

A report of  
dissemination of  
media initiative  
by

Comet Media Foundation

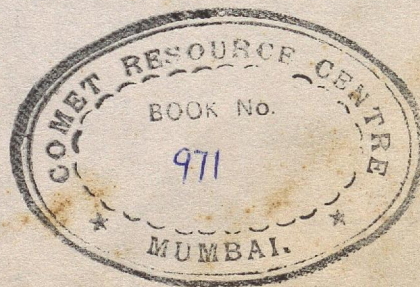
1997

for media Advocacy Group

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In the last quarter of 1997, three media kits on micro-credit, quinacrene and broadcast policy were prepared and disseminated. The dissemination was done with the objectives of spreading awareness and initiating a wider debate on these issues.

To meet these objectives we disseminated the kits not only to the representatives of media, but also to NGOs and activists in the field. The latter group would use these for training, advocacy and lobbying on these issues. Some of the representatives from NGOs gave us a feedback that they found the kits useful in their work.

The Response from the press was that the kits were informative, but they would use these some time in future. One press report has come out in outlook which is enclosed herewith. However, we must admit that the process of dissemination has just begun and the press releases may take some more time. The achievement is that we have been able to build contacts and be seen by the press as a resource group for information on developmental issues.

EMRC, Calcutta has made a film on savings and credit groups in rural West Bengal. They had acknowledged that they were inspired by our press kit to choose this subject for making the film and found the kit useful while doing background research for the film.

This report also contains reports of dissemination done at three occasions where our media initiative led much wider coverage. These include a press release on promotion of Eklavya's educational toys, on Vividha, the series of development resource fairs organised by us in this year and our attempt at media initiative in a human rights issue "Golibar police firing". The report also includes a note which is introspective about the media initiative, narrating the success as well as the shortcomings.

At the end of the report, the list of signatures of the persons/ organisations whom the reports were disseminated are attached.

## THE GOLIBAR INCIDENT

sharing experience of an attempted media campaign  
by Preeti Bhat, Devasmita Menon and Swatiya Manorama,  
Comet Media Foundation, Mumbai

This report summarises the attempt at implementing a media campaign. We decided to be associated with the Independent Women's Commission inquiring into the human rights abuses by police in the Golibar incident, and to get their story into media. Swatiya Manorama was one of the members of independent women's Commission.

### I INTRODUCTION :

We had been independently following the news on the Golibar incident in the media from mid march to mid April. The primary slant to the story is that of a human rights issue, with the added dimension of communalism.

When we heard that MAG was interested that we take up something immediately before the May meeting, we decided to take up this issue. It was thought that to achieve any substantial success in a short period, an issue with a topical news value be taken up. We also felt confident to take this issue up as one of the three activists who formed the independent women's fact-finding commission is part of Comet. Therefore, access to day-to-day developments, and mutual credibility seemed assured.

Our initial forays into this field had already shown us that for doing media campaigns which either:

- a) provide information to the media regarding any particular section of women, or
  - b) bring out the impact of any developmental activity on women,
- This would need a long-term association with the media to be built up over a period of time.

To provide any worthwhile information for publication in the form of media kits. such work would also involve some amount of original data collection on the part of our organisation. This was not possible in the time frame available. Therefore, the option of getting involved in an on-going campaign was chosen.

The objectives of intervention in this campaign were:

- a) to witness how the issue develops and gets projected in the media,  
and
- b) to be of assistance to the activists through being instrumental in getting media coverage.

These are the reasons for choosing this issue rather than initiating an independent campaign which may have turned out to be an academic exercise.

## II ABOUT THE GOLIBAR INCIDENT

On the night of Sunday, March 16th an ugly police-public clash erupted at Golibar in Santacruz East, a suburb of Mumbai.

According to Golibar residents trouble began at around 8.00 p.m. on Sunday night when the Nirmal Nagar police allegedly stripped and paraded three youths from the area through gullies of the slum.

According to near unanimous observation the three men were handcuffed, linked together by one rope held around their waists, stripped to the waist and paraded through the bylanes of the slum. While parading, they were stopped, beaten periodically and coerced into uttering filthy obscenities about their parents, children and wives.

The trio Khan, Abdul Mateen and Mohammed Kalim were accused of attempting to murder Ghulam Hussain, also a Golibar resident. According to various reports Hussain, is allegedly a dubious character who sells stolen electricity to slum dwellers. Hussain also has a history of eve-teasing and of being a 'khabari' (informer).

Mateen, Khan and Kalim picked up a fight with Hussain on March 10 after the latter allegedly entered Mateen's house and abused his wife. During the scuffle Hussain was stabbed in the stomach.

The trio surrendered at the Nirmal Nagar police station on Sunday morning and in the evening of the same day they were publicly paraded and humiliated. According to zonal deputy police commissioner Sanjay Barve, they were not being paraded but taken to their homes for the recovery of knife used in stabbing Hussain.

One of the accused Ibrahim Khan's sister Shehnaz unable to bear the humiliation of her brother rushed out of her home and pleaded with the police to let him go as her brother had already surrendered. In response the policeman turned and drove his knee into her abdomen. She fainted and had to be carried away by neighbours. This incident is mentioned here not only to highlight police brutality on women but also to show how the media can sensationalise one aspect of the news to the detriment of the total issue.

In fact some of the papers carried her photograph on the front page and announced her miscarriage as the main story of the day.

The Golibar residents were furious at this public humiliation and the show of power by the police. They resorted to a "rasta roko" later that night, at Khar subway, demanding for some higher level police functionary to come and hear their complaints.

In the meantime Dr. A. R. Khan who has a clinic there and is also the convenor of the local Mohalla Ekta Committee reached the site, on receiving several distressing calls from the Golibar residents. Corporator Helen Bharde and Suryakant Chavan were also present at the scene of "rasta roko".

The mob waited patiently awaiting the appearance of a higher level police officer. They were disappointed as only ACP Singh and sr. Inspector Vishwanath Patil of the Nirmal Nagar station arrived.

It is alleged that ACP refused to give a hearing to anyone and instead ordered a lathi charge on the people. The residents insist no warning was given before the lathi charge was ordered. About 40 women including local municipal corporator Bharde received lathi blows. Several of them were hit on the head and needed stitches. One resident Najma Siddiqui was also badly beaten. It is alleged that during the "rasta roko" she was made to hold her hands out and was beaten by the police with a lathi on her hands and back. In fact the greenish blue marks and swollen wrist bore testimony to this fact.

Zabinunnisa another resident who was returning home late after a hard days work also fell victim to this frenzied lathi charge although she had not ever participated in the protest. She lost consciousness and was admitted to the hospital.

These were certainly not the only victims of police brutality but here a few specific cases are mentioned to give an idea of the degree of brutality and the sheer helplessness of the victims.

1. Informal meeting with a Commission member

After several discussions on the phone, and keeping abreast of developments in the media we had a meeting with a member of the Independent Women's Commission on April 22nd, 1997. She gave us her reading of the matter.

2. Meeting of women activists at Women's Centre on April 26, 97

This was a small group of twelve women. It consisted of two members of the Independent Women's Commission, two women activists from a political party who had been active in that particular area, three persons from Comet, and five others who have been interested in the issue. The discussion was to focus on the strategy for media. The Commission members wanted to hold a press conference to release their fact-finding report. This was to be done at the earliest, since the story was already getting stale.

After one of the Commission members gave an update on the case, the details of their report, and their encounters with the police and the media, the discussion was to have moved to the contents of the press note, and the points to be emphasised during the press conference. Clarity on this issue had been lacking in the media coverage, and the police had done a skillful job of covering up their human rights abrogations.

However, the subject of discussion moved instead to personalities, and a variety of incidents which in any case could not have formed the substance of a press note, or even be alluded to in the press conference. Finally the main drift of the discussion ended up questioning the role of the Mohalla Committees, calling them, in effect, police stooges. The Mohalla Committees are a string of informal peace-keeping groups formed after the riots in different localities, and given recognition by the police as community representatives.

There were also unspoken tensions between the two Commission members and the third member who was not present. Similar tensions prevailed between one of the Commission members and the women from the political party active in the Golibar area.

Some of the activists also had a negative attitude about making up any media strategy. Their view was that as committed women, they were going to come up with the truth, so any such strategising was unnecessary and a somewhat compromising exercise.

We were disappointed about the outcome of the meeting to say the least. Our offer to make calls and help in arranging the press conference were brushed aside.

### 3. Press conference on April 29th, 1997.

We attended the press conference organised by this group. As the Commission members had already been briefing the press on this issue and had the necessary contacts, we did not have any active facilitative role in organising it. Although the number was small--about five journalists attended - the major news agencies and papers were covered.

### 4. Decision against fully participating in the issue.

The stage at which we got involved in the issue, the campaign had reached a level where:

- a) the press coverage had been saturated, and as mentioned above, the independent group itself had their own established contacts with the press.
- b) In such a situation, we did not want to be accused of "hijacking" anyone's hard work to add to our own public image.

Therefore we thought it would be better to treat this as a learning experience in media campaign and share the interface the activists had with media, police and other bodies like Mohalla Committee. We did assist one of the members in a dialogue with media This particular note will concentrate on observations about the media only.

#### IV LESSONS LEARNT

##### 1. Media coverage

a) A common problem that people working on women's issues face is that of invisibility. Media coverage is not adequate because the issues are not taken seriously enough by media personnel.

In this case, however, the issue got adequate coverage but the problem was that the coverage was distorted. As often happens with media, it tended to sensationalise the news, especially with regard to the women victims.

For instance, one of the women hurt in the lathi charge started bleeding. Without confirming the news from the victim or the medical records, an afternoon daily came out with the news that the woman had a miscarriage. Twice in the same week, the woman's photograph came in this paper. This caused enormous embarrassment to her as the woman told the activists. With the conservative Muslim background she belonged to, such publicity about a miscarriage was viewed with disapproval. Besides that, her husband was out of town, so how could she have been pregnant? She then had to get out of her way to prove she could not have been pregnant as she was sterilised. The fact that she had had herself sterilised landed her with further problems.

b) The press conference and the coverage on the next day brought out the communal and class bias of the press. The journalists were ready to believe the version of the story presented by the police, but not that of the victims or the activists who were putting forward the victims' case.

c) The other observation about media was that the press preferred simple stories to to complex ones, especially on such "low-priority, boring" issues. The activists who were deeply involved in the fact-finding group seemed to have ignored this fact.

Consequently, during the press conference and in their reports/press release, the entire story was presented in great detail. As a result some of the press reports misrepresented the facts.

Thus while dealing with press, the principle of "simple against complex stories" needs to be kept in mind. Particularly, the press release should consist of minimum, most important messages, rather than going into the details in which the media may not be interested. Otherwise, if too many details are given, the media selectively chooses the less important but sensational aspects of the story and blows these up in its presentation.

## 2. Strategic Issues overlooked

It was observed that the press conference and release of the report of the Independent Women's Commission inquiring into the human rights abuses in the Golibar incident was held much too late.

By the time the press conference was held, most of the coverage by the important newspapers was saturated. Both the media persons and the activists themselves had come to a stage where they thought nothing more could be said or done. From the objective of advocacy, the other aim was to get the question raised while the state assembly was in session. However, by the time the press conference was actually called, the budget session of the assembly was over. Similarly, the press release was too detailed and too long for disinterested media persons to absorb.

3. Resistance by activists to idea of strategic use of media.

The previous point discusses the aspects missed out or not done at the right time. However, besides the problems of poor logistics, there was also a question of attitude. Strategic use of media or media advocacy was seen as being dishonest or compromising. This attitudinal block did not allow the more practical steps for improving their outreach and projecting the case favourably in the media.

