित और हाशिये पर फेंक दिये लोगों के पक्ष में सत्ता सौंप देना भर ही उनकी जिम्मेदारी है। अपने संजोये आदर्शों की प्राप्ति के संघर्ष में वे व्यापक समाज के प्रति अपनी जिम्मेदारी महसूस नहीं कर पाते, न ही अपने संघर्ष में उसकी भूमिका देखते हैं। हमारा विश्वास है कि समाज में व्यक्ति विशेष और संस्थाओं का नैतिक नवीनीकरण करना भी सभी परिवर्तन की पक्षधर ताकतों की जिम्मेदारी है।

हमारी आशा

लोकतांत्रिक आकांक्षाओं को लहर के इस अपूर्व दौर में नये सामाजिक मानदंड बनाने होंगे। इसके लिए विभिन्न स्तरों पर विपरीत व सम विचार वालों की भागीदारी एवम उनके बीच संवाद की प्रक्रिया आवश्यक है। हमें यह भी पहचानना होगा कि एक-दूसरे के सच एक-दूसरे के पूरक भी होते हैं। दूसरों के दृष्टिकोण के बारे में

पक्षपातपूर्ण ढंग से निर्णय सुना देने की प्रवृत्ति से भी बचना होगा। असल में दूसरों के दृष्टिकोण का आकलन ऐसी भाषा में हो जो सभी पक्षों में संयम बनाये रखने में सक्षम होने के साथ-साथ अंतर्दर्शी भी हो। ऐसी प्रक्रियाओं में फलने-फूलने की असंमित संभावनाएँ हैं। आज सक्रियता से इन्हें पाने के सचेत प्रयास किये जा सकते हैं।

हमारी विधि

लोकतंत्रोत्थरण के लिए हमारी त्रिस्तरीय विधि की अवधारणा है। प्रथम है 'संवाद'। अपने समय के स्वरूप और ललकार को चुनने के लिए यह ज़रूरी है। यानी हर स्तर पर संवाद, अपने विरोधी से भी। यह तभी संभव है यदि हम षडयंत्रों में यकीन करने के बजाय अन्याय के विरुद्ध संघर्ष और आत्म-बलिदान की इच्छा और उत्साह रखते हों। संवाद की स्थापना हर हालत में हर स्तर पर बिना छोटे-बड़े की भावना के और बिना पदानुक्रम के होनी चाहिए। बिल्कुल हाशिये पर कर दिये लोगों की आवाज और उनकी आकांक्षाओं की अभिव्यक्ति ऐसे संवाद में होना अनिवार्य है। दूसरा पक्ष है लोकतंत्र के विभिन्न आयामों के अनुरूप उत्पादन के तौर-तरीकों व जीवन-पद्धति के संवर्द्धन और मजबूती के लिए 'रचनाताक कार्यक्रम' पर अमल करना। यह कार्यक्रम हर स्तर पर सहभागिता पर आधारित हो। साथ ही, हमें अन्याय से लड़ना है। इसके लिए अहिंसक राजनीतिक कार्रवाई के विभिन्न रूप अपनाने होंगे। इनमें से एक है ईमानदार असहयोग आंदोलन यानी गांधी जी के शब्दों में 'सत्याग्रह', यानी सत्य की स्थापना के लिए अंत तक आग्रह करते रहना।

सम्पर्क :

विजय प्रताप

जी डब्ल्यू-IV गंगा होस्टल

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GENE CAMPAIGN
1993-2003 A Decade of Campaigning

JOINT CAMPAIGN

ON

FARMERS'

RIGHTS

JOINT CAMPAIGN ON FARMERS' RIGHTS

Gene Campaign, together with Consumers International-Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (CI-ROAP) and Action Aid-Asia conducted a two-day Asia level consultation on Farmers Rights in Bangkok on 24 and 25 January 2002. The purpose was to learn from the substantive portions of the Indian law on Plant Variety Protection as also to share the campaign and advocacy strategies employed by Indian civil society. Gene Campaign, which has spearheaded the campaign for Farmers' Rights in India, had to struggle for 7 years with changing governments in Delhi, so that India's *sui generis* legislation contained clauses that were sufficiently protective of the rights of farmers.

NGOs, government officials, members of the scientific establishment and activists from 11 countries got together to discuss how to incorporate a strong farmers right in national *sui generis* legislation necessary in all these countries after the WTO-TRIPS Agreement. Civil society and government officials from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, India, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, China, Vietnam and Fiji attended the consultation along with international NGOs like Oxfam, IUCN, GRAIN, SEARICE and Third World Network.

The members attending the consultation discussed the Indian and Thai plant variety protection law. In addition, the representatives of Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Vietnam presented the draft legislation and outlines of legislation under preparation to grant Plant Breeders Rights. All nations present at the consultation will have to enact a *sui generis* legislation as part of their formal commitments to the WTO.

The Indian legislation the "Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001" aims to balance farmers and breeders rights. It is the only legislation so far, which grants explicit farmers' rights and has provisions to protect the interests of farm men and women at various levels. The Indian legislation is being seen as a model by other developing countries:

An important decision of the consultations was to reject the industrialised country platform called UPOV (International Union for the Protection of New Plant Varieties) as the arbiter of Plant Breeders Rights and to try to develop a developing country alternative. Developing countries need to have strong rights for farming communities. UPOV does not even have the notion of Farmers' Rights and was felt to be completely unsuited for developing countries. The members decided to start the process of developing a developing country platform using existing documents. These documents are the Model Law developed by the Organisation of African Unity; Convention of Farmers and Breeders (CoFaB) prepared by Gene Campaign and CEAD; and the Bonn Guidelines on Benefit sharing (2001) prepared under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

WAY AHEAD TO DEVELOP NON-UPOV ALTERNATIVE AND ADVOCACY STRATEGY FOR FARMERS' RIGHTS

The consultation decided to set up a Working Group that would draft a strategy to take the agenda of Farmers Rights forward. The Working Group would also start working on a non- UPOV platform addressing the needs of farmers and food security in agricultural countries which would be circulated among participants for comments and critique. The members of the Working Group on Farmers Rights include the following:

1. Dr. Mahfuz Ullah, Bangladesh,
2. Mr. Aftab Alam, Pakistan,

3. Ms Indrani, Malaysia,
4. Ms. Kim, South Korea,
5. Mr. Surendra Bhandari, Nepal,
6. Ms. Lanying Zhang, China,
7. Ms. Tao, Vietnam, and
8. Mr. Bharat Jairaj, India.

Dr. Suman Sahai from Gene Campaign, Dr. Sothi Rachagan from Consumers International and Sri. S Parasuraman from Action Aid will coordinate the Working Group.

The members at the consultation decided on carrying forward the following agenda jointly, as an Asian campaign:

Strong intervention in the TRIPS Review Process

- No patents on life forms
- No to UPOV
- Introduction of Disclosure requirement in TRIPS
- Oral documentation should be admitted as proof of 'prior art' during patenting
- Link TRIPS with the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD)- (prior informed consent; material transfer agreement; access to technology; and benefit sharing)

Farmers' Rights in Domestic Laws and Policies

There should be strategies for conservation of genetic diversity;

- Farmers must have a reliable seed source
- Assured marketing for Farmer Varieties
- Farmers should have easy access to credit
- Farmers should have access to justice

Plant Variety Protection and Farmers' Rights laws

- Strong Farmers' Rights recognizing their role as cultivator, conservator and breeder
- Fair but not expansive Plant Breeders Rights
- Farmers' right to sell seed of a protected variety without using Breeders' name.
- Ban on terminator technology for seeds (GURT).
- Liability provision as protection against bad seeds.
- Continued access to germplasm (researchers' rights).

- Assured access to seeds (Compulsory License).
- Plant Variety Authority must have representation from farming & local communities, NGOs etc,

Develop a non-UPOV platform

- Use features in existing documents to develop an Asia Model.
- CoFab (Convention of Farmers and Breeders) .
- Organisation of African Unity Model Law.
- Convention on Biodiversity positions (COP 6) deliberations on benefit sharing.
- Incorporate features of Farmers Rights, Breeders Rights, Genetic diversity, Food Security and Benefit Sharing etc.

If you would like to participate in this process or if you have suggestions about how to take this process forward, please contact us at

Gene Campaign: Dr. Suman Sahai
E-mail - genecamp@vsnl.com

Consumers International-Asia:
Dr. Sothi Rachagan
E-mail - sothi@ciroap.org

Action Aid – Asia: Sri. S. Parasuraman
E-mail - sparasuraman@actionaidasia.org



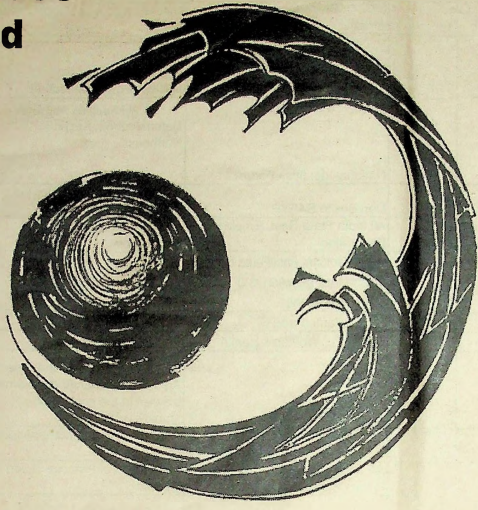
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COMPLETE

Asia Social Forum 2003

Jan 2-7, 2003
Hyderabad



Conferences & Over view Testimonies & Panel Discussions on Centre Spread

INFORMATION FOR ASF DELEGATES

TRANSPORT:-

Special buses will run from the Main venue to the seminar venues which are at more than walkable distance from there. All delegates who avail themselves of this facility will have to pay the fare, which will come to less than Rs. 5/- per trip, depending on the distance. Please be on time.

The buses are being run on the following routes:

Route No. 1

Nizam College to Ambedkar Bhavan

1. A.V. College
2. UTF Hall
3. Manohar Function Hall
4. Ambedkar Bhavan

Route No. 2

Nizam College to Andra Yuvathi Mandali

1. City Central Library
2. Sundarayya Vignana Kendram
3. Andra Yuvathi Mandali
4. Function Plaza

Route No. 3

Nizam College to Gandhi Bhava

1. Abids Function Hall
2. Methodist School
3. IMA Hall
4. V.V. Function hall
5. Gandhi Bhavan

Route No. 4

Nizam College to Institute of Engineers

1. Indira Priyadarshini Auditorium
2. Birla Science Museum
3. Ravindra Bharathi
4. Vasavi Kalayani Mandap
5. Dwarka Conference Hall
6. Institute of Engineers

Route No. 5

Nizam College to Myadam Anjaiah Hall

1. Jain Sevak Sangh
2. Golden Rose School
3. Saraswatha Parishath Hall
4. YWCA
5. Myadam Anjaiah Hall

CONFERENCE / TRANSLATION:-

The conferences are provided with simultaneous translation facility. Head-phones and radio sets can available at Nizam college, near the main gate on the radios after us and collect the remainder (if any) of your deposit.

WATER:-

Free clean drinking water is available at the venue provided by zero waste management group. You can also buy bottles of water at the rate of Rs. 5 a bottle.

DIFFERENTLY ABLED:-

We are providing recoups and special toilets for the differently abled. For all other enquiries please contact at this info point (information center) at Nizam College, near the main gate; on the phones given on the last page.

S.No.	Venue	Distance from Main Venue (in km)	Organisation Booking 3rd January	Name of seminar	Speakers
1	Ravindra Bharathi Auditorium	1	AP Jana Vignana Vedika	Globalisation and Andhra Pradesh	
2	Indira Priyadarshini Auditorium	1	Heinrich Boll Foundation	Contours of Asian Solidarity	
3	Andhra Yuvathi Mandali	4	Nation Centre for Labour / APVVU	Globalisation and Unorganised Sector	
4	Myadam Anjaiah Hall	3	Focus on Global South	Nuclear Power Deception	Gadekar, Admiral Ramdas, Surendra Gadekar, A. H. Nayyar, K.R.Datye, Minar Pimple,
5	Gandhi Bhavan	2	National Identities Forum	"National Identities and Self Determination: Kashmir, Northeast"	Meena Menon, Nandita Haksar, Bashir Manzar, Artax Shimray, Suraiyya, Ritu Dewan, Taregami, Gawher Fazli, Pushp, Mirwaiz Omar Farooq
6	Manohar Function Hall	1.5	Don Bosco SAFYR	Alternative Education for the Young at Risk	
7	V.V.Function Hall	2.5	All India State Govt. Employees Federation	Alternatives and Peoples' Movements	
8	Sundarayya Vignana Kendram (Auditorium)	4	Trade Unions, Facilitated by Centre for Education and Communications	Against Privatisation and Disinvestment	
9	Abids Function Hall	2	Asian Women's HRC	Courts of women	
10	Jain Sevak Sangh-1	2	Forum For Women's Health	Politics of Population	
11	Saraswatha Parishath Hall	2	AP Rythu Sanghalu	Globalisation, WTO and Indian Agriculture: Changing government policies in the context of globalisation	
12	Vasavi Main Hall	1.5	Telangana Information Trust	Globalisation and Marginalisation of Regions	
13	Plaza Function Hall	4	AP Jogini Vyavasta Vyathireka Porata Sangam	Elimination of Practice of Jogini System	
14	IMA Hall	4	FIAN International	Starvation Deaths, Right to Food and Role of Civil Society	
15	Heera Hall	1	CWS	Livelihoods and Alternatives	Anwar, G. Srinivas, Chari, Balaram, Ramchandrudu, T. Prabhakar Reddy, Ghanshyam, Radha Mohan
16	Taj Hotel, Narayanguda	3			
17	UTF Hall	2			
18	Birla Science Museum AC	1.5	IMADR	Women and Poverty; Trafficking, Migration and Gender Insecurity	
19	Institution of Engineers	3	AIPSN	Globalisation and Forestry	A. K. banerjee, Grassroot Movement Representatives from various states
20	A.V. College Hall	2	CSDS / VasudhaivaKutumbakam	Religiosity, Identity and Democracy	
21	Ambedkar Bhavan	2	SAAPE	Globalisation and Labour - Impact on Both Formal and Informal Labour Sectors	
22	Nizam College Catenary Block	0	Human Rights Law Network/India Centre for Human Rights and Law	Communalism and the Law	
23	Nizam College Tennis Court	0	Human Rights Law Network/FES Foundation	Labour and the second labour Commission Report	
24	Madina Hall	0.5	CNDP/APA/ Local Secretariat COVA	Conflict in South Asia	Firdous Sayed, Nimalika(Sri Lanka), Francis Lee (Korea), Jeonsoo Kim / Young Nim You (Korea)
25	Sundarayya Vignana Kendram (Mini Hall)	4	AIDWA	Expanding Dimensions Of Non-Preference In South Asia	
26	Jain Sevak Sangh-2	2	Community Health Cell	Environment and Health: A Peoples Campaign	
27	Press Club	0.5	Peace Initiative Committee		
28	Dwaraka Conference Hall	0.5	CEHAT	Right to Health Care: Moving from idea to reality (Constitutional and Legal Framework)	Prof. Babu Mathew, Dr. Shrinath Reddy, Dr. A.H.M. Nouman, Prof. Joga Rao, Pradip Prabhu/Brian Lobo, John Samuel, Sadhana Hall, Colin Gonsalves
29	SCERT Hall	0.5	SFI	Globalisation and Education	
30	Ravindra Bharathi Mini Hall	1	South Asian Women for Peace	The Role of the Post Colonial State in defining or negating identity	

