

11.123 BIG PLANS

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Department of Urban Studies and Planning

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READING QUESTION FOR: March 3 **Planning and Environmental Justice: Narmada River Dam**

Arundhati Roy, "The greater common good," in *Frontline*, 16 (11), 1999.

Values held by individuals and organizations are the foundations of discourse, critique, support and opposition to plans and projects of every scale. Arundhati Roy, author of the reading for the class on Monday March 3, *The Greater Common Good*, holds a number of values very strongly and these values, in turn, have informed her stance on many of the specifics of the Narmada project.

From the reading, identify two or three underlying values that she appears to hold and relate these to her stance on several key aspects of the project.

Then imagine that you have been asked to prepare a very brief public statement by a senior government official challenging the author's stance on those same elements of the project. Write a draft of the official's statement which will articulate the official's values and how those values relate to support for the dam project.

DUE MARCH 3