

11. That a egalitairian family law is enacted for all citizens of the country. That this law recognizes women's contribution to the family through the concept of matrimonial property and provides them with an inalienable right to participate in social production. Simultaneously the Hindu Undivided Family be derecognized because it promotes majority interests and a patently patriarchal family. That productive assets, including land be in the joint names of husband and wife. This principle should also apply to land or housing distributed through land reform or as a result of displacement.

That it is recognized that the desire for male heirs, treating women as chattel, and control of women's fertility and chastity are linked to the system of private property and inheritance. Therefore a ceiling on income and wealth be enforced through effective taxation and land reforms.

1. Action India
2. Ankur
3. Jagori
4. Joint Women's Programme
5. Kali for Women
6. Saheli
7. Shakti Shalini

Sponsoring Organisation

No.F. M-156/93 CWDS

2 November 1993

Dear

You are no doubt aware that the Government of India is in the process of formulating a population policy and also preparing a position paper for presentation at the forthcoming World Conference on Population and Development at Cairo in September 1994. In neither of these exercises has there been so far any attempt at promoting a national debate/consultation. It has not even been discussed as to whether the population policy in today's context can only be confined to measures to control population growth, without paying attention (a) to qualitative aspects of population issues, e.g. the quality of services, rights of women and children and others; and (b) to local, national, regional and global dimensions of vital areas like migration, economic development, health care, education, employment etc.

A few of us have already presented our suggestion to the Expert Group of Population Policy that no policy should be finalised without a national debate. We are now proposing to open up such a national debate on the 11th November 1993 at 5.00 p.m. in the India International Centre. We hope representatives of concerned government agencies as well as various groups of citizens - representing particular concerns like the rights of women, children, the poor in general, other marginalised groups, the professions of health, education, communication etc. will be able to have a dialogue/discussion in this matter in a free atmosphere.

We hope you will join us and lend your active support in this endeavour. A related objective - which we are sure you would share - is to demonstrate that India still has a vibrant democracy, where citizens are prepared to take initiative in contributing to policy formulation in critical areas like population to ensure that they are people-centred, and the concerns and needs of women and children are duly reflected.

We shall be grateful for a confirmation of your participation.

With regards,

Yours sincerely

Date of Meeting -
Venue -
Time -



સહિયર (સ્ત્રી સંગઠન)

“નીરા”, ત્રીજે માળે, અમદાવાદી ચોખ સામે,

રાવપુરા, વડોદરા-૩૯૦૦૦૧.

સમય બપોરે ૩ થી ૬ (શુક્ર અને રવિવારે રજા રહેશે.)

જાહેર ટ્રસ્ટ નોંધણી નં. એફ/૪૫૨/વડોદરા & મંડળી નોંધણી નં. ગુજરાત/૭૩૯/વડોદરા.

તા. 19-10-93

Dear Ranjana,
(Sareli)

We have received your letter about long-acting contraceptive. We are collecting signatures and send it to you.

Third phase trial of Norplant have started in Baroda we are trying to get more information about it.

In solidarity

Trupti
for Sahiyar

Sahiyar (Stree Sangathan)

Neera' 3rd Floor, Opp. Amfaradipole, Raopura, BARODA-390 001.

Saheli

Women's Resource Centre

1-9-93

Dear friends,

- (1) You must be aware of the International Conference on Population and Development scheduled to take place in Cairo in June 1994. Parallel NGO conference will be taking place at the same venue, simultaneously. However, in the NGO's conference, representatives of the Population Council, USA, (of NORPLANT fame) and the Safe Motherhood Initiative of the World Bank have taken it upon themselves to represent the NGO voice.

Women throughout the world have suffered at the hands of these very agencies, and hence it is likely that confrontation rather than co-operation will set the tone of the NGO forum, where women's organizations will also be present.

In view of this various planning initiatives are underway throughout the world. So far we have received three statements in this regard, and Saheli has endorsed one of them. We need to discuss these positions and see whether we can choose/modify one of them and lobby to have it adopted. This exercise will be helpful for us to understand our own alliance and also recognise differences.

- (2) In June '93 Saheli had participated in a conference on Anti-Fertility vaccines, attended by women from all over the world. It was decided that we should make a joint effort at stopping vaccine trials throughout the world.

As many of you may know, the Indian vaccine is the most advanced. While those present at the conference were united in their stand against the vaccine, it was felt that the campaign ought to be more broad-based and allow for a more inclusive approach.

In view of this a statement was drafted and is being circulated to women's groups all over the world to initiate a campaign in November 1993. If this campaign is launched worldwide, it will be the first opportunity for women to take initiative before the product is in the market. In other cases we have only reacted to abuse.

We would like to discuss these issues in the NEXT MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 10 th 1993 at 2.00 pm at our office.

Please bring address lists for UP and Bihar so that NORPLANT material can be mailed to other organizations. (ref: reports that Norplant insertions are taking place on a large scale in these States).

In Solidarity

Ualpuna / Lakshmi

(for Saheli)

Attached : Three statements on Population and Development
Statement on Anti- Fertility vaccines

Saheli

Women's Resource Centre

21-8-93

Dear friends,

We hope that you saw the coverage of the Press Conference following the submission of the memorandum to the Health Minister on issues arising from the meeting held on 18-6-93 by Secy Dept. of Fam. Welfare.

All of you have been a party to this campaign for over a year. During this time, Saheli has been taking primary responsibility of putting material, viewpoints, questions together and keeping the campaign going.

However, we find that this mode of working is no longer adequate. The government is moving too fast and our response time is to the tune of two months. Therefore, we feel the need for forming a broad-based core group which can respond faster and plan and carry out an effective campaign.

We have discussed the idea with some of you and have a positive response from AIDWA, Jagori and NFIW so far. The bigger the core group the better it would be.

We would like to start weekly meetings of the core group. If you are ready to participate in the campaign, the minimum expectation would be that you depute one person from your organisation who would attend the weekly meeting and devote at least half a day to the campaign against hazardous contraception and population control. The person who would attend need not necessarily have previous experience in the issue .

At the Press Conference we were informed that NORPLANT insertion has been going on in UP and Bihar for nearly two years. This could be the first task of the group - to expose the double speak of the govt. Even if you can't participate in the core group we would appreciate it if you could give us ideas and contacts to proceed with this.

