



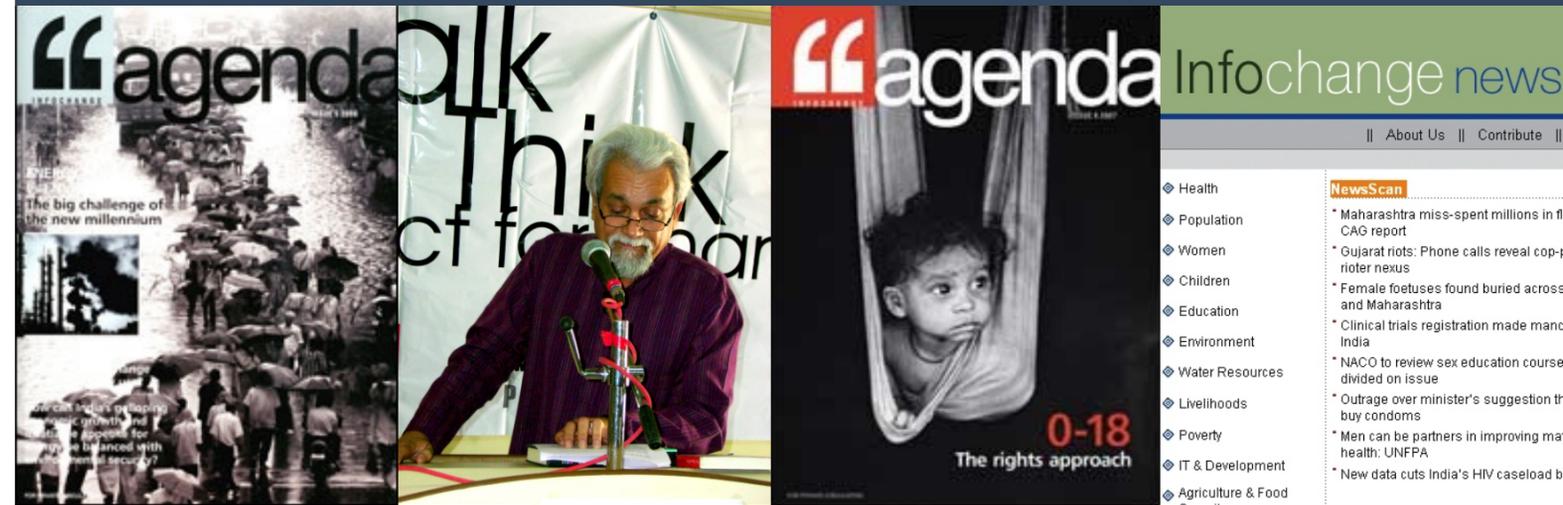
Centre for  
Communication  
and Development  
Studies

ccds



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# 2007 Annual Report

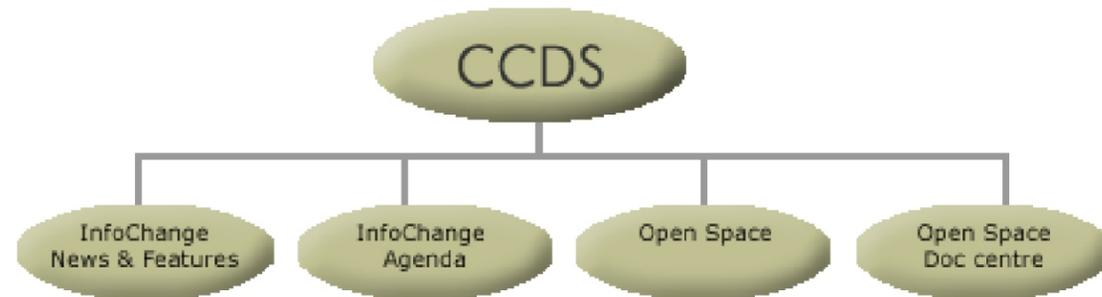


Centre For Communication and Development Studies

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## About CCDS

The Centre for Communication and Development Studies (CCDS) is a social change resource centre working at the grassroots level to strengthen civil society and citizens' action for social justice, human rights, sustainable development and accountable governance.

