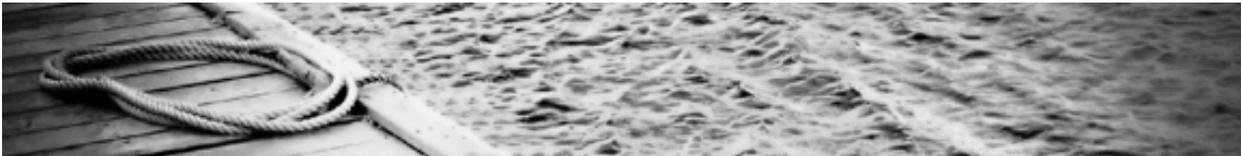


Dr. Vandana Shiva

RESISTING WATER PRIVATISATION, BUILDING WATER DEMOCRACY



A paper on the occasion of the World Water Forum in Mexico City
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Water is life. Without water democracy there can be no living democracy.
Dr. Vandana Shiva

1. Preface: Water Democracy

The biosphere is a biosphere because it is a hydrosphere. The planet's hydrological cycle is a water democracy - a system of distributing water for all species - for the rain forest in the Amazon, the desert life in the Sahara. Nature does not distribute water *uniformly*. It distributes it *equitably*. Uniformity would mean each part of the planet has the same amount of precipitation, in the same quantity, and the same pattern. It would mean the same plants grow across the planet, the same species are found everywhere. But the planet creates and maintains diversity, and this diversity evolves because of diversity in water regimes. However, within each ecosystem, each agro-climatic zone, water is equitably distributed—all species get their share of water. Nature does not discriminate between the needs of a microbe and a mammal, plants and humans. And all humans as a species have the same sustenance needs for water.

Globalization is undermining the planet's water democracy through overexploitation of groundwater, rerouting and diverting of rivers, and privatization of public supply. Since I wrote *Water Wars*, the projects, policies, and processes of water privatization and commodification are much more evident, and the movements for water democracy are much more pervasive. I wrote about Coca-Cola and Pepsi and their water grab. Across India, movements have emerged to resist their water theft and toxic sales. I wrote about dams. There are new plans to reroute all of India's rivers in a major river-linking project and movements are growing to fight these plans. I wrote about World Bank-driven privatization. We are in the midst of resistance to the privatization of Delhi's water supply. The stories about the struggles for water democracy in India are stories being repeated everywhere in the world.

Corporate hijacking of water is facilitated by the creation of corporate states—states that centralize power, destroy federal structures and the constitutional fabric, and usurp and erode fundamental community rights. Struggles of water democracy against corporate giants thus also became struggles against centralizing states. Without centralized state control, privatization is not possible. The market rules through coercive, anti-people, undemocratic states. That is why Earth Democracy, and one of its facets, water democracy, is simultaneously a deepening of democracy and a defense of genuinely democratic structures. It is simultaneously a process of reclaiming the commons and community rights and defending common public goods and public services.

2. Women against Coca-Cola

Women in a small Indian hamlet in Kerala succeeded in shutting down a Coca-Cola plant. “When you drink Coke, you drink the blood of people,” said Mylamma, the woman who started the movement against Coca-Cola in Plachimada.

The Coca-Cola plant in Plachimada was commissioned in March 2000 to produce 1,224,000 bottles of Coca-Cola products a day and issued a conditional license to install a motor-driven water pump by the panchayat (*an elected village council, the editor*). However, the company started to illegally extract millions of liters of clean water. According to the local people, Coca-Cola was extracting 1.5 million liters per day. The water level started to fall, dropping from 150 to 500 feet below the earth’s surface. Tribals and farmers complained that water storage and supply were being adversely affected by indiscriminate installation of bore wells for tapping groundwater, resulting in serious consequences for crop cultivation. The wells were also threatening traditional drinking-water sources, ponds and water tanks, waterways and canals. When the company failed to comply with the panchayat request for details, a show-cause notice was served and the license was cancelled. Coca-Cola unsuccessfully tried to bribe the panchayat president A. Krishnan, with 300 million rupees.

Not only did Coca-Cola steal the water of the local community, it also polluted what it didn’t take. The company deposited waste material outside the plant which, during the rainy season, spread into paddy fields, canals, and wells, causing serious health hazards. As a result of this dumping, 260 bore wells provided by public authorities for drinking water and agriculture facilities have become dry. Coca-Cola was also pumping wastewater into dry bore wells within the company premises. In 2003, the district medical officer informed the people of Plachimada their water was unfit for drinking. The women, who already knew their water was toxic, had to walk miles to get water. Coca-Cola had created water scarcity in a water-abundant region.