From the experience in this case, we realise that a campaign has to be an outcome of a sustained effort over a period of time on any particular issue to be effective and credible.

NO ONE COVERS MUMBAI LIKE WE DO

MID-DAY  
SPORTS  
SPECIAL

# MID DAY

SUBURBAN

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Rs 2

## WOMAN LOSES BABY AFTER POLICE ASSAULT



Shahnaz Tahir, who lost her baby, at home in Santa Cruz. In the background is Bala Khan, who was hit by a rifle butt during the lathicharge on Sunday. Picture by Ashish Rajee

By Manish Pachouly

SHAHNAZ Tahir, resident of Nirmal Nagar in Bandra East, miscarried after being beaten and kicked in the stomach by policemen on Sunday.

The three-months pregnant 27-year-old was rushed to a nearby hospital by Dr A R Khan, convener of the local Mohalla Ekta Committee. He said he has kept her medical case papers with him.

Shahnaz was pleading with the Nirmal Nagar police for mercy for her brother, one of the three accused in a stabbing case at Nirmal Nagar, when the police turned on her and other members of the crowd that had gathered to protest.

Her brother, Abdul Matin alias Nilkanth, and two others were stripped and beaten as they were paraded through their home locality of Golibar in Santa Cruz (East).

Matin, Mohammed Kalim and Ibrahim Khan had stabbed and seriously injured Gulam Hussain alias Babla, a police informer, at Nirmal Nagar in Bandra (E) on March 10. The stabbing was reportedly in revenge for the

repeated eve-teasing to which Hussain had subjected Shahnaz.

All three turned themselves in to the Nirmal Nagar police, who had registered a case of attempt to murder, on March 16.

After their surrender, the police took them to Golibar, stripped them, paraded them in public and assaulted them, according to Dr Khan who was witness to the scene.

Over 700 people gathered at Golibar naka in the evening, to protest against the police action.

Three vans of policemen, including platoons of the State Reserve Police Force, were called in to bring the situation under control. But things only grew tense.

Around midnight, the Senior Inspector of the Nirmal Nagar police station, V N Patil, and Assistant Commissioner of Police, Dharavi division, B R Singh, arrived and ordered a lathi charge, according to Helen Bharde, Janata Dal corporator from Ward 82, who says she too was assaulted during the lathi charge. Around 30 persons were injured and taken to Gopi nursing

[continued on page 2]

# GOLIBAR FRACAS

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED

By A Staff Reporter

THE police feels that residents of Golibar in Santa Cruz (E) staged a protest on March 16 to save three residents of the area who were accused in a stabbing case.

The issue has become murkier, with allegations and counter-allegations being traded by residents and the police, and political colour being given to it.

Over 700 residents of Golibar led by Janata Dal corporator Helen Bharde and her associate Nazma

Siddiqui had staged a protest on that day, following the alleged parading of the three accused.

The three residents, Abdul Matin alias Nilkanth, Mohammed Kalim and Ibrahim Khan were arrested on charges of stabbing Gulam Hussain alias Babla on March 10.

The three absconded following the incident and surrendered on March 16. They were taken to Masjid Galli in Golibar, their residences, to recover the weapon used for stabbing.

However, the residents protested

their parading in the area.

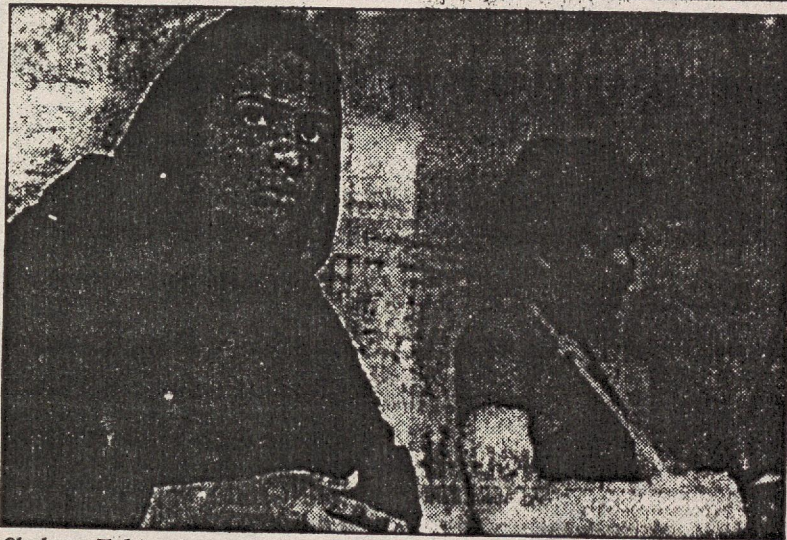
They alleged that the three were stripped and assaulted by the police.

The public, following this, protested against the police and even allegedly pelted stones at them. The police had to subsequently resort to lathi charge.

The residents alleged that a three-month pregnant Shehnaz Tahir had her abdomen kicked by a policeman, which resulted in her miscarriage.

Siddiqui also said she suffered multiple fractures on her right hand in the lathi charge.

## WHAT THEY SAY



Shehnaz Tahir who was allegedly hit in the abdomen by cops during the lathi charge

### POLICE VERSION

Deputy Commissioner of Police, Zone-8, Sanjay Barve, denied reports that Tahir was pregnant. "Her medical reports from V N Desai Hospital show that she had undergone a family planning operation six months ago and also had her menstrual periods just 15 days back," Barve said.

He further denied that Siddiqui suffered multiple fractures. "Her medical reports from Gopi Nursing Home show no bone injuries. She only had problems in her index finger," Barve said.

About the stripping and parading of the accused, Barve said, "We never stripped, assaulted or paraded them. We took them in the Masjid Galli on foot to recover the weapon because the lane was narrow and there was no way to take a vehicle inside.

"If you call it parading then we did parade them," Barve said.

He agreed that the three were handcuffed, saying it was necessary considering the nature of crime committed by them.

### POLITICISING THE ISSUE

The issue has taken political colour, with former Samajwadi Party corporator from the area (ward number 82) Hamida Mistry joining the fight against Bharde, who allegedly staged the drama along with Siddiqui.

Mistry, who lost to Bharde in the recent civic elections, alleged that Bharde was involved in the several criminal cases.

"Bharde had assaulted one woman by name Anwari with a chopper in the first week of January and a case is registered in Vakola police station. She is involved in more such criminal cases," Mistry alleged.

She further alleged that the persons who took out the morcha with Bharde have criminal records.

Denying the allegations, Bharde said Mistry made the attempt because she lost to her in the elections.

Bharde further alleged that the lathi charge was carried out on Mistry's instructions, as the police was hand in glove with her.

Mistry said since she wanted to do social work in the area, it threatened Bharde that her illegal activities would come to an end, so she is levelling such allegations against her.

### PADAM SONI'S

#### VERSION

Padam Soni (who, according to Siddiqui, had coordinated with Babla in illegal activities and is a police informer), blamed Siddiqui of shielding criminals and accused in the January 1993 riots.

Nazma had alleged that Soni had spilled oil on her daughter Nilofer in 1991 when Nilofer tried to rescue her uncle Chhotu Ishaq, who was being beaten up by Soni.

Soni, while denying the allegations, said Ishaq is a wanted accused in the 1993 riots case.

"He was being shielded by Nazma, who gave him shelter to save him from the clutches of police," Soni said.

"This is not the first time that Bharde and Nazma are staging this type of drama. Previously too they had staged such dramas," Soni alleged.

He further alleged that Nazma hurled abuses on the police when the three accused were brought to recover the weapon.

According to Soni, Babla was stabbed by the three accused persons because he knew secrets about the involvement of Matin, one of the three accused in the 1993 riots case.

He had even informed the then deputy police commissioner Sanjay Pandey about Matin's involvement in the riots case, Soni said. Following this, Matin and his men were waiting for a chance to attack Babla, which they got on March 10, he added.

He further alleged Bharde's involvement in several extortion cases in the area.

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# Transfer of DCPs raises eyebrows

101, 6.4.1987

By A Staff Reporter

MUMBAI: Six deputy commissioners of police (DCPs) in the city were transferred by police commissioner Subhash Chandra Malhotra on Saturday. Four of them are zonal deputy commissioners.

The transfers have raised eyebrows in police circles as the replacements of some upright zonal DCPs are seen to be pliable men. According to Mr Malhotra, the DCPs have been transferred due to 'administrative reasons'. He refused to elaborate.

The DCPs who have been transferred are Parambir Singh, Sanjay Barve, K. Venkatesham, M.B. Goud, Suresh Ahire and S.P. Gupta.

Mr Parambir Singh, who headed police zone 6 (Ghalkopar to Mulund) has been shifted to police zone 2 (Nagpada to Malabar Hill). The zone 2 post was lying vacant after D.D. Padsalgikar was transferred to the crime branch a

few months ago.

Mr Venkatesham, an upright officer, has been shunted from zone 9 (Goregaon to Saki Naka) to the special branch 1, a desk job. He had completed only one year in his post. Mr Venkatesham has been replaced with Mr Suresh Ahire, who till now held the additional charge of police zone 2.

Mr Sanjay Barve has been transferred from zone 8 (Dharavi to Vile Parle) to zone 6. He has been replaced by Mr M.B. Goud, who held a desk job as DCP (operations). Mr Goud has handed over charge to Mr S.P. Gupta from Special Branch-1, the police said.

Mr Barve had completed two years in his post and could have stayed on in the same post for two more years. He was recently in the news over a police-public clash at Golibar at Santa Cruz East.

Police sources added that a few more transfers may likely take place in the near future.

BT (TOI)

18.04.1997

# Corporator instigated Golibar violence

**Velji Thevar**

THE incident in Golibar last month in which three youth, accused of stabbing a man, were paraded, was widely seen as an example of police highhandedness. But the entire episode was the direct fallout of a clash between two warring local politicians, says a police enquiry report submitted to the state government this week.

The matter came up before the state assembly after three local youth from Golibar in Santacruz were paraded bare-chested by the police on charges of stabbing a man and local women who reportedly objected to this display of police highhandedness staged a dhama on the subway on the airport road. The police had resorted to lathicharge on the women when they refused to clear the road and the women had complained of miscarriages and fractures as a result of the police action.

The police lathicharge and the treatment of the accused by the police had somehow sidelined the real issue behind the whole drama, says the police report, now in the state government's possession.

Additional Commissioner of the north west region, Y C Pawar, who conducted the enquiry into the Golibar incident, is reported to have concluded that the whole Golibar episode was the handiwork of the local Janata Dal corporator Helen Barde and her cohorts.

Apparently, Helen Anwar Barde was miffed at Ghulam Hussain (who was stabbed) for having helped a rival candidate, Hamida Mistry from the Samajwadi Party during the last civic elections.

Helen's close friend Najma who is reportedly in touch with a couple of criminal elements, including Chota Ishaq (who was caught in a robbery case by the Gamdevi police station sometime back) and Bada Ishaq (who is holed up in Dubai),

made her displeasure felt to Abdul Main, a local hoodlum cultivated by her.

Abdul Main (who converted from Hinduism) took two local youths from a very poor family along with him to teach Ghulam Hussain a lesson. Ghulam Hussain was stabbed viciously in his stomach and he is still in a critical condition at the V N Desai municipal hospital. Main had gouged out Ghulam Hussain's intestines.

The police had escorted Main back to Golibar to recover the weapon since it was an attempt to murder case.

Since Main was close to Najma and Barde, they decided to make political mileage out of the incident. The police had handcuffed Main since they felt once in his homeground he could give them the slip and sneak off through any of the narrow gullies of the Golibar slums.

The handcuffing proved the police's undoing since the women (not the entire colony but only the Masjid lane where Helen Anwar Barde lives) protested against the treatment meted out to Main.

