

Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)



Knowledge-based Activism:
Using information for change

Environment. A matter of perspective



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The beginnings



1980. CSE is born. An institution with a perspective.

Environment. And Science.

Driving change through information and its dissemination.



Why change?

Dual challenge. Requires a new definition of growth.

Environment as a development challenge

Poor survive on their environment.
Environment is biggest asset for economic growth.

But its “sustainable” use demands new management systems.



Why change...

Development as an environmental challenge.

Wealth creation (economic growth) leads to environmental degradation. Don't have money or resources to 'fix' problem. Cannot afford pollution.

Need to leapfrog to new answers.

And how.



A range of activities.

Raising awareness: Down To Earth. State of India's Environment Reports. Websites.

Research and policy advocacy: Sustainable urbanisation. Industry and pollution. Water and wastewater. Health and food safety. Climate change.

And how...



Documentation: Library.
Experts database.
Films and
photographs.

Education and training:
Green college.
Schools. Media.



Media. The multiplier

- Changing nature over the years – the local made news, Chipko, the scenario today.
- Remains extremely important as a driver of change (soft drinks/food).
- Vast storehouse of knowledge and information, but also needs to be constantly fed with new research, new information.
- Connect with organisations like LAMO and CSE.