The women of Plachimada were not going to allow this hydropiracy. In 2002 they started a *dharna* (sit-in) at the gates of Coca-Cola. On September 21, 2003, a huge rally delivered an ultimatum to Coca-Cola. And in January 2004, a World Water Conference brought global activists like Jose Bové and Maude Barlow to Plachimada to support the local activists. A

movement started by local adivasi women had unleashed a national and global wave of people's energy in their support.

The local panchayat used its constitutional rights to serve notice to Coca-Cola. The Perumatty panchayat also filed public interest litigation in the Kerala High Court against Coca-Cola. The court supported the women's demands and, in an order given on December 16, 2003, Justice Balakrishnana Nair ordered Coca-Cola to stop pirating Plachimada's water. Justice Nair's decision stated:

The public trust doctrine primarily rests on the principle that certain resources like air, sea, waters, and the forests have such a great importance to the people as a whole that it would be wholly unjustified to make them a subject of private ownership. The said resources being a gift of nature, they should be made freely available to everyone irrespective of their status in life. The doctrine enjoins upon the government to protect the resources for the enjoyment of the general public rather than to permit their use for private ownership or commercial purpose....

Our legal system—based on English common law—includes the public trust doctrine as part of its jurisprudence. The State is the trustee of all natural resources, which are by nature meant for public use and enjoyment. Public at large is the beneficiary of the seashore, running waters, airs, forests, and ecologically fragile lands. The State as a trustee is under a legal duty to protect the natural resources. These resources meant for public use cannot be converted into private ownership.

On February 17, 2004, the Kerala chief minister, under pressure from the growing movement and a drought-aggravated water crisis, ordered the closure of the Coca-Cola plant. The victory of the movement in Plachimada was the result of creating broad alliances and using multiple strategies. The local movement of women in Plachimada triggered recognition of people's community rights to water in law, while also triggering movements against the 87 other Coca-Cola and Pepsi plants where water is being depleted and polluted. The Plachimada issue is currently in the Indian Supreme Court and the plant remains closed.

Plachimada Declaration

Water is the basis of life; it is the gift of nature; it belongs to all living beings on earth.

Water is not private property. It is a common resource for the sustenance of all.

Water is the fundamental human right. It has to be conserved, protected, and managed. It is our fundamental obligation to prevent water scarcity and pollution and to preserve it for generations.

Water is not a commodity. We should resist all criminal attempts to marketize, privatize, and corporatize water. Only through these means we can ensure the fundamental and inalienable right to water for people all over the world.

The Water Policy should be formulated on the basis of this outlook.

The right to conserve, use, and manage water is fully vested with the local community. This is the very basis of water democracy. Any attempt to reduce or deny this right is a crime.

The production and marketing of the poisonous products of the Coca-Cola and Pepsi Cola corporations lead to total destruction and pollution and also endangers the very existence of local communities.

The resistance that has come up in Plachimada, Puduchery, and in various parts of the world is the symbol of our valiant struggle against the devilish corporate gangs who pirate our water.

We, who are in the battlefield in full solidarity with the adivasis who have put up resistance against the tortures of the horrid commercial forces in Plachimada, exhort the people all over the world to boycott the products of Coca-Cola and Pepsi Cola.

Coca-Cola, Pepsi Cola: “Quit India”

Plachimada created new energy for local resistance everywhere. In May 2004, groups from across India fighting against water mining met in Delhi to coordinate their actions as the Coca-Cola–Pepsi Quit India Campaign.

Every plant is a Plachimada in the making. Coca-Cola set up a plant in Kaladere, Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan, in 1999. The water table has since dropped from 40 to 125 feet, leaving wells and hand pumps dry. The protest against Coca-Cola has been growing there, and an eminent Gandhian, Siddharaj Dodda, was arrested when he joined a peaceful march to demand the closure of the plant. In its ruling on a public-interest case, the Rajasthan High Court ordered the cola giants to stop sales for refusing to disclose the contents of their products. Coca-Cola and Pepsi challenged the High Court’s order in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court ruled against the soft drink giants and ordered disclosure according to the Rajasthan ruling. The Center for Public Interest Litigation, through its lawyer Prashant Bhushan, has filed a writ demanding full disclosure on the basis of the toxic hazards contained in the drinks.

