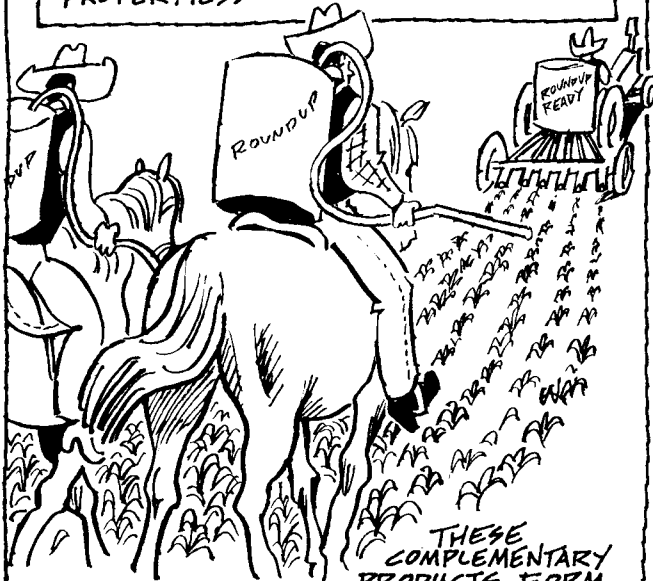


# IS INDIA ROUNDUP-READY?

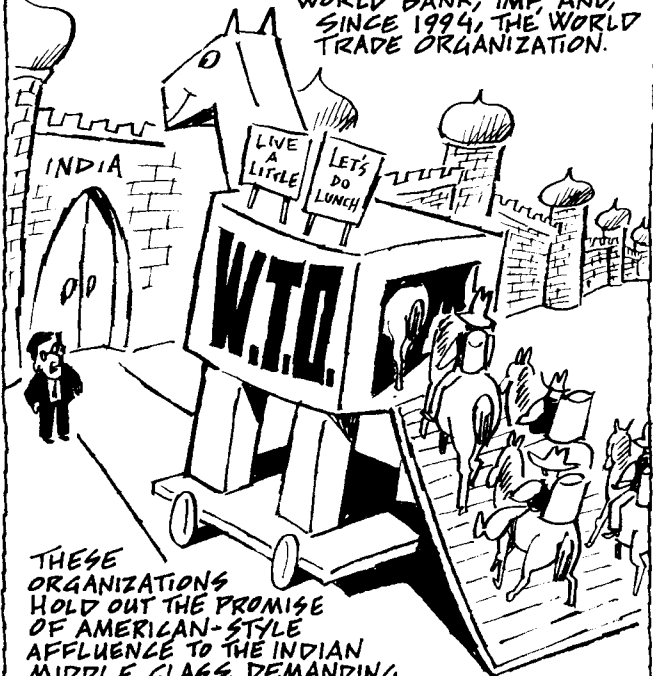
**ROUNDUP** IS A WEED KILLER USED IN TANDEM WITH A LINE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED SEEDS CALLED "ROUNDUP-READY."

ROUNDUP-READY SEEDS PRODUCE CROPS - CORN, SOY, SUGAR BEET - THAT ARE RESISTANT TO ROUNDUP'S HERBICIDAL PROPERTIES.



THESE COMPLEMENTARY PRODUCTS FORM A WEDGE WHICH PENETRATES AGRICULTURE IN COUNTRIES LIKE INDIA BY IMPOSING CASH CROP MONOCULTURES ON TRADITIONALLY DIVERSIFIED, SELF-SUPPORTING FARM COMMUNITIES.

SIMILARLY, TNCs (TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS, LIKE ROUNDUP MANUFACTURER MONSANTO) AIM TO CRACK OPEN INDIAN MARKETS IN TANDEM WITH A TEAM OF INTERNATIONAL ENFORCERS: WORLD BANK, IMF, AND SINCE 1994, THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION.



