

MSS/VS/14149.
29 May 1997

Prof Saifuddin Soz
Minister for Environment & Forests
Government of India
New Delhi 110 003

My dear

I am most grateful to you for your kind letter inviting me to continue as a Member of the Social Audit Panel of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. I have resigned from this Panel in order to give an opportunity for the previous Minister to reconstitute the Panel. However, since you have been kind enough to ask me to continue, I shall be happy to do so. I shall call on you when I come to New Delhi next.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,



M S Swaminathan

To,
Social Audit Panel



MSS/VS/ 3918

3 July 1996

Dr N Bhaskara Rao
Member-Convenor, Social Audit Panel
Room No 101, Paryavaran Bhawan
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi 110 003

My dear Bhaskara Rao,

I thank you very much for your kind letter of 24 June. I shall look forward to meeting you on 15 July.

With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



M S Swaminathan

~~Back to me~~
Net him. Pl. keep in
social audit panel file

DESPATCHED
DATE 5/7/96

3
16/7

SOCIAL AUDIT PANEL

Ministry of Environment & Forests

Dr. N. Bhaskara Rao
Member - Convehor



D.O.No.13/19/95-PC
June 24, 1996.

Dear Dr. Swaminathan

Kindly find enclosed the Draft Report prepared by Shri R. Rajamani, Member, Social Audit Panel, on "**Land, Water and Bio-diversity (Culture and Equity)**". We should discuss this report in the next meeting and then if decided to present it to the Minister.

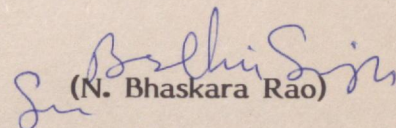
Dr. M.S. Swaminathan will be in Delhi on 15th July 1996, when Justice R.S. Pathak who is currently away, is also expected to be in Delhi. We should be able to meet on July 15, 1996. I am accordingly seeking the time from the Minister.

Kindly have a look at the draft report enclosed and convey your convenience for the meeting of the Panel on July 15.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Encl: As stated above


(N. Bhaskara Rao)

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
Member
Social Audit Panel
M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation
3rd Cross Street
Taramani Institutional Area
Madras-600 113.

**Land, Water and Biodiversity
(Culture and Equity)**

There is an intimate connection between not only land and water and water and biodiversity but also land water, biodiversity and culture. In most of the biodiverse areas there are good soils, plenty of moisture conserved, the biodiversity being both the cause and effect of environment of the land and conservation of water. But all are better preserved when the culture of the people is enmeshed in it as in India. This is amply illustrated in our sacred groves which the cultures, beliefs and traditions have conserved and most of which have rich and a spring, stream, waterfall or a pool. In fact the most of them are 'theerths' which is the word for a holy place with a water source in it. In most places land water and biodiversity have been conserved by a rich tradition and culture which realised the value of all the tree for human survival. These are cultures found in many countries, especially in the south Asian region. This is the strength which we have to build on as we have a very large population dependent on the resources of soil water and biodiversity. If the people's values can be recognised and the societal role in conservation promoted in all our programmes we shall indeed have sustainable development. The key in the societal role is held by equity. In nature there is a balance among species - a kind of equity where no species draws more than for its bare survival either on land, water or the fauna as well as flora. Disturbances in this equity are rare and caused either by natural factors or calamities or by human intrusion. Now there is need to look for a similar balance among human beings where no single individual or groups or communities appropriate more than a fair share of natural resources. In a situation where there is already an imbalance both in nature and human kind, conservation issues have to be addressed keeping in mind the needs of the poorer and vulnerable sections of the community, as well as those of the rural and tribal populations who are nearer to natural resources and hold them in trust for all of us.

When we look at the section on conservation of natural resources of land, water, biodiversity and biomass in the document on National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development (Sections 5.2.1, 5.2.3 and 5.2.4 - annexed) the concerns described above are seen running clearly through. These are also reflected in the forest policy of 1988 and the guidelines for Joint Forest Management issued in 1990. We may examine now how many of these issues and policy directives have actually been addressed so far in programmes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests or other Ministries of Government of India or the State Governments and give our recommendations on gap areas.

Land and Soil: The land use policy has no proper structure for implementation. The National Land Use Board was to be supported by the National Wasteland Development Board. The National Land Use Board chaired by the Prime Minister has not met in the last few years. The National Wasteland Development Board has been carved into two, one now under Ministry of Rural Development from non-forest wasteland and one under Ministry of Environment and Forests for forest wasteland. There are only isolated attempts to look at land use as in the land use maps of Department of Space which are enviable but seldom backed up to enforce proper land use.

No laws have been enacted to protect the soils or to build a network for assessment and monitoring the soil beyond the work relating to the national soil survey.

No measures have been taken particularly by State Governments to protect land near water bodies and prevent construction thereupon.

Equitable access to land and water resources is ensured only partially through land reform and land ceiling laws. Only enforcement of land use both in rural and urban areas coupled with drastic fiscal levies can arrest further destruction.

Micro level planning involving people in land use etc is built into programmes like National Watershed Development Project or Eco-development Project for Protected Areas and Joint Forest Management of forest areas. There is no country wide campaign to minimise soil and run off losses except the National Watershed Development project. This has had some success here and there but suffers from departmentalism and lack of vision in both politicians and bureaucrats and the people or NGOs' hardly have any say in actual execution. Even in respect of treatment of upper catchment of rivers and conservation of forests, there have been no significant outlays or coordinated effort. The lean season flows in rivers are reducing but without corresponding action on the afforestation of catchments, this can only worsen.

Very few state governments have legislative measures to check over exploitation of surface and ground water for various uses or for conservation of wetlands also keeping in mind the inequities that may arise. There is no encouragement for traditional (or even modern) methods of rain water harvesting and storage. Villagers' ability to manage common water resources is to be enhanced ensuring equity. Recently some attempts have been taken by CAPART, INTACH etc but structures and even attitudes in state government are not conducive to look at even existing minor water sources like village tanks etc.

The measures to check disposal of wastes in land and water courses and control of pollution of water from municipal and industrial wastes are yet to take a real shape except in the National River Action Plan and some action by isolated State Pollution Control Boards to highlight the pollution without firm back up by State Governments. Industry like sugar, distilleries who use lot of water are also slow in recovery and recycling efforts. Looking to the future there will be problems in water availability which can be overcome only by recycling. In fact this should even cover irrigation water where drain water can be reclaimed for irrigation with due safeguards.

The Lake Conservation Plan is yet to take off even though some lakes have been identified. Inventorying of wetlands to be preserved both for water conservation and conservation of biodiversity and aesthetics is yet to be taken up earnestly in various states -whatever work has been done under the auspices of National Wetland Committee has been confined so far to isolated listing and study of phenomena from the academic standpoint. The next stage of detailed measures for protection and conservation based on microplanning and association of local inhabitants, and for sustainable utilisation etc is yet to come up. These programmes also suffer from departmentalism with development agencies like Irrigation, Power, Fisheries etc looking more to exploitation of water and its resources rather than doing it sustainably without harming the interest of the people, especially tribal and poorer communities.

As far as biodiversity is concerned, there has been a measure of advance in surveys by BSI and ZSI and in creation of protected areas upto 4% of the land area. But there are still some ecosystems unrepresented in legal protection and mangroves, coral reefs etc do not enjoy it everywhere. On the contrary there have been moves and even actions which have resulted in denotification of protected areas e.g Narayan Sarovar in Gujarat, Bhitarkanika in Orissa and Melghat in Maharashtra. None of these exercises have been based on detailed impact assessment and there has not even been a whisper about compensating for the loss by notifying equivalent representative area elsewhere.

Full and correct rehabilitation of rural poor/tribal displaced due to creation of protected areas is only now receiving proper attention thanks also to environmental activism and Court orders.

Conservation of microfauna and microflora (which are connected with revival of biological potential) is only the subject of isolated studies and there is no concerted national or state effort to take this seriously.

Ex-situ conservation in Botanical gardens and Zoological Parks has made some advance. But the National Zoo Authority should be strengthened to play its role in ex-situ conservation and taking up more projects as it has done with CCMB for looking at population viability. Botanical Gardens may require a similar structure associating the university system with it. The structures should be such as to encourage more students to take to disciplines like taxonomy.

