Prof. Vibhuti Patel Safe Cities and Gender Budgeting Peoples Reporter vol. 28 no. 15 2015

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Global Network for the Right to Food and Nutrition

Food campaigners call for greater convergence of all struggles

The Global Network for the Right to Food and Nutrition (GNRtFN), held a three-day meeting in Nepal, from 20 to 22 July, involving civil society organizations and social movements.

The network, officially launched in June 2013, was the result of a broad consultative process responding to the aggravation of the chronic world food crisis, including the persistence of gross violations of the right to food and the prevailing impunity of perpetrators.

The network is focused on joint struggles toward the full realization of the human right to adequate food and nutrition in the context of the indivisibility of human rights and people’s sovereignty, which can be traced back to the preparation of the Civil Society Parallel Forum ahead of the World Food Summit in 1996.

At a time when human rights, in particular those of the most marginalized, are being undermined by corporate interests, patriarchy, gender-based violence, and conflicts, the meeting called for the greater convergence in the struggles for justice, and rights of communities, particularly for land, water, forests, natural resources, livelihood and identity. The participants discussed the way forward to the full realization of adequate food and nutrition.

Inspired by the meeting’s host country, Nepal, which, though still recovering from the devastating earthquakes, recently began consultations toward a draft constitution that enshrines food sovereignty, the worldwide network concluded its third meeting with a public declaration.

GNRtFN Public Declaration

We, the members and friends of the Global Network for the Right to Food and Nutrition (GNRtFN) from social movements and civil society organizations (CSOs), met in Kathmandu for the third global meeting of the network, and discussed ways to achieve the full realization of the human right to adequate food and nutrition, and the threats, to food sovereignty and people’s control over resources increasing with each passing day. The meeting is held at a moment when the struggle against the corporate capture of the food system, where global trade agreements undermine the rights of people and the capacities of governments to respect, protect and fulfill the human right to adequate food and nutrition, has intensified.

It is a period in which traditional and local indigenous knowledge, practices and foods are replaced by low quality, ultra-processed food that perpetuates hunger and malnutrition in all of its forms. The land, water, forests, other natural resources, livelihoods, identity and physical existence of many communities and indigenous peoples are threatened. In many cases, people have paid with their lives in their struggle to secure the right to adequate food and nutrition. A period in which women continue to have to fight patriarchy in every sphere of their life.

Mission to the commercially sexually exploited women

To ensure them a new life

A highly challenging mission effort has been initiated jointly by the Church of St. Mary, the Virgin (Malayalam Congregation), Parel, St. James Church, Borivali, St. Mary, the Virgin (Malayalam Congregation), Parel, St. James Church, Borivali

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Modern Goliath surrenders to David!

July 20, 2015, the day when the Cuban flag was unfurled at the US State Department, ought to have been celebrated as an event more significant than the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989. It was on that historic day, the US re-established formally the diplomatic relations with that tiny nation, after five decades, and the embassies were opened by the two countries.

The fall of the Berlin wall was celebrated with great jubilation across the world and with unparalleled wide media coverage. But the historic significance of the re-opening of embassies by the US and Cuba, after 56 years was rather ignored by the media. For more than five decades, the US, the economic and military super power of the present world, along with her powerful Western allies, has been unleashing all kinds of covert and overt operations - blockade, intimidation, aspersion, media-war to wipe out independent Cuba from the world of nations. Who was fighting against whom? The super power US, the fourth largest country covering 38 million sq. miles and with 316.9 million people against Cuba, a tiny island nation in the Atlantic with 42,474 sq. miles (106x in size) and 11 million people. It is true until 1989, Cuba received full support from the Soviet Union. But, with the fall of the Soviet Union, people all over the world thought that Cuba would be crushed by the US, within a short time.

Amazingly Cuba bravely withstood, all these years, even after the collapse of the Soviet Union. In fact, it can be described as a 56-year war from 1959 to 2015 by the US and her allies against Cuba. It is a shameful fact that even the UN did not do anything to save Cuba and her people from the unethical and cruel economic blockade. Except the countries in the Soviet block, no country had the courage and conviction, to question the justifiability of the US. The US, a country which boasts of its democratic roots, was unwilling to let the people of Cuba to decide their own destiny. The US propagated that a free Cuba was a threat to the US and democracy in the entire world. And sadly, no democratic country questioned the ridiculous arguments in support of the decades-long war against that tiny country.