31	Methodist High School	1	Jamate Islami Hind	Movement for a Peaceful and Prosperous World	
32	Cooperative Training School (Adj. Nizam College)	0	PRISM	The Marginalisation of Sexuality- Another Exclusion is Impossible	
33	Vasavi Mini Hall	1.5	Adivasi Hakkula Vedika (Bhumi, Neeru, Adavi, Sahaja Sampadalu)	Tribals and the Land Question in the Context of Globalisation	
34	City Central Library-Open Space	1	Telangana Study Forum	Resource Utilisation in AP: A Study of Telangana	
35	City Central Library-Hall	4	AIPSN	Whose Information Technology is it? Science for a Better World	Ashok Jhunjhunwala, Rajeev Sangal, G. Nagaruna, P.V. Unnikrishnan, Ma Jan Mohan Rao, P V S Kumar
36	Golden Rose School	2			
37	YWCA	1			
38	NGOs' Hall	0.5	TN Dalit Women's Movement	Public Hearing on Violation of Dalit Rights and Caste Discrimination	
39	NGO's Hall (Open Space)	0.5			
40	St. Paul's-1	1	IDEAS	Dalits and Livelihoods	
41	St. Paul's-2	1	SAKSHI	Caste based Discrimination	
42	St. Paul's-3	1			
43	St. Paul's-4	1			
44	St. Paul's-5				
45	Seventh Day Adventist Church	0.5	COVA / Divya Disha / KRISHI	Towards a Child Friendly City	
				Debt, Water and Power Privatisation	Lidy Nacpil, Prabir Purkayastha, Girish Sant, Chittoropa Palit, Nepomuceno Malaluan (Philippines), Maristela Dela Cruz, Ana Maria Nemenzo, Kusliardi, Henrikus Bonefasius Henry, Abdul Majeed Kanjoo (Pakistan), Oh, Keon-Ho,
46	Hotel Anmol Conference Hall	0.5	Jubilee South AIPSN / Others		
47	Parwana Hall	0.5	Asia Pacific Network on Food Sovereignty	Peoples' Action Against WTO & Trade Liberalisation in Agriculture in the Asia-Pacific Region: Strategies for Change and Resistance	Ramesh Singh, Ed Mora (Philippines), Dwi Astuti (Indonesia), Chanida Bamford, Arze Glipo, Sheelu Fransis, Atty. Ping Peria, Nugroho, Gigi Francisco, Jayson Cainglet

Date	Proposer	Name of the Event	Hall Allotted
3rd January	Creating Resources For Empowerment in Action (CREA)	Sexuality and Human Rights	Nizam 1
3rd January	Globalise Resistance	Is revolution back on the Agenda	Nizam 2
3rd January	Montfort Brothers	Building Another World	Nizam 231
3rd January	WOREC	Political Disruption and Youth Mobilisation	Nizam 233
3rd January	All India State Government Employees Federation	Participation of Public Service and PSUs	Nizam 302
3rd January	Jubilee South	PRSPs and Poverty Eradication	Nizam 322
3rd January	Integrated Rural Development of Weaker Sections In India/United EV Angelical Lutheran Church in India	Displacement and Development	Nizam 323
3rd January	Legal Resources for Social Action	Globalisation, Land alienation and dalit: with specific focus on the Waste Land Development Project of TN	Nizam 325
3rd January	Nepal India Dialogue on Water and Floods	CSDS	Nizam 606
3rd January	Campaign Against Child Trafficking (HAQ)	Child Trafficking	Nizam 229
3rd January	Action Aid India CHENNAI RO	Issues of Dalits	Nizam 628
3rd January	SAIDS	Social Development	Nizam 629
3rd January	Concern for Children and Environment- Nepal (CONCERN)		Nizam 210
3rd January	Yakshi	Health Issues in Adivasi Area	Nizam 627
3rd January	Ethanan Benevolent Association for Mother and Child	Palestinian Children	Methodist 1
3rd January	Forum For Social Justice Movement	Dalits/Muslims-Caste	Methodist 2
3rd January	ICMICA	Voice of the Intellectuals	Methodist 3
3rd January	Manav Seva Sansthan (SEVA)	Trafficking of Women and Children for Sexual Exploitation: The Challenges	Methodist 4
3rd January	Peace Initiative Committee	Struggle For Peace and Democracy	Methodist 5
3rd January	Pioneers of Change and Shikshantar	Unfolding Learning Societies	Methodist 6
3rd January	Child Rights Resource Institute (CRRI) and Trust, MOSAIC		Methodist 7
3rd January	Civic Bangalore		Methodist 8
3rd January	Community Health Cell	Towards Action for a Tobacco Free world	Methodist 9
3rd January	Development Link	Social Development	Methodist 10
3rd January	FORCES	Early Childhood Care and Development	Methodist11
3rd January	Human Rights Law Network	Legal Initiative on Violence against Women	Methodist 12
3rd January	Institute of Policy Studies	Uplift of Weaker Sections and Globalisation : Indian Experience	Methodist 13
3rd January	Minuguru-A Resource Center for Dalit Women	Violence on Dait Women	Methodist 14
3rd January	TOXICS LINK	Globalisation of Waste	Methodist 15
3rd January	Vikas Sahyog Pratishthan	Livelihoods and Self Dignity to deprived Communities	Methodist 16
3rd January	Women's Global Network on Reproductive Rights	Reproductive Rights in the 21st Century	Methodist 17
3rd January	National Campaign Committee For Construction Labour(NCC-CL)	Globalisation and Construction Workers	Methodist 18
3rd January	CHATRI / SANHITA	Homelessness and Displacement of People	

Date	Proposer	Name of the Event	Hall Allotted
4th January	Association of Rural Education and development (AREDS)	Towards another world-Playback Theatre	Nizam 1
4th January	Global Network-Asia	Strengthening Trade Unions and NGOs Alliance as a Global Social Movement on Asia in Engaging Capitalist Globalisation	Nizam 2
4th January	Campaign Against Child Trafficking (HAQ)	Child Trafficking	Nizam 231
4th January	AIAWU	Marginalised Section	Nizam 233
4th January	Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha	Impact of Globalisation and Communalisation on Children and Women: Testimonies from Grassroots	Nizam 302
4th January	AP Ryotu Sangam(Jawahar Nagar)	Globalisation: Agricultural loans and crop insurance	Nizam 322
4th January	Sangam(Ryotu Bhavan), AP Ryotu Sangam(Jawahar Nagar), Rythu Coolie	Condition of Farmers: Suicides and Kidney Sales	Nizam 323
4th January	Jubilee South	ECA, Debt and SAPs	Nizam 325
4th January	Jubilee South	Debt, Trade and Capital Flows	Nizam 606
4th January	Action Aid India	Social Integration of the Disabled	Nizam 229
4th January	National Working Group on Patent Laws	TRIPS and Developing Countries	Nizam 628
4th January	Action Aid Pakistan		Nizam 629
4th January	Action Aid Bangladesh	People's Rights over Natural Resources	Nizam 210
4th January	Yakshi	Adivasi Women and Livelihoods	Nizam 627
4th January	Centre for Handloom Information Centre	Liberalisation and Artisanal Communities	Nizam 233
4th January	Rashtriya Rythu Seva Samithi	Globalisation and Organic Farming	Lingampally Function Palace
4th January	Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology	Statergy Workshop on GATS	Methodist 2
4th January	Rythu Coole Sangham	Land and Livelihoods under Globalisation	Methodist 3
4th January	Shehg-FSU	Debt	Methodist 4
4th January	YWCA	Women's Empowerment	Methodist 5
4th January	Advocasy Center for Social Justice, Tamil Nadu	Socio-Economic development and Reservation Policy-the Review of the Constitution of India	Methodist 6
4th January	AIPSN Environment Desk	Globalisation, Forestry	Methodist 7
4th January	AIPSN Self Reliance Desk	Science as a Resource for Transformation	Methodist 8
4th January	Lokayan	Dams and Water Politics	Methodist 9
4th January	Pioneers of Change and Shikshantar	Alternative Economies	Methodist 10
4th January	Oxfam: The Indian Member of Oxfam International	Campaign on Access to Trade and Markets	Methodist11
4th January	Akshara	Gender Bender- Understanding Masculinity and Feminity	Methodist 12
4th January	Astha Sansthan, Udaipur	Revisiting 73rd Amendment in Indian Constitution from the perspective of the venerable groups	Methodist 13
4th January	South Asia Dialogues on Ecological Democracy/ CSDS	Corporatisation and Privatisation of Water in India and the WTO/GATS	Methodist 14

4th January	CSDS, CADAM, Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam	Strengthening Democracy: View from the Below	Methodist 15
4th January	CSDS-Swasthya Panchayat	Rethinking AIDS and Social Responsibility	Methodist 16
4th January	DC collective for South Asians	South Asian Activism in the Diaspora: Experiences from the US	Methodist 17
4th January	Globalise Resistance Joint Women's Programme	Do Western Workers benefit from the oppression of Workers in the Third World?	Methodist 18
4th January	Human Rights Law Network	Globalisation: Dalit Women Health Status	Methodist 19
4th January	Export Credit Agencies and Debt in Asia Pacific	Tribal Evictions following the Supreme ECAs: Fuelling the race to the bottom	Methodist 20
4th January	Shaheen Asmita Social Development Foundation	Globalisation and Minority Women	Methodist 22
4th January	against cast discrimination a.p. committee	Violence on Dalits and Marginalised	Methodist 23
4th January	Tamilnadu Peoples Forum for Social Development	Globalisation-Reservations	All Saints 1
4th January		Public Policy, Budgets and Dalits	All Saints 2
4th January	NAWO	Violence against Women	All Saints 3
4th January	YUVA	children	All Saints 4
4th January	Institute of Policy Studies	Globalisation: Positive Self Reliance and Antyodaya	All Saints 5
4th January	Soofi Sachal Sarmast Welfare Association Tangwani Distt: Jacobabad Sindh	Labour	All Saints 6
4th January	Asia Pacific On Women, Law and Development	Women and Food Sovereignty	All Saints 7
4th January	AP Public Sector Employees Federation	Role of Public Sector/ Cooperatives in Agriculture	All Saints 8
4th January	Samvada	Cross Border Obsessions	All Saints 9
4th January	Disaster Watch	Disasters, Wars, Conflicts and Globalisation: Challenges for Communities.	All Saints 10
4th January	JESA-Jesuit Social Action	Livelihood Rights	All Saints 11
4th January	JCA-NET/APC	People's Communication Rights against Neo-liberal	All Saints 12
4th January	Jagori		All Saints 13
4th January	AP Mahila Samakhya	Globalisation - Micro Credits Adverse Impact on Women	All Saints 14

31	Methodist High School	1	Grameena Bank Employees' Union	
32	Cooperative Training School (Adj. Nizam College)	0	AP Differently Abled P.C.	Legislation and Implements of Differently Abled Peoples
33	Vasavi Mini Hall	1.5	Baitul Hikma	Imperialist Globalisation and Wars
34	City Central Library-Open Space	1	Anthra	Privatisation of Resources-Impact on Livestock Rearers
35	City Central Library-Hall	4	DYFI	
36	Golden Rose School	2	Diverse Women for Diversity	Food Sovereignty
37	YWCA	1	AP Women's Team	Violence against women-Half the Sky's demand for Violence free World
38	NGOs' Hall	0.5	AIPSN/ BGVS	Education for All
39	NGO's Hall (Open Space)	0.5	TU's / CEC	Communalism and its impact on Labour
40	St. Paul's-1	1	DBF	Dalit Movements
41	St. Paul's-2	1		
42	St. Paul's-3	1		
43	St. Paul's-4	1		
44	St Pauls-5			
45	Seventh Day Adventist Church	0.5	People's Monitoring Group on Electricity Regulation	Power Reforms, Experiences and Strategies
46	Hotel Annol Conference Hall	0.5		
47	Parwana Hall	0.5	AISF	Globalisation : Impact on Education

Child Rights at the Centre of Development with Justice

Workshop: Friday, 3rd January 2003;
Time: 2.30 pm to 6.00 pm
Room # 7, Methodist School
 (next to Nizam College ASF venue campus)

CHILDREN DESERVE THE BEST WE HAVE TO GIVE. THE PRESENT CANNOT BE FAIR AND THE FUTURE CANNOT BE SECURED WITHOUT INVESTING IN THEIR RIGHTS AND WELLBEING.

ASIA IS HOME TO THE MAJORITY OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH. DO WE GIVE PRIORITY TO THEIR RIGHTS? IN A GLOBALISING WORLD, THE SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THEY NEED ARE INCREASINGLY AT RISK. BUT THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF CHILDREN ARE NOT FOR PRIVATISATION! WHAT ARE THE PROTECTIONS, PROVISIONS AND PRACTICAL DEVELOPMENT MEASURES ALL THE YOUNG DESERVE. AND WHAT KIND OF POLICIES AND PROGRAMME ACTIONS MUST ASIAN COUNTRIES GUARANTEE FOR THEM? CHILDREN DESERVE THE BEST PLANS, THE BEST COMMITMENTS -- AND HONEST ACTION. JOIN THE WORKSHOP AND BECOME PART OF THE EFFORT TO ENSURE JUSTICE FOR EVERY CHILD. MAKE THE ASIA SOCIAL FORUM A SITE OF POSITIVE CHANGE!

Organisers: CHILD RIGHTS RESOURCE INSTITUTE & MOSAIC CHARTER TRUST, IN SUPPORT OF SANA (SOUTH ASIA NGO ALLIANCE) & THE INDIA ALLIANCE FOR CHILD RIGHTS.

A better world is possible

--- if we can work together to re-build it to a better design !

It is the least we could for our children's future.

The MOSAIC Charter sets out a world of variegated unity, in which every piece is distinct and identifiable by its own character, and no piece dominates or intrudes upon any other. Like the traditional mosaic, this world is one that expresses and celebrates diversity, and upholds honourable co-existence rooted in a plural ethic -- a world worthy of its children.

JOIN THE MOSAIC CHARTER INITIATIVE FOR A TRANS-ASIAN ALLIANCE TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD FOR OUR CHILDREN TO INHERIT. CONTACT info@justpax.org OR MEET THE MOSAIC CHARTER TEAM AT ROOM #7, METHODIST SCHOOL (NEXT TO ASF CENTRAL SITE AT NIZAM COLLEGE CAMPUS) ON 3RD JANUARY AFTERNOON.