Protection of domesticated species to conserve indigenous genetic diversity is no doubt receiving attention in the creation of national genetic resources storage structures in plants. But such structures on animals are as yet weakly funded. In-situ conservation of wild cultivars and land races and measures to encourage rural people to continue evolving varieties while conserving the wild or protection of their knowledge of methods of conservation are handicapped by lack of resources and overrunning of the areas for other projects. A true translation of principles relating to protection of tamers and tribals' rights in relation to biodiversity is still awaiting legal sanction. Initiatives like those of Karnataka Planning Board which has set up a subgroup on biodiversity are lacking elsewhere.

Sustainable utilisation of biodiversity within the country should take precedence over export of genetic material for utilisation outside. Indian industry is slow to recognise the importance of applying technologies to Indian genetic material with a view to develop products in India to sell everywhere. Only the herbal medicine physicians have been using indigenous genetic material but even they have no proper linkages with conservation and propagation of material and their marketing methods which are somewhat outdated. The few industries who do recognize this are only

copying imported technology or at times sending crude distillates for processing abroad. There is inadequate emphasis on home grown technology. An initiative of MoEF in this regard described as SUI GENERIS (Sustainable Utilization of Indian Generic material with Research and Industrial Support) has not taken off for want of clear pursuit by government and industry. Tightening up of laws relating to export of genetic material without exchange of technology on favourable terms as contemplated in the convention on Biological Diversity may give a fillip to this effort. Simultaneously MoEF and DBT should coordinate to ensure a research and development linkage is established between CSIR, ICAR and other laboratories and industry on pain of denying access to genetic material if they do not cooperate.

Techniques for multiplication, breeding and conserving threatened and endangered species through tissue culture and biotechnology are receiving attention of the Department of Biotechnology. But the back up of taxonomic effort to continuously document species specially the micro species is slow and the setting up of chains of laboratories for this purpose and exchange of knowledge is to be speeded up.

The MoEF plan budget does not have a distinct provision for assisting biodiversity related programmes. These are distributed over several heads like Forestry, Wildlife, Wetlands, Mangroves, CZA, Botanical Gardens Research etc. The allocations for biodiversity related studies or inventorising and documentation by institutions other than BSI, ZSI are very low. If the efforts for in-situ and ex-situ conservation are to be stepped up outside forest land (as in sacred groves, community grasslands) there is need for financial support and inadequate allocations based on careful appraisal by experts.

In regard to biomass build up for sustainable use by our people some effort has been made through efforts of individuals or communities (eg Sukhomajri, Ralegaon Sidhi) and of the initiatives of DNES National Wasteland Development Board, ICAR

institutions dealing with fodder, forage and ICFRE looking at fuelwood, timber etc. NGOs' like BAIF, ASTRA etc have also been studying these issues but not as part of a well coordinated national plan.

But there is not much coordination between these agencies on systematic basis and problems of institutional strengths and egoclashes aggravate this.

This institutional and technological systems to enable villagers to add value to processing of biomass or to enable rural artisans to sustain biomass based crafts have been weak. This has depended on isolated efforts of NGOs' or the efforts of Khadi and Village Industries Boards which have been looked upon in state government as very poor cousins of even the small scale industrial sector. The fillip that could have come through build up of the ISB sector in Integrated Rural Development Projects or through TRYSEM etc have suffered from a bias towards 'Large is Beautiful'.

Relationship between tree based industry and farmers to raise rawmaterials from private farms and wastelands have not been forged adequately as periodically industry raises hope of having direct access to forest land preferably on a subsidized basis even though this has been ruled out by policy. We have reconfirmed this in our recommendations on Forestry and hope this ghost of captive forest land for industry will be exorcised forever so that industry will turn to farmers and private wasteland to build more relationships without affecting prime agricultural lands or displacement of small and marginal farmers. This will require mechanisms for price fixation and procurement as in food grains.

Many of these issues will find answers over time if natural resources accounting and valuation of environmental resources and pricing accordingly start as recommended earlier. However in the short term a lot of administrative and legal

measures are required following the precautionary principle to avoid our waking up after all is lost.

The above is a list of issues that arise for detailed action on conservation and on which the Panel may like to make specific recommendations after a round of discussions with concerned Central Ministries (MoEF, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, Agriculture Research, Biotechnology, Industry, Water Resources, Science and Technology etc) .

I may add a footnote that while preparing for this note I wished to look a little closely at links between conservation of biodiversity on upper catchments and river flows. I learnt Tamilnadu Electricity Board has data on this in Aliyar Basin and called on them and gave a letter. Their response was to ask for an official letter! (annexed) Thanks to articles of Dr.Meher Homji of French Institute , Pondicherry this failure to work on some empirical data has been compensated.

Back ground material

1. National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development.
2. Biodiversity-Implications for global Food security edited by M.S.Swaminathan and S.Janu.
3. Farmers Rights and Plant Genetic Resources. Recognition and Reward: A Dialogue edited by M.S.Swaminathan.
4. Water in culture. The Sri Lankan Heritage - J.B.Dissanayake
5. INTACH initiative on harvesting water-spate Economic Development Record - Vol.2 Number 6
6. Biodiversity genetic resources and international relations - edited by Vincent Sanchez and Abstoms Jauder - African Centre for Technology Studies, Nairobi.

7. Global Biodiversity Assessment, UNEP (executive summary)
8. Widening Perspectives on Biodiversity, IUCN
9. Report of the Karnataka Planning Board -subgroup on Biodiversity
10. Watershed Management aspects - with case study in Tamil Nadu
(Dr.B.Rufus, R.Mohan Doss, R.K.Suresh - Institute of Hydraulics and Hydrology,
Pondy Tamil Nadu) From water Energy 2001, International R&D Conference
1995, New Delhi)
11. Bias in Social Consumption:Case of Residential Water in Rajasthan -
A.V.Reddy, V.R and TanthoreM.S, Economics Institutional Weekly
1993,28,32/33 1645-1648.
12. Environment management in distillery, sugar, pulp and paper industries.
A.V.Rao, B.S.Subba Rao.B - Technical Papers of Fortyfirst Annual Convention
of the Deccan Sugar Technologies Assessment.
13. Technological prejudice: Case of Indian Irrigation A.V.Kumar, V.S.Rajagopalan
R Economic and Political Weekly 1993 24:14, 587-594.
14. Common Property resource Management in South Indian villages A.V.Wade,
R.Bromby Dr. "Making the Commons work:Theory, practice and policy, OGEA
Sanfrancisco, USA.
15. Strategies for integrated watershed development A.V.Gupta -D.K.D
16. Lushfields and parched lands: the political economy of groundwater in
Gujarat AV Bhatia B
WIDER Working papers 1992
Helsinki Finland; World Institute for Development Economies Research
17. Indigenous soil and water conservation in India semi-arid tropics.

AV Kerr J, Sanghi NK
Gatekeeper series - sustainable Agriclutlure Programme. International Institute
for Environment and Development, U.K.
18. Water-regulating role of spruce forests in the Ukranian Carpathains
AV Olinik VS
LESOVEDENIE 1965 No:6, 5763
19. The effect of antecedent soil water conditions and rainfall variations on run off
generation in a small encalypt catchment

AV TOPALIDIS-S; CURTISAA

First National Symposium on forest hydrology-Barton ACT, Australia, Institute of Engineers.

20. Hydrologic effects of replacement of encalyst forest by pasture and punies
AV TSYKIN E - Caurensen EM, WU-AYK
Fisht national symposium on forest hydrology - Barton ACT Australia Institute of Engineers
21. Hydrological reearch in the tropical rain forests of noth Queensland - some implications for land use management

AV Gilmor GA, Cassells DS Borell-M
First National symposium on forest hydrology - Ibid
22. Strategy for Biotechnology Development in Asia - Dr K.Venkataraman, formerly MD for Investment and Technology Promotion in UNIDO
23. Globa Biodiversity - Status of the Earths - living Resources - A report compiled by World Conservation Monitoring Centre Editor Brioan Goombridge
24. Treatment, reuse and disposal of rain water
AV Lee-EW
Journal of Irrigation and Drainage Engineering 1993
25. Groundwater recharge with sewage effluent
AV Bouner H
Water Science & Technology 1991 Parks Water Pollution Research Technology
26. Health and environment aspects of wastewater reuse
AV Oescid - MB
Reuse of low quality water for irrigation in Mediterranean Countries Seminar Jan,1981 - International Centre for Advancement Mediterranean of Agronomic studies.
27. Biodiversity, social and ecological perspectives
AV Shiva -V (et-al) Andersson P - Schucking H, Gray A, Lohman L, Cooper D
Ule Zed Borks Lr.Penaag Malaysia
28. Valuing environmental functins in developing countries: AV Aylward, B- BarbierEB Biodiversity and Conservation 1992
London Environmental Economics Centre C/o IIED
29. The Climate Change - The Forest link - Dr.Meher Homji VM 1991
The Hindu Survey of Environment 1991
30. Environment and Development - Traditions, Concerns and Efforts in India
National Report to UNCED 1992
Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India

EXTRACTS FROM NATIONAL CONSERVATION STRATEGY AND POLICY STATEMENT ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Annexure I

5.2 CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

5.2.1 Land and Water

An integrated land and water management approach is extremely important to sustain the food production, animal husbandry and other activities.

