

KALPAVRIKSH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION GROUP

Annual Report

April 2002-March 2003

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Dear Members and Friends,

This is an annual report of the activities carried out by Kalpavriksh (KV), Delhi & Pune units, for the period **April 2002 to March 2003**.

The Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM) of the Pune KV unit was held on July 25 - 26, 2003. The broad agenda for the AGBM was:

1. Appointment of the Chartered Accountant for 2003 – 2004
2. Election of Core Group Members
3. Review of Activities over the last year (2002 – 2003)
4. Planning for the year ahead
5. Discussion on other relevant issues

This Annual Report also includes the audited balance sheet for 2002 – 2003, a matrix of our work over the last financial year including an overview of all the current projects and a glimpse at all our activities and future proposals.

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PROJECT/ACTIVITY UPDATES

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

Co-ordinator: Ashish Kothari

Full-time Associates: Kanchi Kohli, Sujatha Padmanabhan, Bina Thomas, Konthoujam Khelchandra Singh

Others: Seema Bhatt, Bansuri Taneja, Ajay Mahajan, Sudhir Aggarwal, Krishnendu Bose

Year of commencement: 2000

Year of completion: 2002, extended till July 2003

Total funds sanctioned: KV Pune - Rs 7000/month, KV Delhi - Rs 3,79,000, for the full period.

Funding Agency: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF)

From the original deadline of September 2002, the project was granted an extension twice, the first one till December 2002, and the second till July 2003. During the period, April 2002- March 2003, the following activities were undertaken:

- ◆ Several local, state, ecoregional and thematic Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans (BSAPs) and subthematic reviews were received and commented upon. Many of the revised BSAPs were recommended for endorsement to MoEF, and subsequently endorsed.
- ◆ Three NBSAP Core Group (CG) meetings were held in Pune for revisions on the National Action Plan. The CG comprised of Kalpavriksh members working on the NBSAP (Ashish Kothari, Kanchi Kohli, Seema Bhatt, Sujatha Padmnabhan, Bina Thomas, and Konthoujam Khelchandra Singh).
- ◆ The Technical and Policy Core Group (TPCG) held a two writing workshops to draft and review the national action plan of NBSAP, at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun from 9-12 May 2002 and at the Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development Administration (YASHADA), Pune from 19 -22 July 2002.
- ◆ A brainstorming session on the NBSAP follow up project (part of UNDP's CCF2¹ process) was held at UNDP from 6-7 August 2002. Subsequently, UNDP organised a meeting with the Norwegian funding agency NORAD to try and elicit funds for the UNDP CCF2 programme. A presentation was made on the NBSAP process, and what is envisaged for the NBSAP implementation. In principle NORAD has agreed to put in funds into the CCF2 programme.

¹ Country Cooperation Framework (the UNDP document outlining its overall funding for India in 2003 – 2008)

- ◆ The 24th and 25th NBSAP TPCG meetings were held at BCIL, New Delhi on 13-14 September 2002 and 13 -14 November 2002 respectively.
- ◆ NBSAP in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), organized a workshop for working journalists at the IIMC premises, New Delhi on September 16, 2002.
- ◆ During this period stories for *NBSAaanP Tales* were written by several Kalpavriksh members and others and these appeared in *Chandamama* (see *Publications section for list*).
- ◆ *NBSAP News* 11- 14 were printed and distributed.
- ◆ NBSAP in collaboration with the Asian Elephant Research and Conservation Centre, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Wildlife Trust of India and other groups, organised a brainstorming session on Human-Wildlife Conflicts in September 2002 at Bangalore. The recommendations from this meeting were incorporated in the First Draft of the National Plan.
- ◆ The Final National Workshop of the NBSAP process was held at New Delhi between 20-23 December, 2002. The focus of the workshop was to invite comments and suggestions for the first draft of the National Action Plan that was made available for public review in October, to allow coordinators of various site and theme based BSAPs, as well as various government departments and other experts to analyse the national report to see if their specific priorities were adequately taken care of, and to discuss issues related to implementation of the various plans. Over 180 participants came from a range of sectors. At the workshop the overall thrust of the 500-page draft National Action Plan was endorsed, while substantial comments were also received.
- ◆ The National Action Plan (NAP) was also widely circulated for comments and inputs by the publication and distribution of 750 copies for the full NAP, over 1000 copies of the executive summary, by hosting it on two websites, and also making available a large number of copies on CD. Comments were received from a large number of people, and based on which the national plan was revised.
- ◆ A version of the NBSAP Process Film was shown at the Final National Workshop.
- ◆ Radha Kamath and Swati Shresth were commissioned to identify programmes and sources of funding for implementation of NBSAP. Their comprehensive report which was circulated to all executing agencies and key elements incorporated into the draft National Plan.
- ◆ Sujatha and Ashish attended the concluding function of the Deccan Development Society's (DDS) Mobile Biodiversity Festival at Pastapur, Zaheerabad District.
- ◆ A column for the *Hindu Young World (Good Earth)* has also been initiated and 5-6 articles were collated and sent to *The Hindu*, in order to be able to initiate it by May 2003.

It was very encouraging for the NBSAP team that there were signs that implementation has already begun at various sites. For example, several states are considering setting up high-level bodies to focus on biodiversity. Some states like Madhya Pradesh have taken a policy decision to integrate biodiversity into the district planning process. Several villages and communities across the country have vowed to protect heronries, stop hunting, or switch to organic farming. In Sikkim and Ladakh, the armed forces have committed to definite conservation measures in the border areas and in protected areas. In areas like Uttara Kannada, women's groups have started seed exchanges and a revival of home gardens. Funding agencies have offered resources to experiment with biodiversity-based sustainable livelihoods, integration of biodiversity into children's programmes, and the conversion of the NBSAP material into various educational forms.

Theme on Indigenous/Local Communities, Equity and Protected Areas (TILCEPA)

Co-ordinator: Ashish Kothari

Associate members: Neema Pathak, Manju Menon, Manisha Sheth-Gutman

Year of commencement: 2000

Year of completion: 2003

Total funds sanctioned: Rs. 1.4 lakhs/annum

Funding Agency: World Commission on Protected Areas, IUCN

TILCEPA, a group set up by the IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP), has been mandated to bring community and equity elements into the work of these commissions. Ashish is the co-chairperson of this group. A key focus of TILCEPA's work for the past year has been preparation for the September 2003 World Parks Congress, a once in a decade event where people working on PA issues from around the world come together, to discuss and debate various issues. TILCEPA has been requested to coordinate a cross-cutting theme for the Congress, on Communities and Equity. Among other things, this involves liaising with several individuals and groups across the world, working out the agenda for TILCEPA's inputs to the Congress and facilitating the participation of around 100 community members. Over 40 workshops and sessions are being planned for the Congress by TILCEPA, on a very large range of issues pertaining to people and protected areas...including a new thrust on Community Conserved Areas. TILCEPA has also held a number of preparatory meetings for this.

