

MOST IMMEDIATE

D.O.No.502/JSSJ/80

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DEPTT.OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY  
TECHNOLOGY BHAVAN  
NEW MEHRAULI ROAD  
NEW DELHI 110029

N.D.JAYAL  
JOINT SECRETARY

October 30, 1980.

Dear Prof. Virendra Kumar,

You may recall our telephonic conversation in which I had mentioned that we would appreciate receiving inputs from you in the formulation of Plan programmes relating to environmental protection. As you know, there will be an independent chapter on Environment in the forthcoming Sixth Five Year Plan Document which will include the listing of the broad programmes on Environment to be implemented by the Department of Environment and by other Ministries and Agencies.

2. In this connection, I am enclosing a section of the Chapter dealing only with the proposed programmes. I would appreciate your suggestions with regard to any other items for incorporation in this list keeping in view the need to maintain the same level of specificity as in the other programmes mentioned together with some justification for incorporation in the Plan.

3. It is proposed that we hold a brief meeting with other concerned officers of the Environment Division on 1st November, 1980, at 3 p.m. in Room No.30, Technology Bhavan, New Delhi. May I request you to kindly make it convenient to attend the meeting?

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(N.D.JAYAL)

Encl: As above

✓  
Prof.Virendra Kumar,  
Department of Botany,  
Zakir Hussain College,  
Ajmeri Gate,  
DELHI.

## Sixth Five Year Plan Programmes on Environment

As has been stressed earlier in this Chapter it is the successful control of population growth and the satisfaction of basic human needs that will ultimately protect environmental health and hence the quality of life of our people. In that sense the entire plan for national development could be termed 'environmental'. However specific programmes for environmental protection would also be necessary to correct various local and regional stresses on environmental resources arising as a result of the condition of poverty and underdevelopment and the unintended side-effects of programmes for national development.

The Plan will adopt an integrated approach to find, and implement, methods of redressing existing environmental problems and build up the capability for preventing or mitigating those that could arise in the future.

A strong programme of Environmental Research and Development will be supported to generate the kind of information and data required for the formulation of environmental policy. Standards and criteria for environmental quality relevant to Indian conditions have to be worked out through carefully planned research schemes. Low cost methods for environment protection, methods for energy, water and other resource conservation, recycling and reuse in all sectors of the economy, are some of the other objectives to be pursued through programmes of environmental R & D. Gaps in existing knowledge, expertise and infrastructure will be identified on a continuing basis so that appropriate action may be taken.

In order to ensure that plans for development in all sectors are in harmony with the goal of maintaining the health of life-sustaining ecosystems and other environmental resources the process/<sup>of</sup>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be made an integral part of the entire planning process. The cost of pre-project studies related to EIA

will be built into regular project costs. Special case studies relating to environmental impact from the execution of projects in various sectors ( industry, mining, irrigation, power, forestry, settlements etc ) will be carried out to generate information and guidelines ( standards, safeguards ) required for routine EIA.

Monitoring of Environmental Quality is a critical function if accurate information on the success or otherwise of programmes for environmental protection is to be available. It will also enable optimal deployment of scarce resources and determination of areas in which urgent action is required. Environmental quality will be monitored through a number of carefully chosen indicators in various fields such as agriculture, forestry, mining, rural and urban settlements etc. Programmes for the development of infrastructure required in this regard ( hardware, expertise etc ) will be strengthened or where necessary initiated afresh. This work will be coordinated by the Department of Environment but will be carried out in their respective sectors by various other Departments/Ministries/agencies of the Central and State Governments.

The Plan envisages the setting<sup>up</sup> of an Environmental Information System which will be a repository ( and a source for retrieval of ) all data and information gathered from experience with programmes for environmental protection and the R&D work. This will enable the environmental planner to have timely and relevant information when required. A Documentation and Publication centre will bring out collated monographs, case studies and other information of relevance to specialists, decision makers and the public.

Programmes to increase Public Awareness about environmental issues and stimulate public participation in plans for environmental protection will form a key component of this Plan. Particular emphasis will be given for communication programmes for target groups such village panchayats,

3rd year

district and municipal authorities, State and Central legislators and administrators, Apart from the use of non-formal means ( mass media, performing arts, etc) for public education, formal environmental education will be considerably strengthened at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels.

non-formal  
People's  
action  
groups.

Related to the above programmes would be the establishment of Centres for Advanced Studies/Training in Environmental Planning, Science, Technology and Management. This would be accomplished by strengthening existing institutions. The latter would include an Institute for Environmental Management and a Wildlife Research and Training College. Demonstration Projects that illustrate successful tools, techniques and methodologies for environmental protection will be established as an extension of programmes for environmental education and training. These would be in fields such as reclamation of land scarred by mining activities, low cost pollution control, recycling and reuse of waste materials, innovative methods for mass communication of 'environmental messages'.

The role of State Governments in ensuring a coordinated approach to environmental protection has been earlier emphasised. The DOE will have to play a selective role in strengthening of capabilities of State Governments in carrying out environmental planning, protection and review. This will be through joint participation in studies, assistance in development of expertise and infrastructure, seed money for carrying out research programmes etc.

Apart from its work in regulating and coordinating the work of pollution monitoring and control the DOE will be directly responsible for two major programmes. These are a) Creation and Management of Biosphere Reserves b) Monitoring and Conservation of Marine Ecosystems. A separate cadre of specialists is to be constituted for management of the Biosphere Reserves which are to be set up already working in this area and setting up a small number of new institutions.

up under Central control. Considerable preliminary work has already been done to identify potential areas of value to be designated as Biosphere Reserves. When plans (location, management etc) for each Reserve are finalised, land would be acquired and the necessary research and management infrastructure built up on a priority basis.

It is proposed to identify an agency to be entrusted with the task of monitoring and planning for the conservation of the nation's valuable marine ecosystems. The agency will be adequately strengthened to carry out comprehensive research, design and development related to prevention of marine pollution, rational exploitation of marine resources and protection of particularly valuable areas and species of marine life.

Programmes/Projects for environmental protection -3  
Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85)

1. Environmental Research & Development.
2. Environmental Impact Assessment.
3. Monitoring of Environmental Quality.
4. Environmental Information, Documentation and Publication.
5. Environmental Education and Public awareness.
6. Centres for advanced studies/training in environmental planning, science, technology and management.
7. Demonstration projects.
8. Strengthening of environmental planning, protection and review capabilities of State Governments.
9. Conservation through Biosphere Reserves.
10. Conservation of marine ecosystems.

Studies  
Alternate  
Resource  
Utilization  
& conservation

Support Programs -

11. Support programs to volunteer social organizations / movements which help in environmental protection / preservation / regeneration  
Dahedi Gram Sabha
12. Support programs to volunteer individuals / groups of technologists / Scientists engaged in research / development on alternate resource utilization / identification and utilization which would relieve pressure on <sup>the</sup> environment <sup>the natural</sup> or resource availability  
- Energy  
- Plant Resource - Medicine
13. Judicious Resource retrieval & multiplication for utilization - Orchids - (Renewal bio. resource.)
14. Environment cells in rural areas - Schools!