Amelioration of water logged and salt affected lands, command area development, protection of good agricultural land fragmentation, maintenance of sustained productivity of soil and conservation of lands with forests and vegetal cover are the integral components of sustainable management.

The importance of water as a finite, though a renewable resource, must be clearly recognised. Land and water use are to be considered together, particularly in the context of recurring droughts and floods. Water conservation measures; discipline on use of water; economising the consumption of water in households, agriculture and industry; and appropriate recycling would be essential.

The steps to be taken for sustainable use of land and water should include the following:

- Classification, zoning and apportionment of land for designated uses such as, agriculture forestry, grassland, green areas, industrial activities, catchment areas and watersheds and human settlements based on assessment of their capabilities and environmental consideration;
- Enactment of laws for appropriate land uses to protect the soil from erosion, pollution and degradation;
- Protection of land near water bodies and prevention of construction there upon;
- Measures to ensure equitable access to and responsibility for sustainable use of land and water resources;
- Micro-level planning to develop appropriate methodology and implementation of action plan by involving the people at the village level in social forestry programmes, land use planning, afforestation etc;
- Countrywide campaign to minimise soil and run-off losses by carrying out extensive works like contour trenching, contour bunding, terracing, construction of small storages, catchment treatment and protection of the vegetal cover in the catchment

and watersheds. This is to be a specific charge of project authorities in all irrigation, power, road and agricultural projects;

- Restoration and reclamation of degraded areas including weed infested areas, mined areas, grazing lands and salt affected soils;
- Measures for preventing wind erosion by undertaking special programmes of conservation and afforestation in desert areas;
- Development of suitable agro-silvipastoral techniques with special emphasis on hilly areas and in arid and semi-arid zones.
- Building up a network for assessment and monitoring of soil and water (surface and ground water) quality throughout the country which should be on a permanent basis as in the case of meteorological stations;
- Measures for water conservation, recycling and optimal conjunctive use of surface and ground water for specific uses;
- Legislative measures to check over-exploitation of surface and ground water for various users;
- Conservation of wetlands for ensuring sustainable ecological and economic benefits;
- Encouragement to and improvement in traditional methods of rain water harvesting and storage.
- Stringent measures for prevention and control of pollution due to indiscriminate disposal of solid wastes, effluents and hazardous substances in land and water courses;
- Control and abatement of pollution of water bodies from municipal and industrial wastes generated from urban habitats by intercepting and diverting such wastes away from water bodies;
- Classification, zoning and regulations for maintaining the quality of the water bodies to protect and enhance their capabilities to support the various designated uses; and
- Adoption of low cost sanitation technology for prevention and control of pollution in water courses.

5.2.3 BIODIVERSITY

About 90 % of the world food comes from 20 plant species. The plant breeders find that they have to turn more and more to the wild species to introduce into the cultivated

forms desired qualities of resistance to pests and diseases and the ability to withstand adverse soil and weather conditions. India's biological diversity is very rich but unfortunately its wealth is being eroded due to various reasons. This diversity needs to be preserved and the immediate task will be devise and enforce time bound plans for saving the endangered plant and animal species as well as habitats of biological resources. Action for conservation must be directed to:

- Intensification of surveys and inventorisation of biological resources in different parts of the country including the island ecosystems. The survey should include information on distribution pattern of particular species/population/communities and the status of ethnobiologically important groups;
- Conservation of biodiversity through a network of protected areas including Biosphere Reserves, Marine Reserves, National Parks, Sanctuaries, Gene Conservation Centres, Wetlands, Coral Reefs and such other natural habitats of biodiversity. This should include taxonomic and ecological studies on the flora and fauna with adequate emphasis placed on the lower vertebrate, invertebrate and micro-flora which are important in contributing to the healthy maintenance of ecosystems;
- Protection and sustainable use of plant and animal genetic resources through appropriate laws and practices;
- Protection of domesticated species/varieties of plants and animals in order to conserve indigenous genetic diversity;
- Maintenance of corridors between national parks, sanctuaries, forests and other protected areas;
- Emulation and support for protecting traditional skills and knowledge for conservation;
- Development of methodologies to multiply, breed and conserve the threatened and endangered species through modern techniques of tissue culture and biotechnology;
- Discouragement of monoculture and plantation of dominating and exotic species, in areas unsuited for them and without sufficient experimentation; and,
- Restriction on introduction of exotic species of animals without adequate investigations.

5.2.4 Biomass

- 5.2.4.1 For the vast majority of our rural people, the foremost need is for fuelwood, timber, fodder, fiber etc. The issue of sustainable resource utilisation, therefore, has to be specially addressed first from the point of view of the biomass requirements of the rural poor. Action must be directed to:

- Devising ways and means by which local people can conserve and use thereafter the resources of the common lands and degraded forests, so that they have a stake in the continuing productivity of the resources;
- Encouraging private individuals and institutions to regenerate and develop their wastelands;
- Raising of fuel wood species and provision of alternatives to reduce dependence on fuelwood.
- Taking measures to increase the production of fodder and grasses to bridge the wide gap between supply and demand;
- Raising of bamboo and species providing smaller timber for local house-construction and agriculture implements;
- Increasing biomass to meet essential requirement of biomass based industry;
- Promoting direct relationship between forest-based industry and farmers to raise needed raw materials, provided this does not result in diversion of prime agricultural lands and displacement of small and marginal farmers;
- Extensive research and development in forestry for better regeneration and improved productivity;
- Development of technologies for enhancing the productivity and efficiency of use of all biomass resources (both terrestrial and marine);
- Institutional and technological systems to enable rural artisans to sustain biomass based crafts; and,
- Curtailment of the supply of subsidised biomass based resources to industrial consumers.

MSS/VS/3492 .
20 June 1996

Dr N Bhaskara Rao
Member-Convenor, Social Audit Panel
Ministry of Environment & Forests
Room No 101, Paryavaran Bhawan
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi 110 003

SAP


My dear Bhaskara Rao,

I thank you very much for your kind letter of 19 June. I am glad to learn that the new Minister would like the work of the Social Audit Panel to be continued. I will be in New Delhi on the following dates in July.

1. 15 July (Monday)
2. 19 & 20 July (Friday & Saturday)
3. 28 July (Sunday)

With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,


M S Swaminathan

DESPATCHED
DATE 21/6/96

SOCIAL AUDIT PANEL

Ministry of Environment & Forests

Shri D. C. Dalmia

Chairman

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan

Member

Shri Abid Hussain

Member

Shri R. Rajamani

Member

Dr. N. Bhaskara Rao

Member - Convenor

June 19, 1996.

Dear Dr. Swaminathan,

I had the opportunity of calling on the new Minister for Environment & Forests, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad Nishad on last Friday and brief him about our Social Audit Panel. The Minister was happy to know that there is such a distinguished Panel in the Ministry and would like to see that it continues to function. He wanted to meet the Panel at convenience. He also endorsed some of the suggestions made by the Panel in its Report both with regards to the Environmental Awareness and Forestry Issues.

Perhaps we could now have a meeting of the Panel to review the plans and also the draft report on Biodiversity and Water Pollution by Shri R. Rajamani. Mr. Rajamani suggests that we meet on July 12, 1996. I would appreciate if your convenience is indicated in this regard. Also about our future course.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Bhaskara
(N. Bhaskara Rao)

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
Member
Social Audit Panel
M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation
3rd Cross Street
Taramani Institutional Area
Madras-600 113.

SOCIAL AUDIT PANEL

Ministry of Environment & Forests

Justice R.S. Pathak

Chairman

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan

Member

Smt. Abid Hussain

Member

Smt. R. Rajamani

Member

Dr. N. Bhaskara Rao

Member - Convener

June 19, 1996.