S. No.	Venue	Distance from Main Venue (in km)	Organisation Booking 4th January	Name of seminar	Speakers
1	Ravindra Bharathi Auditorium	1	VENUE Not Available	VENUE Not Available	
2	Indira Priyadarshini Auditorium	1	Heinrich Boll Foundation	Contours of Ecological Democracy, Justice and Equity	
3	Andhra Yuvaathi Mandali	4	Support Group to Right to Food Campaign	Right to food in India	Kavita Srivastava, Colin Gonsalvez, Anuradha Talwar, Siddharth Varadarajan, Jean Dreze, Subhash Lomte, Harsh Mander, Mazdoor Kisan Shakthi Sanghatan
4	Myadam Anjaiah Hall	3	Focus on Global South	Derailing the WTO Cancun Ministerial	Vandana Shiva, Martin Khor (Malasia), Nicola Bullard (Thailand), Comrade Varadarajan, Walden Bello (Phillipines), Comrade Mahadevan, Prabir Purkayastha, Thomas Kochery,
5	Gandhi Bhavan	2			
6	Manohar Function Hall	1.5	NAPM	Development, Displacement and Resettlement	
7	V.V.Function Hall	2.5	Asian South Bureau of Adult Education	Peace and Conflict Resolution: Implications for Education	
8	Sundarayya Vignana Kendram (Auditorium)	4	Trade Unions, Facilitated by Centre for Education and Communication	Globalisation and Labour Rights	
9	Abids Function Hall	2	Pesticide Action Network Asia Pacific	Food Sovereignty : A People's Right (including Alternatives)	
10	Jain Sevak Sangh-1	2	Hyderabad Ekta	Poiticised Religion, Challenges to Pluralism and Democracy	
11	Saraswatha Parishath Hall	2	KKNSS	Globalisation and Challenges of Urban Poor	
12	Vasavi Main Hall	1.5			
13	Plaza Function Hall	4	SIGN		
14	IMA Hall	4	COVA / VANI	Conducive Atmosphere for Voluntary Sector: Problems and	Ravi Nair, John Samuel, Mazher Hussain, K. Shiv Kumar
15	Heera Hall	1	VENUE Not Available	VENUE Not Available	
16	Taj Hotel, Narayanguda	3	IDEAS	Fluid Finance, Global Crisis and the Search for Alternatives	
17	UTF Hall	2	AIKS	Agriculture	
18	Birla Science Museum AC	1.5	ILPS, SRED, BAYAN	Unmasking the War on Terror	Elisa Tita Lubi, Joanna Carino, Rita Baua, Fatima Burnad,
19	Institution of Engineers	3	VENUE Not Available	VENUE Not Available	
20	A.V. College Hall	2	CSDS / Vasudaiva Kutumbakam	Religiosity, Identity and Democracy	
21	Ambedkar Bhavan	2			
22	Nizam College Centenary Block	0	Human Right Law Network/ India Centre for Human Rights and Law/ National Forum for Housing Rights	Housing Rights (Evictions)	
23	Nizam College Tennis Court	0	Human Right Law Network	Labour Rights, Changes in Labour Law	
24	Madina Hall	0.5	CNDP	Political Implication of Development	Noorie (Iraq), Abdul Jawad Hamayel (Palestine), Samir Amin (Senegal), Peter Custers
25	Sundarayya Vignana Kendram (Mini Hall)	4	Yuva/Lokayan	Right to Urban Space-Evictions and Livelihoods	
26	Jain Sevak Sangh-2	2	Dalit Women's Federation		
27	Press Club	0.5	RFTE	Beyond Bhopal and Bt	
28	Dwaraka Conference Hall	0.5	CEHAT	Right to Health Care: Moving from idea to reality II (Operational and Financial Mechanisms, Campaign Strategy)	Dr. H. Sudarshan, Ravi Duggal, Jean Dreze, Father Sebastian, Sarojini, Seeta Prabhu, Dr. Ravi Narayan, Dr. T. Sundaraman
29	SCERT Hall	0.5	Adivasi Action C committee	Infringment of Adivasi rights	Madalaiselvam, Fatimson, Stan Thekkakara, Muthamma, M L Doss
30	Ravindra Bharathi Mini Hall	1	Nirantar	Women's Education and the Politics of Denial	
31	Methodist High School	1	Amnesty	Legal Frameworks for Enforcing ESC Rights in the Context of	
32	Cooperative Training School (Adj. Nizam College)	0			
33	Vasavi Mini Hall	1.5	Baitul Hikma	Imperialist Globalisation and Wars	
34	City Central Library-Open Space	1	Asmita	NAWOAP Event	

documentary film screenings - 06 january 2003

SCREEN I Time Nizam College Grounds		SCREEN II Time Room 119 - Principals Bldg Nizam College		SCREEN III Time Room 218 - Social Science Bldg Nizam College		SCREEN IV Time Room 228 - Social Science Bldg Nizam College	
2.00 PM	BEHIND THE SECOND FRONT 36 mins/ Ron Papaq	2.00 PM	AGNO 28 mins/ Eryln Ruth Alcantara	2:00 PM	AAKROSH/ RAGE 18 mins/ Yusuf Mehta/ Ramesti Fimple	2.00 PM	WORDS OF FREEDOM 81 mins/ Tareque Catherine Masud
3.00 PM	RESURGENCE 57 mins/ Vidhi P	2.45 PM	THE KILLING TERRACES 46 mins/ Dhurba Busnet	3:00 PM	BIGGER THAN ENRON 60 mins	3.45 PM	IN DARK TIMES 24 mins/ Gauhar Raza
4.30 PM	Excerpts from Anand Patwardhan's Latest film, 138 mins	3.45 PM	FATHER 3.38 mins/ Prasoon Pandey	4.30 PM	SEEING IS BELIEVING 60 mins/ Petea Wintonick/ Katerina Celceck	4.30 PM	LAND IS FREEDOM 55 mins
		4.00 PM	A STATE KILLING 30 mins/ KNT Shastri	6:00 PM	MAHAKA, A YA WA MAMA WA AFRICA 124 mins/ Challam Benurkar	6.00 PM	SKIN DEEP 83 mins/ Reena Mohan
		5.00 PM	TOXIC TRAIL 27 mins/ Janet Boston			7.30PM	STORY OF SUJA 26 mins/ KM Madhusudan
		6.00 PM	LET ME ALSO COME TO SCHOOL 55 mins/ Simantini Dhuru				
		7.30 PM	DROWNED OUT 75 mins/ Franny Armstrong				

documentary film screenings - 03 january 2003

SCREEN I Time Nizam College Grounds		SCREEN II Time Room 119 - Principals Bldg Nizam College		SCREEN III Time Room 218 - Social Science Bldg Nizam College		SCREEN IV Time Room 228 - Social Science Bldg Nizam College	
2.00 PM	GENOVA OPEN CITY 41 mins/ Nina/Niko/Martin	2.00 PM	BRINGING DURBAN HOME 13 mins/ Mallika Dutta/ Thom Powers	2:00 PM	PIG TUSKS & PAPER MONEY 50 mins	2.00 PM	DOT CON 60 mins
3.00 PM	LESSER HUMANS 60 mins/ Stalin K	2.30 PM	BAREFOOT GEN 90 mins	3.30 PM	GLOBALISATION: VIOLENCE OR DIALOGUE? 62 mins/ Patrice Barrat	3.30 PM	BASILAN- SPARKS OF WAR 96 mins/ Ron Magbustos
4.30 PM	MANN KE MANJEERE 5:10 mins/ Sujit Sircar/ Gary	4.30 PM	A WOMAN'S PLACE 58 mins/ Paromita Vohra	5:00 PM	TELL THEM, THE TREE THEY HAD PLANTED HAS NOW GROWN 58 mins/ Ajay Raina	4.45 PM	TOYS OF LUST AND GREED 5 mins 5 sec/ Dhurba Basne
4.45 PM	PLACE OF RAGE 55 mins	6.00 PM	MY MIGRANT SOUL 33 mins/ Yasmine Kabir	6.30 PM	UNLIMITED GIRLS 94 mins/ Paromita Vohra	5.00 PM	BORDERS & BEYOND 105 mins/ Natasha Silveira
6.15 PM	TALES OF NIGHT FAIRIES 74 mins/ Shohini Ghosh	7.15 PM	THE FIRE WITHIN 57 mins/ Shriprakash			7.30 PM	DEVELOPMENT AT GUN POINT 41 mins/ Kup Shashi
8.00 PM	TELANGANA ARMED STRUGGLE 50 mins/ Kapil/ Barsna Wanda/ G. Narsing Rao/ C. Kalyani/ Devogee Vohra						

documentary film screenings - 04 january 2003

SCREEN I Time Nizam College Grounds		SCREEN II Time Room 119 - Principals Bldg Nizam College		SCREEN III Time Room 218 - Social science Bldg Nizam College		SCREEN IV Time Room 228 - Social Science Bldg Nizam College	
2.00 PM	OKINAWA HEN 112 mins/ Jim Takaiwa	2.00 PM	THE BRANDON TEENA STORY 88 mins/ Susan Musk/ Greta Olafsdottir	2:00 PM	DEATH LOOMS 45 mins/ KNT Shastri	2.00 PM	MAI- The Vote 82 mins/ Parikaj Kumar
4.30 PM	NUSRAT HAS LEFT... 25 mins/ Farjad Nabi	4.00 PM	RAMPAGE 30 mins/ Ron Papag	3.15 PM	AMERICAN DREAM 98 mins	4.00 PM	MATKA/ AN UNTOLD STORY 24 mins/ GS Bhaskar
5.15 PM	CHILDREN OF MINI JAPAN 60 mins/ Challam	5.00 PM	UNHEARD VOICES 27 mins/ Alex Parimalan	5.30 PM	THE BEE THE BEAR THE KURUBA 68 mins/ Vinod Raja	4.45 PM	MICHEAL JACKSON COMES TO MANEKANJ 57 mins/ Nupur Basu
7.00 PM	OF CLOTH & OTHER STORIES 75 mins/ Surabhi S.	6.00 PM	GUJARAT- A WORK IN PROGRESS 35 mins/ Stalin K	7:00 PM	WORDS ON WATER 85 mins/ Sanjay Kak	6.00 PM	KOL TALES 70 mins/ Sehoj Singh
		7.15 PM	FREEDOM 53 mins/ Amar Kanwar			7.45 PM	AFTERSHOCKS 66 mins/ Rakesh Sharma

documentary film screenings - 06 january 2003

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		6.00 PM	LET ME ALSO COME TO SCHOOL 55 mins/ Simantini Dhuuru				
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documentary film screenings - 03 january 2003

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8.00 PM	TELANGANA ARMED STRUGGLE 50 mins/ Kapil/ Karuna Prasad/ G. Narsing Rao/ C. Kalyani/ Devogee Vohra						

documentary film screenings - 04 january 2003

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documentary film screenings - 05 january 2003

SCREEN I		SCREEN II		SCREEN III		SCREEN IV	
Time	Nizam College Grounds	Time	Room 119 - Principals Bldg Nizam College	Time	Room 218 - Social Science Bldg Nizam College	Time	Room 228 - Social Science Bldg Nizam College
2.00 PM	LIFE ON THE MARGIN 35 mins/ Arun Kumar	2.00 PM	LIGHTENING STRIKES 35 mins/ Jagga Raju	2.00 PM	PERFORMANCE 54 mins/ Rahul Roy	2.00 PM	NARMADA/ A VALLEY RISES 87 mins/ Ali Kazini
3.00 PM	THE LOOM 50 mins/ Anjali Monterro, KP Jaishankar	3.00 PM	HOW GERALDO LOST HIS JOB..... 40 mins/ Patrice Barrat	3.30 PM	THE PARTICIPATION OF THE YOUTH IN EDSA 2 16 mins/ Christina	4.00 PM	CRITICAL MASS 13 mins/ Riyaz Sakarav
4.15 PM	EK MINUTE KA MAUN 80 mins/ Ajay Bhara	4.00 PM	PALESTINE 35 mins/ Dominique Dubosa	4.15 PM	UNTOUCHABLE COUNTRY 30 mins/ RR Srinivasan	4.30 PM	SITA'S FAMILY 60 mins/ Saba Diwan
6.15 PM	THE MEN IN THE TREE 98 mins/ Lalit Vachani	5.45 PM	DEVELOPMENT FROM THE BARREL OF A GUN 57 mins/ Birju Toppo/ Meghanath	5.15 PM	THE SEDUCTION OF DOCTOR LOYA 45 mins/ Priya Krishnaswamy	6.00 PM	DEATH OF A COMMUNITY FORETOLD 25 mins/ Alphonso Row/ Nityanand Jayaram
		7.15 PM	THE TURTLE PEOPLE 76 mins/ Surabhi Sharma	6.30 PM	BEYOND MONARCHS & MERCHANTS 56 mins/ Gargi Sen	7.00 PM	PACHER CHUJAERIL/ THE PLAY IS ON 44 mins/ Pankaj Rishi Kumar
				8:00 PM	PRAJAALA KOSAM/ FOR PEOPLE 30 mins/ Jagga Raju	8.15 PM	ZERO SUM GAME 28 mins/ Kapil.S

feature films screenings 03 january 2003

Time	Sarathi Studio - Ameerpet	Time	Mini Theater - Ravindra Bharti
2.00PM	ANKURAM 135 mins/ Umamaheshwar Roa. C	2.00PM	MISS BEATTY'S CHILDREN 112 mins/ Pamala Rooks
5.00PM	PIRAVI Shaji N Karun	5.00PM	PRATHI GHATANA 150 mins/ T Krishna
8.00PM	KOMARAN BHEEM 120 mins/ Allani Sridhar	8.00PM	CHEMALA DANDU 150 mins/ R. Narayana Murthy

feature film screenings 04 january 2003

Time	Sarathi Studio - Ameerpet	Time	Mini Theatre - Ravindra Bharti
2.00PM	MAMMO 124 mins/ Shyam Benegal	2.00PM	IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK 97 mins/ Cher
5.00PM	SWARNAKKA 160 mins/ Thammareddi Bharadwaj	5.00PM	GUILTY BY SUSPICION 105 mins/ Irwin Winkler
8.00PM	KARVAAN 104 mins/ Pankaj Bhutalia	8.00PM	NO MAN'S LAND 97 mins/ Danis Tanovic

feature film screenings 05 january 2003

Time	Sarathi Studio - Ameerpet	Time	Mini Theatre - Ravindra Bharti
2.00PM	SAMAR 125 mins/ Shyam Benegal	2.00PM	GARAM HAWA M.S. Satyu
5.00PM	VOORU MANADIRA 150 mins/ R. Narayana Murthy	5.00PM	SWARAJ 90 mins/ Anwar Jamal
8.00PM	YELLAMMA 150 mins/ Mohan Koda	8.00PM	ENCOUNTER 150 mins/ N. Shankar

feature film screenings 06 january 2003

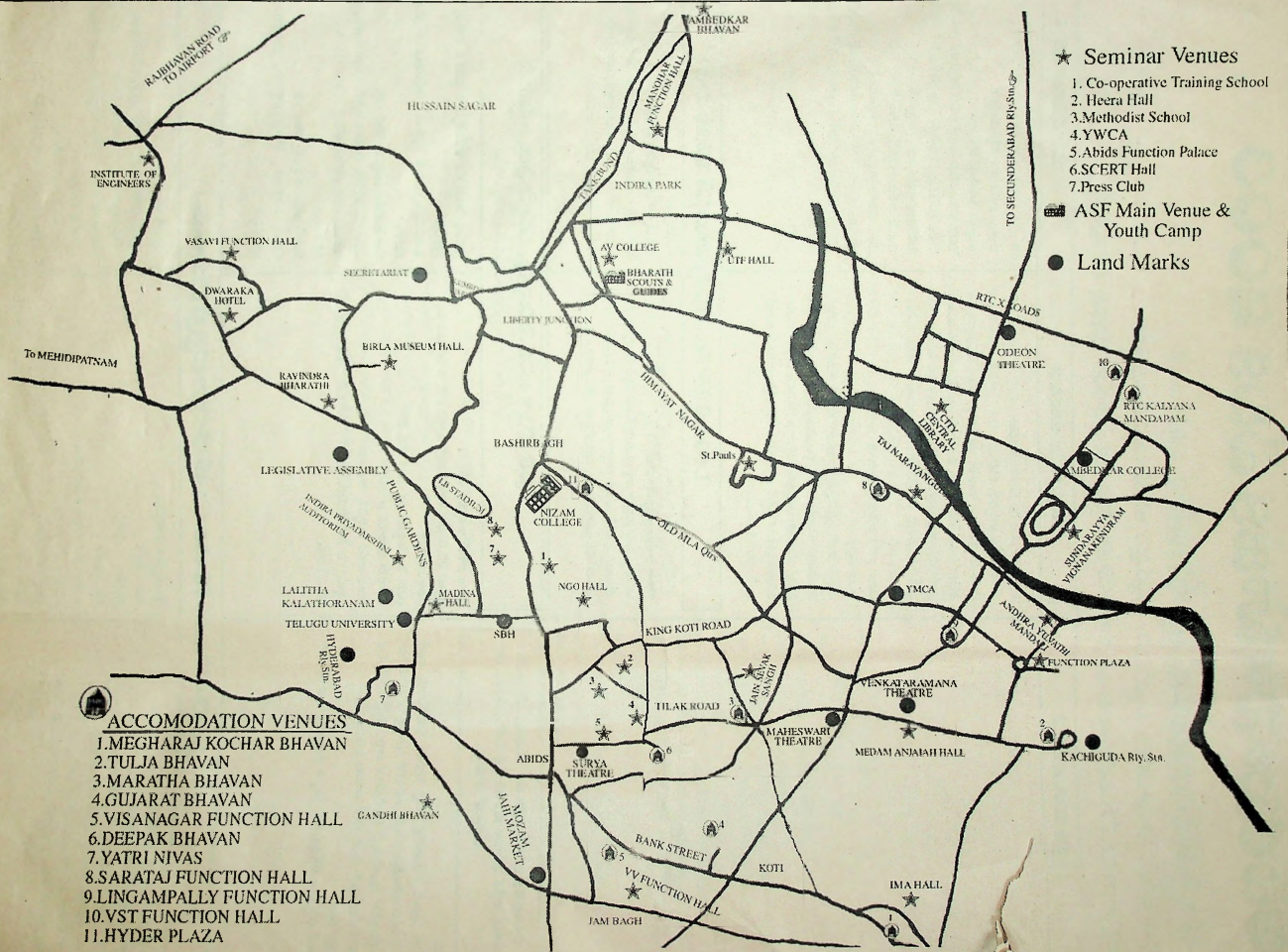
Sarathi Studio - Ameerpet		Mini Theatre - Ravindra Bharti	
2.00PM	NIRANTHARAM 100 mins/ Rajindra Prasad	2.00PM	BHOOMI KOSSAM 140 mins / K B Tilak
5.00PM	BHADRAM KODUKO 125 mins/ Akinneni Kutumbaraao	5.00PM	MAA BHOOMI Gautam Ghosh
8.00PM	OSE RAMALUAMMA 165 mins/ Dr. Dasari Naryana Rao	8.00PM	VIMUKTHI KOSAM 120 mins/ M. Uday Kumar

