

# *People in Conservation*

*Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Security*

*Volume 2 Issue 3 October 2009*



Kalpavriksh Environment Action Group

## Index

### 1. Laws and Policies

1.1. Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (TFRA)... 3

1.1.1. Tribal Villages in Maharashtra claim community rights over forest resources... 3

1.1.2. State Level (Orissa) Consultation on the implementation of the Forest Rights Act... 3

1.2. Wild Life Protection Act... 4

### 2. Community Conserved Areas

2.1. Events & Developments... 6

2.1.1. NE meeting on CCAs... 6

2.1.2. Western region consultation on CCAs... 6

2.1.3. South Asia – Consultations in Kathmandu... 7

2.1.4. CBD Preparation meeting... 7

2.2. Case-study – Protection of Golden Langur in Kakoiijana forests, Assam (India)... 7

## Editorial

Seasons Greetings!

This issue covers a host of news and information for you! We hope that you will enjoy reading it as much as I did putting it together. In it you will read about the success story of a village in Maharashtra - Mendha Lekha in Gadchiroli. The name of the village will resonate in the minds of the readers of this newsletter - who will no doubt be familiar with its history of a successful struggle for self-determination. The village has scored yet another victory under the able leadership of Devaji Tofa by being the first village in the country to claim community rights over adjoining forests under the community forest rights provision of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 (TFRA) .

Reportings on a series of meetings on the issue of Community Conserved Area, in Kathmandu (Nepal), in Assam (North East India) and in Rajasthan (Western India) will give you a glimpse of the developments in this area. Then there is also a small write-up on the Asian Regional Workshop on Implementation of the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas.

You will read interesting information on how conservation concerns are being dealt in innovative manner, whether it be the commercial harvesting of nests of the Edible Nest Swiftlet, a cave-nesting bird found in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands or the legal trophy hunting for Markhor in Pakistan. Then there is also a case-study which gives some interesting insights into collateral advantages (as against damages!) of protection of the Golden Langur in the Kakoiijana forests, Assam (India).

Nationally, the year witnessed a drought in terms of the average rainfall (food grain production has suffered and the season portends more farmers' suicides in the coming years), internationally Indonesia has been rocked by a 7.6-magnitude earthquake close to the city of Padang - the capital of West Sumatra province (more than 1000 people are now known to have died), globally Climate Change continues to pose a serious threat to the earth's eco-systemic balance and what real impact the Climate Conference in Copenhagen (6-18th Dec '2009) will have on the real world - only time will tell - even as world over the recovery and revival of the economy from recession continues to be excruciatingly slow and genocidal wars of hate continue to ravage both - nature and humanity.

Yes, there is much that is worrisome about the actual possibilities of peace and serenity - social and natural - in the world as it is today. And yet, precisely now as never before, do we need stories of hope and courage. For we must never forget, we cannot afford to forget, the Napoleonic dictum - "Courage isn't having strength to go on; it is going on when you don't have strength."

So dear reader, I take great pleasure in dedicating this volume to those heroes - be it Devaji Tofa or his daughter Manda in Gadchiroli or the nameless adivasis from Orissa and other tribal belts in India – people who are increasingly taking destiny in their own hands.

As you read through these stories, you will meet some of these quiet heroes. Feel Inspired!

In Solidarity!

**Milind**

# 1. Laws and Policies

## 1.1. Scheduled Tribes and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest) Act 2006 (TFRA)...<sup>1</sup>

### 1.1.1. Tribal Villages in Maharashtra Claim Community rights over Forest Resources –

Tribal villages in Gadchiroli district got community rights over forest around them under the new tribal act known as Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act on August 15 - the day of India's Independence. The villages have been identified as Mendha-Lekha under Dhanora taluka and Marda near Pategaon, both in Naxal infested Gadchiroli district. Maharashtra Food and Civil Supplies Minister Ramesh Bang announced the decision during Independence Day celebrations. Mendha-Lekha first hit the headlines more than a decade ago with its Mawa Nate Mawa Raj (We the Government) slogan, declaring itself as a self-determining village implementing its own development programmes while allowing least governmental intervention. It drew strength from provisions of the Panchayati Raj Act. The self-determination movement was led by Devaji Tofa. His daughter Manda and son-in-law Nitin Barsinge have been leading a similar movement in Marda village. According to tribal activist Mohan Hirabai Hiralal this was the first such

<sup>1</sup> Also often referred to as the Forest Rights Act.

