



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

—Margaret Mead

# SHEHRI

May - August, 2002 Vol. 12/No. 2

## INSIDE

- Consumer Woes
- Shehri Activities
- Gutter Baghicha
- Pakistan's Economy
- WSSD
- Eco-regions

## KESC TARIFF INCREASE: CONSUMERS CRY FOUL!

The Karachi Electric Supply Corporation (KESC) recently increased tariffs despite strong citizens protest. *Shehri-CBE* and the *Liberal Forum Pakistan* assess the sorry tale of an organization which demands from the citizens to subsidize the cost of its inefficiency and mismanagement

The citizens of Karachi (and the rest of Pakistan) will be further adversely and economically affected by an unjustified increase in KESC tariffs. Admittedly, the electricity rates in Pakistan are already the highest in the region.

- d) Utility company that has been run into the ground with uncontrolled theft of electricity, in collusion with the utility company staff (?)

### KESC: A Profile

- Natural monopoly, whose actual public duty is to provide an essential service at an equitable price and of an acceptable quality: in this, it has failed miserably in recent years.
- Bloated technocracy, overstuffed, poorly managed, subject to pressures by worker's unions and officers associations, and tainted with corruption.
- Technically weak, with inadequate / inappropriate installation, operation and maintenance practices that are progressively worsening.



Electrocuting the consumers!

kunda connections, bypassing or tampering with meters etc.

## KESC Wins: Consumers Lose!

The KESC's projected performance over the next ten years is:

	2002	2012
Demand	1.9GW	2.9GW
Energy generated	11.6 GWh	16.9 GWh
KESC generation	1.3 GW	1.8 GW
Import from WAPDA	0.5 GW	1.5 GW
Import from IPP's	0.2 GW	0.2 GW
Energy losses	40.1%	19%
Revenue	Rs. 31.1 billion	Rs. 98.1 billion
Expenditure	Rs. 48.0 billion	Rs. 87.2 billion
Profit/(Loss)	(Rs. 17.1 billion)	Rs. 6.9 billion
Average tariff	Rs. 4.43/kWh	Rs. 7.05/kWh

This rosy picture is based on phenomenal tariff increases, and is being developed to make the privatization of the KESC more palatable to prospective bidders. □

(Source: KESC)



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**EDITORIAL**

**KCR: May its soul rest in peace!**

**A**s the President, Chief Executive and Chief of the Army Staff of Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf, on his recent visit to Karachi, was whisked through the streets amidst the tightest of security arrangements, with the Shahr-e-Faisal depicting a curfew zone, he would not have had the occasion to experience getting lodged amidst the roaring mini buses, rickshaws, taxis, to put his hands on his ears to block the pressure horn music as trapped commuters transfer their frustrations on each other, to witness the hundreds upon hundreds of public transport users jumping in and falling off like kamikazes from the zig-zagging minibuses - in short, he would have missed being part of a normal everyday traffic scene in Karachi!

It was therefore no wonder when later in the day, seated in the leafy and peaceful environs of the Governor House, he calmly buried the much-awaited *Karachi Circular Railway Revitalization Project*. One wonders whether a Fateha was recited on the occasion! For the last thirty years, the people of Karachi have been patiently waiting for the initiation

of an efficient, affordable and clean mode of rapid public mass transit system in Karachi. Hundreds of proposals, feasibility reports and *high level* presentations down the road, the ordinary man of the city still arrives at his workplace everyday with half his energies and most of his good humor drained during his unfortunate journey from home to workplace. Whether he changed two separate buses or three, whether he hanged from the bus door or sat on its roof, whether he arrived fifteen minutes late or half an hour late, the cumulative effect on his health and efficiency is the miserable same.

It is now beyond the point arguing whether it was the transport mafia or the petro mafia or the corrupt bureaucracy which successfully laid to waste another public interest project. However, the city and the people of Karachi at least deserved to be spared any further insult of their intelligence and goodwill. Sadly, we were not that fortunate. Another hapless generation of Karachites are now offered a new toy to keep them happy - hail the *Magno Train!* □



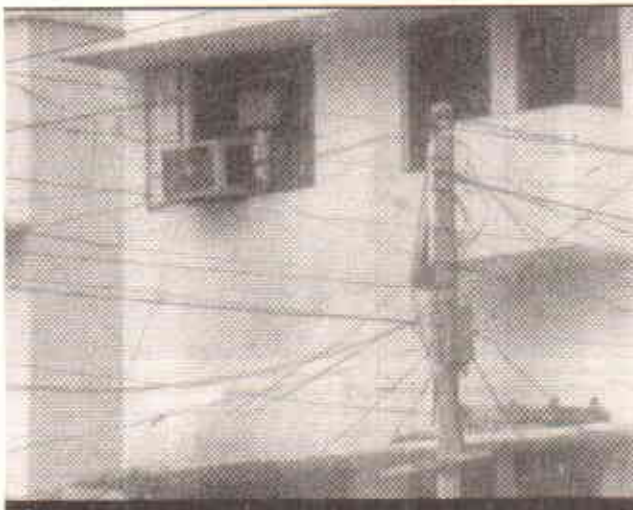
e) Presently (and for the past few years) being run by the military who seem to be almost as helpless as civilians in stemming the rot, reducing theft, or improving the overall situation

of IPP's and WAPDA, etc)

f) High prices of electricity negotiated by corrupt governments with IPP's (e.g. Bangladesh is paying only US\$ 0.03/kWh to IPP's)

Consequently, inefficiency and imprudence of management is causing cost of electricity supply to rise; theft of electricity is making these high costs double for those who actually pay, and the utility sits back and takes the easiest way out-It files a petition with National Electric & Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) for price increases! This luxury of mismanagement is not available to the private sector, which has to remain lean and mean in order to compete and survive in the market.

g) High prices of fuel negotiated



Power theft: Is it accounted in any of the KESC grandiose plans?

by corrupt governments with international suppliers

quote. In its determination dated 23-6-2001, NEPRA has directed WAPDA to simplify the tariffs:

To provide within a period of one month the justification for the separation of variable charges into surcharge and additional surcharge appearing in the bills of consumers.

This has not been done in the KESC tariffs.

Earlier, NEPRA had granted KESC (and WAPDA) an automatic tariff adjustment formula based on fluctuations in cost of fuel, so that changes in prices could be passed onto the consumer. We understand that KESC's quarterly submissions for such adjustments (when fuel prices reduce) are not being made on time and that the corresponding notifications of NEPRA determinations are being delayed by the government in order to benefit the utility.

While increase in tariff requires demonstration of prudence on the part of KESC, the alternative (i.e., borrowing from the GOP to keep the company afloat) does not seem to require demonstration of prudence. However, the consumer/taxpayer is footing the bill in either case. Where is the incentive for the KESC to improve itself?

### The Way Forward

The tariffs must be restructured and simplified to:

- a) Reduce (and eventually eliminate) all cross-subsidies, based on cost-of-service study.
- b) Protect consumer against monopolistic and oligopolistic prices

### The Financial Mess

The financial losses being sustained by KESC are primarily due to:

- a) Non-recovery of substantial arrears (from central / provincial / local governments and institutions, private parties, etc.)
- b) Enormous amount of power theft, through kundas and meter tampering/bypass etc.
- c) Unacceptably high technical transmission and distribution losses
- d) Costs of a profligate utility staff
- e) Improper operation and maintenance practices (e.g., economic dispatch, availability / de-rating of plant, optimum utilisation

The KESC outstanding arrears / receivables / trade debt, presently exceeds Rs. 13.5 billion. Recovery of this amount should solve some of their financial problems.

- a) The tariff structures of KESC and WAPDA are not identical, and substantial differences exist: whether or not these and the tariff structures should be identical, and why, is not clear.
- b) But the tariff structure is not rational, as most increases over the past decade have come in the form of surcharges or additional surcharges, which are levied on kWh consumption. The fixed/demand charges, which are meant to compensate for the utilities' capital investment in-generation/transmission/distribution equipment, are inadequate



## KESC POWER DISPATCH CRITERIA

S. No	Power Plants	Energy Cost PS. KWh	Fixed Cost PS. KWh	Total Cost PS. KWh
<b>A.</b>	<b>KESC Generation</b>			
	Bin Qasim TH. P. STN	232.55		
	Korangi Thermal	241.58		
	Korangi Gas Turbine	283.39		
	SITE Gas Turbine	281.08		
	Average	236.38		
<b>B.</b>	<b>Purchases</b>			
	KANUPP	286.54		
	PASMIC	226.41		
	Tapal	273.99	195.58	469.57
	Gul Ahmed	262.96	205.29	468.25
	WAPDA	337.11		

(Source: KESC)

c) Encourage efficiency in KESC operations and quality of service

d) Eliminate / convert all arbitrary surcharges and additional surcharges.

Any effective (*resultant*) increase in revenue should only have been approved by NEPRA after the KESC had:

a) Recovered its outstanding arrears/receivables.

b) Reduced transmission/distribution (*technical*) losses to acceptable levels (*say around 15%*)

c) Reduced theft to virtually zero

d) Improved maintenance and operation of their entire system

e) Reduced staff and overtime, and increased overall efficiency of the utility

f) Re-negotiated inflated power-purchase agreements with IPP's

g) Re-negotiated proper fuel prices with international suppliers

This is not asking for much: it is merely requiring the utility company to perform prudently. Efficiency of operation/production is a normal requirement of consumers for the products and ser-

vices they purchase in the open market. All the above steps translate into lower electricity costs for the consumers.

The elimination of cross-subsidies is becoming more urgent. Owing to high tariffs for commercial and industrial consumers, more and more of these consumers are turning to self-generation captive power systems (*some as small as 300 kW, many based on HSD fuel*). This is increasing environmental pollution in Karachi.