★ Seminar Venues

1. Co-operative Training School
2. Heera Hall
3. Methodist School
4. YWCA
5. Abids Function Palace
6. SCERT Hall
7. Press Club

🏠 ASF Main Venue & Youth Camp

● Land Marks



ACCOMODATION VENUES

1. MEGHARAJ KOCHAR BHAVAN
2. TULJA BHAVAN
3. MARATHA BHAVAN
4. GUJARAT BHAVAN
5. VISANAGAR FUNCTION HALL
6. DEEPAK BHAVAN
7. YATRI NIVAS
8. SARATAJ FUNCTION HALL
9. LINGAMPALLY FUNCTION HALL
10. VST FUNCTION HALL
11. HYDER PLAZA

ఆసియా సామాజిక వేదిక 2003

నయా సరళీకరణ ప్రపంచీకరణను, మతతత్వాన్ని యుద్ధాన్ని వ్యతిరేకించండి.

ప్రజాతంత్ర, సామాజికంగా న్యాయమైన, సుస్థిరమైన ఆసియాను నిర్మించడానికి

లక్ష్యంగా పనిచేసే ఉద్యమాలకు ఆసియా సామాజిక వేదిక ఒక బహిరంగ వేదికను కల్పిస్తున్నది.

భేద్యవారము జనవరి 2	శుక్రవారము జనవరి 3	శనివారము జనవరి 4
<p>9.00 గం. - 1.00 గం. మహాసభలు</p> <p>నిజాం కాలేజి కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాల్-2</p> <p>సామాజిక వనతులు, ప్రణాళిక సహకారం</p> <p>కాంత సిద్ధాన్త తీవ్ర ద్రోహ్/ బి.ఇ.కాన్ఫరెన్స్/ కె.ఎన్.ఫనకర్/ కవితా శ్రీవాళ్యన/ హార్ష మండల్/ వీరపాసి (థాయిలాండ్ అసెంబ్లీ ఆఫ్ షార్)/ జాఫరుల్లా చౌదురి/ అనితా రాంఫాల్/ సరోజినీ రంగం/ పి.సాయినాథ్</p> <p>నిజాం కాలేజి కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు-2</p> <p>కాంతి భద్రత</p> <p>వాల్టెన్ బెల్జ్ (ఫిలిప్పీన్స్)/ హీమా కుషా (జపాన్)/ వల్డేజ్ పురాణిబాయి/ సహజీ సబా/ చంద్రముజుప్పర్/ అరుంధతి రాయ్/ కిన్షె ముదోజ్/ అద్వితీ రాయ్/ ఉత్తర- దక్షిణ కొరియా మనూకా గ్రూపు/ అల్లెక జావాసరేహ (పాలస్తీనా)/ నూరి అబ్దుల్ రజాక్ హుసేన్ (ఈజిప్టు)</p>	<p>9 AM-1 PM మహాసభలు</p> <p>నిజామ్ కాలేజి కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు-1</p> <p>అప్పులు, అభివృద్ధి, వాణిజ్యం</p> <p>వివేక్ రైనా/ ఎన్.పి.శుక్లా/ వాల్టెన్ తెల్లర్/ లిబ్ సార్జెల్ సూతి ప్రసాద్ గెల్/ రెవెన్యూంట్ బస్సెర్/ మాల్టిన్ టోర్/ సరోజినీ రెంగమ్/ సి.పి.చంద్రశేఖర్/ ఉల్త్రా పట్నాయక్</p> <p>నిజామ్ కాలేజి కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు-2</p> <p>తేజం, ప్రజాస్వామ్యం, జాతీయభద్రాలు</p> <p>అమియా కుమార్ బాగ్/ అరుదారాయ్/ అపిమ్ నంది/ గోపాల్ గురు/ బి.ఎ.రెహమాన్/ సోమిచల్ త్రిదాసిన్వా పకున్/ ముకత్ శర్మ/ దిదాసింగ్</p>	<p>1.00 -2.15 గం. పీపుల్స్ వాయిసెస్ (ప్రజల వాణి)</p> <p>అనకట్టలు - వ్యవసాయం</p> <p>నిజాం కాలేజి: కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు -1</p> <p>అదివాసి స్త్రీలు (సత్తూరా ద్యాం)/ ముస్తాక్ అహమ్మద్ (నెపాల్ అనకట్ట)/ రోముల్ నోమర్ (వత్సెన కర్ణాటక కార్మికులు - ఫిలిప్పీన్స్)/ బాస్ సుందేకర్ (అహోర భద్రత, పుదుకోట్టులు, తమిళనాడు)</p> <p>సంఘర్షణలు</p> <p>నిజామ్ కాలేజి కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు-1</p> <p>నవీర్ ఖాన్ (సంఘర్షణలో పిల్లలు), షాం మిమామ్మర్ ఒమర్ ఖాలిద్ (సంఘర్షణలో ప్రజలు), దివాసర్వాత్ (వికలంకప, అప్టనిస్), గుజరాత్ మారణహోమం - బాధితులు</p>
<p>ప్రాచార సభ 2.30 - 6.30 గం. సెమినార్లు, పర్యేషాలు</p> <p>నిజామ్ కాలేజి మైదానం మహాశక్తి క్రీడ మరో ప్రపంచం, 200</p> <p>దహాంకో ప్రారంభం</p> <p>పక్కలు</p> <p>సమీర్ అమిన్ (సినిగల్) బొజ్జా తారకం (ఐడియా), అల్లెక జావాసరేహ (పాలస్తీనా) ఆస్కా జహంగీర్ (పాకిస్తాన్)/ సహర్ నబా (అప్టనిస్)/ మేరాపాట్లర్ (ఐడియా)/ వాల్టెన్ బెల్జ్ (ఫిలిప్పీన్స్)/ ప్రణాళిక పట్నాయక్ (ఐడియా)/ మరియా జకరులు</p> <p>అధ్యక్ష పద్యం</p> <p>హాజీర్ కన్నెన్, అమరీజీత్ కార్, నిర్మలా దేవ్పాండే, జి.హరగోపాల్</p>	<p>ప్రతి రోజూ అనేక సెమినార్లు, వర్కుషాపులు జరుగును</p> <p>5.30 - 7.30 అనుభవాల వ్యక్తికరణ, చర్చా వేదికలు</p> <p>నిజాం కాలేజి: కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు-1</p> <p>పక్కలు: ఎన్.పి.శుక్లా, వాల్టెన్ బెల్జ్, మాల్టిన్ టోర్, కె.ఎల్.సుహేంద్ర, సంజందస్వామి</p> <p>భయంపై యుద్ధమా లేక యుద్ధ భయమా?</p> <p>అహంసా మాధానికి అవకాశం</p> <p>నిజాం కాలేజి కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు-2</p> <p>పక్కలు: ఎ.హెచ్.నయ్యర్, అచిన్ మిరాయ్, అపిమ్ నంది, ఆర్.ఎన్.రావు</p> <p>ప్రపంచ పాలన లేక అధిపత్యమా? ప్రపంచ వాణిజ్య సంఘ - ఆ తరువాత</p> <p>మతపరతాత్వ, ఎథ్నిక్ (Ethnic) గుర్తింపులు - ప్రజాస్వామ్యానికి సహాయం?</p> <p>నిజామ్ కాలేజి కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాల్ -1</p> <p>పక్కలు: ది.ఎల్.సేత్, స్వామి అగ్నివేత్, లక్ష్మణ్ గురిజేఖర్, యోగేంద్ర యాదవ్, అన్వల్ ఆలి ఐంజినీర్</p> <p>సరిహద్దులు</p> <p>నిజామ్ కాలేజి కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు -2</p> <p>పక్కలు: సహజీసబా, నోరాద్ కార్తీనాథ్, ధండికిబ దోడో, కెల్ జాకోబ్సన్</p>	<p>యాత్రికాం</p> <p>స్థలం: భారత్ స్టాల్స్ మరియు గ్రెడ్స్, రోమల్ గూడ.</p> <p>సామ్రాజ్యవాద ప్రపంచీకరణకు ప్రత్యామ్నాయాలను చర్చించుకోవడానికి యువత తమవైన స్థలంలో గుమిగూడుతున్నది.</p> <p>ప్రసిద్ధి రుసుము</p> <p>రూ. 25.00 అన్ని రోజులకు</p> <p>సయోచించుకో: 35 సంవత్సరాలు</p> <p>క్రొగ్గమ్</p> <p>జనవరి 3: ప్రారంభం</p> <p>జనవరి 4-6: 10 గం. నుండి 1 గం. వరకు</p> <p>జనవరి 6: ముగింపు సభ 2-3 గం.</p>

ప్రతిరోజూ సమాంతర కార్యక్రమాలు

<p>మరో ప్రపంచం చలన చిత్రోత్సవం</p> <p>చలన చిత్రాలు: సాధర్న స్టూడియోస్</p> <p>2-4.30 pm, 5-7.30 pm, 8-10.30 pm</p> <p>చలన చిత్రాలు: రవీంద్ర భారత్ మిని డి.యెట్</p> <p>2-4.30 pm, 5-7.30 pm, 8-10.30 pm</p> <p>డాక్యుమెంటరీ చిత్రాలు: నిజామ్ కాలేజి 3 వరగం గదులు</p>	<p>సాంస్కృతిక ప్రదర్శనలు</p> <p>నిజాం కాలేజి</p> <p>సంగీతం - కవిత్వం</p> <p>వీధి నాటకం</p> <p>చందీరా ప్రయోధర్షిని ఆడిటోరియం</p> <p>రంగస్థలం నాటకం</p> <p>ప్రజా ఉద్యమాలు</p> <p>నిజాం కాలేజి మైదానంలో అనుభవాలను పంచుకోవడానికి, సహాగ్ను గుర్తించడానికి, పూర్వాలను చర్చించుకోవడానికి కూడా అవకాశం కల్పించబడుతున్నది.</p>	<p>యాత్రికాం</p> <p>స్థలం: భారత్ స్టాల్స్ మరియు గ్రెడ్స్, రోమల్ గూడ.</p> <p>సామ్రాజ్యవాద ప్రపంచీకరణకు ప్రత్యామ్నాయాలను చర్చించుకోవడానికి యువత తమవైన స్థలంలో గుమిగూడుతున్నది.</p> <p>ప్రసిద్ధి రుసుము</p> <p>రూ. 25.00 అన్ని రోజులకు</p> <p>సయోచించుకో: 35 సంవత్సరాలు</p> <p>క్రొగ్గమ్</p> <p>జనవరి 3: ప్రారంభం</p> <p>జనవరి 4-6: 10 గం. నుండి 1 గం. వరకు</p> <p>జనవరి 6: ముగింపు సభ 2-3 గం.</p>
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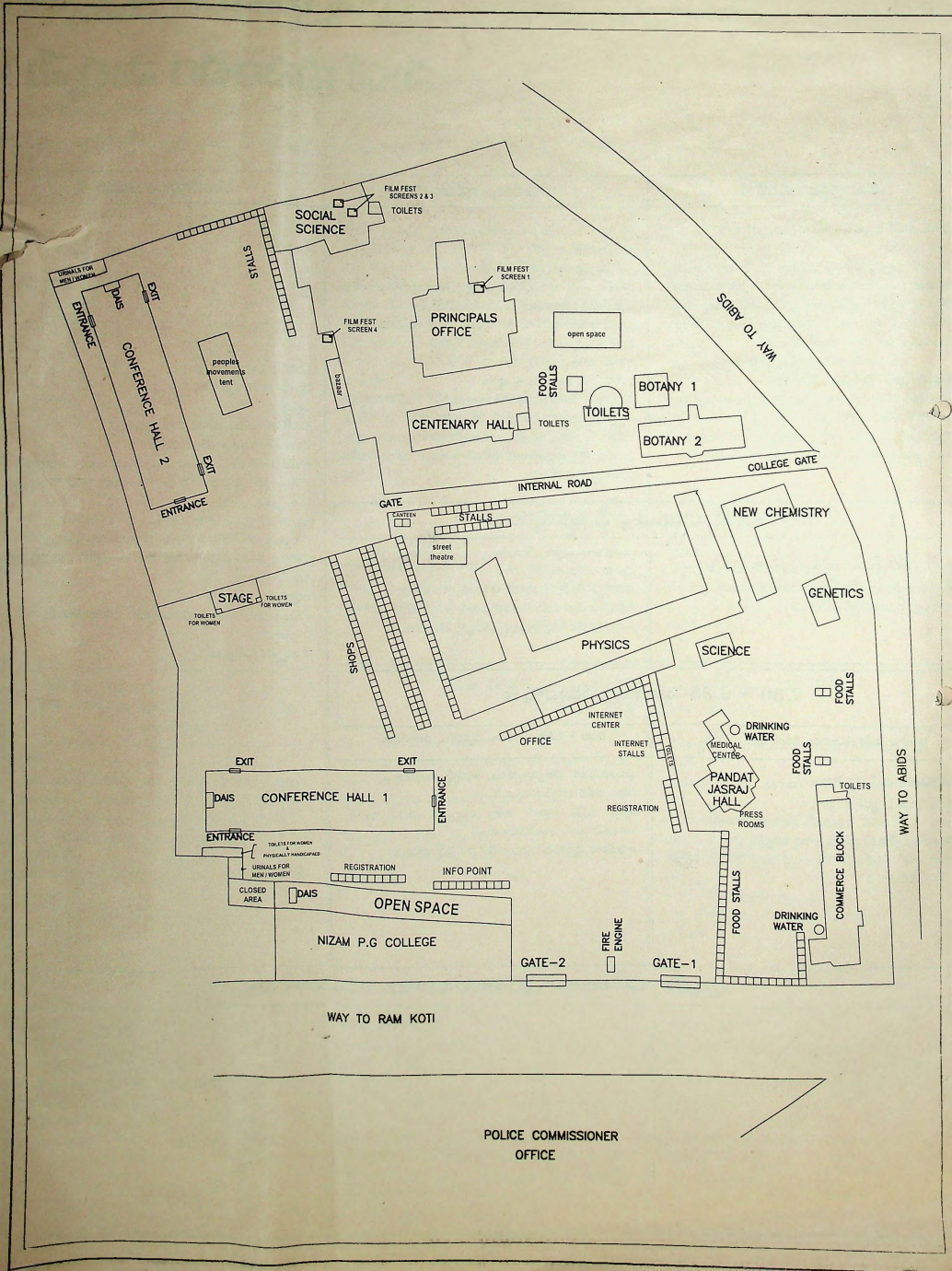
మరో ఆసియా సాధ్యమే ! మరో ప్రపంచం సాధ్యమే !