#### National News – Circulars & Guidelines

The **Ministry of Environment and Forests**(MoEF), Government of India has issued a circular to the Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territory Governments (except J&K) on the compliance of the Forest Rights Act. The circular states that for all proposals for forest diversion under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, State Governments are required to enclose evidences of initiating and completing the process of settlement of rights under the TFRA.

*Source: Ministry of Environment and Forests, Circular No. F.No.11-9/1998-FC(pt). Issued 30.7.2009.*

The **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** (MoTA), in May 2009, issued a set of guidelines on Section 3(2) of the Forest Rights Act. These guidelines specify the procedure through which eligible forest dependent communities can avail of basic development facilities. The guidelines also stipulate the verification process that is to be conducted before forestland is diverted for development rights under Section 3(2).

*Source: Ministry of Tribal Affairs, <http://tribal.gov.in/index1.asp?linkid=360&langid=1>.*

decision in the country and people were extremely happy that the Collector took active lead in making it a reality. With the Forest Rights Act (TFRA), both the villages Mendha-Lekha and Marda will have legal rights to manage and utilise about 1800 and 880 hectares of land respectively. The tribal act provision allows the village community access to cattle fodder, collection and storage of minor forest produce, resource management and disposal.

**Note: This is an excerpted version. For a detailed report on this, please read <http://www.indianexpress.com/news/under-new-act-2-villages-get-forest-rights/502878/>.**

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### 1.1.2. State Level Consultation on the implementation of the Forest Rights Act –

A State Level Consultation, on the Forest Rights Act with a specific focus on the recognition of Community Forest Rights, organized by Vasundhara (Orissa based NGO working on issues of Environmental Justice), was held in Bhubaneswar from 1st-3rd September 2009. Over 300 participants representing different tribal groups, traditional leaders of primitive tribal groups (PTGs), other traditional forest dwellers, civil society organizations, networks, intellectuals, academicians, government representatives and policy makers actively participated in the workshop deliberations.

The three day workshop provided a conducive forum for debate and discussion on the various provisions of the Act, its scope, operational issues and challenges faced during implementation. The workshop held sessions on Community Forest Resource rights, rights over Minor Forest Produce and rights of community tenure over habitat of Primitive Tribal Groups and pre-agricultural communities. The scope of these rights under the Act and the gaps in the implementation process were discussed by the participants from across the state who shared their experiences and progress of implementation in their respective areas.

The identified bottlenecks were shared with guests like Minister for SC & ST Development Shri Bijay Ranjan Sing Bariha, Shri Pyari Mohan Mahapatra, Member of Rajya Sabha, Shri Ashok Ku Tripathy, Principal Secretary, SC & ST Development, Shri Biswajit Mishra, Addl. Secretary, SC & ST Development.

**Note: To Know more on the above news and recommendations that came in the State Level Consultation on Forest Rights Act, please log on to [www.fra.org.in](http://www.fra.org.in)**

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## 1.2. Wild Life Protection Act...

### 1.2.1. Amendments to the Wild Life Protection Act –

The Ministry of Environment and Forest had set up a committee to look into the potential for amendments in the Wild Life Protection Act. The salient features related to people's participation in proposed amendments address the following issues:

1. To provide for fully democratic participation (including gram sabhas, other traditional institutions where gram sabhas may not be functional, women, etc.) and to bring it more in line with the definition of the term used in The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 (Act No. 2 of 2007).
2. To provide representation to local communities at a national level, in keeping with the principle of community participation at all levels in the spirit of the National Wildlife Action Plan and to meet India's commitments under the Programme of Work on Protected Areas of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.
3. To provide for more participatory conservation mechanisms (including participation of people living within and around the sanctuary in the state's Sanctuary Management Committee), in line with the National Wildlife Action Plan and India's obligations under the Programme of

Work on Protected Areas of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Also to provide linkages between the Wildlife Act, the Forest Rights Act, and the Biological Diversity Act.

4. To provide for participation of the people living around the national park in its enhanced conservation and management through inclusion into the state constituted National Park Advisory Committee which shall render advice on measures to be taken for better conservation and management of the national park.
5. To provide for maximum participation of all sections of the relevant communities in the state constituted Conservation Reserve Management Committee to advise the Chief Wild Life Warden to conserve, manage and maintain the conservation reserve as per a management strategy drafted by the CRMC.

