Conference on food safety and Environmental toxins

Role of labs in a Community struggle
Endosulfan is recommended by KAU and CPCRI replacing Endrin in 1978.

Started use in Cashew plantations to control Tea Mosquito. (Endosulfan is not registered in India till May 2011 for use on cashew to control Tea Mosquito – pest crop combination)

Dr. Banerji Committee recommended severe restrictions not implemented till date.

Endosulfan ban globally came into force on 28 October 2012.

Indian ban as per Supreme Court order since 13 May 2011.

Several studies and committees looked into this issue and today the state government is struggling to implement rehabilitation and remediation work in Kasargod.

The people are fed up and has been waiting long for support.
The illiterate of the 21st century not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn. - Alvin Toffler

Calf in 1978 and girl in 1996 Kasargod showed what endosulfan could to life.

Shree Padre wrote in 1979 “Life is cheaper than cashew”.
Smt Leelakumari started her struggle in 1996
Dr Mohankumar started his community health action in 1997
Munsif Court stopped spraying in Periya in 1998
High court stopped in 2002
Kerala state ban 2005
Life still continues in Padre life is more valued than cashew now.
Role of modern “science” since 1999 after the Long term monitoring studies in Kasargod started by THANAL

Role of lab by CSE lab investigation report published on January 2001

KAU team investigations February 2002

FIPPAT study

NIOH investigation 2002

Kerala Government analytical study in 2010

Calicut Medical college epidemiological study 2010
Labs that analysed samples from Kasargod

- CSE
- KAU
- FIPPAT
- NIOH
- SAICON
- CWRDM
- CUSAT
Worst attacked CSE because it was the only independent lab analysis in the area till date for the community.

- Adviser and main analyst and director CSE personally targeted
- The health study by NIOH and Calicut Medical College also severely attacked

Killing evidence and not engaging in science based approach
- Independent lab study by CSE
  - not paid by any one done as per community demand
  - created the first evidence of proof of poisoning and toxin in village
  - Transparent, observer to verify the process
  - Secondary literature supports all the findings
All the sample was contaminated with Endosulfan

The water sample did not mention solubility of Endosulfan and the reason why it contains more than the soluble levels

Exposed the fact that Endosulfan is present in everything and everywhere in the village Padre

Created benchmark for further studies
- The levels found are both chronic and acute exposure that could not be separated.
- Exposure caused body burden vs consumption was not explained for industry as for them there is only consumption and no exposure.
- Exposed scientific fraud and inaction and collusion of agencies that are supposed to do scientific work.
The change maker also changed From disability to hope and radiating hope to the dispossessed

Shruti was the young girl who attracted many to the cause and that changed her life. So joining struggles is a good idea find your struggles to overcome the disability and to be hopeful.
“People are fed by the food industry, which pays no attention to health, and are treated by the health industry, which pays no attention to food.”

Wendell Berry

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