Dear Dr. Swaminathan,

I had the opportunity of calling on the new Minister for Environment & Forests, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad Nishad on last Friday and brief him about our Social Audit Panel. The Minister was happy to know that there is such a distinguished Panel in the Ministry and would like to see that it continues to function. He wanted to meet the Panel at convenience. He also endorsed some of the suggestions made by the Panel in its Report both with regards to the Environmental Awareness and Forestry issues.

Perhaps we could now have a meeting of the Panel to review the plans and also the draft report on Biodiversity and Water Pollution by Shri R. Rajamani. Mr. Rajamani suggests that we meet on July 12, 1996. I would appreciate if your convenience is indicated in this regard. Also about our future course.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Bhaskara Rao
(N. Bhaskara Rao)

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
Member
Social Audit Panel
M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation
3rd Cross Street
Taramani Institutional Area
Madras-600 113.

SOCIAL AUDIT PANEL

Ministry of Environment & Forests

Dr. N. Bhaskara Rao
Member - Convenor

N. Bhaskara Rao

I am not attending

*Q
27/2*

D.O.No.13-19/95-PC
February 14, 1996.

At Bombay meeting of Social Audit Panel on 13.2.1996, the following schedule was finalised :

27-28.2.1996 : Madras

4.3.1996 : Ahmedabad

6.3.1996 : SAP Meeting at Paryavaran Bhavan
10.00 AM to 1.00 PM.

(Mr. R.Rajamani and Dr. N.Bhaskara Rao would also meet on March 1, 1996 in Paryavaran Bhavan to review the work done so far).

N. Bhaskara Rao
(N.Bhaskara Rao)



Ministry of Environment & Forests
(Social Audit Panel)

....

Meeting at Madras on 27-28th February, 1996.

....

Programme

27.2.1996 11.30 AM - 1.00 PM Informal meeting with State officials
2.00 - 4.00 PM Meeting with NGOs
28.2.96 Site seeing and meeting with other sr. officials.
Departure for Delhi in the evening.

M/082F
SAP

Please fill-up the TA/DA
form for Bombay meeting
scheduled for 13.2.46 and
returned us for further
n/s.

Balbir Singh
ps to M-C

ps to Dr. M.S. Swaminathan

I did not attend.

Pl. file

Mukherjee

3
22/2

RSR

ISSUES RELATED TO FOREST POLICY & JOINT FOREST MANAGEMENT:

1. Identify natural forests of this country. Commercial exploitation and non-forestry use should be banned particularly in the tropical rain forests of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Western Ghats and North-East.
2. Management of forest should be made people oriented. While initiative on JFM is welcome, orientation of lower level staff is essential. Apart from the issue of Usufructs an important area to be addressed is the sharing of control and management (power) with the communities. JFM resolution should ensure adequate representation of women in general body as well as in Executive body.
3. In management of areas notified under Wildlife Protection Act local communities should be involved through the process of joint protected area management. A Government of India resolution encouraging States to adapt such management after working out relevant guidelines is urgently needed for which the Wildlife Act may also be appropriately strengthened.
4. To strengthen the management of protected areas (PAs) MOEF should reconsider, legislate suitably and implement vigourously the Biosphere Reserve concept.
5. Degraded forest areas should not be leased to industries. Requirement of raw material for industries should be met from farm forestry sector as also from degraded forests developed by village communities.
6. Monoculture should be discouraged in Afforestation schemes and emphasis should be on indigenous species. Greater reliance should be placed on Natural regeneration.
7. Integrated Watershed Planning concept should inform forest departments programme for afforestation. MEF should address this problem because presently there are difficulties in coordinating activities of MOEF, M/o Rural Development and M/o Agriculture etc.

GRANTS-IN-AID SCHEME:

8. Under the Grants-in-Aid scheme, provision should be made for water harvesting and water conservation.
9. Duration of projects under Grants-in-Aid scheme should be for five years. Yearwise targets should not be laid down. Keeping in view the different level of refracton at sites, there should be flexibility in funding pattern.
10. Funds should be available for project formulation and monitoring.
11. Ministry of Environment and Forests should take up with State Governments and Ministry of Urban Development to protect urban green areas as protected green belt. This would prevent their encroachment.

M. S. S. R. F.
RECEIVED

05 FEB 1986

1

2

No. 5-5/86-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003.

Dated : 25.11.1994.

To

The Chief Secretary
(All States/UTs)

Subject: Guidelines for diversion of forest lands for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

.....

Sir,

Detailed guidelines for submission of proposal for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 were issued vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 23.6.1989. To further streamline and decentralise examination of proposals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, revised consolidated guidelines had been prepared on 25.10.1992. A review of the existing guidelines have been done and accordingly, following modifications in the procedure for processing of the proposals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 have been made in the guidelines of 25.10.92.

I. Particulars to be Furnished alongwith the Proposal

In para 2.2, for sub para (iv), following shall be substituted, namely,

"(iv) The user agency shall submit the proposal for renewal of mining lease to the Forest Department one year prior to date of expiry of existing lease, failing which the proposal may be liable for rejection. The State Government shall send the complete proposal to the MOEF at least 6 months prior to the expiry of the existing lease. In case of any delay, a detailed report elaborating the cause of delay shall be sent along with the proposal".

.....?/-

II. Proposals Requiring Clearance from Environmental Angle

In para 2.3

(a) For sub para (i), following shall be substituted, namely,

"(i) The projects covered under notifications issued from time to time under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, shall require clearance separately from environmental angle, as per procedure laid down by the Environment Wing of the MOEF. Environmental clearance where required should be applied for seperately and simultaneously".

(b) For sub para (iii), following shall be substituted

"(iii) For projects requiring clearance from forest as well as environment angles, separate communications of sanction will be issued, and the project would be deemed to be cleared only after clearance from both angles".

III. Land for Compensatory Afforestation

In para 3.2, for sub para (vii) (d), following shall be substituted, namely,

"Cases of renewal of mining lease, for the forest area already broken/used for mining, dumping of overburden, construction of roads, ropeways, buildings etc. For the balance area, compensatory afforestation shall be required to be done as stipulated, provided that no compensatory afforestation had been stipulated and done in respect of this area at the time of grant/renewal of lease earlier".

IV. Lease Period for Mining Lease

In chapter 4, after para 4.15, following shall be inserted, namely,

"4.16 The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for grant/renewal of mining leases shall normally be granted for a period co-terminus with the period of mining lease proposed to be granted/renewed under MMRD Act, 1957 or Rules framed thereunder, but not exceeding 30 years. While recommending cases for approval under the FC Act, the User Agency/State Government shall indicate the period for which the mining lease is proposed to be granted/renewed under MMRD Act or Rules framed therunder. However, in the event of non compliance of stipulations to the satisfaction of the MOEF, the clearance accorded may be summarily withdrawn".

V. Renewal of Mining Lease - Temporary Working Permission

In chapter 4, after para 4.16, following shall be inserted, namely,

"4.17 In respect of renewal of mining leases, temporary working permission may be granted by the Central Government to continue working in already broken up area upto maximum period of one year, even without formal approval for the renewal, provided:

(a) The user agency has submitted the required proposal with complete details to the Forest Department at least one year prior to the expiry of existing lease period,

(b) The State Government has sent the formal proposal to the Central Government for renewal of mining lease prior to the expiry of the existing lease, alongwith particulars and reports as are required to be furnished in the normal course of renewal.

(c) The temporary working permission will be confined to areas already broken up prior to the expiry of the lease, and no fresh area will be broken up until formal renewal is granted.

: : :

These amendments will come into force with effect from 25.10.1994.

Yours faithfully,

(ALOK JAIN) 25/11/94

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:

1. Secretary (Forests) of All States/UTs.
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All States/UTs.
3. All CCFs (Central), Regional Offices.
4. Secretaries to all Ministries of Govt. of India.
5. Cabinet Secretary, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. Prime Minister's, Office, South Block, New Delhi.
7. All Divisional Heads in the Ministry of E&F.
8. Department of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. Department of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
10. PPS to Secretary (E&F)/PPS to IGF/PS to Addl. IGF(FC)/PS to Addl. IGF(WL)/DIG (FC-)/AIG (FC-)/US(FC)/AIG (RO, HQ).
11. PS to Addl. Secretaries.
12. Guard File.

(ALOK JAIN) 25/11/94

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

6

SECRET

BRIEF NOTE REGARDING PROPOSAL FOR INVOLVEMENT
OF INDUSTRY IN AFFORESTATION OF DEGRADED FOREST LAND

...