THESE ORGANIZATIONS HOLD OUT THE PROMISE OF AMERICAN-STYLE AFFLUENCE TO THE INDIAN MIDDLE CLASS, DEMANDING IN RETURN THE DISCIPLINING OF INDIA'S POOR & WORKING MAJORITY AND THE REMOVAL OF ALL BARRIERS TO TNC PENETRATION.

**THE CONGRESS PARTY,** WHICH WON INDEPENDENCE FROM BRITAIN IN 1948 AND RULED THE NATION FOR MOST OF ITS FIRST FIFTY YEARS, EMBRACED THIS TRADEOFF IN



1991  
AH YES, THE OLD-TIMERS OF '48 - VERY IDEALISTIC FELLOWS.

"DEMOCRACY" "THE PEOPLE" YADDA YADDA

TODAY WE KNOW THAT ATTEMPTS TO LEGISLATE SOCIAL WELFARE WITH SUBSIDIES, MINIMUM WAGES, AND HYPER-REGULATION SIMPLY BANKRUPTED THE INDIAN ECONOMY.

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL - STATISTICALLY INSIGNIFICANT

AN INJURY TO ALL IS THE PRICE OF PROGRESS

HOW DO I KNOW? I WENT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

BEEN WIDELY AS BETRAYERS OF INDIAN SELF-DETERMINATION AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY, THE CONGRESS PARTY WAS TURNED OUT OF OFFICE IN 1998 BY THE HINDU BJP PARTY, WHICH NEVERTHELESS CONTINUED NEOLIBERAL POLICIES.

COME ON IN!

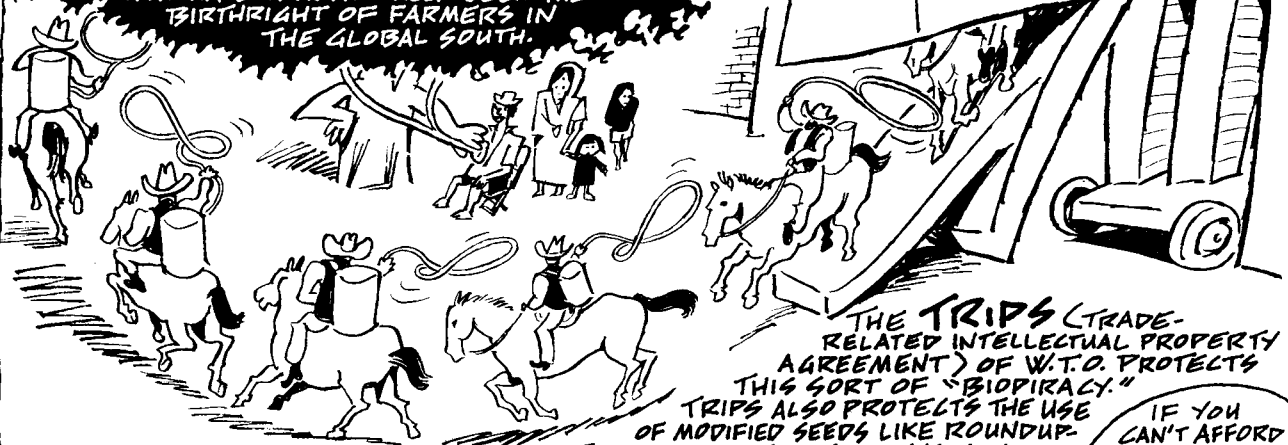
I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT.

INDIA WAS NEARLY BANKRUPT IN 1991. THE RURAL LANDLORDS AND URBAN PURVEYORS OF SWEATSHOPS AND PIECEWORK WHO PROVIDED THE CONGRESS PARTY WITH FUNDS & CADRE WERE CONTENT WITH THE PROFITS THEY GOT BY LABOR-SQUEEZING, AND NEVER SOUGHT THE PRODUCTIVITY GAINS THAT COULD HAVE PREVENTED ECONOMIC STAGNATION.