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CORE GROUP WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE SAHELI OFFICE AT 2.00 PM ON FRIDAY 27-8-93.

Please do send a representative.

In solidarity,

Kalpana, *Kalshu*



સહિયર (સ્ત્રી સંગઠન)

"નીરા", ત્રીજી માળે, અમદાવાદી પોળ સામે,
રાવપુરા, વડોદરા-૩૯૦૦૦૧.

સમય બપોરે ૩ થી ૬ (બુધ અને રવિવારે રજા રહેશે.)

જાહેર દ્રશ્ય નોંધણી નં. એફ/૪૫૨/વડોદરા # મંડળી નોંધણી નં. ગુજરાત/૭૩૯/વડોદરા.

recd. 8.6.93

Dated 31/5/93
at. - -

Dear friends,

We received your letter dated 19th May. We have also received specific information about Norplant trial in Baroda, from "Forum Against oppression of women" Bombay and some groups near for health in Baroda.

Yet we want to investigate about it. Then we will held a meeting for that. Do send the technical material, you have about Norplant.

In Solidarity

Deepali (For Sahiyar)

Sahiyar (Stree Sangathan)

'Neera' 3rd Floor, Opp. Amfavadipole, Raopura, BARODA-390 001.

Until August 1: Apartado 113-6151, Santa Ana 2.000, Costa Rica;
Phone: 506-282711; then Population and Development Program,
Hampshire College, Amherst, MA. 01002, USA; 413-549-4600, ext.
506

July 2, 1993

To the Editors, Women's Health Journal:

I have long been an admirer of your magazine, but I was quite distressed by your response to Saheli regarding the campaign to stop Norplant trials in India in your 1/93 issue. Not only do you not publish any excerpts from their pamphlet, but more seriously, you state: "In the case of Norplant, we have published information that takes a more positive view of this new contraceptive than the picture you present. Our Documentation Center contains studies on the benefits of this implant for thousands of women."

It would seem to me the role of the journal should be to present the pros and cons of contraceptive technologies -- not just the pros. In many settings Norplant has proved problematic; the recent publication, Norplant: Under Her Skin by the Women's Health Action Foundation in the Netherlands, documents a number of cases. Given the Indian government's stringent population control policies, Norplant is likely to be given without adequate health back-up, informed consent, and easy access to removal in that country. Saheli's voice should not be silenced, above all by the Women's Health Journal.

All the best,

Betsy Hartmann

Hi Ranjana + Kalpana!
Hope you are doing well - it was great to see you, and thanks for arranging the talk - did it get any publicity?
Have you seen this response to your letter in the WHJ? It's outrageous. Maria Zuniga of CISTAS in Nicaragua alerted me to it, and she has also written me to it, and she has it is important to circulate as widely as possible. Makes me think Under Her Skin as widely as possible.
All the best,
Betsy



Centro de Información y Servicios de Asesoría en Salud

June 7, 1993

Ranjana Padhi
Women's Resource Center
Unit above Shop 105-108
Shopping Centre
Defence Colony, Bridge (South Side)
New Dehli, 110024
INDIA

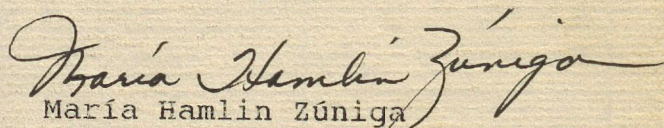
Dear Ranjana and Sisters;

Thank you for your effort in bringing public attention to the problems of Norplant. I am sending you a copy of the letter I sent to the Revista de la Red de Salud in Chile. I am sorry they did not publish your materiales.

I would like to request that you send us copies of your bulletin. I am enclosing a bulletin from Nicaragua that deals with women's issues. We would be interested in supporting your campaign. Fortunately, up to this time, Norplant has not been introduced in Nicaragua, and we must struggle so that it is not introduced in the future.

Keep up your fine work!

Cordially,


María Hamlin Zúñiga
Director of CISAS



CENTRO DE INFORMACION Y SERVICIOS
DE ASESORIA EN SALUD
APARTADO 3267
MANAGUA - NICARAGUA
CENTRO AMERICA

Encl.

SODA

SOCIETY FOR DEVELOPMENTAL ACTION

Replied
24.10.92

Mailing Address : Post Box No. 16, Baripada-757001, Orissa, India
Regd. Office : Kuliiana-757030, Mayurbhanj, Orissa, India

Date 27.09.92

Your letter dated

Telefax :

Enclosure (s)

Our Ref. 11697

Your Reference

Telephone : 06792-2526

Cable : DEVSUPPORT
BARIPADA

To
Saheli,
Women's Resource Centre,
Defence Colony Flyover
Market 105-108,
New Delhi-110024.

Dear Madam,

This is with reference to a News item published in WGNRR News Letter 39-April, June 1992 vide page No.40-41 under the title "Norplant Campaign in India". We would like to know more about it.

Will you please send some printed literature in English or in Hindi or Both for our reference and use on complimentary basis.

We will be happy if the same will be sent at an early date.

Thanking You,

Yours Sincerely,
Society for Developmental Action

Shanti Ranjan

(Shanti Ranjan Behera)
Secretary.

24 10 92

Dear Shanti Ranjan,

Thankyou for your letter
(Ref No 11697) dated 27.9.92 asking
about the Norplant campaign in
India.

I am enclosing some material on
the contraceptive NORPLANT which will
give you an idea about its
hazardous nature as well as the
dangerous implications of introducing
such a contraceptive in our F.P
programme given the extremely
poor quality of existing health
care systems in the country.

Before the advent of NORPLANT, our
group along with other womens
organizations had been campaigning
against another equally dangerous
hormonal (injection-based) contraceptive
NET-EN. We filed a case in the
Supreme Court in 1986 which has
proved to be effective in stalling the
introduction of NET-EN in the
family planning programme till date.

Similarly in the case of NORPLANT, intense campaigning and press coverage has caused the government to retract its decision to introduce the contraceptive in the F.P programme without first carrying on the mandatory trials to establish its safety.

