

Centre for Social Justice (A Project of IDEAL)

Strengthening Grassroot initiative

**on access to Justice by the vulnerable and research and
advocacy towards law reform impacting the disadvantaged.**

Project No: 321-905-1022

Period Under Review: April 2008 to March 2009

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General Information:

Centre for Social Justice

Project Title: Strengthening Grass root initiative on access to Justice by the vulnerable and research & advocacy towards law reform impacting the disadvantaged.

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Planning Process:

Annual Planning meeting is providing a space to draw direction for the whole year. This is a common event where everybody's suggestions are invited. The common issues related to each districts are identified and strategy and method to address the issues are developed in the annual planning meeting. Monthly planning of each unit is done based on the activities planned in Annual Planning Meeting. Strategically important issues are taken up every month like in summer to take up an issue of NREGA implementation.

Monitoring: Monitoring is done monthly, quarterly and annually. Special formats have been developed which is filled up by the staff of each and every unit. In monthly meetings individual prepares planning versus work done report in specially designed format. Field units send their monthly report of the activities done in previous month.

CSJ's field units are divided in three zones based on the geographical outreach. North Zone comprises Idar, Modasa and Palanpur. South zone comprises Bharuch, Dang and Vyara. Saurashtra region comprises Amreli. Zone meetings are organized bimonthly. In this zone meeting review of last quarter and planning of next quarter is done. Zone meeting mainly focus on strategic and conceptual understanding development.

Evaluation: Programmatic evaluation is done in annual meeting. Units present their work done on each and every program. This also contain challenges they faced, learning, impact to other organizations, society and government machinery. Based on this planning of each and every unit for the next year is decided. This continues for a year again. Based on the annual planning each unit prepares budget and proposal for next year. Executive Director looks it from financial and programmatic aspect and sanction the budget and proposal. She also provides her legal and strategic expertise as and when needed.

1. Implementation of the Project/program

The planned activities and its implementations are given below.

1. Sharper articulation of a legal intervention in socio-economic rights

In the year 2008-2009 we have reached almost 40,000 people through village interventions and 2,505 cases have been received. The major impacts and achievements are given below.

RIGHT TO HEALTH

- A consolidated Report on the status of public health centers and implementation of National Rural Health Mission disclosing poor health infrastructures and related issues. The Consultation with lawyers of High Court of Gujarat regarding relevance of the report for filing a PIL was done.
- Total **90 Village Health Committees** have formed and activated in 15 villages of each law centre. Efforts have been made towards activating three tier health committees in at least 100 villages of all the field units for monitoring of activities, fund allocation and to check expenditure of village health committees.

RIGHT TO FOOD:

- The people of 70 villages of Dang, Navsari, Amreli, Bharuch, Sabarkantha and Banaskantha wrote 70 letter petitions to Justice Mohit Shah and Justice D. H. Waghela of Gujarat High Court describing the situation of the Supreme Court guidelines' implementation in their respective villages. As a result, Suo moto prerecording has started against Gujarat Government by the High Court of Gujarat.
- Right to food (PUCL v/s Union of India; WP(C) 196/2001) quickies prepared

RIGHT TO LIVELIHOOD

- Regular monitoring of NREGA in the sample villages and applications were made for issue of Job Cards and job demand in 15 villages of each Idar and Bharuch law centres; 10 villages of each Dangs, Palanpur and Amreli Law Centres. Initiated implementation of new wage policy i.e. Rs.100/day in the field units
- Pre litigation strategies are prepared in the line of the learning of the above, consultation like filing the application for job cards, demand of job, payment of wages, payment of non employment allowance etc. to the local authorities and subsequent follow up

PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTION:

- Strategic concept note of PRI Program was prepared, which included concept of PRI, note on Gujarat Panchayat Act, list of activities to be undertaken under the program, methodology, core strategies vis a vis decentralization of finances, and related issues.
- Statutory notice was issued to the state of Gujarat for recruitment of *talatis* In response to that Governor of Gujarat made an announcement for the recruitment in the legislative assembly
 - On the issue of talati (panchayat secretary) in Modasa application under RTI was made and as a result
 - ✓ 4 *talatis* were suspended on the basis of irregular attendance
 - ✓ warrants against 6 *talatis* were issued for negligence
 - ✓ 1 *talati* was transferred