ఆదివారం జనవరి 5	సోమవారం జనవరి 6	మంగళవారం జనవరి 7
<p>నిజామ్ కాలేజీ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాల్ -1 దళిత మహాసభ NCDHR ప్రతినిధులు/ ఎన్.కె.థోంట్/ నోటేమి బండో (బురకు విమోచన సమితి)/ డి.బి.సాగర్ (నేపాల్)/ పి.పి.శివచరణం (శ్రీలంక)/ విక్రమ్ దైక్ (స్రెజీరియా)/ రుక్మిణీదేవి (మహిళా వాణి, బెంగుళూరు)/ కె.సి.చలం (విశాఖపట్నం)/ బొజ్జా తారకం (బెంగుళూరు)/ బాల చంద్ర మంగేకర్.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">నిజామ్ కాలేజీ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు 2</p> <p>ప్రపంచీకరణకు వ్యతిరేకంగా మహిళలు అసోసియేట్ కౌన్సిల్ (AITUC)/ సుహాసిని (AIDWA)/CITU (పాకిస్తాన్)/ AIPWA ప్రతినిధి/ కమలాధాసినీ (జగోన్)/ చందనా శివ/ NBA ప్రతినిధి/ ఫరీదా అక్తర్ (బంగ్లాదేశ్)/ వసంత్ కన్వాలిరామ్/ PLO ప్రతినిధి (శ్రీలంక)/RAWA ప్రతినిధి/ రోషన్ బెన్/</p>	<p>ఉ. 9.00 ము. 1.00 గం. చరకు మహాసభలు నిజామ్ కాలేజీ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాల్ -1 ప్రత్యామ్నాయాలు, ప్రజా ఉద్యమాలు వాలెన్ బెల్లో (ఫిలిప్పీన్స్)/ సులక్ష్మ శివరత్న (ఠాయిలాండ్)/ మేధాపాట్నర్/రాజేంద్రసింగ్/ కిషన్ పట్నాయక్/ సితారామ్ ఏపూరి/ ఓస్కార్ అలివేరా (కోలీనియా)/ రాఘవ్ సర్వత్/ ఎం.వరమేశ్వరమ్/ ప్రతీతి వ్యవస్థ/ మినార్ సంచిత/అశోక్ మిత్ర</p> <p style="text-align: center;">నిజామ్ కాలేజీ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు-2</p> <p>పర్యావరణం, సంస్కృతి, పరిజ్ఞానం వందనాశివ/ సంధోంగ్ రిచిహాసే (అజ్ఞాకంఠోని డిబెట్ ప్రభుత్వం)/ వాలెన్ బెల్లో (ఫిలిప్పీన్స్)/ రవీంద్ ఎల్ ఖాలిద్ (లెబనాన్)/ ఓస్కార్ అలివేరా (మొలివియా)/ శ్రీ సుందర్లాల్ బహుగుణ/ బోసె ఇర్వి (కెనడా)/ నౌర అబ్దుల్ రజాక్ హుసేన్ (ఈజిప్టు)/ రాజేంద్రసింగ్/ బి.డి.వర్మ/ కె.అశోక్రావు.</p>	<p>ముగింపు సభ 11.00 గంటలు నిజామ్ కాలేజీ సైదానం వక్తలు: కె.ఆర్.నారాయణన్ (భారత మాజీ రాష్ట్రపతి) మోహిన్దీన్ అబ్దుల్ ఖాదర్ (మలేషియా) రామచంద్ర ముందా (రాంచీ విశ్వవిద్యాలయ మాజీ ఉపాధ్యక్షుడు) నౌర అబ్దుల్ రజాక్ హుసేన్ (అఫ్రో - ఆసియా శాంతి, సజ్జాధాన సమన్వయం, ఇరాక్) బృందాకర్ (అఖిల భారత ప్రజాశంకర మహిళా సంఘం) బాలచంద్ర ముంగేకర్ (ముంబాయి విశ్వవిద్యాలయం ఉపాధ్యక్షుడు) ప్రాన్నస్సా విటేకర్ (ప్రపంచ సోషల్ ఫోరం అంతర్జాతీయ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ వద్ద సభ్యులు (లైబెల్) అధ్యక్ష వర్గం రాజేంద్రసింగ్ గౌడ్, కిషన్ పట్నాయక్, నయోదా హామిద్, కె.కె. కన్వాలిరామ్ సాంస్కృతిక ప్రదర్శనలు</p>
1.00 - 2.15 బాధితుల వాణి బహిష్కరణలు		
<p>నిజామ్ కాలేజీ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు 1 బండో నోటేమి (బురకు, జపాన్)/ బుద్ధసింగ్ (దళితులు, జర్మనీ, హర్యానా రాష్ట్రం/ దినేష్ అవ్ధామ్ (దళితులు, నేపాల్), బైనాదాన్ (రహస్యంగా తరలివచ్చింది, కంబోడియా)</p>	<p>బహుళజాతి సంస్థలు, పేదరికం నిజామ్ కాలేజీ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు -1 మహాస్వేత్ కడవేల వియారత్ (1గనులు, శ్రీలంక)/యోనీ యోమ్ (గుడినే వాసుల సంఘం, కంబోడియా)/ అబ్దుల్ జబ్బర్ (ఫోపాల్ విహారం)/ మంగమ్మ రామకృష్ణ (విద్యుక్త సంస్థరణలు)</p>	
2.30 - 6.30 సెమినార్లు, పర్యుషాపులు		
<p>ప్రభోజా అనేక సెమినార్లు, పర్యుషాపులు జరుగును</p>	<p>5.30 - 7.30 అనుభవం వ్యక్తీకరణ, చర్చావేదికలు</p>	
<p>బహిష్కరం ఉపన్యాసాలు నిజామ్ కాలేజీ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు 1 వక్తలు: లక్ష్మీ సెహగల్, వి.పి.సింగ్, ప్రభాకర్, అరుణారాయ్ అనుభవాల వ్యక్తీకరణ: నిజామ్ కాలేజీ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు 2 వక్తలు: జావేద్ అఖ్తర్ సత్, నౌర అబ్దుల్ రజాక్ హుసేన్, ఓస్కార్ అలివేరా, ట్రెడ్ బ్రెన్సన్</p>	<p>ప్రపంచీకరణకు ప్రత్యామ్నాయాలు, అభివృద్ధి రాజకీయాలు నిజామ్ కాలేజీ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు 1 వక్తలు: దినేష్ అజ్ఞాల్, ఉత్పా వట్నాయక్, సమీర్ అమెన్, ఎం.వరమేశ్వరమ్, ఆంటోనియా తుజన్ అనుభవాల వ్యక్తీకరణ నిజామ్ కాలేజీ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాలు 2</p>	

వ్రత్తి రోజుూ వ్రత్తినిధుల నమోదు

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MAIN VENUE MAP - NIZAM COLLEGE



Date	Proposer	Name of the Event	Hall Allotted
5th January	Tamil Nadu Agriculture Labourers Movement and ISED	Right to Work, Social Security to Agricultural Labourers and Local Resources for Local Communities	Nizam 1
5th January	Jana Natya Manch	Street Theatre Techniques	Nizam 2
5th January	AP Ryotu Sangam (Ryotu Bhavan)	Globalisation: Irrigation and Water Privatisation	Nizam 231
5th January	Action Aid(SouthEast Asia)		Nizam 233
5th January	Action Aid India		Nizam 302
5th January	Centre for Dalit Studies		Nizam 322
5th January	Human Rights Law Network	Globalisation and Refugee Rights	Nizam 323
5th January	Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha	Diversity, Knowledge and Education: Issues and Challenges	Nizam 325
5th January	INFID	Role of IFI	Nizam 606
5th January	Indigen Research Foundation	Lok-Vidya (Peoples Knowledge) and Ordinary Life	Nizam 627
5th January	Integrated Rural Development of Weaker Sections In India/United EV Angelical Lutheran Church in India	Impact of Globalisation on the Indigenous Communities	Nizam 628
5th January	Action Aid Bangladesh	IFI Projects in Southwest Bangladesh and Peoples Voice to Protect their Livelihoods	Nizam 629
5th January	Campaign Against Child Trafficking (HAQ)	Child Trafficking	Nizam 210
5th January	Yakshi	Educational Issues in Adivasi Areas and Globalisation	Nizam 216
5th January	Pioneers of change and Shikshantar	System'	Methodist 1
5th January	Lokayan	Towards Peoples Food Security	Methodist 2
5th January	Justice Bhagawati Environmental Institute / Pasumai Thaaayagam	Water Pollution	Methodist 3
5th January	Adi Dharma Samaj	Condition of Ati Dalits	Methodist 4
5th January	CSDS	Engagement with Gandhi	Methodist 5
5th January	Focus on Global South	Marginalised Community issues	Methodist 6
5th January	Forum for Social Democracy and Working Groups on Comprehension Democracy	Dalit and Struggle for Comprehensive Democracy	Methodist 7
5th January	AINFSU, VK - CSDS, SASC	Mass Media, Culture and chaning values of Youth in the Era of Globalisation	Methodist 8
5th January	Community Health Cell	Taking the Peoples Health Movement Forward	Methodist 9
5th January	PRISM	Of Gender, Sexuality and Fundamentalisms	Methodist 10
5th January	South Asia Study Center	Democracy in Nepal	Methodist11
5th January	FORCES-Delhi	Exclusion of Children in the Era of Globalisation	Methodist 12
5th January	The International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR)	Practical meeting regarding Women and Poverty; Trafficking, Migration and Gender Insecurity	Methodist 13
5th January	CNDP	Globalisation and War	Methodist 14
5th January	Working Group on Ecological Democracy	US Monstrous life Style and Survival of Adivasies Globally	Methodist 15

5th January	CNDP/CSDS	Uranium Mining, Nuclear Power: Issues of people security and safety	Methodist 16
5th January	CARAM		Methodist 17
5th January	South Asia Dialogues on Ecological Democracy/ CSDS	Corporatisation and Privatisation of Water in India	Methodist 18
5th January	SaraI-CSDS	Alternatives to the Media Empires	Methodist 19
5th January	CSDS-CNDP	Dangers of Nuclear Power	Methodist 20
5th January	APA-Japan	Peace Movement in Japan under US-Led War	Methodist 21
5th January	National Alliance of Peoples Movements	The Issues of Dalit Emancipation in the Globalisation Era	Methodist 22
5th January	WSF Chattisgarh Unit	Political Sovereignty and Sustainable Development-The Case of the New States in India	Methodist 23
5th January	Dastkar Andhra	Coping with Globalisation: The case of the Handloom industry	All Saints 1
5th January	Think India	Thinking Democracy Comprehensively	All Saints 2
5th January	Cordillera Peoples Alliance	Globalisation and Militarism and Indigenous Peoples	All Saints 3
5th January	Struggle Committee against caste discrimination a.p. committee	Land distribution-Daliths	All Saints 4
5th January	Habitat International Coalition	Housing and Land Rights	All Saints 5
5th January	University Teachers Network	World Bank, IMF and Disinvestment in Heigher Education	All Saints 6
5th January	South Asia People's Transport Network and South Asia Dailogue on Ecological Democracy	Plight of Rickshaw Pullers and Equal Road Rights	All Saints 7
5th January	Support Group to right to food campaign	PIL on Right to food	All Saints 8
5th January	All India Catholic University Federation (AICUF)	Empowering the marginalised University Students (Women, Dalits, Tribals)	All Saints 9
5th January	Central Trade Union		All Saints 10
5th January	Deccan Development Society		All Saints 11
5th January	AIDAN, FMRAI, NCCDP	Pharmaceutical Policy	All Saints 12
5th January	Jagori		All Saints 13
5th January	AIDWA		All Saints 14
5th January	ISIS International - Manila	Changing lenses : A Feminist Critique of Globalised Media System	Hotel Central Court AC Hall

Date	Proposer	Name of the Event	Hall Allotted
6th January	Institute of Policy Studies	Globalisation of Terrorism: Meeting This Threat	Nizam 1
6th January	Campaign Against Child Trafficking (HAQ)	Child Trafficking	Nizam 2
6th January			Nizam 231
6th January	Dalit Land Rights Federation	About Dalit Land Rights Federation	Nizam 233
6th January	Free Software Foundation of India	Free Software and its Social and Economic Implications	Nizam 302
6th January	Integrated Rural Development of Weaker Sections In India/United EV Angelical Lutheran Church in India	Decentralised Energy Option - Mini Hydro	Nizam 322
6th January	International Socialist Organisation-Australia	Workers Control in Russia 1917	Nizam 323
6th January	Action Aid Nepal		Nizam 325
6th January	Action Aid India	Social Integration of Disabled Persons	Nizam 606
6th January	Swallows	Social Mobilisation	Nizam 627
6th January	Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam	Spiritual Quest and Global Struggle for "Another World is Possible"	Nizam 628
6th January	Hongkong Group		Nizam 629
6th January	Conservo	Social Responsibility of business	Nizam 210
6th January	Safai karamchari Andolan	Era	Nizam 215
6th January	Chidu, A Dalit Cultural Resource Center	Building Dalit Cultural Art Forms	Nizam 229
6th January	Women's Global Network on Reproductive Rights	Women's Access to Health: Proposal for a campaign(a strategy building workshop)	Nizam 210
6th January	Tamilnadu Science Forum		Nizam 211
6th January	AP Writers Against Globalisation		Nizam 212
6th January	CSDS		Methodist 1
6th January	Lokayan	Adivasi Self-Rule and Political Autonomy	Methodist 2
6th January	Muktidhara	Nomads, Conservation and traditional livelihoods	Methodist 3
6th January	National Alliance of Peoples Movements	The New Water Policy	Methodist 4
6th January	Pasumai Thaayagam(Green Motherland) and others	Water Privatization	Methodist 5
6th January	Pioneers of change and Shikshantar	Owning your own learning	Methodist 6
6th January	Pioneers of Change and Shikshantar	The impact of Information Technology on India	Methodist 7
6th January	South Asia Dialogue on Ecological Democracy and Working Group on Comprehensive Democracy	South Asia	Methodist 8
6th January	Community Health Cell	The Asian Experience	Methodist 9
6th January	WASSAN (Watershed Support Services and Activities Network)	Watershed and Livelihoods	Methodist 10
6th January	APA-ARENA		Methodist 11

6th January	BGVS Raj, BGVS MP	The Marginalisation of Sahariya Tribe- A Primitive Tribe	Methodist 12
6th January	CHETHANA	Threat to life of Traditional Occupational Communities and Alternatives	Methodist 13
6th January	Lokayan, COVA	Democratic and Identity Anxieties of Muslims and Dalits	Methodist 14
6th January	South Asia Study Center	Globalisation and Migration	Methodist 15
6th January	CNDP	India-Pakistan : US and Nuclear Menace	Methodist 16
6th January	CNDP	Testimonial on Japan: Japanese victim of Radiation	Methodist 17
6th January	Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan-The Association of Strong Women Alone	Widows and Separated Women Organise for Change	Methodist 18
6th January	ICMICA	Voice of the Intellectuals	Methodist 19
6th January	Telangana(NGO) Association	Small States for Developments	Methodist 20
6th January	Voluntary Action Network	Effect of Globalisation in Drought prone areas	Methodist 21
6th January	Environmental Justice Initiative	Environmental Justice	Methodist 22
6th January	Nirmala Niketan	Globalisation and Domestic Workers	Methodist 23

ASIAN YOUTH CAMP 2003

OPENING CEREMONY. 03 JAN 2003. 10 am - 1pm **Setting The Pace**

Drum roll by Agni Poovkal, young women artistes
Songs of the revolutionary Telugu poet, Sri Sri, performed by Praja Natya Mandali

Introducing the Asian Social Forum & the Asian Youth Camp

Messages from the World Social Forum :
Brazil, Italy

Key Note Speakers

Youth & Globalization - Prabhat Patnaik
War and imperialism - Asma Jehangir

Youth and Fundamentalism in Asia - Stalin K

The programme will lead into a dance session by all participants of the youth camp

PLENARY SESSIONS. 04-06 JAN 2003. 10 am - 1pm

PLENARY ONE : VOICES OF YOUTH

04 January 2003

Moderator - Dominic D'Souza

Key note speaker - Anita Ratnam

Testimonies - Youth representing identities of caste - minorities - diaspora Youth - nationality struggles

Respondents - Habib Tanvir, Corrine Kumar, Benson Isaac

PLENARY TWO : MAKING SENSE OF GLOBALIZATION

05 January 2003.

Moderator - P Sainath

Key Note speakers

Education in Asia - Dr. K. Nageswar

Livelihoods and employment in a globalized world - Smitu Kothari

Basic services and globalization - Raghav Narsalar

The assault on freedoms - Nandita Kalyar

Testimonies : Each section involves testimonies by people and activists from affected communities and sectors.

