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RESURGENCE

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Pentre Ifan, Felindre Farchog,
Crymych, Dyfed, Wales.
Phone: (023976) 317

Resurgence is a voice of new civilisation, it is a journal of new politics, concerned with small nations, small communities, decentralisation and ethnic cultures. It is a philosophical, ecological and spiritual forum.

Editor
Satish Kumar

Guest Editor
Tom Hancock

Managing Editors
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Associate Editors
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Cover & Layout
Amy & Colin Tiffany

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Furthermore, may I ask my noble friend whether he is aware that the Lord's Prayer has 56 words, The Ten Commandments 297, the Declaration of Independence 300, but the Common Market Directive for the export of duck eggs has 26,911 words? Is not that the kind of thing that counts?

*Lord Davies of Leek,
House of Lords, May 24th 1977.*

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Devoting so much space of Resurgence to discuss the question of planning appears to be awkward. The problem of planning is not one of the fundamental issues with which Resurgence has concerned itself. Nevertheless, we opted to hold our Anniversary Conference on this subject, and have devoted much of the space of this issue to it.

One reason for this is that the people of the area in which Resurgence has its centre are much concerned with the centralized and bureaucratic planning procedures. They find themselves helpless, as a large number of activities of people are controlled by the planning officers. So we thought that something which is the concern of the people of the local area must be a concern of Resurgence as well.

Secondly, the practice of planning laws is a good illustration to explain how things go wrong when the system is centralized, big and cut-off from the community.

And thirdly, a lot of people use the planning concept to keep the countryside empty of people, and herd the masses together in towns and cities. Mountains, fields, forests and beaches are being turned into consumer goods for the tourists and holiday makers, which is the other extreme of turning certain parts of the country into jungles of steel and concrete.

These are some of the reasons for making planning as one of Resurgence's concerns. We feel that the 'small is beautiful' concept is almost taken for granted by Resurgence readers, and we have to go into some of the causes and the effects of mass society in depth. Therefore Resurgence is planning to publish special issues on the questions of food, feminism, nuclear power etc..

We are not interested in just condemning the established but decaying systems. We are also, rather much more, interested in the positive and practical responses. So if any of our readers and writers can tell us any story of a person or a group or a community which is engaged in constructing a new society, putting their beliefs into practice, we would like to hear it. It is not that we want to depart from the analytical, political and visionary articles, but vision combined with action has greater power.
Satish Kumar.