Overview
This Annual Report describes the implementation of the new strategic plan which was approved by the Governing Board of PRIA in February 1994. In that respect it represents the first period of operationalisation of the new strategy and programmatic thrust as identified in that strategic plan. In this brief overview, I want to take this opportunity to highlight the key initiatives that were undertaken during this period to translate the strategic plan into practical programmatic and institutional actions.

Programmatic Development

In some respects, the strategic plan demanded a more focused and intensive programmatic thrust by creating four Programme Centres. It defined the broad scope of operation of each Centre. Specially, it brought together a variety of initiatives earlier taken with a concrete focus on Participation and Governance. In this regard, the Centre for Participation and Governance during the year focused on three programmatic areas. The ongoing work on promoting people-centered management of national parks and sanctuaries was given a further boost through detailed and systematic studies and evolution of appropriate management frameworks. Promotion of participatory research and development in particular through local grassroot groups and development agencies of the government formed the second area of work. Thirdly, through the opportunity provided by the new Constitutional Amendments, 73 and 74, the Centre began to get involved in experimenting with initiatives which are being subsequently intensified to promote Panchayati Raj Institutions and local self governance in rural and urban areas.

The Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health began to operationalise its new focus on health hazards at workplaces and those affecting the community around it. The experience of the study in Raiganjpur, Orissa concretised this twin focus in a practical way. It also demonstrated the value of using collaborative study approach to bring the results to a forum which involved local communities, voluntary organisations, workers, trade unions, government and industry on a common platform. The Centre also systematized information storage and dissemination functions through building intensive computerized database on Occupational and Environmental Health within the country and worldwide.

The Centre for Institutional Development started a major ini-
iative to design and conduct the first ten week long Development Management Programme for senior staff of South Asian Voluntary Development Organisations. As a new initiative requiring enormous preparation, it emerged as a satisfactory effort which could pave the way for continued programmes in the future.

The Centre for Global Alliance was formally set up during this period. The Centre is involved in providing systematic networking, monitoring and advocacy functions at the regional and global levels. The work of this Centre helped to strengthen performance of an active role of PRIA on the NGO Working Group on the World Bank seriously. Widespread consultations within the Asian region, in particular South Asia, were undertaken to inform members of the community of NGOs and others about the potential of NGO Working Group on the World Bank and ways to influence the policies of such global institutions. PRIA also took the responsibility to host the first Asian regional seminar to review the experiences of IDA, the concessional supported programmes, particularly from the point of view of popular participation. This has provided a strong basis for systematic and long term involvement of PRIA in monitoring international and national development policies with a view to mainstream the role of popular participation and effective participation of voluntary action from programme planning to policy monitoring. As a part of its emerging responsibility, the Centre also prepared itself to take on the role for Asian regional coordination of the work of strengthening Civil Society formations at the national and regional levels by participating centrally in the design and conduct of the global study of Civil Society and the first World Assembly of CIVICUS held in Mexico City in January 1995. We played an important role in catalyzing this new global initiative for strengthening Civil Society.

Broadening Constituencies

The second important shift during the year as can be witnessed from the above is the broadening of constituencies that PRIA began to undertake in line with its new strategic thrust. First of all, it focused on broadening its relationship with various actors of Civil Society as translated in programmes. PRIA worked with grassroot groups and other institutions and formations in ways that enhance interaction among them and also created opportunities of broad-based understanding and dialogue. Bringing different sectors and parties on the same platform was also implemented in various programme
areas, particularly in the dialogue between grassroots groups, government agencies, national and international development institutions.

Secondly, PRIA built active professional relationships with academic institutions in order to get them involved more actively in people-centered development in the country. Mention needs to be made of this involvement with the Department of Sociology, Jamia Millia University, New Delhi and Association of Schools of Social Work in India. Future efforts will focus on building relationships with media and other sectors.

**NEW PUBLICATIONS**

Another important development during this period was launching of new periodicals from PRIA. The Bulletin from the Centre of Occupational and Environmental Health in English and Hindi has stabilised into a major communication vehicle on this theme within the South Asian region. The new-Bulletin in English and Hindi from Centre for Participation and Governance is continuously focusing on these themes as a practical example to debate emerging issues and opportunity for networking. The most ambitious of these new periodicals is the journal on Institutional Development (Innovations in Civil Society) whose inaugural issue was launched during the year. It seeks to consolidate the body of knowledge about the institutional development of social change organisations rooted in Civil Society.

**EFFICIENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

Besides these initiatives, PRIA's division of support services was also reorganised and strengthened during the year. The entire library and periodical section has been computerised and its services to readers has reached a higher level of quality support. In view of the availability of new information technology, many of PRIA's key functions have now been simplified through this process like travel, monitoring of publications, their dissemination, financial planning and accounts keeping, etc. In response to the need to strengthen the residential training facility, the living arrangements for workshop participants have been improved and use of library, reading room and computer facility have been extended over longer hours to make these available as support to the residential participants.

**STAFF INVOLVEMENT**

Obviously, the operationalisation of new strategic plan required intensive involvement of the existing staff and mobilisation of new staff.
Various Programme Coordinators and Unit In-charges put their commitment and experiences behind this operationalisation, without which it could not happen. The new staff from different Centres and Units put their enthusiasm, energy, creativity and wisdom to make this a truly collective effort in pursuit of excellence in the future. The diversity of backgrounds and experiences of the staff (including those from the government and other sectors of the society) has brought new strength to the work of PRIA.

**Accountable Governance**

The functioning of the Governing Board has become more comprehensive. Strengthening of responsive and accountable systems of governance in PRIA has greatly contributed to the development of the new strategic plan and to oversee its implementation in operational terms. Members of the Board collectively and individually have played significant roles during this period.

Finally, the supporters of PRIA (its donors and partners) have extended creative and informed support during this period. We recognise their contribution with great appreciation.

We now enter a new era with confidence as the operationalisation of this new strategic plan has prepared PRIA for a more significant and long lasting contribution in promoting people-centered development and strengthening of Civil Society, nationally and regionally.

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Rajesh Tandon

Executive Director

September 1995
study on occupational and environmental health conditions in the vicinity of Orissa Cement and Refractories Ltd., Rajganjpur, Orissa was conducted by the centre in collaboration with Gramodaya Vishwavidyalaya, Chitrakoot and Sundergarh Industrial Mazdoor Union, Rajganjpur. This intensive study and its analysis was then shared with the government, trade unions and other voluntary organisations with a view to work towards improved health conditions in and around the factory. As a consequence of this study, the report and the workshop, significant follow-up actions have been initiated at the level of Orissa Government as well as Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi.

As a part of an on-going effort to improve the health situation of workers in textile factories, the Centre conducted a number of studies and workshops to raise awareness and to improve working conditions in many textile mills in the country. Three diagnostic camps were held during the year which included medical examination and lung function testing of textile workers during the year. Mumbai Textile Mills, Bombay, Model Mill and Soothgirni Mill, Nagpur and Madhusudan Mill, Bombay were the sites of these camps and the follow-up work undertaken in collaboration with local unions and Occupational and Safety Centre, Bombay and Kamdar Kalyan Mandal.

As a result of the on-going effort in this direction in Ahmedabad over the last 23 years and the effective campaign launched by the Mill Kamdar Swasthya Suraksha Mandal, several important achievements have been made (including gaining compensation by byssinosis affected workers). National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad has been training doctors from Employee State Insurance Scheme. The Centre continues to provide a platform for organising workshops and training programmes. Two such initiatives were undertaken during the year which brought together workers, academics, environmental groups and government officials from the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Several important occupations and locations have been identified as sites in relation to highlighting occupational and environmental health issues and improving those conditions in the country. Several
industrial areas have been set up throughout the country to promote
accelerated industrial development. As a result of heavy concentration
of industries, these areas cause enormous occupational and environ-
mental health hazards. A study of this kind was undertaken in
Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation, Singbha Road,
Nagpur site. Follow-up work is intended.

Similarly, a study on social, economic and occupational health con-
ditions of workers involved in electroplating industry in Delhi and
Faridabad was also undertaken, with a view to highlighting hazard-
ous and exploitative work conditions and to promote greater aware-
ness among the workers.

A study of municipal workers employed on a casual basis by Bombay Municipal Cor-
poration to spray insecticide for containment of malaria and plague was undertaken.
Health hazards associated with spraying insecticide were highlighted through the
study. A study of workers' health status in coal mining operations at Western Coalfields
was undertaken. Similarly, a preliminary study of health and other working conditions
of salt workers in Gujarat was undertaken.

A significant part of the Centre's strategy
has been to disseminate these studies directly to those affected as well as to the policy and decision-makers at the local, national and inter-
national levels. Increasingly the Centre has utilised print and audio-
visual media with a view to inform the public at large and to bring
pressure on the decision-makers to improve occupational and envi-
ronmental health conditions. During the year, the Centre's studies
were widely disseminated through the media nationally and interna-
tionally.

The preparation of data bank and dissemination of information has
become an important part of the functioning of the Centre. As the
collaborating centre of CIS, ILO, the Centre is very active in its Asian
programme as well as the information network of Government of
India. Information is collected, stored and disseminated, both at
request as well as at the initiative of the Centre.

As a part of its strategy for disseminating information and mak-
ing it more easily assessible, the Centre publishes a number of materials. The new Bulletin on Occupational and Environmental Health began its publication during the year. Three issues in English and Hindi on a quarterly basis were printed and widely disseminated. Other publications included materials for workers and their organisations in Gujarati and Marathi. One of the earlier publications: Diseases at Work - Part II became so popular that it went for a reprint.