30 WHAT'S AT STAKE HERE? WHAT DOES INDIA LOSE IF NEOLIBERAL POLICIES + THE TNCs PREVAIL?

## THE HEALING TREE

KNOWN AS THE VILLAGE PHARMACY, THE INDIAN NEEM TREE'S SEEDS, BARK, LEAVES, FRUIT, TWIGS, + FLOWERS HAVE BEEN USED FOR CENTURIES TO TREAT LEPROSY, DIABETES, ULCERS, SKIN DISEASE, + CONSTIPATION- ALSO AS FEED FOR LIVESTOCK, AS A CONTRACEPTIVE, FOR LUMBER, AND AS AN INSECTICIDE. U.S. LUMBER IMPORTER ROBERT LAWSON "DISCOVERED" THE TREE IN 1971 AND PATENTED ITS FUNGICIDAL AGENT UNDER THE NAME MARGOSAN-O. (THE PATENT WAS LATER BOUGHT BY GRAE CHEMICAL) THIS IS ONE OF THOUSANDS OF PATENTS HELD BY TNCs ON PROCESSES + PRODUCTS THAT HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN THE BIRTHRIGHT OF FARMERS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH.



THE TRIPS (TRADE-RELATED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AGREEMENT) OF W.T.O. PROTECTS THIS SORT OF "BIOPIRACY." TRIPS ALSO PROTECTS THE USE OF MODIFIED SEEDS LIKE ROUNDUP- READY THAT FORCE INDIA'S SMALL FARMERS INTO INDEBTEDNESS + BANKRUPTCY.

IF YOU CAN'T AFFORD IT, WHY DON'T YOU GO INTO "INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY"?

## ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST VANDANA SHIVA

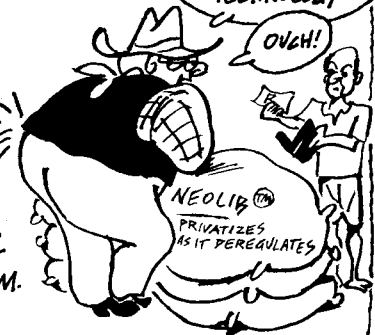
AND HER ALLIES SUCCESSFULLY CHALLENGED THE NEEM PATENT (REVOKED 5-12-2000)

PATRIARCHAL THINKING FINDS TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURE INEFFICIENT BECAUSE WOMEN, WHO DO MUCH OF THE WORK ON FAMILY FARMS, ARE NOT COUNTED AS PRODUCTIVE UNITS.

THE GLOBALIZERS DEFINE FRESH AS UNHEALTHY, HANDS AS CONTAMINANTS, AND SHARING AS A CRIME.

SO TAKE THAT

- BUT WITH THOUSANDS OF CORPORATE PATENTS TO CHALLENGE, LAWSUITS ALONE WILL NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM.



FORTUNATELY INDIA HAS A ROBUST ANTI-NEOLIBERALISM MOVEMENT THAT CHALLENGES THE TNCs ON MANY LEVELS.

IN OCTOBER 1992, 2000 FARMERS FROM THE KARNATAKA FARMERS' UNION TRASHED THE CARGILL SEEDS OFFICE IN BANGALORE. THIS WAS PART OF THE "SEED SATYAGRAHA" BASED ON GANDHI'S "SATYAGRAHA" (STRUGGLE FOR TRUTH)

IN 2000, AFTER STEEP PRICE INCREASES + A RISE IN VIOLENCE AGAINST LOWER CASTES, MILLIONS OF INDIAN WORKERS IN PORTS, TELECOM, + ELECTRIL POWER STRUCK AGAINST NEOLIBERAL POLICIES + PRIVATIZATION. A MAY 11 GENERAL STRIKE SHUT DOWN CALCUTTA + 5 STATES

UNFORTUNATELY THE AUTHORITIES NOW THREATEN TO BAN STRIKES AND EVEN LEFT PARTIES

BEST TO JUST SHUT THEM UP

THEY CAN'T WIN. THERE'S NO ALTERNATIVE.



NEXT: ALTERNATIVES