



**Leadership for
Environment
And
Development**

LEAD Pakistan

Making the Difference

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Marching Towards Sustainable Peace



Bhopal meet: Hopes and expectations Ali Ahmed Jan (LEAD Fellow, Cohort 9)

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LEAD- Pakistan and LEAD- India's joint meeting in Bhopal was a landmark event based on sharing experiences of community development, environment and initiatives for social well being in both the countries. The subject of Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) was chosen keeping in view the similar socio-economic situation in both the countries.

Going by Bus to India was a great decision and all the participants' enjoyed that experience. Going through the places and cities that we heard about since our childhood like Amritsar, the closest city to Lahore, Ambala the home of sweets, Panipat, the famous historical battlefield, Patiala, the home to classical music in sub-continent and Ludhiana the city of Faiz and Sahir was fascinating. The journey from Delhi to Bhopal was another unique experience as the train was going through the historical places like Agra that reminded us a queen as heroine of an eastern love story and Jhansi where a queen fought a freedom fight along with her countrymen to protect her homeland from foreign invaders. Apart from the historical joint meeting Bhopal itself was another unique experience. The Pakistani delegates also visited man-made Wetland of Bhoj, one of the nine Ramsar sites in India with a sound conservation and development plan. The wetland is the only source of water to the city of Bhopal and winter refuge to the migratory birds coming from Siberia via Pakistan. For conservation of the wetland both modern and traditional methods are applied with the participation of immediate stakeholders. Vanbihar National Park is the home of 14 out of total 712 live tigers in Madhya Pradesh where some of the animals have also been caged for safety and recreation purposes.

The participants also discussed about the improving relationships between India and Pakistan with each other in formal and informal modes. Almost all the participants were of the opinion that the benefits of improving relations should also include the neglected sectors like environment, human resource development and cultural ties. India and Pakistan can also initiate conservation of natural resources in the areas where they have been fighting for the last several years. Both the countries should designate such areas in Himalayas as protected under trans-boundary collaboration. The countries should offer their universities and institutions to the needy and deserving students of each other especially the students from border areas so that they can get benefit of this opportunity. India and Pakistan are going through the same nature of crises and facing same kind of problems like poverty, illiteracy, food security and environmental degradation. The citizens of both the countries are of the view that both the countries accept the existence of each other for well being of their people rather than spending their major resources on conflicts.

Bhopal: The host city

Capital of Madhya Pradesh, combines scenic beauty, historicity and modern urban planning. It is situated on the site of an 11th century city, Bhojpal, founded by Raja Bhoj. Bhopal today presents a multi-faceted profile; the old city with its teeming market places and fine old mosques still bears the aristocratic imprint of its former rulers. Equally impressive is the new city with its verdant, exquisitely laid out parks and gardens, broad avenues and streamlined modern edifices.

Event Calendar (September)

No	Trainings	Venue
1.	National Highway rehabilitation project (EMP) (8-9 September 2004)	Karachi
2.	National Highway rehabilitation project (Social aspects) 13-15 September 2004	Karachi
3.	National Highway rehabilitation project (Social aspects) 20-22 September 2004	Karachi



I have been greatly moved by the numerous messages received in the past days, encouraging us to continue with bridge building events such as the one held recently in Bhopal. As you know, I participated in this historic meeting and have never been more proud to be associated with LEAD. I too am convinced that a part of our mission is to do exactly what we did in Bhopal: identify difficult issues, bring good people together, let them work on a common agenda, and expect positive results. **Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Executive Director, LEAD International**

Bhopal gas tragedy- Portrait of a corporate crime: by Mathew Cherian-NPD, LEAD India



In 1984, it looked like the year was the dance of the devil. On Oct 31, Mrs Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her security personnel at her residence. In the aftermath thousands of Sikhs were killed, houses looted and several families displaced permanently.

In the same year on the night of second December the factory of Union Carbide, an international giant in chemicals spewed tonnes of Methyl Iso-Cyanate (MIC) into the unsuspecting night air. In the morning of December 3rd, 1984. Close to 4000 people died.