On the basis of the studies conducted in the previous year, the Centre brought out 5 booklets under the series "Struggle for Justice" which highlighted the efforts made by workers and their organisations to improve occupational health situations in their work places in different parts of the country.

In line with its new orientation, the Centre has begun a major study of the Employees' State Insurance Scheme (ESIS) which is intended to provide health care and compensatory services to workers affected by occupational diseases. The functioning of ESIS has left a great deal to be desired. On the basis of direct experience of ESIS, the Centre has organised a major study to be simultaneously conducted at Bombay, Nagpur, Ahmedabad, Rourkela and Delhi. Detailed survey of workers, their organisations, managements, government and other people is being undertaken with a view to analyse the functioning of ESIS, and to propose improvements in the policy and the structure of ESIS in order to bring about significant contributions to occupational health status of workers in the country. The study is likely to be completed soon.

As part of its effort to promote wider awareness of occupational and environmental health throughout the country, the Centre initiated the process of building educational materials for students of high schools and their teachers on this theme. Based on its work over the past two years, the Centre was encouraged to address this area. Creative Learning for Change has been requested to prepare these materials which will then be published and made available widely. The basic text of the material has been prepared and its designing and publication will follow.
As an ongoing part of its efforts to address the question of people-centred development in the National Parks and Sanctuaries, the Centre has worked on developing an alternative database and plan for strengthening the twin objectives of protection of natural resources and ensuring sustainable livelihood for those living in and around Rajaji National Park, near Dehradun. Building on the workshop conducted last year, a detailed study has been conducted during this year with a view to present proposals to the government. Active involvement of local people and voluntary organisations has been going on in the study.

Likewise, similar efforts have been made for Similipal National Park in Orissa in collaboration with Social Research and Development Council (a local voluntary organisation). A two day workshop was organised which brought together local people, voluntary organisations and government officials to analyse the problems faced by those living in and around the park. Follow-up measures include developing an alternative people-centred plan for access to natural resources and protection of these resources in the park area.

As part of its effort to build an increased body of knowledge and understanding on people-centred development and popular participation, a major study was undertaken in collaboration with Regional Support Organisations during the year. Entitled "Popular Participation: Myth and Reality", the study is documenting eight large scale projects. These studies are now being finalised for wider dissemination and use in future training programmes of the Centre. During the course of this study, three workshops have already been organised in collaboration with IDR, Boston to address the theme and to learn research methodology as an ongoing part of strengthening the capacity of RSOs.

With a view to promote more active involvement of academic institutions in people-centred development in the country, the Centre has been working with the Department of Sociology, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi. During the year, a number of extension lectures were organised in the Department which brought together academics and practitioners on the theme of people-centred development. Students
and faculty of the Department visited a number of grass-root organisations for field work at the suggestion of the Centre. A major workshop on "Learning Modes of Participation" was held by the Department of Sociology in collaboration with the Centre in March 1995 which brought together academics, practitioners, grass-root workers and students on this theme. It is hoped that this experience will now result in other departments of sociology in the country pursuing people-centred development as part of their academic curriculum.

In collaboration with Association of Schools of Social Work in India, a programme of strengthening people-centred development in the teaching of schools of social work has been drawn up. As a first step in this direction, a faculty interaction programme has been planned which will be organised by the Centre to provide insights and experiences of promoting people-centred development in the country. This intervention is aimed at promoting an understanding of participatory development and participatory research among the faculty and students of School of Social Work in the country with a view to make them more actively engaged in promoting such development efforts in collaboration with local voluntary organisations in the country.

As a consequence of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment which has brought Panchayati Raj and local self-governance in rural areas, the Centre began exploratory work during the year to develop a long-term programme in strengthening grass-roots participation for local self governance in rural and urban areas. Exploratory field work was undertaken in Himachal Pradesh.

A workshop to promote people's understanding of the experience of West Bengal in Panchayati Raj was carried out in collaboration with SIRD, Kalyani (West Bengal).

Some educational materials have been prepared and a process of planning a long-term intervention in collaboration with Regional Support Organisations has been undertaken during the year. It is hoped that the Centre will be actively pursuing local self-governance
in rural areas under this Constitutional amendment in the coming years.

Likewise, a strategy of influencing urban local self-governance in the light of the 74th Constitutional amendment is being developed by the Centre.

During the year, the Centre began publishing a new Bulletin in English and Hindi on the theme of Participation and Governance. Brought out three times a year, two issues in English and Hindi were published during the year.

A collection of training designs undertaken by the Centre and other RSOs for training on Panchayati Raj was prepared in English: “In Pursuit of Local Self-Governance: Training Modules of Panchayati Raj”. Other materials including audio-visuals are in the process of being prepared.
CENTRE FOR INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
n promoting capacity building of grass-root organisations and voluntary development agencies in different part of the countries, the Centre now works with a network of Regional Support Organisations which are active in Gujarat, Rajasthan, U.P., Bihar, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh. On the basis of half-yearly review and planning exercise jointly undertaken by the Centre with the RSOs, a number of educational programmes have been launched throughout the country. These include Training of Trainers programme in Hindi, Gujarati, Telugu and Malayalam, Theatre Trainners Training programme in Telugu, workshops on financial management and accounts keeping, and programme planning, monitoring and evaluation.

In order to pursue this on a regular and effective basis, the Centre also organises workshops to strengthen the capacity of RSOs in order to play their roles more effectively in the regions. A three week residential Advanced Training of Trainers programme focusing on strengthening the conceptual and theoretical base of trainers from RSOs was organised by the Centre. As mentioned earlier, three workshops were held during the year to build the capacity of RSO staff in research methodology.

In order to strengthen the capacity of various government departments, the Centre initiated a programme of Training of Trainers on inter-personal communication for the field staff of Health Department of Government of Himachal Pradesh. A number of workshops were organised during the year as well and a training manual has been prepared.

At the request of CAPART, the Centre organised a process of studying the training strategy for the Social Animators Scheme. Field work was undertaken and a workshop was organised, bringing together key training institutions in the country engaged in training of trainers programme for Social Animators Scheme. A review of the training strategy with proposals for alternatives have been prepared for CAPART.

As part of its on-going strategy to strengthen organisational capacities of specific organisations, the Centre has assisted many volun-
tary organisations like Shramik Bharti, Kanpur, Lok Jagriti Kendra, Madhupur, Chhotanagpur Samaj Vikas Sansthan, New HOPE, Himachal Pradesh etc.

As part of its on-going effort to strengthen the internal capacity of CASA to undertake its own organisational development and human resource development, the Centre organised two workshops during the year which have now resulted in elaboration of an organisational design and a long-term internal capacity building strategy for CASA. Future collaboration is intended to focus on building their capacity in the areas of training methodology, strategic planning and management.

**Influencing** public policy by voluntary development organisation in favour of the concerns of the poor and marginalised has become a key issue in recent years. In order to develop a clear understanding of policy making and policy influencing processes, the Centre has started a study to look at the actual processes undertaken and factors affecting successful advocacy on public policy in five case studies from different parts of the country. The study will then be used for wider dissemination among voluntary development organisations for strengthening their capacity to influence public policy and engage in advocacy in the country.

As part of its on-going effort to build up-to-date information on various aspects of development efforts in the country, the Centre undertook a study of bilateral and multilateral donor practices for funding voluntary organisations in the country.

**Following** the recommendations of a study undertaken in the previous year, the first 10 week residential Development Management Programme for senior leaders of voluntary development organisations from South Asia was held by the Centre in early 1995. 20 participants from Bangladesh, Nepal and India took part in this intensive programme which had an international faculty, panel discussions and exchange of experiences of grass-root practitioners in the country. The evaluation of the programme by the participants and an internal review by the Centre has recommended continuation of this programme in the coming year.
A number of publications were prepared during the year. "Training of Trainers: A Manual for Participatory Training Methodology" was printed in Bengali, Telugu, Kannada and Oriya during the year. A revised and highly strengthened version of "Training of Trainers Manual on Participatory Training Methodology" was prepared and printed in English.

Hindi version of "Financial Management and Accounts-keeping Manual" was prepared in collaboration with SSK, Lucknow and printed for wider dissemination.

The Centre began publication of a new journal on 'Institutional Development: Innovations in Civil Society' during the year. The first issue of this biannual journal was published by the Centre and disseminated widely. The Centre also provided professional and logistical support to CEBEMO-ICCO Health Care Evaluation Mission in India in its field programme during October-November 1994. With a view to strengthen dialogue among the partners of CEBEMO in India, the Centre hosted a two day workshop on "Civil Society in the New Global Context: Implications for Voluntary Development Organisations". Thirty voluntary development organisations from all over the country participated in this workshop along with CEBEMO staff in November 1994.
he Centre participated in the preparatory efforts to bring the perspective of civil society in the preparation of World Summit on Social Development which was held in Copenhagen in March 1995. Through its involvement in People's Alliance for Social Development, it participated in national and international regional consultations and in the World Summit.

As part of the initiative of Synergos Institute to bring together social leaders to recommend the agenda of social summit as well as the part of its effort to influence Bretton Woods Institutions to address the problem of social development, the Centre made important contributions through its direct and concrete involvement in these efforts. The Centre also participated in consultation held at the national level and at the sub-national levels at the initiative of VANI for preparing the NGO perspective on social summit from the point of view of the Indian experience. As a follow-up to the agenda agreed upon during the Copenhagen World Summit, the Centre proposes to work in collaboration with other institutions to monitor the progress made on this agenda in the country and in the region.