On December 2, 2004, the 20th anniversary of the Bhopal tragedy, a major conference called “Detoxification” drew connections between the toxic leak at the Union Carbide pesticide plant in 1984; the continued spread of toxins in agriculture through pesticides, herbicides, and GMOs; and the toxins in soft drinks sold by Coca-Cola and Pepsi, which farmers have shown to be effective as pesticides.

In Mehdiganj, 20 kilometers from the holy city of Varanasi, villagers are protesting against the Coca-Cola plant. The water table has dropped by 40 feet, and the fields around the plant are polluted. On May 10, 2003, a hundred people demonstrated, and Jagrupa Devi, an elderly woman, was sent to the hospital bleeding with head injuries. On September 10, 2003, 500 people protested; 14 were injured, 76 were arrested. In October 2003, a case was filed against Coca-Cola for stealing people’s water. On January 20, 2005 thousands of people blockaded Coca-Cola and Pepsi plants across India and served notices to the cola giants to stop water theft. Hundreds of schools and colleges have declared themselves “Coke–Pepsi free zones.”

(A list of existing and planned Cola-Factories in India can be found in Annex 1 at the end of this text)

3. Rerouting Rivers: The Dream Project For Water Privateers

Free-flowing rivers are free, in the sense that they do not need capital investment, they are not enclosed, and their waters are accessible to all. Water locked in dams and canals are captive waters. They can be privatized, commoditized, bought, sold, and controlled by the powerful. The massive \$200 billion *River Linking Project*, supported in part by the World Bank, is a key to the privatization of water and the enclosure of India's water commons.

The River Linking Project is divided into two broad components: the Himalayan component and the Peninsular component (*for the details: see Annex 2*). The Himalayan part consists of 14 river links with an estimated cost of 3,750 trillion rupees, and the Peninsular component consists of 16 river links, estimated at 1.85 trillion rupees (100 rupees equal € 1.88 as of March 2006).

Even the minimum estimated cost of 5,600 trillion rupees equals one-quarter of India's annual gross domestic product (GDP), two-and-a-half times its annual tax collection, and twice its present foreign exchange reserves. The cost of this project, according to the government's economic survey for 2001–2002, is higher than India's gross domestic savings and more than \$12 billion higher than India's total outstanding external debt. Where is capital of this magnitude available?

The only option would be funds from international sources. Such funding would place a debt of about \$112 on every Indian —20 percent of the average annual income. The annual interest would range between 200 and 300 trillion rupees. It also raises questions about how this loan would be repaid and what guarantees will be needed to secure it.

External borrowing on this scale would also make future governments more vulnerable to foreign financial pressures. The real threat is that after starting the project with much fanfare and investing thousands of crores into it, a future government would have to simply abandon the project as its financial implications become clear, leaving billions of cubic meters of earth dug up and the face of the country scarred for centuries. In that scenario the only alternative left would be to hand over the project - along with the country's entire water resources to multinational corporations.

The Research Foundation has studied the first link - the Ken–Betwa link - which is being financed by the World Bank. The Ken–Betwa river linking project includes constructing a 73-meter-high dam on the Ken in Bundelkhand, on the border of the Chattarpur and Panna districts, and a 231-kilometer-long canal which will connect the Ken and Betwa. Seventy-five percent of the estimated 20 billion rupees will be extracted from the local peasants out of various taxes imposed over the next 25 years. That is why the government is proposing such crops, which are water intensive, leading to a hike in water tax.

Fifty square kilometers of Panna Tiger National Park would be submerged by this interlinking project. This national park, through which the Ken flows, is a natural homeland of 10 endangered species listed under Schedule 1 of the 1972 Wildlife Protection Act. This interlinking and transfer of water will affect not only these animal species but also the vegetation, as hundreds of thousands of trees would be cut.

This project proposes five dams altogether, one on the Ken and four on the Betwa, which would displace around 18 villages. All five dams are proposed to be built in protected forest area. The four dams on the Betwa would submerge 800 hectares of forest.

While the Indian government wants to transfer 1 billion cubic meters of water to the Betwa, the Irrigation Departments of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are of the opinion that the Ken does not have that much water. The government's aim of transferring water from the so-called surplus areas to watershort areas cannot be realized. Moreover, as the Ken does not have surplus water and as the Betwa has enough water, the Ken and Betwa river belts would get affected by drought and flood respectively.

