

The Witness 3.10

GREENPEACE



EDITORIAL

When people can raise their voices and be heard, there is still hope for democracy. In response to huge public opposition, the controversial clauses in the nuclear liability bill were changed to make it more people-friendly. It was public opposition that stalled the BRAI bill again, keeping genetically modified food crops out of India for now.

In the last few months, we've made progress in new territories. To tackle the problem of chemical fertilizers, we've taken a big leap forward with the Living Soils campaign. In villages in five states across India, Greenpeace and allies are talking to farmers to do a reality check on the nation's agriculture policies. We're building a movement to take grassroots demands for ecological agriculture to the government.

The Urja Kranti Yatra is going places in Bihar. As part of a coalition, we're out to show how climate-friendly, renewable sources can bring energy to Bihar right away. We hope that Bihar will become a model that demonstrates the power of decentralized renewable energy - a model that other states can replicate.

With these, we've started to reach out to rural India like never before.

As we celebrate these steps forward - big and small, we need to be mindful of shrinking democratic spaces. For every stalled BRAI, there is a verdict that essentially criminalizes activism. The Tokyo Two were given a suspended sentence, but it's the belief behind it that counts. The TATAs are suing Greenpeace; it seems to be over an online game but you know how vocally we've challenged them to be the responsible company they claim to be.

Intentional or not, these are attempts to silence criticism. And we cannot let that happen. We have to preserve our right to express ourselves freely and peacefully. The space for non-violent protest is invaluable and we must guard it fiercely.

Samit Aich

Executive Director
Greenpeace India



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Greenpeace exists because this fragile Earth deserves a voice. It needs solutions. It needs change. It needs action.

Greenpeace is a non-profit campaigning organisation that acts on the most crucial global threats to our planet's biodiversity and environment. In over 40 countries around the world, Greenpeace campaigns to stop climate change, defend our oceans, protect ancient rainforests, create a toxic-free future, and promote sustainable agriculture.

At Greenpeace, we strongly believe in the power of non-violent direct action. We expose environmental crimes and confront the criminals fearlessly. We point at problems and promote solutions for a clean and safe future for the Earth and all life on it.



HIGH DRAMA AT PARLIAMENT

After high drama both inside and outside the Parliament, we've got the government to put people before profit. Over 2.3 lakh citizens, many MPs and jurists demanded a people-friendly nuclear liability bill. And the bill that was finally passed did not overlook these demands.

Nuclear power is hazardous at every stage, and poses a very grave risk of accidents. Now, suppliers (including multinational corporations) will be responsible for faulty equipment and technology during the entire lifetime of the power plant. They will also be held accountable for accidents caused by negligence or intent.

The financial liability has been increased to INR 1500 crores and it cannot be lowered. In fact, there is a provision for it to be increased. Combined with other changes, this will ensure a fairer compensation for victims of nuclear accidents.

The changed bill makes the penalty for accidents higher than earlier, which means two good things:

- Suppliers have to take insurance - the high cost will deter the building of more nuclear power plants.
- Safety measures will be enforced more strictly. International standards will be followed and plants will be open to inspection.

Karuna Raina, Greenpeace's anti-nuclear campaigner says, "The bill that has been passed is not perfect, but it is an improvement over the original. After Bhopal, foreign corporations simply fled, leaving victims behind. This law at least has provisions to hold them responsible in such cases."



ज़रूरत समय की पुकार हमारी!

क्या आप साथ हैं?

Peepli Live's Natha, Omkar Das Manikpuri, speaks at the

URJA KRANTI YATRA

In 2009, Rahul Gandhi put Kalavati of Jalka village in the spotlight and told us that nuclear power can solve rural India's energy poverty. Nuclear power sure hasn't electrified Jalka yet, but the two solar panels installed by Greenpeace have been running school computers and fans for over a year now.

Jalka's success shows us that it's time for *urja kranti* - an energy revolution! And that is our mission in Bihar. The state is reeling under a severe power crisis. Centralized coal-fired power plants have failed the people of Bihar. But the solution is within reach: Decentralized Renewable Energy (DRE).