Manju Menon was part of the TILCEPA team till June 2002, when she handed over her responsibilities to new member, Manisha Sheth-Gutman. During the period April to June, a special PARKS (the IUCN journal on PAs) issue on local communities and PAs was completed.

Kalpavriksh organised a TILCEPA core group meeting in January 2003, in Pune, and is planning a workshop on people and protected areas as part of the Global Biodiversity Forum in Dhaka, 16-18 June, 2003.

Protected Area Update (PA Update)

Coordinator: Pankaj Sekhsaria

Year of commencement: 1994

Year of completion: Ongoing

Total funds sanctioned: Rs. 2,90,400 for period Apr 1, 2002 to Mar 31, 2003.

Funding Agency: Foundation for Ecological Security (FES).

Activities for undertaken during the specified period:-

- Publication of the *Protected Area Update 36 & 37* (June 2002)
- Publication of the *Protected Area Update 38* (August 2002)
- Publication of the *Protected Area Update 39* (August 2002) and *Protected Area Update 40* (December 2002)
- Compilation work for *PA Update 41*.

The FES has committed to the funding of the PA Update for the forthcoming financial year 2003-2004

Mining

Co-ordinator: Neeraj Vaghlikar

Associate: Kaustubh Moghe

Year of Commencement: 2001

Year of Completion: 2002

Total funds sanctioned: Rs. 1,92,000

Funding Agency: Association for India's Development, (AID)

A study on the impact of mining on ecologically sensitive areas in India and crucial wildlife habitats in India was undertaken with the support of the Association for India's Development (AID). The study was completed with the release of the report titled "Undermining India" (authored by Neeraj Vaghlikar and Kaustubh Moghe with inputs from Ritwick Dutta) in March 2003. This is now available as a Kalpavriksh publication.

The final draft of the subthematic review on "Mining and Biodiversity" for the NBSAP process (authored by Neeraj Vaghlikar and Kaustubh Moghe) was in the process of being completed in April 2003 (to be submitted in May 2003).

Directory of Community Conserved Areas in India

Co-ordinator: Neema Pathak

Associates: Roopa Bandekar, Sujoy Chowdhury

Year of Commencement: 1999

Original Deadline: February 2002

Extension sanctioned: August 2003

Funding Agency: MoEF, National Tree Growers Co-operative Federation (NTGCF), now renamed as Foundation for Ecological Security

Funds sanctioned:

From MoEF : Total sanctioned Rs. 5,00,000; Received 4,00,000
From NTGCF: Total sanctioned Rs. 2, 40,000; Received 2,00,000

The project has overshoot its original deadlines since the process of putting together this directory has been more time consuming than was originally conceived because information on CCAs is scanty and difficult to access, as most sites are very remote.

The directory work is now in the last stage of editing for some of the state chapters and work is continuing in authenticating information, commenting, editing, restructuring, getting the approval from the authors' and/or furnishing more information to get a more balanced picture. About 250 case studies are also in their final stages of editing. Mapping some of the community conserved sites in India is also being done since a national visual picture is planned. A proposal has been submitted to MoEF for publishing the Directory.

Activities:

- The proceedings of the workshop on CCAs organized at Bhopal in November 2001 were finalized and circulated.
- A synthesis report was put together by Neema on CCAs in South Asia for the IUCN Theme on Local and Indigenous Communities, Protected Areas and Equity. This report is a part of a global review on CCAs, with regional reviews from most regions of the world. The South Asian review was completed with help from partners from Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka and the existing information from India.
- A box on CCAs in South Asia was contributed to the *PARKS Vol. 12 No. 2*, Local Communities and Protected Areas 2002, published by the IUCN. Policy Matters published by CEESP, IUCN also carried an article on community conserved areas in South Asia.
- During the TILCEPA meeting in Pune a presentation on CCAs in India was made. It was a good opportunity to learn and exchange experiences with people from South-East Asia, Australia, North America, South America, South Asia, and Africa who made very interesting presentations on community conservation in their respective regions. A study tour for eight villagers and two NGO representatives from Van Panchayats of Kumaon, Uttaranchal was organised by Kalpavriksh. These people first visited Pune where they interacted with the TILCEPA members, presented a lecture on Van Panchayats to the audience in Pune as part of the Signs Of Hope series.
- Kalpavriksh, in collaboration with the Regional Conservation & Development Centre (RCDC), Orissa and Vrikshmitra, Chandrapur also organized a meeting on the provisions of Village Forest of the Indian Forest Act of 1927. The meeting was organized at the Society for Promotion of Wasteland Development, New Delhi on 6th October 2003.

Onge (Andamans) Case

Coordinator: Pankaj Sekhsaria

Year of Commencement: 1999

Year of completion: ongoing

Activities:

- Major developments have taken place in the case. Three hearings in the matter were held in court on April 1, April 29 and May 7 respectively. In the hearing on May 7, the court passed landmark orders based on the recommendations of the Shekhar Singh Commission.
- While some of the orders of the court were implemented promptly and work is progressing on the others, the A&N Administration has not taken any steps to close down the Andaman Trunk Road (ATR) and to declare the islands an Inner Line Area. The administration has repeatedly argued that the court has not specifically ordered the closure of the ATR and that the demand is not acceptable to the administration since it is an interpretation of the orders by the petitioners.
- Three affidavits were filed before the Central Empowered Committee in the matter: in September, 2002, and January and March 2003. All the affidavits point out in detail the issues regarding the non implementation of the orders, and that the timeframes set by the Shekhar Singh Commission and the Supreme Court have long expired. Three hearings were also held in the CEC in November 2002, January 2003 and again in March 2003. The non-implementation of the orders was discussed in these hearings
- In October an independent investigation team was constituted by the All India Coordinating Forum for Adivasis /Indigenous Peoples to look into some of the issues of the indigenous peoples of the A&N islands. As a follow up action, the Forum wrote a letter to the CEC, the Prime Minister and the President of the country stating that the orders of the court were not being implemented and that this would be very detrimental to the forests and the indigenous peoples of the islands
- On March 3, 2003, the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) organised a formal visit by the Lt. Governor of the Andaman & Nicobar islands, Mr. N.N. Jha. The main subject of the presentations and the discussions was the Supreme Court order.

Biodiversity Assessment in the Amba Valley

Co-ordinator: Vivek Gour-Broome

Associates: Sanjay Thakur, Kaustubh Moghe

Year of commencement: 1999

Year of completion: 2003

Total funds sanctioned: Rs 7,88,800 - for 4 years

Funding Agency: Rural Communes

Towards the end of the year, the English version of the Amba Valley Peoples Biodiversity Register (PBR) was compiled. This is a 102-page document with more than 20 colour plates, 3 pages of figures and seven maps. Work on the Marathi translation of the PBR was completed, though compiling and editing of the document is still pending. In the last week of March three slide shows on the PBR and the process were undertaken in three hamlets of Chavni village.

Uttara Kannada Environment Education Project

Project Co-ordinator: Sunita Rao

Field Assistants: K.G. Lakshmi, Nagaraj Joshi,

Associated NGO's/Govt Agencies : Sneha Kunja, Prakriti, Concerned for Working Children, Department of Education, P.G. Department of Marine Biology, Karwar, Rainwater Club, Bangalore, Ecollage, Pune.