As part of the NGO Working Group on the World Bank, the Centre was asked to host the Asian Regional Meeting of the Working Group which was held in PRIA in March 1995. The focus of this consultation was IDA 11 and the response of the voluntary development organisation to the on-going debate for the replenishment of IDA 11. The Centre organised a six-month process of consultation within the Asia-Pacific region, inviting concrete case studies of IDA projects and issues related to IDA functioning in the region. The workshop in March brought these case studies, developed its analysis and engaged in face-to-face dialogue with World Bank officials. A report of this consultation, a recommendation from the meeting and the issues raised on poverty-focus and people's participation in IDA projects have been prepared for wider dissemination and on-going advocacy.

As part of its on-going networking efforts, the Centre was involved in preparation of the study of civil society in Asia Pacific region at the initiative of CIVICUS. The first general assembly of CIVICUS held
in Mexico City, in January 1995 had a significant input from the Centre in its design and conduct. In preparation of that general assembly, the Centre was instrumental in organising Asia-Pacific regional consultation in October in the Philippines. The Asia-Pacific study report of this consultation and its follow-up was our input to the preparation of the global report by CIVICUS entitled “CITIZENS AN EMERGING GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY”. Follow-up effort in this regard has been undertaken within the country. A cross-section of civil society actors were invited to initiate the process of building relationships across those committed to work towards eradication of poverty in the country.

As a part of its on-going responsibility in the programme efforts of Asian South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education, the Centre provided on-going coordination support to programmes in sub-region 1 and sub-region 3 of ASPBAE. The Centre hosted a meeting of the Executive Committee of International Council for Adult Education in June 1994 for planning its world assembly which was held in Cairo in September 1994. Mid term review of ASPBAE programme was also hosted by the Centre during June 1994 as well as its Executive Council meeting in February 1995.

As part of its effort to strengthen the work of Regional Support Organisation at South Asian level, the Centre organised a South Asian workshop in Nepal in May 1994 in collaboration with IDR Boston. World Education, Nepal hosted this programme. 22 support organisations from India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Bangladesh took part in this workshop.

The Centre assisted SNV Nepal in developing its strategy on monitoring and evaluation of development programme. Field visits and a workshop was conducted in June 1994.

The Centre organised a workshop on strategic management of voluntary organisations for Sri Lankan NGOs in Colombo in December 1994.

In collaboration with IDR Boston, the programme of strengthening indigenisation process of PACT-PRIP in Bangladesh has been
started. PRIA is engaged in providing human resource development consultation and organisation building input to PRIP. The visits took place in December 1994, and March 1995, and are likely to continue for the next 18 months.

At the request of Vekard Van Leer Foundation, the Centre had conducted a process building of training capacities of its partners in Early Childhood Childcare Development Programmes in Malaysia. One needs assessment workshop, two training of trainers programmes and a workshop on monitoring its result were organised in Malaysia during the year in collaboration with MINSOC in Malaysia and CHETNA, Ahmedabad.

The report of the South Asian Support Organisation workshop has been printed and widely disseminated, entitled “Strengthening Civil Society: Contributions of Support Organisations in South Asia”.

During the year, a significant reorganisation of various units of the division was undertaken. Firstly, the entire library and periodical section has now been computerised.

This information is being accessed and utilised by a large number of visitors, practitioners, students and academics within the country as well as from abroad. The library now has more than 8000 books, 9000 mimeos and 450 newsletters/periodicals and 450 audio-visuals on different development issues.

The computer centre was also reorganised and extensive training was provided to all the programme and support staff in PRIA with the view to enhance the utilisation of possibilities of new information technology. As a result of this effort, most of our publications are now being prepared in their final form on DTP. The staff are using facilities provided through e-mail, DTP, statistical analysis, and other packages. Several other functions in the institute have been computerised like despatch, travel booking and accounts. The future effort in this direction will be a Local Area Network which will make this technology more accessible. The staff of the computer unit also provided software and hardware consultancy to many regional support organisations and other partners of PRIA during the year.

Publication department has also significantly reorganised its handling of printing; dissemination of various publications has improved greatly. New periodicals and journals of PRIA are being vigorously distributed with a view to raise resources through subscription.

The accounts department went through a complete process of computerisation during the year and periodic monthly monitoring reports are now being made available for monitoring programme expenditure by various centres and units.

In light of the changing requirements of various programmes centres, the institutional infrastructure of PRIA has been modified during the year, particularly to make arrangements for long duration residential programmes. The administration and maintenance of facilities have been strengthened during the year.
GOVERNING BOARD

Prem Chadha            Chairperson
Vijay Mahajan         Treasurer
D. Thankappan         Member
Sheela Patel          Member
Joe Madiath           Member
Rajesh Tandon         Executive Director

Division of Programme Centres

Centre for Participation and Governance (CPG)  Mr. Chandan Datta
Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health (COEH)  Dr. Nalin R. Jena
Ms. Namrata Jaili
Mr. Harsh Jaili
Dr. Ashesh Kumar
Centre for Institutional Development (CID)  Dr. Rajesh Tandon
Mr. V. Satyamurti
Centre for Global Alliance (CGA)  Ms. Maria Lourdes A. Khan
Ms. Carmen M. Atwood

Division of Common Services

Administration  Cdr. M. S. Atwal
Accounts  Mr. Dharamvir Bhatia
Library  Mr. Vijay Singh Rawat
Publication  Ms. Shikha Ghildyal
Ms. Prem Nargis
Computer  Mr. Ranjan Sinha
ED's Secretary  Mr. Mathew Joseph

Total members of full-time staff on 31-03-95 is 37.
FINANCIAL SUMMARY 1994 - 95

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Assets</th>
<th>Amount in INR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Bank Balances</td>
<td>58.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Receivable &amp; Advance Recoverable</td>
<td>14.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td>73.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Current Assets

| Investments (CORPUS)                               | 136.19        |
| Interest Accrued                                   | 8.79          |
| Fixed Assets (Furniture, Equipments etc)            | 73.73         |
| Total Other Current Assets:                         | 218.71        |

TOTAL ASSETS: 292.21

Liabilities

| Capital Fund Balances                              | 263.30        |

Current Liabilities & Provisions

| Liabilities                                         | 0.34          |
| Expenses payable (Provision)                        | 3.96          |
| Grant Received in Advance                           | 25.51         |

TOTAL LIABILITIES: 292.21

NOTE: All figures are in Rs. lakhs (‘00,000)
[ Extracted from Audited Statement of Accounts 1994-95 ]
INCOME & EXPENDITURE AND FUND BALANCES

Incomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount in INR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research &amp; Training Grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication &amp; other incomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Incomes</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenditures

1. Programme Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programmes</th>
<th>Amount in INR</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Development Programme Expenses</td>
<td>64.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation &amp; Governance Programme Expenses</td>
<td>25.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational &amp; Environmental Health Programme Expenses</td>
<td>13.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Alliances Programme Expenses</td>
<td>9.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Programme Expenditure:</strong></td>
<td><strong>114.13</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Other Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programmes</th>
<th>Amount in INR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication Expenses</td>
<td>6.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Expenses</td>
<td>13.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Expenses</td>
<td>6.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation on Furniture &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>10.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Other Expenditure:</strong></td>
<td><strong>36.22</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES:** 150.35

Excess of Income over Expenditure 9.97

Capital Fund Balances on April 1, 1994 253.33

Capital Fund Balances as on 31st March, 1995 263.30
KEY RESOURCE PROVIDERS

- HZ/DVV, GERMANY
- CEBEMO, NETHERLANDS
- FORD FOUNDATION, NEW DELHI
- CAPART, NEW DELHI
- ACTIONAID, INDIA
- SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND, INDIA

- Institute for Development Research, Boston
- Asian South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education, Sri Lanka
- PACT/PRIP, Dhaka
- CIVICUS, Washington
- Health and Family Welfare Deptt., Government of Himachal Pradesh
- SNV-Nepal
- Partners in Justice Concern, Bangalore
- Terre Des Hommes, New Delhi
- CASA, India
NETWORK OF REGIONAL SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

- **Mr. Ashok Singh** (Coordinator)
  Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra, 4/487, Vivek Khand, Gomti Nagar,
  Lucknow - 226 010 (U.P)
  Phone : 0522-393559, Fax : 0522-390692.

- **Mr. Binoy Acharya** (Director)
  UNNATI, Organisation for Development Education, G-1, 200
  Phone : 079-6746145, Fax : 079-6476145.

- **Mr. M. Kamal** (Coordinator)
  JANAMITRA, L-2 Sector 14,
  10th Main Jeevan Bima Nagar,
  Bangalore 75,
  Karnataka.

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The year 1994-95 has been an overwhelmingly strong and positive experience towards the Institutional Development of PRIA. The decisions take in the previous year to restructure programme and organisation mechanisms began to show concrete results during the year. The enclosed report from the four programme centres provides details of the activities undertaken during this period. However, I would like to highlight some key issues and aspects that surround PRIA during 1994-95.

1. The expanded focus of the Occupational and Environmental Health has provided meaningful and unique thrust to PRIA’s working in this area. This has already been appreciated a great deal nationally and regionally and has enormous potential in the coming period.

2. The focus on Participation and Governance, particularly in light of the new constitutional amendments in India, has been both timely and significant. The preliminary work undertaken in this regard during the year has laid a strong foundation for a more concentrated intervention during the coming two years. This may contribute towards increasing the possibility of local self-governance in India.

3. The successful conduct of the first 10 week long Development Management Programme for South Asian NGO Staff has been a major milestone in the capacity building efforts of PRIA during the past decade. This can how be the basis for undertaking similar exercises in future.