To bring about this revolution, Greenpeace has joined hands with other civil society groups to form a coalition - Bihar Renewable Energy Development Support Network. This 2nd October, we started the Urja Kranti Yatra from the Gandhi Ashram at Bhitiharwa, West Champaran. Through this Yatra, we're sharing with people how DRE can bring them quality power without years of waiting.

In the run up to Assembly elections, we've been urging political parties across the spectrum to commit to DRE in their election manifestos. As we travel through 10 districts in Bihar, we're mobilizing people to ask their political representatives for real solutions. Together, we're demanding policies and actions that immediately deliver clean, reliable energy to people through DRE.

- Renewable energy (RE) is clean. Unlike coal and other fossil fuels, it doesn't contribute to global warming.
- Sources like the sun and wind can give us energy security forever. Fossil fuels are already running out.
- Local RE solutions can bring reliable energy to villages like Jalka here and now.



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LIVING SOILS

Healthy soil is not just dead clay - it's full of nutrients and millions of living organisms. Unfortunately, overuse of chemicals in agriculture is taking the life out of our soils. Degenerated soils equal less produce. There are chemicals in our food and water bodies. And yet, the government spent 50,000 crore rupees this year subsidizing chemical fertilizers! There's very little support for ecological fertilization practices.

To save India's soils from the harmful effects of chemical fertilizers, we launched the Living Soils campaign this August. Through a series of activities like surveys, public hearings, *padyatras* and so on, we're working with farmers to discuss agriculture policies bottom-up, not top-down. We want to expose how the government's words do not match its actions - it says it wants healthy soils and food security but does the exact opposite by promoting chemical fertilizers!

To take grassroots reality to the government, we've conducted social audits in Assam and Odisha. Audits are on in Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Karnataka. Our demand: support for ecological farming in the form of research, policy changes and subsidies.

GM STALLED AGAIN

The BRAI bill is how the Ministry of Science and Technology is trying to sneak Bt Brinjal and other GM crops on to our plates. As soon as we heard they were trying to table this proposed law in the monsoon session of the Parliament, we started an online petition against it. Over 45,000 people wrote to Sonia Gandhi, the chairperson of National Advisory Council (NAC), urging her to stop the BRAI bill. And we've managed to stall it for now, again!

Keeping up the fight for safe food, Greenpeace launched the Safe Food Guide 2.0 in September. The Guide ranks India's 25 most popular food brands on their current and future policies on genetically modified ingredients. To find out where your favourite food brand stands, SMS **FOOD** <product name> to 56070.

Turtle vs TATA

For years, Greenpeace has been an outspoken critic of the TATA's Dhamra Port Project at Orissa. In an attempt to silence this criticism, TATA has filed a defamation and trademark infringement suit against Greenpeace over a Pacman-inspired online game, Turtle vs TATA. With over 150,000 people supporting our campaign, Greenpeace continues to work towards ensuring "No more Dhamras", while defending our right to freedom of expression and fair criticism in court.

We're also questioning why the government upheld environmental laws in the Vedanta case, but is overlooking Dhamra's blatant violation of the Forest Conservation Act. India needs strong laws to ensure that no new ports come up within 25 km of eco-sensitive or CRZ 1 areas. And these laws must be implemented impartially. Add your voice at:

greenpeace.in/turtle/write-to-jairam-ramesh-double-standards

Tokyo Two - guilty?

Thanks to pressure from thousands of concerned citizens around the world, anti-whaling activists Junichi and Toru haven't been given jail time. But in a shocking move, they've been given a one year sentence, suspended for three years. In response to this unfair judgment, Greenpeace held protests in front of Japanese embassies in several countries, including India. Activists are not criminals. We will continue to fight for the democratic right to peacefully expose wrongdoing, and for an end to all commercial whaling.



Good news

Improved patrolling has reduced turtle mortality in Devi, Orissa. Now, we're focusing on ensuring alternatives for fishers whose livelihoods get affected. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has created a special body to implement such a programme. This measure is an important step in showcasing how protected areas and local fishers can co-exist. It adds weight to our case for marine reserves across the country.

