Ecology, Economy, Values :
Dignity, Development, Democracy
The Koodam:

The crucible

To ignite imagination

To transform individuals, collectivities and institutions

to Restore Dignity, Revitalise Development, Reclaim Democracy

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Ecological and Economic Crisis
Betrayed promises, Failed Institutions, Degenerate Values

Pride: 7-8% GDP, 11th largest globally in nominal GDP, 4th globally in Purchase Price Parity (PPP)

Shame:

Global Hunger Index*:* Ranked 67th out of 84 most hungry nations

Human Development Index (HDI) (2011): 134 out of 187 nations . Most corrupt nations on earth.

Poverty Level: Most conservative estimate of 38% (Suresh Tendulkar Committee); means close to 48 / 120 crores go to bed without food.

Population of India at Independence: 35 crores!!

Ecology, Economy and Values:
When the twains meet!

Key Indicators:

➢ Income growth associated with deterioration of key environmental indicators such as soil and water quality, forest cover, CO_2 emissions.

➢ Distribution of Incomes worsened at country levels globally despite narrowing gaps in educational and health achievements.

➢ Environmental degradation intensifies inequalities; inequalities in human development amplify environmental degradation

Endangering the futures of unborn generations!

"There is enough to feed the needs of the people,

but not the greed of the people".
… Mahatma Gandhi

"Disadvantaged people are a central focus of human development. …People in the future will suffer the most severe consequences of the risks arising from our activities today".
(HDI, 2011)

After 59 years of planned development, what do we have to show for development?

DEVELOPMENT – Persisting `Unreached Groups". Why?

EQUITY - Constant conflict of *Inclusion vs. exclusion*

ACCOUNTABILITY –Who are you to ask?

SUSTAINABILITY – Absence in most economic , ecological and development activities

JUSTICE: Distributive justice a pipe dream

Cohesion, convergence and consolidation amongst different sectors and

departments – Whose concern?

The Issue:

Who are we to initiate change management?

Why should there be convergence?

Where do we derive the mandate to experiment with change?

WHAT IS THE STARTING POINT?

Looking Back . . . .

❖ **Prevalent Perspective on reform**

      ➤ Strategies

- **Higher Technology**
- **Increased Investment**
- **Organisation Restructuring**
- **Community Participation**
- **Privatisation**
- **Decentralisation**

❖ Persistent Shortcomings

- **Unreached Communities**
- **Inequitous sharing**
- **Unsustainable Practices**
- **Uninvolved Technocracy**

Paradigm Shift

➢ **Missing Core**

· Social Dimension of Exclusion

· Sustainable Service Delivery

· Institutional Culture & Practice

➢ **Triggers for Change**

· Social Movement

· Political Pressure

· Internal Thrust

. . . beginning of the experiment . . 14 years back

The Transformation path

Self Critical and open process of exploring …

- ➢ Attitudinal Transformation
- ➢ Perspective Change
- ➢ Institutional Reorientation

Along with shifts in

- • Roles
  - • Relationships

Amongst
              • Values

- • People;
  - • Practice;
    - • Culture;
    - • Systems

Democracy & The Koodam

Koodam - A traditional cultural & social space within which all persons are ***t*reated equal**

Where members relate without distinction based on …

- Age
  - Status
    - Hierarchy

In which sharing is …

- Transparent
  - Experiential
    - Self Critical

With Values of …

- Democracy
  - Consensual decision ma
    - Collective ownersh

The Intervention Design

triggering inner minds

Exploring ..... :

➢ **Breaking Barriers – Building Bridges**

   a process of exploring personal boundaries, sensibilities and values

➢ **Confronting Challenges – Creating Convergences**

   exploring issues of collective living and survival

➢ **Synergizing Strengths – Strategizing Success**

   synergising energies and strategizing for success

➢ Koodam – A traditional cultural & Social space within which all persons
   are treated equal.

Humanising development: Where do we begin?

Institutional transformation can start with officials, elected representatives, stake holders or community, singly or together.

Change the way people think and feel; readiness to act and commitment.

Change from Technology Centredness to People Focussed Work, manifested in

- ROLE : Shift from PROVIDER to FACILITATOR to **PARTNER**
- Power: Willingness to share power
- Authority: Sharing actually strengthens!
- Responsibility – Willingness to assume responsibility .

Crushing weight of hierarchical, top-down, closed institutions

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The Shifts that are required!!

· Shift from passive to critical and constructive participation
· Shift to reexamination of the meaning of people's participation
· Shift from conceptual understanding to learning by doing.

Shifts in …..

- Shift to greater clarity of expanding roles
- Shift to a growing need to systematize work
- Shift from compartmentalization to build interrelatedness – amongst technical people, citizens, stake holders groups..
- Shift in growing experience of personal power and purposefulness in collective action
- Shift to a improving sense of responsibility
- Shift to a greater revitalization of idealism

Our Dream, Our Vision ….

"Secure Water for all, for ever"

- Conservation of nature as a guarantee for future water
- Vibrant, revived and recharged water bodies
- Assured, equitable and sustainable water for all
- Successful community managed water supply system through active participation of all especially women and poor
- Safe disposal of solid and liquid waste for clean and healthy environment
- Cost effective technology options to ensure local sustainable management
- Formation of Common Water Regulatory Authority for judicious use of water for all sectors

Daring to Dream!!
Our gift to our unborn grand children!

- ***A Small body of determined Spirits fired by the unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history.***
  … ***Mahatma Gandhi***