

When a large part of the Indian mainstream media has become too commercialised and tends to kowtow to the dictats of the establishment, *Civil Society* magazine comes as a fresh breeze every month.

It gives us an insight into the good work being done in the development sector and also the way in which it is benefiting the common man.

We know very well that reports published in *Civil Society* are not written while sitting in cozy cabins but by crisscrossing the whole country despite the magazine's meagre resources.

During my decade-long association with *Civil Society* as its regular reader, I have never found it deviating from its chosen path. This magazine has been consistently enlightening us about

some of the greatest Indian NGOs, intellectuals, writers, social activists and innovative practitioners.

I especially admire the coverage of the magazine on poverty, nutrition, health, school education, gender issues, human rights, farmers' problems, consumer rights and agitations against sexual harassment and communalism.

Many a time, we have found that, *Civil Society* has withstood pressures and provocations to steadfastly followed a neutral, independent and pro-people stance. At the same time, it has consistently maintained quality in its content, layout and printing, which can be compared with any of the best magazines in India.

In these difficult times, when our republican values and idea of India itself are passing through tremendous challenges, we need *Civil Society* as our anchor!

Dr Harivansh Chaturvedi is Director, BIMTECH