As arithmetic the plan appears to balance – water taken out for storage is returned. However, the plan removes water during drought and returns it during flooding, aggravating both. The study by RFSTE shows that even after escalating drought in 40 villages affecting 75,000 hectares of land in the district of Banda and flood in 200 villages causes devastation in 400,000 hectares of land in Hamirpur district, the link canal will remain without water for four months during summer. Unique species of fish, each one known throughout India by the name of the pond or lake in which it lives, will be lost. Five thousand fishermen in Chattarpur and 15,000 in Tikamgarh, whose livelihood is dependent on these fisheries, will face severe famines.

As a result of the water democracy movement in the Bundelkhand region, the government of Uttar Pradesh has refused to transfer the water of the Ken and the people of the Ken basin are determined to resist the river-linking project. Every village in the basin has passed a resolution to declare that water is a commons and that community rights have to be the basis of any water plan or project. Furthermore, the Ken–Betwa link canal would go through places where traditional irrigation has been available for the last 500 years. One district that would get a new irrigation canal is Tikamgarh, but through the ponds constructed by the kings of Chandel and Bundel dynasties, Tikamgarh is already one of the most irrigated agricultural areas in the whole of Bundelkhand.

A first water parliament was organized on July 23, 2003, at Orchha, to launch the non-cooperation campaign against the River Linking Project. Since then many river yatras (pilgrimages) and water parliaments have been organized in the region. A Betwa yatra was organized from 12th November to 17th November and a fifteen day Ken yatra was organized from 31st December, 2005 to 14th January, 2006. The yatra ended with a water parliament organized on “Makarsankranti” (a day of when people take a holy dip in rivers) at Chilla the confluence of the Yamuna and Ken rivers. The entire region has been charged with the spirit of water democracy. As a local organizer puts it, “They destroyed Iraq with bombs. But patents on seeds and diversion of rivers are also bombs that will destroy us. That is why we must resist them.” Far away from the glare of global media, ordinary people are making history, not by organizing arms to fight a brutal empire but by selforganizing their lives—their resources, their cultures, their economies—to defeat the empire by turning their back to it, rejecting its tools and its logic, refusing its chains and its dictatorship.

4. Creating Water Democracy in Delhi

Delhi, India's capital, has been sustained for centuries by the river Yamuna. The 16th-century poet Sant Vallabhacharya wrote a most famous poem, the *Yamunastakam*, in praise of the Yamuna.

But two decades of industrialization have turned the Yamuna into a toxic sewer. Instead of stopping the pollution, the World Bank, using the scarcity created by the pollution, pushed the Delhi government to privatize Delhi's water supply and get water from the Tehri Dam on the Ganges, hundreds of miles away. A privatized plant that could have been built for 1 billion rupees has cost the public 7 billion rupees.

The privatization of Delhi's water supply is centered around the Sonia Vihar water treatment plant. The plant, which was inaugurated on June 21, 2002, is designed at a cost of 1.8 billion rupees for a capacity of 635 million liters a day on a 10-year build-operate-transfer (BOT) basis. The contract between Delhi Jal Board and the French company Odeo Degremont (a subsidiary of Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux Water Division—the water giant of the world), is supposed to provide safe drinking water for the city.

The water for the Suez-Degremont plant in Delhi will come from the Tehri Dam through the Upper Ganga Canal to Muradnagar in western Uttar Pradesh and then through the giant pipeline to Delhi. The Upper Ganga Canal, which starts at Haridwar and carries the holy water of the Ganga to Kanpur via Muradnagar, is the main source of irrigation for this region.

Suez is not bringing in private foreign investment. It is appropriating public investment. Public-private partnerships are, in effect, private appropriation of public investment. But the financial costs are not the highest costs. The real costs are social and ecological.

The Ganga is also being transformed from a river of life to a river of death by the ecological consequences of damming and diversion. The Tehri Dam, located in the outer Himalaya, in the Tehri-Garhwal district of Uttaranchal, is planned to be the fifth highest dam in the world. If completed, it will be 260.5 meters high and create a lake spread over an area of 45 square kilometers of land in the Bhagirathi and Bhilangana valleys. The dam will submerge 4,200 hectares of the most fertile flat land in those valleys without benefiting the region in any way.