The KESC must be required to reduce their so-called financial losses by reducing expenditure, and not by increasing income/tariffs. □



## SHEHRI NEWS

### Is anyone listening?

*Shehri-CBE identifies and discussess some issues important to protecting and improving the natural and physical environment of Karachi city and asks the concerned authorities to do the needful*

#### Proper Utilization of Karachi Central Prison land

As responsible citizens of this metropolis, we wish to bring the following to the attention of those concerned.

1. Prison land is amenity land, and conversion to non-amenity use is prohibited under KDA Order No. 5 of 1957 and the Sindh Building Control Ordinance 1979 Regulations.
2. The 59-acre plot and some of the buildings thereon, constructed in 1899, have considerable heritage/historical value. Leaders of the Pakistan Movement, including Maulana Mohammad Ali Johar and Shaukat Ali, were imprisoned in these premises.
3. Proper town and master-planning of urban areas requires adequate amounts of open spaces, including parks and playgrounds. (For relevant figures, see box)

4. The previous Karachi Building & Town Planning Regulations 1979 required that amenities (which include parks, playgrounds and open spaces) shall be 12% of urban space. The recently notified Karachi Building & Town Planning Regulations 2002 have land allocation requirements of parks at 5% and playgrounds at 5% of urban space.

5. Internationally, standards dictate park/playground standards of 6 to 10 acres (0.024 to 0.04 km<sup>2</sup>) per 1000 population. Karachi fails miserably on this count, having less than 0.3 acres (0.0012 km<sup>2</sup>) per 1000 population. Consequently, the health and well-being of the communities / citizens is adversely affected, and law and order problems are exacerbated.

6. Karachi, particularly the densely populated areas surrounding the Central Prison, like Gulshan-e-Iqbal, PECHS, KCHS Union, Jamshed Quarters, Azizabad, PIB Colony, etc

desperately need a Central Park.

On behalf of the citizens of this beleaguered metropolis, we Shehri-CBE give an urgent call to retain the amenity character of the Karachi Central Prison space and convert it to a Central Park. □

★★★★

#### Proposal of High-rise Corridors (Shahrah-e-Faisal and I. I Chundrigar Road)

It is not the function of the Karachi Building Control Authority to undertake town-planning/zoning exercises or to amend the existing schemes (KMC, KDA, Federal Societies, KPT, etc.) The KBCA does not have the requisite planning expertise.

Establishment of high-rise zones (or corridors) is a town/master planning exercise that has numerous technical implications involving utilities (water, electricity, sewerage, gas), infrastructure, social amenities, traffic movements, transport facilities, etc.

Unless these are properly accounted for, chaos, congestion and public nuisance will result and the built environment will deteriorate.

Over the past two or three decades, the arbitrary increase in plot ratios (from 1:3 to 1:6 on I.I.Chundrigar Road, and from 1:0.66

	New York	Singapore	Karachi
Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	3,298	1,165	1,722
Population (million)	14.6	4	11
Density (person/km <sup>2</sup> )	4,427	3,433	6,388
Open/park/playgrounds space	12%	10%	>1%

to 1:4 on *Shahrah-e-Faisal*) has resulted in electricity breakdowns, parking/traffic confusion, noise/air pollution, and nuisance for residential neighbours that we witness today. Additionally, adhoc land-use changes, declaration of roads as *commercial*, granting of additional floors, etc. has ruined the planning of this metropolis.

To cite some examples, *Saima Trade Towers* on Chun-drigar Road has been given a mindboggling plot-ratio of 1:16.5 where the land-grant conditions dictate only 1:3, and the regulations mandate 1:6; *Fortune Towers* on *Shahrah-e-Faisal* has been given a plot-ratio of 1:4, where the land-grant conditions dictate 1:0.66, the regulations mandate 1:3, and the builder is allowed to illegally over-construct upto 1:13.5, thus choking the city.

A survey must be made by the government of the opinions and problems already being faced by residents of the second, third and further residential plots away from the main road, that have been caused by the illegal high-rises on *Shahrah-e-Faisal*.

The citizens loss of privacy, the overload/shortage of utilities, the commercial parking in the residential side lanes and service lanes (*with vehicle obstruction of private gates/driveways*), the noise/air pollution from generators and air-conditioning plants, the intrusion of strangers into formerly peaceful and secure residential neighbourhoods, etc., are some of the problems that constitute the tip of the iceberg.

Such unplanned and adhoc densification gives rise to other related problems: police stations being

illegally established on parks and open spaces, schools/hospitals being setup on residential plots, children playing cricket dangerously on the roads, etc.

Numerous laws (*Sindh Town Planning Act 1915, KDA Order 1954;*



*SLGO 2002, Environmental Protection Act 1997, etc.*) mandate detailed step-wise procedures for establishing town-planning/zoning schemes and for making changes in such schemes. All of them require details of the proposals to be published and public objections/comments to be invited and considered.

The following details are required by the citizens:

- a) Where do the high-rise corridors start and stop?
- b) What are the land-use (*commercial? residential?*) categories, plot ratios, COS, heights of structure, number of floors, etc., being proposed?
- c) How much extra electricity supply, water / drainage provisions, road traffic capacity, parking areas, other social amenities will be required? Have the utility companies (*KESC, KWSB, etc*) agreed to provide these? How is the existing shortfall going to be made good before additional

densification is allowed?

The KDA Governing Body in 1999/2000 debated the merits of *ribbon commercialization* of six roads in Karachi.

The superior courts have held in many cases (*Costa Livina, Glass Towers, KBCA vs Abdul Razzak*) that increased densification and construction of high-rises cannot be made without the prior provision of appropriate utilities and infrastructure.

Even the *Regulations 2000* in Section 18-5-1. 1 require a comprehensive urban study to be made by the MPEC before a uniform commercialization policy is formulated. Commercialization must be done in blocks as part of an *urban renewal plan* for a city area, not as adhoc *ribbon (or corridor) commercialization*. □

★★★★

### Sewage Disposal in Clifton Public Beach

**S**hehri-CBE would like to bring to the attention of those concerned, the disastrous state of affairs at Clifton Beach. While the strip in front of Sea View Apartments has been given a recent makeover by Defence Housing Authority (*DHA*), the view just round the corner presents a very different story. A sewerage drain flows right into the beach (*see pic.*) adjacent to the Sindbad Amusement Center (*previously the Casino*). This area is purely residential and more important still is frequented by thousands of picnickers who regularly throng to the Clifton Beach. The sewage seems to have



made its own channel, cutting across the beach, into the sea. At high tide, sea water and sewage become inseparable. This is truly an appalling state of affairs and we at Shehri-CBE would appreciate a few answers from the concerned authorities;



A convenient solution?

1. From where is this sewage water coming?
2. Is it raw sewage that is being dumped into the sea or is it going through some sort of treatment prior to its discharge?
3. Has the concerned authority willfully allowed the above-mentioned drain to fall into the sea or is it being illegally done?

We hope that the matter would be looked into as soon as possible as the urgency of the situation is self-evident. Not only is the drain an eyesore, it is also a potential health hazard.

Many local fishermen can be seen early morning catching fish from this polluted part of the beach. This catch will ultimately find its way onto our tables! □

★★★★

## Destroying an Eco-system

A visit-cum-presentation on the destruction of mangroves around Mai Kolachi was organised for the Karachi-based members of the Pakistan National Committee (PNC) of IUCN Members on August 27, 2002. Shehri-CBE was represented by Ms. Naila Ahmed. Mr. Tahir Qureshi of IUCN, explained how systematically the mangroves were being destroyed to make room for the Karachi Port Trust Officer's Co-operative Housing Society (KPTOCHS).

He informed the members that mangroves have a unique quality of combating the solid and liquid wastes. At present, untreated solid and liquid waste is being dumped there. The loss of this very valuable asset will disrupt the eco-system of the coastal areas and will result in serious consequences. One of them is the sedimentation in Karachi Port's navigational channel. Consequently, the port authorities will have to incur huge expenditure for the upkeep of the area on a regular basis.

Besides the Chairperson of the Pakistan National Committee of IUCN Members - Mr. Javed Jabbar - and IUCN staff, representatives of the following members were present.

National Institute of Oceanography  
Ghirkat Gah-Women's Resource Centre,  
SUPARCO;  
Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment; and  
Sindh Wildlife Department

Dr. Shahid Amjad, DG, National Institute of Oceanography provided a copy of the letter issued by the Federal Ministry of Communication, to the Chairperson of the Pak-



Gone are the mangroves!!

istan National Committee. The letter puts a stop to all development work on coastal areas of Sindh till a scientific study on the impact of such development is undertaken.

The members were also informed that IUCN had also written a letter to the Chief Executive, General Pervez Musharraf on the subject and the Chief Executive Secretariat issued directives to the Government of Sindh to look into the matter. It was also informed that the KPTOCHS had acquired a stay order from the Sindh High Court and development work was continuing unabated.

The Chairperson PNC promised to take up the matter with KPT and other relevant authorities. Shehri-CBE also adds its voice in support of the preservation of this unique eco-system. □

★★★★

## Doing an Injustice!

Recently, many English newspapers have taken to the practice of putting advertisements and public notices in their newspapers in the Urdu language!