CCDS's primary mandate is to empower civil society with information, analysis, diverse perspectives and alternative messages, enabling citizens to: 1) assert, exercise and claim their rights, 2) participate in meaningful discussion and citizens' action, and 3) advocate change in public policy and social attitudes.

The core competence of CCDS is the use of innovative communication strategies and media advocacy to influence public policies and societal attitudes. Our civil society discussion forums, the Open Space civil society and youth outreach programme, our online resource base on social justice and development issues [www.infochangeindia.org](http://www.infochangeindia.org), the quarterly journal InfoChange Agenda, and other action-research works and publications play a crucial role in advocating issues related to sustainable development, governance, human rights and social justice.

## Programme Approach

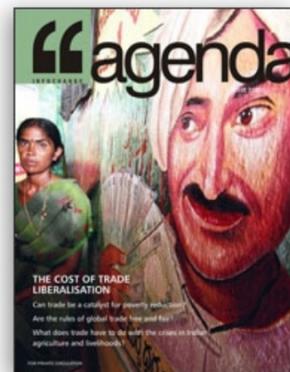
### >> Media advocacy and development communications

Through our development and social justice news website InfoChange News & Features, regular print publications such as InfoChange Agenda, and action-research, we seek to strengthen public policy debates, advocacy and action at the local, national and international levels.

The impact of our communications outreach is substantial: with approximately 1.5 million hits and over 60,000 visitors every month, [infochangeindia.org](http://infochangeindia.org) is a regular reference point for students, researchers, mediapersons, academics, policymakers and concerned citizens. It is also a regular source of information and updates on development policy and debates for people working within the development sector in India and abroad. Our content is used as training material by CSOs, and as discussion papers at seminars/conferences. Dozens of websites, including BBC and oneworld, link to, cite and reproduce our content, multiplying our reach. Our content is also regularly reprinted in print publications. This helps us reach thousands of readers beyond the Internet.

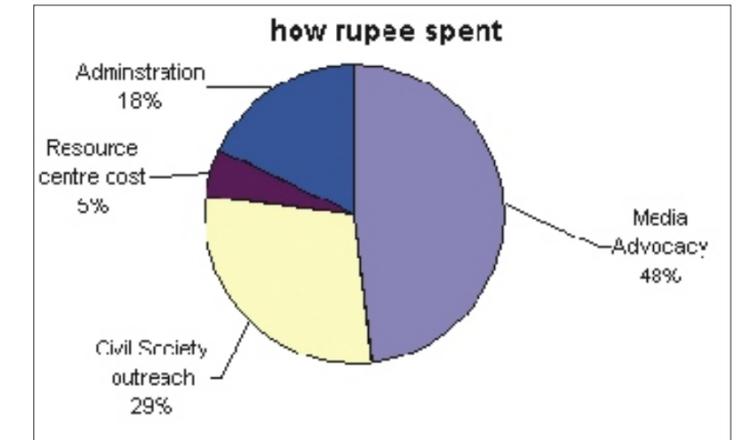
A credible and highly-regarded network of around 350 development journalists, activists and analysts have collaborated to build [www.infochangeindia.org](http://www.infochangeindia.org).

CCDS also publishes a print journal titled InfoChange Agenda, which provides detailed reportage, analysis and perspective on one topical issue every quarter. The dossier is distributed to major civil society organisations, mainstream media in English and regional languages, alternative media focusing on social justice and development issues, and a wide network of development journalists, development analysts, students and researchers. The dossiers are regularly used as discussion and background papers at seminars and as reference material for NGOs, students, researchers and mediapersons.