Additionally, the area is earthquake prone and the huge Tehri Dam is located in a seismic fault zone. Between 1816 and 1991, there have been 17 earthquakes in the Garhwal region, with recent ones occurring in Uttarkashi in 1991 and Chamoli in 1998. The International Commission on Large Dams has declared the dam site “extremely hazardous.”

If the dam collapses from an earthquake—or from any other fault, such as a landslide—the devastation will be unimaginable. The huge reservoir will be emptied in 22 minutes. Within an hour Rishikesh will be under 260 meters of water. Within the next 23 minutes Haridwar will be submerged under 232 meters of water. Bijnor, Meerut, Hapur, and Bulandshahar will be under water within 12 hours.⁹ The dam is potentially dangerous for large parts of northwestern India, and large areas in the Gangetic Plain could be devastated.

Already, the islands of silt are rising faster than the captured water. It is estimated that the life of the dam would not be more than 30 years because of the heavy sedimentation. The Tehri Dam will hold silt, not water, and create floods, not prevent them.

Diversion, too, spells catastrophe. The disappearance of the Ganga in the peak of the summer of 2003 was an experiment allegedly to clean the “ghats” at Haridwar, but designed to test how much violence a society will tolerate as mute witnesses to our own destruction. The people of Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi can turn around this violent, abusive experiment and transform the conversion of the lifeblood of our rivers from corporate commodities into an experience for ensuring water justice and sustainability.

The people of Tehri can never be compensated for the uprooting of their lives. The women are still sitting on a *dharna*, refusing to move, even though the government paid contractors to break down the homes to force the people out. All local water development projects in the dam catchment area have been canceled on the grounds that the government has no money and because every drop of Ganga water must flow into the dam. Nearly a hundred women are said to have committed suicide in the Pratap Nagar area for lack of water, even though the Ganga flows below their villages. As one woman declared, “The Ganga, which was our mother, has become our graveyard.” Privatization of water denies local communities their water rights and access to water.

On December 1, 2004, water tariffs were increased in Delhi. While the government stated the increase was necessary for recovering costs of operation and maintenance, the tariff increase is ten times more than what is needed to run Delhi's water supply. The reason for the increase is to lay the ground for the privatization of Delhi's water and ensure superprofits for the private operators. Increasing tariffs *before* privatization is part of the World Bank's tool kit. In preparation for full privatization, the "private-public partnership" increases tariffs of public utilities, in order to "support a commercial operation," that is, guarantee profit margins. Service and management contracts can be introduced while the government increases tariffs. The tariff increase is not a democratic or a need-based decision. It has been imposed by the World Bank. The Delhi Jal Board (the city's water board) cites a study on privatization done by Price Waterhouse Cooper under the auspices of the World Bank as the justification for increase in tariff in addition to a World Bank technical paper on water pricing.

Delhi's water operation and maintenance budget is 3.44 billion rupees. The public utility has recovered 2.7 billion rupees due to non-revenue losses such as leaks and thefts. A conference on "public-public partnership" showed how public and community participation can recover an additional 5 billion rupees by preventing leaks and theft. By preventing leaks and theft through people's participation, the public water utility can increase water availability as well as its income.

This 7 to 8 billion rupee recovery is twice the amount needed to operate and maintain the water system.

However, the tariff increase will allow a recovery of 30 billion rupees, tenfold more than needed, guaranteeing a profit of more than 26.66 billion rupees to the corporations waiting to grab Delhi's water supply. An extra 10 percent increase is built into the tariff restructuring, which will double the profits for water privateers in seven years. This profit is created not by providing better services, but by doubling the financial burden on citizens, especially the poor.

Changes in categories hide significant tariff increases. Schools and agriculture have been redefined as industry. *Piaos*, public, free water stalls which form a core part of India's gift of water culture, must also pay for water. How will they give water to the thirsty? Cremation grounds, temples, homes for the disabled, and orphanages which previously paid 30 rupees will now have to pay thousands of rupees. The cash-strapped social

institutions cannot pay. The World Bank–driven policies explicitly state that there needs to be a shift from social to commercial value. This worldview lies at the root of the conflict between water privatization and water democracy.