Finally, the US had to concede its defeat in her 56-year war against Cuba. The opening of Embassies in July by both countries reminds us of the fall of Goliath before David. No doubt, the astounding will and the unchallengeable commitment of the leadership and the people of Cuba, despite untold suffering for such a long period, strengthened Cuba in facing the might of the league of powerful nations. For a long time the US administration must have been thinking that her strategy against Cuba was a failure. But it is President Obama who showed the courage to change the policy. President Obama’s willingness and the negotiations initiated by Pope Francis and Canada, led to the historic hopeful decisions.

This historic event, a historic victory of the tiny Cuba, was down-played by the corporate media. And the peace-loving nations did not come forward to celebrate it!

The change in the policy of the US on this issue cannot be ruled out as a strategic surrender with the concealed agenda of defeating Cuba through co-option. We have to wait and see whether Cuba will be co-opted by the US, in future.

Modern Goliath
surrenders to David!

thought for the Fortnight

It is a bad plan that admits of no modification  | Publius Syrus

Pope Francis’ Encyclical Is
More Than Just Tree-Planting!

Cedric Prakash

At a recent meeting, the Pope’s latest Encyclical ‘Laudato Si’ on the ‘care of our common home’ was being discussed by a group. A senior and well-intentioned member suddenly suggested that in the context of the Encyclical, we should encourage the children in our schools to plant trees. Some certainly applauded the suggestion; others retorted “we have been doing so; for the last several years” and at least one rather strongly said that “the Pope’s Encyclical is not about tree-planting!”

Tree-planting as such is not such a bad idea at all; one can learn plenty: sensitivity to nature and how to nurture a tender sapling from the very beginning.

So when one talks about the Pope’s Encyclical and about tree-planting in the same breath, one is surely going to warm the cockies of the heart of many across the board. After all, we must be rich and the famous; of the powerful and other vested interests; of Governments and those in authority; of those who plunder and destroy this earth because of their rapacious greed and selfishness. “Wow”, they would say, “the Pope in ‘Laudato Si’ is speaking about tree-planting; we have nothing to fear! After all, one cannot deny that some of the most luscious gardens, well-manicured lawns and even personal forests belong to these very groups that are responsible for global warming, climate change and for profiteering after running down ecosystems, which belong to all of us.

The truth is that re-legating or equating the Pope’s Encyclical to tree-planting is very unfortunate: either one does not have the courage to read the Encyclical nor the openness to be able to accept what the Pope is saying very directly and unequivocally.

In the opening chapter of the Encyclical, the Pope invites every single citizen to listen to the groanings of creation; “to become painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what each of us can do about it.

Laudato Si’ is indeed path-breaking, radical in nature and which touches every single dimension of our human existence. The Pope invites all to an ecological conversion, to change directions so that we can truly care for our common home;

He challenges all “what kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?”

To rubbish this timely and important message or to relegate it to tree-planting would certainly be a great disservice not to the Pope but to Planet Earth!

– Fr. Cedric Prakash SJ is the Director of PRASHANT, the Ahmedabad-based Jesuit Centre for Human Rights, Justice and Peace.

Thought for the Fortnight

It is a bad plan that admits of no modification

– Publius Syrus

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People’s Reporter
Speak out in order to give a voice to the voiceless

Samuel W. Meshack

[The Rev. Dr. Samuel W. Meshack is the President of the World Association for Christian Communication]

Today, we are experiencing a trend of silencing those who work to give a voice to the voiceless. Journalists are facing threats to their lives or being killed. Press Emblem Campaign (PEC) quoted by IndiaToday reports that a total of 71 journalists were killed from January to June 2015 and not just in war zones. In 2014 a total of 138 journalists was killed. The fundamental right to freedom of speech and freedom of expression is in danger in many parts of the world.

Civil society organizations working towards promoting human rights issues championed by the United Nations are being challenged. For WACC, the Christian principle of communication being prophetic is at stake. How do we fulfill our mission of promoting communication rights in today’s world? How do we achieve ‘communication for all’ in such circumstances? This is a real challenge.