4. The convening of debate among Asian NGOs on IDA-11 and dialogue with the World Bank on this significant issue marks the methodology and engagement of PRIA in regional and global networking and Advocacy. Significant learning from this occurred during the period, which we can now use for further purposes in future.

5. The new periodicals from each of the three programme centres have enhanced quality of information dissemination as an integral part of PRIA’s work. The substance and production of these periodicals have received positive feedback from several quarters.

6. The reorganisation of various facilities/services in PRIA have resulted in a self contained and functional educational and research centre. The reorganisation of library and publication, computer and hostel facilities have increased the relevance of various PRIA’s programmes and activities.

7. Through its involvement in strategically important partnership like IDR, CIVICUS, ASPBAE and Peoples Alliance of Social Development, PRIA has now acquired global recognition and visibility as a centre of excellence in promoting institutional development and participatory development aspects of civil society.

8. The strengthening of programme and support staff during the year has resulted in effective teams for undertaking a variety of responsibilities. It is with this strong base of institutional development that PRIA is now entering next phase of its operations.

Rajesh Tandon
Executive Director

May 1995
Centre for Participation and Governance
1. During April 8-12, 1994 PRIA team member made a trip to RLEK and HARC and discussed the details of our collaborative study on principles of people centred management plan for Rajaji National Park. Visits were made to the Gujars settlements inside the park.

2. During July 4-12, 1994 PRIA team visited Dehradun and Rajaji National Park to visit and collect data from nomadic Gujars settlements for our study on the principle approach of People Centred Management plan for Rajaji National Park.

3. On July 5, 1994 PRIA team member had a meeting with forest department officials of West Bengal to discuss the details of our study on ‘Participation’ in West Bengal Joint Forest Management (JFM) system.

4. During July 8-18, 1994 PRIA team visited Palampur (Himachal Pradesh) for village wise meeting and data collection for our Micro-planning exercise at the Panchayat level.

5. During August 16-19, 1994 PRIA team visited Jhargram and Bankura Forest Division, West Bengal, for Joint Forest Management (JFM) study.

6. During September 16-29, 1994 PRIA team members visited Palampur for Micro level interaction and data collection for our ongoing study on ‘Micro Planning exercise at the Panchayat level’.

7. Prepared a Joint Forest Management (Jhabua experience Part-II) study report.

8. A study report ‘Status of grass-land in Western Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat’ is prepared.

9. Study note prepared on Land Reforms Policy and process of implementation in West Bengal.

10. Study note prepared on West Bengal Panchayat System, Structure, functions at various levels.

Both the notes will be translated into Hindi and disseminated among groups in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan etc.

11. During January 8-18, 1995 four members of PRIA team visited Bankura and West Medinapole Forest Division to study people’s participation in Joint Forest Management (JFM) efforts in West Bengal. This study is a part of our ongoing research study on “Popular Participation-Myth and Reality”. A follow up visit is planned in early June 1995.
Training Programmes and Workshops
On Panchayat Raj Institutions

1. During May 14-15, 1994, PRIA team participated in the workshop on 74th Constitutional Amendment (Nagarpalika Bill) organised by Voluntary Action Network India (VANI) and YUVA Bombay at IGSS Campus Bombay.

2. During September 1-2, PRIA team member participated in the Seminar on "Training Strategy for Related Panchayat Members and Government Officials" organised by State Academy of Administration and UNICEF at Bhopal. PRIA team member acted as a resource person and presented a training strategy and facilitated the discussion.

3. During September 4-5, 1994, PRIA team member participated in the "Workshop on Panchayat Raj Institutions and NGOs" organised by RLEK and CASA. PRIA team member acted as a resource person and initiated and facilitated a discussion on "Role and Strategies of NGOs in the Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRI).

4. During September 12-15, 1994 PRIA with State Institute of Rural Development West Bengal jointly organised a National Workshop on 'West Bengal Panchayat Raj System - Learning from its Experiences' at SIRD, Kalyani, West Bengal. The focus of this workshop was to provide the opportunity for various NGOs working on Panchayat Raj issues to study, understand and analyse the West Bengal system which is in operation for the last 17 years.

Thirty two participants from seven states participated in this workshop. A follow-up plan is prepared (i) to study the Policy and Implementation of Land Reforms in West Bengal by the active involvement of Panchayats during 1977 and 1993. (ii) exchange visits; newly elected Panchayat member to visit Panchayats in West Bengal. A report is being prepared which will include the detailed structure and functions of West Bengal Panchayat System.

5. During October 22-23, 1994, PRIA team member attended a workshop for NGOs and Women's Organisations on planning for Panchayat Raj at Wardha. This workshop was organised by a network of organisation of Swayam Shikshan Prayog (comprising of SPARC, Chetna Vikas and few others). PRIA acted as a Resource person in this workshop.

6. During October 22-30, 1994, PRIA team visited Palampur to provide micro planning support to the elected Panchayat members. Survey was conducted in 9 villages as part of Micro-Plan Development Exercise.

7. PRIA team member participated in a workshop on "People's movement in the new Panchayati Raj through Voluntary Action" during November 7-9, 1994, at National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad. The objectives of this workshop was to facilitate exchange of views and experiences of training of grass-root Panchayat Functionaries and exchange information with respect to the training curriculum prepared by various organisations.

8. PRIA organised a lecture on "Impact of 73rd Constitution Amendment in Tribal areas (implication of 5th and 6th schedule of the Constitution)". Prof. B.K. Roy Burman, an eminent environment sociologist, delivered the lecture on November 16, 1994.

9. During November 17-22, 1994, PRIA in collaboration with New HOPE, Palampur, Himachal Pradesh organised a training workshop for Panchayat members. This training workshop focussed on role and responsibilities of...
1. During April 2-3, 1994 PRIA organised a two day programme planning workshop for the staff members of Lok Jagriti Kendra (LKJ) at Madhupur. During the workshop past programme activities were reviewed and future activity plans were prepared.

2. PRIA team actively participated in workshop I and II on “Popular Participation - Myth and Reality” organised jointly by IDR Boston and PRIA. Planning workshop was held in PRIA during May 2-6, 1994 and second workshop, which was focussed on designing the study framework was also held in PRIA during August 22-27, 1994. The third workshop which focussed on data analysis was held during January 30 to February 4, 1995. We are also studying the “West Bengal Joint Forest Management System”.

3. During June 8-10, 1994 PRIA team member attended a Seminar on “Dynamics of Drinking Water Resources in Gujarat State” organised by Mahiti Uthanat Ahmedabad and visited Centre for Environment Education (CEE) and Unnati.

4. During September 7-8, 1994, PRIA team visited Udaipur to participate in the annual rural fair organised by Seva Mandir and also visited Ankur Sansthan, Astha and Jagaran Jan Vikas Samity and discussed their present programme activities. They also attended a meeting on electoral reforms and voters education addressed by Chief Election Commissioner (CEO).

5. During October 4-5, 1994, PRIA team member participated in the regional meeting on New Forest Bill at Lucknow. This meeting was organised by SSK and UPVAN. PRIA provided material support, identified the resource person and organised his visit. Report of this workshop was published.

6. During October 25-28, 1994, PRIA team actively participated in the National Workshop on Draft-Forest Bill held at ISI. The team also participated in the dialogue with Minister of State for Forests and Environment on October 25, 1994.

7. During December 19-20, 1994, PRIA team member attended a workshop on “Community Participation in Drinking Water and Sanitation Projects”. This workshop was organised by Action Aid, Bangalore.


9. PRIA in collaboration with Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, University of Calcutta and Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India organised a workshop on “Natural Disaster and Community Response” during January 12-14, 1995. Over 50 participants from Academic Institutions, Government Departments, NGOs and relief agencies attended this programme. As a follow-up, community based disaster response manual is being prepared. A follow-up workshop is planned during July 3-5 at Madras to discuss “Impact of Storms, Floods and Community response”.

10. PRIA team member participated in the meeting on “Women’s role in Panchayati Raj” organised by HARC, Dehradun, during December 16-18, 1994.
10. PRIA in collaboration with New HOPE, organised a three day workshop on “Women Empowerment” on the occasion of International Women’s day. A large number of Mahila Mandal members from Palampur and Bharwana Block attended this programme.

11. PRIA in collaboration with Social Research and Development Council (SRDC), Baripada, organised a two day workshop on “Simlipal National Park and People: Problems of Development and Possible Solutions” during March 14-15, 1995 at Baripada, Orissa. The focus of this workshop was to develop a collective understanding of various problems faced by the people living inside and around the park, to initiate a dialogue between the local people, local voluntary organisations and the concerned officials and to develop an action plan to tackle the problems. Over 60 participants from Government Departments, NGO representatives and people’s representatives attended this programme. Workshop report is being prepared. A follow up plan was framed and efforts are on to make it operational.

Involvement and Networks

1. PRIA is actively involved with the Panchayat Raj Core Group (PRCG), a network of Delhi based NGOs working on Panchayat issues.

2. PRIA is actively working with Indian Social Institute (ISI) to raise public opinion on Draft Document prepared on forest (also termed as Draft/Proposed Forest Bill) by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. PRIA facilitated the regional workshops and was involved in the National Workshop during October 25-27, 1994.

3. PRIA closely worked with ISI and other groups in the Draft Rehabilitation Bill and actively worked with ISI in organising the National Workshop during February 17-19, 1995.

Support to Others

During May 26th to June 3rd, 1994, PRIA team visited Trivandrum, Tiruchhirapalli, Madras and Bangalore to discuss the collaborative programme with SAHAYI and Janamitra, to explore the possible collaboration with Association for the Rural Poor (ARP) and Coastal Poor Development Network (COPDANET) Madras and Equation, Bangalore. Also visited Community Services Guild (CSG), Madras MYRADA, Bangalore and Trivandrum District Fishermen’s Federation (TDFF).