**Note: The proposed amendments are to be put up on the website of the MoEF (<http://moef.nic.in/index.php>).**

### 1.2.2. Edible Nest Swiftlet delisted from schedule I of WLPA –

In an innovative conservation strategy, the National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) has delisted the Edible Nest Swiftlet, a cave-nesting bird found in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, from the Wildlife Protection Act. Local communities which poached the bird's nests — used in the famous bird's nest soup, a delicacy in Chinese cuisine and thought to be an aphrodisiac — would now be roped in to harvest the nests commercially. This, it is argued, while helping save the bird, will also provide a livelihood option of selling the nest to former poachers. This, argues the NBWL, will help to sustain both the communities and the Edible Nest Swiftlet itself.



The nest of the edible nest swiftlet in the hands of a collector, Jarawa Creek, Baratang Island (1998). Pic by Pankaj Sekhsaria.

## Similar example from Pakistan – Trophy hunting and conservation



Hunting of Astor Markhor

Trophy-hunting of big game, as a way of biodiversity conservation and fostering economic development of the custodian communities, has gained significant public support in the last two decades throughout the world. On other hand international conventions like Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES) have also helped in promoting this concept in the world.

Pakistan is home to some of the world's most prized trophy animals. The rugged and high mountains are considered biodiversity hot

spots, particularly for the game animals. The concept of hunting in the sub-continent is quite old. The Rajas, Mahrajas, Nawabs and kings were involved in this sport for centuries. During the British occupancy, foreign hunters started pouring in, in an attempt to bag record trophies of wild animals from these mountainous regions as specimens for their museums. However the population of large mammals in general and ungulates in particular started depleting, primarily by over-hunting and unsustainable use. International trophy hunting got impetus particularly in the light of the rationale that organizing communities for sustainable conservation of biodiversity is a difficult task, especially when the communities are asked to forego their century old traditional rights and facilities without ensuring and assuring substantial alternative means. This being the concern, every possible and plausible source had to be explored and exploited for income generation while ensuring sustainable management of the resources within legal framework on the one hand and conservation related community development activities as incentives, on the other.

In Pakistan the concept of organized legal trophy hunting was first developed by Agha Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP), WWF-Pakistan and Society for Torghar Environment Protection (STEP). Legal Trophy hunting for Astor Markhor by foreigner-hunters in Pakistan started in 1997 after Convention of Parties (CoP 10) when Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) approved quota for Markhor trophy hunting. The tribal certificates for Markhor trophies were also discontinued permanently and replaced with regular CITES export permits. Then onwards the trophy hunting program was finally regulated according to the provincial and federal Wildlife Acts of Pakistan and under the aegis of CITES. Now trophy hunting is being conducted through well defined procedures adopted by the federal as well as concerned provinces and communities respectively. The National Council for the Conservation of Wildlife (NCCW) at federal level and provincial Wildlife Departments in NWFP, Gilgit-Baltitan and Forest and the wildlife department in Balochistan are collectively responsible for assessing the population of the species and allocating the quota to the concerned CCAs. After allocation of the quota from NCCW the application is submitted again to the provincial departments for notification and the entire process is approved by the respective Chief Minister. After the hunts, hunting reports are submitted to the concerned departments and then forwarded to NCCW for issuance of Export Permits. After obtaining export permits at the time of shipment, vet certificates are issued by the Animal Quarantine department and the trophies are then shipped to their destination.



Community scheme from proceeds of Trophy hunting

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## Of Similarities and Differences

Admittedly it must be noted that the trophy hunting case study (see Box) in Pakistan is not entirely similar to that of the Swiftlet case- as in the latter case no bird is killed or harmed. The fact that Swiftlets are neither killed or harmed is something that the proponents of the initiative have regularly highlighted because when killing comes into the picture, things become different. Swiftlet nest harvesting is often compared by its proponents to milking a cow- as far as an act can be, in its principle and operation, from hunting. However, as Asad Rahmani, an ornithologist and NBWL member very rightly pointed out, strategies of conservation need to be flexible.

Protecting this bird and to allow commercial harvesting of its nest will mean that poaching of the bird's nest, which leads to the death of fledglings, will stop.

