

A report on

Dialogue across Boundaries

11-12 August, 2008

Held at the Anil Agarwal Hall, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi, India

Jointly organised by Mine Labour Protection Campaign (MLPC), mines, minerals and PEOPLE, Centre for Science and Environment, and Resource Management in Asia Pacific Program of the Australian National University.

The Dialogue was attended by nearly 55 people who included not only academic presenters but also activists and NGO workers. The participants came from all over India and included Mr S. A Azad (Prasar), Elisabeth Abeson, Bastu Rege (of Santulan), Prodipto Roy (of Council for Social Development), D. S Paliwal (Workers' Solidarity), Dr Apurba Ratan Ghosh (of Burdwan University), Swati Birla, Amarendra Das, Fr Tony Herbert (of Prerana Resource Centre, Hazaribagh), Mr Walter Fernandes (North Eastern Social Research Centre), Dr Naveen Ramesh (Division of Work Environment), Saraswati (Independent Film-maker), Emily Bilo (Haq Centre for Child Rights), Ana Gabriela (El Pais, Spanish Newspaper), K.S.Nikhil Kumar (Symbiosis, Pune), Mridula Gupte (DGMS, Rajasthan), Pravin Mote (m,m&P), Rana Sengupta (MLPC), Himanshu Upadhyaya and Nishant Alag (Environics Trust), Ravi Rebapraggada (m,m&P & Samatha), Debjyoti Das (SOAS, London), Vineeta Damodaran (Sussex University), Heather Bedi Plumridge (Cambridge University), Ashim Roy (INTUC, Trade Unionist), Md, Zakaria Siddiqui (JNU), Nesar Ahmad (JNU), Yousuf Beg (Patthar Khadan Mazdoor Sangh, Panna), Kavita Arora (Rajiv Gandhi Instt of Contemporary Studies), Nivit Kr Jadav, Monali Hazra and Chandra Bhushan (Centre for Science and Environment), Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt (ANU), Bipin Kumar (The Other Media), Kanchi Kohli (Kalpvriksh) and S. Madhavan (independent photographer).

A range of topics were covered in the Dialogue and active discussions marked the entire Workshop.

Here are some photos from the Dialogue.











Given below is a draft program.

<p>Dialogue across Boundaries: People and Mining in India A joint workshop supported by the Mine Labour Protection Campaign, mm&P (Mines, Minerals & People); Australian National University, and Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi.</p>		
<p>Date: 11-12 August 2008, Venue: Anil Agarwal Green College, New Delhi. 42, Tughlakabad Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110061</p>		
<p>Day 1</p>		
9:30-9:45	Welcome	Registration of the attendees
9:45-10:00	Welcome address	Rana Sengupta, Managing Trustee MLPC
10:00-10:30	Introducing dialogue aims and objectives	R. Revapraggada, mines, minerals and PEOPLE
10:30-11:00	Overview about the recent developments in mining and the extent of social science research in India and globally	Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt, Fellow The Australian National University

11:00-11:15	The emerging concept of Corporate Social Responsibility – what to make of it? What lies beneath?	Elisabeth Abeson Rotary World Peace Fellow
11.15-11:30	Tea/coffee break	
11.30-12:00	Presentations	Moderator: Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt,
	On community health and mining	Naveen Ramesh
	Mineral Policy Issues	Amarendra Das
12:00-12:30	Discussions and additional questions to the speakers	
12:30-01:30	Lunch	
01:30-2:30	<i>Behind the glitter: Illegal mining of gem stone in Andhra Pradesh and its impact</i> (40 min) Film by Saraswathi , Hyderabad	
02:30-03:00	Discussions and additional questions to the Director	
03:00-3:30	Tea/coffee break	
03:30-04:30	Presentation	Walter Fernandes North Eastern Social Research Centre (NESRC), Guwahati
	Displacement by mining: A report from Assam, NE India	
	Gender Impacts of Displacement - A report from Benti village, Jharkhand	Nesar Ahmad and Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt
04:30-05:00	Discussions and additional questions to the speakers	
05:00-05:30	Introduction to the book: 'Rich Lands, Poor People', the SoE report on the challenges ahead	Monali Zeya Hazra Center for Science and Environment
05:30	Closing for the day	Comments

Day 2		
Moderator: Ravi Rebapragada		
9:30-10:00	Mineral resource theorisations and their applicability in India – is there a 'resource curse' and why?	Kavitha Arora Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies

	Cage Culture: Use of abandoned open cut mines	Apurba Ratan Gjosh Burdwan University
10:00-10:30	Discussions and additional questions to the speakers	
10:30-11:00	Precarious Life, Terrible Work – An enquiry into nature and cause of accident ridden wealth creation in the mines; Jharia Coalfields	Dhiraj K. Knight, Jawaharlal Nehru University
11.00-11:30	Discussions and additional questions to the speakers	
11:30-11:45	Tea/coffee break	
11:45-12:15	Ethnographical study on coal mine workers in Meghalaya	Debojyoti Das School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
12:15-12:45	Discussions and additional questions to the speakers	
12:45-01:45	Lunch	
01:45-02:30	Major and Minor mineral concession rules in India	Pravin Mote Shruthi, New Delhi
	Occupational health status in Sand Stone quarries in Jodhpur: A survey report	Sohan Lal Choudhary Mine Labour Protection Campaign
	Report on Mining & the environment in the foothills of the Himalayas	Kanchi Kohli & Menju Menon, Kalpavriksh
02:30-02:45	Discussions and additional questions to the speakers	
02:45-03:00	Tea/coffee break	
03:00-04:00	Open Discussions and the Road ahead, Panel discussion with the participants	Moderator: R. Revapraggada and Chandra Bhushan (Associate Director, CSE)
04:00	Closing and felicitation	