We understand that many of the people who read such papers do not understand/read Urdu, and as such, the message will be lost to them. Some government departments and private individuals purposely put such ads (*public*



notices, tender notices, warnings, etc) in a language that is not the language of the particular newspaper so that the matter does not catch the eye of concerned individu-

als/citizens. This amounts to a *noora-kushti!*

May we request the management of such English newspapers to

desist from publishing such ads and the concerned departments to stop issuing such ads. □

## Shehri-CBE receives recognition

*Shehri-CBE members joins hands with other committed citizens / groups for the betterment of the city and its residents*

### Consumer Protection Council

The Sindh Government has constituted the Consumer Protection Council (CPC) which will get its legal strength from the Consumer Protection Ordinance and members of the Council are prominent personalities from different walks of life.

The Council's terms of reference are, to receive complaints from consumers regarding over charging, sale of adulterated eatables and other consumer products, including petroleum and its products, monopolistic tendencies on the part of manufacturers, tampering of gadgets, weight and measures, sale of underweight goods, use of old units of weights and measures.

It is the responsibility of the Council to devise ways and means to stop the sale of spurious and sub-standard products in the market. They will forward complaints to the concerned departments who will take action, interact with consumers, activate NGO's to create awareness among consumers, about their rights.

Shehri-CBE is being represented by its Chairperson, Mr. Khatib Ahmed. □

★★★★

### CONSUMER PROTECTION COUNCIL

Name	Organization
Salman Hymayun	CRCP
Khatib Ahmed	Shehri-CBE
Abdul Razak Thahim	Retired Judge
Wg. Cdr. Tahir Hasnain	The Helpline Trust
Qasim Rabbani	Invest Capital & Securities
Iqbal Nafees Khan	CDGK
Mahboob Ali	Shahri Committee
Shamoon Bakir Ali	K.C.C.I.
Murli A.	Labour, Transport Industries & Commerce Dept.
Amin Mohammad Lakhani	Lakhani Group of Companies
M. Naim-ur-Rahman	M. Naim-ur-Rahman & Associates
Tariq Rangoonwala	
Roland deSouza	C.R.C.P.
Aftab Ahmed Qureshi	Secretary, Argiculture, Livestock & Fisheries Dept.

### KBCA Beautification Committee

While KBCA has already launched its demolition campaign against the illegal/unauthorized structures in the City, Chief Controller of Building (KBCA), has taken the view that the City of Karachi should identify best buildings/structures as against those built in violation.

In appreciation of such buildings/structures, KBCA will also present PRIZES to the Buildings which fulfil certain parameters /criteria, laid-down by KBCA. The idea is to encourage those, who bring honor to the profession on

one hand and add to the beauty of our City and comfort to the occupants on the other hand.

Parameters/criteria to be followed by the Inspection Teams are as follows:-

- a. Observance of the sanctity of Building Bye-Laws.
- b. Quality and Soundness of the building.
- c. Elevations/Facade.
- d. Beauty/appeal for the viewer.
- e. Landscaping including interior and exterior plantation.
- f. Aesthetics.
- g. Functionality of spaces.
- h. Adequacy of parking spaces and other common spaces.





- i. Lighting and Ventilation.
- j. Fire escapes and fire fighting arrangements.
- k. Water and drainage arrangements.

Two competitions are being proposed.

The buildings would be examined from the point of users as well as the viewers.



Roland de'Souza, Shehri-CBE

- a. Buildings categorized on vintage.
- b. Buildings categorized by size of plot.

**Buildings categorized on vintage:-**

- a. Building constructed during last 10 years
- b. Building constructed before 10 years

**Buildings categorized by size of plot**

- a. Building having the plot size upto 600 sq.yds.
- b. Building having the plot size 601 and above.

Each committee of experts will comprise of five professionals and one representative each from the concerned Cantonment Boards.

The Committee so constituted will carry out the survey of the two roads and will primarily select buildings for further evaluation.

Thereafter shall finalize the selection of buildings in order of merit and assign 1st, 2nd and 3rd position to the buildings accordingly.

Secretary of each committee will arrange/inspection of buildings

**Shahra-e-Faisal Committee  
(A Committee) for  
buildings categorized by size of plot**

**Mr. Ardeshir Cowasjee**  
Chairman

**Architect Arshad Abdullah**  
Member

**Engineer Zaheer Mirza**  
Member

**Islamuddin Siddiqui**  
Member

**Cantonment Executive Officer  
Faisal Cantonment Board**  
Member

**Mr. Ahmed Parekh**  
**Town Nazim, Jamshed Town**  
Member

**Town Nazim, Shah Faisal Town**  
Member

**Mr. Anwar Gagai,**  
**Rep. of ABAD**  
Member

**Mr. Roland de'Souza,**  
**Shehri-CBE**  
Member

**Mr. Syed Ali Zafar Quadri,**  
**Controller of Buildings KBCA**  
Secretary

through his staff so that at least 5 members are always available.

The Chairman of each committee is requested to lay down his own parameters within the scope of the Beautification Campaign. □

Start is being made with M. A. Jinnah Road and Shahra-e-Faisal. In the first phase of competition, four committees two each for Share Faisal and M. A. Jinnah Road shall be constituted to act as jury.

## DEVELOPMENT

# Need for protecting the public interest

*Shehri-CBE, in this Special Report, chronicles the messy trail of events of two separate land management and development cases of the city to highlight the damage done to public interest through the corruption, inefficiency and mismanagement of public officials in collusion with special interest groups.*

### Gutter Baghicha: When will justice be done?

The plan to develop the Gutter Baghicha site into a national park seems to be in the doldrums.

The plan to convert the treatment site into a park was announced by the president during his referendum campaign when he visited Karachi last April. Consequently, a meeting chaired by the District Coordination Officer was held here on July 4, which discussed various aspects to implement the project.

The meeting decided to restore the area for the establishment of a park. It was also decided that the hydrants operating in the area would be surveyed, and all illegal hydrants would be closed.

The meeting also took the decision that in the first phase, the park would be developed on the available vacant land, and the development work of roads should be carried out through the Khushal Pakistan Programme (KPP), especially in front of the Site Public School.

On July 17, and 18, the city government launched a grand operation for the removal of encroachments and the dismantling of illegal hydrants, mostly operated by industrialists through Gutter Baghicha. During the two-day operation, over 50 illegal hydrants

had been dismantled.

Later, the operation was abruptly halted following a meeting of a group of industrialists with the provincial governor. The industrialists urged the government to suspend the operation for a month. The operation was halted immediately on the directive of the gover-



Gutter Baghicha: A baghicha only in name!

nor, despite the fact that the project was accorded top priority by the President.

Area residents alleged that the dismantled hydrants were once more being utilized by the industrialists with the connivance of the higher authorities. Over the years, Gutter Baghicha has become a hub of activity of the illegal hydrant operators because of the collusion of industrialists with the civilian authorities.

Despite the public hue and cry, no action has been taken against the powerful mafia, which has a roaring business going. As a result, a constant water crisis has been persisting in the residential areas of SITE Town including Old Golimar,

Pak Colony, Rexer Lane and its adjoining areas.

1. Four scams need to be tackled on a priority:
  - a) 200 acres being grabbed by KMC-OCHS for a housing scheme
  - b) 8.4 acres encroached upon by SITE & KMC for ten factories on the 200-foot road near SITE.
  - c) Establishment of a petrol pump on the 100/120-foot road through the center of the park
  - d) Hydrants and pipe-lines being established by SITE and other parties within the park
2. The Supreme Court, in Human Rights Case 6-K/1993, filed by Shehri-CBE and other community NGOs, has restrained the KMC or transferees from selling or transferring lease-hold rights on any part of Gutter Baghicha land. This order would not, however, prevent CDGK from developing park facilities on the amenity land of Gutter Baghicha land.
3. The Chief Secretary's ACC-I has, on 12-9-2001, directed cancellation of the illegal lease of 200 acres made to KMC-OCHS, and registration of FIRs against two senior KMC officers. □
 

*(Certain updates are courtesy, Daily DAWN)*

## Chronology of Gutter Baghicha

Date	Event
Circa 1890	Karachi Municipal Committee establishes <i>Sewage Farm</i> , 1017acre ( <i>Gutter Baghicha</i> ) on the Trans-Lyari Quarter to serve the 0.1 million population of the town. A 15,000-gallon tank is fed by 13 Shone ejectors located all over Karachi.
1913	<i>Karachi Handbook</i> describes Gutter Baghicha as <i>an oasis in the desert and a paradise of insects, birds and naturalists</i> . Cereals, vegetables, fruit and fodder are cultivated.
1923	Records of a Primary Sindhi School in Old Golimar show the names of children of the farm workers from Gutter Baghicha.
1947 onwards	Influxes of refugees from India settle in Old golimar and begin to encroach on Gutter Baghicha. Kachi abadis like Asif Colony, Zubair Colony, Hasrat Mohani Colony, Wilayatabad are established over the next fifty years on approximately 25% of the amenity space. Another 15 % of Gutter Baghicha is encroached upon by Haroonabad Industrial area and marble-processing workshops.
1983	Mayor Abdul Sattar Afghani proposes to establish a <i>Sports Village</i> in Gutter Baghicha and fixes a grant for this purpose in KMC budget.
03-01-93	KMC Officers Cooperative Housing Society applies for 200 acres of Gutter Baghicha land for housing. List of promoters of the illegal scheme includes GoS officials and private builders.
09-03-93	Irshad Ahmed, LG Minister, grants 200 acres of <i>waste KMC Land at Sewage Farm, Manghopir Road</i> for housing purposes to KMC-OCHS @ Rs 10/sq yd ( <i>occupancy value</i> ) and @ Rs15/sq yd ( <i>development charges</i> ). These throw-away rates violate Rule 15 of <i>Sindh People's Local Councils (Land) Rules 1975</i> .
11-03-93	KMC Council Resolution # 82 approves land lease ( <i>without auction procedure</i> ) in Gutter Baghicha to KMC-OCHS for 99 years for residential purposes. This is a violation of section 45 of SLGO 1979.
11-04-93	On summary seeking approval of the CM, Chief Secretary Syed Sardar Ahmed opines, <i>it would be unfair to convert the open park/farm into Housing Society. May be regretted</i> . This summary never reaches the CM
06-06-93	KMC advertises auctions of industrial plots in Gutter Baghicha @ Rs 1000/sq yd reserved price.
15-07-93	Without mentioning previous unfavorable remarks, fresh summary is floated to CM, by-passing CS, <i>which amounts to cheating and concealing of facts</i> .
25-07-93	GoS accords approval u/s 45(5) (i) of SLGO 1979 to KMC Council Resolution # 82 11-3-93.
19-08-93	Lease deed for 200 acres executed without receiving full payment ( <i>Rs 11 million still outstanding</i> .)
23-08-93	Shehri: CBE files Human Rights Case 6-K/93 under Article 184(3) of the Constitution against conversion of Gutter Baghicha amenity land to industrial, residential or commercial use, fearing consequential deterioration in the environment.
27-09-93	Five local/community NGOs from around Gutter Bahgicha become intervenors in HR Case 6-K/93
??-09-93	Sindh EPA recommends to the Supreme Court that a public park be established on this plot.
28-09-93	SC restrains KMC or any other transferees from transferring or selling any part of Gutter Baghicha land. The GOS is also restrained from granting approval to KMC Resolution.
14-01-94	CS Agha Shahabuddin floats a detailed summary giving all facts of the KMC-OCHS scam, and recommends: a) awaiting results of SC case, b) Cancellation of KMC-OCHS lease c) Proceedings against KMC MC and Sr. DL under E&D Rules