In a manner of speaking, the above two cases are, a vindication of as well as a tribute to the late Ravi Shankaran who in his short but immensely productive life did so much for the cause of conservation.

**Note: for a detailed report on this, please read: <http://www.indianexpress.com/news/selling-birds-nest-soup-to-save-this-bird-theres-a-change-in-law/503342/0>**

## 2. Community Conserved Areas

### 2.1. Events and Developments...

#### 2.1.1. North East (India) meeting on CCAs –

A workshop entitled "Community Conserved Areas of North East India: Status, challenges and Opportunities" was held between 7-9 May at Nowgaon Girls College, Govt. of Assam. The workshop was held under the aegis of Kalpavriksh, Pune and Biodiversity and Conservation Programme, Winrock International India, New Delhi. The workshop was structured with the purpose of discussing the status, challenges and opportunities of encouraging the practice of Community Conserved Areas and also to collectively decide on a roadmap to strengthen the CCAs in future. The following thematic areas were covered during the course of the three day workshop viz.:

1. An introduction to CCAs of India
2. The policy Environment for CCAs in North East India
3. The case studies on CCAs undertaken in North East India followed by presentations by participants on the CCAs of their respective states

4. Community Conserved Areas in the global context
5. Discussion on impacts on developmental pressures in North East India and pros and cons of the laws and the policies
6. Group discussion on role of stakeholders and documenting CCAs through a global database
7. The WAY forward in simple doable steps.

**Note: for a copy of the proceedings of the workshop write to Neema Pathak at [neema.pb@gmail.com](mailto:neema.pb@gmail.com)**

#### 2.1.2. Western region consultation on CCAs –

That in the past local communities had an important role in conserving important aspects of local habitats, such as woodlands, groves, pastures, and water bodies in many parts of the world is well known. Western India provides a good example of a diverse range of such tracts that survived largely because of community support and motivation. It is not however fully appreciated that even today, their importance for the livelihoods of local people is of great significance in the context of the conditions of aridity and semi-aridity. Researchers, NGO activists and community members came together on the 24th and 25th of October in Jaipur, to develop a framework leading to better intervention capabilities on issues pertaining to community conserved areas. A number of case studies giving different experiences of various communities, ranging from interventions in the Orans and watersheds of Alwar, the forests of South Rajasthan, the tribal areas of the Dang in Gujarat, as well as from the desert areas of western Rajasthan were presented in the workshop. It was pointed out that people's needs as well as the institutional milieu have changed over time.

**Also see: <http://www.hindu.com/2009/10/31/stories/2009103157220700.htm>.**

### 2.1.3. South Asia – Consultations in Kathmandu –

The month of August saw the hosting of two consultations (National level for Nepal and another for the region of South Asia) on the issue of CCAs by Kalpavriksh, India & Forest Action, Nepal in Kathmandu. Both the consultations saw new people contributing to concerns, discussions and debates on the notion of CCAs and its potential role in conservation – particularly in today's changing socio-economic conditions. The participants were a mix of community representatives, big and small NGO representatives and some government representatives. The workshops enabled a greater clarity about CCAs among all the participants. The discussions were intense while bringing in various perspectives and concerns. There was much debate on the issue of recognition of CCAs, who would do it, why and how it should be done and implications involved. Interesting and wide ranging case studies were presented- from the hunting reserves of Pakistan to the Himalayan Sacred landscape of area around Sagarmatha, to Kanchenchanga Conservation Area etc.

Overall, the idea of CCAs was enthusiastically embraced, albeit with lots of justified caution regarding the need for further clarity and site-specific elaboration on concepts, processes, and impacts. Some of the interesting outcomes included:

1. Formation of a national forum on CCAs of Nepal by some community members that had come for the national consultation.
2. A possibility of CCAs entering the Constitution of Nepal (which is currently being formulated) and Wildlife Protection Act, which is being amended.
3. Possibility of CCAs finding a place in the Wildlife Protection Act of Bangladesh, which is currently being revised.
4. National level consultation on CCAs in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka (aimed towards some very concrete, policy and on ground outcomes).