PLENARY THREE : YOUTHS MOVEMENTS - TRENDS & CHALLENGES

06 January 2003

Moderator: Amit Sengupta

Key note speakers

An Overview of International Youth Movements - Rajaji Mathew Thomas

Student Movements in Asia - Keshav Pandey

Young People in the Dalit Movement - NCDHR

Locating Youth Voices in the Women's Movement - Sunila Abeysekara

Youth & the Sexuality Movements - Beng Hui

Young People & the struggle for Environment & Development - GreenPeace

Youth and the anti-globalisation Movement - Anastasia Laifilla

SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS. 03-05 JAN 2003. 2.30 - 6.00pm

Seminars and Workshops are integrated with the programs of the Asia Social Forum

Informal Interactive sessions are being held at the Camp in this slot. Session booked so far include *Love In The Age Of Globalization, Let's Talk About Coke, Folding Cranes For Peace, Cartoon Corner, Random Ramblings (The Graffiti Wall)*

YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL . 03-06 JAN 2003. 2.30pm - 6.00pm

DAY ONE : 03 January 2003

6.30 pm - Ribbons of Peace

5 minutes. Directed by Anand Patwardhan

6.40 pm - Geneva Open City

41 minutes. Directed by Nina, Niko, Martin

7.25pm - Under The Sun, Do You Feel My Shadow ?

70 minutes.

DAY TWO : 04 January 2003

6.30 pm - Ma Rewa

5 minutes. Directed by Sarath

6.35 pm - Lesser Humans

59 minutes. Directed by Stalin K.

7.35 pm - Unlimited Girls

94 minutes. Directed by Paromita Vohra

DAY THREE : 05 January 2003

6.30 pm - Man ke Manjeere (Music of the Soul)

5 minutes. A Music Video by Sujit Sircar and Gary

6.40 pm - Ek Minute Ka Maun (A Minute of Silence) & Dialogue with the Film maker

80 minutes. Directed by Ajay Bhardwaj

YOUTH CULTURAL FESTIVAL. 02-05 JAN 2003. 9pm onwards

Combination of spontaneous events and scheduled performances, including

PLAYS

NCDHR, Hindi 25 mins

Sharukh & Namita, Eng 10 mins

Yuva Chetak, Hindi 20 mins

SONGS & INSTRUMENTS

Ranga Sarwada, Kannada 20 mins

Kamaan, Eng/Hindi 15mins

AP Praja Natya Mandali, Dapu 30mins

DANCES

Yuva Vikas Kendra, 15mins

Adivasi Aikya Vedika, Sadara Dance.

CLOSING CEREMONY. 02-05 JAN 2003. 3pm onwards

Moving Forward

Reliving Experiences of the Asia Youth Camp

Declaration of the Youth Charter

Key Note Speakers

Medha Patkar

Subhasini Ali

Meena Menon

Celebrating The Spirit Of The Youth Camp With Song,

Dance And Music

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NOS.

POLICE	
POLICE CONTROL ROOM	100 & 23261166
TRAFFIC POLICE CONTROL ROOM	27852482
POLICE COMMISSIONER	23226363
AMBULANCES	
GENERAL	102
CARE (NAMPALLY)	6662666
CARE (BANJARA HILLS)	6668888
CDR AMBULANCES	23456789
OSMANIA HOSPITAL	24600122
NIMS (PANJAGUTTA)	23320332
NATIONAL NETWORK OF EMERGENCY SERVICES	1066
FIRE SERVICES	
FIRE CONTROL ROOM : 101, 650 0102, 23223090, 23260091	
DIRECTOR - GENERAL FIRE SERVICES	23221648
MEDICAL SERVICES	
GANDHI HOSPITAL (SECUNDERABAD)	27702222
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BLOOD BANKS	
CARE (NAMPALLY)	24656707
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PRE RECORDED FLIGHT INFOR: 142
AIR INDIA: AIRPORT: 23389719/720
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Focus on the Global South

Focus on the Global South was established in Thailand in January 1995. It is dedicated to regional and global policy analysis, micro-macro issues linking and advocacy. *Focus on the Global South* aims to:

1. Strengthen the capacity of organizations of marginalized and people in the South and those working with them to better analyze and understand the impact of globalization process on their daily life and struggles. Also, to help strengthen the capacity of such groups to have a greater local national, regional and global impact through a more systematic and strategic use of innovative community level practice.
2. Provide critical and provocative analysis of regional and global socio-economic trends and articulate democratic, poverty reducing, equitable and sustainable paradigm alternatives that advance the interest of marginalized people around the world.
3. Systematically and strategically weave 1 and 2 together. That is, to consciously and consistently articulate, link and develop greater coherence between local community-based and national, regional and global paradigms of change. This is the intended niche of FOCUS - creating a distinct and cogent link between development at the grassroots and "macro" levels.

Focus' publications are brought out keeping in view the aims mentioned above. The following are some of the publications of Focus

Campaign Dossiers

Good Governance or Bad Management - An overview of the ADB's Decision Making Processes and Policies
Porto Alegre 2002 - Counter offensive against Globalisation
The Transfer of Wealth - Debt and the making of a Global South
Prague 2000 - Why we need to decommission the IMF and the World Bank
Why reform of the WTO is a wrong agenda? - Four essays on the four institutions - WTO, UNCTAD, IMF and the World Bank

Books

Dark Victory - The United States, Structural Adjustment and Global Poverty
Authors: Walden Bello with Shea Cunningham and Bill Rau
Dragons in Distress - Asia's Miracle Economies in Crisis
Authors: Walden Bello and Stephanie Rosenfeld
Deglobalization - Ideas For A New World Economy
Author: Walden Bello

Other Publications

Never Again - Cartoons on Gujarat Carnage

Power politics in the WTO
Author: Aileen Kwa

Focus Bulletins

- (1) Focus on Trade
- (2) Focus on Security
- (3) Focus on Philippines

For further details contact: Anoop Sukumaran, Focus on the Global South, C/o CUSRI, Chulalongkorn University, Phayathai Road, Bangkok: 10330, Email: anoop@focusweb.org, website: focusweb.org.

'ANOTHER WORLD' ENTHRALLS AUDIENCE

Voices rejoice for another world!!
To the rhythm of heart beat, shedding the blood throughout march forward for another world!!!!
was the tune that was played in the warm air at Nizam College grounds for the inaugural of the Asia Social Forum. Members of the cultural mass organisations dance to the tunes and songs of the revolutionary poet Sri Sri welcomed the delegates who assembled across the borders.
The folk dance performed by the artists of Praja Natya Mandali depicting the socio political economic situation of India and espousing the struggles against neoliberal dominance and communalism touched deep into the hearts of those present. Deprived masses forbidden of all rights breaking the ice and hitting back hard at the triumvirate got a loud applause at the venue. Symbolically more than a hundred artists came from the masses as the tunes started playing, all the words from the mouth of the singers were reflected in the dance by the artists. Prior to the folk dance the dappu performed by suresh's troop won accolades. 100 drums converging to a single tone with the fists high depicted the spirit at the venue. With the ballad by the Andhra Pradesh Praja Natya Mandali the cultural session convulged into the plenary.



Friday 3-1-2003

Price Rs: 2.

commitment that another world is possible. Representatives from 42 countries, including all Asian countries and Europe, Latin America and African continents, have participated in the meetings. against British colonialism, are displayed at various locations, conveying the message that 'Bhagat Singh is our ideal and inspiration'. Mirroring the culture of Andhra Pradesh, artists of Praja of Women's Working Association, who are fighting against violence against women in Tamil Nadu, attracted the audience with their attire in black colour. A representative of the Association

ASF CALLS FOR

FIGHT AGAINST GLOBALISATION

(Prajasaki - Hyderabad Bureau)
The opening plenary of the Asia Social Forum commenced here on Thursday with a clarion call to fight against imperialist globalisation. Several prominent intellectuals gave a call for tirelessly fighting against exploitation, discrimination, hegemony and for another world. Divergent cultures, different varieties of attires, representations from different places, divergence

of movements - diversity of life in Asia is reflecting here. But all have a common aim - to build another Asia, another world, oppose imperialist globalisation. In this inspiring atmosphere commenced the meetings of ASF. The speakers who addressed the opening plenary, which started with rendering the song of "another world, another world is calling" by revolutionary poet Sri Sri, asserted with a firm belief and

The entire venue is decorated with banners with inspiring slogans like "Fight back imperialist globalisation", "annihilate IMF and World Bank" "down with American imperialism", "safeguard ecology" and other slogans against communalism, fundamentalism and globalisation. Portraits of Bhagat Singh, the revolutionary who sacrificed his life in the fight

Natya Mandali entered into the venue with a dance of trumpets. Displaying the local culture of Maharashtra, members of the organisation, 'Yuva', danced with their traditional musical instruments. Reflecting dalit culture, members of the organisation 'Chindu' displayed their art forms. Delegates from Delhi rendered songs, wishing all success to the meetings. Members

said they would convey their protest every Thursday in the same way against the attacks on women. The song-dance displayed by Praja Natya Mandali, explaining the why and for whom the ASF is, immensely drawn the attention of the delegates and other audience. Delegates denounced the refusal of permission by the Government of India to the delegation from Pakistan.

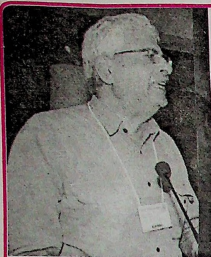
ASF Sidelights

The venue of Asia Social Forum, Nizam College grounds, thundered with the resounding rhythms of dappu (drums). Marxist intellectuals to Gandhians were seated on the dias. From revolutionary groups to anti tobacco groups participated in the programme.
Nora Cartinos an octogenarian from Argentina seized the attention with her active approach and inspirational speech. Buddhist monks from Sri Lanka not withstanding the scorching sun sheltered under umbrellas.
Medha Patkar and the leaders of the Left parties squatted in the masses before the Plenary.

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EXILED FOR BEING WITH PEACE

- Abdul Jawad Saleh

Abdul Jawad Saleh from the Palestine Legislative council presented the morbid picture of the struggling Palestinians against the autocratic and unjust policies of the Israeli Govt. with the backing of USA.

He declaimed in clear terms the wall of hatred built by the Israeli Govt. destroying the land and depriving the citizens of bread twice a day. Military regime of Sharon even forbids common man the freedom to plant a tree without permission. Any movement or protest against this diabolic torture is being termed as act of terrorism. The freedom movement of the Palestinians is being projected unfortunately as terrorist activities. Citing the chronology of the autocratic rule, he added, it was first the experiments with chemical weapons in 1986 on the poor women that the military regime started with to curb the voice for just cause. Intifada the Palestinian's revolt against Israel in 1987 was again termed as terrorist activity. After being the victims of this unjust violation for a longer time finally, in 2000, the university students came out openly with massive protest to the extent of risking their lives to die the death of martyr by becoming human bombs. All these fights were to make Palestine free from the Israeli occupation. It may be recalled that Israel has been cheating the Palestine by providing only 22% of the land it is eligible to and the rest 78% has been stolen with cunning policies. Their recent attempt of the Israel to divide even this 22% of their land is highly condemnable and their attempt to convert this land into ghettos with mass killings and demolition of houses and properties is inhuman in nature. Sharing his experience of jail life where he was exiled for protesting against the military regime he commented that 'I was exiled in jail for 20 years for being with peace not war'. Saleh concluded with a firm conviction that the battle for freedom is on and the Palestinians will be victorious.



FIGHT MULTINATIONALS AND ANTI-NATIONALS

- Medha Patkar

Medha Patkar emphasised that we all know and are fully aware as to what the world expects from us. She pleaded that we assess the crisis in which we have to struggle against the Global forces, Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation. She said today people are not merely getting displaced, they are being slaughtered with the venom of communal hatred spreading rapidly. Emphasising the universal values of religions which essentially can't justify intolerance, be it that of Vivekanand or that of Mohammed, she said that our struggle against the communal forces shall make them realise that we are not going to forgive them who go about indulging in crimes against humanity under the name of religion but emphasised that the struggle is to be deeply rooted in Gandhian values of non-violence, at the same time not necessarily acquiring a defensive tone after Gujarat violence, she highlighted. She defined the struggle against the communal and fundamentalist forces as the struggle of Modi Vs that of Gandhi, Marx and Ambedkar. Wondering aloud how shall we launch our struggle against Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation, she emphasised us to pay attention to the values of Santa, Saadgi and Swavalamban (Equality, Simplicity, and Self-reliance). She at last invited all to join with National Alliance of Peoples' Movement which is going to launch a nation wide campaign starting from January 26th from Kerala to nooks and corners of the country with the slogan "Desh Banaao, Desh Banao" (save the nation, build the nation).

FINANCE CAPITAL, A THREAT TO NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY

- Prabhat Patnaik

Prabhat Patnaik in his inaugural address at the Asian Social Forum spoke about the present economic situation of India in the context of world economy. The entire economic policies were framed in such a way that the capital did not move from South to North and in such a way that the labour did not move from North to South. This process also continued in States of India which made the development stagnant. The capitalists through this means appropriated the capital. In the present capitalist system, Capital can be seen in two forms i.e. capital as productive labour and capital as finance. The present form of capitalism is developing by mobilising the finance, but not the productive forces where labour is the main component. In the globalised economy of contracts, if each state started negotiating with World Bank, the ADB on its own, a thing called India will not stand; the imperialism uses the leverage between the states. This has been the experience in Yugoslavia where the concept of being a nation ceased. Though 60 millions tonnes of food stock with the government which is three times more than the buffer stock norms, and while drought conditions exist in the country the government does not use it for any constructive purpose and create employment where the government need not invest a single paisa. The rate of rural employment is just 0.6%, which is negligible when compared to the growth of rural population. This economic crisis led to the development of communalism, fascism and other forms of movement far from the real issues faced by the common mass. This market fundamentalism is a threat to national sovereignty. After 1991 the tax collected from the rich was reduced substantially, and the tax-GDP ratio has gone down. If the tax is collected in the rate of 1991 the government gets 30 million crores. This amount can be used for the development of social sector i.e. health and education which the government is not doing. This is resulted in the deterioration of social security.