However, we must be vigilant and continue to raise our objections to harmful contraceptives since plans to introduce more ^{such} harmful contraceptives like DEPO-PROVERA, ANTI-FERTILITY VACCINE etc are already afoot.

You could share our information with other womens groups and NGOs in your area and conscientize them about the dangers of these drugs.

You could also make enquiries at your local general hospital to see what kinds of contraceptives are being given to women and whether safety conditions are being fulfilled - in case trials are being carried out with contraceptives like NORPLANT, what information is given to women who are being implanted with NORPLANT and what are the health experiences of these women. Do write and let us know your findings. Hoping you will share such information with us,

yours sincerely

N Biswas

(NILANTANA BISWAS FOR SAHELI)

5. That respect of the value of women's labour is demonstrated through immediate amendment to the Equal Remuneration Act to apply to work of equal value. The government should also regularize the services and compensation to so-called voluntary workers in government programmes such as ICDS, AE, etc., where a large proportion of workers is women.
6. That women's special contribution to society in childbearing and -rearing is recognized and provision is ensured of child care and maternity leave with regular contributions from all employers. That the ban on maternity leave after 2 children is removed, in recognition of the fact that women seldom determine the family size.
7. That Population Control is not pursued at the cost of women's health. Instead it should be ensured that the government makes safe contraception, e.g. barrier methods, available to allow women to exercise control over their fertility. Victims of past ruthlessness of the government FP programme must be adequately compensated. The government should make free and safe MTP facilities available in proportion to the prevalence of legal and illegal abortions.
8. That the resources allocated for education are used equitably among the entire population, while discriminating positively for women, as well as other weaker sections of society. That education and training are freed of sex, caste and class biases, and are oriented towards developing a critical mind. That education and training are linked to employment opportunities.
9. That it is recognized that a number of anti-women practices are prevalent in the society, which need to be tackled urgently. Some of these are vestiges of the past, such as witch-hunting, widow-burning, infanticide, etc., whereas others are creeping in with advancing consumerism, such as bride-burning, sex determination and preselection tests, and other reproductive technologies. Special enactments are needed and where legislation exists, it must be enforced, so that women are ensured their right to life.
10. That it is recognized that no woman is safe from violence in the street or at home. The implementing machinery for crimes against women such as rape, battering, sexual harassment, etc. needs to be strengthened. That special facilities by way of working women's hostels, housing for single women, shelters for battered women and destitutes are provided in proportion to the population of women.

Her Pop Cou

Dear Ranjana, Lakshmi, Kalpana and others at Saheli,

We received the cassettes you have sent and also a very brief report of the Kanpur conference which unfortunately none of us could come to. Hope you will send us more detailed reports so that we can enthuse our "progressive Maharashtra" to do something like a regional conference. Also hopefully you are enthused enough to ~~just~~ respond to this piece of information that we have just got.

We've heard or know that Norplant trials are to begin in Baroda under a project entitled 'Study of women's perspective on spacing methods'. The spacing methods to be included are pill, IUD and Norplant. The same doctor who did the earlier trial is going to take this up. It is to begin almost immediately. We had a discussion on what we can do and here are some of the suggestions that we have.

- (1) Confirm from our contacts in Baroda, Bombay & Delhi when the trial is to begin & what is the proforma. Is it the same as circulated through Women's Commission?
- (2) Ask Sahiyar to initiate a media writing campaign in Gujarati. They should also write on the basis of the interviews we had done in Baroda. They could translate your pamphlet & think of ways of distributing it.
- (3) All other groups like yours, Jagori, Forum etc. should send in all the material that we have to reach them as soon as possible.
- (4) Ask them if they could arrange for a meeting sometime in the beginning of June. when we could also go there, have workshops on Norplant with all the health workers from various voluntary community organisations in Baroda. Somewhere use that as an opportunity to make the issue of Norplant a public campaign and also plan collectively about how we want to follow it up because Baroda is the pretest. Immediately after, trials will begin at all the other

(5) Shouldn't we make an issue of the fact that Norplant is still not tested and cannot be given alongwith the pill and the IUD as part of cafeteria?

We have written to Sahiyar and Jagori. We are contacting our local HRRC doctor, Dr. Kusum Zaveri to get more details. The ICMR person in-charge of this study is Dr. R.N. Gupta. The study is being done with the help of ORG (Operations Research Group) in Barode. In case you can do contact some of these people. Who else should we communicate with? Any other suggestions?

Please do respond as soon as you can.

Ranjana, are you or anyone else planning to go to the workshop against anti-fertility vaccines in Germany? Kamaxi got the invitation here. We were wondering as to what to do about it. We feel one should attend and were glad to see your name on the list of participants. They had written that they are short of funds and so are not sure if they can arrange the workshop at all. ~~Regret~~ They in fact said it would be good if we could arrange our own travel. As of now we have sent them a message that in case it takes off Swatiya will attend. Do write about what you have decided. Before it's too late we should start our campaign in full swing against all these new methods.

O.K. then. We await a real quick reply. Do write back soon.

Bye for now.

Chaya Co
(for FASDSP)

Addresses from Delhi of Norplant trial women.

- ① Neena Tandon
2891, Chailpuri, Kinari Bazaar.
- ② Snehlata Madanmohan
2638, Chhatra Pratap, Kinari Bazaar.
- ③ Shahjahan Mohammad Ibrahim
645, यू.डी.वाला ; सताराम बाजार
- ④ Shashi Bansal
875-76, Chandni Mahal ; Jama Masjid.
- ⑤ Savita Vinod.
833, Chandni Mahal, Jama Masjid.
- ⑥ Shahida Qasim
878, Haveli Adam Khan, Chitli Kabar.
- ⑦ Zahida Mohammad Slias
864, Haveli Adam Khan, Chitli Kabar.
- ⑧ Tabassum Asad Faridi
3342, गलीकरीदाँ नया बांस ; शरी नओली
- ⑨ Sheela Garwi Shankar
3202, गलीकरीदाँ नया बांस ; शरी नओली
- ⑩ Nasira Gajoor Khan
13/202, Palitola ; वल्लीमराँ

Sent by
Forum, B'kay
5th Sept '92

Received
17. Aug.