Funding Agency: Foundation for Ecological Security, Anand.

Total Funds Sanctioned: Rs. 4,00,000/

Field Base: Sirsi, Uttara Kannada Dt., Karnataka

Year of Commencement: 2001

Year of Completion: 2003

The first year of the project mainly involved setting the context for the work and organizing local logistics; building up an initial inventory of resources and district resource persons; review of primary school syllabi; production and sourcing of resource material (posters; slides, games, seeds, brochures etc.); organizing the first set of teachers' workshops; running eco-activities and nature camps for school children in two schools (coast and ghats); the setting up of the Malenadu Home Garden and Seed Exchange Collective starting with an initial group of 60 women; and organizing two Biodiversity Melas and one Seed Mela.

The second year (2002-2003) of the programme involved –

- Further *continuation of the teachers' workshops* in Kumta (coast) and Yellapur (ghats). A total of 7 workshops were held on coastal ecology and fisheries, forestry and wildlife, agriculture and agroforestry, and development issues. The teachers' workshops in Mundgod (edge of the ghats) could not be continued after the first one, due to logistical reasons. A variety of resource persons ranging from academics, media-activists, farmers and fisherfolk made the workshops come alive with the message of "Learning for Life". As part of the feedback during the final wrap-up, teachers recommended that these workshop modules be made available to other teachers as well. This is being planned once the environmental handbook for the district is ready. They also suggested organising small "education melas" all over, so that parents and community members could participate and conservation education could become part of the non-formal learning process.
- *Eco-activities* in Kagal village, Kumta for the Kagal Primary School children continued. The highlight was swimming lessons with two local women instructors. The activities were co-ordinated by K.G. Lakshmi of Sneha Kunja. A major break through was achieved in the Kagal village community, where after a year of

lobbying, village leaders finally agreed to become involved in mangrove afforestation. The idea was to have children and community elders plant trees together so the former could learn about the value of mangroves for the coastal ecosystem. Efforts are under way to obtain saplings from the Forest Department.

- The *Malenadu Home Garden and Seed Exchange Collective* also slowly progressed, as part of the research on non-formal learning systems. There are now 12 village groups in the collective. Networking best happens during seed melas or on village visits. An initial list of local vegetables has been built up, as also a small collection of traditional seeds. It is hoped that more energy and time can be given to this vital activity in the years to come.
- Work began on building up a *Biodiversity Communication* package for the Concerned for Working Children for their campus “Namma Bhoomi” near Kundapur, Udupi District, Karnataka. This will be a tailor made package for the 100 students on the campus, and draws on the work being done in Uttara Kannada district.
- *Networking and reference work in Bangalore* – a much needed input for the programme unfortunately took a back seat since field work took up a lot of time and effort. It was realized that this kind of work really needs a team of people.
- Vivek Gour–Broome produced a *colour poster on the snakes of Uttara Kannada District*, and is working on similar posters for “commonly seen wildlife” and for “mushrooms”. He is also putting together a tree list for the area. Sujoy Choudhary of Ecollage helped produce a *satellite imagery map* of the district, and a vegetation map.
- A detailed project report is currently under preparation.
- Work on the draft handbook has begun. It will be in English followed by an edition in Kannada.
- Proposals have been submitted to various funding agencies to continue the work, print the handbook and help give further shape and form to the initial phase of the “Learning for Life” programme. Continuation of the work is now subject to further funding

GRAIN-Kalpavriksh Collaboration on Trade and Biodiversity Issues

The collaboration between Kalpavriksh and Genetic Resources Action International (GRAIN), initiated in 2001, to jointly work on issues of trade and biodiversity, continued this year. The persons representing the collaboration and responsible for its execution are Ashish Kothari on behalf of KV, and Shalini Bhutani on behalf of GRAIN, with the former facilitating the national level work and the latter following the Asia regional level work. The collaboration also entails sharing of office space between GRAIN and Kalpavriksh’s NBSAP team, in Delhi.

Activities

- A Status Paper on *Traditional Knowledge in Asia-Pacific - Problems of Piracy and Protection*, was prepared and published in November 2002, as a joint GRAIN-KV booklet. One thousand copies have been printed by GRAIN and are being circulated to relevant people and organisations.

- A Public Forum on Genetic Engineering, Agriculture and Farmers Rights was co-organised in December 2002 by Deccan Development Society (DDS), South Asia Network on Food Ecology and Culture (SANFEC) and GRAIN, as well as a Strategy Session Towards Alternatives: Strategising against (genetically) Engineered Agriculture, during which Ashish provided expert inputs.
- A Policy Dialogue on the Future of Farming initiated by DDS and SANFEC as part of which a visit by Canadian organic farmers was organised in New Delhi and Pune, in February 2003, with KV and GRAIN as local host partners.
- Shalini made a presentation on the Indian Biodiversity Legislation and Farmers' Rights for Regional Seminar on Policies for the Protection of Farmers Rights in Mountain Region titled Evolving Sui Generis Options for the Hindu Kush Himalayas, coorganised by International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and SAWTEE (24-26 March) at Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Discussions and consultations were held on the new Biological Diversity Act and the Draft Biological Diversity Rules, 2003 issued by Government of India.

It is proposed to co-organise a series of meetings in June, July and August 2003 on Food Sovereignty and Agriculture as part of the Indian country exercise leading up to the SAARC People's Forum scheduled in Dhaka, Bangladesh in mid-August 2003. There is also a plan to prepare a dossier on relevant Indian issues around plant genetic resources, which would also serve as resource material.

Kataldi Mining

Volunteer co-ordinator: Kanchi Kohli,

Persons involved: Pradeep Malhotra and Ajay Mahajan

Kalpavriksh continued to support the campaign against mining in Kataldi village, in Uttaranchal, on a regular basis. This included writing letters to key officials, meeting with officials at the MoEF, seeking legal advice, media reportage etc. In December 2002, the District Court gave a judgement in favour of the mine owner, which led to the start of mining activity right above Kataldi village. Subsequently there was debate about the merits of appealing to the High Court or the Centrally Empowered Committee (CEC) set up by the Supreme Court. It was finally decided to approach the High Court and if that did not work, then to approach the CEC. The Society for Mountain Environics, Dehradun and Mahesh Lakhera from Kataldi village filed the petition. Earlier documentation by Kalpavriksh members was an integral part of this petition, which was put together in a hurry, before the courts went on vacation. The application was successful, and the lawyer managed to get a stay on mining activity in the area. Meanwhile, a draft petition was also put together for the CEC, which could be used in case the stay from the High Court is suddenly vacated. However, the stay on the mining activity continues to exist till date.