Intensive Support

Provided support to following organisations in their programme planning :-

- Chhotanagpur Samaj Vikas Sansthan (CSVVS)
- Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra (RLEK)
- Lok Jagriti Kendra (LJK)
- Himalayan Action Research Centre (HARC)
- New Himalayan Organisation for People Education (New HOPE)
Interaction with Academic Institutions

1. PRIA closely worked with Sociology Department of Jamia Millia Islamia as part of our programme on influencing the Academia. After a series of meetings with the faculty members few themes were identified. Eminent scholars and grass root level activists, practioners gave extensive lectures on this topics. Students, researchers and faculty members formed issue specific teams and visited few NGOs like LJK, HARC, RLEK, New HOPE and others and prepared field study report. A follow-up workshop was organised during March 23-25, 1995 in which some more academicians, researchers participated. A detailed report is being prepared.

2. A series of discussions and dialogues were held with the National Association of Schools of Social work in India. A Joint seven day refresher programme on Participatory Development for young teachers of schools of social work is planned. This programme will focus on theories and practices of people centered and people-controlled development in India (and elsewhere) and include such topics as Participation, Empowerment and Participatory Research.

3. PRIA in collaboration with Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, University of Calcutta organised a workshop on 'National Disaster and Community Responses', during January 12-14, 1995. A community specific Disaster response manual is being prepared with the centre.

4. Four students of Rural Development Department of Xavier Institute of Social Service (XISS) Ranchi spent two months in PRIA as part of their Summer Placement. After organisational exposure and orientation on specific issues they were sent to various organisations (ABSSS, LKJ, RLEK and HARC) for issue specific study. After field visit they prepared a report.

5. Two students of Extension Education Department of SNDT Womens University, Bombay spent 10 weeks in PRIA as part of their post M.Sc Internship programme. They spent six weeks in the field to study and review the education programme run by RLEK for the nomadic Van Gujars. They prepared a report which include assessment of this programme and suggestions for its improvement.

Publications

1. Last issue of 'Dharti aur Log' and 'Land and People' was published.


4. Two issues of our new Bulletin 'Participation and Governance' published in English and Hindi.

5. Simplified version of 'U.P. Panchayat Act' prepared and printed. This was prepared in collaboration with Sahabhagi Shikshan Kendra.
i). A major study on the occupational and environmental health conditions of the workers and the people living in the vicinity of the Orissa Cement Limited was conducted by PRIA in collaboration with Gramodaya Vishwa Vidyalaya, Chitrakoot, Satna and Sundergarh Industrial Mazdoor Union, Raigangpur, Orissa. In this survey, which was from May 9-12, 1994, 11 doctors and 4 environmental scientists of the University participated. The results of the study were published in the Occupational and Environmental Health Bulletin.

ii). In continuation of its effort towards mobilizing and educating workers and doctors on the issue of dust related lungs diseases, PRIA conducted a diagnostic camp for Byssinosis in Bombay. In this effort, which was from April 4-6, 1994, Occupational Health and Safety Centre, Bombay and Labour Welfare Department of Mumbai Textile Mill joined hands with PRIA. Out of total 273 workers examined, 70 were suspected patients of byssinosis. The report of the study was printed in the Bulletin and is also available for wider dissemination.

iii). From Feb. 14 to 16, 1994, similar type of study was conducted in the two textile mills of Nagpur. Out of total 307 workers who were examined, 170 were from Model Mill and 130 from Sut Girni Mill. Lung function test was carried out of 149 workers. On the basis of Medical examination, occupational history, symptoms and lung function test, 21 workers are suspected of byssinosis.

iv). The study which was initiated in collaboration with Creative Learning for Change (CLC), among the schools children is under progress. The field work, and the first draft of the text of the manual is completed, so after testing it on some school students it will be ready for wider dissemination.

V). In order to identify the cases of Byssinosis among the workers in textile mill a diagnostic camp was organised at Bombay during November 23-25, 1994. Around 300 workers from Madhusudan Mills were examined. This camp was organised with the active support from Department of Community Medicine, KEM Medical College, Occupational Health and Safety Centre, Bombay. This study is the second in the series of studies which are organised by PRIA in Bombay to generate awareness and initiate concrete action for compensation and prevention among workers and doctors in Bombay.


vii). Documentation was done about the status of Occupational and Environmental Health conditions at MIDC, Hingra Road, Nagpur. This was done by the method of interview and observation. The basic objective of this exercise was not only to study the Occupational and Environmental Health condition of the workers and community living in the vicinity but also to analyse the type of industries which are going to come and what future health hazard they can cause. As a follow up action of this exercise, a meeting is proposed in 1995 among the workers and community to disseminate the report.

viii). A comprehensive study on the Occupational and Environmental Health problems of the coal workers of South Western Coalfields was conducted from 15-30 November 1994. The total 200 workers were interviewed and as the second step medical examination of affected workers will be conducted in mid 1995.
initiated during this period. ESIS is an autonomous tri partite body who has workers, management and government as its members. For the last many years it has become a profit generating body by denying the medical care and compensation to the affected workers. Due to liberalisation of economy and government shedding its social welfare responsibilities, workers became concerned about its very existence. On the request of all three parties PRIA started this study with the objective to identify the problem areas and suggest concrete solutions. This study is conducted simultaneously at Bombay, Nagpur, Ahmedabad, Rourkela and Delhi. The survey of Delhi, Ahmedabad and Bombay is completed and report is under preparation. In rest of the places the survey is still undergoing.

x). A study on the municipal workers who spray insecticide for the containment of malaria and plague was under taken. These workers are employed on casual as well as permanent basis by the Bombay Municipal Corporation. The detail report is available with PRIA.

xi). A study on the socio-economic and occupational health conditions of the workers involved in electroplating industry was carried out. The survey was conducted in Delhi and Faridabad where all workers are unorganised and work under most hazardous conditions.

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**Visits and exposure trips:**

i). In order to attend the 32 Annual Meeting of the National and Collaborating Centers of CIS/ILO, PRIA team member visited the Geneva and London. The report of this visit is available.

ii). In 1992, PRIA along with Gramin Vigyan Vikas Samiti, Jodhpur, conducted a study on the prevalence of the silicosis in the sand stone mines in the city of Jodhpur. This study led to a initiation of the campaign at Rajasthan level, to not only conduct studies in other mines of the state but also lobby with the government. From Sept. 8-9, 1994, a round table conference was called at Jaipur to discuss the issue with the representatives of Government, workers and NGOs. PRIA team member made a presentation on the development at the national level. The resolution was adopted in this meeting to network with the other groups active in the field and take up the matter within the Union government collectively.

ii). PRIA team member attended the meeting organised by the Centre for Science and Environment (Delhi) in collaborating with Green Peace International and Friend of the Earth (Canada), on the issue of Montreal Protocol and options for India.

iii). On May 19, 1994, PRIA team member visited Sri Ram Institute for Industrial Relations & Human Behaviour. The objective behind this meeting was to understand the complexity of management-Worker-government relations in general and in relation to Employees State Insurance Act. This step was taken to build understanding on the issue which can help in formulating the forthcoming study on Employees State Insurance Act.

iv). On May 20, 1994, PRIA team member visited Ministry of Labour to interact on the issue of occupational health and safety. Visits were also made during this period to Central trade unions, Employees State Insurance head office with the same objective.

v). The Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL), organised a meeting on July 27, 1994 to launch their Delhi Chapter. PRIA team member
vii). PRIA team member visited Nagpur from Sept. 12 to 14, 1994, with the twin objective of helping in carrying out the follow-up of the study on the byssinosis and also plan the forthcoming documentation of Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) and Occupational and Environmental Health survey in the coal mines of Nagpur.

vi). Enviro Tech is the premier producer of air pollution monitoring devices in India and also conducts trainings with the industries on the issue. PRIA initiated interaction with this industry to not only take instruments for studies but also instigate a national scientific paper writing competition on the subject. Various visits were made by PRIA team member during this period to Envirotech.

vii). In May, Jagruti Kendra, Bombay had organised four meetings with South South Solidarity (Delhi). First meeting was attended mainly by housewives, where PRIA team member spoke about the health hazards in domestic works like cooking fuels, ergonomics and environmental problems. Second meeting was at BECK, Bandra and attended by activists and ragpickers. Third meeting was at Xavier Communication Institute (Bombay). PRIA team member spoke about the safe limits of chemicals. Fourth meeting was at Santacruz, where PRIA team member discussed about occupational health and safety problems in Small Scale Industries.

viii). PRIA team member spoke on occupational health and safety in the awareness camp organised by Municipal Mazdoor Union, Bombay. This camp was attended by 350 workers. The Marathi booklet on MMU which is prepared by PRIA, was released in the camp.

ix). PRIA team member visited Saharanpur from 13-18 December 1994 to identify and analyse the requirement of local group DISHA, on the issue of Occupational and Environmental Health.

x). The Envirotech Instruments Pvt. Ltd., a company manufacturing air pollution monitoring devices organised a national scientific paper contest on the issue of occupationally caused dust related lungs diseases. On Oct. 1, 1994, former president of India Sh. Zail Singh gave away the prizes to the winners. PRIA is planning to bring out compendium on the papers received.

xi). A visit was made to the Planning Commission on October 6, 1994 to discuss the possibility of getting access of NIC-NET, i.e. e-mail network of National Information Centre.

xii). PRIA team member attended a seminar on Child labour at India International Centre. A book namely, “Born to Work- Child labour in India”, by Neera Barua was released in this seminar.

xiii). On Nov. 18, 1994 PRIA team member attended the meeting organised by Centre for Science and Environment on Montreal Protocol.

xiv). PRIA team member during her visit to Ahmedabad made a visit to Consumer Education and Research Centre (CERC). This visit was with the objective of knowing more about CERC and their activities in the field of consumer health.

xv). A visit was made to Hyderabad to understand the issue of large population suffering from silicosis.

xvi). A visit was made by PRIA team member to Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited to assess the possibility of study on the reported cases of
xvii). PRIA team member presented a paper named ‘Occupational Health: Problems and Solutions’, in the International Seminar on “Public Safety and Health Hazards from Industrial and Environmental Pollutants”. This seminar was organised by Consumer Education and Research Centre at Ahmedabad from March 24 to 26, 1995.

