

ABU DHABI VATAVARAN SCREENING SCHEDULE
Venue: India Social & Cultural Centre, Cinema Hall, Abu Dhabi
28 – 30 June 2006

Wednesday, June 28, 2006

8.30 pm **MILES TO GO**
English / 58 minutes - Director: Nina Subramani

A bus journey across India - 7 states, 6000 kilometers in just 60 days. But this would be unlike any other journey. The chosen destinations will never feature in a tourist brochure of must-see's - this is the story of India's forgotten backyards, of people brushed under the carpet of indifference and apathy; a story of individuals fighting all odds for their basic rights - a story of a thousand revolutions in a thousand Bhopal.

9.30 pm **A SECOND HAND LIFE**
English and Hindi / 26 minutes - Director: Nutan Manmohan

A 26-minute investigative documentary on e-waste This investigative film brings to light the grim, murkier side of information technology. Tonnes of electronic waste from obsolete computers and televisions are being exported to India from the Western world.

10.00 pm **CHALIYAR THE FINAL STRUGGLE**
Malayalam with English subtitles / 35 minutes - Director: P Baburaj

In the death of a river rests a story. But the real story is about the rejuvenation of a dying river. It is about humans getting together to save their lifeline, the river. *Chaliyar – the final struggle* is a film that frames this story; an ode to the untiring zest of a people. In the villages of Vazhyoor and Vazhakkad in Kerala, the Chaliyar river has been polluted by an industry built on its banks, the Grasim Mavoor Rayons factory.

Thursday, June 29, 2006

8.30 pm **MINDLESS MINING – THE TRAGEDY OF KUDREMUKH**
English / 12 minutes - Director: Shekar Dattatri

In the Western Ghats of Karnataka, right in the heart of the Kudremukh National Park, a huge iron ore mining operation has been destroying the hills for over twenty years. Every year heavy monsoon rains wash the loose soil on the mined slopes into the Bhadra river, leading to erosion and siltation on a massive scale.

9.00 pm **KANDAN POKKUDAN**
Amrita TV focusing on Festival - Malayalam / 25 minutes

A very good environmental documentary on Kandan Pokkudan, a crusader to save the dying mangrove forests of Kerala, produced by Amrita TV.

9.30 pm

IMAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

Bengali with English subtitles / 25 minutes - Director: Pramod Gupta

During the past ten years, in the city of Kolkata, nearly a hundred thousand people were uprooted from their sources of livelihood, in the manner of development. Force and violence are, and were always, integral parts of the history of human development and progress.

10.00 pm

IN GOD'S OWN COUNTRY

Malayalam with English subtitles / 28 minutes - Director: Rajani Mani & Nina Subramani

Who are the children of Kasaragode? What is their life like? The film tells the story of a community that refuses to leave its ancestral home but instead stays to fight for its basic right to pure air and water. Imagine a place so beautiful you long never to leave its hills.

Friday, June 30, 2006

8.30 pm

RIVER TAMING MANTRAS

English / 31 minutes - Director: Sanjay Barnela & Vasant Saberwal

A panoramic view of recurring floods in Bihar; causes consequences, responses. River Taming Mantras explores the technological, economic and political rationale that underlies the adoption of such flood control measures. Ultimately, it is the poor people who suffer-migrating to other states, towns and cities in search of food and water.

9.00 pm

THE MANY FACES OF MADNESS

English / 19 minutes - Director: Amar Kanwar

The Many Faces of Madness is a short film that emerges from the reality of destruction and the appropriation of the commons in India. This film with its images of contemporary ecological destruction in India brings people face to face with the intensity and impact of globalisation and industrialisation, of commerce and greed, as it travels through images from different parts of India, revealing glimpses of traditional water harvesting systems, mining, chemical pollution, community forest protection, displacement, deforestation, biopiracy and coastal ecosystems.

9.30 pm

THE 18th ELEPHANT - 3 MONOLOGUES

Malayalam with English subtitles / 62 minutes - Director: P. Balan

This film is a critique of modern man's mercenary attitude towards nature and his anthropocentric conception of development. The sad plight of the elephant in both its wild and domesticated states exposes how such behavior brings death and wreaks havoc on the lives and habitats of other species.