Many privatization myths have been used to justify the tariff increases. The first is the myth of full cost recovery. The privaters logic is that water tariffs need to be increased because the full cost of providing water must be recovered. However, as far as operations are concerned, the tariff increase implies a “tenfold recovery,” that is, 10 times more than full cost. However, as we have shown, private companies do not make investments. Investments are made by the public, both in terms of setting up water systems historically and in terms of the World Bank loans that impose privatization. The private operators have made no investment, but will harvest 1 trillion rupees of public investment. Therefore, when full costs are accounted for, the public has made the investments and water systems must stay in public hands as a common good.

The second myth of water privatization is that it will improve services to the poor. Delhi’s new supply from Sonia Vihar will go to the rich South Delhi areas, not to the slums. The claim that the poor will get 40 liters per day for free as a “lifeline” is also false, since the new tariff structure will collect 40 rupees as a flat rate even from the slums where homes do not have water connections.

A third myth is that increased tariffs will lead to reduced use. This myth is a corollary to the myth that water waste is linked to water not being priced on the market. Women who walk 10 miles for water do not waste a drop, even though their water is not provided through market transactions. And the rich can waste water in spite of increased tariffs because compared with their incomes, the increase is insignificant. Privatization rewards this waste. The project to supply water to rich colonies 24/7 is an encouragement to waste. This waste does not just divert water from the poor in Delhi, it diverts water from other regions.

Delhi’s ever growing water demands have already led to major diversions of water from other regions. Delhi already gets 455 million liters from the Ganga. With the Sonia Vihar plant’s demand for 635 million liters, 1,090 million liters per day are diverted from the Ganga. Further diversions of three billion cubic meters per second from the Ganga is built into the Sharda and Yamuna river link. Delhi is also demanding 180 million liters per

day to be diverted from Punjab's Dhakra dam. Water will also be diverted to Delhi from the Renuka dam on the Giri river (1,250 million cubic liters per day) and Keshau dam on the Tons river (610 million cubic liters per day).

These diversions will have huge ecological and social costs. On June 13, 2005, five farmers were shot protesting the diversion of water from Bisalpur dam for Jaipur city through an Asian Development Bank project. The mega diversion for water waste by the rich in Delhi could trigger major water wars.

Building water democracy means building alliances. Of citizens groups in Delhi and people's movements along the Ganges, each group helped frame the struggle against privatization and everyone's issue became a key to resistance (*see Annex 3 for a detailed schedule of events*). The 100,000 people displaced by Tehri Dam were linked to the millions of Indians who hold the Ganges as sacred, who, in turn, were connected to farmers whose land and water would be appropriated. Millions signed petitions saying, "Our Mother Ganga is not for sale." A Jal Swaraj Yatra (a water democracy journey) was organized from March 15 to 22, 2004, on World Water Day. We did Ganga Yatras to rejuvenate the living culture of the sacred Ganges. A million people were reached; 150,000 signed a hundred-meter "river" of cloth to protest privatization. The government of Uttaranchal (where the Tehri Dam is located) and the government of Uttar Pradesh (from where the water was to be diverted) refused to supply water to the Suez plant in Delhi.

We do not need privatization or river diversions to address Delhi's water problems. We have shown how with equitable distribution and a combination of conservation, recycling, and reduction in use, Delhi's water needs can be met locally. We need democracy and conservation. The seeds for the water democracy movement in Delhi have been sown. We now have to nurture them to reclaim water as a commons and a public good.

On 1st and 2nd February 2006 a conference on Building Water democracy, Resisting Water Privatisation", Navdanya brought together 200 water warriors from across the country including Dr. Ramaswamy Iyer, Mr. Sunderlal Bahuguna, Cdr. Sureshwar Singh, Mr. Anupam Mishra, Mr. Shantam Seth, Mr. Rajender Singh, Maj. Gen. Vombatkere. Collectively all water activists took a pledge to create water democracy (Jal Swaraj) and defend peoples community right to water as a commons.

Citizens statement on Water tariff increase

The citizens of Delhi are committed to conservation and equitable use of our scarce, but precious water resources.

We are also committed to defend our fundamental right to water, which can only be protected through a public system which treats water as a public good and essential service. Our right to water propels our pledge to keep Delhi's water supply in the public domain.

We condemn the anti-democratic, unjustified hike in tariffs announced by the Delhi government on November 30, 2004, which is a preparation for water privatization.

Citizens have offered models for public-private partnership to reduce waste and reduce costs, and provide safe, clean, affordable water for all.