Soon more women were collected and Mrinal Gore's support was enlisted to give credence to the whole scene, and the dhama followed.

For three hours, the police tried to persuade them to disperse but finally when traffic on the subway to the airport was being affected and complaints by motorists began pouring in, the police had to lathicharge them.

The women had alleged that the crowd began stone pelting only after the lathicharge whereas the police say that it was only after the stone pelting provocation from the crowd that they resorted to lathicharge.

Since then it has been discovered that none of the women suffered any fractures or miscarriages.

# Activists surprised at police report on Golibar incident

CITY POLICE T01 - 23/4/97

By Anil Singh

MUMBAI: Women's groups and a civil rights organisation which independently probed a case of police atrocity at Golibar slums are surprised that the police report into the incident paints the victims as the culprits.

The police report, which was selectively leaked last week, contradicts the other two citizens' reports on every point and smacks of a cover-up.

Residents of Golibar, a minority-dominated slum, in Santa Cruz East had blocked traffic at Khar subway on the night of March 16 in protest against the stripping and parading of three accused in the locality by the Nirmal Nagar police. They were also upset that the policemen had misbehaved with the womenfolk of the families of the accused. The police allegedly lathi-charged the peaceful protesters, several of them women, without issuing any warning to them.

The incident made headlines as it raised several questions about the functioning of the police. After the issue was raised in the state assembly, deputy chief minister Gopinath Munde ordered a probe into the episode. The probe was conducted by additional police commissioner Y. C. Pawar.

Meanwhile, three women's groups — Women's Centre, Forum against Oppression of Women and Sakhya — jointly conducted an inquiry into the incident. They were followed by

Lokshahi Hakk Sanghatana, a democratic rights organisation which has been working in Maharashtra for the past 17 years.

All the three reports were submitted to police commissioner Subhash Malhotra by April 14 but he has not found time to study them. "I was busy. I will go over the reports and take corrective action by next week," Mr Malhotra said on Saturday, before going on a five-day leave. No decision can be taken till he returns.

The women's groups, as well as the Lokshahi Hakk Sanghatana, confirm the residents' allegation that the accused were stripped to the waist, paraded, beaten up and made to utter obscenities against their mothers and sisters. "The whole community has understood it as a show of power by the police," says the women's report while the Sanghatana's report says that the police action was "clearly aimed at terrorising the public".

The police had claimed that the three accused were being taken to their homes in order to recover the knife with which one of them had stabbed another resident of Golibar. The police report by Mr Pawar blames the residents for trying to free the accused from police custody and pelting the police with stones. It says that the mob blocking the subway had to be lathi-charged as they turned riotous.

The citizens' groups say that the police in their cover-up bid had charged 15 people, including four women, with rioting. Ironically, all the 15 had been hurt in the vicious lathi-

charge and were treated at the nearby V. N. Desai hospital.

The women, as well as the Sanghatana, say that it was a purely police-public clash and there was no element of communal tension involved in this incidence. Both reports also corroborate the residents' allegation that the police lathi-charge was without any warning.

Although observers say that the Golibar incident is the result of a "systems failure", the police have not admitted to a single mistake even in private. They steadfastly refuse to answer any of the several questions that the incident raises about policing the slums.

Meanwhile, Janata Dal leader Mrinal Gore, who led a delegation of Golibar residents to the police commissioner, said she would now approach deputy chief minister Gopinath Munde for justice. "The police report does not tally with our findings. I will now take up the issue with the deputy chief minister," she said.

APRIL 30, 1997 - Indian Express

# Golibar, a new twist

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
APRIL 29

**A** GROUP of three women, Kalindi Muzumdar of Nirmala Niketan College of Social Work, Ammu Abraham, coordinator of Women's Centre and Swatija Paranjape of Forum Against Oppression of Women, have prepared a report on the parading of three accused on the night of March 16 in the Golibar area in Santa Cruz.

The report has indicted the police for the entire episode. The group has demanded that action be taken against the concerned police officers. They have threatened to move court if no action is taken. At around 7 pm on March 16, detection officers from the Nirmal Nagar police station took the three accused — Abdul Mateen alias Neelkanth Tadalwal, Mohammed Kalim and Ibrahim Khan —

through Golibar, in a bid to recover the weapon allegedly used to stab a certain Gulam Hussain alias Babla on March 10, following a political rivalry. The police then paraded the accused, following which Najma Siddiqui, a local, mobilised the residents to stage a *rasta roko*. This soon turned violent as the mob started pelting stones on the police. The police then began to lathicharge the mob to control the situation.

No women police constables were present at the site. Among those who received injuries were Shahnaz, Najma, sitting Janata Dal corporator Helen Bharde, Haseena and her aide Biwijaan.

The women had formed an enquiry commission on their own to carry out an independent enquiry into the matter. But surprisingly, the report appears to be one sided. It does not contain any version conflicting with the victims' story.

The Indian Express had car-

ried a detailed report on how the incident was actually staged, and that there were political connections behind it. Gulam, who was stabbed, is close to the Samajwadi Party candidate in the recent municipal polls Hamida Mistry, and had raised a controversy on the polling day — February 27 — alleging that Janata Dal members had engineered bogus voting on a large scale for their candidate, Helen Bharde.

Shahnaz is the sister of Ibrahim, one of the accused in the attack on Gulam on March 10. She had said that she miscarried after the attack, however medical records reveal that she wasn't pregnant when the incident took place. Najma had claimed her hand was fractured after the police beating, but her medical records show no injury. The 'independent' report does not satisfactorily probe into any of these issues, and has squarely blamed the police for the incident.

## INDIA

T01 - 6/5/97

# 'Police intimidation of JD activists is aimed at suppressing truth about Golibar incident'

By Anil Singh

MUMBAI: When the doorbell rang at real estate agent Sayed Khurshid's house at 2 a.m. on Sunday, he thought some relatives had arrived from his hometown. Instead, the men at the door were constables. An office-bearer of the Janata Dal, Mr Khurshid was taken away and put in the lock-up in connection with a month-old rioting case.

Two other Janata Dal activists were arrested in this fashion over the weekend by the Nirmal Nagar police. These arrests are seen as another instance of police repression by civil rights activists and residents of Golibar slum who have come to dread the midnight knock.

"The police have been harassing and intimidating our activists in a bid to suppress the truth," alleged Janata Dal leader Shaila Satpute.

Relations between the police and residents of this minority-dominated slum in Santa Cruz East have been going downhill since Sunday, March 16. The residents had resorted to a 'rasta roko' at Khar subway near the

slum that night in protest against the stripping and parading of three accused in the locality. Around midnight, the police caned the peaceful protesters, including several women, without warning.

This was borne out in investigations by this reporter as well as established in probes by women's groups and by the Lokshahi Hakk Sanghatana, a civil rights organisation. Ever since, the police have allegedly been terrorising residents in order to cover up the atrocity.

In the lathi-charge on March 16, Mr Khurshid was reportedly hit on the head with a rifle butt and needed eight stitches for the wound. "I was wrongly arrested on charges of rioting since I spoke to the press and testified against the police in a departmental inquiry despite pressure from the local police," alleged Mr Khurshid.

Says Mr Khurshid's lawyer J.B. Shaikh, "My client lives near the police station and has been here all along. Where was the need to show him as 'wanted' and arrest him on Sa-

turday night? Clearly, the motive was to harass and humiliate him since holiday magistrates are not inclined to grant bail."

However, police commissioner Subhash Malhotra flatly denies any police repression. "We are not against any political party," he said when told that Janata Dal workers were being arrested but a Congress corporator who participated in the agitation was not touched.

Asked what action he had taken on the two reports by citizens' groups that had indicted the police, the commissioner said the matter was 'under consideration'.

According to Ammu Abraham of the Women's Centre, one of the three women's groups which jointly probed the Golibar incident, the police had booked 14 people for rioting the day after the lathi-charge. The police got their names and addresses from V.N. Desai Hospital, where they had been treated for injuries suffered in the police caning. "Ironically, the police have taken their injuries as proof that they participated in riot-

ing," pointed out Ms Abraham.

Mr Khurshid and the two other Janata Dal activists arrested by the police last weekend were just three people in a fresh list of 12 persons to be booked for rioting at Golibar. "I have been trying to persuade these terrified slum-dwellers to surrender to the police. We have assured them that we will help them pay the bail, which comes to Rs 2,000 each," said Ms Satpute.

According to veteran Janata Dal leader Mrinal Gore, the parading and police lathi-charge at Golibar is indicative of the anti-minority bias of the police. "If it was not a minority-dominated slum, the police would not have behaved in such a high-handed manner," she said.

Meanwhile, the residents live in dread of the police. According to Vinod Shetty of the Sanghatana, policemen have been going around threatening Golibar residents not to testify against them. "The police have been telling them, 'Journalists and the activists are here only for a day. For the rest of the year, you will have to deal with us'," said Mr Shetty.

A Report on Media Advocacy for innovative educational toys  
created by a voluntary group working in Madhya Pradesh.

Comet Media Foundation a non-profit media group based in Mumbai has been supporting alternative efforts in education, science and technology and communication. As part of this activity Comet has been marketing wooden toys made by well known Madhya Pradesh based voluntary group, Eklavya, since 1992.

These beautifully crafted toys by rural artisans of Madhya Pradesh not only provide endless hours of fascination and fantasy time for children but also stimulate children's physical and mental skills. These visually pleasing thirty odd toys in various shapes, sizes and colours are also extremely affordable, with prices ranging from Rs. 11 to Rs. 130.

Despite being good, wholesome and fun products, the toys have not had the kind of reach that it should have had for a variety of reasons --an essential one being that vast majority of people are unaware of its availability in the city.

For some time we at Comet, have been toying with various ideas to improve the reach of these toys, be it by improving packaging, creating descriptive leaflets or taking part in exhibitions and toy bazaars. We thought of using our advocacy skills for reaching out to people.

We were aware that in cities and small towns across India, the market is flooded with mass produced toys often manufactured in collaboration with multinational giants, who aggressively market them. These toys not only encourage aggressive behaviour but also reinforce class and gender stereotypes.

We felt that Eklavya toys which stimulate children to use their imaginative, logical and creative skills could prove an alternative to these, if we could reach out to a wider public.

We worked on a press release keeping these thoughts in mind, and circulated it amongst a number of media persons who were sensitive to such issues.

We were pleasantly surprised when our release met with welcome response from media persons and were flooded with enquires pertaining to antecedents of both Comet and Eklavya apart from the toys themselves.

The toy release was prominently covered by Shabnam Minwalla in the city page of The Times of India. Minwalla's article, which was peppered with quotes from educationists, teachers, parents, counselors and toy manufacturers, played on challenging the supremacy thus far enjoyed only by plastic toys and gun and gore gizmos. Such write ups certainly helped the cause of indigenous and innovative experiments in education apart from increasing the sales.

Apart from The Times of India article, there were write-ups in the Bombay Times, The Statesman, Outlook and some others. Enclosed are a few clippings.

In the electronic media the story was covered by the Zee TV for their news programme. Meghna Sawant a correspondent for Zee News took special interest in the issue and made the effort to get a shot of children playing with the toys. We were also able to organise an interview with a visiting member of Eklavya, Anuradha Gupta, who lent weightage to the news. Subsequent to the coverage both in the electronic and print media, we received several queries and orders for the toys and the organisations behind it. The inquiries came not only from Mumbai but from as far away as Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat etc., both from institutions and individuals.

Enclosures: 1. Press clippings 2. Press release by Comet Media Foundation

## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Publication

24th June, 1997, Mumbai

### Creative educational toys struggle to survive in the jungle of G.I. Joes :

The Indian market is flooded with mass produced toys that encourage aggressive behaviour, reinforce class and gender stereotypes amongst young children. While a number of parents and educators find a dearth of toys that stimulate children to use their imaginative, logical and creative skills producers of such toys are finding survival in the mainstream market itself a challenge.