	d) warning to Administrator for issuing lease without payment e) withdrawal of GOS approval of scheme.
24-08-94 to 03-10-97	415 sub-leases are issued by KMC-OCHS in violation of SC stay order
15-10-96	KMC-OCHS advertises in press for leveling/development of land in Gutter Baghicha
14-06-97	KMC-OCHS signs MOU with Frontier Works Organization to develop ( <i>survey, level, demarcate, lay down infrastructure</i> ) on 200 acres in Gutter Baghicha.
31-12-97	SC extends stay/status-quo order given earlier.
??-??-98	Sindh EPA submits a report to SC on air quality at Gutter Baghicha, and suggests:  development of amenity facilities on the plot submission of an EIA under EPA 1997 protection from further encroachment on the plot monitoring of cultivation practices which are using hazardous effluent.
21-07-98	Shafi Ansari, ADL ( <i>Leases</i> ) mutates Plot #PPS-12, Sheet K-28, Trans-Lyari Quarters, Manghopir Road in favour of Abdul Haseeb Khan. This plot is located on a 120 foot road through the center of Gutter Baghicha. KDA Master Plan and Environmental Control Dept directs KBCA to have construction stopped.
??-12-98	Members of KMC-OCHS try to obtain bank loans against illegal sub-lesers. Local residents protest to State Bank.
07-03-00	FIR# 33/2000 is registered by Anti-Corruption Establishment u/s 218/34 PPC r/w Section 5(2) of Act 11 1947 against 18 SITE and KMC officials for illegal allotments to private factory owners of 8.3 acres of Gutter Baghicha amenity land.
20-03-00	The STAR exposes the scam
29-05-00	Barrister M. Naimur Rahman sends legal notices to KMC, SITE, KWSB and Pakistan Rangers about their attempts to establish water hydrants in Gutter Baghicha.
12-09-01	CS's Anti-Corruption Committee-1 directs registration case against KMC's ex-Municipal Commissioner, Alauddin Sabir, and ex-Senior Director Land & Estate, Syed Tanveer Abbas Naqvi on 200-acre Housing Society scam. KMC is directed to cancel allotment and report compliance.
20-10-01	FIR# 56/2001 is registered by Anti-Corruption Establishment u/s 409/4677A/34 PPC r/w Sec 5(2) of Act 11 1947 against the two KMC officials.
20-10-01	City Nazim Naimatullah Khan, chief guest at a Shehri: CBE seminar, strongly proclaims that Gutter Baghicha will become a <i>model central park so that the people of the vicinity can have open space for healthy activities.</i>
01-01-02	Nazim Naimatullah, during a visit to Gutter Baghicha, notices water pipe-lines being laid, and writes to SHO Pak Colony to have this illegal activity stopped.
04-05-02	CDGK floats a park-naming competition for 13 parks in Karachi. Inexplicably, Gutter Baghicha is shown as only 300 arcs!
28-05-02	President Pervaiz Musharraf at the Quaid's Mazar promises to <i>restore the glory of Karachi.</i> He commits that Gutter Baghicha will become a garden.
15-06-02	CDGK budgets Rs 10 lacs for development of Gutter Baghicha.
24-06-02	DCO Shafiq Paracha calls a meeting for the <i>Conversion of Gutter Baghicha into a Garden.</i> This is postponed to 4-7-2002
27-06-02	Shehri: CBE and community NGO representatives meet the Nazim to offer their help with the development of the Gutter Baghicha Park.

## The plight of the Gujarat Club amenity plot

The daily JANG of 18-10-2002 carried a CDGK notice, advertising the public auction of a number of plots in the city (*why has this ad not appeared in the English-language papers?*) On the list of plots to be auctioned on 26-10-2002, Plot JM 599 Jamshed Quarters, Gujarat Club, has been erroneously included.

JM 599 is an amenity plot, and its

in Jamshed Quarters. We must preserve the built environment of the city for our children and future generations.

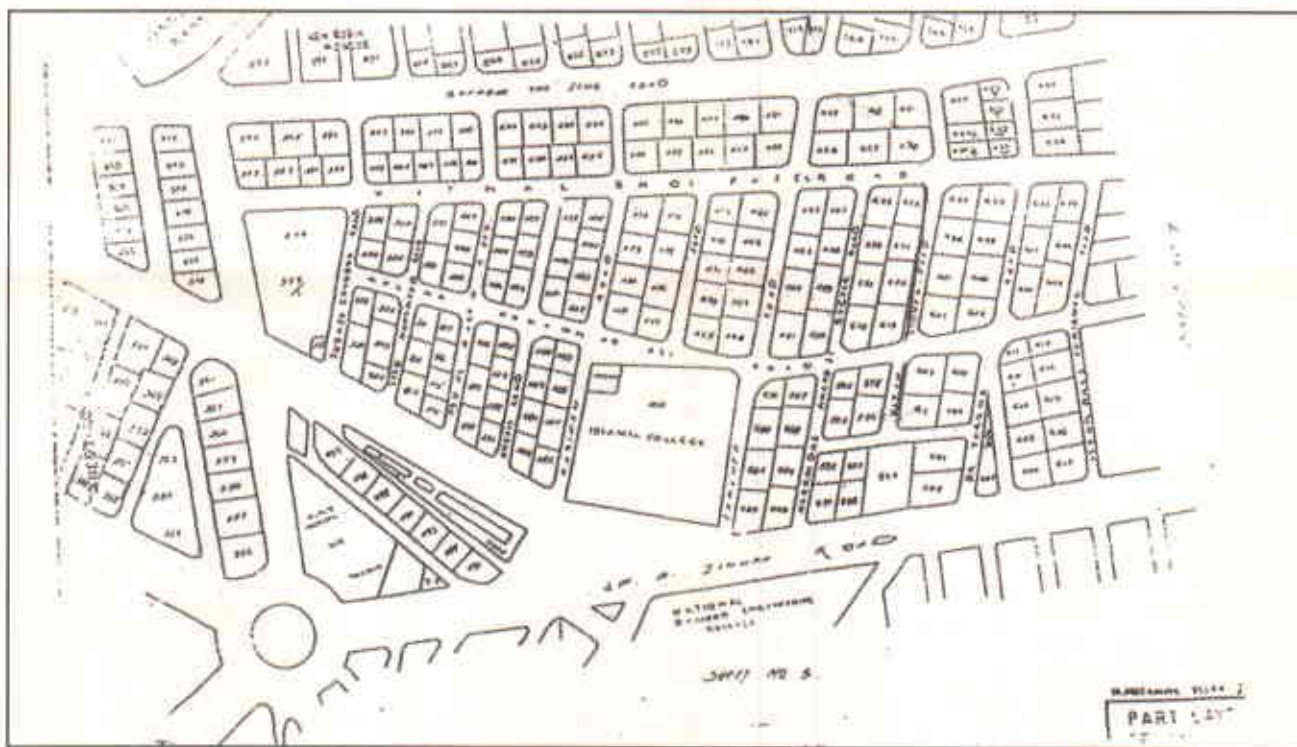
The plot cannot be commercialized/auctioned for the following reasons:

1. The area is residential, with all plots being allowed only G + 1 floors.
2. The commercialization of the plot, which is amenity in

a severe dearth of such play areas for the surrounding residents.

5. Permanent establishment on the plot of a public park/playground would be small compensation for the hundreds of parks and amenity plots that have been illegally converted over the years.

Public campaigns have also been organized in the past to preserve the amenity status of



conversion to commercial use had been strenuously opposed by citizens and residents of the area at a KMC public hearing on 9-2-98. (*See Chronology of the events*). The plot was not commercialized.

It is to be noted that the 5% playgrounds and 5% parks space required under town-planning laws is not available in Karachi or

nature, cannot be done as it contravenes the KDA Order of 1957.

3. A G + 4 floor structure would be higher than the Mazar Podium, which is a violation of the building laws.
4. The plot has been used for public amenity purpose for the past 50 years, and there is

the park in which the residents of the area and the general public of the city has enthusiastically participated.