12/8/92

प्रिय इज्जत,

कुशल होती। आई

पानेश गुप्त की मिच्छावदन का

यत्र मिलता। वी इज्जत जो

जोशब्दां इत्या त्रया वदनां के

इन्द्रव्यु हास छोटी सी फिल्म

बनाना चाहती है। वाकई यह

इसके किसान देशों की मिली जुली

साक्षी है। आई भारत की स्त्री

किस तरह इज्जत शिकार बनती

है, यह बात लोगों तक

पहुँचानी आई इज्जत नारा आंदोलन

के लिए बहुत ही उपयोगी आई

बहुत पूर्ण बात हो सकती है। लेकिन

इसके पहले आय लोगों के

पास से यह जानना बहुत ही

जरूरी मानलिया है। की आस्था

नेस गुप्त किस तरह

काम कर रहा है। तुम का
 राष्ट्रिय कार्य है। ~~उपरोक्त~~
 यत्र लिख्यते म
 (आदि) सगरी (नगर) नौ
 तुम 552224 इस
 फोन नं पर सूचकाला।
 खडे लो इमारी सक्रिय
 कार्यकर्ता है। तुम्हें कला
 सफलता की साथकीनेय
 ग्रुप के साथ काम कर
 करने का मिशन ले था
 नही।
 समा धडना दिया।
 को थोड़े

FOR SARIYAR



दिल्ली (विकास कार्य)
 कोर

दुकान नं 105-108 के
 उपर

डिफेंस कोलोनी

फ्लोर ओवर मार्केट

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पिन PIN

नई दिल्ली

Dear Sathya, Lakshmi, Ranjana, Kalpana and others
at Saheli,

We have received your letter and the proposal for the next national conference. We are also excited about the preparatory meeting because there seems to be a good response from various groups. We are now just hoping that the rains are not too bad and people can reach in time.

We are writing this letter for some other matter though. The two of us had been to Baroda the last three days and with the help of Deepti from Sahiyar, met 9 women who had got Norplant inserted in 1986-87. We had prepared some kind of a list of questions based on the fact sheet prepared by you, and had used that as a guideline

Of the nine women that we spoke to, only one who was an ANM herself knew that it was a trial. All others were unaware of everything else. One was a case of failure after 1 year of use. Two had to discontinue because of severe menstrual problems. Some post removal problems have been there which we can probably link to use of Norplant. On the whole, this whole exercise seems to be quite educative and revealing.

On discussions later we thought that we should follow up more such women who have used Norplant. In Bombay we have a few addresses and can get more. In fact at one of the centres here in Thane, till today (6 yrs after the trial began) there are 7 women who have not got their implants removed. So we are trying to locate them. We are also thinking of getting about 20 random addresses of

women who have been part of the trial and talking to them in a similar manner. You had addresses in Delhi. Could you do something similar there? Also is it possible for you to get the names of the other centres where the trials were carried out and addresses if possible from ICMR? We can try and find out the other centres from the doctors here.

When you come to Bombay in July we could have a discussion on the further possibilities of work. Maybe if you are staying on for a day extra or on the night of the 4th or during the meeting itself. Do think of this suggestion ~~before~~ if you could inform us of your train timings and other details of your travel etc. it would be helpful. If you have any more of the Hindi pamphlets with you, do bring them along. Sahiyar people would like to have some copies if they are over we could get them photocopied.

Bye. See you in July.

24/6/92

Swatiya
Chayanika.

Norplant

एड्स भेदभाव विरोधी आन्दोलन

AIDS BHEDBHAV VIRODHI ANDOLAN

Recd.
5-6-92

ESTD. - 1988

POST BOX NO : 5308
DELHI - 110 053
INDIA

AIDS Anti - Discrimination Movement For the protection of Human Rights of AIDS Patients

Members 1991 - 92

Ashwani Allawadi
Delhi

Sriniwas
Delhi

Dimple
Dhula, Maharastra

Gauri
Delhi

Dr. Mathew Varghese
Delhi

Arun Bhandari
Ankur
Delhi

Jagdish Bhardwaje
Blood Donor's Welf. Ass. (I)

Lalitha S.A.
Joint Womens' Programme
Delhi

Dr. P. S. Sahni
Jagat Matha Kusht Ashram
Delhi

Shallni SCN
Indian Social Inst.
Delhi

Shanta
Ankur
Delhi

Sidharth Gautam
Advocate
Delhi High Court
Deceased 13th Jan 1992

Ref.....

Date.3rd...June...92

Dear Nilanjana,

Thank you for your letter of May 14, 1992. We regret the fact that you have not received our contribution of Rs.150/- towards the meeting of expenses incurred during arrangements for the Norplant dharna. However, this amount was handed over personally by Dr. Sahni to Kalpana Mehta on the 13th evening at the Indian Coffee House. Kindly check with her on the same.

Thanking you,

Yours truly

Sahni, Sati

for AIDS BHEDBHAV VIRODHI ANDOLAN

REPLIED
Receipt
no 4266 sent

Norplant

MAHILA DAKSHATA SAMITI



H.O. : 19, FIRE BRIGED LANE, OPP. CAMPA COLA FACTORY
CONNAUGHT PLACE, NEW DELHI Ph. : 3712067
B.O. : 21, NEW ROHTAK ROAD, KAROL BAGH, NEW DELHI-5 Ph. : 518910
Registered under Registration of Societies Act XXI of 1860
Registration No. 8995 of 16-1-78
Income Tax Exemption D.I.T. (Exemption Certificate No. 222)/78/1167 U/380G
1-4-91 to 31-3-94

New Delhi,
May 30, 1992

S A H E L I

Unit above Shop 105 to 108,
Shopping Centre,
Defence Colony Bridge (South Side)
New Delhi
110024

Dear Friend,

This has reference to your letter dt. 18.5.92 in connection with the joint protest dharna on the question of NORPLANT

I enclose herewith cheque No.174299 dt. 30.5.92 drawn on the Central Bank of India, Janpath, New Delhi for Rs. 150/-.