In this respect, we are fortunate that many opportunities are knocking at the door of WACC to partner with civil society organizations and others in the ecumenical movement in ways that raise the profile of WACC as a promoter of communication rights within the UN system and other international bodies. I am confident that with the new Board of Directors, the Officers and the General Secretariat WACC will move forward in its critical and prophetic voice in challenging the powers that be, and in strengthening the voices of the marginalized, dispossessed and silenced.

WACC will soon be completing its Strategic Plan 2012-2016 and entering into a new Strategic Plan. Consequently, 2016 will be a year of preparation. It is a task for the new Board to evaluate the current strategic plan before we consider a new plan to strengthen our mission and advance WACC’s work to promote communication rights for all.

In order to strengthen the Regional Associations and work with them more effectively, we are proposing to set up a Presidents’ Council. The Officers have accepted the proposal and we shall soon start work alongside other committees that support the work of the Board. This is a call for every member of every region to connect with WACC to help promote its vision and mission.

I am honored to have been elected as the President of this prestigious association to continue the task of advancing WACC’s cause, knowing fully well the challenges and opportunities I need to address. However, with everyone’s support both locally, regionally and globally, together we can achieve WACC’s purpose and strengthen our ongoing relationships and partnerships and discover new opportunities for promoting communication for all.

It is my fervent prayer that all WACC’s members and partners worldwide will consciously and conscientiously speak out in order to restore a voice to the voiceless and help preserve the dignity of all through communication.

Enable them to begin a new life

The ‘Shalom Mission’ is taking up the great task of reaching out to those hapless, abused and orphaned sisters and freeing them form the chains of the brothels and enabling them to begin a new life and would be protected so that they would not have to go back to their former life situations.

The Two O’s in the BOOK are great openings to the wide world of knowledge
Urbanization goes hand in hand with rise in urban violence

Vibhuti Patel

[Dr. Vibhuti Patel is the Director of CSSEIP and Professor and Head, Post Graduate Department of Economics, SNDT Women’s University]

Introduction

Urbanisation often goes hand in hand with a rise in urban violence and crime that manifests in terms of street harassment of women and girls, stalking, sexual violence, blackmailing, and extortion rackets. Children and women are seen as soft spots who can be victimized by predators. One such incident in the city is enough and the feeling of insecurity is spread like wild fire. It not only frightens the feeling of insecurity is spread like wild fire. It not only frightens the}

For the interests of the global corporates, we were told mesmerizingly in the 1990s that the Neo-colonization would wipe out our tears and the Market will solve our problem of poverty, when the then PM Rao signed the WTO agreement. But in reality, it has only helped about 800 super-rich people in India to grow richer and own 25% of the national wealth, and make Governance of the Indian Economy totally reel in their hands. These super rich people suggest the National Budget plans, and propose projects that suit their interests. Our shepherds have become thieves and friends of thieves! Result? As per the recent Economic Survey with 14 parameters, conducted by 3 authorities door to door, 51.14% of the rural people in India are in the grip of poverty. 92% of rural homes are run on less than Rs.10k per month. 30% of the rural households own no land and are engaged in manual labour. In Tamil Nadu, 78.06% of the rural families earn less than Rs.5000 per month. Hence, what is needed is a budget that helps us to self-reliant. The Congress and the BJP think, this move of privatization will help the Indian economy.

It is a proven fact that privatization will only help increase the economic gap among people. Employment elasticity is not favouring India. Even a Rs1000 cr investment is not generating even 300 employments. Larger part of the investment goes into land and machine capital. Hence most industries prefer to take workers on contract. In an industry where there are 10,000 workers, only 1000 are their full time employees; rest of them are contract labourers. But the rules are trying to nullify even the existing labour rules and make almost every worker with no labour law provisions. Big capital based industries will only help crony capitalism. Governments and the ruling parties are trying to exploit the labour force.

Lotus plant has a part above the water line; it has another part below the water line. Psychology of the people on either of the water line is different. Those above the water line will always find it difficult to understand the needs and development of the people below the water line. Those below the water line find it difficult to understand the needs and development of those above the water line.