Yet again, as this amenity plot is being threatened, citizen groups and concerned individuals are requested to participate in efforts to save this amenity plot. □



## Chronology of *Gujarat Club* amenity plot JM 599 Jamshed Quarters Near Quaid-e-Azam Mazar (2314 sq. yards)

Date	Event
Pre-1947	Plot JM 599 is being used by residents of the area ( <i>Sehwani, Cosmopolitan, Hyderabad, Fatima Jinnah, Amil, Shikarpur, and Gujarat Housing Societies</i> ) for tennis and other games
Early-1997	KMC closes down the <i>Gujarat Club</i> without any explanation
11-12-97	KMC advertises auction of plot @ Rs. 15,000/sft. reserve price suitable for a G+4 floors structure. Citizens/local residents mount a protest signature-campagin.
23-12-97	The STAR reports on the proposed illegal KMC auction. The plot is auctioned off.
05-01-98	KMC inserts public notice in the JANG for conversion of <i>residential</i> plot JM 599 into <i>commercial</i>
08-01-98	Shehri-CBE files objections to the conversion, with detailed reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* area is residential, with only G+1 residential bungalows allowed</li> <li>* amenity plot use cannot be changed (<i>Presidents Order No. V of 1957</i>)</li> <li>* G+4 floors structure would be higher than Quaid's Mazar podium</li> </ul>
12-01-98	Shehri-CBE writes to Minister L.G., Dr. Farooq Sattar, protesting the policies of the KMC and informing him that the buyer of Plot JM 599 would be willing to forgo the plot if the money is refunded by KMC
13-01-98	A number of residential neighbours file objections to <i>commercialization</i> of JM 599
09-02-98	30 + citizens and Jamshed Quarters residents register strong objections to the conversion of land-use at public hearing conducted at KMC Head Office by Municipal Commissioner, Omer Khan, and Senior Director Land, Ghulam Arif. The amenity plot is consequently returned to the KMC
18-10-02	CDGK ( <i>successor to KMC</i> ) advertises in JANG for the auction of <i>commercial</i> plot JM 599



## ***Do not auction JM 599!***

Opposite Dawood Engg. College, M. A. Jinnah Road Extension

# **Convert it into a Public Park!**

We appeal to the  
**Governor of Sindh, Fax: 9201218**  
**Chief Secretary of Sindh, Fax: 9202095**

Over the last 50 years of Pakistan, politicians and bureaucrats have commercialized and allotted/auctioned public amenity plots, including parks, playgrounds and open spaces and left this metropolis bereft of its lungs!

You can reverse this selfish trend -- for the benefit of the citizens who actually own this city of Karachi by converting government-owned open plots to parks and playgrounds!

**Start with JM 599 in Jamshed Quarters,  
near the Quaid-e-Azam's Mazar!**

Name	Address	Signature

Send this appeal directly to the numbers above, with a copy to Shehri-CBE at Phone/Fax: 453-0646



## COMMENT

# Past & future of economic growth in Pakistan

*As like any other government of the past, the present government also presents a rozy and upbeat economic balance sheet, Navaid Husain takes a critical look at the economic scene in Pakistan; past, present and future.*

Initially, Pakistan was free from loans until perhaps 1950. Since then, grants turned increasingly into loans. In the last twelve years, our loans increased by hundred percent, from \$19 billion they mounted to \$38 billion as there was a rush to gather as much and leave it to some future government to repay and if bad came to worst, face default.

In addition, people are not aware that in rupee terms there is a similar debt. In other words, we are indebted to the tune of almost \$80 billion. In addition, the local rupee loans are in the form of bonds or loans from local banks. If we fail to pay that back and instead resort to printing rupees, there will be a sharp rise in inflation.

If the respective governments had been sensible from the fifties, we could have gone in the direction adopted by China and India. The period from the fifties up to the early nineties was one where protection markets existed. Since the early nineties, this is not so. Ever since the signing of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and other articles, all countries of the world have come to setting up global markets.

In this, all custom duties will come down, whether we like it or not. It

means that if imported goods are cheaper we are forced to import them, as its cost will be lower.

In the last thirty-two years, we have had over a dozen governments in power. What it means is that if you are in power for a period of only two years you have to dip into state funds to fill your pockets. That is what happened in Pakistan.



Our economic gurus: Fooling the nation again?

In the fifties, there was a need to manufacture cars and trucks. If our government felt there was this need, it should have negotiated with two or three manufacturers to invest in Pakistan and initially assemble these cars, but through agreements over a longer period increasingly manufacture these parts within Pakistan.

The government could have assured the manufacturers that they would stand guaranteed that the amount of production will be bought by the government in case

it is not sold through the market. This was not done and over the last fifty years, various manufacturers came to Pakistan, some cars were assembled in the country and then these people closed their ventures and went back.

In China and India, although their vehicles over these years were of a lower quality than those assembled in Pakistan, they knew how to manufacture these vehicles instead of us who set up assembly plants here, manufactured a few thousand and closed down.

It is indeed a matter of shame that Malaysia with a population of 22.5 million people can manufacture Proton cars and here in Pakistan, an interesting piece of news was published; Indus Motors appealed to local car part manufactures not to manufacture parts as the prices of Toyota cars was going up. Instead, they should be imported from abroad where prices are cheaper.

It is a pity that a developing nation took the wrong step and look where we are. Now, through the WTO, there are no protective markets left, whether we like it or not. Also if we look at the television broadcasting facilities that were set up in Pakistan in the late sixties, if the government had negotiated with two or three TV





manufacturers and decided to buy perhaps thirty thousand TV sets locally assembled from these manufacturers per month. Then negotiated with them that over a long period of time they would set up assembly parts here we would have a full fledged TV manufacturing capability within Pakistan, and perhaps even export these items.

Even if the government suffered a loss in selling these off, we would have acquired the know how.

In addition, the same story for telephone instruments, faxes machines, computers, VCRs, photocopy machines, air-conditioners, stand by generators and so forth. We have very little knowledge in how these machines are manufactured. I was surprised when someone said that in Faisalabad, foreigners are flown in to repair textile manufacturing equipment in case of a breakdown! Moreover, this equipment was installed a few years back!

Recently, Singapore hosted a textile exhibition. In it were textile manufacturing plants on display that required cotton and coloured dyes at one end and if you press the *On* button, close the lights and come back at the determined time you can pack the manufactured material and ship it.

No labour or lights required as the plant operates in darkness. The question is if people are flown in to maintain this how can we operate this and what about our existing units, how will we compete against this when in three years time especially when the quota system is abolished.

We have no manufacturing knowledge of computer chip technology. Just look at imported calculating machines and see how low the prices are, some are selling for sixty rupees. This is inclusive of all profits.

**If we decide to open the economy to foreign investment then we should rethink many steps we took to drive these investors away. Foreign investment comes to calm quite countries, not places which are up in arms against a free form of life.**

all budget i.e. it amounts to forty percent. Our country is an ever growing one in terms of population. In the next 18 years, we will add as much as Germany's population! As we move up in the population index chart, we will be the third largest nation in the world.



Wasted human resource: The real face of Pakistan's economy

All one can do is to appeal to people to think of a single child family.

In addition, if we turn to agriculture, the United Nations Environment Program has issued a twenty point agenda because of global warming. A point in it says that, as a result of global warming, there will be less ice on mountain peaks. That is partly the result of the present day draughts.

If we look at the state of our two large dams Mangla and Tarbella, after four months of rain there is already reduced water flow from them. If water is drawn from them, the sediment will damage there hydro turbines. Electricity, which costs twenty paisas from this per unit, instead will be produced at oil run plants and will cost one rupee and fifty paisas! This is aside from the lack of water which agriculture so badly needs.

So if we are neither an industrial economy nor increasingly agriculture based then we are finished. Some serious thinking needs to be done. How do we get out of this endless trap? A service industry comes when we reach postindustrial levels and we are far from this. A point in question is how did



Europe and the Far East rebuilt their infrastructure after World War II?

In Tokyo, entire housing and factories were destroyed in World War II. In a matter of five years, all this was rebuilt. There was no damage of such scale caused to the Sub Continent and look at where we are. Here I appeal to people who work in various sectors to put in an extra two hours of work irrespective of what you get in return. This is what took place in the post second world war era in the Far East and in Europe. This will help in increasing our capital base.

If we decide to open the economy to foreign investment then we should rethink many steps we took to drive these investors away. Foreign investment comes to calm quite countries, not places which are up in arms against a free form of life.

Freer movement of foreigners and Pakistanis who wish to enjoy themselves, should be allowed. Here I would like to state that a poor country where there is no oil or other resources could expect no investment.

Look at Bangladesh, where foreigners sit in hotels, casually drink and conclude business deals. The Far East is a civilized place, if we look at Malaysia where interna-

tional visitors travel in the apparel they wish to wear. No steel grills on windows for protection. This is the way we should be.

Here in Karachi a sum of rupees two million was set aside for road building and for maintenance of sewers. This is a big joke! For a sum of rupees two million, one can at most build a modest house and not maintain sewers or build roads for an area which covers at least half a million people.

There are Nazims without offices. Therefore, we need to think at two levels, how

to improve the overall economy and how to get more funds for local government.

All the Nazims of major cities should lead a delegation to the Finance Minister and ask him to break up our income tax so we can have more funds for local government. What we pay to the federal government in income tax includes education, free health services, housing, unemployment benefits and pension which we do not get. Half of this should be given to the local city governments as the property tax that we pay to the local government is at most a tenth of what is paid in other countries.