KV-Earthcare Films

Co-ordinators: Krishnendu Bose and Madhurima Bose

Kalpavriksh and Earthcare Films have collaborated on two films on communities conserving biodiversity. One of those, *Jardhar Diary*, was selected for the EarthVision

Environmental Film Festival in Tokyo in January, 2003. It was screened to packed audiences with very interactive question answer sessions. *Jardhar Diary* was also screened at the India International Centre and Habitat Centre, Delhi. *Colours of the Earth*, the other film, documenting the efforts of women in the Deccan Development Society (DDS), has been selected for the International Documentary film festival in Trivandrum to be held in May 2003.

Both these films have been dubbed in local languages, and a new dissemination effort has been undertaken. Seven women from DDS, were requested to accompany their film to Jardhar and screen it among the people of Jardhar in November 2002. Two meetings were organised and were a great success. The women of DDS and Jardhar exchanged experiences on farming, resistance and forestry. The DDS women went up to visit the forest that the women of Jardhar had saved and regenerated. The second half of the programme, where the women of Jardhar will visit DDS and screen their film and have meetings around it, will happen later in the year. This effort was supported by WinRock and DDS and Earthcare Facilitated the effort.

Krishnendu was invited to give a presentation on Media and Environmental Justice in a one day workshop organised by Ford-WinRock, in mid 2002. He illustrated the talk with clippings from five of his films.

In October 2002, Krishnendu compiled a short video report on Delhi's water crisis and presented it at Asian Development Bank, Manila during a preparatory meeting for the World Water Forum organised by the Bank.

North-East Dams

Co-ordinator: Manju Menon

Year of Commencement: 2002

Year of Completion: 2003

Total funds sanctioned: Rs. 93,500

Funding Agency: South Asia Network on Dams, Rivers and People(SANDRP), New Delhi, a project of YUVA, Mumbai.

After discussions within Kalpavriksh, a project to work on a Dossier on NE dams was taken up. The project period was July - November 2002. A draft of the dossier was brought out in March 2003. This has been circulated for comments. The dossier will be finalised in May 2003.

Ecologist Asia

Co-ordinators: Manju Menon, Neeraj Vagholikar, Kanchi Kohli and Ashish Fernandes (*Sanctuary Asia*)

A special issue of Ecologist- Asia (also published by Sanctuary) on NE dams was put together by these three members of Kalpavriksh and Ashish Fernandes of Sanctuary.

A comprehensive address list of people to whom the Ecologist should be sent was drawn up. These addresses were sent to Ashish and they printed 800 extra copies, while Himanshu Thakker (SANDRP) also offered to buy 500 copies and send them to specific

people in the Northeast. FES agreed to sanction the money to print and post another 1000 copies. It is hoped that the magazine plays a role in supporting a public debate in the NE on this issue.

IBA-NE Project

Co-ordinators: Manju Menon and Neeraj Vagholikar

Year of Commencement: 2003

Year of Completion: ongoing

Total funds sanctioned: Rs. 3,92,700

Funding Agency: Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Mumbai

This project taken up as a part of the Important Bird Areas (IBAs) programme being coordinated by BNHS. This six-month project began in March 2003 and will look at the threats and opportunities faced by IBAs in the North-East region. A draft report will be submitted to BNHS by May 2003 and then followed by two workshops in the North East, highlighting both the strategies for conservation, especially in the light of the development projects proposed in biodiversity rich areas, and the spaces available to people to be involved in decisions regarding these projects.

Turtle conservation

Co-ordinator: Roshni Kutty

Year of Commencement: 2000

Year of Completion: 2002

Funding agency: Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

Total Funds Sanctioned: Rs. 3,20,000/-

The final report of the UNDP-GOI Sea Turtle report titled “Community based conservation of sea turtle nesting sites in Goa, Kerala and Orissa” was submitted to Wildlife Institute of India in April 2002. The Fund Utilisation certificate for the project was submitted in July 2002.

IUCN- INTACH Compilation on CBNRM Initiatives

Co-ordinator: Ashish Kothari

Associates: Neema Pathak, Manju Menon

Year of Commencement: 2001

Year of Completion: 2002

Total funds sanctioned: Rs. 1,90,000

Funding Agency: IUCN- Pakistan

The eleven Community based Natural Resource Management case studies which Kalpavriksh had edited and compiled for IUCN-INTACH for a proposed publication were sent back after editing. These were sent to the respective authors for their approval and agreement. On finalisation by the authors the draft was sent back to IUCN. The current status of the publication is not known, as the relevant person in IUCN has left the organisation.

Signs of Hope

Pune:

Co-ordinator: Manisha Sheth Gutman (till Dec 2002), Madhulika Goyal (Dec 2002 onwards)

On the occasion of its 20th anniversary in 1999, Kalpavriksh began a series of presentations on environment and development issues, with the common theme: 'Signs Of Hope'. These presentations, largely by grassroots groups, focus on the widespread, but under-reported, work that communities, organisations, and individuals are doing to protect nature and natural resources, regenerate land and water, control pollution and ensure recycling, devise innovative strategies for education and health, and establish responsible governance structures. In early 2001, the series became a collaborative one, also involving the Centre for Environment Education, WWF-India, Pune chapter, Parisar, and Ecological Society. By March 2003, 24 such presentations were organised, with topics ranging from forest and wildlife conservation to natural dyes, rainwater harvesting to van panchayats. Speakers have been NGO representatives, community members, government officials, and academics.

- SOH 19:** *Date:* 21 April, 2003
Speaker: Smt. Chitra Vishwanath and Dr. M R Yogananda, Bangalore
Title: "Earth Architecture: Building a Sustainable Environment – The Bangalore Experience."
- SOH 20:** *Date:* 13 June, 2003
Speaker: Shri. Arvind Gupta, Delhi
Title: "Toying with Waste"
- SOH 21:** *Date:* 14 July, 2003
Speakers: Smt. Anjali Monteiro and Shri K.P.Jayashankar, Mumbai
Title: Critiquing Development Through Alternative Media – Some Reflections on Documentary Filmmaking"
- SOH 22:** *Date:* 21, September 2003
Speaker: Shri S. Vishwanath, Bangalore
Title: "Rain Water Harvesting In The City"
- SOH 23:** *Date:* 16 December
Speaker: Dr. Dilafuz Williams, Portland State University, Portland, USA
Title: Modelling the Possible: Education for Social Justice and Environmental Sustainability"
- SOH 24:** *Date:* 25, January 2003
Speaker: Members of Van Panchayats/Mahila Mangal Dals, Uttaranchal
Title: Paharon Ke Prahari (Guards of the Mountains)

Delhi:

Coordinator: Anchal Sondhi, Krishnendu Bose

Kalpavriksh Delhi restarted the Signs of Hope series in Delhi in September, 2002. There were a total of 5 lectures within the given time frame

SOH 1: A film screening of *Colours of the Earth*- by Kavita Dasgupta which documents the movement of Dalit women coordinated by the Deccan Development Society. The film was an Earthcare- Kalpavriksh collaboration. Five Dalit women workers from DDS shared the podium to explain their work and the difference it has made in their lives.

SOH 2: An illustrated talk by Ravi Agarwal., who heads an NGO called Toxics Link

SOH 3: A presentation by Bharati Chaturvedi who runs an NGO called Chintan and has worked with ragpickers and recycling of solid wastes.