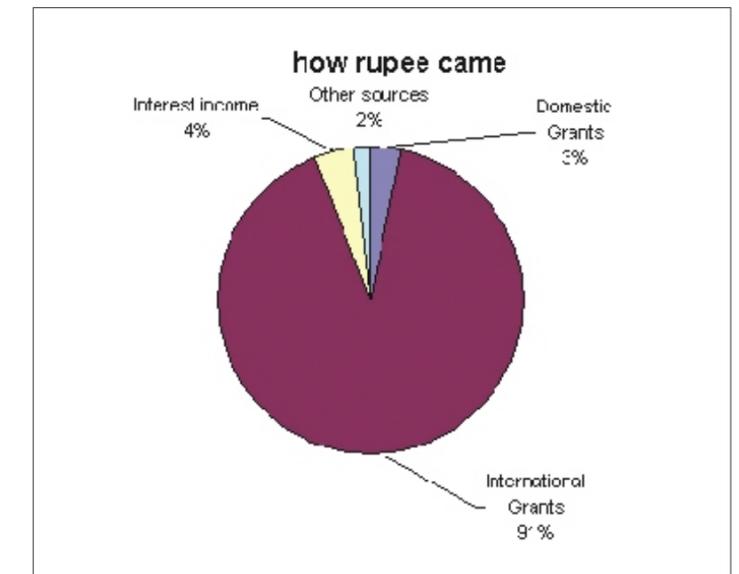


## Centre for Communication & Development Studies (2006-07)

Expenses	Rs
Media advocacy	1913432
Civil society outreach/capacity-building	1149196
Resource centre cost	204749
Administration	719805
<b>Total</b>	<b>3987182</b>



Resources	Rs
Domestic grants	144904
International grants	3794522
Interest income	172892
Other sources	68047
<b>Total</b>	<b>4180365</b>



**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (2006-07)**  
CENTRE FOR COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES  
PUNE (INDIA)

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.3.2007**

Liabilities	Amount Rs.	Amount Rs.	Assets	Amount Rs.	Amount Rs.
<b>Trust Fund &amp; Corpus</b>		-	<b>Fixed Assets (F)</b>		162,573
<b>Other Earmarked Funds</b>			<b>Current Assets, Loans &amp; Advances</b>		
Ford Foundation (Capital Expenditure) Utilized A/c [A]		477,023	Cash & Bank Balances (C)		2,479,223
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Grant in AID [B]		1,935,799			
Library Deposit		16,000			
Others		39,350			
<b>Income &amp; Expenditure A/C</b>					
Opening Balance	(19,559)				
Add. : Surplus for the year	193,183	173,624			
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,641,796</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>2,641,796</b>

As per our report of even date

For Raghunathan D. Aiyar & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

*Raghunathan*  
Raghunathan D. Aiyar  
Proprietor

2 JUL 2007



For Centre for Communication And Development Studies

*H.S. Subh*  
Trustee



**>> Strengthening civil society and citizens' action for human rights, social justice and accountable and responsive governance**

CCDS uses a number of social mobilisation strategies for civil society outreach. These include Open Space.

**Open Space is:**

- >> A convening space for discussion, debate and clarity on contemporary and topical issues that have a societal impact;
- >> A forum and facilitator for citizens' action, networking and campaigning;
- >> A creative space for expression;
- >> A learning space that conducts training, workshops and seminars for students, activists and citizens and houses a library of books, journals and documentary films.

Open Space facilitates and coordinates several college clubs, student forums, grassroots campaigns, film festivals, public lectures and workshops to build public awareness and commitment towards social justice, human rights, pluralism, diversity and social harmony. Open Space promotes advocacy to make public services more effective, accessible and affordable to the poor and marginalised. It employs and develops diverse communication tools and methods (eg films, theatre, music concerts, literature, art, pamphlets, booklets, posters etc) for effective civil society outreach.

Open Space currently has over 3,000 registered members in Pune, the majority of them students. Open Space has reached out to thousands more through public lectures, campaigns, citizens' forums, college festivals, campus clubs, film festivals, concerts, book launches and literary events. Open Space has facilitated outreach programmes for many partner CSOs, and has institutional tie-ups with several leading educational institutions.

**CENTRE FOR COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES  
PUNE (INDIA)**

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.3.2007**

EXPENDITURE	SCH	Amount Rs.	INCOME	SCH	Amount Rs.
To Project Expenses	D	3,939,426	By Grant in Aid	B	3,939,426
To Depreciation	F	45,969	By Income From other Sources	E	68,047
To T.D.S		1,737	By Bank Interest	G	172,892
To Bank Charges		50			
To Surplus for the year C/f to B/s		193,183			
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,180,365</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>4,180,365</b>

As per our report of even date

For Raghunathan D. Aiyar & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

*Raghunathan*  
Raghunathan D. Aiyar  
Proprietor  
M.No. 034018  
Place : Pune  
Date: 12 JUL 2007