These Nazims should

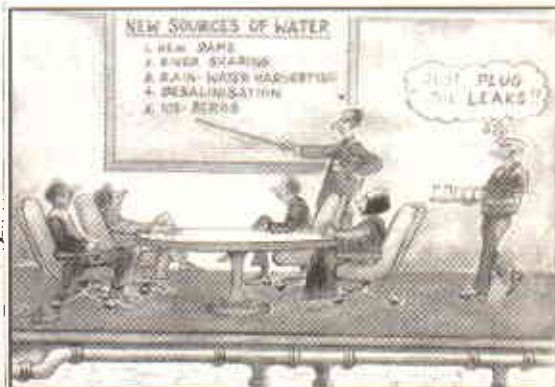
also appeal to people to come out and lend a hand at public work. After all, the whole purpose is to improve people's life. This cannot be done without the active participation of a community, which desires change yet sits and waits for it to happen. The Nazims and all their staff should perform physical labour before the entire community in order to get the community involved. In Latin America, this is how cities started to change.

We are living in a society which is largely illiterate, undergoing a population explosion, lack of industrial output, with a drug and gun culture, large-scale unemployment. There is high electrical cost, an increasing lack of drinking water (*which is practically supplied free*). There are non-existent health facilities in the country.

The country is increasingly running based on aid. Our ruling class, including our industrialists has all played havoc with our funds. If we look into the hidden list of loan seekers, we find that all the rich family's names are there. Some serious thinking needs to be addressed into economic rebuilding. □

(Navaid Husain, is Member, Managing Committee, Shehri-CBE)

**All the Nazims of major cities should lead a delegation to the Finance Minister and ask him to break up our income tax so we can have more funds for local government.**





## SUMMIT

# Oil Companies: The new partners of the United Nations

*In a critique of the Type II Partnership Initiatives undertaken in the recently concluded World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Ivonne Yanez writes about the rise of big corporate business in determining the future state of the global environment*

Ten years after the Rio Summit, we are witnesses to the fact that the agreements reached there on achieving sustainable development, have not been applied. Instead of making a commitment to their citizens, governments have instead committed themselves to business, and this is the scenario in which the United Nations and other multilateral organisations are now launching new strategies.

At the Johannesburg Summit, we are likely to see two types of concrete results. The first, Type I, will consist of a political declaration and action plan negotiated among the attending governments. The second, Type II, are global and regional partnership agreements which can be signed by governmental and non governmental bodies (including the business sector), and which involve the carrying out of the Agenda 21 Action Plan and compliance with the Millennium Declaration.

The first is an agreement according to which governments must assume major political and legal commitments within the framework of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements, in support of a global agenda aimed at the construction of an environmentally sustainable world. The second, however, the Type II *Partnership Agreements*, are being seriously questioned given that they will allow business to become a pre-

dominant actor in the implementation of sustainable societies, with a status equal to that of nation states.

These Partnership Initiatives are being presented as a solution to problems that are preventing sustainability from being achieved, such as poverty, the lack of clean



Do the corporate bosses really care about the global environment?

drinking water, the pressing need to develop clean energy alternatives, etc. They are being proposed in the context of the need to implement Agenda 21 and the Millennium Declaration.

The Partnership Initiatives transform the companies from the destroyers of the earth into its alleged saviours.

### **Type II Partnership Initiatives: A New Form of Domination**

This type of initiative is already being promoted on a local, national, regional and international level, and in various fora such as the World Food Summit, the Biological

Diversity Convention, the Climate Change Convention, the World Bank, among others. In the Johannesburg Summit, these partnerships could end up replacing the multilateral agreements and commitments already established in international law, with a patronising form of bilateral agreement between governments.

While the questioning of the Type II Partnership Initiatives focus on the content, there is also a great deal of concern about the way in which these initiatives would be carried out, and their objectives.

The Partnership Initiatives, generally agreements between unequal partners and between actors with diametrically opposed interests, propose to promote projects between companies and governments in order to meet the challenges of sustainable development, and under the justification of poverty reduction. These are the culmination of a long process of the privatisation of state enterprises and the weakening of southern governments, and are a proposal for the domestication of the desire for sustainable development, the banner of decapitalised governments.

One example of partnerships is the NEPAD, New Partnerships for Africa's Development, was launched in July 2002. The proposal, which comes from an economic and political regional elite, and



that counts on the support of the World Bank, presents international financial aid as the only option for achieving sustainable development in Africa. NEPAD has been widely criticised by African civil society for not taking into account the needs of the population, or the social, economic, cultural or political realities of each particular country.

According to Professor Yash Tandon, Director of Information and Negotiation Initiative on Southern and East African Trade, NEPAD is worse than structural adjustment because the former one has no contingency mechanisms on the social costs of its implementation, something that was foreseen, although inadequately, by World Bank programs. For NEPAD, social problems are part of the plan. They know that millions of poor people will be negatively affected by the programme, and that the only NEPAD beneficiaries will be elites.

The Type II Partnerships fill the vacuum created by the reform of the state, which was previously responsible for guaranteeing access to basic services for its citizens. Under the Type II Partnerships, not only the role but also the heritage of nation states will be handed over to private companies, which will be subsidized and be given control over the environment on a global level.

Given the desire of countries of the South to use multilateralism to strengthen their position, as in the United Nations forum - where it is possible to establish alliances and more equal relationships (*for example through the G-77*) - the bilateral proposal has surfaced, in which an economically powerful country would place smaller countries under its umbrella. This is institutional neoliberalism, ideologically dominating the heart of

the United Nations.

## Type II Partnership Energy Initiatives

In the official documents presented at the Bali PrepCom IV meeting, energy multinationals are seen as partners in Type II Initiatives related to energy. This proposal seeks to break down political, institutional, technological and financial barriers. Its objective is to achieve the development of advanced fossil fuel technologies by investing US \$ 850 billion for the generation of energy up to the year 2020.

Numerous Type II Initiatives at the WSSD include the development of technological energy programmes.

These programmes will promote the use of natural gas and nuclear energy - as sources of clean energy - Also included are highly questioned projects such as the West Africa Gas Pipeline, which will transport gas extracted by Texaco - Chevron in Nigeria and will cause the displacement and relocation of 50,000 families.

*Other Type II Energy Initiatives are:*

- Access to energy based on LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas)
- Training for the energy transition
- Provision of energy services
- Financing for
- Domestic energy
  - Rural energy
  - Energy efficiency business
- Standards and certification
- Global alliance for the development of renewable energy
- Clean Coal
  - Clean Fuels
  - Nuclear energy
  - Capture of carbon and biomass

A number of the sustainable ener-

gy projects are in fact little more than a strategy for opening markets, a placebo offered while the life of the planet continues to be destroyed and the fossil fuel extraction frontier is further extended. In the initial definition of the sustainable energy projects, it is expressly stated that the use of natural gas will be promoted, implying the construction of gas pipelines, forest destruction and other ecosystems, etc.

The transfer of alternative energy technologies will lead to a greater dependence, given that these are subject to Intellectual Property Rights, which in turn limits the ability of peoples to achieve energy sovereignty.

## Conclusions

While the participation of NGOs has increased as part of the Johannesburg Summit process, it is not true that civil society is truly represented. On the other hand, the influence of the NGOs has in fact been reduced. This is in contrast to business, which has gained ground. Many opportunities for dialogue have been created, such as the Multi-stakeholder Dialogues, but in the relationship within the dialogue processes is asymmetric. The promotion of the Type II Partnership Initiatives increases the inequity among the various sectors of society and affects the people in the areas in which the projects will be carried out. Dialogue, Participation, and Societies is the new rhetoric of the United Nations and the bait used by business to lure the NGOs and other major groups.

The entire Johannesburg process has been infected by the Type II Partnership Initiatives and the expectations that industry, with the blessing of the United Nations, has for them, as all these projects



will be approved by the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development. In fact the World Summit already states it all with its title *Building Partnerships for Sustainable Development*.

Through these Initiatives, Companies will be able to improve their green washing campaigns (and bluwashing with the support of

the United Nations) and will fragment the U.N. cooperation agreements, breaking with multilateralism and forcing a turn away from the public towards the private sector. In fact, thanks to these Initiatives, corporations will be able to use the United Nations logo as part of their publicity and on their official documents.

Sustainability, Equity and Justice can never be achieved through measures such as the Type II Partnership Initiatives, and OilWatch is therefore asking civil society at the meeting in Johannesburg to denounce them and to reject the privatisation of international cooperation. □

*(Ivonne Yanez works for the Oil Watch International Secretariat)*

## International Civil Society Water Statement from WSSD

1. Water is life. As a result, the right to water is not negotiable. Access to water and sanitation are basic human rights. Everyone should have secure access to sufficient safe water and sanitation to meet their basic human needs, including water for productive use to sustain livelihood. Access is a key component of any effective strategy for alleviating poverty. It is also essential that governments integrate water issues with issues such as health, forestry, agriculture, local food security and sound ecosystem management. In addition, the empowerment of women, youth, indigenous peoples and other marginalised communities must be a key focus.

2. Water is a social and ecological necessity and as such must be held in the public domain, and adequate clean water must be ensured to maintain a healthy ecosystem. The economic costs associated with delivery should not limit people's right to water and sanitation. Mechanisms such as cross-subsidisation, free lifeline services and the rising block tariff should be used to ensure access.

3. We reject the commodification and privatization, in all its forms, of water services and sanitation, and water resources. As a public good, water and sanitation must remain in the public sector and all governments must commit to public sector delivery of water services. This includes ensuring adequate local capacity is built. Governments currently dedicate only two percent of national budgets to water services. Only six percent of Official Development Assistance is directed to water. Both must increase dramatically and

must prioritise services to the poor. People must mobilise to increase the pressure on their governments and to create international solidarity to advance water issues.