Please send us a receipt in due course.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Encl:Cheque

for Mahila Dakshata Samiti

replied
Receipt No
A 265 sent

President :
PRAMILA DANDAVATE
Tel. : 3019535

Vice-President :
KAILASH REKHI
Tel. : 618736, 611692
RANJANA KUMARI
Tel. : 674074

Secretary :
SUMAN KRISHNAKANT
Family Counselling
Tel. : 3329990
SUMAN KURADE
Consumer Protection
Tel. : 6333911

Treasurer :
PREM KHANNA
Tel. : 663680

Legal Cell :
RANI JETHMALANI
Tel. : 618145 (Res.)
(Off.) 3311111/212
Convenor:
G.S. PURI
Tel. : 518910

25-4-92

कार्यालय महिला समाख्या परियोजना, टिहरी ।

संख्या :- / ११-१२१ दिनांक अप्रैल / १२

प्रिय बहनों ,

नमस्कार । आपका गर्भ निरोधक संबंधी पत्र हमें प्राप्त हुआ । ये पत्र हमारे लिए एक बहुत ही विशेष व आवश्यक जानकारी है । इस गैरे गर्भ निरोधक संबंध में हम सारे गाँव समूह की बहनों को जानकारी बाँट कर उन्हें सावधान करेगें क्योंकि हमेशा इस तरह के प्रयोग सीधी सादी जानकारी न रखने वाली बहनों पर किये जाते है । इस क्षेत्र में कार्यरत कुछ संस्थाओं के पते हम आपको भेज रहे है ।

- 1- लोक जीवन विकास भारती बूढाकेदार नाथ , क्षेत्र भिलगंगा जिला टिहरी गढ़वाल ।
- 2- जन विकास संस्थान चिरबीटिया , क्षेत्र जखौली , टिहरी गढ़वाल ।
- 3- महिला नव जागरण समिति ॥ चम्बा ॥ टिहरी गढ़वाल ।
- 4- भुवनेश्वरी महिला आश्रम ॥ अंजनी तैण ॥ क्षेत्र जाखाणीधार टिहरी गढ़वाल ।
- 5- जनजागृति संस्थान ॥ छाड़ी ॥ टिहरी गढ़वाल ।
- 6- राधा भट्ट लक्ष्मी आश्रम कौसानी ॥ अल्मोड़ा ।
- 7- दशौली ग्राम स्वराज मंडल , मन्दिर मार्ग गोपेश्वर , जिला चमौली गढ़वाल ।
- 8- " उत्तरा " परिक्रमा तल्ला डांडा , तल्ली ताल नैनीताल ।
- 9- " हस्को " गोखाले मार्ग , कोटद्वार गढ़वाल ।
- 10- सिल्यारा आश्रम ॥ सिल्यारा ॥ क्षेत्र भिलगंगा , टिहरी गढ़वाल ।

स्नेह सहित ।

R. Bhatt 25-4-92

रमा - गीता ,

महिला समाख्या परियोजना,
टिहरी, टिहरी गढ़वाल ।

HYDERABAD

2.3.1992

From:

M. Padmaja Reddy,
c/o M. Sarath Reddy,
Asst. Prof.

Mech. Engg. Dept.
Vasavi College of Engineering,
Ibrahimbagh
HYDERABAD - 500031 A.P.

To,

SAHELI
Above Shop 105-108 Shopping centre,
Defence colony Bridge,
(South side)
NEW DELHI - 110024

Sir,

Sub: Request for the material
about the information sheet on
Norplant (2) and Norplant (6).

I request you to inform me
about the details regarding the
price of the above mentioned material
and the mode of payment for the
same. Awaiting for an early reply
from you. — with kind regards
Padmaja Reddy.

to be filed PopCon.

Replied
Karpas
24/3/92

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड
INLAND LETTER CARD



To

SAHELI

Above shop 105-108 shopping centre
Defence colony Bridge

(South side)
NEW DELHI

पिन PIN

11 00 14

Handwritten signature or initials.

तीसरा मोड़ THIRD FOLD

इस पत्रके भीतर कुछ न रखिए NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

पते में पिन कोड लिखें WRITE PIN CODE IN ADDRESS

प्रेषक का नाम और पता :— SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS :—

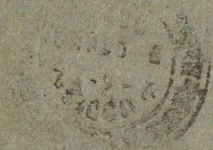
M. Padmaja Reddy
c/o - M. Sarath Reddy,
Asst. Prof
Vasavi college of Engineering,

पिन PIN

Handwritten PIN code box.

IBRAHIM BAGH

HYDERABAD - 31



पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

प्रिय साथी

नारप्लांट - 6 नामक एक नया गर्भ-निरोधक हमारी सरकार द्वारा प्रचलित किया जा रहा है। सहेली व दिल्ली के अन्य महिला संगठन इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं क्योंकि अभी तक इस पर सही तरीके से परीक्षण भी नहीं हुआ है। साथ ही अब तक की गई शोध से इतनी जानकारी अवश्य है कि इसके इस्तेमाल से कई खतरे जुड़े हुए हैं। वैसे अगर वह निरापद भी होता तब भी सरकारी परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रम में इस्तेमाल करते वक्त औरतों के स्वास्थ्य व उनकी सहमती की पूरी तरह अपेक्षा की जा सकती है।

साथ ही हमने यह भी जाना है कि गर्भ-निरोधक देते/लगाते समय स्वास्थ्य कर्मी औरतों को किसी भी तरह से खतरे के बारे में अवगत ही नहीं कराते हैं। इसलिए हमने नारप्लांट के बारे में कुछ तथ्य इकट्ठित किए हैं व उन्हें आपको वितरण के लिए भेज रहे हैं।

अभी तक मिली शपठों से पता लगा है कि सबसे पहले नारप्लांट को गैर सरकारी संस्थाओं से उत्तर प्रदेश में प्रचलित किया जाने की योजना है। ऐसे में यह जरूरी है कि यह संगठन जानें कि त किरा प्रकार की योजना में शामिल होना जा रहे हैं। इसलिए आप अगर और किसी संस्था / समूह की जानकारी रखते हैं तो उनका पत्र हमें भेजे ताकि हम उन्हें भी यह सूचना भेज सकें।

नारप्लांट के बारे में यदि आपके अन्य कोई सवाल हैं तो हम उनका उत्तर अवश्य देंगे।

शुभकामनाओं सहित,

भवदीया

सहेली
दुकान नं. 104-102 के ऊपर
डिफेंस कालोनी फ्लाइओवर
मार्किट
नई दिल्ली - 110 024

कल्पना, रंजना, नीताजना,
लक्ष्मी, आशा
(सहेली से)

- 24.3.92 -

फोन - 616485

Saheli

Women's Resource Center

3-2-92
Date.....