I used to live in the city of Bhopal and woke up to the news of the disaster. Out of curiosity, I drove to the site of the disaster. There were bodies lying on top of one another at Jayaprakash Nagar and Qazi Camp, poor shanty colonies around the factory. All the bodies had strange saliva like fluid around their mouths. It was a scene from a Nazi holocaust which I had only read in books. The gas had a strange mustard smell as I went into some huts there. I could only remember God in these strange happenings.

I then recall working for the next month on many sites. Twice the city was emptied with false alarms of further leaks. Some left Bhopal for other cities. Soon it resembled a ghost town.

Twenty years later in 2004, LEAD India and Pakistan decided to meet at Bhopal. The fellows and associates came by bus from Lahore to Delhi and then by the Shatabdi (train) to Bhopal city. The meeting on corporate social responsibility (CSR) was very appropriate as Bhopal signifies to companies a landmark in CSR. An example of what companies should not do or have done. It is also strange that compensation never came to the victims even after 20 years. Some live on struggling to meet ends. We also met Mr Satinath Sarangi, an engineer like me, who came in to Bhopal after the tragedy and stayed on to work and fight for the victims. Twenty years later he is still fighting, a unique leader, who was a source of inspiration for LEAD Fellows.

In my opinion, Bhopal was a learning experience if not in content, at least as an emotional and cultural experience – “a journey of love”.

In the end, our society will be defined not only by what we create but by what we refuse to destroy. John Sawhill

Messages from LEAD Family - Beyond the borders

It moves my feelings deeply. It is more than congratulations. **Darwina Widjajanti, National Program Director, LEAD Indonesia.**

These are the very moments that show us how much it is of worth to foster a network such as LEAD! Beyond borders - I am proud to be a LEAD Fellow! Congratulations to LEAD India and LEAD Pakistan.

From: Marcia Reais. LEAD Brazil. Cohort 4

Fly high, both sun bird and moon bird; we can reach together the happiness and the brotherhood.

Congratulation dear Pakistanis and Indian colleagues

From: José Francisco Remolina Suárez (Paco), LEAD Mexico. Cohort 4

The power of the organization has once again been tested and in this exercise, LEAD India and LEAD Pakistan came out not as a network of Fellows but as a community: live and personal, thoughtful and reflective, strong and caring. Congratulations to you all!

Saadat Pulatova, Head, Fellows Services, LEAD International

LEAD India and Pakistan has given a tangible meaning to leadership. **From: Okelo Chigbogu Madukaife LEAD Nigeria, Cohort 8**

The spirit and significance of the Bhopal meeting between LEAD India and Pakistan is a tremendous and very moving instance of what can be accomplished, together. I too find great pride and hope in this. I thought I'd forward another recent example, this time of young Palestinians and Israelis coming to a special Peace camp in Canada, putting aside differences and finding common ground, very much a "mini-LEAD" in essence.

From: Jane Dougan, LEAD Canada, Cohort 3

Could LEAD work towards building sustainable bridges of trust, mutual cooperation and concrete action such as facilitating the collaborative projects for sustainable development, inviting LEAD Fellows to share their expertise/experiences during national training sessions conducted by member program and encouraging joint LEAD Associate Projects.

From: Kirtida Oza, LEAD India, Cohort 9

This is all what LEAD is about -- exploring and achieving new path and solutions toward a greater sustainability through respecting differences, bridging the disparities, equal participation and enhancing our commitment and capacity of understanding each other. Bhopal meeting is a strong demonstration of that we are getting there.

Congratulations LEAD And LEAD Pakistan Associates.

Lailai Li, PH.D. Director, IED/LEAD-China

Fellows and Associates can send us details of their achievements, job alterations, or any other news they wish to share with the LEAD Family. All contributions will be an asset to the bulletin. Write to us at: ldp@lead.org.pk