4. Water is a public good. Properly resourced systems and institutions must be established and mandated through legislation that ensure extensive civil society and labour involvement in the design, planning provision and monitoring of water and sanitation services. Capacity-building and educational programmes must accompany all of these processes. All water services information must fall within the public domain.

5. We recognise that in many countries, the struggle against oppression and the struggle for access to water often go hand-in-hand. Water must not be used as a tool for oppression. Nations should have sovereignty over their own land, and over the water under that land, and they should have a right to manage it, subject to international law.

6. Water catchment boundaries and political boundaries do not always coincide, necessitating regional co-operation for trans-boundary issues. Political boundaries should not hinder access to water. Sustainable water management is not compatible with occupation and apartheid.

7. We respect the integrity of ecosystem as the basis for all life-both human and natural. Surface water ecosystem and groundwater resources must be re-established and maintained, and pollution must

be prevented. We recognise that dams and badly managed irrigation schemes often have a negative impact on communities and ecosystem. There should be a prioritization of small scale sustainable approaches to water energy planning and management, such as rainwater harvesting and de-salinisation, above large scale infrastructure development. Governments, bilateral donors and IFIs should implement and incorporate the World Commission of Dams recommendation into all activities.

8. We reject NEPAD and the plans for water in NEPAD as not being sustainable. It is structural adjustment by Africa for Africa. In particular, we reject the privatisation of water and the hydropower focus. We commit ourselves to building a mass movement for the reconstruction and sustainable development of Africa.

9. We also call on other global, regional and bilateral trade negotiations to protect the Right to Water and to cease attempts to commodify and extend corporate control over water. We therefore call for water and water services to be kept out of GATS and the WTO, and for multilateral environmental agreements to have precedence over global and regional trade agreements.

10. We believe that environmental considerations and human rights are inextricably intertwined and that by taking care of the environment, we safeguard our physical, cultural and spiritual needs for our children of tomorrow and the earth that they will live on. □



# SPOTLIGHT ON THE PRESS

## Sheraton Staff to give push to UNICEF campaign

SLOGAN, September, 2002

The association of the Karachi Sheraton Hotel will officially launch "Give Us a Push" a new employee fund raising initiative to support UNICEF's (The United Nations Children's Fund) latest campaign which aims to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT) across the board.

"Give Us a Push" kicked off with a 'Car Wash' held at the Sheraton Nursery Gardens on the afternoon of Sunday, September 01, 2002. Staff from all the departments of the hotel set up a very interesting 'drive-through' where the public brought their cars for a quick wash and shine.

## Campaign against smoking planned

Daily DAWN, October 23, 2002

Karachi, Oct 22: A concerted campaign has been planned against the menace of smoking which is on the increase in the country with figures showing 42 per cent of the adult males being smokers.

This was stated by Dr. Nadeem Rizvi, President of Pakistan Chest Society, Sindh, in an interview with the APP here on Tuesday.

He said that this organization, in collaboration with the Pakistan Anti-tobacco Coalition (of which Pakistan Cancer Society is a part) will observe 'Quit Smoking Day' on the first of Ramazan throughout the country.

## Water shortage in many areas

DAWN, October 9, 2002

Karachi, Oct 8: Acute water shortage continued to persist in various parts of the city for the second consecutive day on Tuesday.

Hard-hit areas included the old city area, Kharadar, Mithadar, parts of Lyari, PECHS Block 2 (situated behind Faiz-e-Aam Hospital), different sectors of Orangi, Baldia, North Karachi, Surjani, Shershah, Mehmoodabad, Gulshan-e-Iqbal's Block 2 and Pak Colony.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

*SHEHRI invites the residents of the city to share with us, their concerns, on issues which are adversely affecting their neighbourhood's environment. Please write to us, preferably with a supporting photograph, so that efforts are made and solutions sought - Ed.*

### **A water hydrant in a residence!?** **(Plot No. GRW 108 Garden West -** **3700 sq.yds. Residential)**

The residents of the area through their Mohallah Committee have complained that the new owner of the above plot has converted the same for a water hydrant. They have even demonstrated against the same.

The brief facts are that the owner, a Mr. Farooq has had 8 borings at a depth of 200 ft. The diameter of each is 8 feet. He has also installed a Samar Suction Pump (*this is a heavy duty pump*) used to draw up ground water.

The residents are fearful that since all the flat sites in the area use well water, this hydrant would lower the ground water table, causing them acute hardship.



What a wonderful show on offer!

Further, the plying of water trucks would be a source of nuisance, traffic accidents and all other related problems.

It is requested of the Chief Nazim and DCO, CDGK to take necessary action. □

**(Shehri-CBE, on behalf of the Area Residents)**



## YOUNG VOICES

### Editorial

## August Occasions

**W**e can sincerely feel for the residents of Seaview and beyond. As if the 14th August is not enough to provide free entertainment every year, a forlorn whale too, recently decided to enliven the area with its presence.

Making waves in the press, it brought hordes of visitors to the area. They were all there - from squealing kids with their mothers and harassed fathers worried about their cars, to pan-chewing men escorting burqa clad ladies holding on to as many of their offsprings as possible. The former busied themselves in taking photographs from afar, the latter were more interested in prodding, and as one friend claims, in spitting, sitting and even jumping on it. The last I know of this tale, is that the authorities were looking around for some whale meat eating community to whom the meat would be dispatched!

One cannot help but contrast this scene with that of the west, especially Europe, where schools of whales are washed ashore. The dead are speedily disposed of, while volunteers spend days looking after those alive.

What can be said - the educated verses the uneducated or simply an entertainment starved public at its worst. □

## TIT BITS

Damp newspaper cleans and polishes glass much better than cloth does, without getting lint all over it.

Decorative candles generally keep their shape better and burn much longer when chilled thoroughly in the refrigerator before use. □

### Think Awhile

The best way to get rid of an enemy is to make a friend of him.

## The intellectually stagnant generation

by Mahnab Bizanjo

**I**t is a common fact that most students use rote-memory to learn their prescribed text-books and if you go ask them anything out of course, they will shout back that this is not in our course, so we will not study it. The condition in our colleges is pathetic due to the fact that student awareness about current issues and their general knowledge is below average. We just accept what others say, instead of constructive criticism of new ideas. We lack both curiosity and creativity.

The parents always prefer those institutes which show a 100% result. Students are forced to take coaching classes due to which most of them are only physically present in



A closed mind invites trouble!

class. They then claim that college only means having fun and friends. If you ask them about their future career plans or on what basis they have chosen a particular faculty, they are speechless. Most answers are that their parents wanted them to, or that they want high income jobs. But the aspect of interest is usually absent.

Teenagers are slaves to the T.V. and the computer and are unwilling to leave their fantasy world. They literally worship and imitate their heroes; the singers and movie stars. Their gossip is limited to the personal profile of these, while a girls only company focusses on beauty or the latest fashions.

If you ever ask a student whether he has attended educational seminars, visited libraries, or given donations, they will say that they are mostly online or busy attending





functions. Our capability to keep ourselves busy in recreational activities while defining our potential is decreasing day by day. Although city life is full of stress and tension, we must have a balance in everything. All we need to do in this respect is to analyze the consequences of our habits and attitudes in the long run. In order to earn for a living, a degree is not the only requirement. Outstanding abilities, motivation and persistence are amongst the dominant factors.

Parents should not think that getting an admission for their children is their only duty. They should also keep a check on them while adopting a friendly attitude towards them. They can also improve the intellectual development by inculcating confidence and teaching adjustment in different situations. A famous saying tells us that An empty mind is the devil's workshop.

So we too must change our outlook towards life and have well defined objectives rather than mere existence, It is believed that the destiny of a nation is in the hands of a teacher who shapes it according to the changing needs, but students should also know their role in judging between right and wrong, fantasy and reality.

Man is a product of his own thoughts. If we want to utilize our mind power constructively, we must firstly educate ourselves. Only in this way will the physical, intellectual, emotional and social aspects of our personality can be developed. □

## Mirror, mirror on the wall...

by Sadia Dawar Khan

Last month, I along with my family, attended a wedding of

my fathers close colleague. It was a warm summer night and the wedding hall, which had no proper ventilation, was fully crowded.

As a we did not know any people there, we only re-acquainted ourselves with those already known. Thus, our evening was mostly spent in noticing the ladies present.



Looking like a princess?

Most of the women had settled around small tables in groups of five or six. The topic of their discussion, as usual, was how their dresses looked and matched with their jewelry and shoes.

I found myself sitting near such a table of gossiping ladies discussing their *joras*. The *joras* in vogue were the heavily embroidered shalwar kameez, pants, short shirts, sleeveless kameez with short length pants plus ghararas and shararas. One couldn't help but wonder how much these *joras* would possibly have cost.

These days, especially during the wedding season, women go way out of their means to make heavily worked up clothes to wear to just about anyones wedding *Mehndi* and even *Mayun*. In fact, no occasion, or season hinders them in their clothes production.

Talking about weddings puts me in mind of another thing, which is the amount of dresses made for the bride-to-be. It is considered quite normal or average if a would be bride has about 40 or more ready made and unstitched *joras*

included in her trousseau.

Can you imagine a bride who has nothing else to do but show-off her clothes constantly, one after the other. Is it possible that she has only married for the purpose of looking glitzy and made-up in the clothes she would wear to the wedding and afterwards.

On a more exciting note, take a minute to think about the amount of money spent on this endeavour which reaches an odd Rs. 65 - 70,000. If one wants to go in for the latest designs of some famous designer, then it reaches the sky! One wonders if the poor families could even think of such luxury.