What gives a volunteer the courage to get arrested for a cause? 19-year old Niloy studies Chemistry, plays the drums, likes theater and photography, and volunteers for Greenpeace. Here's what he has to say about his inspiration.

My journey with Greenpeace has been exciting - from watching some awe-inspiring Greenpeace videos at home to organizing a World Environment Day event to getting arrested for protesting outside the Parliament.

It was non-violent direct action that really captured my attention. I got a chance to participate in the Basic Actions Training where you learn all about the importance of staying peaceful and planning well. Hearing stories about committed volunteers going to great lengths to get the job done gave me goosebumps. The defining moment for me came when I realized what the driving force is - the belief in the power of the act to bring about change.

That's why being part of the protest against the nuclear liability bill was such a rush for me. As the bill was being debated in the Parliament, we stood outside with the message "People before Profit". Of course, we got arrested. We were detained for almost 6 hours. But at the end of it, knowing that our hard work had got the media and people talking about the bill was really rewarding. And of course, the good food and pats on the back we got afterwards helped!

Non-violent direct actions are the backbone of Greenpeace's work. They hit hard and wake people up to problems. That day, even young people my age got talking about liability.



Want to go green but not sure where to start? Get started with these handy tips to save energy and shrink your carbon footprint.

- **Unplug** electronic devices when they're not in use - they consume electricity even when switched off!
- **Switch off** lights and fans when you're not in the room.
- **Service** all electronic devices regularly.
- **Look for** high energy performance ratings (like BEE stars) when you buy new electronic products.
- **Avoid** toxic substances like PVC and BFRs in products. Go for brands that take back and recycle products safely.
- **Choose** HFC-free refrigerators. HFCs are greenhouse gases and a big factor in causing climate change.
- **Switch** to Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) and see your electricity bill go down! Light Emitting Diodes (LED) arrays are even better.
- **Charge** your cellphone battery when it's completely discharged; it'll increase the battery's life.
- **Load** your washing machine to full capacity. Let sunlight and air dry your clothes for free!
- **Set** your refrigerator to 3-5°C for the fresh food section and around -15°C for the freezer. **Defrost** regularly.
- **Take the bus!** Use public transport and **carpool** - it's easier on the environment and your pocket.
- **Walk** and **cycle** to go green and keep fit at the same time.
- If you must buy a car, choose one that minimizes the use of fossil fuels - consider electrics and hybrids. And remember, greater mileage means better efficiency.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**EXPENDITURE**

| Particulars | Figs.for 2008 | Figs.for 2009 |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| Fund Raising Expenses Staff Cost | 19,067,021 | 23,222,393 |
| Operating Cost | 15,576,257 | 18,433,928 |
| Organisational Support Expenses Staff Cost | 4,842,604 | 7,219,650 |
| Operating Cost | 6,197,601 | 8,124,186 |
| Depreciation | 1,590,042 | 5,285,465 |
| Campaign Expenses Staff Cost | 4,890,101 | 4,840,094 |
| Operating Cost | 8,554,148 | 14,687,593 |
| Global Campaign Expenses Staff Cost | 6,040,449 | 8,782,460 |
| Operating Cost | 11,721,412 | 25,173,999 |
| Campaign Support Expenses Staff Cost | 6,870,486 | 6,905,995 |
| Operating Cost | 2,374,659 | 3,374,326 |
| Total | 87,724,780 | 126,050,089 |

INCOME

| Particulars | Figs.for 2008 | Figs.for 2009 |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|
| Fund Raising Income | 63,168,355 | 116,811,567 |
| Interest received | 4,059,493 | 3,497,036 |
| Excess of expenses over income carried to the Balance Sheet | 20,496,933 | 5,741,487 |
| Total | 87,724,780 | 126,050,089 |