PARTICIPATION OF DALITS IN ANTI-GLOBALISATION MOVEMENT

- Bojja Tarakam

Eminent lawyer and president of the state unit of Republican Party of India, Bojja Tarakam, asked dalits to become active partners in the movement against globalisation. Speaking at the Asia Social Forum, he said because of globalisation while some people were losing their existence and some others their jobs, the dalits were losing their very self-respect. Above all it was the dalits who were affected by all means. He said countries of Asia and Africa should unitedly give a shape to the struggle against globalisation. He accused the Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, of mortgaging the welfare of the people of the State for the sake of securing loans from the World Bank.



BUILD A SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

- Samir Amin

Prof. Samir Amin from Egypt a renowned political-economist in the world, known for his development and dependency theories, started with his encouragement for a gathering of such huge magnitude where voices for social justice and equity is being raised. With such initiatives there is no doubt that another world is possible, a world free from oppression and marginalization. He pointed out a three point programme to achieve a world of such kind. The social programme should accompany economic development with his first argument in this regard. Stressing the need for rationality, his rationality which is beyond capital of profit, should be kept in mind in social progress and development. The second argument was the need to follow the principle of democracy. Democracy is at stake and losing its credibility with the ongoing market fundamentalism and monopoly of multinationals neglecting the cause of societies at large. The so-called religious fundamentalism adds more to the violation of democracy through its attempt to divide people on the lines of religion. The process of hegemony by the mightier entities to oppress the hawton's, a process which has been continuing for centuries, must be fought without any compromise, and the claim that there are alternatives other than the imposed neoliberal policies of WTO must go to all sections of society to ensure a massive resistance to the dictates of USA.



MOTHER SEES HER CHILDREN IN THE GATHERING.

- Nora De Cortinas

of the children but also against any kind of social injustice. Recalling the lost 30000 children disappeared during the military regime of the 70s she commented emotionally that she finds each one of them today in the soul of each audience gathered here to attend the inaugural session. Emphasising the need for peace and security she stressed that we must not allow the US to go ahead with its war plans against Iraq and other countries. She concluded with her slogan 'no to war, no to racism and no to neo-liberalism'.

Nora De Cortinas, co-founder of Las Madres de la Plaza de Mayo (Mothers of the May Plaza), Argentina was the first to deliver her address. An economist and psychologist from the University of Buenos Aires, Prof. Cortinas is one of the hapless mothers who lost her son during the disappearance scheme executed by the then military regime in Argentina. She has been an activist since then not only against the unfair kidnapping



In every crisis there is an opportunity: Walden Bello

Walden Bellow, a leader from Philippines, stated in no unclear terms the commitments and objectives of WSF/ASF process to take Corporate Globalisation and its effects on the Opening Plenary session of Asian Social Forum held on, while speaking at the Opening Plenary session of Asian Social Forum that started today in Hyderabad. Dispelling the suspicions that ASF is merely a discursive exercise, he emphasised that at ASF we have three pronged vision: 1. discursive exercise, where the world are welcome and indeed come together to fight people from all over the world are welcome to discuss and work out strategies to against Imperialism. 2. we all come together to discuss and deconstruct and dismantle carry forward the struggle against militarism our ideas on politics, economies and then. 3. we all come together to exchange our take place during ASF in days to come culture. He hoped that discussion that will take place during ASF in days to come culture will chart out course of action to defeat Expansionism, Imperialism and Injustice.

Seattle to Hyderabad

(Prajasaki - ASF Special Desk)

In the fight between goats and tigers, it is a basic truth, that tigers always inevitably win. The imperialist countries are naming the exploitation as globalisation. But the struggles all over the World today proclaim that they can arrest this exploitation. While the imperialist world under US proclaim that there is no alternative to globalisation, the struggles proclaim that alternative is possible. The US is aiming to squeeze the poor countries, under the guise of WTO, World Bank and IMF. Therefore, the inequality between the rich and poor nations is deepening further. US and other rich countries have accumulated vast resources. At the same time the movements of resistance in the downtrodden countries had their beginning. The WTO conference in Seattle, US, has, in the process, encountered a serious resistance in November 1999. This was the first setback to the attempts of US and other developed countries to expand globalisation. The heads of the Governments would not come out of their cages, leave alone the meeting. The US which spreads so many myths about its security preparedness has, finally, to abandon the meeting. It is more heartening to note that the American people welcomed and provided all facilities to the protesters, who gathered from different parts of the world

The Seattle renewed the history of struggles, which appeared to have dimmed in the last decade of the 20th century. The spirit of Seattle is haunting the richer, wherever and whenever they meet. The revolt in Genova has heralded the new century. The US and its allies are now reluctant to undertake arrangements for such world conferences of the rich. This signifies the initial victory of resistance. The ruling parties in any countries do not want to host the meeting, as they may have to see the blood of the protesters which may backfire against them. Millions of people surrounded the Genova city when G-8 countries' meeting was planned. As the pressure of resistance grew, the security forces fired resulting in the death of a protester. Thereafter, the rich country leaders have to face the wrath of resistance to every one of their meetings and their ego that they can manipulate the world was subdued. There is resistance everywhere to the policies dictated by the US. The electricity movement is Andhra Pradesh. the struggle

among workers, peasants, students, youth and intellectuals. In such a process of united movement of different streams, the World Social Forum was born in Port Alegre, Brazil, as an alternative platform to resist the onslaught of globalisation. This Forum is organising meetings parallel to World Economic Forum, which is the Forum to design the world economic order in the interest of US multi-nationals. The annual meeting of Economic Forum to plan the squeezing of developing nations, the Forum organises the meetings with a slogan "Another world is possible" to oppose the annual meetings of Economic

From
Maharashtra,
strike against
privatisation of Balco are
important landmarks in such
growing resistance. The struggles
are surging in Argentina, Latin
American countries, Europe, Asia
and South Africa. People with
differing and different thoughts
are participating in the anti-
globalisation movements. Many
individuals and organisations are
adding their voice in common
protests. The resistance is growing



alternative is possible and convincing them.

Hyderabad has turned into an experimental ground for globalisation policies. And the city is now hosting the ASF meetings. The local experiences of struggles inspire. The delegates pave the way for strengthening the resolve. The new year is full of optimism for popular forces.

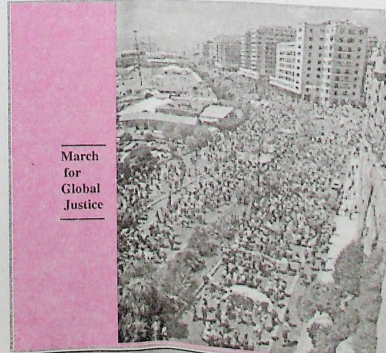
Seattle marked the beginning of reluctance of the ruling groups to conduct rich power meetings. The mayors refusal to host the IMF meetings in Canada is an example. Millions have surrounded the meeting place of the rich in Geneva. Security forces could not resist the protesters' anger. They fired and one fell a martyr. This resulted in world wide discussions. The "human rights" face of the richer is exposed with this incident.

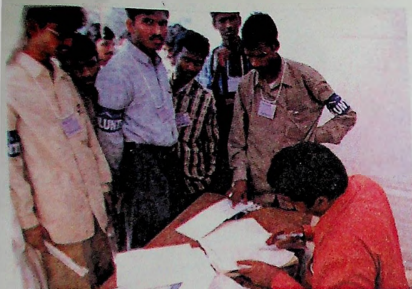
Unemployment is growing. Incomes are dwindling. Prices are skyrocketing. Suicides have become common episodes - this is the condition of Andhra Pradesh today, the experimental field of World Bank policies. Poorer are the Guinea pigs. When the people, groaning under the heavy burdens, are requesting for easing them. The electricity charges have been enhanced. When people demanded to reverse the hike, people faced brutal police lathis everywhere. As a part of this movement people joined in thousands to represent their case to the legislators, who were in session on 28th August 2000. The call was given by the Left parties and Congress. Firing was resorted to long before people were to reach the venue.

A Bala Swami Vishnu Vardhana Reddy and Ramakrishna laid their lives and became the first martyrs to the firings and brutality of the ruling party.

The awakened people went on a total Bandh next day, as a first signal to the Chief Minister who is an enthusiastic supporter of globalisation policies.

The spirit continues.





ACCOMMODATIONS OVER FLOWING WITH DELEGATES

(Prajasakti Hyderabad Bureau)

Delegates came in more numbers to ASF at Hyderabad than was previously expected. There are some problems in providing accommodation because of this. But still organizers could manage to provide accommodation to all the delegates. The foreign delegates are staying in various hotels. Delegates from various States

were provided accommodation at various places in the city - Sundarayya Vigyan Kendram, RTC function hall, Visanagar function hall are some of them. RTC function hall already accommodated 700 delegates. It is overcrowded at the moment. Water is another problem. There are problems in providing water facility to all the delegates., according to the coordinator Mr. V. Bala Subrahmanyam. All the available 24 rooms were allocated to the women delegates. There is attached bathroom facility to all these rooms. For all the delegates temporary toilet facilities were provided. According to Mr. Subrahmanyam, who talked to Prajasakti, Rs. 5.50 lakh was expended for toilet facilities. For solving the problem of accommodation a committee was formed. It includes Mr. Raj Manikyam, Dr.Gangadhar, Mr. Basavraj, Mr. Damodar Rao. Different committees are taking care of different accommodation locations.

Rs. 20,000 was allocated for providing water facility to the delegates. Boarding has to be taken care of by the delegates themselves.

Delegates can buy their lunch and dinner at the conference venues. Paid breakfast facility is arranged at the venues of accommodation. Volunteers are working hard to keep the environs hygienic.

There are problems in providing blankets and pillows to about 1000 delegates. Mr. Subrahmanyam expressed confidence that they could surmount these problems. There is more representation from the scientific Forums from all over the country according to him. 1500 delegates are attending the conference from All India People's Network. So many delegates participating from a single organisation is it self a record according to Mr. Subrahmanyam. In his list of accommodation he has given the details of State wise delegates and their accommodation venues. There is more representation from Orissa-150 delegates from that state are attending the conference. From Rajasthan came 145 Delegates. There are delegates from another 13 States.



EVEN PROFESSORS ARE VOLUNTEERS

800 VOLUNTEERS IN THE SERVICE OF ASF

(Prajasakti - Hyderabad Bureau)
About 800 volunteers are ready to render services to nearly ten thousand delegates

coming from all over Asia to participate in Asia

Social Forum. Volunteers from associations of students, youth, workers, farmers and women, as well as some non-governmental organisations, have come to make the arrangements for organising ASF's

success. Even professors and lecturers are working as

volunteers. It is noteworthy that some people, without any affiliation to any organisation, have come and started working as volun-

teers. Apart from other States, volunteers from Australia and Italy also have

arrived. Even the Muslim women from the old city of Hyderabad have come

forward to involve themselves in rendering services in the event. From Wednesday,

onwards, some of the volunteers plunged into their work. Volunteers are working from 6 A.M.

onwards at Railway stations, bus stations and airport to welcome the delegates coming from other areas

MELBOURNE CONSOLIDATES ANTI-GLOBALISATION STRUGGLE

The struggles unleashed at Melbourne against IMF - WB are the underlying spirit of the struggles against globalisation in Australia, says Andrian Skirritt. An activist from Australia. Skirritt is now in Hyderabad to participate in Asia Social Forum. He told that the Australian Govt. is becoming a puppet more and more and the only way left to come out of hassel is the agitation under the leadership of proletariat which is lacking in these struggles. Excerpts of the interview given to Prajasakti - ASF bureau.

Andrian Skirritt

despite Supreme Court judgement. And the third significant field of struggle is the structural reforms led by neo-liberal ruling class of Australia. The major significant point in these struggles is the participation of youth.

2. Along with globalisation the global culture of consumerism is infecting present generation, leading them into a deep trap. How are you able to organise the youth in this context?

Ans: That the role of global culture of consumerism in demoralising the youth is an accepted agenda now.

At the same time, these are the people directly and immediately affected by the so-called structural adjustments. This affect led them into struggles. There is a need to channelise the agony of the demoralised youth as we did in Australia. For example look at education sector. Till now education in Australia is subsidised from the budget. This enables ordinary children to get quality education in Public Schools and Universities. Encouraged by deregulation, now the Govt. of Australia is following the same path by deregulating university education. This leads to privatisation in university education. These private entrepreneurs are sucking the blood

of poor people by way of heavy fees.

Due to this a good number of students were left out from higher education. In the Melbourne struggle also, out of 20,000 near about 15000 protesters belong to youth and student community. This shows how badly the structural adjustments and deregulation of social sector compell the affected sections of people to pick up the path of protest.

3. Australia was a colony for a long time in the Crown of England's colonialism. It seems that now Australian Govt. has become a puppet of imperialism. Your comment?

Ans: Though we got independence, the Australian ruling class is still under the influence of colonial ruling culture. This mindset of ruling class enables US-led imperialism to make it a puppet. Influenced by US imperialism, Australia thinks to become a junior partner. Australia also thought about preparing a dump yard in Pacific Islands as America does in Latin America. Papua New Guinea is a marking example of dump yard in Pacific Islands. While facing resistance from these, Australian Govt. resorted to repression. Australia feels that the war on terrorism (US invasion of Afghanistan)

(Continued on page 7)



Delegates from
inanimate
vee



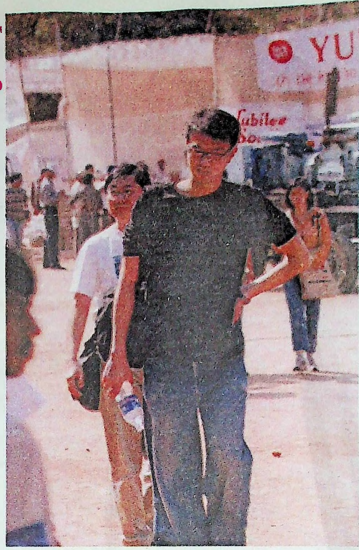
1500 DALIT DELEGATES PARTICIPATING IN ASF

(Prajasakti-Hyderabad Bureau)
 1500 Dalit delegates are participating in ASF conferences that are being held at Hyderabad. Out of them 500 belong to Andhra Pradesh and the remaining 1000 delegates come from other States. In the struggle for a new world dalits are establishing their own role in participation. In this process to establish the Forum as the platform for them they are playing a special role. They are trying to establish contacts with foreign organisations and delegates. This is all for taking the dalit movement forward. Many Dalit delegations are playing a key role in the conferences. In India, from the States of Rajasthan, U.P., Maharashtra, Bihar, Delhi, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Pondicherry -Dalits are attending as delegates to the conference. They are all aiming at ending the globalisation. Their goal is to convey to the 1500 delegates attending the conference about the real nature of vision 2020 which is silently spreading its tentacles. So far Dalits have only concentrated upon untouchability, reservations, land and tenancies. Now the attention has been shifting on to the major threat of vision 2020. With this purpose 20 workshops, 12 seminars will be held during the conferences over 4 days. The purpose is to form atleast 4 to 5 platforms to work towards the goal of a new world. Along (Continued on page7)

REGISTRATION AT YOUTH CAMP

(Prajasakti - Hyderabad Bureau)

The youth camp of Asia Social Forum is buzzing with activity, with the young men and women coming from all over the country and abroad. Registration of delegates is going on briskly from the morning onwards. Incharge of registration, Lucy said, "our estimate is that about 1500 young men and women would come. We are expecting another 1500 youth would come here to witness the cultural programmes. Already more than 500 delegates got their names registered. All the teams are expected to reach Hyderabad by this evening". Explaining the aim of the youth camp, she said that so far globalisation is explained from the point of view of the West. The viewpoint from Asian continent has not been explained. The youth have no idea about this. They are confining themselves to MTV and VTV only. They are treating the festivals of the richer sections only as youth festivals. For example, in Mumbai college students alone would be permitted to participate in youth festivals. However, many young men and women are deprived of opportunities to get education. Who will bother about them? Here, at the youth



camp of the ASF, any one can come and explains one's opinions, she said. Though several teams of students and youth from abroad wanted to attend the meetings of the ASF, they could not come due to financial difficulties, Lucy said. Delegates, who could not come from Thailand, Sri Lanka and Cameroon, have sent their messages. Bhushan from Maharashtra said that the aims of the ASF were attractive and that was the reason why he came here.