These people think that an Indian is able to purchase a kilo of rice for Rs.40, that Indian has risen above the Poverty Line! They do not consider who will bring the Indian fuel, grocery etc. The wealthy Indians are happy to have 200 cylinders of gas and more to each of their family, but announce and advise the poor, through Governments, for more sacrifices. From the time of Independence, poverty in India

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Law and Order Situation and Street Harassment:

Conflicts in the city make women unsafe. Hostility between rival groups is played on the bodies of women and girls in the form of rape, sexual harassment, provocation for physical assaults. Insular existence harms community spirit. Fear psychosis about safety of women in trains, buses. Incidences of child marriages. More budget allocation is needed for efficient running of Police Helplines -1091 with the help of professional counsellors. For running One-stop crisis centres within public hospitals for women survivors of violence, there needs to make financial provisions for the salaries of doctors, counselling, emergency shelter and legal aid. Along with the financial allocation, transparent guidelines for post trauma care, counselling, rehabilitation, compensation need to be provided so that funs can be used judiciously.

Urban Infrastructure and Safety of Women

For a view of macro-economic policy, gender friendly infrastructure plays pivotal role in creating gender friendly cities. City planners need to make budgetary provision for safe housing and night shelter for homeless women, half way homes for elderly women, information desk for women and men at railway stations/ buses.

Road widening for 4 wheelers and heavy vehicles have taken toll of pavements. More women who have to walk on the streets get harassed by men in moving two-wheelers, three wheelers, autos, rickshaws and taxis. Information desk for women and men at railway stations/ buses, road stations and public places.

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Defend the primacy of human rights over the current model of development

members and friends to strengthen human rights accountability and the application of the human rights based frameworks from the local to the global level;

3. End the impunity of abusers and violators of the human rights to adequate food and nutrition and related rights;

4. Promote the inter - dependence and indivisibility of all human rights;

5. Call for the end to all forms of discrimination and violence against women and recognize the critical role that women play in food systems;

6. Develop analyses and advocacy instruments to publicize the network’s concerns and specific struggles against human rights violations;

7. Enact a binding international human rights instrument for the regulation of Transnational Corporations (TNCs);

8. Promote and protect the human right to adequate food and nutrition in the context of the indivisibility of the human rights of all human beings in particular marginalized populations and groups including, peasants, fisherfolk, pastoralists and indigenous peoples, agriculture and plantation workers, migrants and migrant workers, internally displaced people, refugees and asylum-seekers, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), people living with HIV/ AIDS, dalits,urban poor,people affected by disasters (both natural and man-made), people living under occupation, religious and ethnic minorities, LGBTQI, and other discriminated communities, and in particular women, elderly, young people and children in these communities;

9. Fight for the full realization of all rights of all women including the right to education, to health, to land, to livelihood and equal pay, to all sexual and reproductive rights, to maternaty protection and the right to breastfeeding;

10. Promote the full realization of all rights of children in particular in the first 1000 days of life, within a life cycle approach, by directly tackling the root causes of violations, including by protecting, promoting and supporting optimal breast feeding and local and culturally adequate complementary feeding;

11. Fight corporate capture in all its forms and across sectors, be it of resources, institutions, policy spaces or structures of governance;

12. Resist and reverse dangers posed to food sovereignty and nutrition by commercialization of malnutrition through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) and multi-stakeholder initiatives;

13. Hold States accountable for their Extra Territorial Obligations (ETOs) to regulate corporations and financial institutions.

Safe Cities and Gender Budgeting

Poor women have suffered the most due to budgetary cuts

SAFE CITIES AND GENDER BUDGETING

Page 5
The struggle of the people in the Narmada valley is symbolic of the struggle of millions of common people across the country and is a united fight to sustain peace, justice and democracy in these tough times.

A day-long Convention, was organized at the constitution club on the eve of the 30 years of relentless struggle by the Narmada Bachao Andolan in the Saradar Sarovar project affected areas for their legal, human and constitutional rights. They stated that the decision to raise the dam has serious implications on the lives of thousands of people while on the ground rehabilitation with land and livelihood is far from over. The Convention launched the multidisciplinary Fact-Finding Report, which was decried and a review was called for as also the rehabilitation of all these oustees.

Activists from Gujarat including Rohit Prajapati, Lokanath Misra, Saroj Babri and Krishnakant exposed the hoax of “development” by SSP in Gujarat and questioned the fact that when less than 15% reservoir water is utilized, less than 15% of backwater calculations was decided and a review was called for as also the rehabilitation of all these oustees.