There exists more than 25 million hectares of degraded forest land in the country and with all resources of Central and State Government as well as NGOs, on an average only an area of 1 million hectare is being afforested per annum. It would at this rate require about 25 years to afforest all the degraded areas and in the meantime further areas may come under degradation due to pressure of increasing population both human and bovine and of rapid industrial development.

In order to afforest such degraded forest land with the involvement of industry, a Cabinet Note dated 12.6.1995 was submitted to the Cabinet which was considered by the Cabinet Meeting held on 3.7.1995. It was decided that the matter in the first instance may be considered by the Group of Ministers headed by Minister for Agriculture. The salient features of the proposal are:

- Out of 65 million hectares of forest land, 25 million hectares is degraded with density below 0.4. Out of this degraded forest land, about 6 million hectares is severely degraded and have crown density below 0.1, which is proposed to be made available for commercial plantation.
- Average annual afforestation in the country from all sources is about 1.0 million hectare.
- Development of degraded forest land by the State Forest Development Corporation in collaboration with the industry.
- No lease of forest land to the industry or mortgaging of forest land is contemplated.
- Adequate safeguards for continuity of enjoyment of traditional benefits by tribals or poor.
- Mix of species to be insisted to avoid monoculture and ensure a minimum level of biodiversity.
- 20% of the project area to be planted by non-commercial forest species for fuel and fodder in consultation with the local population/village communities.

BENEFITS

- Employment generation due to increased plantation activities.

SECRET

- 2 -

- Prevention of encroachment on forest lands and increase in forest cover.
- Naturally pruned branches, grass, lops & tops to be made available free to surrounding village communities leading to reduction in pressure on existing natural forest.
- Prorata reduction in import bill of pulp and timber which is approaching Rs.1500 crores per annum.

MODALITIES

- A technical management committee with equal representation of the State/FDCs, industry and village community/panchayat to be formed (the inclusion of village community is being proposed as per suggestion of GOM in its first meeting held 2.8.1995). The Committee to be responsible for overall technical aspects of plantation such as species selection, spacing, harvesting cycle and method for sharing produce. However, actual day to day working to be done by the industry.
- Entire fund to be made available by the industry.
- Minimum plot area should be 100 hectares and the land free from traditional and community rights.
- Mortgaging of forest land not allowed, however, tree planted under the project can be mortgaged.
- Initial period of agreement for 30 years, which can be renewed.
- At least three species to be planted in mixed manner with no single species covering more than 50% of the area.

GOM'S PROCEEDINGS

The proposal was considered in the first Group of Ministers' meeting held on 2.8.1995 and the suggestion of inclusion of village communities/panchayat has been accepted by the Ministry and a modified draft alongwith the various statistical details sought by GOM were sent to the Cabinet Secretariat. The proposal sent to the Cabinet Secretariat for consideration of GOM has been received back with the remark that it should be resubmitted after obtaining the approval of present MEF.

4

SPEECH OF MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS
NGO MEETING - JANUARY 23, 1996

Ladies and Gentlemen:

1. It gives me great pleasure to address this august gathering of eminent NGOs, voluntary groups and experts and interact with them on important issues relating to protection of environment, economic development, poverty alleviation, population control, afforestation, equitable use of resources, planning for the future etc., which are all inter-linked and are sub-components of the larger concept of sustainable development.
2. I am extremely thankful to you that despite the short notice you have come in large numbers from all over the country. The purpose of calling this meeting of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), voluntary groups and other enlightened individuals is to basically understand from you the adequacy and effectiveness of the programmes launched and incorporate your inputs and feed back in the policy & programme formulations of the Ministry. I am told that some of you are already actively involved and playing a significant role in the development and implementation of several policies and programmes of the Government of India particularly of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
3. My idea is to institutionalise this arrangement of inter-action. We should have such consultations with NGOs on regular basis. After my taking over in the Ministry, we have had two rounds of brain-storming sessions with the officials, a number of meetings with Industry Associations and now this meeting with the NGOs. This enables us to have openness, transparency and better responsiveness in the functioning of the Ministry. Besides, much of the success in environmental conservation in developed countries has been due to the intervention and involvement of enlightened citizen - action groups debating about environmental issues on public forums.

4. In our country too, there has been a remarkably rapid growth of interest on environmental concerns among the voluntary groups working at the grass-roots level. I am told that the number of NGOs in India actively interested in environmental issues, today is larger than that of any other developing country. It probably matches the numbers found in Western countries where the environmental movement had its beginnings much earlier. This is not at all surprising because our country has a history of voluntary activity. The entire independence movement was of course one of voluntary action. The NGOs of today are the successors of that movement. So the expectations of the nation from the NGOs are naturally high.
5. The Government places highest of faith in the forum of NGOs and looks to them to adopt the role of catalysts for transforming the society especially in the rural India. The Government through the Panchayati Raj Institutions have already provided institutional framework for empowering the people. But the empowerment can really be effective only when people using it are capable and well informed. This capability building role has to be assumed by the NGOs. As a matter of fact in all programmes of the Government whether it relates to population control, literacy, health or other social issues, the Government is increasingly looking for support to the NGOs. We would like to have a strong network of NGOs develop in the country. I believe if the NGOs are strong, enlightened and concerned, we can through them change our rural scene for the betterment of our people.
6. You are aware that as far as our country is concerned, we have problems of growth, development and poverty alleviation at hand. Only yesterday in one of the meetings which I attended, an expert said that if the per capita consumption of ozone depleting substances of all in the world is as much as of India, there will be no problem of ozone and climate change. Our per capita energy consumption which is one of the indicators of development is 280 Kilo Watt hours as against perhaps 8000-10000 KW hours of the

developed countries. The developed world is responsible for about 70% of the annual total carbon dioxide emissions. The global environment problem therefore is largely a result of highly consumptive lifestyles of the West. It is not to say that environment is less important for us but what we want to emphasise is that development is also equally important for us. We have to strike a fine balance between the two. It is precisely for this reason that the concept of sustainable development has come to stay. We cannot however achieve sustainable development without the involvement of people. While the industry has its own responsibilities, the people in general have to play a very crucial role in protecting environment and conserving nature.

7. We have also learnt from our experience that people will participate only when they are well informed about the various issues and problems, the solutions to such problems and the significance of their involvement in such activities. People will also participate when they have an economic stake. The Government of course will do its utmost but it is well established by now that NGOs and voluntary groups working at the grass-root level, are better equipped to reach people at remote corners of the country more effectively and at a lower cost than government officials and agencies. I would therefore like to involve NGOs at all levels - right from policy making to implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and activities, so that your role as social partners is strengthened. Many of you perhaps are already interacting with my Ministry in some form or another and some of you have been associated with this Ministry right from its inception. Several important policy documents of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, such as the National Forest Policy, the National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development, the policy framework on biodiversity conservation and climate change, the Environment Action Programme etc., have all been prepared with the active participation of a wide cross-section of our grass-root level NGOs. This association is very valuable to us and I look forward to continuing and further strengthening this association.

8. Recently, we had an indepth discussion regarding management of some of degraded forest land. There was a view which the Paper & Pulp Industry Association had propagated that they may be allowed to jointly manage some of these forests in participation with the State Forest Corporations with a view to meet their raw material requirement and conserve foreign exchange which is otherwise use for imports. I posed to the concerned that if at all we are to decide to use a portion of degraded forest land for meeting this requirement, why should we not think of floating cooperatives of the tribal/local communities who could be empowered to run them on profitable basis and also meet the requirement of industry. I was told that floating of cooperative of tribals being a new green field concept, would be quite difficult. I told them that if we take assistance of NGOs, they should be able to organise these tribal cooperatives and make them self-sustainable. Why I am mentioning this here is that NGOs have proved that they can do it much better and take initiative in hitherto unknown areas.
9. We must therefore recognise the vast NGO power and its potential and make effective and constructive use of it in our nation building exercise. The NGOs movement should become a vibrant and mass movement and we stand to support it.
10. Many of you are already aware of the several programmes and schemes of my Ministry in which NGOs can participate. My colleagues who will be addressing you later, will talk about these programmes and schemes. I do not wish to go into these details at this stage - but I do wish to highlight a few instances when public participation, through the intervention of NGOs, has been instrumental in the success of these schemes. The Ganga Action Plan, drawn up in 1985 for cleaning the river Ganga, has been a tremendous success mainly because of the active participation of our students and non-student youth, pilgrims and the general public. Encouraged by this success, we have now drawn up a National River Action Plan under which many of our major

and medium rivers are proposed to be cleaned up. Even though precise figures are not available, various official and non-official estimates indicate that nearly 1.5 million ha. of degraded forests in the country are now being managed and protected by village communities in 10 States through around 10,000 Forest Protection Committees. This has been possible only because of the enthusiasm and initiative displayed by local forest officials, NGOs and the village communities.