For Centre for Communication And Development Studies

*H.S. Subh*  
Trustee



**>> Capacity-building of civil society organisations and youth on issues of social justice, human rights and sustainable development**

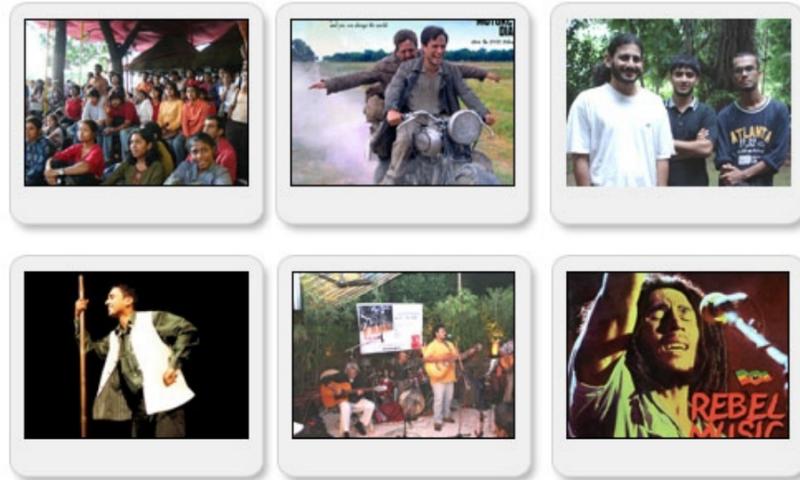
Our capacity-building programmes seek to build perspectives, knowledge and skills in different areas. They focus on urban middle class youth, concerned citizens and grassroots civil society organisations.

Within the broad focus areas of social justice, human rights and sustainable development, our capacity-building sessions are on diverse issues from the right to information and citizens' participation in urban governance, to the use of the law to effect social change. We train youth through activity-based workshops to understand issues related to gender, sexuality, diversity, human rights and globalisation.

Our capacity-building modules have focused strongly on development communications and media advocacy. We have conducted a series of workshops on theatre and street theatre, appreciating cinema and making digital films for social change. We work closely with media schools, providing their students with perspectives on development and rights issues, and media handling of these issues.



## Key Achievements in 2006-2007



### CIVIL SOCIETY OUTREACH

#### >> Youth Festival: Himmat 2006

Open Space held its first city-wide youth festival on July 27-29, 2006. The theme was Protest, and the power of youth to impel social change. Two discussion forums -- on reservations in education and youth and social change -- were moderated by sociologist Rahul Srivastava and actor Rahul Bose. Films on Bob Dylan, Che Guevara and Bob Marley were screened. We organised a poetry reading at the popular Mocha coffee shop, a concert of protest music by Pune's leading bands at the popular venue Shisha Cafe, performances of the award-winning 'Butter and Mashed Bananas', a play about censorship and freedom of expression by a group of 20-something theatrepersons from Bangalore, as well as Ramu Ramanathan's critically-acclaimed 'Mahadevbhai' about Mahatma Gandhi. The festival was totally non-commercial, with entry free at all venues, and multiple collaborations with ILS Law College, Symbiosis Law College, FTII, University of Pune's Lalit Kala Kendra, Mocha and Shisha Cafes etc. Over 2,000 young people across the city participated in the festival. A team of dedicated volunteers, who had participated in our three-month-long Young Human Rights Defenders Programme, coordinated the festival.

#### >> Sahitya Akademi-Open Space national literary seminar: The Writer and the World

The Sahitya Akademi-Open Space seminar on the Image of the Writer in Literature in February 2007 explored the role of the writer as subverter, protester, chronicler and catalyst of social change. The seminar was held at Fergusson College. Entry was open to all, and the seminar was well-attended by students of literature, writers, poets, artists and others. Papers were presented in the morning sessions for two days. Evenings were reserved for readings and interactions with the delegates. Open Space's second volume of poetry 50 Poets 50 Poems was launched at the seminar by Baby Haldar, celebrity author of A Life Less Ordinary (soon to be published in 22 languages), the story of a child marriage, subsequent oppression, and eventual assertion of rights.