Dear Friend,

We were disappointed at the thinly attended meeting of the coordination committee held in Saheli office on Jan.29. We had hoped that at this meeting the draft of a press statement could be prepared and the invitation to ICMR for the meeting scheduled for Feb.8, could also be finalised. None of this could be done and we felt that probably it would be better to proceed more slowly so that the representatives of all concerned organizations could be better informed to carry out a debate with ICMR. With this objective we have prepared a draft press statement on the subject.

Before the meeting of the 29th we also viewed the film on anti-pregnancy vaccine made by a German woman. It does not contain too much of relevant information for our immediate purposes. Hence we decided not to shift the meeting of the 8th but rather than to call ICMR for this meeting, we felt that it be better if we saw the films and discussed them. At this meeting we could also finalize the press statement and the list of organizations who would be a party to the campaign.

In our last letter by mistake we had typed the date of the film show as Feb.9. Please note that the film screening will take place on Feb.8, Saturday, at 3.30pm at Jagori office. Please discuss the press statement in detail and let us have your comments on it.

Jagori office is located at B-5. Cooperative housing society, South Extension Part I. From Ring road enter the road leading to Kotla Mubarakpur and take the first turn left.

We look forward to meeting you,

Yours Sincerely,

Saheli

Women's Resource Center

22-1-92

Date.....

Dear Friends,

As you are aware, Saheli had organized a meeting on the 18th of January to discuss the dangerous trends in contraceptive research and family planning being pursued by the government. The case in point was the introduction of Norplant.

The meeting was very well attended by women's organizations, health groups and concerned individuals. There was general consensus that joint action must be taken to oppose the unethical and arbitrary action through which new contraceptives are being introduced into the family planning programme. Everyone present felt that action should be initiated immediately to stop the unethical trials of Norplant and to warn people about the issues involved.

Two actions were suggested at this meeting:

1. Screening two films on Feb. 9, 1992
 - a) a film on the critique of India's F.P. programme which includes a critique of Norplant, titled "Its like a war", made by Deepa Dhanraj and Abha Bhaiya.
 - b) A film titled Anti-bodies against pregnancy, made by Ulrike Schaz.

ICMR will be invited to this event. A press statement will also be issued exposing the way in which these hazardous contraceptives are being tested in complete disregard to women's health. The venue of the screening is being fixed.

2. A dharna will be organized demanding an end to further testing of hazardous contraceptives. Tentative date suggested for the dharna is Feb. 28, 1992.

A coordination committee was formed to coordinate these events. This committee is scheduled to meet on Jan. 29 1992 at 3pm at Saheli office.

contd. pg 2.

By the time the discussion on the coordination committee started many people had left the meeting. Also we are aware that many organizations could not attend the meeting at all despite their interest in the issue.

Therefore we are writing to you to invite you to be a part of the coordination committee and to attend the meeting on the 29th

Looking forward to seeing you,

yours Sincerely

Rajendra Mehta

For Saheli

Dear Friends,

For many years now we have been involved in a campaign against the anti-people population policies being pursued by the Indian government. One dimension of our protest is the court case (along with other petitioners) against the Indian Council of Medical Research, the Drugs Controller of India and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Our case is to prevent them from introducing new contraceptives into the family planning programme without adequate research to establish their safety. Our contention has also been that the experimentation is carried out on poor illiterate women without any regard to their health and in contravention to all norms of research ethics. While the court case was initially against NET-EN, a long-acting injectible hormonal contraceptive, in 1990 we expanded the case to include the newer contraceptives that were being researched into, such as sub-dermal implants, vaginal rings, anti-fertility vaccines etc.

While the court case did not make much progress, ICMR on its own recommended NET-EN for limited use only. However, this change on the part of ICMR has not come about from any concern for women's health, but more due to their inability to refute our claims about the hazardous nature of the contraceptive, as well as the impossibility of safe service delivery given the present sorry state of our public health system.

We would like to point out that any concern for women's health is being shown only by women's organizations, health groups, and a few NGOs. ICMR has therefore decided to change its tactics and is trying to divide this concern by paying lip-service to participation on the part of NGOs and concern for women's health, while continuing its research programme unchanged and unabated.

This was clearly demonstrated at a closed-door meeting with "women health advocates" organised by the ICMR to discuss the introduction of Norplant and other spacing methods, on the 6th and 7th of Dec. 91 in Delhi. They had carefully avoided inviting any of the organizations who had been a party to the court-case and are familiar with the issues involved. Instead a few NGOs had been invited so that they could safely say that they had the blessings and concurrence of everyone for their future programmes. Specifically, they want to introduce Norplant(6) - a contraceptive implant which is inserted under the skin of women. This hormonal contraceptive has only been tested in Phase II trials so far in India. Phase III and

Phase IV trials which are mandatory before a contraceptive can be introduced into the Family Planning Programme have so far not been conducted. This is in contravention of all legal, medical and ethical issues related to contraceptive testing.

Fortunately, we came to know about this meeting and attended it in spite of being uninvited. We are enclosing a copy of the minutes of the meeting for your information. Our immediate concern is that ICMR is proposing to introduce Norplant into the F.P programme through 100 hospitals attached to medical colleges. It was really shocking to know that ICMR means to recruit 20,000 women on whom this untested, hazardous contraceptive is going to be inserted. From this meeting with ICMR, it is clear that they actually want to test this contraceptive Norplant on a large population but without calling it a trial. In other words, they will offer it as a tested, safe, and acceptable contraceptive to women attending the Family Planning clinics in hospitals attached to medical colleges, from Jan '92.

In view of the fact that the government is again trying to give a boost to the population control programme at every available forum, we feel that we must take joint action to oppose this arbitrary, unethical and unscientific manner in which new contraceptives are being introduced into the already oppressive Family Planning Programme.

We are therefore calling for a meeting of all concerned organizations and individuals in Delhi, to discuss strategies and action plans to counter these dangerous trends.

Date: 18.1.92, Saturday from 2 to 5 pm.