Shiyarbet is an island which has around 11,000-12,000 population. But the government records showed only 1,100 people. Due to that the village did not get any services under the government schemes. It had neither transportation nor electricity facilities. *Talati* was also absent for most of the times. So, a writ was filed in the High Court describing the situation where *Talati* was ordered to visit Panchayat office twice a week and in case of default, the TDO/DDO has to initiate action within 48 hours. Now, *Talati* has started regular visits, works under NREGA also taken place and houses under Indira Avas Yojana were allotted as well.

2 More number of organizations and social movements will start using the right based approach

Every year CSJ prepares number of organizations to work with rights based approach. The center imparts training and facilitates workshops that cover wide range of issues.

- Workshops on various issues were conducted for CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT- working with women on women rights, SAHYOG- working on rights of slum dwellers, ANANDI- working on food security and women empowerment, MAHILA PATCH WORKERS' ASSOCIATION- A women collective working on livelihood in the Slums of Ahmedabad, KAIRA SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY, VIDEOSHALA.
- **Issues covered:** Fundamental rights; Police and Court Administration, Violence against Women including Domestic Violence Act; Police and Court Administration, Tribal Land Rights vis a vis the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006; Basic Human Rights; rights against illegal and arbitrary detention; "Democracy; Constitution and Law" and Right based advocacy vis a vis law and judiciary

Training And Capacity Building

- **Workshop on Research and Advocacy vis a vis Right to free legal aid for the secretariat and field units-** it included Concept of research and advocacy; research design; research tools like RTI formats, monitoring guidelines, interview guidelines etc.
- **State Workshop on Tribal Rights-** Around 20 participants from different parts of Gujarat have participated in the three day workshop. The issues covered in the workshop are: Constitution and tribal human rights; Tribal land rights vis a vis The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006; Forest Atrocity vis a vis The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prohibition of Atrocity) Act; Tribal rights and Globalization; Violence Against Women vis a vis Witchcraft
- **New Trainee Lawyers Training-** 28 trainee lawyers are selected from across Gujarat and Orientation workshop on Social Justice Lawyering; Leadership; Women and Law; Dalit

Human Rights; Labour Rights; Women Land Rights, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act etc were done.

3 Human Rights Education Programme for school children will be spread to more number of schools

To explore preventive strategies along with reactionary strategies to minimize rights violations in the society and to be effective in internalization of human rights as values CSJ has been initiated the HRE programme called AVARE.

A Value And Rights Education funded by People’s Watch, Tamil Nadu currently covers **53 government schools in Anand** district of Gujarat. that **covers 6000 children**. It was implemented along with supporting organizations like SAATH (Ahmedabad Urban), Raj Sobhag-Prem Ni Parab (Sayla Surendranagar) and Society for Environment Protection (Anand).

The **HRE programme for private and government school children funded by CSJ** itself has been initiated in 5 districts- Amreli, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Bharuch and Dang through its legal centres in these districts. (See annexure, Table No.10)

Total number of schools under the program is 66 across five districts.

	Government schools	Private schools	Girls school	Boys school	Muslim trust school	Christian schools	Ashram shalas	Schools for SC students
Number of schools	30	36	2	4	4	2	12	2

Workshops and training:

Apart from four teachers’ training for different regions in the state the National level training was held at SPIPA, Ahmedabad where 45 teachers from Ranchi, Orissa and Anand participated and material generation process was done based on the learning and experiences of the teachers. An HRE book for children of 3-14 years of age was designed.

Celebration of Human Rights Day at Sarkhej Roza on 20th December where over 200 children from different schools of Ahmedabad and tribal children from Devgarh Baria participated in four workshops on drawing, singing, writing and drama.