Data Bank and Information Service:

The team has started collecting the studies and other information on the issue of Occupational, Environmental and Consumer Health. Various studies and scientific papers were collected as an initial step towards building such database. All the studies conducted by PRIA and other institutions are collected at one place.

PRIA provided educational material and other information to activists in Akola, Amravati, Solapur (all in Maharashtra) and in Orissa about hazards in chemicals, textiles, dock and ports work and legal aspects of the issue.

Workshop/Meeting

1. Two day meeting was organised during December 25-26 at Bhubaneswar to disseminate the Rajangpur study and discuss the follow-up action. Around 25 participants from Government, Trade Unions and NGOs participated in this meeting.

2. Two day meeting was organised by PRIA in Ahmedabad during Feb. 16-17, 1995. The meeting which was attended by members of Unions, environmental groups, academic institutions, industries and government departments. The report of this meeting is available with PRIA.

3. Two day workshop on the strategy and future of Mill Kamdar Suraksha Mandel was organised on March 23 and 26, 1995. Representatives from ESIS, Central Worker Education Board, Ghandhi Labour Institute, Lawyers and Media participated. On second day the meeting was addressed by the local representative in National Parliament.

Publications

i). Two Bulletins on Occupational Health and Safety in English and in Hindi.


iii). Byssinosis Booklet in Gujarati.

iv). Disease At work part III in Gujarati.

v). Special Bulletin in Marathi.


vii). OH Manual (Hindi)

viii). Five booklets under the series of ‘Struggle for Justice’
They are namely:

a. Ahmedabad Electricity Company.
b. A Hospital by the workers and for the workers.
c. Municipal Mazdoor Union.
e. A Chemical and Fertilizer Plant.

ix). Dust that Kills Booklet (Hindi).
x). Disease at Work Part-II (In press).
The main focus of the centre for Institutional Development (CID) is to work towards strengthening the institutions of the civil society.

Our experience of working in the arena of capacity-building of grass-roots NGO's over the past decade clearly suggests the growing importance of strengthening the institutional mechanisms, structures and processes of such organisations so that they can play the variety and complexity of roles they are being called upon to play today, and in future. Our work in this area also demonstrates the urgent need to evolve theories of evolution, growth and sustainability of Mission-driven 'social change' organisations, as much of the theory and practice in management and organisational development has its base in the institutions of the State and/or the Market. The current efforts to promote institution-building in the Civil Society needs support in the task of ongoing and sustained capacity-building of the leaders, staff and trainers of NGO's as well as sensitization of their national and international supporters.

Having innovated with many designs, trainings and materials in the areas of management of voluntary organisations, financial management, training methodology, monitoring and evaluation, staff and team building, organisational development etc. PRIA has worked closely with a number of Regional Support Organisations to extensively provide such learning to NGO's in different regional languages. The need for long-term Human Resource Development for both new entrants as well as middle and senior level NGO staff is being addressed through several specially designed long duration Development Programme now.

The Centre also develops reading and training materials, case studies, exercises, manuals and audio-visuals based on, and rooted in, the experiences of NGOs and other similar institutions in countries of the South, in particular South Asia. It provides consultation and facilitates educational opportunities for specific institutions on request. Besides the areas mentioned above, the Centre is also developing programme areas like policy advocacy, research and analytical capacity, strategic planning and resource mobilisation and internal mechanisms of governance and accountability for NGO's and their networks.

Studies

Development Management Education

In August '93 PRIA had initiated a study to broadly assess the Educational needs of the NGO staff in various functions including running community based Developmental NGO's. For this around 70 persons mostly from NGO's and Educational Institutions were met and their perceptions obtained. PRIA sponsored this study in collaboration with Institute of Development Research IDR, Boston. The study was intended to assess the need, range, type and access and the strategy to fulfill this gap. In January 1994 Mr. Prem Chadha prepared the programme on Management of community based developmental NGOs.

In February 1994, a meeting was held to know the comments and suggestions of the people who were interested in the idea of Management Education. The draft for the final report was submitted in September '94. In September 94, the announcement of Development Management Programme was made. It was decided to conduct the first batch of training from 23 January - 31 March, 1995.

Study on Funding Agencies

All over the world especially in developing countries, there are expanded opportunities for Non-Governmental Organisations to work together. So
PRIA decided to study the various facilities of donors for NGO’s in the private and Government sectors.

The Bilateral Assistance part which normally goes through the Government was also discussed. The excellent and useful study report was prepared by Ms Maria Isabel.

**Review of Training Strategy Under SAT Programme**

In 1988 CAPART initiated an innovative programme known as the Social Animators Training. Since each voluntary organisation followed its own strategy, methodology, materials, the results have been uneven. The training of Social Animators is a strategic development intervention and so cannot be left to chance. In this connection PRIA was invited by CAPART to conduct a critical review of the training strategy under SAT and generate proposals for the future. The preparation began in August and in this connection field visits were made all over the country and preliminary work for the programme to be held in October 1994 was made.

**Research and Evaluation**

Study of Communication Centre at Calcutta was initiated during the year. Follow-up is proposed for future.

**Training Programmes**

**Training Programme on Policy Planning and Implementation of Projects**

During July 1-3, 1994, PRIA conducted a three day training workshop on “Policy Planning and Programme Implementation” for the field staff of Centre for Communication and Development (CCD) at Chitrabani, Calcutta. Twenty-two field staff participated in this programme.

**Telegu Training of Trainers (TOT) Programme**

Janamitra organised Second Phase of Third round of Telegu TOT at Rajanagaram, Tuni during August 30 to September 7, 1994. This was the follow-up of first phase held in June 1994. The focus was on developing the skills of designing training programme, understanding and use of various training methods, aspects of trainers’ self-development, skills in developing training materials etc. The participants returned from Phase I with the task of conducting the training programme as per the design prepared at the end of first phase. They conducted the training and this training experience became the starting point of Phase-II. Thirty five participants from field-based groups of Andhra Pradesh attended this programme.

So far Janamitra has completed three rounds of Telegu TOT. About 90 participants from 45 organisations attended this programme. Telegu version of TOT manual is being used as main learning material in these programmes.

**Participatory Theatre Activists Training (Path to Act)**

Janamitra conducted the Phase I of Second round of this programme at Talakona during October 23-30, 1994. The aim of the training programme was to promote peoples theatre groups in the grass-roots voluntary organisations to effectively work for the fulfillment of the organisations
mission. The basic objective was to understand the skills of folk arts, develop experience in modern street play techniques, how to facilitate the process of developing street plays etc.

So far Janamitra organised two rounds of this two phase theatre training of trainers (TOT) programme. Each Phase was for a period of nine days.

**Advance Training of Trainers Programme**

During July 28 to August 12, 1994, PRIA conducted an advance TOT in Delhi. Thirteen participants from NCRSO’s (Network of Collaborating Regional Support Organisations) and some other organisations attended this programme. The basic focus was to develop a thorough understanding on various aspects of Participatory training. Four areas (learning theories, personality theories, group processes and facilitation) were covered during this programme.

**TOT on Interpersonal Communication**

During September 5-9, 1994 in collaboration with SSK, PRIA conducted a “TOT on Interpersonal Communication” for the field staff of Himachal Pradesh Health Department at Simla. Twenty eight participants took part in this programme. Second round of Programme was organized during November 22-26 at Kangra.

**Training on Financial Management**

SSK, Lucknow conducted a four day training on Financial Management for the Lok Paryavaran Manch. PRIA staff actively participated in this training programme and assisted SSK to conduct the programme and also prepared the report.

**DME Training Programme**

One of the most important and the path breaking activity during the period under review was the first Ten-Week Residential Programme on Development Management for Grass-root Development organisations in South Asia conducted in PRIA from January 23 to until March 31, 1995.

This programme was developed realising the long-term Human Resource Development for middle and senior level of NGO colleagues. The programme was designed by Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Executive Director (PRIA) alongwith the senior advisor Mr. Prem Chadha. An academic committee was set up to design, supervise the progress consisting of Mr. Prem Chadha, Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Ms. Indu Kapoor, Mr. Salil Shetty, Prof. Dhingra and Mr. V. Satyamurti which met at regular intervals.

**Workshops**

1. PRIA staff participated in the Workshop on Support Organisation in Gujarat during the 10th Anniversary Celebration of CHETNA, Ahmedabad, celebrated during 12 to 15 August, 1994.

2. PRIA resource person participated in a workshop on Accounts-keeping in Hindi which was organized by Sahbhag Shikshan Kendra at Allahabad, UP, during 27-29 September, 1994.
Organisational Strengthening

1. Mr. Prem Chadha, Dr. Rajesh Tandon of PRIA and Dr. Dave Brown, President IDR Boston, went to Gram Vikas several times to study and suggest organisational development as part of the ongoing support in their organisational development, programme planning, monitoring and Evaluation process.