Venue: JNU City Centre, 35 Ferozeshah Road, Mandi House.

Hoping for your active participation,

In solidarity,

Lopa, Nalini, Ranjana, Sathya, Kalpana, Asha, Lakshmi.

(for the Saheli Collective)

Saheli

Women's Resource Center

6/1/92

प्रिय साधु,

पिछले कई सालों से हम सरकार की जन विरोधी जनसंख्या नीति के खिलाफ अभियान में जुड़े रहे हैं। इस अभियान के तहत हमने दूसरे संगठनों के साथ मिलकर इंडियन काउंसिल ऑफ मेडिकल रिसर्च (आय सी एम आर), भारतीय औषधि नियंत्रक, व स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के विरुद्ध कोर्ट केस भी किया है। हमारे कोर्ट केस का उद्देश्य है बिना डॉक्टर के पूरा हुए व निरापेक्ष साबित हुए नए गर्भ निरोधकों के सरकारी प्रोग्राम में प्रचलन को रोकना। हमारा यह भी कहना है कि शोध गरीब व अनपढ़ औरतों के स्वास्थ्य की अवहेलना करती है और शोध के तरीके अनुचित हैं। हालांकि पहले हमने केस सिर्फि नेट-एन नामक लम्बे असर वाली, हार्मोन से बनी हुई के खिलाफ किया था, 1990 में हमने पाया कि दूसरे नए गर्भ निरोधकों पर भी शोध कार्य जारी था जो नेट-एन से मिलते जुलते थे, व पद्धति में कोई बदलाव भी नहीं आया था। अब इस केस में अमरी के भीतर लगाये जाने वाले केप्सूल (इम्प्लांट), यौनिक छल्ले (वेजाइनल रिंग), जनन शक्ति खत्म करने वाले टीके (एंटी फर्टिलिटी वेकसीन), नाम के छिड़की जाने वाली दवा (नेक्ल स्प्रे) पर भी रोक लगाने की मांग की है।

हालांकि इस कोर्ट केस में ज्यादा प्रगति नहीं की जाय सी एम आर में स्वयं ही नेट एन के सीमित इस्तेमाल की इलाह दी। पर यह बदलाव औरतों के स्वास्थ्य के लिए बड़ी हुई प्रिंता से नहीं बरस हमारे वैज्ञानिक तर्कों और स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की दुर्गति के बारे में हमारे तर्कों का जवाब न देकर जाने से उपजा है।

हम इस बात पर भी ध्यानकर्षित करना चाहते हैं कि परिवार नियोजन के संदर्भ में औरतों के स्वास्थ्य की प्रिंता कुछ नारी संगठनों, स्वस्थ स्वास्थ्य समूहों और स्वैच्छिक संस्थाओं के ही की है। बाकी सब पर सरकारी प्रचार ही हावी रहा है। इसीलिए अब आय सी एम आर ने भी पैरेरे बदल लिए हैं और वह औरतों के स्वास्थ्य के प्रति दिखावटी प्रिंता दर्शाकर कुछ संगठनों को अपने साथ खींचने और इस प्रकार से हमें बँटवाने की कोशिश में लगा हुआ है। जब कि उसके शोध कार्य पहले की तरह नारी विरोधी है।

आय सी एम आर का यह नया खैया 6-7 दिसम्बर 1991 को उसके द्वारा

आयोजित एक बैठक में स्पष्ट हुआ यह बैठक नारप्लांट (एन इम्प्लांट) व अन्य बच्चों के बीच अंतराल को बढ़ाने के तरीकों पर विमर्श करने के लिए बुलाई गई थी और इसमें " औरत के स्वास्थ्य के हिमायतियों को आमंत्रित किया गया था। इस बैठक में ऐसे किसी भी व्यक्ति को आमंत्रित नहीं किया गया था जो आय सी एम आर के खिलाफ केस में शामिल रहा हो। हमारे विचार में इस बैठक का एक ही मकसद था वह यह कि इसके द्वारा आय सी एम आर यह जता सके कि उसे अपने परीक्षणों के लिए सब की सहमति प्राप्त है। फिलहाल आय सी एम आर नारप्लांट (6) को प्रचलित करने की योजना बना रहा है। किसी भी गर्भ निरोधक को प्रचलन के पहले परीक्षण के चरणों से गुजरना आवश्यक है पर नारप्लांट (6) सिर्फ दो चरणों से गुजरा है। परीक्षण की तीसरे व चौथे चरण की प्रक्रिया न निवाहना कानून, नैतिकता व स्वास्थ्य तीनों की दृष्टि से सरासर गलत है।

यह अच्छा हुआ कि आमंत्रित हुए लोगों में बम्बई के नारी उत्पीड़न विरोधी मंच द्वारा मिली सूचना के कारण हम इस मीटिंग में शामिल हो सके। इस मीटिंग में ^{नर्तकी के} मुख्य बिंदु हम इस पत्र के साथ भेज रहे हैं।

फिलहाल सबसे प्रतापजनक बात यह है कि नारप्लांट (6) को 100 भेडिन्ग कालेजों से जुड़े 100 अस्पतालों में प्रचलित करने की योजना बना रही है। 20000 औरतों को यह अपरीक्षित व हानिकारक गर्भनिरोधक लगा दिया जाएगा, यह नहकर कि यह परीक्षित और निरापद है।

आज के इस माहौल में जब सरकार परिवार नियोजन की बात हर मंच से उठाने उसे आगे बढ़ाने की कोशिश में लगी हुई है हम जरूरी समझते हैं कि हमें साथ मिलकर ~~ए~~ मनमानी, अनैतिक व अवैज्ञानिक तरीके से नए गर्भ निरोधकों के प्रचलन का विरोध करना ही होगा

इस सिलसिले में हम एक बैठक ता 18/11/1992 को रोपटर् को से पॉन्ड बुला रहे हैं। स्थान है जवाहर लाल नेहरू युनिवर्सिटी का सिटी सेंटर, 35 फिरोज शाह रोड। आशा है आप शामिल जरूर होंगे
भव शीव

लक्ष्मी, आशा, कल्पना, नीलांजना, नलिनी, सत्या, लोपा, हरंजना

डिप्टेस कालोनी पुल के नीचे (दक्षिणी ओर) नई दिल्ली 110024
सं. 616485



Innovators of Family Planning Programmes

**PARIVAK
SEVA
SANSTHA**

28, DEFENCE COLONY MARKET
NEW DELHI-110024
PHONES: 617712, 619024
TELEX: 031-62006 STOP IN

SAHELI
Women's Resource Center
Unit above shop. 105 to 108
Shopping Centre, Defence Colony, Bridge(South side)
New Delhi - 110 024.