SOH 4: An interesting joint presentation by 10-15 NGOs on the future of Delhi's environment. Each briefly outlined their work and their vision.

SOH 5: Bahar Dutt, working for the rehabilitation of snake charmers and madaris delivered an exposition on how the enforcement of stringent wildlife laws to protect threatened species could affect traditional livelihoods. Bahar knitted together her talk through personal experience and argued that livelihoods should also be protected along with the animal species.

The lectures were organised in collaboration with Sanskriti Pratisthan and India International Centre.

KV Publications

Co-ordinator: Roopa Bandekar (till Jun 02), Swati (Anuradha) Arjunwadkar (Jul '02 onwards)

The sales accounting system was modified to make standard reports and related information available more easily. No new titles were published during the year. Sales for the last financial year were about Rs.80,000/- which is slightly lower than the sales figure for the previous financial year. Expenses were about Rs.20,000/-. Looking at the number of defaulters, a decision was taken to request advance payment against orders from first time and occasional customers. The terms and conditions negotiated with the bulk buyers remain unaltered. The best selling title is *Birds of Pune*, while the best seller from the Community Based Conservation series of case studies is *Tribal Self-Rule (Mendha Lekha)*. Major sales take place during conferences, lectures and workshops attended by Kalpavriksh members.

Other Local Campaigns

Tiling Case: KV Delhi sought information from the all the municipalities (MCD, NDMC, PWD, CPWD, and DDA) under The Right to Information Act regarding issues that affect urban green belts. They have also approached the CEC appointed by the Supreme Court in order to address questions that affect city greenery, in association with Shrishti, Trees For Life, Youth Reach, Centre for Equity Studies, Samrakshan Trust and Development Alternatives.

KV Links with Vidya Jyoti

Persons involved: Sujatha Padmanabhan

Vidya Jyoti, a school for special children in Pune approached Kalpavriksh for a placement for one of their class XII students who was studying Office Management through the National Open School. A schedule and a possible list of tasks that could be handled by the trainee was worked out. The student, Ajay Kumar Mohite, started his placement on July 16, 2002, helping out with data entry on the computer, photocopying, attending to phone calls, postage, etc.

A small project on composting was done with seven students of the outgoing Class X students of the school. Around 8-10 sessions were held on waste management, lifestyles, composting leading to the students digging two pits in their school compound for the composting of leaves.

Philip, another student of Vidya Jyoti attended a four day camp at the Sanjay Gandhi National Park organised by BNHS and National Geographic in October 2002, which was a result of a suggestion by Kalpavriksh. The organisers also agreed to waive a part of the fees for Philip and to also relax the age limit (he was two years overage!). Philip had a memorable time on the camp and he says that it has deepened his interest in the field.

Safe Holi Project

Co-ordinator : Manisha Sheth Gutman

Associates: Madhulika Goyal, Sunita Rao, Erica Taraporewala, Swati Arjunwadkar

Organisations involved: Toxics Link, Development Alternatives

In 2002 Kalpavriksh had released a press statement regarding the use of natural colours to celebrate Holi. In March 2003, in the week preceding Holi, it was felt that in addition to the press statements Kalpavriksh also needed to help people gain access to healthy non-toxic alternatives to the chemical colours usually available in the market. Clean India, Development Alternatives, Delhi was identified as a source for such colours. To gauge public response, a test sampling of 120 packages of natural colours was ordered and distributed to five outlets around Pune. A press statement was released which elicited a very positive response from consumers. On Sunday, March 16, the team set up a stall outside a local supermarket to speak to people about the colours and also to sell them. The response to the sample stock was extremely heartening. Madhulika Goyal was interviewed on Radio Mirchi and Swati Arjunwadkar helped create slogans in Marathi which were aired in public interest on Akashwani. Leaflets containing simple recipes for home made natural colours were printed and distributed free of charge along with the packets of colour.

Vermi-composting Demonstrations: Manisha Sheth-Gutman of Kalpavriksh, Pune organized four vermi-composting demonstrations in various housing societies in her

residential area. These were organized with the help of Ms. Swati Barve, a nature enthusiast who has been composting organic waste for over a decade.

Brief Alerts

(Initials given at the end of each item in the next few sections indicate the members involved in that specific activity)

<p>AK – Ashish Kothari AM – Ajay Mahajan BTa – Bansuri Taneja BT – Bina Thomas ET - Erica Taraporewalla KK – Kanchi Kohli KS – Khelchandra Singh KM - Kaustubh Moghe MM – Manju Menon MSG- Manisha Sheth-Gutman MG- Madhulika Goyal NP – Neema Pathak NV – Neeraj Vagholikar</p>	<p>PS - Pankaj Sekhsaria PR - Prabhakar Rao PM - Pradeep Malhotra RB - Roopa Bandekar RK - Roshni Kutty SA - Swati Arjunwadkar SBh- Seema Bhatt SB - Shantha Bhushan SP - Sujatha Padmanabhan SR - Sunita Rao TA - Tejaswini Apte VGB - Vivek Gour-Broome</p>
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- Wildlife action – alerted the local Forest mobile squad, the concerned Range Forest Officer, the Conservator of Forests, and the press on receiving a call saying that a sambar had been caught by villagers a kilometre from Sirsi, while it was drinking water. The deer was killed before the officials reached the spot but an investigation is on. SR
- A letter was sent to the Environment Minister seeking the review of the efforts to disband the Dahanu Taluka Environmental Protection Authority (DTEPA). MM, RK
- A protest letter was sent to the Prime Minister on the subject of the merciless and unplanned cutting down of old and new trees in urban areas. RK
- A protest letter was sent on May 23, 2002 to the Chief Minister of Kerala regarding the hardships caused to the local community in Plachimada, Palakkad due to a Coca Cola bottling plant and in Kanjikode Industrial Area due to a Pepsi bottling plant. Attended a meeting to plan the future course of action of the agitation at the Coca Cola plant site and also attended a *dharna* near the Pepsi plant site. RK
- A protest letter on the proposed amendment to the plastic usage rules. SB
 - A signature campaign in Chittaranjan Vatika, Pune was conducted to get citizens to sign letters objecting to the proposed development plan for Pune. About 100 such letters were obtained. Then a letter was sent to the Municipal

Commissioner, Pune, objecting to the proposed development plan for the city and asking for hearing on the objection. SB

- Wildlife Protection Amendment Act 2003. Letters were sent to MOEF and the President asking for certain critical changes in the Wildlife Protection Act Amendment bill, relating to local communities and protected areas and for stronger measures against destructive forces. NV, NP, AK, SB
- Muthanga firing. Kalpavriksh sent letters to the Chief Minister, Kerala; Commissioner of SC/ST commission and MOEF to intervene and solve the crisis that led to firing on protesting adivasis in Muthanga sanctuary in Wayanad, Kerala. AK, SB, NV
- Jambudwip evictions: Participated in panel discussion (17.3.2003, N. Delhi) on the issue of the proposed eviction of 10,000 fisherfolk from Jambudwip island, Sundarbans. Subsequent discussions ongoing regarding filing of an affidavit asking for stay on evictions and an independent investigation; and on being part of such an investigation. The National Fishworkers Forum has filed an affidavit, and suggested KV as a team member for an investigation. AK.