Parents and schools interested in buying creative toys will be happy to learn that such toys are now available in Mumbai. These toys are designed by highly qualified scientists, working with *Eklavya*, a voluntary organisation based in Madhya Pradesh. *Eklavya* is involved in innovative experiments in the field of education and promotion of indigenous technology. *Eklavya* develops curricula, produces textbooks and regularly undertake teacher training programmes for the school teachers of the state government's education programme.

The thirty-odd wooden toys crafted by rural artisans of Madhya Pradesh not only provide endless hours of fascination and fantasy time for children but in their own ingenious way stimulate the physical and mental skills of children of a range of age groups.

The *Eklavya* toys can be classified into several groups, dynamic toys such as the *Santulika* which familiarises the child with basic concepts of balance and gravity, besides being a lot of fun. While the *Magic Mushroom* demonstrates the principle of shifting centre of gravity-on acceleration, the *Street Acrobat*, *Climbing Tortoise*, *Climbing Lizard* and *Climbing Child*, all aid in building motor coordination.

Logical toys such as the *Parking Puzzle*, *Peggy* and *Fun with Shapes* enhance strategising abilities while the *Soma's Cube* serves as a model for learning concepts in design and in dealing with three dimensional spaces. The *Hanoi Tower* based on a traditional Vietnamese game teaches the child seriation, combination and planning a set of logical moves.

The set also contains a number of wooden Jigsaw puzzles for all ages not to mention the classic Montessori construction toys like the *Building block set*, *Shape Board*, *Animal set*, *Alphabet set*, and other popular and versatile pre-school favourites.

Priced reasonably from Rs. 11 to Rs. 130 these toys are being distributed by Comet Media Foundation a non-profit media organization in Mumbai. Working since 1985 in the area of communication, Comet has been supporting alternative efforts in education, science & technology and communication.

### For further details please contact :

Preeti Bhat / Devasmita Menon

Toys/MAF/campaign



# TOYSPOT

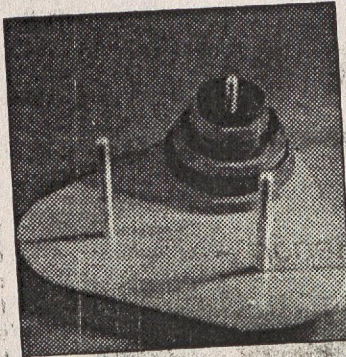
STATESMAN  
Calcutta July 3rd 1997

MARIO Rodrigues, a friend of the Arklings in Mumbai, sent an excited letter to Polly Pony recently. He writes:

Watch out Superman, Batman and GI Joe. Santulika, the balancing girl, and Street Acrobat are comin' to get ya. Thanks to the efforts of *Eklavya*, a voluntary organisation based in Madhya Pradesh, creative indigenous toys imbued with educational value are trying to take on the might of the mass produced American-inspired toys for the attention and affection of the nation's children.

In Mumbai the *Eklavya* toys are being distributed by **Comet Media Foundation**, another "non-profit group working in educational communications" which made a film on the *Eklavya* project earlier.

"Since we are not located at a prime address in town and people find it difficult to access us therefore we have decided to reach out to people so they get to know about the alternatives on offer," said Preeti Bhat of CMF. According to CMF, the Indian market is flooded with mass-produced toys that encourage aggressive behavior, reinforce class and gender stereotypes (like Barbie dolls). The aggressive



marketing tactics used to promote them through the thousands of outlets at their command put indigenous toys at a disadvantage and parents and educators find it difficult to get toys that stimulate children to use their imaginative, logical and creative skills. *Eklavya*, named after the character in the *Mahabharata*, a symbol of learning independently despite crippling odds, is involved in innovative experiments in the field of education and promotion of indigenous technology. The 30-odd wooden toys, priced reasonably from Rs 11 to Rs 130, were designed by their scientists and are crafted by the rural artisans of Madhya Pradesh. Toys are classified into various categories like **dynamic toys (Street Acrobat, Santulika, Magic Mushroom, Climbing Tortoise)**, **logical toys (Soma's Cube, Parking Puzzle)**, **jigsaw puzzles (Shape Board, Map of India)**, **construction toys (Foortika, Building Block Set)** and **miscellaneous (Animal Set)**.

While Santulika familiarises the child with basic concepts of balance and gravity, Magic Mushroom demonstrates the principle of shifting centre of gravity-on-acceleration and Street Acrobat aids in building motor coordination. So while children play and have fun, they will be also learning a few valuable lessons in the process... Polly Pony put down the letter with dancing eyes. "Isn't it lovely that people in this country are thinking about what is best and useful for children", she told the Arklings.

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# Traditional toys tip their own in the tiny tot's world

By Shabnam Minwalla

MUMBAI: It doesn't need to be mean, muscular and a member of the Ninja Turtle troop to capture a child's imagination. Nor, for that matter, does it need to cost a pretty packet.

For, educationists and counsellors maintain that, often, a couple of blocks of wood or a battered walking stick can fascinate a child for hours — even while that 2,000-rupee remote control car is relegated to a dusty corner after just a couple of vrooms. "Most toys in the market today focus on entertainment," says Subba Rao,

chief executive of the creative wing of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan. "They stress colour, movement and sound. While such toys do have a place in a child's imagination, they rarely allow him to exercise his creativity and improvise."

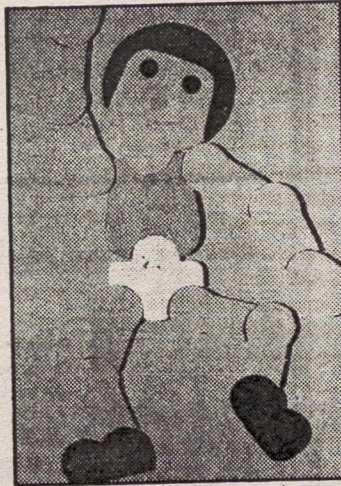
Little wonder, then, that while Barbie and GI Joe are the undisputed monarchs of the moment, Toyland might well witness an unexpected insurgency. For, over the last couple of years an unlikely band of contenders — in the ilk of wooden acrobats, tin-can trains and tricky brain-teasers — have been meandering into the market and challenging the supremacy long enjoyed by perfect plastic features and gun-and-gore gizmos.

"The best toys are those which incorporate an element of discovery," says K. Subramaniam of the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education. "While toy stores stock a handful which combine fun with learning — like Scrabble or the Rubik Cube — the meeting points are few. Very often, however, offbeat options like traditional toys have been designed to develop motor co-ordination and mental skills."

This is certainly the case with the traditional toys introduced by Eklavya, an educational NGO based in Madhya Pradesh. Besides a veritable wooden menagerie — including jigsaw-puzzle elephants and lizards that scamper up walls — the inexpensive range comprises brain-teasers like the Tower of Hanoi, a Vietnamese game, which hones a child's logical abilities. Then there is Santulika, the balancing girl, who familiarises children with the concept of gravity; and

Street Acrobat who, in the hands of a practised tot, can perform mindboggling flips and handstands.

"The ideas came from all over," says Anwar Jafri, who started working with rural artisans in the early '80s to develop teaching aids for Eklavya's programme. "For example, the lizard is an African toy, while others are based on traditional Chinese playthings. As the toys proved a hit with the children in our programme, and as they provide a livelihood to numerous artisans, we decided to market them on a larger scale."



A wooden toy made by Eklavya

While Eklavya delves into tradition, Arvind Gupta sifts through "quantities of junk — by-products of our consumeristic age" to come up with his novel ideas. "I try to transform throwaway materials into joyous toys," says Gupta who has written eight books on the subject. "For example, 'Pumps in the dump' shows children how to make a variety of pumps out of film-roll bottles and balloons. While another slender volume suggests over 40 puzzles that can be made out of old rubber chappals. And a third demonstrates the amazing uses of discarded Frooti packs — which are waterproof and collapsible, but can never be recycled. Children must be made to realise that the environment is important and that waste should be avoided at all costs."

Gupta's approach has proved extremely popular. His books have been translated into 13 languages and sold lakhs of copies, while his workshops are in great demand. "What I want to convey is that science is not restricted to the laboratory," says Gupta, bemoaning the fact that the average Indian sorely lacks a scientific temper. "I want children to see possibilities in ordinary things. That, after all, is what science is about."

Like Gupta, the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education too uses toys and games to subtly acquaint children with the key concepts of mathematics and science. Its kits — replete with card games and intriguing puzzles — were devised for educational and teachers' training programmes. But so successful did they prove that the centre is bringing out a book which will enable teachers and parents to whip up their own "button, toothpicks and cardboard kits". "Children are occasionally lazy when it comes to learning, say, addition or multiplication in the classroom," says H.C. Pradhan of the Homi Bhabha Centre. "But when it comes to playing a game which requires the same processes, they are very, very quick and accurate. Certainly, toys and games play a key role in education."

In recognition of this fact, organisations like Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan are also publishing books on educational toys and activities. A women's cooperative will soon be launching a kit, comprising connectors and structural elements, enabling children to build three-dimensional structures. Workshops conducted by traditional toy-makers, meanwhile, are fast gaining in popularity.

"In the last couple of years we have seen a big jump in awareness and sales," says Bela Desai of Jechand Talakshi, one of the city's few educational toy stores. Concur the mother of a three-year-old, "Finally parents are realising that just as a child needs wholesome food for the body, he needs wholesome food for thought and creativity as well. And while it is impossible to avoid junk toys entirely, in the long run the diet must be balanced and healthy."

MAB/TOYS/PSCS

# Creating toys out of high-tech junk

Indian Express, Mumbai 15-7-97  
LEENU DIKSHIT  
PUNE, JULY 15

**W**HAT do you do with an empty Frooti carton? Chuck it into the dustbin, of course! Of what use can the carton be after the drink is over?

Ask Arvind Gupta who uses such 'hi-tech junk' and recycles it into joyous toys. Empty film-roll boxes, used bicycle tubes, old newspapers... all such 'waste' is transformed into low-cost scientific experiments and toys explaining the principles of science.

Tetrapacks which are expensive and energy-intensive to produce, as well as non-bio-degradable, are ideal tools for fashioning measuring cylinders. They are unbreakable, collapsible, easy to carry and can easily be used as glasses on a journey, explains Gupta. A diagonal cut and hey presto! you have a funnel ready. Since tetrapacks are made up of a multi-walled laminate of plastic, aluminium and paper, they can even be used for creating name-plates for trees, he informs.

Creative adaptation of materials is Gupta's forte. The best way to understand and learn the basic principles and methods of science is to see them in actual practical use or put them to use yourself, says Gupta. And, his toys help a child to do just that. A B Tech from IIT, Kanpur, Gupta worked as mainte-



**TOYING WITH A NEW IDEA:** Arvind Gupta plays on the 'musical balloon' fashioned from a film-roll box which acts as a sound box, a sketch pen, used ball-pen refill and a torn balloon. Express photo

now been translated into 13 languages and has sold over five lakh copies.

Gupta has conducted science teaching workshops for UNESCO at Bangkok and Male and has visited children's science centres, activity schools and toy libraries in Finland, Sweden and UK on the invitation of the International Play Association. He has also made over 50 TV science films with the CIET/NCERT and the UGC In-sat programme.