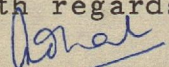
7.11.91

Dear friend,

Thank you for your letter dated 26.9.91, regarding women's health. We are certainly interested as it is concerned with Family Planning aspect of women's health. We would like a report of the survey conducted by 'SABLA SANGH' with reference to methodology, observations and the conclusions. If you have conducted any survey on NET-EN and NOR-PLANT etc. we would like to know your methodology, magnitude of study and observations. This would help in preparation for participation.

After we receive your reply, we shall let you know when and how we would participate in your workshop. Please also let us know the tentative dates.

With regards,


DR. ALKA DHAL
Senior Consultant

AD/rr

PROJECT MANAGEMENT
CLINIC SERVICES
CONTRACEPTIVES MARKETING
FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION
CONSULTANCY
TRAINING

Registered under Societies Act XXI
Registered Office: Massey Hall, 1 Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110001
AFFILIATED TO MARIE STOPES INTERNATIONAL

Saheli

Women's Resource Center

Dear Friends,

As you may be aware, we have been campaigning against the introduction of hazardous contraceptives for several years now. In 1986, we took on the responsibility of coordinating a case filed in the Supreme Court against the introduction of the injectable contraceptive NET-EN into the Family Planning Programme. Stree Shakti Sangatna (Hyderabad), Saheli, Chingari (Ahmedabad) and several individuals were copetitioners in this case. Our primary objective had been to get some court ruling to ensure that all future contraceptives are

1. adequately tested in India for both short term and long term risk;
2. women are given adequate and accurate information to prevent abuse in a target oriented programme;
3. conditions for adequate medical screening and follow-up are in place at peripheral health centres before potentially dangerous contraceptives are introduced.

This case did not progress much in Court. However, when we came to know that ICMR plans to introduce other hazardous contraceptives (while with holding NET-EN) we filed another affidavit in Dec 1990 bringing all these other contraceptives which are hazardous such as sub-dermal implants, vaginal rings, anti-fertility vaccines, nasal sprays etc. into the ambit of the NET-EN case. Our main argument was that ICMR and other respondents (Drugs Controller, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) had taken no concrete measures to improve the way in which contraceptives were being hastily tested and introduced without adequate regard to women's health. Once again there was no progress in the court.

On the 6th and 7th of Dec, 1990, ICMR had called a closed door meeting with 'Health Advocates' to discuss the introduction of 'Norplant and other spacing methods' into the Family Planning Programme. This is in contravention of all legal, medical and ethical issues related to contraceptive testing. The areas of concern are:

1. Norplant (6) has gone through just the Phase I of the clinical trials in the country. Phase III and Phase IV which are mandatory before the contraceptive can be introduced into the Family Planning Programme have not been carried out. Yet, ICMR is planning to introduce Norplant (6) into the FP Programme.
2. Norplant (2) for which the ICMR alleges the completion of all stages of trials (complete information on the trials has not been released as yet) is hazardous on the basis of the limited information published by ICMR. Norplant (2) has been withdrawn.

from the world market and therefore cannot be introduced into the FP programme.

3. ICMR's own admission is that more than 10% of the women on whom this contraceptive was tested have been 'lost to follow up' and these women continue to harbour norplant in their bodies long after the trials have been completed.
4. ICMR has admitted that they have not followed up any of the women who have participated in the trials since 1972. Therefore the state of health of these women as of today is unknown. These women who number more than 15,000 have participated in trials with contraceptives known to have long term consequences which are of serious nature.
5. ICMR now plans to coopt women (both individuals and organizations) to become their handmaidens to push hazardous contraceptives.
6. ICMR also plans to farm out to NGOs and women's organizations contraceptive testing. This is the beginning of privatization in contraceptive research.
7. In order to involve NGOs and women's organizations, in their endeavour, ICMR plans to organize regional level meetings.

We are enclosing a copy of the minutes of the ICMR meeting prepared by us. The issue is rather urgent because from Jan 1992 onwards the process of recruiting 200 women per medical college hospital (approximately 20,000 women in total) will begin. Simultaneously the process for coopting NGOs and Women's organizations will be carried out in the regional meetings.

While we are not opposed to the introduction of new contraceptives, we must oppose the attempt on the part of ICMR and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to try this untested contraceptive ~~n~~ norplant(6) on a large population ^{of} women without calling ~~them~~ it a trial. In other words, women attending the FP clinic in the hospitals attached to medical colleges will be offered Norplant(6) as a tested acceptable and safe contraceptive.

We are in the process of preparing an information sheet on Norplant'2 and Norplant(6) which will be available on request. If you need any further information please do let us know.

Satyanala, Nalini, Laxmi, Kalpana, Ranjana, Lopa

(For Sabeli Collective).

Saheli

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Satyanala, Nalini, Laxmi, Kalpana, Ranjana, Lopa

(For Saheli collective).

No 3 Officers Colony
Railway Staff College
Lal Bang, Baroda
390004

June 30, 1993.

Dear friends at - Saheli,

The enclosed piece might interest you. Please also send my address - I'm now in Baroda. I'm writing this letter to request information on Saheli's experiences in having 'dialogue' with ICMR. I'm trying to collect examples of how in recent years issues taken up by activist groups are being acknowledged as valid by the Establishment - which then invites these groups to collaborate in setting right the wrongs. And what really happens in the process - appropriation & subversion. Perhaps you could give me details of

how ICMR contacted you on Noxplam,
whether they paid any attention at
all to the points you raised and
what, if anything, was achieved
by this new process of shunning the
adversary role & saying "let's be
friends & work this out together."

In case you have any printed
report - which contains comments on
all these points you could send
me that. May I expect as early
a response as possible?

Best wishes & regards,

Vimal