Field Trips/Investigations

North East Dams: Two trips to Guwahati and Shillong was undertaken by MM, KK and NV, to meet individuals and groups and update the information available on proposed dams in the NE and to network with groups in the NE in April and October 2002. The team visited the Lower Subansari dam site (Assam- Arunachal border)

JFM Study tour to Uttarakhand: In September 2002, as part of an interstate learning process on JFM, NP visited several Van Panchayats in the Kumaon region. She also made a visit to Nanda Devi biosphere reserve which has recently been opened for tourism and is facing problems related to conflicts between Forest Department and the local people.

Andamans Investigation In October 2002, PS was part of an independent investigation team, constituted by the All India Coordinating Forum for Adivasis /Indigenous Peoples, which visited the A&N islands to look into some of the issues of the indigenous peoples. PS and MM also undertook a follow-up investigative trip to the Andamans in Jan-Feb 2003

Morjim Investigation: letters expressing concern about recent developments in Morjim (Goa) were received by KV Pune; Morjim is a site where turtle conservation was initiated by a few community members a few years ago with help from the Forest Department. A Coastal Zone Regulation I site, this beach is currently under great pressure because of illegal construction mushrooming along the beach in light of the increased tourism to the area. In the process, turtle nesting has been adversely affected. NP, RB and MG, and carried out a field investigation and are currently in touch with the Coastal Zone Management Authority and Gerard Fernandes (a local co-ordinator) for follow up action. Peeyush Sekhsaria and RB are working towards a proposal drafting of a participatory eco-tourism plan at Morjim. It is envisaged that the plan will be drafted and implemented by the community, local authorities and NGOs.

CHRONOLOGY OF ACTIVITIES, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

April 2002

- 1: Hearing in the Supreme Court in Delhi in the Andamans matter. PS
- 5-7: Participation in Global Biodiversity Forum, The Hague; presentation on NBSAP and on community based conservation in India. AK
- 6-9: Attended the “Using Diversity” Awards presentation in Tangail, Bangladesh organised by local NGO, UBINIG. SR
- 7: Global Biodiversity Forum Steering Committee meeting, The Hague. AK
- 8-13: Participation in 6th Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity, The Hague. AK
- 10: Meeting of the Rotary Club on the environment in Pune. PS
- 12: Slide show on the Andaman & Nicobar islands at the Wild Katta organised by InSearch, Pune. PS
- 15: Meeting with P.D. Sudarshan at the Soil Testing Lab in Sirsi to discuss the Deputy Director (Training) in the Agriculture Dept. in Kumta providing space and other logistics for sessions on Home Gardening and the Seed Exchange Network, including organic ways of tending home gardens. SR
- 20-21, Siliguri, Regional Consultation of the World Commission on Dams, organised by SANDRP, New Delhi and NESPON, Siliguri. MM, KK
- 21: Signs of Hope 19, Pune: Earth Architecture, by Chitra Vishwanath and Dr. M R Yogananda, Bangalore
- 22: KV meeting on mining project
- 25: Panelist on a discussion in New Delhi on the issues of the indigenous peoples in the Andaman islands. The panel followed a screening of a film on the Onges by Delhi based film maker Sonali Dutta. PS
- 29: Hearing in the Supreme Court in Delhi in the Andamans matter. PS

May 2002

- 2-4: Greenpeace International Annual General Meeting, Thailand. AK
- 7: Hearing in the SC in the Andamans matter. Landmark orders were issued by the court in this hearing. PS
- 8: Attended a meeting on eco-tourism project in the Corbett - Binsar - Nainital region of Uttaranchal. The project is being prepared by Rajiv Bhartari, who is a forest officer. PS
- 9-12: First Writing Workshop of the National Plan of NBSAP, Dehradun. AK, SP, KK, KS, SBh
- 10: Presentation and discussion at the BNHS, Mumbai, on ‘North East Dams’. NV, MM, PS.
- 17: KV slideshow and introspection meeting.
- 20: Interview on the Andamans issue by All India Radio, Pune, which was broadcast on May 24, 2002. PS
- 20: Slide show on western ghats at Namma Bhoomi, Kundapur. SR

- 20: KV meeting on Pench situation, and other issues.
- 23: Attended meeting of the Conservation Sub-committee, BNHS, Mumbai. NV
- 27: NBSAP Steering Committee meeting, Delhi. AK, KK
- 29: Meeting on DFID's role in advocacy for social change, Bangalore. AK

June 2002

- 6: Alert on GM contamination of Mexican corn, international sign-on petition. AK
- 6-7: Letters to CMs of Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, regarding Bt cotton and organic cotton. AK
- 7: Letter to Haryana CM, regarding saving trees in canal rest-houses, which are being sold off. AK
- 11-12: Attended Interstate Learning Process on Participatory Management of Natural Resource. organised by Samatha, Hyderabad and Vrikshamitra, Maharashtra. NP
- 12-14: NBSAP core group meeting to collate zero draft of national plan held in Pune. AK, KK, SP, KS, SBh.
- 13: Signs of Hope 20, Pune: Toying with Waste, by Arvind Gupta
- 14: Presentation at the BNHS, Mumbai on the issue of minor ports. PS
- 17: Letter to Ministries of Agriculture, Environment, and Science and Technology, regarding Bt and Organic cotton. AK
- 19-20: Presentations on 'Conflicts between Conservation and Livelihoods' and A&N islands respectively as part of the Conservation Biology Course conducted in Bangalore by ATREE. PS
- 24-28: Amphibian training workshop at College of forestry, Kerala Agriculture university. Organised by ZOO Outreach and WILD. VGB.
- 25: KV discussion on Community Conserved Areas Directory work

July 2002

- 1: KV meeting on minor ports, and other issues
- 1-5: Workshop on South-Asian amphibians, "Conservation assessment and management plan" as part of global amphibian assessment. VGB.
- 4: Letters to Ministers of Home and Chemicals, protesting decision to withdraw Bhopal cases against Union Carbide. AK
- 8: Tripartite meeting (UNDP, MoEF, KV with BCIL) for NBSAP at Delhi. AK
- 8-9: Meetings to discuss UNDP's Country Cooperation Framework 2 (CCF2) and possible KV role to follow up NBSAP. AK
- 9-18: Visit to the Andaman islands for a follow up related to the orders of the Supreme Court. PS
- 14: Attended a State level meeting on "JFM" organised by Vanrai, Pune and Forest Department of Maharashtra held at Mumbai. MSG, RB, NP.
- 15: Signs of Hope 21, Pune: Critiquing Development Through Alternative Media – Some Reflections on Documentary Filmmaking" by Anjali Monteiro and Jayashankar, Pune
- 16: KV meeting on Community Conserved Areas Directory work
- 19-22: Second Writers Workshop of NBSAP held at YASHADA, Pune. AK, SP, ET, KK, KS, SBh, PS, NV, KM, SB.
- 19 –21: Submitted a paper titled "Community based Conservation of sea turtle nesting sites in India – some guidelines" for a capacity building training workshop for

frontline staff of Wildlife, Fisheries and research organizations of the west coast of India held at the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi. RK

20-21: Discussions between the TPCG (NBSAP) and KV members, on key strategies and actions for NBSAP.