BALANCE SHEET 31 DECEMBER 2009**ASSETS**

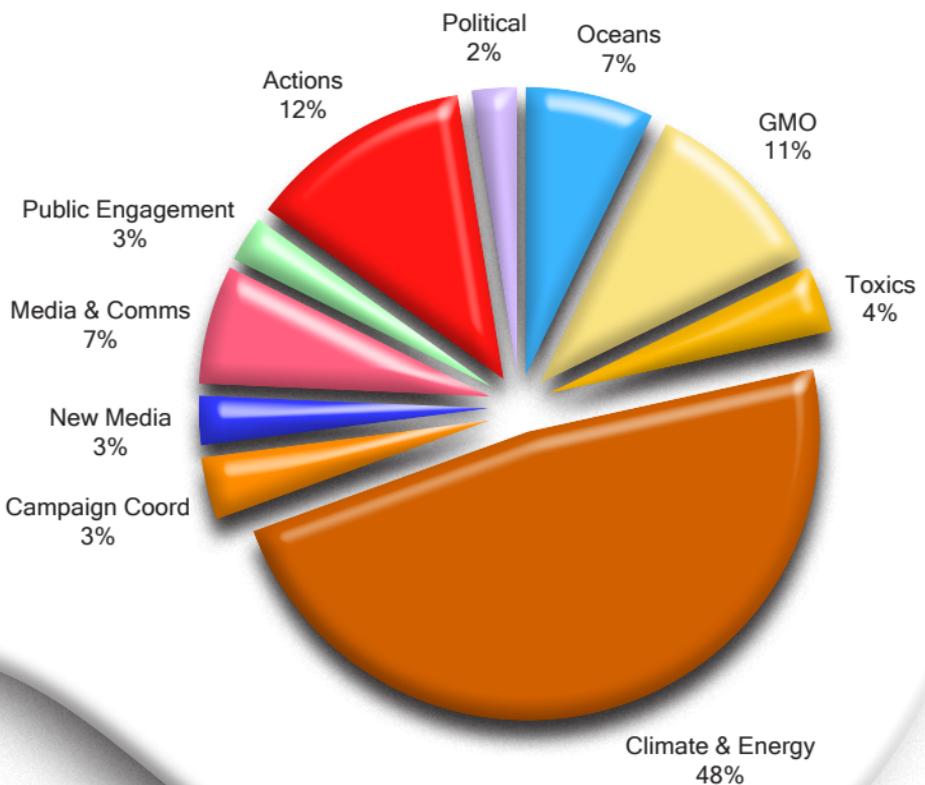
| Particulars | Figs.for 2008 | Amt | Figs.for 2009 |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Fixed Assets | 1,255,757 | | 1,973,859 |
| Cash & Bank Balances | 4,863,028 | | 7,035,888 |
| Money on Deposit | 40,063,038 | | 34,709,940 |
| Prepayments Rent prepaid | 0 | | 511,451 |
| Receivables | 3,933,897 | | 3,098,257 |
| Advances | 795,985 | | 1,499,651 |
| Total | 50,911,705 | | 48,829,046 |

LIABILITIES

| Particulars | Figs.for 2008 | Amount | Figs.for 2009 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Net Op.Balance of Surplus | 67,088,710 | 46,591,777 | |
| Corpus Fund received | 0 | | |
| Add : Excess of expenses over income | -20,496,933 | -5,741,487 | |
| | 46,591,777 | | 40,850,291 |
| Accounts Payable | 4,319,928 | | 7,978,755 |
| Total | 50,911,705 | | 48,829,046 |

CAMPAIGNWISE EXPENSES

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|---|
| NEW MEDIA | 3% |  |
| MEDIA & COMMS | 7% |  |
| PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT | 3% |  |
| ACTIONS | 12% |  |
| POLITICAL | 2% |  |
| OCEANS | 7% |  |
| GMO | 11% |  |
| TOXICS | 4% |  |
| CLIMATE & ENERGY | 48% |  |
| CAMPAIGN COORD | 3% |  |



CONTACT US

Recommend a Friend

Have a friend who loves the planet? Send us their name and phone number and we'll call them!

SMS GREEN <name> <number> to 9220092200

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Email: supporter.services.in@greenpeace.org

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(Monday to Friday, 10:00am to 1:00pm, 2:00pm to 6:00pm)

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