The tariff increase carried out by the Delhi Jal Board on World Bank dictate will promote waste by the rich and put a burden on the poor. This "rationalization" might suit World Bank rationality to privatize and commodify the last drop of water. However, it goes against our culture and our constitutional rights.

The Government and World Bank are paving the way for Multinational Corporations (MNC) like Suez to take control over our water. The contract for the Sonia Vihar plant has already been given to Suez-Degremont. With the tariff increase, a profitable "water market" is being created for MNCs.

As a brand new citizens' alliance of residents, environmental groups, religious groups, health groups, water workers, we will continue to work creatively and constructively to defend "water for life, not for profits." We will not allow our water to be hijacked. We will not let our democratic rights be bypassed. We will not let our fundamental right to water be eroded.

Toward that goal we created the Citizens Front for Water Democracy on December 1, 2004, in response to the announcement of the tariff increase.

Freedom is now being reborn in India's villages, from within the community. The torch of freedom is being carried by people, in peace, in partnership. This new freedom movement shaping water freedom and water democracy is challenging the idea of water as a marketable commodity and water privatization as an ideology. The two philosophies of water democracy vs water dictatorship came in deep confrontation when the President of the World Bank Paul Wolfowitz visited India and the water democracy movement organized a protest and submitted a memorandum to tell the World Bank to keep its hand off our water.

Annex 1: Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola-Factories in India

Sr. No.	Plant Name	Location
1.	HCC North West Pvt. Ltd	Ambawadi, Ahmedabad
2.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Wada, Thane
3.	Kothari Beverages Ltd	Shahapur, Thane
4.	Maestro Industries / HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Mulshi, Pune
5.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Nashik
6.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	MIDC, Nashik
7.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Salcete, Goa
8.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Rajbhawan Rd., Bhopal
9.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Arera Colony, Bhopal
10.	Godrej Foods Ltd.	Metagalli, Mysore
11.	South India Beverages / HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Bidadi Unit, Bangalore
12.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd.	Ramnagar, Mandya
13.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Chittur, Palakkad
14.	Nest Foods Beverage Co.	Venala, Cochin
15.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Madurai
16.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Nimam, Thirvallur, T.N.
17.	S.R. Mineral Water Ltd/ HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Alwarpet, Chennai
18.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd.	Settigunta Rd., Nellore
19.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd.	Guntur, Vijayawada
20.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd.,	Rajamundri, A.P.
21.	Sri Sarvaraya Sugars Ltd.	Vemagiri, East Godavari
22.	Sri Sarvaraya Sugars Ltd.	Mandalam, Khammam
23.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd.	Maula Ali, Secunerabad
24.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Manchukonda Garden, Visakhapatman

25.	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Vizag
26	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Khurda
27	Superior Drinks Pvt. Ltd.	SBI Hingna, Nagpur
28	Narmada Drink Pvt. Ltd.	Sirgitti, Bilaspur
29	Diamond Beverages Pvt. Ltd.	Taratala Rd., Calcutta
30	Bengal Beverages Pvt Ltd.,	Dankuni Ind. Area, Hooghly
31	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	A.T. Rd., Jorhat
32	HCCB Pvt. Ltd.	Ulbari, Guwahati
33	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Phulbari, Siliguri
34	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Adityapur, Jamshedpur
35	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Ind. Area, Patna
36	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Rajatalab, Varanasi
37	Amrit Bottles Pvt. Ltd.	Semar, Faizabad
38	Brindavan Bottkes (P) Ltd.	Safedabad, Barabanki
39	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Kanpur
40	Brindavan Beverages Ltd	Ruheri, Hathras
41	Brindavan Beverages Ltd	Parsekhera, Bareilly
42	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Kotwali Rd., Najibabad
43	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Dasna, Ghaziabad
44	Moon Beverages Ltd/ HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Masuri, Ghaziabad
45	Moon Beverages Ltd/	Ind. Area, Sahibabad
46	HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Vikas Marg, Delhi
47	Enrich Agro Food Products Ltd.	Dundahera, Gurgoan
48	Satyam Food Specialities / HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Kaladera, Jaipur
49	Kandhari Beverages Ltd.,	Ind. Area, Chandigarh
50	Kandhan Beverages Ltd.,	Baddi Ind. Area, Solan
51	Ludhiana Beverages Ltd	GT Rd., Ludhiana
52	Amritsar Crown Caps Pvt Ltd.,	Nawankot, Amritsar
53	Amritsar Crown Caps Pvt Ltd.,	GT Rd., Amritsar
54	Kandhari Beverages Ltd,	Nabipur, Fatehgarh Sahib
55	IFCA Bottling Co. Ltd. / HCCB Pvt. Ltd	Gangyal, Jammu