Delegates at the seminar included Keki Daruwalla, award-winning poet, Temsula Ao, Padma Shri award-winning poet and writer from Shillong, Randhir Khare, poet, writer and academic, GJV Prasad, poet, writer and professor of life and literature at JNU, New Delhi, Anju Makhija, poet and playwright, Sridala Swamy, film editor, poet and children's writer, Arshia Sattar, Sanskrit scholar, translator, writer, and Open Space Programme Consultant, Priya Sarukkai Chabria, poet and writer and editor of Open Space's Talking Poetry programme, Urvashi Butalia, writer, publisher and co-founder of Kali for Women, and Mamang Dai, writer and journalist from Arunachal Pradesh.

#### >> Anti-bribery/RTI campaign

In July 2006 Open Space anchored a 10-day campaign in Pune, as part of the nation-wide anti-bribery campaign organised by NDTV and coordinated by Arvind Kejriwal of Parivartan. The campaign aimed to fight corruption at government and semi-government levels through effective use of the Right to Information Act. As the Pune partner of the campaign, Open Space mobilised 18 volunteers comprising of young college students and professionals, as well as retired senior citizens, to man the counters and guide citizens on the uses of RTI, and the process of filing applications. Our volunteers ran the counters for ten days at the Bharati Vidhyapeet Hall. Helpline booths provided information in Hindi, English and Marathi. A total of 524 people approached the counters in Pune over 10 days and 101 applications under RTI were filed.

## Media Advocacy

### InfoChange News & Features

www.infochangeindia.org has seen a sharp growth of readership in the course of this financial year, from roughly 40,000 visitors a month last year to over 60,000 visitors every month. www.infochangeindia.org has become a regular reference point for many online encyclopaedia/reference portals such as the Wikipedia. Scores of our articles are cited and linked on these sites. We are also seeing an increasing number of our articles quoted and linked on the blogs of students and researchers. All of these developments have boosted our Google/search engine rankings to a great extent, and today, www.infochangeindia.org content is ranked in the top ten or twenty of most searches on social justice issues in India. This, in turn, brings more readers to our site.

### Statistics for the year (April 2006 to March 2007)

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Apr 2006	30090	44061	140604	1206517	11.73 GB
May 2006	32045	45816	122232	1231440	10.20 GB
Jun 2006	33737	48456	120921	1307447	10.78 GB
Jul 2006	31507	46008	121836	1213577	10.92 GB
Aug 2006	37023	55741	153652	1459117	16.10 GB
Sep 2006	38310	57380	146644	1490239	15.56 GB
Oct 2006	40122	59044	163916	1546585	16.72 GB
Nov 2006	41416	60979	180580	1594423	17.85 GB
Dec 2006	28162	40599	110816	991470	10.15 GB
Jan 2007	43708	63618	185197	1579348	12.11 GB
Feb 2007	39746	57722	170738	1416793	10.28 GB
Mar 2007	43803	65639	194910	1575381	11.82 GB
<b>Total</b>	<b>439669</b>	<b>645063</b>	<b>1812046</b>	<b>16612337</b>	<b>154.22 GB</b>

Major new editorial additions on www.infochangeindia.org have included the construction of a comprehensive section on Trade & Development and Globalisation. These provide background and perspective on the impact of liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation in India. A sub-section on Intellectual Property Rights forms part of this package of content. Importantly, www.infochangeindia.org also provides stories from the grassroots that illustrate the impact of liberalisation on the lives of people. Several other contemporary debates related to trade and development, including the SEZs debate, have been extensively covered on infochangeindia. A special series on globalisation by Aseem Shrivastava has also been uploaded.

### InfoChange Agenda

Three volumes of our dossier were published in this financial year:

#### >> Climate change: Energy Vs Environment

Articles focused on balancing economic growth and energy needs with environmental security, the science and politics of climate change, the impact of climate change on Orissa's submerged villages, CDMs, hydropower, nuclear power, natural gas, the future of renewable energies.

#### >> Hunger and food security

Increasing food insecurity in South Asia, hunger amidst relative plenty, the calorie-poverty debate, nutrition and health, famines, the agricultural crisis, food distribution, food procurement, food rights, the right to food campaign, gender and food rights, government policy.