God of Liberation came down and stood with the powerless people and challenged the covetous and told the people of Israel not to covet but follow the policy and principles of justice where the Land belongs to people, and is not of the kings and rulers. God of the Bible and ancient Israel asked for distributive justice and a heart for listening to the cries of the poor.

The Convention began with a presentation by Corn, Haran from A Dynasty of the Bhumi Adhikar from the Left parties were Judgements of the Supreme Court. The Convention was launched by the constitution club of the Narmada Tribunal and the Judgements of the Supreme Court.

More than two hundred people including many present and former MPs, Retired Judges, senior social activists, lawyers, artists, film makers, writers, technical and experts, environmentalists, activists and young persons participated and expressed solidarity with the resilient adivasis, farmers, fisher people, landless and thousands of other Saradar Sarovar Project (SSP) oustees who have been challenging the illegality of the raise in dam height in violation of the binding norms of the Narmada Tribunal and the Judgements of the Supreme Court. Numerous supporters from the Left parties were proffered. The Bhum Adivasi Andolan also participated in the Convention.

Affected people from the Valley highlighted that there is not enough understanding of what happened after displacement, with or without Rehabilitation and Resettlement. As Sanobar bi from Chikhla village said, women were the worst affected. Alluding to the Med’s favourite Swach Bharat Abhiyan, she said “of what use are toilets for people who have no homes or livelihood?”. As Madhya Pradesh’s 3 states spoke of their 30 years of struggle and the gradual integration of their culture because of displacement, lack of good land, poor state of resettlement sites, massive corruption etc.

Veterans Shri Kulpid Nayyar, Admiral Ramdas and Jst. Retd. Rajinder Sachar, who heard the representatives from the three states of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, stated that the struggle in Narmada was emblematic of what was happening in the whole country. They conveyed their complete solidarity and assured that they should raise the issue at every possible fora.

The Convention began with a presentation by Com, Haran, a lawyer, activist and a friend of the people. Com. Haran Mollah, activist, environmentalist Soumya Dutta, senior socialist leader Dr. Sunilam and reservoir expert Dr. Raj Kachroo, who shared their findings and feelings after their visit to the valley and mentioned highlights from their Fact-Finding Report. They stated that the decision to raise the dam has serious implications on the lives of thousands of people while on the ground rehabilitation with land and livelihood is far from over. The Convention launched the multidisciplinary Fact-Finding Report, which was decried and a review was called for as also the rehabilitation of all these oustees.

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To be a disciple of Jesus – 2

Should we follow this ‘mad’ man?

Mammen Varkey

And he went up on the mountain, and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. And he appointed twelve, to be with him, and to be sent out to preach, and have authority to cast out demons. .....

“The very first major experience the twelve had, in their life of discipleship, was that they had to hear their Master being branded ‘mad’, and members of his own family coming ‘to take charge’ of him! Who were these twelve? They were persons who came down with the power for, the excitement and thrill of the possibility of, even casting out demons! That branding implied that they were the followers of a ‘mad’ man. Indirectly, it meant that they were also a set of ‘mad’ people. Could it have been anything but most painful, shocking? Have we ever cared to have a deep reflection on it? Very sadly, many would not have!!

A matter of critical significance

A profound reflection, a deep dwelling into the branding, accusation is of foundational importance in our life of faith, in our discipleship. The right response to it will, in fact, decide whether we are truly following our Master, Jesus of Nazareth, our Lord, Jesus whom the Gospels reveal to us. Or are we following somebody else! It is a matter of critical, decisive significance!

The first question to the disciples

What was the response of the twelve disciples to the first question raised to them in their life of following the Man from Nazareth? No doubt, they were exceedingly joyful, proudly that they all got a selection which many others wanted to have but didn’t. Mark 3: 13. But now, most disturbingly, rather unbearably, they heard that the selection was by a man whom the society branded ‘mad’, - a branding which his family did not challenge so mindlessly approved.

The first conclave of the disciples, to decide on the ‘madness’ of their Master!

Naturally, the twelve came together to have a deliberation on this accusation. It must have been the first occasion, after their selection, to have come together for a deep deliberation on an issue! So, very significantly, the first conclave of the disciples was to take a decision on the ‘madness’ of their Master! What an unfortunate set of disciples they must have been! The twelve disciples knew well that the branding was, indirectly, a call to them, to dissociate themselves from the man and to save themselves from being ‘branded’ mad.