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### 2.1.4. CBD Preparation meeting – Asian Regional Workshop on Implementation of the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas –

The Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA), under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), commits countries to several actions that include more participatory governance of PAs, recognition of indigenous and local community conserved areas (ICCAs), sharing of benefits of PAs with communities, and so on. The PoWPA was agreed to in 2004, and a full-scale review of its impacts is due in 2010. As a preparatory step towards this, and to build capacity of countries towards effective implementation, a series of regional workshops are being organized by the CBD Secretariat. The Asian workshop was held in Dehradun, India, on 12-15<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Participants included government officials from about 20 countries, civil society organizations, and indigenous peoples' representatives (the latter were however, very inadequately represented).

A special half-day session was devoted to the governance of PAs, including issues of participation, equity, benefit-sharing, and the recognition of ICCAs. Another session dealt with the integration of PAs into the larger landscape/seascape, which too involved several socio-economic and political issues. There was a large contingent from India, including several PA managers, wildlife researchers, and NGOs. Several discussions amongst these participants helped clarify concepts, review the progress made in India towards more participatory governance, identify continuing weaknesses, and some next steps.

**Note:** *A report of the full workshop will be available at the CBD website soon.*

### 2.2. Case-study – Protection of Golden Langur in Kakoijana forests, Assam (India)...

The forests of the Kakoijana hill range, once thick and diverse, had been decimated by a combination of factors. The Golden Langur (*Trachypithecus geei*), found only in Northeast India and Bhutan, is threatened by hunting and the destruction of its forested habitat. It is on the list of endangered species of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and on Schedule 1 (completely protected species) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of India.

In the late 1960s, the forest department cleared a part to raise a commercial teak plantation. Then, in the early 1980s, the Assam agitation (against outsiders settling in the state) created conditions for the absence of any responsible agency in the area, and elements within and outside the villages looted the forest for quick returns. By the latter half of the 1980s, much of the hill was virtually naked, and only then did the villagers at its foot realize the consequences - water sources drying up in summer and yet flooding in the monsoons -not to mention serious shortages of fuel, fodder, and other forest products, and conflicts with wildlife moving into croplands in a desperate search for food.

In the late 1980s, the residents of Ujan Rabhpara decided to take matters into their own hands. They resolved in front of their temple to not cut any tree, and to help regenerate the degraded forest through various methods, including through plantations. Thaneswar Rabha, an elder who was then the president of the village development committee, says, "The idea spread to other villages also, as everyone realized that a forestless future was bleak."

In the mid-1990s, members of Nature's Foster heard about the villagers' initiative while on a nature education trip to the area. This was also the time they found the presence of some Golden Langurs. Excited, they and other NGOs proposed that the area be declared a wildlife sanctuary. However, on discussions with villagers, they realized that a community-based approach may work better than a legal designation managed by the forest department, which had inadequate resources and political will. Thus began a quiet, slow process of engaging with the local communities, addressing not only conservation issues but also problems of livelihoods, agricultural production, water, health, and education. The going was far from easy. The timber and poaching mafia had to be tackled, and

### **New Species Discovered**

A new species of amphibian has been discovered in the community conserved forests of Sendenyu village. The amphibian, named '*Ichthyophis sendenyu*', is considered new to science.

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the forest department had to be won over to a community-based approach. There was also the cultural challenge of dealing with very diverse local communities – the hill range is surrounded by 28 villages with Rabha, Bodo, Garo, Koch, Rajvanshi, Santal, Nepali, and Bengali (Hindu and Muslim) communities.

The effects of this work are clearly visible. Where the effort has started two decades back, as at Ujan Rabhpara, the entire hillock is forested. The forests protected by Siponsila, Chorapara and Jhakuapara-II Pahartali are amongst the densest and the most diverse, partly due to their relative inaccessibility.

Most villages joined the effort in this millennium. Hence many areas are only regenerating now. Several villagers are passionately involved in protecting the langurs and their habitat. Villagers use various means of protection with orally transmitted or written rules. No live tree is allowed to be cut, but fallen branches can be collected. No hunting is permitted. Violators are fined amounts ranging from Rs. 51 to Rs. 5,001. Their's is a story that is familiar to anyone working on community-based conservation in India. Wildlife appears to have been benefited significantly, if the langur population is anything to go by. A 2008 census yielded over 488: though there is no comparable figure for the 1980s, local and NGO accounts suggest that the numbers were far smaller. Recently, four langurs from Kakoijana even crossed over human-dominated areas and settled in another hill (Bhumeswar), about 10 kilometers away, perhaps an indication that parts of Kakoijana are reaching saturation level. Other wildlife to be seen constitute the pangolin, barking deer, crab-eating mongoose, Rhesus Macaque, and over 150 species of birds.