#### >> The cost of trade liberalisation

Can trade be a catalyst for poverty reduction? Are the rules of global trade free and fair? Can there be trade on human terms? What does trade liberalisation have to do with the crisis in agriculture and livelihoods? Case studies on cotton in Vidarbha, coconut farmers in Kerala, the fishing industry, impact of IPR on medicines, SEZs etc.

The dossiers have been extremely well-received, widely circulated at seminars and discussion forums, widely referred to by the mainstream and development media, and distributed at venues such as the India Social Forum. Each volume is a valuable collection of data and analysis by some of India's best-known writers and development analysts.

### >> 101 Films, 101 Filmmakers

In a time-based film competition in January 2007, CCDS, in collaboration with the Genesis Film Project, invited 101 aspiring filmmakers to make a short film on 101 NGOs in Mumbai within a limited time period of 101 hours. The event attempted to support the process of documentary filmmaking as well as introduce young filmmakers to the issues and concerns of the social sector. It also enabled NGOs to get a short film made on their work. The films were shot from January 2-6, 2007, with the filmmakers randomly allotted NGOs. 101 teams, including teams from all the leading media schools in Mumbai, participated in the competition. Twenty-five of the best films were screened at a premier multiplex in Mumbai on January 9, 2007, when a panel of judges awarded prizes to the five best teams.

### >> Films++: A festival of films on HIV/AIDS

Open Space organised a 2-day HIV/AIDS film festival in June 2006 in Pune and Bangalore. The festival showcased a package of audio-visual media, including feature films, documentaries, PSAs, shorts and music videos, raising questions about access to treatment, public healthcare, patents, community interventions, discrimination against positive people, etc. The Bangalore festival was held in coordination with ActionAid and was attended by college students, activists and communications specialists working with HIV messaging. The festival traveled to Chennai in December in coordination with Tamil Nadu AIDS Solidarity Action.



### >> Himat: Travelling South Asian Film Festival

In August 2006, Open Space brought a selection of Himat: Travelling South Asian Film Festival to Pune. The non-fiction films covered a range of political, economic and cultural themes and issues concerning South Asia. The films were screened at the Film and Television Institute of India. The festival was attended by a diverse audience, comprising of film students from FTII, the law colleges, Fergusson college, Karve Institute of Social Work, amateur and documentary filmmakers and others.

### >> Screening and discussion of Amol Palekar's Quest

Open Space invited members of CSOs working with alternative sexuality and STDs, gay activists, communications specialists, filmmakers and others to a screening of Quest at a popular multiplex, followed by a discussion with the filmmakers. The discussion focused on media representations of gay relationships, gender roles, stigma, alienation, discrimination and human rights.

### >> Screenings on sexuality

In November 2006 Open Space collaborated with the Samabhavana Society, Pune, to discuss the effective use of the audio-visual media in disseminating messages about HIV/AIDS and sexuality to mass audiences. Three short films produced by Samabhavana Society, and a cluster of PSAs, one music video and one animation film were screened and discussed by communications experts from the print and audio-visual media and doctors, activists, lawyers working on issues related to sexuality and HIV/AIDS.

### >> Screenings on urban transport

In collaboration with the Pune Traffic and Transportation Forum, OS screened films highlighting citizens' initiatives in different parts of the world Amsterdam, Bogota, Copenhagen -- to evolve alternative models of transport and prevent further degradation of urban spaces. Urban transport is a critical issue in Pune. Screenings were followed by discussion with environmentalists and local campaigners.

### >> Existence & Resistance: Exploring Alternatives

Open Space organised documentary film screenings in December 2006 at Sameeksha, the annual festival of the Social Work Students' Forum at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. The screenings were coordinated by our student volunteers.

### >> Other Worlds are Breathing Film Festival

These were films addressing the political, economic, social and cultural alternatives to neoliberal capitalism, screened at the World Social Forum (WSF) 2005 in Porto Alegre. Open Space screened the entire package of 22 documentary films from December 20th to December 24th, 2006.