Heated exchanges, opposing views and finally a joint declaration

Certainly, they must have been terribly disturbed. They went into a deep, agonizing deliberation. It is only reasonable to make a guess that there must have been very heated exchanges. The nature of the persons like Judas, Peter, even John and Jacob, revealed to us by the Gospels, should come to our mind. The different questions and responses narrated in the Gospels, in various places, tempt us to make such a guess! Some might have moved the suggestion of even leaving him and going back to boats and nets! In fact, at a later stage in life the majority did it. “Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, ‘I am going fishing.’ They said to him, ‘we will go with you.’ They went out and got into the boat …” Jon 21: 2, 3. So the majority of the twelve who had been called to catch ‘men’ went to catch ‘fish’! Mark 1: 16.

The crucial question before the twelve

The arrival at a consensus must not have been easily at all for them! The painful, agonizing discussions, deliberations led them to a joint decision, a decision of paramount historical decision. What was it? And how did they arrive at that decision?

To be continued
We are initiating a major effort for the promotion of our ecumenical periodical, People’s Reporter, and for streamlining its circulation and related things.

For the last 15 years, by the amazing grace of God, we have never missed the official dates for posting; the 10th and the 25th of every month.

We earnestly solicit your goodwill and whole-hearted co-operation.

- Please feel free to inform us, at the earliest, if you are not getting the People’s Reporter regularly.
- Please renew your subscription, if you have not, already, done it. The annual subscription is Rs. 100/- only for individuals, and Rs. 250/- only for institutions. Please send your subscription by cheque drawn in favour of the People’s Reporter to the address given below. Please send the subscription for 3 or more years together.
- Please make a generous contribution, in addition to your subscription. As you can well understand, the publication of this periodical is a huge financial commitment. So, please, help us as much as you can. We would value it very much.
- Please inform us of the change, if any, in your address.
- We would be happy to publish your articles and reflections, and news, reports and photos of the nationally/internationally important events, you are associated with.

To enlarge PR’s mission and reach, we need your unreserved support. We, very earnestly, appeal to you to introduce the People’s Reporter to as many friends, relatives and concerned persons, as possible. If you will write to them, marking copies to us, either by email or post, we will, then, follow them up directly with them. We would be only happy to send sample copies to prospective subscribers.

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Be sensitive to the people with special needs

The National Council of Churches in India’s (NCCI) Indian Disability Ecumenical Accompaniment (IDEA), the Engage Disability Network (EDN) and Christian Service Agency (CSA) organized the consultation on ‘Towards Inclusive Society: From Disability Perspective’, jointly at the NCCI Campus on 21 July.

The aim of the consultation was to prepare collective action plans to work at the grass-root communities to become inclusive by not considering the people with disabilities (PWDs) as a burden, and not isolating them socially by our attitudes and behaviors including use of derogatory and abusive languages that stigmatize and discriminate the PWDs.

Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad, General Secretary, NCCI, in his presidential address informed that the NCCI had developed a work place policy where there would be ‘zero discrimination’ on the basis of physical fitness, caste, creed, gender and generation in the working environment of the NCCI. He called upon all the organizations and churches and religious institutions to formulate such policies that would promote inclusiveness.

Rev. Anand Michael led the various sessions.

Anand Michael led the various sessions.

Rev. Christopher Rajkumar, Executive Secretary, Commission on Justice, Peace and Creation, NCCI, and the Director of IDEA, noted, “The ‘visible’ disability has become invisible in the society at large since the society, socially and psychologically isolates the PWDs from the access to the public spheres of community life’.

The consultation resolved to work with all the care giving institutions and faith communities to sensitize the society to become inclusive. Reported by the Commission on Justice, Peace and Creation, NCCI

Mr. Philip Alloysis, a trainer, Mrs. Ashrita Bhelwa, an educationist, Rev. Anand Michael, a theologian, Mr. Philip Alloysis, a trainer, Mrs. Cynthia Shinde, a PWD, Mr. Sathia Rabin Das, and Rev. Sathia Rabbin Das, and Rev. Dr. Jacob Marayoor

The views expressed in this paper are not necessarily those of the editors.

The perspective of the paper is from the point of view of the writer.