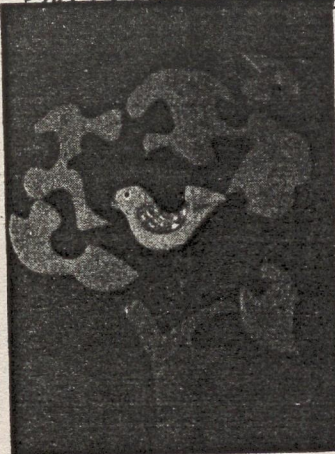
"Many experiments were designed, often with the help of village children and teachers in response to dismal poverty existing in most village schools," he informs. Says Gupta, "All the world's a lab. Science is not fancy glassware or an expensive laboratory. It's a viewpoint, an ability to critically examine, to perceive and discover an order in the world around us." And, his toys help one to do precisely that. Thus, a matchbox becomes a magic box and the humble matchsticks with the help of cycle valve tube as joints can be used to illustrate a range of structures and configurations, angles and shapes. The matchbox itself can be used to measure weight, area and volume. "Children learn by doing," emphasises Gupta and a tipper truck made out of matchboxes that was designed by children of contract workers, corroborates this.

Toys/ mAb / Cometaaji

Bombay Times 16/7/97

Bombay Times 16/7/97

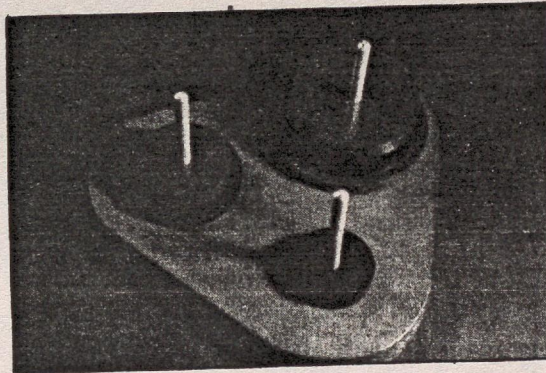
## Hey kids! Take a look at these toys



### Aboozar Kallmee

COMET Media Foundation has introduced creative toys which have been indigenously manufactured by rural craftsmen working with Eklavya, a voluntary organisation based in Madhya Pradesh.

Chandita Mukherjee, director, Comet Media Foundation, says, "Noticing a major dearth of toys in the market that stimulate children to use their imaginative, logical and creative skills, Eklavya came up with the idea of manufacturing these toys. The basic plan was to preserve rural art



and cultural values and to present good toys in the market." Comet Media is promoting these toys in the Mumbai toy market.

This venture was undertaken by Eklavya with the idea of generating employment for the trained and creative artisans of rural areas. Now, these 30 different types of wooden toys, made mainly from teak wood fetch the artisans a good price.

These toys are classified into several groups: there are dynamic toys such as *Santulika* which teach children the basic concept of gravity. The Street Acrobat, Climbing Tortoise and Lizard aids a child in building motor-coordina-

tion. Logical skills and designing can be acquired through Parking Puzzle, Peggy and Fun with Shapes and Hanoi Tower. A number of Jigsaw puzzles and Montessori construction toys are also available.

All these toys are sold at a reasonable price ranging between Rs 11 to Rs 130 at Comet Media Foundation, situated in Topiwala Lane School at Lamington Road.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

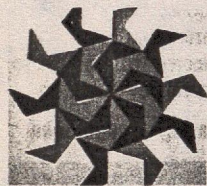
TOYS



### Eklavya Educational Toys

■ Comet Media Foundation, Topiwala Lane School, Lamington Road, Mumbai-400007

PARENTS are finding it increasingly difficult to find toys that encourage children to use their imaginative, logical and creative skills. Eklavya, a voluntary organisation based in Madhya Pradesh and involved in innovative experiments in the field of education, has launched a range of 30 indigenously



produced wooden educational toys crafted by rural artisans, aimed at providing endless

hours of fascination for children. Prices are reasonable and range between Rs 11 and Rs 130. Toys like Santulika familiarise the child with basic concepts of balance and gravity. Parking Puzzle enhances strategising abilities while Soma's Cube serves as a model for learning concepts in design and in dealing with three-dimensional spaces. There's a range of classic Montessori construction toys as well and other pre-school favourites.

FOOD

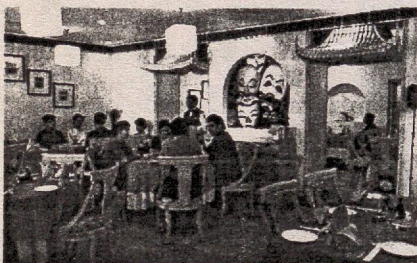


### Larry's China

■ The Ambassador Hotel, New Delhi

THERE'S no dearth of Chinese food in the capital. But Larry's China promises to be different.

Start with the menu. Written on a 40-year-old typewriter with pictures taken by Larry Carrington Goodrich, it traces China as it stepped into the 20th century. The menu takes you through a pictorial gourmet tour of a land which is more than rare Ming vases, hand-painted silk fans and ornamental dragons. The decor also does away with the stereotype. The attempt to be authentic is reflected in the food, with each dish offering a distinctly different flavour. Try their dimsums, lobsters in lemon butter and stir fried vegetables. A meal for two: Rs 700.



ART

### Indian Contemporary Art Post-Independence

■ National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, Till August 5



OVER 150 creations by 75 leading Indian artists are on display at this not-to-be-missed exhibition mounted by New Delhi's Vadehra Art Gallery in collaboration with the NGMA to celebrate 50 years of Indian Independence. Every major school, every important artist and every significant seminal development of post-Independence Indian art finds space here. The exhibition captures the rich diversity of contemporary Indian art in all its hues and shades, besides providing a stunning historical panorama of the wide variety of influences that have shaped the lines, forms, colours and concepts adopted by artists of the land in the last five decades.



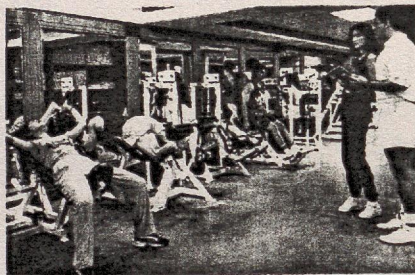
HEALTH

### Bodyscape

■ The Resort, Aksa Beach, Mumbai

LOCATED in the newly refurbished The Resort, the 12,000 sq ft spa has been designed and pro-

grammed by Canyon Ranch, America's premier health spa. At Bodyscape, guests can avail of programmes designed exclusively for Indian lifestyles, food habits and varied levels of health consciousness to find the perfect balance between mind, body and spirit. The programme includes fitness through aerobics, a cardio weight room, gymnasium, power walk, swim-



ing, all under the guidance of expert instructors; health cuisine with an inhouse nutritionist helping to develop specific meal plans for individuals; mind therapy which involves ancient rejuvenation techniques like meditation and yoga; beauty and body treatments; and special packages to suit corporate requirements. Specialised packages are also on offer, spanning two to five days, which include meals as per a dietician's recommendations. Preventive care is the keyword. Plus, there's a swimming pool, beach, swaying palms and clean fresh air thrown in to add to the relaxed setting.

CRAFTS



### Colours of the Desert

■ Dastkar, Aga Khan Hall, Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi, July 31 to August 4

DASTKAR is a registered society that aims at improving the economic status of craftspeople, thereby promoting the survival of traditional crafts. The NGO has been working in Kutch since 1990 with Rabari, Pako and Suf embroiderers. Showcased in this exhibition are products made in *bandhej* on cotton, silk, crepe and georgette with traditional colourful motifs; *Ajrakh*—reversible hand-block print-



ing using resist dyes; embroidered garments; leather accessories and lacquered wooden items; soft furnishings in traditional Rabari handiwork; pottery in varying shapes and sizes painted over with motifs in black and white; jewellery and other accessories. As always, a Dastkar exhibition is something to look forward to.

TELEVISION



### Star Yaar Kalakar

■ Sony Entertainment Television, From July 24, Thursdays, 8 pm

YET another TV game show? Well, notwithstanding the scepticism that greets every new programme concept these days, this one could well be different. For one, it is anchored by the irrepressible Farida Jalal.

And two, the show promises lots of fun and music as the young-at-heart actress-turned-hostess guides celebrity participants (the likes of Sanjay Manjrekar, Vinod Kambl, Ruby Bhatia, Talat Aziz and Anu Malik) and aspiring singers among the studio audience through several rounds which test one's knowledge of cinema and film music as much as it does one's crooning abilities. Conceptualised by Ravina Raj Kohli, Sony Entertainment Television's creative director, and directed by Tarun Chopra, *Star Yaar Kalakar* promises to be a lot of song and dance.



Press Release  
For IMMEDIATE attention

**vividha '97:** *three exciting fairs*  
*featuring sustainable development options*  
*travelling across Mumbai*

*celebrating alternative ways of thinking*  
*celebrating alternative ways of living*  
*celebrating 50 years of Independent India*

All over India there are people working to discover alternative paths to conventional processes of development. While working on issues such as environmental sustainability, social equity, improvement of livelihoods, health, educational reforms and other related areas, these groups have produced resource materials and products which reflect their concerns.

**vividha '97** brings you an unique opportunity to see and learn about the work of such innovators and practitioners, to dialogue with them and take home materials they have produced. Besides the products and experiences of such groups working in Mumbai and surrounding areas of Maharashtra, there will be participants from Bihar, Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

The details of the events :

**Event 1:** 11th-12th of Oct, Tejpal Galleries, in South Bombay

**Event 2:** 18th-19th of Oct, National Library, Bandra

**Event 3:** 24th-26th of Oct, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Chembur

The fair will feature :

- books, videos and other educational materials disseminating ideas of sustainable and participatory development.
- products made by rural artisanal groups using local resources and skills, especially those working under the aegis of organisations seeking to enhance livelihoods in rural areas. In this latter category, we hope to have groups making food products, textiles, hand made paper, leather goods, live medicinal plants, vermiculture, organic pesticides, and so on.
- as important as the display of goods, will be the opportunities for participants to dialogue with visitors.
- a publication profiling the concerns of the participants at **Vividha'97** will also be available.

**PRESS MEET--INVITATION--URGENT**

**vividha '97:** *three exciting fairs --  
featuring sustainable development options  
travelling across Mumbai*

To Chief Reporter  
Press Trust of India  
Fax no. 287 0150

reference telecon with Mahua Chakraborty at desk

**Ela Bhat**, the well-known women's activist, Magsasay Award winner, and founder of Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA), is in Mumbai and will be meeting the press and the public **between 2.30 and 3.30 p.m. today** at the **vividha '97** fair being held at **Tejpal Galleries, Gowalia Tank, near Nana Chowk**.

You are requested to depute your reporter to meet with her and to see the **vividha '97** fair. Several NGOs, including SEWA, are participating. SEWA has been organising poor self employed women in urban and rural areas of Gujarat, and helping them to become aware of their worker role and status, for the past quarter century.

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What is **vividha '97** ? Like SEWA, all over India there are people working to discover alternative paths to conventional processes of development. While working on issues such as environmental sustainability, social equity, improvement of livelihoods, health, educational reforms, these groups have produced resource materials and products which reflect their concerns.