11. The National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board also has a long association with the NGOs and such groups are supported financially by the Board for carrying out activities directly or indirectly concerned with afforestation of waste lands such as raising of seedlings, planting, soil and moisture conservation works, grass and fodder development including silvi-pasture etc. In order to involve the Panchayats more actively in this task, we have recently decided to recognise Panchayats as NGOs for funding under these programmes. The number of NGOs participating in our National Environmental Awareness Campaigns is increasing every year. The advertisement inviting proposals for this year's campaign has already appeared and I am sure that there will be enthusiastic response from the NGO community for this year's campaign also. I am aware that there has been considerable delay in release of this year's programme. In fact, we had set up a Committee to suggest further improvements and decentralisation of the scheme. The Committee's Report for decentralisation of certain activities has been accepted. I am sure, the time saved by virtue of the decentralisation shall compensate for the delay. Several other schemes aimed at creating awareness about environment at all levels of our society such as Eco-Clubs, Paryavaran Vahinis, Eco-Development at National Parks and Sanctuaries etc., are also dependent on NGOs for successful implementation. We have also launched a new scheme named 'Zile ki sabse Hari Panchayat' under which the best Panchayat in each district shall be given a cash award of Rs.1 lakh. This scheme should help us increase tree cover in the country side.

12. With a view to further strengthening and enhancing the Government-NGO interaction, we have also set up a NGO Cell in our Ministry, whose main objective is to ensure that this interaction is smooth and efficient. In view of the importance of the subject matter of prevention and control pollution, a NGO Cell has also been set up at the Central Pollution Control Board with the objective of enlisting the cooperation of the NGOs involved in activities relating to prevention and control of pollution, establishment of a NGO network in consultation with the State Pollution Control Boards, providing training and simple equipments like water testing kits, to enhance their capabilities in the field of pollution control and organising awareness programmes and pollution control activities through NGOs.
13. In conclusion, I would once again like to emphasise that NGOs have been a major strength of my Ministry and I look forward to continued association of you all with my Ministry. I would like to assure you all that we are receptive to suggestions, ideas, and constructive criticism from NGOs such as yourselves who have a feel for working directly with communities at the grass-root level. I solemnly state that myself and my colleagues in the Ministry will do our best to ensure that the dialogue between us is a continuing and constructive one.
14. I am sure your deliberations during the day would produce useful recommendations and I hope to join you later in the evening when a final view on the recommendations can be taken.

P K Dash
Executive Director



**ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING &
COORDINATION ORGANISATION**

Housing & Environment Department
Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
Paryavaran Parisar, E-5, Arera Colony,
Bhopal - 462 016.
Tel. : 566859, 566970, 564507,
Fax : 0755-566653, 562136

No. /EPCO/96

Date :

Dear Miss Patkar,

Thanks for your letter dated 12.1.96. Your valuable suggestions have been noted and we are forwarding them to Dr N Bhasker Rao, Convenor of the Social Audit Panel because this organisation was only a coordinating agency for the meeting of Social Audit Panel. The meeting which was scheduled for 12.196 has been postponed due to unavoidable reasons. The next date, time and venue of the meeting will be intimated well in advance. Inconvenience caused to you is regretted.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P K Dash)

Miss Medha Patkar
Narmada Bachao Andolan
62, M G Road
Barwani, Distt. Khargone - 451551

Fax : (0265)-330439 (Baroda)
Attention - NBA - 340168

Endt.No. 8288 /EPCO/Res/96 Date : 25-1-96

✓ cc : Dr N Bhaskara Rao, Member and Convenor Social Audit Panel, Ministry of Environment & Forests, CGO Complex, Paryavaran Bhawan, Room No.106, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003 .

along with the letter of Miss Medha Patkar dated 12.1.96.

PK Dash
24.1.96
(P K Dash)

नर्मदा बचाओ आंदोलन

NARMADA BACHAO ANDOLAN

■ बी १३, शिवम फ्लैट्स, एलोरा पार्क रस्ता, बड़ोदा ३९० ००७
फोन : ०२६५-३४०१६८ फॅक्स : c/o ०२६५-३३०४३०/३३८५४१
प्रति: एन.बी.ए.: ३४० १६८
■ ६२, म.गांधी मार्ग, बडवानी जि. खरगोन, म. प्र. ४५१ ५५१
फोन : ०७२९०-२२४६४



■ B-13, Shivam Flats, Ellora Park Road, Baroda 390 007
Phone: 0265-340168 Fax: c/o 0265 -330430/338541
Attention NBA: 340168
■ 62, M.G.Road, Badwani, Dist. Khargone M.P. 451 551
Phone: 07290-22464

From Baroda
Jan. 12, 1996

Kindly circulate to the members of the Panel

Mr. D S Mishra,
Executive Director,
Environmental Planning & Coordination Organisation,
Bhopal

Dear Mr. Mishra,

I received your letter inviting me for the meeting of the Social Audit Panel of MOEF, to be held today, just yesterday. Obviously, I can't attend the meeting. I wish the meeting was planned well in advance; that my address could have been obtained from any appropriate source; and that apart from ours, other more of mass-organisations, including those working in the forest areas and with the forest-dwellers, tribal communities, ^{were invited.} There are so many in Madhya Pradesh. Half-a-day is also not adequate time, I believe.

As regards MOEF's programmes and projects, I may only mention a few points here: (i) there is no system of circulation of information and documents on the Ministry's schemes to all concerned people's organisations, including those involved in struggles, questioning the policies. (ii) MOEF can be the first Ministry to initiate a practice of a public debate on all major plans/projects/programmes having social and environmental impacts. Hearings (public) can be held, as in some countries, on real gigantic/seriously impactful projects. (iii) Each of the presently ongoing projects/programmes can be, in a time-bound manner, reviewed to see if there is anything contrary to the MOEF's policies, eg. Large dams and priority to environmental conservation/ecologically balanced approach; micro-watershed development schemes. (iv) Allowing violation of conditions set in the clearance (Ref. Articles in Frontline) is affecting MOEF's own credibility. (v) MOEF's nodal offices ^{at the state level} don't seem to be playing any special role apart from what State level departments do. Narmada is the best example. All large dams, including SSP, ~~are~~ being pushed ahead without fulfilling pre-conditional requirements. (vi) A time has come to urgently evolve a comprehensive natural resource management policy, following a public debate and hearing on the draft.

I thus underline the need for prompt, full dissemination of information, with transparency, and channels for debate before final decisions; comprehensive policy on land-water-forest-mineral management and strict compliance. More later.

With regards,

Medha Patkar
(Medha Patkar)

ENVIRONMENTAL	PLANNING &
COORDINATING	SECTION
MDAHYA	BHOPAL
RECEIVED	
DATE	12
SECTION	17-1-96

Ministry of Environment & Forests
Social Audit Panel

...

Meeting at Madras and Trichi on 27.2.96 to 29.2.96

Programme

- | | | | |
|---------|--------|---------------|--|
| 27.2.96 | Madras | 11.30 - 12.00 | Informal meeting with State officials |
| | | 2.00 - 4.00 | Meeting with NGOs |
| | | 5.00 PM | Departure to Trichi |
| 28.2.96 | Trichi | | Visit to Tamil Nadu Pollution Projects |
| 29.2.96 | | | Back to Madras |

१०. जब यात्रा/यात्राओं की विशिष्टियां, जिसके लिए सरकारी सेवक ने उस वर्ग से जिसका वह हकदार है, उच्चतर वर्ग की सुविधा का उपयोग किया है:-

Particulars of journey (s) for which higher class of accomodation, than the one to which the Government servant is entitled was used.

तारीख Date	स्थानों का नाम/name of places.		वाहन का प्रकार जिसका उपयोग किया गया है Mode of conveyance used	वह वर्ग जिसका हकदार है Class to which entitled	वह वर्ग जिसमें यात्रा की है Class be which travelled	इस वर्ग की यात्रा भाड़ा जिसका हकदार है Fare of the entitled class रु०/Rs. पै०/P.
	से/Form	तक/To				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

यदि उच्चतर वर्ग की स्थान सुविधा में की गई यात्रा/यात्रायें समय प्राधिकारी के अनुमोदन से की गई हैं जो मंजूरी की सं० और तारीख उद्धृत करें।

If the journey (s) by higher class accomodation has been performed with the approval of the competent authority, No and date of the sanction may be quoted.