What's more, is that once this *Princess Dress* is worn by the bride for a few hours, it is put away, never to be used again, unless of course she wishes to experience the thrill for a second time! But then, who would want to do that? Why not go in for the latest design and wear something different for the next time!

Women love to make clothes for every occasion possible. This is the universal fact of life which the poor husbands realize too late while taking care of the bills. As such, they are seen accompanying the wives, wearing the same old suits. Rarely do they wish to wear designer made stuff. Perhaps it is because they are still trying to come to terms with the shock of their hard earned money being mercilessly spent on shopping sprees.

Well, I sincerely hope that our magazine readers think if a new *joras* is really worth spending a fortune on or not? That is the question. □

Editor, Young Voices: Kiran Bashir Ahmad



# ASK SHEHRI

Most residents when faced with any civic problem do not know which person or organization to contact in order to solve their problem. In this column we invite the readers to share their worries with us and seek our help, which is always forthcoming - Ed.

Q. What is being proposed by the City Government in the Magno Train project?  
Najeeb Ullah, Nazimabad, Karachi

A. An elevated train system using the Right of Way (ROW) of the existing Karachi Circular Railway Track.

Q. How much of the Indus River water quota for Sindh Province is used for irrigation purpose?  
M. Naeem, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi

A. 97%

Q. How many types of turtle species are found in Pakistan?  
Kiran Arshad, North Nazimabad, Karachi

A. Three separate turtle species are found in Pakistan.

## Shehri needs volunteers

to work in its following subcommittees

- Legal.
- Media & Outreach
- Anti-Pollution
- Parks & Recreation
- Gun Free Society
- Conservation & Heritage
- Fund Raiser

### JOIN SHEHRI TO CREATE A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

If you wish to join shehri please send this card to

SHEHRI Citizens for a Better Environment,  
205-G, Block 2, P.E.C.H.S.,  
Karachi-75400, Pakistan.  
Tel / Fax : 453-0648

With a cross cheque of Rs. 300/- (Annual Membership Fee) in the name of Shehri-CBE with passport size photograph

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. (Off) : \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (Res) : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

## SHEHRI MEMBERSHIP

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2002! Join Shehri and do your bit as a good citizen to make this city a clean, healthy and environmentally friendly place to live in!



## ECO-REGIONS

### The *Global 200* blue print for a living planet

Nature's fragile web is increasingly at risk as human activities threaten biodiversity -the variety of plants and animals that make up the tapestry of life on Earth. While it is important to conserve nature everywhere, we face a recurrent dilemma: with the bewildering number of species and habitats, how should we prioritize our efforts? To answer this question, (WWF) has identified biological regions -collectively known as the *Global 200* -which are crucial to the conservation of global biodiversity.

Only if we conserve the full variety of the world's wild habitats can we protect the broadest variety of species and the ecological and evolutionary processes that maintain the web of life. While it may never be possible to conserve all remaining natural habitats, we must aim to ensure that all ecosystem types are represented within a unified global conservation strategy. The *Global 200* provides the foundation for such a strategy. It is a science-based global ranking of the Earth's most outstanding terrestrial, freshwater, and marine habitats, designed to serve as a blueprint for biodiversity conservation at a global scale. Developed by WWF scientists in collaboration with experts around the world, the *Global 200* covers every major habitat type, spanning five continents and all the world's oceans.

The *Global 200* is composed of 3 major categories: terrestrial, freshwater, and marine. These categories contain 26 major habitat types.

#### The *Global 200* reflects three major innovations

1. It is comprehensive in its scope - it encompasses all major types including freshwater and marine systems as well as land-based habitats. It ranges from arctic tundra to tropical reefs, from

mangrove to deserts, to include species from every major habitat type on Earth.

2. It is representative in its final selection. The most outstanding examples of each major habitat type are included from every continent and ocean basin. Thus it includes, for example, the most important tropical and temperate forests from each continent, and

the most important coral reefs from each ocean.

3. It uses ecoregions as the unit of scale for comparison and analysis. Ecoregions are large areas of relatively uniform climate that harbour a characteristic set of species and ecological communities. By focusing on large, biologically distinct areas of land and water, the *Global 200* sets the state

#### Global 200 and Pakistan

Global 200 Eco region	Bio geographical sites	Countries in which ecoregion lies	Geo - graphical location	Habitat type	Biodiversity features	General threats
Tibetan Plateau Steppe	Palaearctic	Afghanistan, China, India, Pakistan, Tajikistan	High plateau north of the Himalayas in central Asia	Montane Grasslands and shrublands	Snow leopard, Wolf, Tibetan Sand Fox, Brown Bear	Hunting
Western Himalayan Temperate Forests	Indo - Malayan	Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Pakistan	Mountains north of India and Pakistan	Temperate broad leaf and mixed forests	Include Palas valley floristically rich in Pakistan, Ungulates, Marmots	Forest logging, hunting
Rann of Kutch, Flooded grasslands	Indo - Malayan	India, Pakistan	Eastern Asia	Flooded grasslands and Savannas	Asiatic Wild Ass, Flamingoes, Sarus Crane, Indian Crouser, White Stork	vulnerable to development pressure, water scarcity
Indus River Delta	Indo - Malayan	Pakistan, India	Western portion of the Indian sub - continent	Large river Deltas	Indus river Dolphin, Riverine forest, Mangroves, Hog deer	Dams on the river, cutting of the forest, water scarcity
North Arabian Sea	Western Indo - Pacific	Djibouti, Iran, Oman, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, UAE, Yemen	Waters of the Arabian Peninsula and north of the Indian Ocean	Tropical coral	Corals, sea grass beds, mangroves, dugongs, sea turtles, whales endemic algae, kelp communities	World's busiest oil tanker route, over fishing, eutrophication marine pollution

for conserving biodiversity on the broadest scale at which natural systems operate.

### Using the Global 200

Some habitats, such as tropical forest and coral reefs, support extremely rich assemblages of species, while others, such as tundra and deserts, are more austere. But all are unique expressions of life. We must, at a minimum, aim to hold on to key examples of every part of the web of life.

The Global 200 identifies the finest examples of every major habitat type, from the Arctic to the Amazon, from deserts to reefs to mangrove, at every elevation and on every continent. The results include many conservation icons, such as the Galapagos Islands, the Amazon Basin, and the Serengeti. But the Global 200 also includes many others which, while equally valuable from a conservation standpoint, are less widely recognized. Some examples include the species-rich deserts of western Mexico, the extraordinarily diverse coral reefs of the Sulu Sea, and the forests of New Caledonia.

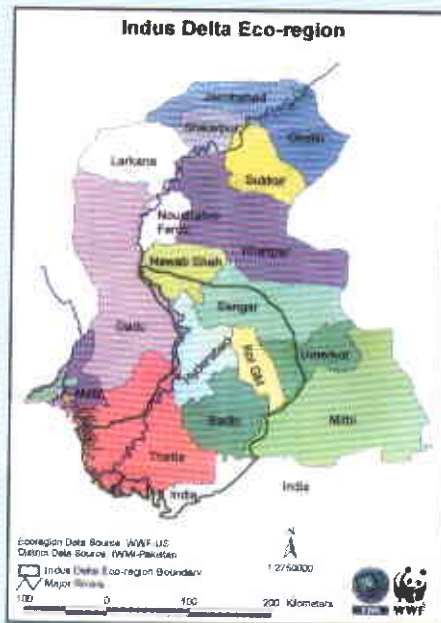
The aim of the global 200 analysis is to ensure that the full range of ecosystem is represented within regional conservation and development strategies, so that conservation efforts around the world contribute to a global biodiversity strategy.

Marine and Freshwater Ecoregions . The Global 200 includes a full complement of freshwater and marine ecosystem, which, despite their high importance to global biodiversity,

have often received inadequate attention in conservation priority-setting. The analysis covers seven different major habitat types for freshwater, and five major habitats types for marine ecoregions.

Worldwide, aquatic ecosystems are even more imperilled than their terrestrial counter-

parts. The millions of dams which restrict water flows around the world. Patterns of freshwater biodiversity are easily obscured by terrestrial ecoregion boundaries. They have been mapped for the Global 200 using catchment or watersheds and the presence of species whose distribution is confined to freshwater systems.



parts. For example, coral reefs, among the biologically richest marine habitats, suffer from sedimentation and pollution from coastal development which compound their already grave susceptibility to the effects of global warming. The Global 200 marine ecoregions include the most distinctive example of the five major marine habitat types, from polar seas to tropical coral reefs, highlighting marine regions at a scale that encompasses key ecological processes.

Freshwater systems are uniquely vulnerable, and the species they harbour are increasingly threatened by the conversion of wetlands into croplands and

### Conservation status of Terrestrial Ecoregions

Not all the ecoregions included in the Global 200 face the same level of threat. Some still contain large areas of intact habitat and present important opportunities for conservation. Others, having already lost much of their original habitat, require urgent action and efforts to restore them.

WWF has ranked the terrestrial Global 200 ecoregions by their conservation status - classifying those ecoregions that are considered critical, endangered, or vulnerable as a result of direct human impacts, and those that are relatively stable or intact. Nearly half (47%) of the terrestrial Global 200 ecoregions are considered critical or endangered; another quarter (29%) are vulnerable; and only a quarter (24%) are relatively stable or intact. Mediterranean-type ecoregions, tropical dry forests and temperate grasslands are critically endangered wherever they occur in the world because they are particularly favourable to human settlements. And as noted previously, freshwater and coastal marine ecoregions have also been severely degraded as a result of human activities worldwide. □