22-23: Session of the LEAD Training Programme and visit to the areas of work of Pani Panchayat. PS

21: NBSAP TPCG and KV members dinner

25: KV meeting on Signs of Hope, UNDP project, and other issues

25: Attended meeting of NGOs called by Times Foundation in Pune. PS

During this month, MM and MSG met Radio Mirchi to discuss ideas for environment related programmes and messages on RM. The following day NP was interviewed in their programme ' Woman of the week' where she spoke about KV and some environmental issues.

August 2002

3-6: Meeting of LEAD India in Delhi; Made a presentation on natural resources management at a panel discussion. PS

3: KV viewing of film on Mendha-Lekha

6-7: Meeting regarding NBSAP follow-up through UNDP CCF2 project, Delhi. AK

9: Presentation on community conserved areas at School of Environment sciences, Pune University. Organized by RANWA. NP

10-11: KV Pune AGBM. KK and Radha from Delhi were also present.

19: Participation in Ministry of Commerce meeting on India's position regarding TRIPs and CBD, Delhi. AK

23: Meeting with Rural Communes to discuss collaborative project. VGB, KM, PS, MM, ET, SP

25: Lecture on Biodiversity, at Ecological Society course, Mumbai. AK

28: Attended meeting organised by Goutam Narayan of Ecosystems India to discuss the strategies to address the issue the proposed large hydroelectric projects in NE India. MM, NV

29: Meeting at Chavani village to discuss preliminary draft of People's Biodiversity register. VGB.

During this month, MSG organized two sessions of a lecture-demonstration on composting of household waste at Kalyani Nagar, Pune.

September 2002

2-3: Visit by team of officials and farmers from Sehore, Madhya Pradesh, regarding biodiversity-based district planning. AK

3: Presentation was made at a workshop organised at Arunachal Univ, Naharlagun by Jarjum Ete of Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society on the issue of the environmental concerns with regard to the proposed power projects in Arunachal Pradesh. MM, NV.

3: Attended a meeting - 'An informal discussion on the World Banks Forestry Projects', New Delhi. PS.

6-8: Greenpeace International Board meeting, Washington. AK

- 13-14: TPCG meeting of NBSAP at Delhi. AK, KS, SP, KK, SBh
- 15-16: Workshop organised by the Jan Sangharsh Morcha on the issue of the WB Forestry Projects and the MoEF order for the removal of encroachments from forests across the country. PS
- 16: Media workshop for Journalists under NBSAP. AK, KS, SBh, KK, SP.
- 17: Meeting at BNHS with members of the Important Bird Areas (IBA) programme on the possibilities of funding a KV project on studying developmental threats to IBAs in NE India. MM, NV
- 18: KV meeting to discuss UNDP proposal.
- 20: Slide show and presentation on Amba Valley organized by InSearch. VGB
- 21: Signs of Hope 22, Pune: Rain Water Harvesting In The City”, S. Vishwanath, Bangalore
- 25: Meeting with Mona Patrao to help plan learning and diversity festival with APCEL, Panchgani. Also provided leads to market organic strawberries in Pune. SR
- 27: Attended presentation by C. N. S Nair (Resident Commissioner Meghalaya) on, “ Political Economy of Energy Development in India”, which was followed by a talk by Chintan Shah (GM, Suzlon) on Clean Development Mechanism and GEF, organised by Maharashtra Energy Development Agency. MM, NV.
- 27-28: Attended a state level meeting on “Van Panchayats in Uttaranchal” which was a meeting for Sarpanches of villages and other stake holders. NP
- 28: Presentation on W. Ghats EE work to Sahyadri school teachers and interaction with nature club kids and a slide show on Uttara Kannada Dt. SR.
- 30: Western Ghats Forum meeting, Bangalore. AK
- In September MSG organized a talk by Geeta Deshmukh on “Organic Food” at Kalyani Nagar, Pune.

October 2002

- 1-2: Co-organising workshop on Human-Wildlife Conflicts, Bangalore. AK
- 3: Meeting with Phupla Singhpo (SEACOW, Arunachal Pradesh) and Ashok Captain in KV office. Information regarding organisations which can provide technical and financial support for a project to put up biogas plants in two villages in Changlang, Arunachal Pradesh. MM, NV
- 6: Progress of Project meeting in Sneha Kunja, Honnavar. SR
- 19: Workshop on “Fisheries and Coastal Issues” for Kumta teachers at Baad Temple. SR
- 20-21: NBSAP TPCG meeting. AK
- 20: Formation of Seed Network group in Belambar (Ankola) and Mulekeri (Gokarn) on the coast with Hallaki Vokkal women. SR
- 28-1 November: Participation in World Parks Congress steering group meeting, Durban. AK
- 31: Meeting with Dr Rahmani BNHS on proposal to work in the NE as part of the IBA programme. MM, NV
- Oct: Visit to the A&N islands as part of an investigation team put together by the All India Coordinating Forum for Adivasis / Indigenous Peoples. PS

November 2002

- 2: Talk by John Byrne, Centre for Energy and Environment Policy, University of Delaware, on 'Climate Change', Pune. MM, NV
- 2: Formation of Seed group in Malenalli and Targod villages on Yellapur Road, Sirsi. SR
- 6: Meeting with S.K Sudarshan (Karnataka) for inputs on gender and conservation into the TILCEPA. MM
- 14: Opening of Seed Wealth Centre at Namma Bhoomi campus. SR
- 22-23: Co- organisation along with Jan Sangharsh Morcha of a workshop on the issue of 'External Aid in Forestry Projects' Bhopal. AK, PS
- 22: Attended FEVORD meeting in Ankola. SR
- 25: Hearing in New Delhi before the Central Empowered Committee in the matter of the A&N islands case in the Supreme Court. PS
- 26-29: Visit to Melghat Tiger Reserve with Bandy Sane of Khoj. PS

December 2002

- 2: Review meeting of GRAIN-KV collaboration, Hyderabad. AK
- 2-3: Participation in public meeting and strategy sessions on genetic engineering, agriculture, and farmers' rights, Hyderabad. AK
- 4: Attended the ABN Amro Sanctuary Asia Wildlife Service Awards. PS
- 4: KV meeting on Wild Life Amendment Act.
- 10-11: Workshop on Agriculture and Agro Forestry for Yellapur teachers at Kavadi Lake, Yellapur. SR
- 13-17: Greenpeace International Board meeting, Amsterdam. AK
- 16: Signs Of Hope, 23, Pune: "Modelling the Possible: Education for Social Justice and Environmental Sustainability", Dr. Dilafruz Williams, Portland State University, Portland, USA.
- 20-23: NBSAP Final National Workshop in New Delhi. AK, KK, BTa, SP, SBh, KS, PS, MM, MG, BT, TA