११. रेल से जुड़े स्थानों के बीच सड़क से की गई यात्रा/यात्राओं के ब्यौरे:-

Details of journey (s) performed by road between places connected by rail

तारीख/Date 1	स्थानों का नाम/ Name of the places		संदय भाड़ा/Fare paid रु०/Rs. 4
	से/From 2	तक/To 3	

१२. लिए गए यात्रा भत्ता अग्रिम की रकम यदि कोई हो।

Amount of T.A. advance. If any drawn.

प्रमाणित किया जाता है कि उपरोक्त जानकारी मेरे सर्वोत्तम ज्ञान और विश्वास के अनुसार सही है।

Certified that the information as given above, is true, the boss of my knowledge and belief.

तारीख/Date

सरकारी सेवक के हस्ताक्षर/Signature of the Govt. Servant

भाग-ख (बिल अनुभाग में भरा जाना है)
PART-B (To be filled in the Bill Section)

1. भत्ते मद्ध शुद्ध हकदारी _____ रु० बनी जिसके ब्यौरे नीचे दिए गए हैं।

The not entitlement on account of travelling allowance works out to Rs. _____ as detailed below :—

(क) रेल/वायुयान/बस/स्टीमर यात्री भाड़ा _____ रु०

(a) Railway/air/bus/ steamer fare Rs. _____ Rs.

(ख) _____ कि.मी. के लिए सड़क मील भत्ता _____ पै० प्रति कि.मी. की दर से

(b) Road mileage for _____ Kms. @ Rs. _____ P/Km.

(ग) दैनिक भत्ता/Daily allowance—

(i) _____ दिन/Days @Rs. _____ रु० प्रति दिन की दर से/Per day.

(ii) _____ दिन/Days @Rs. _____ रु० प्रति दिन की दर से/Per day.

(iii) _____ रु० प्रति दिन की दर से/Per day.

(घ) वास्तविक व्यय/Actual expenses रु०/Rs. _____

कूल राशि/Gross amount _____

(ङ) वाउचर सं० _____ तारीख _____ रु० के अनुसार लिए गए यात्रा भत्ता सहित
की रकम को यदि कोई हो, घटा दें।

(c) Less amount of T.A. advance If any, drawn vide voucher No _____ Dated _____ Rs. _____

कूल रकम/Net amount Rs. _____

2. व्यय _____ में विश्वसनीय है।

The expenditure is debitable to _____

बिल लिपिक के आद्यक्षर
Intials of bill clerk

आदान और सँविरतक अधिकारी के आद्यक्षर
Signature of Drawing and Disbursing Officer

प्रतिहस्ताक्षरित
Countersigned

नियंत्रक अधिकारी के हस्ताक्षर
Signature of the Controlling Officer

१०. जब यात्रा/यात्राओं की विशिष्टियां, जिसके लिए सरकारी सेवक ने उस वर्ग से जिसका वह हकदार है, उच्चतर वर्ग की सुविधा का उपयोग किया है:-

Particulars of journey (s) for which higher class of accomodation, than the one to which the Government servant is entitled was used.

तारीख Date	स्थानों का नाम/name of places.		वाहन का प्रकार जिसका उपयोग किया गया है Mode of conveyance used	वह वर्ग जिसका हकदार है Class to which entitled	वह वर्ग जिसमें यात्रा की है Class be which travelled	इस वर्ग की यात्रा भाड़ा जिसका हकदार है Fare of the entitled class रु०/Rs. पै०/P.
	से/Form	तक/To				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

यदि उच्चतर वर्ग की स्थान सुविधा में की गई यात्रा/यात्रायें समय प्राधिकारी के अनुमोदन से की गई हैं जो मंजूरी की सं० और तारीख उद्धृत करें।

If the journey (s) by higher class accomodation, has been performed with the approval of the competent authority, No and date of the sanction may be quoted.

११. रेल से जुड़े स्थानों के बीच सड़क से की गई यात्रा/यात्राओं के ब्यौरे:-

Details of journey (s) performed by road between places connected by rail

तारीख/Date 1	स्थानों का नाम/ Name of the places		संदय भाड़ा/Fare paid रु०/Rs. 4
	से/From 2	तक/To 3	

१२. लिए गए यात्रा भत्ता अग्रिम की रकम यदि कोई हो।

Amount of T.A. advance. If any drawn.

प्रमाणित किया जाता है कि उपरोक्त जानकारी मेरे सर्वोत्तम ज्ञान और विश्वास के अनुसार सही है।

Certified that the information as given above, is true, the boss of my knowledge and belief.

तारीख/Date

सरकारी सेवक के हस्ताक्षर/Signature of the Govt. Servant

भाग-ख (बिल अनुभाग में भरा जाना है)
PART-B (To be filled in the Bill Section)

1. भत्ते मद्ध शुद्ध हकदारी _____ रु० बनी जिसके ब्यौरे नीचे दिए गए हैं।

The not entitlement on account of travelling allowance works out to Rs. _____ as detailed below :-

(क) रेल/वायुयान/बस/स्टीमर यात्री भाड़ा _____ रु०

(a) Railway/air/bus/steamer fare Rs. _____ Rs.

(ख) _____ कि.मी. के लिए सड़क मील भत्ता _____ पै० प्रति कि.मी. की दर से

(b) Road mileage for _____ Kms. @ Rs. _____ P/Km.

(ग) दैनिक भत्ता/Daily allowance

(i) _____ दिन/Days @Rs. _____ रु० प्रति दिन की दर से/Per day.

(ii) _____ दिन/Days @Rs. _____ रु० प्रति दिन की दर से/Per day.

(iii) _____ रु० प्रति दिन की दर से/Per day.

(घ) वास्तविक व्यय/Actual expenses रु०/Rs. _____

कुल राशि/Gross amount _____

(ड) वाउचर सं० _____ तारीख _____ रु० के अनुसार लिए गए यात्रा भत्ता सहित की रकम को यदि कोई हो, घटा दें।

(c) Less amount of T.A. advance If any, drawn vide voucher No _____ Dated _____ Rs. _____

कुल रकम/Net amount Rs. _____

2. व्यय _____ में विश्वसनीय है।

The expenditure is debitible to _____

बिल लिपिक के आद्यक्षर
Intials of bill clerk

आदान और सँविरतक अधिकारी के आद्यक्षर
Signature of Drawing and Disbursing Officer

प्रतिहस्ताक्षरित
Countersigned

नियंत्रक अधिकारी के हस्ताक्षर
Signature of the Controlling Officer

जी. ए. आर—14 [नियम 66(1) व 90(1)(i) देखिए]
G.A.R.—14[See Rules 66(1) & 90(1)(i)]

उप-बिल सं०/Sub-bill No.....

दौरे के लिए यात्रा भत्ता बिल Travelling Allowance Bill For Tour

टिप्पणी—इस बिल की दो प्रतियों में, एक सबाल के लिए दूसरी कार्यालय में, तैयार किया जाना चाहिए।
NOTE—This bill should be prepared in duplicate/one for presentation and the others as office copy

भाग क (सरकारी सेवक द्वारा भरा जाना है)

PART—A (To be filled up by Government Servant)

1. नाम/Name *Dr. M.S. Swaminathan*
2. पदनाम/Designation *member, social Audit Panel*
3. वेतन/Pay
4. मुख्यालय/Headquarters *Madras*

5. की गई यात्रा/यात्राओं के ब्यौरे और प्रयोजन/Details and purpose of journey (A) performed.

प्रस्थान/Departure		आगमन/Arrival		यात्रा की रीति और स्थान सुविधा का वर्ग Mode of travel and class of accomodation	संदत यात्री भाड़ा Fare paid		सड़क माल भत्ता के लिए दूरी कि.मी. में Distance in Kms. for road mileage	विश्राम की अवधि Duration of half		यात्रा का प्रयोजन Purpose of journey
तारीख और समय Date and Time	से Form	तारीख और समय Date and Time	तक To		रु०/Rs.	पै० P.		दिन Days	घण्टे Hrs.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	P.	7	8	9	

6. यात्रा की रीति/Mode of journey:—

(1) वायुयान/Air

(क) कार्यालय द्वारा व्यवस्थाकृत विनिमय वाउचर

(a) Exchange voucher arranged by office

(ख) द्वारा व्यवस्थाकृत/टिकट/विनिमय वाउचर

(b) Ticket/Exchange voucher arranged by

हाँ/नहीं

Yes/No

(ii) रेल/Rail

- (क) क्या यात्रा मेल/एक्सप्रेस/सामान्य गाड़ी से की गई?
Whether travelled by Mail/Express/Ordinary train?
- (ख) क्या वापसी टिकट उपलब्ध था?
Whether return ticket available?
- (ग) यदि उपलब्ध था तो क्या वापसी टिकट खरीदा गया? यदि नहीं तो कारण बताएँ।
If available, whether return ticket purchased? If not state reasons.