**vividha '97** brings you an unique opportunity to see and learn about the work of such innovators and practitioners, to dialogue with them and take home materials they have produced. Besides the products and experiences of such groups working in Mumbai and surrounding areas of Maharashtra, there will be displays from Bihar, Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Convened by Comet Media Foundation  
with the support of Aga Khan Foundation & Books for Change.  
Enquiries: phone: 386 9052 fax: 022 387 0901 e-mail: admin@comet.ilbom.ernet.in

***celebrating alternative ways of thinking  
celebrating alternative ways of living  
celebrating 50 years of Independent India***

• learning toys • live medicinal plants • health foods • handloom textiles • organically grown grains • handmade paper • kolhu pressed oils • leather goods • organic pesticides • vermiculture • solar energy devices • herbal personal hygiene products • products made by special schools • books, videos and posters on education, health, sustainable development and much more

Oct 11 - 12: Tejpal Galleries, Gowalia Tank, Oct 18 - 19 National Library, Bandra West  
Oct 24 - 25 - 26, Tata Inst of Social Sciences, Chembur

5 pages of top entertainment, comics, contests, Marjorie Orr, plus a reader-friendly TV and radio guide

# Time-Out

## Living display

For those interested in a different lifestyle, three fairs in the city provide some options

### City

FRIDAY

● 6 pm: *Shesha Drushti*, (The Last Vision), an Oriya film with English subtitles at the *Tata Theatre*.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

● 7.30 pm: 'Mind your stethoscope', an English play at *Sophia Hall*, Breach Candy.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

● 10.30 am: Gujarati poetry reading by Meghbindu, Digant Parikh and Sandeep Bhatia at the *Experimental Theatre*, NCPA.

● 3.45 pm: 'Man Paanchamana Melama', a Gujarati play at *Tejpal Hall*, Gowalia Tank.

● 4 pm: 'Gandhi Ke Godse', new Gujarati social play at *Birla Kreedra*, Chowpatty.

● 6.30 pm: 'Raste', a Marathi play at *NCPA*.

● 7.30 pm: 'Saalgirah', a Hindi play of modern marriage at *Rangsharada*, Bandra.

● 7.30 pm: 'Zara muskura do', a hilarious romantic comedy, at *Sophia Hall*, Breach Candy.

● 7.30 pm: 'Hamesha', a Hindi play at *Nehru Centre*, Worli.

● 7.45 pm: 'Aflatoon', Gujarati play at *Hinduja Hall*, Charni Road.

● 7.45 pm: 'Shriman Viruddh Shrimati', Gujarati play at *Patkra Hall*, SNDT.

● 7.45 pm: 'Parivartan', a family drama at *Jahind Hall*, Churchgate.

● 7.45 pm: 'Rani ne game te Raja', a Gujarati play at *Chavan Hall*, Sakinaka.



Some of the unique toys to be exhibited by the Comet Media Foundation. Picture by Suresh K K

FOR MOST, ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF thinking and living are just so many abstract ideas. Now, three melas or fairs across the city entitled 'Vividha 97', will actually put on display different ways of learning and living.

Educational toys, live medicinal plants, health foods, hand-woven textiles, organically grown grains, hand-made paper, *kolhu* pressed oils, leather goods, organic pesticides, vermiculture, solar energy devices,

herbal personal hygiene products, products made by special schools, books, videos and posters on education, health, sustainable development and other related issues will be featured in these fairs.

Says Chandida Mukherjee of the Comet Media Foundation (CMF) which is organising Vividha 97, "This is the first time we are doing this. Until now people have just heard or read about alternative ways of develop-

ment and living. We are making an attempt at bringing it all together and showcasing it in one place."

The fairs will be open from 11 am to 8 pm at the *Tejpal Gallery*, Gowalia Tank from October 11-12, at the *National Library*, Bandra west from October 18-19 and at the *Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS)*, Chembur from October 24 to 26. Nearly 30 organisations will be participating, of which 20 are from Mumbai.

Apart from educational toys, the fairs will also showcase efforts to recycle resources like paper and create employment opportunities for those engaged in sustainable development. For example, the process of making *kolhu* pressed oils, using a wooden instrument that is turned slowly (often by bullocks), preserves the nutrients and flavour.

The Karjat-based Academy for Development Sciences will be displaying and selling medicinal plants on which it has conducted a lot of research. These plants provide home

remedies for a lot of common illnesses, points out Mukherjee. The Centre for Learning Resources; Adhiti, the women's group from Bihar; the Self Employed Womens Association (SEWA) from Ahmedabad; Aaj, an organisation of leather artisans from Ajmer; the Mumbai-based Mahajanam, known for organic farming; Oasis, a group working with street children; the 'Grameen' network, a federation of rural artisans from north India; local Mumbai groups working with economically deprived sections; mobile creches and many others will also participate.

Many of these groups will not only be selling their products but also giving lecture-demonstrations. At TISS (the institution is allowing the fair to be held here free of charge) there will be seven workshops for social activists which will focus on how to conduct environmental impact assessment surveys, gender sensitivity, how to classify newspaper cuttings and reports for individual use, and so on.

The CMF is a voluntary group working in the field of education and communication since 1985 and among other activities, it produces and disseminates films, publications, toys and other educational material on themes related to science, technology and society.

LINA MATHIAS

## Sports varsity's foundation stone laid

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
OCTOBER 12

CHIEF Minister Manohar Joshi laid the foundation stone of the sports university, Academy of Sports, at Kalamboli at Navi Mumbai on Saturday.

The university will train boys and girls from the age group of eight to 16 and will be able to produce an international medal winner, said Joshi, who also holds the sports portfolio.

The City Industrial and Developmental Corporation (CIDCO) has allotted nine acres to the academy. The academy chairperson, D K Dasgupta, revealed that nearly 4,500 students will be trained.

The academy will charge a monthly fee of Rs 10 for juniors and Rs 15 for seniors. A sports bank is also proposed to be set up to take care of requirements like insurance, sports equipment and scholarships, he added.

According to the chief minister, the academy will also help a person become a perfect man. Moreover, the upcoming generation could be weaned away from various distractions in urban culture. "I am for proper channelisation of future generations' energy," Joshi stressed.



An artisan demonstrating an educational toy to Ela Bhatt, Self Employed Women's Association chairperson, at the Vividha mela at Tejpal Hall on Sunday, where alternative ways of living are being promoted. Photo by Vinayaka Prabhu

## PICKWeek

**T**HE Ekjute theatre group has a week-long festival of plays at the Prithvi theatre. Starting today, with *Court Martial*, a gripping drama that crosses the barriers of countries and times, the play is directed by Rakesh Parmar and the cast includes Akash Dixit, Hanif Patni and Riyaz Ahmed.

*Date: October 14 & 15, 1997. Time: 9:00 pm.*

Next there is *Kajoor Mein Atka*, a comic thriller about an unemployed youth mistaken to be a thief. He ends up hiding in a lawyer's house and chaos and suspense reign. Directed by Jairoop Jeevan, the cast includes Darpan Mishra, Hariom Parasher and Noni Kaur.

*Date: October 16 and 17, 1997. Time: 9:00 pm.*



IN A FIX: Dinesh and Ashok in *Khajoor Mein Atka*

After that there is *Sharafat Chhod Di Main Ne*, a naughty comedy about middle class life and the double standards it propagates. Directed by Nadira Zaheer Babbar, it stars Ashok Pagare, Prakash Soni and Anil Parmar.

*Date: October 18 & 19, 1997. Time: 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm.*

**C**OMET Media Foundation, a voluntary group which has been working in the field of education and communication since 1985, has organised a series of development resource fairs, called *Vividha '97*. Says a spokesperson, "There are people all over India who discovering alternative paths of development. We are trying to give a proper stage to the works of these innovators who are working on issues of environmental sustainability, health and educational reforms." And that is not all. Comet Media is trying to go beyond the products to create a dialogue between the visitors and the participants. The participants of the fairs are from all over India. The products available will be rural handicrafts, food products, textiles, handmade paper, leather goods, live medicinal plants, vermiculture, organic pesticides and so on. The fair is travelling all over the city so more people can visit it. The second stop is at the National Library, Bandra on *October 18 and 19, 1997*. And the last stop is the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Chembur on *October 24 to October 26, 1997*.  
*Time: 11.00 am to 8.00 pm.*

EXPRESSNewsline

MUMBAI ■ WEDNESDAY ■ OCTOBER 15, 1997

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

NO. 254. VOL. CLX

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1997

## ***Fair to expose cityslickers to eco-friendly produce***

**By A Staff Reporter**

MUMBAI: A special fair, Vividha '97, commemorating 50 years of Indian independence will be held at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences on Saturday and Sunday.

It will showcase the unique produce of development groups from different parts of the country who believe in alternative ways of living and thinking.

These socially conscious groups are dedicated to issues such as environmental sustainability, social equity, improvement of rural livelihoods, health, educational reforms, revival of traditional crafts and indigenous toys.

The fair has been organised by the Comet Media Foundation, a Mum-

bai-based voluntary group working in the field of education and communication. "We thought that organising such a fair would be a worthwhile way of celebrating 50 years of independence," says film-maker Chandita Mukherji of Comet Media.

"Our objective is to expose cityslickers to the ingenious and eco-friendly produce of these groups while simultaneously creating sales opportunities for the producers. Moreover, we felt it would result in a healthy exchange of ideas between the Vividha participants and visitors," added Mukherji who made a number of films on the work of the participating groups.

Seven half-day workshops on development issues will also be held at

TISS during the fair. The issues include vermiculture biotechnology, gender concerns in community work, basic guidelines to design, environmental impact assessment. The workshops are open to all, but will be of particular interest to those working in development, education and communication.

The produce to be sold at the fair will include toys and books produced by groups like Eklavya from Madhya Pradesh which works in the field of education and educational toys; handlooms by Aditi in Patna; handicrafts by Sewa in Ahmedabad, leather handicrafts by Jawaja in Rajasthan and Navnirmati, a slum women's cooperative from Mumbai, which makes scientific educational toys.

MAB/Quinacrine  
Ceympar 97.

## ■ BIRTH CONTROL

### Lethal Pellet

**O**N July 11, World Population Day, as disturbing statistics were floated over the ballooning human population worldwide, a handful of health activists decided to beat the drum over the other end of the problem—specifically, the misguided zeal over harmful sterilisation methods for women.

Their immediate virulence was directed against quinacrine (birth-control pellets which are introduced into the fallopian tubes; the drug sterilises by burning or sclerosing the area). Despite being banned by the Indian government, quinacrine is still being tried on women here, says Swajita Manorama of the Comet Media Foundation. Supported by several groups, the Delhi-based Centre for Social Medicine and Community Health along with the All-India Democratic Women's Association have filed a PIL against the drug.

Explaining that the drug was favoured by medical practitioners since it involved non-surgical sterilisation, Manorama notes: "Since the Indian Council for Medical Research and Drug Controller of India have not approved this method, certain private practitioners in Calcutta and Delhi have decided to distribute it on their own. The drug has been introduced by the Karnataka government in its state-level family planning programme."

Quinacrine, according to the foundation, has not proved itself to be a means of permanent contraception. The WHO toxicology panel reported that quinacrine was not only a positive mutagenic agent in bacterial systems, but also showed limited evidence of being carcinogenic; that there have been cases of toxic psychosis in humans to whom a quinacrine slurry was given by the intrauterine route. But ever since 1968, when it was proposed by Dr Jaime Zipper (of the Copper-T fame), over 70,000

women worldwide have been inserted with these pellets.

A sample study threw up the rather startling side-effects of the drug, which include vaginal discharge for five to 10 days, lower abdominal pain for one to six days, irregular menstruation, backache,

feelings of heaviness and itching.

Health activists hope their awareness drive will encourage women to demand more information on the sterilisation methods being dumped by the developed countries. ■

Shameem Akhtar



PRASHANT PANJIAR

## ■ GOLF

### On to the Troon

**A**DVERSITY sometimes brings out one's best. A critically-ill father has meant that 28-year-old golfer Gaurav Ghei hasn't had much time to concentrate on golf. Ghei's daily schedule depends entirely on his father's health.

Yet, this has been the year when he has come closest to realising his goal. Says Ghei: "My goal is to win an international tournament." The British Open being played at the Royal Troon has given him precisely that chance. Ghei is the first Indian to participate in it.