WE LEARN AND GO BACK TO BUILD MOVEMENTS



Yasiru and Isiru, representatives from Sri Lanka



(Prajasakti - Hyderabad Bureau)

Representatives from Sri Lanka, Yasiru and Isiru are telling that they would study the working of the World Social Forum and its objective and spread those ideas in their country. They have come to participate in the youth camp being organised under the auspices of the Asia Social Forum. Yasiru is 17, while Isiru is 18. Both of them are members the United Nations Friendship Organisation of Sri Lanka. On the suggestion of the Director General of the organisation, Vijaytunga, they searched the website of the WSF and got their names registered with the youth camp. Actually, they did not know what the WSF is about and for what it is working. To know the same they have come here. Because of the conditionalities imposed by the World Bank, Sri Lanka is suffering losses and heavy burdens are being imposed on their people, they told Prajasakti. They explained that because of the conditionality to import cooking gas from Italy, the people of Sri Lanka are forced to pay a higher price, while they have to pay only one-fourth of that price if gas is imported from India. Moves are being made to privatise a bus company in February next. Half of the power sector is privatised, while the government has announced that it would privatise the remaining half of the sector also by the end of this year. Similarly, the World Bank is demanding the Sri Lankan government to open up their insurance sector to foreign capital. The days are not far off when university education under the government would not be within the reach of the ordinary students. Both the delegates said that they would learn from the ASF the methods to be adopted to fight against the threat to their country from the World Bank and the US. They asserted that they would always work for building a society where there is no room for hunger and war and that that was their ultimate objective.



different countries discussions at the of ASF

"Market fundamentalism and religious banalistic are twin brothers"

Interview with Samir Amin

Samir Amin is here with us in Hyderabad now, to attend the ASF. Excerpts of his interview given to ASF Bureau of Prajasakti: What is the objective of ASF and WSF in the present-day context of globalization?

Samir Amin: Neo-liberal globalization is based on deregulation with competitive advantage. Neither it has economic rationality nor social rationality except the rationality which benefits the TNCs' dominant capital. It is not even useful to indigenous or national capitalists. Today, national bourgeoisie is compromising with international capital. The myth of market regulating itself is being shattered in recent period. Market self-regulation only leads to social-economic inequality which is the history of capitalism. In the new era of globalization, the state, which is till now the backbone of the national bourgeoisie, is compromising with imperialist capital. It is nowhere to articulate effective alternatives along with G-77, NAM and third world cooperation. The ASF meeting in India will contribute a lot to strengthen the movement against globalization.

After the failure of socialist bloc, market fundamentalism and religious fundamentalism are emerging by a way. How do you locate them?

SA: Market fundamentalism and religious fundamentalism are not negating factors but complementing each other, not conflicting agents. These two will lead to change the class identity into community identity, which is classless in a class ridden society. The so called religious movements, either Muslim or Hindu, are neither religious nor movements. These are only used for political mobilization. So, these are only pseudo-religious, pseudo-ethnic movements.

Some of the G-8 countries are opposing war against Iraq. Is it a reflection of contradictions emerging in imperialist camp?

SA: Basically, there is a contradiction in this camp. Neo-liberal economy is not a sustainable one. It is always ridden with crisis. Imperialist capital wants to come out of this sluggishness by way of military control of planet, though USA wars benefit superimperialist capital. USA gets more benefit than the other. This is the



Samir Amin was born in Egypt and educated in Paris. He is one of the best known political economists in the world, especially in terms of developments theory. He has been a consistent advocate of the conscious self-reliance of the countries of the Global South. Some of his major works are Accumulation on World Scale (1970), Deinking (1985), Eurocentrism (1988).

contradiction in capitalist appropriation.

What is the role of democracy in the era of neo-liberal globalisation?

SA: Democracy is antagonistic to neo-liberal globalization. They are propagating depoliticisation of people and development, thereby degrading the democratic values. Now, in so many third world countries, democracy is

losing. It credentials legislative relevance. Even though some States had free elections, but while making the policy, the legislatures are becoming incompetent. This leads to recognising class consciousness into community based consciousness which elivates in destructive politics. To promote disinvestment, governments are claiming that they want to concentrate on social development. Is it possible?

SA: It is completely 60 years old argument. Take for example the experiences of Ivory Coast.

What is your message to ASF, the Left movement in India and especially to the CPI(M)?

SA: The articulation of alternative is the need of the hour. There are different kinds of resistance going on all over the world. But the market fundamentalists are arguing about the alternatives and projecting market as the alternative. So, it is for us to consolidate the base of alternative. Particularly, India has to play a useful role in formulating the alternative. So there are many struggles continued in India in a fragmented way. Especially, Left parties have to learn lessons from their past experiences in order to articulate an effective alternative. I hope the CPI(M), having a long history of leading the struggles and formulating policies, will take a leading role in articulating the interests of the common masses and formulate an alternative to neo-liberal agenda.



A delegate reading special bulletin of Prajasakti

TODAY AT ASF

Friday 3 January

9 AM-1 PM CONFERENCE S

Nizam College, Conference Hall 2

Securing Social Rights in the Context of Globalisation

Shantha Sinha / Jean Dreze / B. Ekbal / K.N. Panniker / Kavita Srivastava / Harsh Mander / Wirapong (Assembly of the Poor, Thailand) / Zafarullah Chowdhury / Anita Rampal / Sarojini Pengam / P. Sanath

Action Aid/ USA / AIPSN / BGVS

Nizam College, Conference Hall 2

Peace and Security

Walden Bello (Philippines) / Hibakusha (Japan) / Parvez Hoodboy / Sahar Saba / Chandra Muzaffar / Arundhati Roy / Kirinhide Mushokoji / Admiral Ramdas / North-South Korea women's group / Abdel Jawad Saleh (Palestine) / Nouri Abdul Razzak Hussain (Iraq) / Asian PeaceAlliance/ CNDP/COVA/ Greenpeace / FOCUS / Alternatives/ NOVANO/COVA

1:00 - 2:15 PEOPLE'S VOICES

Dams and Agriculture Nizam College, Conference Hall 1
Adivasi women (Narmada dam) / Mushtaq Ahmed (Chasma Irrigation Project) / Romualdo Noble (Sugar MillWorkers, Philippines) / Bon.Sundaresan (Food security, Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu)

2:30 - 6:30 seminars and workshops

a number of seminars and workshops daily

5:30 - 7:30 TESTIMONIES AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Global Governance or Domination? WTO and After
Nizam College Conference Hall 1

S.P. Shukla / Walden Bello/ Martin Khor / K.L. Mahendra Nanjunda Swamy

War on Terror or Terror of War? Scope for Non-Violence
Nizam College Conference Hall 2

A.H. Nayyar / Achin Vanaik / Ashish Nandy / R.S. Rao

Daily Parallel Events

Cultural Performances

Nizam College

Music and poetry 3-9:30pm

Street theatre 3-9:30pm

Indra Priyadarshini Auditorium

Proscenium plays 7-10pm

Peoples' Movements

will also have open spaces in Nizam College to exchange experiences, identify challenges and debate strategies.

Another World Film Festival

Feature films: Sarathi Studios - 2 pm- 4.30 pm, 5 pm-7.30 pm, 8 pm-10.30 pm

Feature films: Ravindra bharti mini theatre - 2 pm- 4.30 pm, 5 pm-7.30 pm, 8 pm-10.30 pm

Documentaries: Nizam College TT shed football ground

Documentaries: Nizam College 3 classrooms

Youth Camp

Venue: Bharat Scouts and Guides, Domalguda.

Young people gather in an autonomous space to discuss alternatives to imperialist globalisation.

Delegate Registration: Rs.25 for all the days. Age limit: 35

Youth Camp Program:

January 3rd: Opening ceremony

January 4th- 6th (10 am to 1 pm every day)

January 6th: Closing ceremony: 2 pm - 5pm.

1500 DALIT DEL-
EGATES PARTICIPAT-
ING IN ASF

(Continued from centre pages) with this they are aiming at training the delegates who are attending the conference in mobilising the rural dalit sections towards the goal of the new world. In the workshops that will be held for 4 days topics like reservations for dalit's, land reforms, marketing facilities, education, Government budgets and allocations, conditions of health, the oppression of communism on dalits and the Jogini system will be discussed. Speakers will focus on these topics. On 12 platforms many prominent figures from various countries will speak. In this dalit rights, dalit law, dalit movement will be prominent topics. From Japan (buraku liberal leeg) Nepal (Jan uttan pratistan, dalit NGO federation), Sri Lanka (Foundation workers union), Nigerian (Os) dalit delegates and popular figures will be participate and express their ideas. This was informed to Prajasakti representative by dalit beat organiser Pal Divakar. A special drive is being undertaken to enlighten the rural dalits as to the dangerous of vision 2020 in Andhra Pradesh... He also told their main objective is to oppose globalisation.

MELBOURNE
CONSOLIDATES
ANTI-GLOBALISATION
STRUGGLE

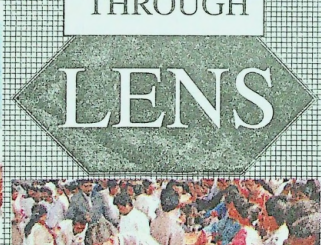
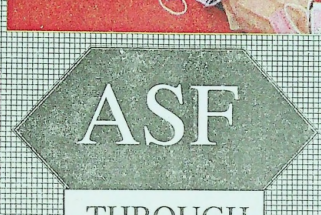
(Continued from centre pages) benefits Australian economy and so many economic and political considerations underlined in becoming the puppet of US imperialism. 4. How do you look at Asia Social Forum? Ans: It is a wonderful event. ASF will be instrumental in bringing the spirit of resistance to globalisation from the Western world to Eastern part of the globe. That too, holding this event in Hyderabad, the capital of neo liberal laboratory, gives a moral boost to the struggling forces of Andhra Pradesh. I hope Australians and Indonesians will learn a lesson from ASF in channelising and consolidating the anti-globalisation forces.

- EMMANUEL ORTIZ, 11 Sep 2002

A moment of silence before I start this poem
Before I start this poem, I'd like to ask you to join me
In a moment of silence
In honour of those who died in the World Trade Center and the Pentagon last September 11th.
I would also like to ask you
To offer up a moment of silence
For all of those who have been harassed, imprisoned, disappeared, tortured,
raped, or killed in retaliation for those strikes,
For the victims in both Afghanistan and the US
And if I could just add one more thing...
A full day of silence
For the tens of thousands of Palestinians who have died at the hands of
US-backed Israeli forces over decades of occupation.
Six months of silence for the million and-a-half Iraqi people,
mostly children, who have died of malnourishment or starvation as a result of an 11-
year US embargo against the country.
Before I begin this poem,
Two months of silence for the Blacks under Apartheid in South Africa,
Where homeland security made them aliens in their own country.
Nine months of silence for the dead in Hiroshima and Nagasaki,
Where death rained down and peeled back every layer of concrete, steel, earth and skin
And the survivors went on as if alive.
A year of silence for the millions of dead in Vietnam - a people,
not a war - for those who
know a thing or two about the scent of burning fuel, their relatives' bones buried in it,
their babies born of it.
A year of silence for the dead in Cambodia and Laos, victims of a secret war
... ssssshhhh...
Say nothing ... we don't want them to learn that they are dead.
Two months of silence for the decades of dead in Columbia,
Whose names, like the corpses they once represented, have piled up and slipped off our
tongues.
Before I begin this poem.
An hour of silence for El Salvador ...
An afternoon of silence for Nicaragua ...
Two days of silence for the Guatemaltecos ...
None of whom ever knew a moment of peace in their living years.
45 seconds of silence for the 45 dead at Aetel, Chiapas
25 years of silence for the hundred million Africans who found their graves far deeper in the ocean than any building could
poke into the sky.
There will be no DNA testing or dental records to identify their remains.
And for those who were strung and swung from the heights of
sycamore trees in the south, the north, the east, and the west...
100 years of silence...
For the hundreds of millions of indigenous peoples from this half of
right here,
Whose land and lives were stolen.
In postcard-perfect plots like Pine Ridge, Wounded Knee, Sand Creek,
Fallen Timbers, or the Trail of Tears.
Names now reduced to innocuous magnetic poetry on the
refrigerator of our consciousness ...
So you want a moment of silence?
And we are all left speechless
Our tongues snatched from our mouths
Our eyes stapled shut
A moment of silence
And the poets have all been laid to rest
The drums disintegrating into dust.
Before I begin this poem,
You want a moment of silence
You mourn now as if the world will never be the same
And the rest of us hope to hell it won't be.
Not like it always has been.
Because this is not a 9/11 poem.
This is a 9/10 poem,
It is a 9/9 poem,
A 9/8 poem,
A 9/7 poem,
This is a 1492 poem.
This is a poem about what causes poems like this to be written.
And if this is a 9/11 poem, then:
This is a September 11th poem for Chile, 1971.



This is a September 12th poem for Steven Biko in South Africa, 1977.
This is a September 13th poem for the brothers at Attica Prison, New York, 1971.
This is a September 14th poem for Somalia, 1992.
This is a poem for every date that falls to the ground in ashes
The 110 stories that history chose not to write in textbooks
The 110 stories that CNN, BBC, The New York Times, and Newsweek ignored.
This is a poem for interrupting this program.
And still you want a moment of silence for your dead?
We could give you lifetimes of empty:
The unmarked graves
The lost languages
The uprooted trees and histories
The dead stares on the faces of nameless children
Before I start this poem we could be silent forever
Or just long enough to hunger,
For the dust to bury us
And you would still ask us
For more of our silence.
If you want a moment of silence
Then stop the oil pumps
Turn off the engines and the televisions
Sink the cruise ships
Crash the stock markets
Unplug the marquee lights,
Delete the instant messages,
Derail the trains, the high rail transit.
If you want a moment of silence, put a brick through the window of Taco Bell,
And pay the workers for wages lost.
Tear down the liquor stores,
The townhouses, the White Houses, the jailhouses, the Penthouses and the Playboys.
If you want a moment of silence,
Then take it
On Super Bowl Sunday,
The Fourth of July
During Dayton's 13 hour sale
Or the next time your white guilt fills the room where my beautiful people have gathered.
You want a moment of silence
Then take it NOW,
Before this poem begins.
Here, in the echo of my voice.
In the pause between gooseteps of the second hand,
In the space between bodies in embrace,
Here is your silence.
Take it
But take it all... Don't cut in line.
Let your silence begin at the beginning of crime. But we.
Tonight we will keep right on singing... For our dead.



ASF
THROUGH
LENS