For children seven different workshops were organized in Idar, Palanpur, Anand and Dang.

Major Achievement:

AVARE was invited by the education secretary of Gujarat to make necessary changes based on human rights education into the work books and state text books in the month of November. A proposal has been prepared for submission to the Education Secretary for integrating human rights education in all text books of 5th, 6th and 7th standard.

Published Material

- This year three editions of newsletter Manthan were published. It primarily focused on the HRE activities in Anand and contribution of articles by the HRE teachers.
- Released an audio cassette called *Nana Modhe Moti Vaat* (A big talk from small mouth)

4 More Organization nationally will start using principles of alternate legal education

Training on integrating Human Rights Based Approach in development work for various organizations was conducted. The trainings are provided at national level. The list of the training is given below.

BLIND PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION (BPA)- An organizations working on the rights of visually challenged persons-

One day orientation workshop was conducted on Human Rights based Approach vis a vis basic human rights and rights of disabled persons. Around 20 State representatives from State of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan and Gujarat have participated

AJIVIKA-Rajasthan based NGO working on LABOUR RIGHTS

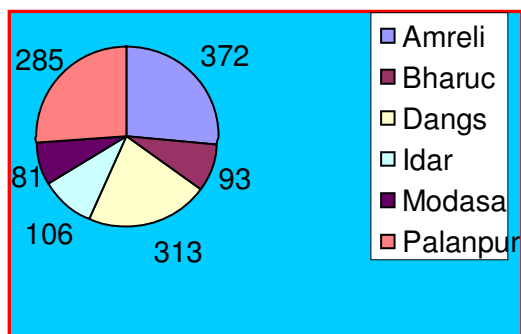
- Facilitated two day workshop on the Minimum Wages Act and leadership and institutional development; and two parallel workshops have been facilitated- one with the community volunteers and another with their staff
- Similar 3 workshops will be organized from next month onwards

National Workshop on Research and Advocacy for coordinator level NGO staff-

- Concept of Research and Advocacy; modes of advocacy; methods of research and advocacy, research design, research and advocacy tools

National Workshop on Dalit Human Rights for Lawyer

5 Forums like Asilmanch (litigants' forum) will be further activated and the state agenda for the same will emerge



There are 1250 registered members which show clear increase in the forum by 35% as compared to the previous year.

Representations For basic facilities like sitting space for litigants in Court & for speedy disposal of pending court cases were made. Apart from that for summary matters like maintenance case and

for activating *Takedari Samitis*(Vigilance Committee)

- Advocacy for converting Waghra Link Court in to Full Court and for activating LSA and proactive disclosure at their offices is still going on.
- Letter Campaigns to Legal Services Authorities (LSA) for right based awareness camps and 'Justice March' was organized on free legal aid day and a memorandum was given to DLSA for improving free legal services

New intervention: Social Justice Lawyers' Association (SJLA)

SJLA is an initiative with an idea to provide movement base to social justice lawyers and to ground and strengthen social justice movement. It is an autonomous program having its separate Charter. At this stage, this program is supported by Centre of Social Justice but subsequently, will evolve in to an independent body. Precisely, this initiative is and will develop strongly in to our 'movement face'. In nut shell it has undertaken following activities:

- **Outreach-** 15 Districts
- **Membership-** 80 lawyers
- Prepared Charter of Association and constituted Core Committee of 14 members including Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Asst. Secretary, Treasurer and Members; and
- Registration process under Indian Bar Council Act, as a recognized Bar Association was initiated before the Gujarat State Bar Association.