In 2008, the villagers formed federations to present a unified front to external forces and agencies, and also help resolve inter-village issues. The communities now need help in understanding the pros and cons of various conservation categories under the wildlife act (conservation reserve and community reserve), biodiversity act (biodiversity heritage sites), forest act (village forests), forest rights act (community forests), or other national and state laws.

**Note: for the complete article please read, "PROTECTING THE BEAUTIFUL AND ENDANGERED CREATURES" The Telegraph ([http://www.telegraphindia.com/1090924/jsp/opinion/story\\_11531943.jsp](http://www.telegraphindia.com/1090924/jsp/opinion/story_11531943.jsp)), 24 September 2009 by Ashish Kothari.**

### 3. Book review

#### ***Conservation: From Ideological Battles to Pragmatic Solutions***

Reviewed by Anuradha Arjunwadkar  
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#### **MAKING CONSERVATION WORK**

Edited by Gazala Shahabuddin and  
Mahesh Rangarajan

Published by Permanent Black, 2007  
(Rs.595/-)



This book is as much about marginalized people as it is about conservation. It addresses the issue of competition for survival that exists between wildlife and underprivileged people, within many wildlife sanctuaries and parks in India as well as outside them. The editors argue that it is up to the conservation community to face the challenge of preserving what little wildlife remains, while providing for the needs of forest-dependent communities.

The editors have favored a multi-disciplinary approach in an attempt to bring the conservation debate from generalization to specifics, and hence the essays they have been included in this book have been authored by researchers, academicians of diverse disciplines, and social activists. As they relate the history of conservation and exploitation of forest resources, they take the reader to widely separated sites across the country for glimpses of the inadequacies and devastating effects of an exclusivist approach to conservation - on forests, wildlife and local communities.

The first few of the eight essays analyze the outcomes of programmes based on these policies. One describes the politics of participatory management of a sanctuary where NGOs and the forest department have appropriated credit for a local conservation movement whereas, plans for conserving a marine reptile that was made and implemented with a terrestrial fixed-boundary mind-set and how these plans fell short of success, are described in another. Yet another essay describes how the sharing of forest resources as part of a non-homogenous village institution proved to be unsustainable. We learn how displacement from a sanctuary works against the interests of disempowered, marginalized Adivasi villagers,

driving them into impoverishment that often gets transmitted across generations. Displacement may also work against the interests of conservation, as it has in the case of the Intanki National Park in Nagaland, where a more vocal, organized community, aware of its rights, forced the state to relinquish control over a part of a protected area!

Subsequent essays portray innovative conservation programmes that could be developed in dialogue with local stake-holders including marginalized forest-dependent communities like the Lisus in Namdapha National Park in Arunachal Pradesh and the Bawarias, Jogi-Naths and Meos in and around sanctuaries in Rajasthan. The livelihoods of some of these marginalized communities, like the community of snake-charmers, can be safe-guarded by training them as crop-protectors, barefoot environment educators and even as primary health workers. We come to understand how livelihoods of hard-working and enterprising hunter-gatherer communities such as the Lisus might be protected by opening for them an array of other livelihood options through consultation, while enlisting their assistance in the conservation effort. More importantly, the authors argue why a change in the attitude of the dominant conservation community is essential for any conservation-and-livelihoods-oriented scheme to work.

Rigorous studies are reflected in the essays, though one or two of them may seem to be rather long-winded. Be that as it may, the book, like the example of the project for the restoration of rainforests on degraded private lands as part of a landscape-level conservation strategy- described here, is inspiring for a reader who sees the imperative of achieving the twin objectives of equity and conservation.

**Post Script:** We hope that you enjoyed this issue of **People In Conservation**. We will be happy to receive feedbacks and suggestions from you. Moreover, if your interest is more than cursory, if have stories to tell or experiences to recount, please feel free to contribute the same. You could post your feedbacks/contributions to [milindwani@yahoo.com](mailto:milindwani@yahoo.com). Please ensure that while posting your contribution you write "For People In Conservation" in the subject area.



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