Some more plants of Coke/ Pepsi is expected to be at:

Sr. No.	Plant Name	Location
1	Moon Beverages Ltd	Unnao
2	Sri Sarvaraya Sugars Ltd	Sathupally
3	MVR	Nagalapuram
4	Global Aqua Pvt. Ltd	Dankuni
5	Ganpati Beverages Pvt. Ltd.	Jaipur
6	Crystal Springs Pvt. Ltd	Taratala
7	Surbhi Milk Foods and Beverages Ltd	Ahmedabad
8	Sri Vinayaka Products Ltd	Mumbai
9	Kothari Beverages Ltd	Nadiad
10	Bharatiyam Foods & Bev.	Bidadi
11	Himjal Beverages Pvt. Ltd	Hyderabad

Annex 2: Components of the River Linking Project in India

The Himalayan Component includes

Kosi–Mechi Link
Kosi–Ghaghra Link
Gandak–Ganga Link
Ghaghra–Yamuna Link
Sarda–Yamuna Link
Yamuna–Rajasthan Link
Rajasthan–Sabarmati Link
Chunar–Sone Barrage Link
Sone Dam–Southern Tributaries of Ganga Link
Brahmaputra–Ganga Link (Manas-Sankosh Tista–Ganga)
Brahmaputra–Ganga Link (Jogighopa Tista–Farakka)
Farakka–Sunderbans Link
Ganga–Damodar–Sundernarekha Link
Subernarekha–Mahanadi Link

The Peninsular Component Includes

Mahanadi (Manibhadra)–Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) Link
Godavari (Polavaram)–Krishna (Vijayawada) Link
Godavari (Inchamapli)–Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) Link
Godavari (Inchamapalli Low Dam)–Krishna (Nagarjunasagar Tail Pond) Link
Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)–Pennar (Somasila) Link
Krishna (Srisailem)–Pennar Link
Krishna (Almatti)–Pennar Link
Pennar (Somasila)–Cauvery (Grand Anicut) Link
Cauvery (Kattalai)–Vaigai (Gundar) Link
Parbati – Kalishindh–Chambal Link
Damanganga–Pinjal Link
Par-Tapi–Narmada Link
Ken–Betwa Link
Pamba–Achankovil–Vaippar Link
Netravati–Hemavati Link
Bedti–Varda Link

Annex 3: Water Privatisation in Delhi and People’s Movements that Stalled it

1998	World Bank’s entry in Delhi and restructuring of public utility. Creation of Delhi Jal Board.
2000	Project preparation facility advance of \$ 2.5 million by World Bank
2001	World Bank consultants Price Waterhouse Coopers draws up proposals for privatization, including contracts for Sonia Vihar, Water Tariffs, 24x7 scheme and water legislation
21 st June 2002	Sonia Vihar Plant inaugurated by Delhi Chief Minister
August 2002	“Ganga Yatra” – People’s movements against diversion of Ganga water to Delhi declares “Mother Ganga is not for Sale”. Pressure built up on Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh Governments not to supply it.
2003	Sonia Vihar Plant is not commissioned. People’s first victory
22 nd March 2003	Citizens Front for Water Democracy to stop Delhi’s water (World Water Day) privatization launched
30 th November 2003	Delhi Jal Board announces increase in water tariffs. Citizens front for water democracy calls for non-cooperation movement against increased tariffs.
15 th – 22 nd March 2004	Jal Swaraj Yatra against water privatization. 1.5 million people participated.
Mid 2004	Delhi Jal Board tries to run 24x7 scheme without Sonia Vihar supply by diverting water from poor to the rich.
Late 2004	Time table prepared for implementation. Target date mid 2005, scheme to spread to five other

	zones by October 2006 and the whole of Delhi by 2015
Early 2005	DJB shortlists firms for project. Criticism from several quarters, especially NGOs and Water Workers Alliance, alleging 24x7 was a move towards the “privatization” of DJB. Civic body shifts target date to September 2005, then year end
September	Delhi Government writes to World Bank that they have put the 24x7 project on hold “for the time being”
November 23, 2005	Delhi Government writes to center that they are withdrawing the World Bank loan application