हाँ/नहीं/Yes/No

(iii) सड़क/Road

उपयोग में लाए गए वाहन का प्रकार, अर्थात् सार्वजनिक परिवहन द्वारा/टैक्सी द्वारा, किसी बस या अन्य लोक में एक साथ लेकर/किसी अन्य सरकारी सेबक के साथ मिलकर गाड़ी में, मिली या किसी व्यक्ति की, वह विनिर्दिष्ट किया जाए।

Mode of conveyance used i.e. by Govt. transport/by taking a taxi, single seat in a bus or other public conveyance/by sharing with another Govt. servant in car belonging to him or to a third person to be.

७. विराम स्थल से निम्नलिखित कारण से अनुपस्थित रहने की तारीख:-

Date of absence from place of halt on account of:-

(क) नि०ख० और सी०एल०/R.H. and C.L.:-

(ख) रविवार और अवकाश दिनों को प्रस्तुत, शिविर में न रहना।

(b) Not being actually in camp on Sunday and holidays.

८. यह तारीखें जिनको राज्य या राज्य निधि से वित्त परेक्षित किसी संगठन द्वारा मुफ्त भोजन और/या वास उपलब्ध किया गया:-

Dates on which free board and/or lodging provided by the state or any organisation financed by State funds:-

(क) केवल भोजन/Board only

(ख) केवल आवास/Lodging only

(ग) भोजन और आवास/Board and lodging

९. ऐसे मामलों में जिनमें होटलों/अनुपूरित तैरित पर योजना और/तो मास या जमा करने वाले अन्य स्थापकों में ठहरने के लिए उच्चतर दर पर दैनिक भत्ता का दावा किया जाता है, होटल रसीदी आदि के साथ प्रस्तुत की जाने वाली विशिष्टियाँ -

Particulars to be furnished alongwith hotel receipt etc. in cases where higher rate of D.A Is claimed for stay in hotel other establishments providing board and/or lodging at scheduled tariffs-

ठहरने की अवधि/Period of stay		होटल का नाम name of the hotel	पात्र की प्रभावित दैनिक दर Daily rate of lodging charged	कुल संवत रकम Total amount paid
से From	तक To			

दौरे के लिए यात्रा भत्ता बिल Travelling Allowance Bill For Tour

टिप्पणी—इस बिल की दो प्रतियों में, एक सवाल के लिए दूसरी कार्यालय में, तैयार किया जाना चाहिए।
NOTE—This bill should be prepared in duplicate/one for p and the others as office copy

भाग क (सरकारी सेवक द्वारा भरा जाना है)

PART—A (To be filled up by Government Servant)

1. नाम/Name *Dr. M.S. Swaminathan*
2. पदनाम/Designation *member, social Audit Panel*
3. वेतन/Pay
4. मुख्यालय/Headquarters *Madras*

5. की गई यात्रा/यात्राओं के ब्यौरे और प्रयोजन/Details and purpose of journey (A) performed.

प्रस्थान/Departure		आगमन/Arrival		यात्रा की रीति और स्थान सुविधा का वर्ग Mode of travel and class of accomodation	संदत यात्री भाड़ा Fare paid		सड़क माल भत्ता के लिए दूरी कि.मी. में Distance in Kms. for road mileage	विश्राम की अवधि Duration of half		यात्रा का प्रयोजन Purpose of journey
तारीख और समय Date and Time	से Form	तारीख और समय Date and Time	तक To		रु०/Rs.	पै० P.		दिन Days	घण्टे Hrs.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		

6. यात्रा की रीति/Mode of journey:—

(1) वायुयान/Air

(क) कार्यालय द्वारा व्यवस्थाकृत विनिमय वाउचर

(a) Exchange voucher arranged by office

(ख) द्वारा व्यवस्थाकृत/टिकट/विनिमय वाउचर

(b) Ticket/Exchange voucher arranged by

हाँ/नहीं

Yes/No

(ii) रेल/Rail

- (क) क्या यात्रा मेल/एक्सप्रेस/सामान्य गाड़ी से की गई?
Whether travelled by Mail/Express/Ordinary train?
- (ख) क्या वापसी टिकट उपलब्ध था?
Whether return ticket available?
- (ग) यदि उपलब्ध था तो क्या वापसी टिकट खरीदा गया? यदि नहीं तो कारण बताएँ।
If available, whether return ticket purchased? If not state reasons.

हाँ/नहीं/Yes/No

(iii) सड़क/Road

उपयोग में लाए गए वाहन का प्रकार, अथवा सार्वजनिक परिवहन द्वारा/टैक्सी द्वारा, किसी बस या अन्य लोक परिवहन में एक साथ लेकर/किसी अन्य सरकारी सेबक के साथ मिलकर गाड़ी में, मिली या किसी व्यक्ति की, वह विनिर्दिष्टी किया जाए।

Mode of conveyance used i.e. by Govt. transport/by taking a taxi, single seat in a bus or other public conveyance/by sharing with another Govt. servant in car belonging to him or to a third person to be.

७. विराम स्थल से निम्नलिखित कारण से अनुपस्थित रहने की तारीख:-

Date of absence from place of halt on account of:-

- (क) नि०ख० और सी०एल०/R.H. and C.L.:—
- (ख) रविवार और अवकाश दिनों को प्रस्तुत, शिविर में न रहना।
- (b) Not being actually in camp on Sunday and holidays.

८. यह तारीखें जिनको राज्य या राज्य निधि से वित्त परेक्षित किसी संगठन द्वारा मुफ्त भोजन और/या वास उपलब्ध किया गया:-

Dates on which free board and/or lodging provided by the state or any organisation financed by State funds:-

- (क) केवल भोजन/Board only
- (ख) केवल आवास/Lodging only
- (ग) भोजन और आवास/Board and lodging

९. ऐसे मामलों में जिनमें होटलों/अनुपूर्वित तैरित पर योजना और/तो मास या जमा करने वाले अन्य स्थापकों में ठहरने के लिए उच्चतर दर पर दैनिक भत्ता का दावा किया जाता है, होटल रसीदी आदि के साथ प्रस्तुत की जाने वाली विशिष्टियाँ -

Particulars to be furnished alongwith hotel receipt etc. in cases where higher rate of D.A is claimed for stay in hotel other establishments providing board and/or lodging at scheduled tariffs—

ठहरने की अवधि/Period of stay		होटल का नाम name of the hotel	पात्र की प्रभावित दैनिक दर Daily rate of lodging charged	कुल संवत रकम Total amount paid
से From	तक To			

MSS/VS/
26 January 1996

SAP

Justice R S Pathak
Former Chief Justice of India
New Delhi

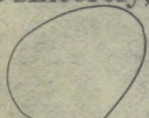
Fax : 011 301 7170

Dear Justice Pathak,

On medical advice, I am cancelling my travel for a week. Hence, I will miss the meeting of the Social Audit Panel which you are hosting in your house on 31 January. Please excuse me. I hope you will have a very good meeting.

With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



M S Swaminathan

Dr M S Swaminathan

Social Audit Panel

Ministry of Environment & Forests

Tentative schedule of field visits & meetings

February & March 1986

January	20th	Delhi	informal meet with Dr MS probably at Rajiv Bhawan
January	23rd	Jaipur	<u>if possible</u> NBR to join Dr MS need to be confirmed
January	27, 28	Gauhati	Rejmani + NBR
January	31	<u>10-00am</u> Delhi	Panel meet. w/ MS, Justice, NBR
February	10	Bhopal	Rejmani + NBR (to be finalised)
February	12	Bombay	Dr MS, Rejmani, NBR
February	27, 28, 29	Madras Trichi-Tanjore	Dr MS, Justice, NBR, Rejmani
March	4, 5	Ahmedabad	Justice, Dr MS, Rejmani, NBR,

Dr M. Swaminathan.

This is as per our discussion yesterday in your office

please indicate your concurrence and confirmation

Thanks.

With regards

Bhaskar

Madras 16/1/96

Bhaskara Rao

6854614

10-00 am
Justice
Patil's
house