2. A series of consultations were held with the leadership of Lok Jagriti Kendra (LJK) for their programme review and staff development.

3. PRIA facilitated the evaluation process; in designing the framework, comments and analysis on the draft report and finalising the follow-up Plan of Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra (SSK) Lucknow, Shramik Bharati (Kanpur), Chhotanagpur Samaj Vikas Sansthan (CSVS), Bihar.

Support to Other NGOs

1. On-going support to New Himalayan Organisation for Peoples Education (New Hope), Palampur, Himachal Pradesh was continued for the training of rural women, girls and children. During this period, PRIA team visited New Hope three times and organised field level orientation and training to various groups (Cooperatives formed through the initiative of New Hope, Mahila Mandals, Panchayat members etc.). Members of the cooperative visited a few organisations in Uttar Pradesh to gain practical experience of income generation activities.

2. Regular support was extended to other groups like Janamitra, Sahayi, Cencored, Centre for Workers Management, Lok Jagriti Kendra for programme planning process and organisations issues.

Publications

1. Financial Management and Accounts Keeping: Hindi version of the Financial Management and Accounts keeping was prepared in collaboration with Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra (SSK) and printed for dissemination. It was widely appreciated for its simplicity and usefulness.

2. Management of Voluntary Organisation: Hindi version of Management of Voluntary Organisation also prepared in collaboration with Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra (SSK). It was also printed for wider dissemination among the NGO’s in the Hindi speaking belt.

3. Journal of Institutional Development: The first issue was printed in middle of November 1994.

4. Revised English Training of Trainers (TOT) manual prepared and printed for dissemination.

5. Training of Trainers (TOT) manual in Regional languages e.g. Bengali, Kannada, Oriya and Telugu also printed.

6. The final draft report of the Development Management has been completed and brought out in an edited format.

7. The learning material for Development Management are being prepared and a reference room has been created for the exclusive use of the faculty.
Sectoral Involvement

Dr. Rajesh Tandon as Chairperson of Voluntary Action Network India (VANI) was actively involved in VANI's various activities and new initiatives. Special mention may be made on its new Programme on Electoral Reforms and Voters Education and the setting up of Task Forces after the NGO-Government Consultation during 7-8 March '94. Three specific task forces to discuss the issue related to Societies Registration Act and Public Trust Act, FCRA and Income Tax Act were set up, each one having 2-3 senior and experienced Voluntary activists as members. After extensive deliberation a number of recommendations emerged underlining the need to review and modify the Acts, Laws, Procedures and Policies affecting the Voluntary Organisations. VANI's meeting on Task Forces was hosted at PRIA in October 1994.
1994 was the first year of implementation of PRIA’s strategic plan, its main features arising from the findings of the Executive Council’s 1993 programmatic and organisational review. The new strategic plan identified regional and global alliance-building and advocacy as one of the institution’s key strategies.

The setting up of the Centre for Global Alliance (CGA) in March 1994 was a logical step in concretising PRIA’s objectives of “Building networks and alliances for Asian and global solidarity and advocacy and strengthening the capacities of NGOs and others in the areas of Participation/Governance and Institutional Development” (The Futures We Are In, 1994).

Three types of activities were identified to further these objectives: 1) studies, research and documentation; 2) educational events; and 3) preparation and publication of educational materials.

The first year of the unit’s existence was largely characterised by ‘setting up operations’: the hiring of staff, the conceptualisation of new areas of work, and the implementation of continuing programmes within the organisation’s new mandate.

The following will attempt to describe the events that characterised this first year and identify issues and concerns for consideration in planning for the succeeding period. The activities will be presented as they relate to the defined priority work areas of PRIA:

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**Networking, Alliances and Advocacy**

**People’s Alliance on Social Development**

PRIA actively participated in regional and international NGO preparatory work for the World Summit on Social Development held on March 6-15, 1995 in Copenhagen through its membership in and involvement with the People’s Alliance on Social Development (PASD).

PRIA through ASPBAE was part of the Asia Pacific Organising Committee of the PASD which convened the Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation of NGOs for the World Summit, held in June 15-18, 1994 in Manila, Philippines. The consultation brought together the major regional NGO networks spearheading activities in relation to the World Summit. In this consultation, these networks defined a common NGO platform for advocacy and coordinated efforts at ensuring better NGO presence and participation in the Summit and its preparatory activities. The Asia Pacific Organising Committee also coordinated the NGO Forum during the Regional Ministerial Meeting for the World Summit on October 11-18, 1994, also in Manila.

Dr. Rajesh Tandon participated in the Meeting of Social Leaders in New York, organised by the Synergos Institute on August 18-19, 1994 also in preparation for the World Summit.

Dr. Rajesh Tandon, along with a few other NGO representatives, was also invited by the World Bank to comment on its paper on Social Development prepared for the Social Summit. The role and impact of the Bretton Woods Institutions in poverty eradication, employment and social integration, the Summit’s main themes, was one of the most hotly debated issues during the Summit.

Maria Lourdes A. Khan participated in the Intersessional PrepCom for the Social Summit held on October 24-26, 1994 in New York, and the NGO activities during the World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen.
At the national level, PRIA coordinated with several NGOs and NGO networks in disseminating information and stimulating interest and participation of NGOs in the World Summit’s activities. In contrast to other parts of Asia where the Social Summit’s activities generated a lot of attention from civil society and governments early on, in India, interest and participation was scant, picking up largely by the latter half of 1994.

PRIA supported the different efforts at encouraging meaningful NGO participation in the Social Summit in India. It coordinated with ActionAid-India and CYSD in their regional and national consultations. PRIA also assisted the UNDP in convening tri-sectoral (NGO-Government-Business) consultations on the themes of the Social Summit in different regions of the country. The network of collaborating Regional Support Organisations of PRIA were mobilised to assist in planning and mobilising NGO participation in these regional consultations.

VANI convened a series of regional consultations culminating in a national consultation on the Social Summit held on February 5-7, 1995 in New Delhi. PRIA was directly involved in planning and organising these events through Rajesh Tandon.

**NGO Working Group on the World Bank**

PRIA became a member of the Sub-Group on Participation whose recommendations were instrumental in improving and further enhancing the Bank’s Learning Group on Participation Report. The Bank’s Action Plan on Participation expands the definition of participation to include stakeholder involvement in the planning, implementation and monitoring of development projects and the inclusion of mechanisms to empower these stakeholders for handover and self-management. It further calls for sensitising Bank functionaries in participatory techniques and a recognition that borrowing governments should be encouraged to ensure people's participation at several stages of project development and implementation.

Throughout the year, PRIA disseminated information on the the activities of the NGO Working Group and the policy issues debated in the Working Group’s engagement with the World Bank. PRIA solicited the views and comments of various NGOs (around 60) within the Asian region to determine ways by which the work and advocacies of the Working Group could be made more relevant and reflective of Asian realities.

PRIA likewise initiated several meetings with officials of the World Bank office in New Delhi to follow through NGO concerns articulated in the Working Group meetings with Bank officials in Washington, with specific reference to their application in the Indian context.

On March 21-24, 1995, PRIA hosted the Asian Regional NGO Meeting on IDA of the NGO Working Group on the World Bank. 22 NGOs from the region participated in a meeting called to draw up an Asian NGO position on the replenishment of IDA funds (IDA-11) - a concessional loan facility offered by the Bank for countries with per capita GNP of less than $800 USD.

Case studies on IDA-funded projects from different countries in the region informed the discussions on IDA replenishment. PRIA presented a case study on “Some Aspects of Community Participation in the Maharashtra Earthquake Rehabilitation Project” prepared by Carmen Madrinan and Azeez Khan.

The head of the NGO Unit of the World Bank in Washington, Jan Wejnand, the Bank’s Resident Director in India, Dr. Jhaved Shirazi and other members of the Delhi office particularly involved in its social development activities participated in a two-day dialogue with the NGO participants.
A press conference was organised at the last day of the Meeting.

A publication on the proceedings of the meeting is currently being prepared. Meanwhile, PRIA has been invited to be a member of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) NGO Working Group as its focal point for India.

CIVICUS

The CIVICUS Study on Civil Society in the Asia-Pacific Region was published in 1994 and disseminated to groups and individuals who could contribute towards enhancing the results and who could constitute the constituency of CIVICUS in the future. PRIA shared this task with other CIVICUS Board members from the Asia-Pacific region.

PRIA also organised and convened the Asian Regional Consultation of CIVICUS on October 17-19, 1994 in Manila, Philippines. Participants to the Consultation involved NGOs, foundations, representatives from the business community, the donor community, and media. The results of the Asia-Pacific Study on Civil Society was presented to this body to spark off discussions on Civil Society in the region and the enabling environment to strengthen collaboration and dialogue among groups belonging to this sector. The discussions likewise tackled conceptual issues of civil society as it relates to Government and the Market in development activity.

Dr. Rajesh Tandon chaired the Steering Committee of the World Assembly which oversaw the preparations of the CIVICUS World Assembly. With Miguel Darcy de Oliveira, he co-authored ‘An Emerging Global Civil Society’, the integrating chapter of the CIVICUS World Report, ‘citizens, Strengthening Global Civil Society’. This Report became the basis for the plenary and workshop discussions during the CIVICUS World Assembly.

The World Assembly was convened on January 10-13, 1995 in Mexico City. PRIA actively participated in identifying, mobilising and coordinating participation from the Asia-Pacific in the World Assembly. Dr. Tandon moderated the Inaugural Session, ‘Citizens Participation – Force for Change?’ and presented the concluding paper, ‘Challenges Ahead, Strategies and Programmes for CIVICUS’ during the Closing Plenary.