January 2003

- 6: Presentation at the Asian Social Forum on the New Forest Strategy of the World Bank Group. PS
- 7: Slide Presentation on the A&N to students of the International School in Hyderabad. PS
- 15-22: NBSAP core drafting group meeting, Pune. AK, KK
- 18: Lecture on Biodiversity and IPRs, at Law College, Pune. AK
- 25: Signs of Hope 24, Pune: 'Paharon Ke Prahari (Guards of the Mountains), by members of Mahila Mangal Dals and Van Panchayats, Uttaranchal
- 26: Field trip to Ajeevali Sacred Grove, with members of IUCN Theme on Indigenous/Local Communities, Equity, and Protected Areas (TILCEPA).
- 27-29: TILCEPA core group meeting, Pune. AK, NP, MSG,

February 2003

- 3: NORAD-UNDP meeting on NBSAP follow up. AK

- 4: Lecture on Biodiversity and JFM, at Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) workshop on JFM, Dehradun. AK
- 10: Visit by Canadian organic farmers, meeting at Pune University, press conference. AK, SR
- 13: Participation in final ceremony of Biodiversity Festival (seed yatra), Pastapur. AK, SP
- 19: Visit by ECOBOARD industry representatives. AK, SB, MG
- 21-22: Teachers' Workshop in Yellapur on Development and Alternatives. SR
- 24-25: Teachers' Workshop in Kumta on Development and Alternatives. SR
- 28: KV meeting on proposed CCMB project, and office matters

March 2003

- 3: Visit of the Lt. Governor of the A&N islands to Mumbai as a guest of the BNHS. PS
- 3: Presentation on Seed Network at Keshinmanay village, Sonda. SR
- 6: JFM Network meeting on deciding strategy to strengthen JFM network in Maharashtra. NP
- 6: Meeting with Prakash Bhat of BAIF, Dharwad about tie-up for home garden and seed network. SR
- 8-9: KV Extraordinary General Body Meeting, at CDSA, Pune.
- 11: KV meeting on the Mining Report.
- 12: Hearing in Delhi in the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) regarding the A&N case. PS
- 14: Lecture on Biodiversity issues and Biodiversity Act, at Ecological Society course, Pune. AK
- 15-16: Sale of natural colours for Holi, Pune. MSG, SR, MG, ET
- 17: Presentation at panel discussion on Jambudwip fisherfolk evictions, Delhi. AK
- 20: Press release regarding Mining Report. NV, AK
- 24: KV meetings on Jambudwip, Narmada, ENVIS centre, CLN
- 25: KV meeting on Uttara Kannada project, and Holi activities
- 26: Lecture on Biodiversity and IPRs, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. AK
- 28: Lecture on Priorities for Biodiversity Conservation, at National Seminar on Biodiversity, Pune University. AK
- 29: Meeting organised by RANWA as part of the Millenium Ecosystem Assessment Project to study urban biodiversity. PS
- 31 – 3 April: Final NBSAP TPCG meeting, Gurgaon. AK, KK, SP, BT, SBh

PUBLICATIONS

Articles and Reports

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3. Ashish Kothari. Some Food for Thought, *Deccan Herald*, 7 April, 2002
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6. Ashish Kothari. Nature Conservation Areas: Who Will Protect Them? In Marothia, D.K. 2002.
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8. Ashish Kothari. Greening or Greenwash? *Seminar 516*, August 2002.
9. Ashish Kothari. Editorial, Co-edited with Jessica Brown. Special issue on Local Communities and Protected Areas, of *PARKS*, Journal of the IUCN Protected Areas Programme.
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11. Ashish Kothari and Kanchi Kohli. Feet Firmly on the Ground. *Hindustan Times*, 22 January, 2003.
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14. Pankaj Sekhsaria. The Colonisation of Little Andamans, *Combat Law*, April – May 2002
15. Pankaj Sekhsaria. To save an archipelago. *Frontline*, June 21, 2002
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17. Pankaj Sekhsaria. Minor Port. Major Trouble! *The Hindu Business Line*, July 29, 2002
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21. Pankaj Sekhsaria. Can this save the forests?, *The Hindu Sunday Magazine*, February 23, 2003
22. Kanchi Kohli. Not for You to Say Mine, *Pioneer*, August 1, 2002
23. Kanchi Kohli and Manju Menon. Quick Fixes, *Hindustan Times*, August 22, 2002
24. Kanchi Kohli and Konthoujam Khelchandra Singh. It's a matter of Life, *North East Sun*, December 14, 2002
25. Kanchi Kohli. Ecoregional Planning, *Frontline*, Jan 3, 2003
26. Kanchi Kohli and Manju Menon. Environmental Impacts: Biased Assessments, *Hindu Survey of the Environment*, 2002
27. Kanchi Kohli and Ajay Mahajan. New Threats to Forests, *Hindu Survey of the Environment*, 2002
28. Manju Menon, Neeraj Vaghlikar, Kanchi Kohli and Ashish Fernandes. Large Dams in Northeast India: A Bright future?, *Ecologist Asia Vol. 11, No. 1*, January-March 2003

29. Neeraj Vagholikar and Ahmed M Firoz. Tracking a hydel project: The story of Lower Subansiri, *Ecologist Asia Vol. 11, No.1*, January-March 2003
30. Neeraj Vagholikar and Manju Menon. Power to the People, *The Statesman*, March 22, 2003.
31. Neeraj Vagholikar and Kaustubh Moghe. *Undermining India: A report on impacts of mining on ecologically fragile areas in India*, Kalpavriksh, 2003.
32. Manju Menon. Saved, The Story of Rathong Chu, *Ecologist Asia Vol. 11, No. 1*, January-March 2003
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34. Neema Pathak. Communities do conserve! *Policy Matters, Issue 10*, a journal of the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy, August 2002

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- April 2002 – Catching Coral Thieves, Sujatha Padmanabhan
- May 2002 - Memories of That Day, Kanchi Kohli
- June 2002 - Vasudha, A Special Supplement on Biodiversity - small write-ups and assistance in editing. Ashish Kothari, Sujatha Padmanabhan
- July 2002 – Mini and the sacred grove, Bina Thomas
- August 2002 – Grow a garden, Grow a community, Sunita Rao
- September 2002 – Solving an Elephantine Problem, Sujatha Padmanabhan
- October 2002 – Shantha’s Vishu, Roshni Kutty and Malathy Mohan
- November 2002 - Dance, Deer Sangai, Kanchi Kohli and Konthoujam Khelchandra Singh
- December 2002 - Smith Go Back, Kanchi Kohli
- January 2003 – My Bellure....Kokare Bellure..., Neema Pathak
- February 2003 – The Wonder Berry, Seema Bhatt
- March 2003 – The bird that came in the night, Bharat Bhushan

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<p>This Annual Report was compiled by Madhulika Goyal with editorial inputs from Sunita Rao</p>
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