### >> Seven Islands and a Metro

In February 2007 Open Space organised a public screening of Madhusree Dutta's recently released documentary film, which uses a tapestry of fiction, cinema vérité, art objects, found footage, sound installation and literary texts to explore the Bombay of closed mills, sprawling slums, real estate onslaughts, and numerous ghettos. The filmmaker presented and discussed the film.



### >> Reading of Sufi Poetry

In September 2006, Open Space launched the book Seeking The Beloved, Sufi poetry by Shah Abdul Latif, translated by Anju Makhija and Hari Dilgir. Makhija, theatre personality Tom Alter and poet Priya Sarukkai Chabria read selections from the book and discussed the essence and philosophy of Sufi poetry.

### >> Open Space Pamphlet Project

Our experiments with new ways of reaching out to civil society, particularly youth, continue with the Open Space Pamphlet Project. These are designed as poster-size publications with bright, youthful graphics and text on issues of concern to youth. The first pamphlet was distributed at our youth festival Himmat. It provided the festival schedule on one side and an essay on the power of youth to change their environment on the reverse. The second pamphlet is about Coming to the City, and deals with the apprehensions, dreams and aspirations that bring young people to the big city.

### >> 50 Poets, 50 Poems

Following the success of our last publication, 'All Poetry is Protest', which drew poems from the Talking Poetry section of our website [www.openspaceindia.org](http://www.openspaceindia.org), we have published our second volume of poetry, '50 Poets, 50 Poems'. Fifty of India's leading poets have contributed a poem each, in support of our initiative to take poetry to a wider audience. The volume was launched at the Open Space-Sahitya Akademi seminar in Pune.

## CAPACITY-BUILDING

### Human Rights Education Initiative (HREI)

The HREI conducted the following workshops and trainings in this financial year:

- >> Social Movements and Human Rights Law for post-graduate students of a) Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Social Work; b) Pune University, Department of Sociology; c) Pune University, Department of Political Science
- >> Introduction to Human Rights for 1st year students of ILS Law College
- >> Human Rights Campaigning for members of Right Now, an organisation formed by law students
- >> Politics, State Sovereignty and Human Rights for post-graduate students from the Department of Political Science, Pune University
- >> Violence against Women and the Criminal Justice System, with close to 100 participants at the Edict Conference, Symbiosis Law College
- >> Human Rights Guarantees and Legal Action for the students of the Human Rights Diploma, ILS Law College
- >> Sexuality and Human Rights, for social work and development studies students at TISS, Mumbai
- >> Human Rights and Social Movements, for students of ILS Law College
- >> Young Human Rights Defenders workshops for volunteers of Right Now, a body of law students

### Course on social change communications

CCDS designed and conducted a course on social change communications for master's students of the Symbiosis Institute of Mass Communication, Pune, ranked among the top five media institutions in India. The semester-long course introduced around 60 first-year students to important debates about social justice and the role of the media. The course combined lectures, class discussions, assignments, evaluations, presentations and documentary film screenings. The course was coordinated by Sharmila Joshi, former Senior Assistant Editor, Hindustan Times. Resourcepersons included editor of Communalism Combat, Javed Anand, environmental campaigner and writer Sanjay Sanghvi, RTI activist Shailesh Gandhi, researcher and activist Neera Adarkar, women's rights activist Kiran Moghe, and Amitabh Behar, director of the National Centre for Advocacy Studies.

### Theatre workshop

In collaboration with Company Theatre (Bombay), and facilitated by Sujay Saple, of Company Theatre's Evam Youth Forum, the workshop was held simultaneous to Ratan Thiyam's Chorus Repertory Theatre festival in Pune. Participants attended the Thiyam performances and discussed with Nirmala Ravindran, Special Correspondent (arts and culture) of India Today, questions on political theatre, the artist as activist, and the links between politics and art.



### Globalisation workshop

The week-long workshop explored the historical, institutional and intellectual roots of globalisation, the experience of globalisation since 1991 in India, and the challenges and dangers of globalisation. The workshop was conducted by Dr Aseem Shrivastava, who has a doctorate in Economics from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, taught economics at universities in India and the US for many years and most recently taught Philosophy at Nordic College, Norway. The workshop was attended by students of economics and law, activists and campaigners, a professor of English literature, a journalist, a writer/artist and three members of the faculty from a leading law school in Pune.