The Alliance is in the process of synthesising the results of the World Assembly and drafting the specific Programme of Action of the Alliance.

Inspired by the discussion in the World Assembly, preliminary efforts have been taken to develop links with the media and business sector in India. On March 31, 1995, a half-day meeting was co-convened at PRIA by Rajesh Tandon, Salil Shetty (ActionAid) and Lalita Ramdas (ICAIE), inviting representatives from the media and the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII). It was an exploratory meeting on possible collaborations between the voluntary sector in India and the business sector particularly in the areas of education, health and other social development activities.

Dr. Tandon continues to serve in the CIVICUS Board of Officers.
Professional Consultation and Training


A total of 22 Support Organisations participated from India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh. This workshop was convened to provide an arena where support organisations in the region can collectively share experiences and appraise their contributions to and impacts on their respective constituencies over the last three years. The body likewise identified issues, concerns and emergent challenges Support Organisations currently face. The discussions clearly indicated that Support Organisations have played critical roles in strengthening the capacities of community-based organisations (CBOs) in their countries, contributed in expanding the spaces for their work in improving the policy environment for the participation of civil society in development activity.

The proceedings and results of this Workshop were subsequently published by PRIA.

Following the South Asian Workshop of Support Organisations, PRIA coordinated a Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop in Nepal. The TOT involved the training staff of different NGO groups in the country. Dr. Rajesh Tandon coordinated the workshop and mobilised consultants and resource persons for the TOT.

PRIA assisted SNV-Nepal in developing its Monitoring and Evaluation programme. Mr. Chandan Datta and Mr. Binoy Acharya participated in a set of activities designed to develop SNV-Nepal’s M&E systems. From June 13-20, they conducted a field appraisal of the Karnali Local Development Programme of SNV-Nepal to better understand the field programme requirements of SNV. The results of this visit were shared and discussed in SNV’s M&E Workshop on June 21-22, 1994 in Kathmandu.
PRIA provided logistical and administrative support to the CEBEMO-ICCO Health Care Evaluation Mission from 7 November to 7 December 1994. PRIA also assisted in facilitating the India orientation visit of Ms. Margriet Niewenhuis, the new head of the Women’s Desk of CEBEMO from October 28-November 16. A two-day Workshop on ‘Civil Society in the New Global Context: Implications for Voluntary Development Organisations’ as also organised during this period to coincide with the visit of Mr. Pieter Damien, the Asia Director of CEBEMO. Around thirty (30) NGOs from all over India participated in the Workshop held on November 14-15, 1994 at PRIA.

PRIA in collaboration with IDR continued to provide assistance to PACT/PRIP during the year, particularly in its efforts to transform PRIP into an autonomous and ‘indigenized’ organisation. From December 12-15, 1995, Dr. Rajesh Tandon and Mr. Prem Chadda held meetings and consultations with key staff, constituent organisations and potential Board Members of PRIP towards a strategic planning exercise of the organisation. Mr. Chadda also assisted in appraising the HRD requirements of PRIP during this visit. PRIA has since agreed to participate in a Human Resource Development Consultancy arrangement with PRIP to assist the organisation specially in its transitional phase.

As part of PRIA’s continuing function to strengthen support organisations in South Asia, Dr. Rajesh Tandon held a workshop in Colombo, Sri Lanka on December 19-22, 1994 with the South Asia Partnership (SAP)-Sri Lanka on strategic management.

PRIA’s consultancy to the Bernard van Leer Foundation (BVLF) was completed in March 1995. PRIA provided consultancy services in planning and conducting a series of Training of Trainors and activities for the BVLF partners in its Early Childhood and Childcare Development (ECCD) Programme in Malaysia. The Training programme was divided into five (5) phase across one year: Needs Assessment, Training of Trainers, Monitoring of Training results, Follow-up Training, and Documentation and Evaluation. Dr. Om Shrivastava (PRIA consultant) and Ms. Indu Capoor (CHETNA) conducted the trainings along with Mr. Bishan Singh of the Management Institute for Social Change (MINSOC) in Malaysia.

**Lessons/Insight:**

1. There is a need to better integrate global and local advocacies - each feeding into and being enriched by the other. The experience in the Social Summit underscores this point: The express commitment of Ambassador Juan Somavia (the Secretary General of the World Summit) to civil society participation in the World Summit and his relative access to some of these groups facilitated the spaces for NGO involvement in the preparatory work. NGO accreditation to all the PrepComs in New York and for the Social Summit in Copenhagen was not restrictive, in fact, relatively more inclusive. There were several occasions when NGOs were given time to address the delegates to the Regional and New York PrepComs during their formal sessions.

In the final analysis, however, the most critical engagements for policy influence at the Social Summit were those forged at the country-level. NGO linkages with their own government delegates and functionaries were fundamental in paving the way for lobbying and advocacy not only at the national levels but significantly, at the regional and international arenas. Further, these linkages have an even more strategic value - post-Summit - when NGOs start collecting on promises made and more.
The actual levels of participation and opportunities for influence were however largely contingent on NGO capability in pushing for these spaces with their governments, how much national governments eventually conceded in terms of these spaces, and what NGOs ultimately made of these.

While there were inspiring examples of the potential for NGO influence through NGO-GO engagements in policy discourse eg. Philippines, Japan, Chile among others, the experience by and large indicates that NGO capacity in the South in terms of engaging their governments and international decision-makers in policy discourse is still weak. Also, the skills required for dialogue, negotiation, conflict-resolution in these kinds of arenas remain exclusive to a very few.

2. Much more needs to be understood by the NGO community on the current debates surrounding global macro-economic policy issues such as SAP, Bilateral and Multi-lateral Debt, Official Development Assistance (ODA), and Trade, particularly from an Asian perspective. While much has been written and said on these topics, current analysis will further benefit from a sensitisation to the complex and diverse social, cultural, political, economic particularities of the different countries in the region, the variances in the role and impacts of the state, the market and civil society in the diversity and variety of circumstances that characterise the Asia-Pacific - this, even among the low-income countries in the region where 50% of the world's poor predominate.

3. This sensitivity should also be reflected in the analysis of the key global decision-makers eg. the World Bank-IMF, the regional Development Banks, Bilateral aid and lending agencies, the UN system and multilateral aid agencies, the WTO, to name a few. A sensitivity to their individual dynamics, their actual impacts in global, regional and local processes would allow for NGOs to further maximise the emerging spaces for incremental reform supportive of efforts at structural change - which seems to be the challenge of alternative policy formulation in the current context.

4. In India, for instance, there is an obvious need to sensitise NGOs primarily involved in implementing development activity, with macro-level issues of global concern, which have a bearing on their work.

This is important because now, more than ever before NGOs are being called upon to participate in bilateral or multilateral funded projects. The World Bank and UN agencies are involving NGOs directly or indirectly in the implementation of their projects and programmes. The Bank, for instance, is pushing for their beneficiary government units to hire NGOs as consultants and/or members of their implementation/project teams. These NGOs will stand to gain from an appreciation of the implications of their participation from a macro-policy and advocacy perspective, eg. implications of NGO participation in activities funded by IBRD or IDA funds of the World Bank; does participation, as a consequence, promote or strengthen existing policies of the World Bank which many other NGOs may be critical about? Further, the policy debate will be enriched by the micro-level perspective eg. what do the poor stand to gain from NGO participation in these IDA or IBRD funded projects?

5. Like most world conferences, the World Summit on Social Development (WSD) provided vast opportunities for the exploration of strategic alliances among NGOs and other institutions of civil society. PRIA participated in NGO consultations, dialogues and its regional and international advocacy-related activities through its membership in the People's Alliance on Social Development.

A number of contributions of the People’s Alliance in this whole process may be worth mentioning:
The People's Alliance provided arenas and mechanisms for NGOs specially from the South to articulate their positions on the core themes of the Summit, reflective of their particular contexts and experiences. None of the major NGO networks currently dominating policy influencing activities within the UN system managed the scope and range of regional and national-level consultations in the South that the People's Alliance was able to facilitate. The People’s Alliance thus brought with it, a richer, stronger voice from the South in its participation in the Social Summit activities - this was recognised in important quarters of the Social Summit such as the UNDP, the NGO Liaison Offices of the UN, and the WSSD Secretariat.

These regional consultations provided arenas where groups from diverse persuasions interacted to advance discussions on alternative development approaches and emerging efforts towards people-centered development.

The inclusive and open character of the Alliance allowed for the possibility of working with, coordinating, even absorbing various initiatives of other NGOs and NGO networks. The Alliance was thus able to avoid problems of ‘turfing’, or unnecessary ‘competition’ with other NGOs - a phenomenon all too common in these regional and international NGO events. In Asia, particularly, where these tendencies are known to thrive, the People’s Alliance was able to effectively work with all other groups involved in the NGO preparatory processes. This provides a good starting point for building strategic alliances on social development, post-Summit.

6. The concept of ‘Civil Society’ in development gained prominence during the period specially in relation to the World Summit on Social Development. In the Asian context, there is however, a continuing need to derive conceptual clarity on the role and potential of civil society in an alternative development construct. Further, the development of institutions and formations of civil society in Asia remains uneven. More ground needs to be broken in exploring collaborative activity between institutions of civil society eg. NGOs and Media; trade unions and peasant associations etc. While there are existing initiatives in building links between civil society and business groups, these remain limited.

PRIA’s involvement in professional consultation and training with groups all over Asia, and its involvement in CIVICUS has provided several important opportunities to generate a better understanding and appreciation of civil society and has contributed to strengthened capacities within this sector.

Publication

1. Strengthening Civil Society: Contribution of support organizations in South Asia, has been printed and disseminated.