PRASHANT PANJIAR

Ghei played nine under in the qualifying round and made it to the number two spot in a pool of 1,600 players. Last year, he beat Colin Montgomerie, Europe's top-seed in Scotland. This has insured him a slew of media coverage despite the presence of that larger-than-life-golfer Tiger Woods. Besides Montgomerie and Woods, others like Fred Couples, Nick Faldo, Tom Lehman, Nick Price and Greg Norman will also be battling the Troons.

That's the kind of talent Ghei is up against, though golf is rarely about another player as much as it is about a contest against the course. The presence of these golf superstars will mean Ghei will have to push himself to be in the reckoning.

But that has always been his hallmark. In the Gadgil Western Masters on the Omega Tour, which was the largest prize money tournament to be played in India, Ghei was initially shadowed by the flamboyance of players like Jeev Milkha Singh, but went on to win the tournament in style—an unbelievable birdie on the 18th hole.

This year, he became the first Indian to earn over Rs 10 lakh in a season. He went on to win the Mahindra Golfer of the Year last month with a Rs 4 lakh cash prize.

Whether Ghei makes it even to the top 20 in the Open is immaterial. The fact that he made the cut is good enough reason to celebrate. It seems India's first golf star has finally arrived. ■

Archana Jahagirdar

## TRAVEL ADVISORY

**A**NOTHER attempt to celebrate 50 years of India's Independence. The tourism fair which is to be held in Calcutta from August 27 to 31 has adopted 'Tourism Unites' as its central theme. When held last year, TIF had 150 participants and this year the fair is expected to be bigger and better. Some statistics: Calcutta has the maximum number of domestic travellers undertaking international travel especially to South and Southeast Asia; Mumbai is the largest outbound market of high-spending tourists. So if you happen to be in Calcutta in August, don't miss the fair.



TOURISM UNITES

**W**HEN in the Philippines, a trip to Davao is certainly advised. The Philippine Eagle Nature Centre boasts orchid farms and fruit plantations. Caroland Farm is 13-km south of Davao, ideal for hikers and bird-lovers. This is also the home of the Brown Wild Duck. Coral reefs beckon snorkellers and divers. For the dedicated golfer, there is the 18-hole Lanong Golf and Country Club.

For further information contact the Singapore Airlines office.

**I**F you have craved Indian food on your trips to Europe, the Calcutta-based Club 7 Holidays has a special package for 50 years of Indian Independence. The sole representative of Trafalgar Tours in India, it has decided to source restaurants specialising in Indian food to cater to Indian tourists who prefer familiar cuisine. A full-course meal is expected to cost Rs 700 per person.



**Womens' groups have moved court against quinacrine trials used for sterilisation. These cause massive inflammation and may also be toxic. Once again poor, vulnerable women have been made guinea-pigs**

# SCARS

(of 52) mg are inserted transcervically, five days after the menstrual period (after testing whether a woman is pregnant or not). The pellets dissolve within 30 minutes and enter the oviducts and cause an inflammatory reaction. Quinacrine is known to be a mutagen because it binds with the DNA of the cells. Earlier a single insertion was made but after it was found that the pregnancy rate was high after a single insertion, two or three insertions are made.

The enormous consequences of allowing trials like quinacrine in the country can be gauged by the fact that according to government figures, 43 per cent of couples in India practice birth control of whom 70 per cent opt for the female partner getting sterilised.

According to a study in UP, 97 per cent of all sterilisations were performed on women.

As Marge Berer points out in *Reproductive Health Matters*, quinacrine has been used on

more than 70,000 women worldwide in 20 years, though no country has given it drug regulatory approval.

The International Planned Parenthood Federation's Medical Advisory Panel observed that "until the toxicological situation has been clarified and further clinical trials have been conducted, the use of quinacrine pellets for female sterilisation...cannot be recommended."

In its National Population Policy, the government says, "It has to be recognised that no medication, including that for contraception, is completely free from side effects. But India has an efficient scientific set-up for testing safety, efficacy, reliability and acceptability of contraceptive methods before introducing them into the Family Welfare Programme".

Perhaps the ministry for health and family welfare could put this efficient scientific set-up to the test with quinacrine.

Until such time that the government approves a non-surgical sterilisation method which costs little and has minimum complications, poor women with hardly any access to health services will continue to be guinea pigs.

By LINA MATHIAS

IT is well-known that in India, women are expected to bear the brunt of family planning methods. As social activists point out, not only do a majority of men refuse to take the responsibility for birth control, many of them accuse their wives of promiscuity if the women do take the initiative to use birth control methods. Thus, the women are very often forced to fall back on methods which are not "visible" but which can have terrible consequences to their health.

One example is the controversy over the use of 'quinacrine', which raged all through last year and which has not been resolved to date. In the most glaring example, over 10,000 women in West Bengal flocked to Dr Biral Mullick's clinic to have quinacrine — otherwise used in the treatment of malaria — inserted into their uterus.

It was widely claimed that this method did not require any anaesthesia, surgery or hospitalisation.

The "sterilisation" could be done in absolute secrecy and no one would come to know about it. Most importantly, it cost just Rs 35.

However the quinacrine trials were stopped following an agitation launched by the Ganatantrik Mahila Sanghatna alleging that it not only causes inflammation, scarring and mutation of cells but also has a high failure rate. Social activists though are convinced that quinacrine is still being used as a contraceptive for women.

Mumbai-based Dr Sheela Balsekar disagreed and says a city hospital which did conduct trials in quinacrine did not find it very effective; its use was thereafter discontinued. She was certain that it is now no longer available anywhere in the country.

However, the Comet Media Foundation, which collects and disseminates information on developmental issues, says that there are indications that though the government has not cleared its use, quinacrine is still being used to sterilise poor women.

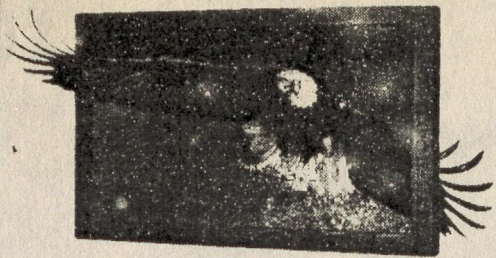
The All India Democratic Women's Association and the Centre for Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, have jointly filed a public interest litigation against its use. Their contention is that there should be no field trials of contraceptive drugs that have not been mandated by the Drug Controller of India and all trials should follow ethical and scientific norms.

In the method under discussion seven pellets of quinacrine

## VIDEOCON

# VISION 2000

A technological leap into the future.



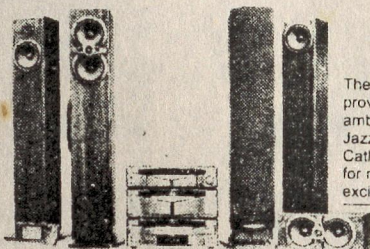
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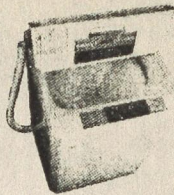
The Digital Dolby System provides a choice of five ambience settings - Arena, Jazz Club, Stadium, Cathedral and Theatre - for more "being there" excitement.



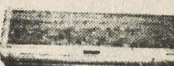
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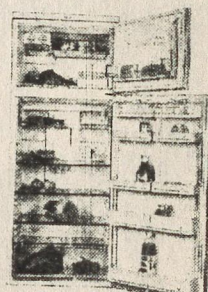
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The 1.5 ton Neuro Fuzzy Split Air Conditioner. With LCD wireless remote control. It adjusts itself to suit your comfort preference.



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395CMM997

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4 Battery Street  
Mumbai 400 001  
Ph: 2020019, 2875288

E Mail:  
admin@cedbom.ilbom.ernet.in

Mumbai, 23rd, July 1997

Preeti Bhat  
COMET Media Foundation  
Dhivwala Lane School,  
Lington Road,  
Mumbai-400 007.

Dear Preeti,

Thank you very much for your "Press-Kit on quinacrine" which we will keep in our Reports Section on Gender and Health. If you obtain a copy of the Broadcasting Bill please do make a copy for us.

Thank you.  
for Centre for Education & Documentation

*KSouza*  
Keith D'Souza  
kd.JD.Aj.CD.PN.

-----  
PLEASE REPLY TO MUMBAI  
-----



# CENTRE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

To  
Ms. Devasmita Menon  
Comet Media Foundation  
Mumbai 400007.

14th May 1997.

Dear Devasmita ji,

I hope you have received the first issue of the Violence Update, which we had posted to you last month. In order to strengthen our network to combat violence against women, we had requested you to kindly send us an article of the challenges that you and your organisation are facing, and any other news regarding oppression of women from your state (Maharashtra) which you wish to share with our readers.

We plan to make the issue of Violence Update for the month of June 1997 a bumper issue of the state of Maharashtra. We request you to send us your articles at the earliest.

In case your sister NGOs or other women activists wish to write also, we will gladly give them space in the coming issue. We look forward to hear from you at the earliest.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Hiti Mahindroo

Hiti Mahindroo  
(Jt. Coordinator,  
NNVAW).

Dear Devasmita,  
Your address was given to me  
[by Swatiya, who came to attend the  
seminar by Media Advocacy Group.  
I have sent one copy of the UPDATE  
for you with her. Hope to receive  
an article from you. Hiti.

P.S.: We would also welcome any data on crime against women <sup>in</sup> your state.

Any article from your ex-newsletter would also be welcome.

PPS: We will appreciate if you will FAX us your article, since the Update is under preparation.

Please send us your latest phone numbers and fax number, for our records.

Mr. John D'Souza  
Centre for Educational Documentation  
Suleman Chambers  
Battery Street, Behind Regal Cinema  
Mumbai 400 023

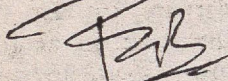
19th July, 1997

Dear John

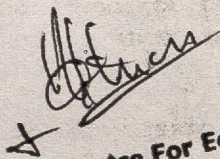
We had prepared a press kit on quinacrine, the controversial non-surgical contraceptive method for a media campaign. We thought that some of the articles in it may be of use for your documentation centre. Therefore we are enclosing a set for CED.

With regards,

Sincerely



Preeti Bhat



Centre For Education  
and Documentation

Quinacrine kit:

1. Ms. Rupa Chinai  
Times of India  
III rd Floor, Times of India Bldg.  
Dr. D. N. Road, Mumbai 400 001
2. Ms. Sandhya Sreenivasan/ Ms. Hutokshi Doctor  
Times of India  
III rd Floor, Times of India Bldg.  
Dr. D. N. Road, Mumbai 400 001
3. Ms. Sathya Saran  
Famina, Times of India  
III rd Floor, Times of India Bldg.  
Dr. D. N. Road, Mumbai 400 001

*MS*  
*10/21/97*  
INDIA,  
MUMBAI 400 001 TEL: 2020271

*AMS*  
*10/21/97*  
**FEMINA.**  
*AMS*  
*10/21/97*

Ms. Shabnam Minwala  
Times of India  
III rd Floor, Times of India Bldg.  
Dr. D. N. Road, Mumbai 400 001

4. Ms. Manjari Kalahatti  
Indian Express  
Express Towers, Nariman Point  
Mumbai 400 021

*Manjari Kalahatti*

5. Ms. Saira Menezes  
Outlook, 12th Floor  
Raheja Chambers, Nariman Point  
Mumbai 400 021

*Shamini*  
THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE  
**OUTLOOK**

6. Ms. Sandhya Rajani  
The Sunday Observer  
Court House, 5th Floor, Lokmanya Tilak Marg  
Mumbai 400 002

INDIAN LIMITED  
*Sandhya Rajani*

7. Ms. Shehnaz Engineer  
The Afternoon, Despatch & Courier  
Afternoon House,  
Nanabhai Lane, Fort  
Mumbai 400 001

*Hubert*  
*Var2*

THE AFTERNOON, DESPATCH & COURIER  
*Shehnaz Engineer*

Ms. Kalpana Sharma  
The Hindu  
Kasturi Building, J.N.Tata Road  
Churchgate, Mumbai 400 020

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Fondation Press Kit - Quinacrine  
Broadcasting Bill  
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Mid-Day  
64, Sitaram Mills compound  
N. M. Joshi Marg  
Lower Parel East, Mumbai 400 011

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4. Ms. Joshi/ Ms Nandini Atmasiddhe  
Mumbai Sakal  
Dr. N. B. Parulekar Marg  
Prabhadevi  
Mumbai 400 025.

8. Ms. Lalita Mahadevan  
NABARD  
Mumbai

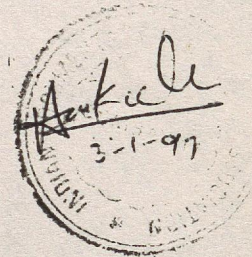
10. Ms. Nandita Shah /Nandita Gandhi  
Akshara  
501 Neelambari  
Road No. 86, Opp. Portuguse Church  
Dadar West, Mumbai 400 028

19. Shri Vinod Ganatra  
General Secretary  
Indian Documentary Producers' Association  
223, Famous Cine Bldg.  
20 E Dr. E. Moses Road,  
Mahalaxmi, Mumbai 400 011

20. Mr. Milind Kokje  
Journalist, Market Missionaries  
CPRT News and Features  
409 Kalyandas Udyog Bhavan  
Sadanand Hasu Tandel Marg  
Prabhadevi (Near) Century Bazar  
Mumbai 400 025

22. Sanskriti  
Forum Against Oppression of Women  
C/o. Forum Against Oppression of Women  
C/o. Ms. Sandhya Gokhale, 29, Bhatia Bhavan,  
Babrekar Marg, Dadar, Mumbai 400 028

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List of persons and organisation to whom Broadcast Bill Press Kit despatched.

<sup>A</sup>  
10 Jessica Jacob  
Freelance Journalist  
Oyster Apartments'  
Near Afghan Church  
Colaba, Mumbai 400 005

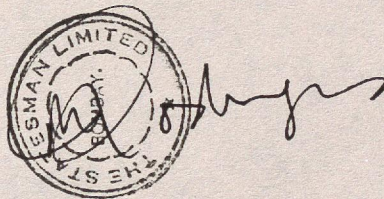
*Tara Mahad*

✓2. Pratima Joshi  
Maharashtra Times  
Times of India Bldg.  
Mumbai 400 001

*Prs*  
3-1-98 -

3. Ms. Leena Mathais  
Mid-Day  
64, Sitaram Mills compound  
N. M. Joshi Marg  
Lower Parel East, Mumbai 400 011

4. Mr Mario Rodrigues  
The Statesman  
4th Floor, Kasturi Buildings  
J Tata Road  
Churchgate, Mumbai-400 020



5. Mr. John D'Souza  
Centre for Educational Documentation  
Suleman Chambers  
Battery Street, Behind Regal Cinema  
Mumbai 400 023 Letter sent

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BEHIND REGAL CINEMA,  
BOMBAY-400 001.

6. Ms. Nandita Shah / Nandita Gandhi  
Akshara, 501 Neelambari  
Road No. 86, Opp. Portuguse Church  
Dadar West, Mumbai 400 028

7. Chayanika Shah  
2, Vishwadeep  
95, Bhau Daji Road  
Matunga, Mumbai 400 019

*Amir*

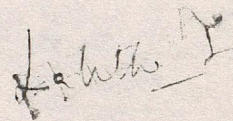
8. Suhas Paranjape  
9, Sarvesh Co-op.Hsg. Society  
Govind Nagar, Thane East 400 603

*Amir*

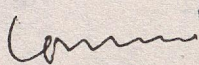
9. Ms. Asha Joseph  
Film Maker, Researcher  
B 7, 404, Saraf Chaudhari Nagar  
Takur Complex, Kandivli East  
Mumbai 400 101



10. Ms. Sathya Saran  
Femina  
Times of India Bldg.  
Dr. D. N. Road, Mumbai 400 001



11. Subha Das Mollick  
90/1/1 Chowringhee Road  
Calcutta 700 020



12. Ms. Janaki Krishnamurthy  
Freelance Journalist  
Times of India  
Dr. D. N. Road, Mumbai 400 001

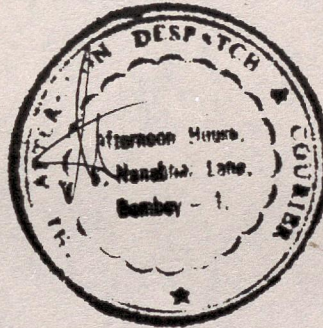
13. Shri Vinod Ganatra  
General Secretary  
Indian Documentary Producers' Association  
223, Famous Cine Bldg.  
20 E Dr. E. Moses Road,  
Mahalaxmi, Mumbai 400 011

14. Mr. Milind Kokje  
Journalist, Market Missionaries  
CPRT News and Features  
409 Kalyandas Udyog Bhavan  
Sadanand Hasu Tandel Marg  
Prabhadevi (Near) Century Bazar  
Mumbai 400 025

15. Ms. Ameeta Buch  
India Today  
Gujarati  
Suryanath Bldg.  
Gulbai Tekra, Panchvati HD  
Ahmedabad 380 006

16. Sanskriti  
Forum Against Oppression of Women  
C/o. Forum Against Oppression of Women  
C/o. Ms. Sandhya Gokhale, 29, Bhatia Bhavan,  
Babrekar Marg, Dadar, Mumbai 400 028

17. Shamim Aktar  
The Afternoon Despatch & Courier  
Afternoon House,  
Nanabhai Lane, Fort  
Mumbai 400 001



List of persons and organisation to whom Quinacrine Press Kit despatched.

10<sup>A</sup> Jessica Jacob  
Freelance Journalist  
Oyster Apartments'  
Near Afghan Church  
Colaba, Mumbai 400 005

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Mahesh*

2. Pratima Joshi  
Maharashtra Times  
Times of India Bldg.  
Mumbai 400 001

3. Ms. Leena Mathais  
Mid-Day  
64, Sitaram Mills compound  
N. M. Joshi Marg  
Lower Parel East, Mumbai 400 011

*Pr*  
3-11-88

4. Ms. Joshi/ Ms Nandini Atmasiddhe  
Mumbai Sakal  
Dr. N. B. Parulekar Marg  
Prabhadevi  
Mumbai 400 025.

*B  
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C, Sadanand,  
Gokhale Road (North)  
Dadar (W), Mumbai 400 018.  
Tel. : 430 44 01, 430 41 9

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5. Mr Mario Rodrigues  
The Statesman  
4th Floor, Kasturi Buildings  
J Tata Road  
Churchgate, Mumbai-400 020

*Mario*

6. Ms. Veena Deosthali  
S. N. D. T. Women's University  
Nathibai Thackersey Marg  
Marine Lines, Mumbai 400 020

*Veena*  
S. N. D. T. WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY  
NATHIBAI THACKERSEY MARG  
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Dept. of Post.  
Studies  
and Research

7. Ms. Nandita Shah | Nandita Gandhi  
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Dadar West, Mumbai 400 028

8. Swatija Manorama  
9, Sarvesh Co-op. Hsg. Society  
Govind Nagar, Thane East 400 69

*Swatija*

9. Chayanika Shah  
2, Vishwadeep  
95, Bhau Daji Road  
Matunga, Mumbai 400 019

*Chayanika*

10. Suhas Paranjape  
9, Sarvesh Co-op. Hsg. Society  
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*Suhas*

11. Ms. Asha Joseph  
Film Maker, Researcher  
B 7, 404, Saraf Chaudhari Nagar  
Takur Complex, Kandivli East  
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*Pommu*

12. Ms. Sathya Saran  
Femina  
Times of India Bldg.  
Dr. D. N. Road, Mumbai 400 001

*H. H. H. H. H.*  
**FEMINA.**

13. Subha Das Mollick  
90/1/1 Chowringhee Road  
Calcutta 700 020

*Conia*

14. Ms. Janaki Krishnamurthy  
Freelance Journalist  
Times of India  
Dr. D. N. Road, Mumbai 400 001

15. Mr. Milind Kokje  
Journalist, Market Missionaries  
CPRT News and Features  
409 Kalyandas Udyog Bhavan  
Sadanand Hasu Tandel Marg  
Prabhadevi (Near) Century Bazar  
Mumbai 400 025

16. Ms. Ameeta Buch  
India Today  
Gujarati  
Suryanath Bldg.  
Gulbai Tekra, Panchvati  
Ahmedabad 380 006

*W.D.*

17. Sanskriti  
Forum Against Oppression of Women  
C/o. Forum Against Oppression of Women  
C/o. Ms. Sandhya Gokhale, 29, Bhatia Bhavan,  
Babrekar Marg, Dadar, Mumbai 400 028

18. Shri M. T. Chavan, Managing Director/Mrs. Kusum Balasaraf, Manager  
Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal (MAVIM)  
Mezzanine Floor, Griha Nirman Bhavan (MHADA)  
Bandra East, Mumbai 400 051

*Conia*

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1. Jessica Jacob  
Freelance Journalist  
Oyster Apartments'  
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*Tara Mahade*

2. Pratima Joshi  
Maharashtra Times  
Times of India Bldg.  
Mumbai 400 001

*3-1-78*

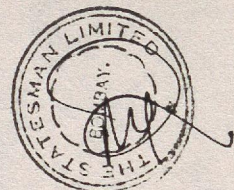
3. Ms. Leena Mathais  
Mid-Day  
64, Sitaram Mills compound  
N. M. Joshi Marg  
Lower Parel East, Mumbai 400 011

*[Signature]*  
**SAKAL PAPERS LTD.**  
61, Sadanand,  
Gokhale Road (North)  
Dadar (W). Mumbai 400 028.  
Tel. : 430 44 01, 430 43 87

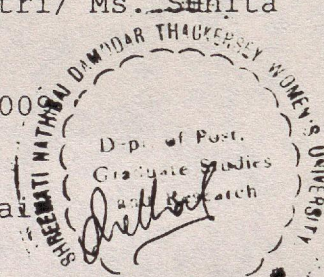
4. Ms. Joshi/ Ms Nandini Atmasiddhe  
Mumbai Sakal  
Dr. N. B. Parulekar Marg  
Prabhadevi  
Mumbai 400 025.

*Change of Add.*

5. Mr Mario Rodrigues  
The Statesman  
4th Floor, Kasturi Buildings  
J Tata Road  
Churchgate, Mumbai-400 020

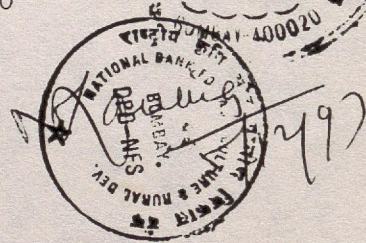


6. Ms. Prema Gopalan/ Ms. Gayatri/ Ms. Sunita  
**SPARC**  
COVD Jain High School  
84, Samuel Street, Mumbai 400 001



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7. Ms. Veena Deosthali  
S. N. D. T. Women's University  
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8. Ms. Lalita Mahadevan  
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9. Mr. John D'Souza  
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63/11/98  
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BOMBAY-400 001.  
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10. Ms. Nandita Shah Nandita Gandhi  
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11. Swati Manorama *Concise*  
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Times of India Bldg.  
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16. Subha Das Mollick *Concise*  
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17. Ms. Amita Bhide  
URCD Dept.  
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Mezzanine Floor, Griha Nirman Bhavan (MHADA)  
Bandra East, Mumbai 400 051



*Courier*