6 The research and advocacy cell will be set up as a dedicated group to consolidate learning and field realities and evolve agenda for law reforms

RIGHT TO FREE LEGAL AID

- Took qualitative interviews of beneficiaries, lawyers, judges and officers of Legal Services Authority to corroborate quantitative data and compilation and analysis of data received from field units and other sources. Started to remain present to Lok Adalats to observe the quality of dispute resolution process

- Regular meeting and follow up with Chairman and Member Secretary of SLSA is conducted for collaboration

RIGHT TO HEALTH

- Monitoring of activities and fund allocation and expenditure of village health committees, capacity building of members of village health committees,
- Literacy camp on law on sex selective abortions in collaboration with village health committees

PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTION:

- Initiated monitoring of Panchayat Committees, their activities, budget process and fund allocation and utilization, functions of Panchayat secretary at all the level to judge the decentralization of finances at the village level

NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE ACT (NREGA)

- Research is undertaken for monitoring the NREGA in 100 villages on the basis of the learning of the pilot.
- Pre litigation strategies are prepared in the line of the learning of the above consultation like filing the application for job cards, demand of job, payment of wages, payment of non employment allowance etc. to the local authorities and subsequent follow up

Tribal Land Right

- To ensure land rights to tribal doing agriculture on forest land for generations a volunteer base of 15 people was set up in Sabarkantha
- Around 60 villages and 2000 families of Sabarkantha are covered by this process and the campaign was undertaken to assess the level of implementation and to identify un-served beneficiaries
- Identification of eligible claim holders and assessment of their entitlements were done, legal advise with reference to pre litigation process, in particular collection of documentary evidence was given
- Identification of Forest Committees' Members for lobbying and ensuring transparency and accountability and workshops for the members around their roles and functions and also for villagers around their rights and entitlements and procedure of title transfer, filling demand etc.
- A tie up has been made with the local authorities to allow villagers to go collectively on a fixed day for the collection of their documents

Material Generation

- **Manuals** on different issues, **Case compilations-** women and law, labour law, Panchayati raj institution, Rights of Persons with Disability, Right to health, Medical Negligence, Dalit atrocity etc.
- Booklet on Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Sex-Selection) Act
- Concept Note on Gujarat Panchayat Act with translation of the relevant portion of the Act from English to Gujarati. (see annexure, table no.9)

7 IIPLS will develop into a strategic organization with a wider reach

To provide the rights based benefits to the common people IIPLS has started a new venture.

Legal Assurance Cover for Women

A legal Insurance for women is implemented in collaboration with BASIC. It provides legal support, protection against DV and makes legal services available in a cost effective manner.

- Total registration- 310 women
- Total Number of Cases filed in Court- 23
- Out of 310 women registered with the program 30 women have complains of Domestic Violence

Impact

- Legal awareness among the women from deprived strata of the society
- Started as a pilot project developed into the fully functioned assurance cover
- Two court cases are disposed off. In first case, the Court had passed maintenance order of Rs. 3500/month while in second case, the parties have withdrawn the case after conciliation before the Court

8 Development of website based on the experiences and learning of CSJ

Website has been prepared and uploaded. Address of the website is centreforsocialjustice.net. It needs certain modification in content. Discussions are on with the developer and we will start sharing the web address with other organizations shortly, when the snag is over.

9 Collaborative programme with another organization on setting up access to justice mechanism

Working Group on Women's Land Ownership (WGWLO)

- Helped the network to ensure allotments of houses in joint names of wife and husband under IAY and in drafting a new revenue bye law (Government Resolution) to include provisions for automatic registration of husband's property in the joint name of wife subsequent to the marriage
- Collected and helped the network to collect sex disaggregated data on women and land rights; prepared and circulated concept note on the above with action plan to the network

Machhimar Hit Rakshan Kendra (Fisher folks' intervention)

To improve the conditions of people and to make available the benefits of government schemes in Shiyal Baet the centre collaborated with the Kendra. The major achievement of the collaboration is given below.

Achievements-

- High Court ordered Panchayat Secretary to attend office at Shiyal Baet every Tuesday and Friday
- New Health Centre is ordered;
- Rs. 400 million is sanctioned for electrification through marine cable
- Access road was constructed & provided with street lights and local Bus service is started
- 130 volunteers have been registered
- Gujarat Maritime Board has ordered Pipavav Port for dredging and coast maintenance
- Water project has been approved for the island through under sea pipe lines and an alternative water project is approved for time being arrangement

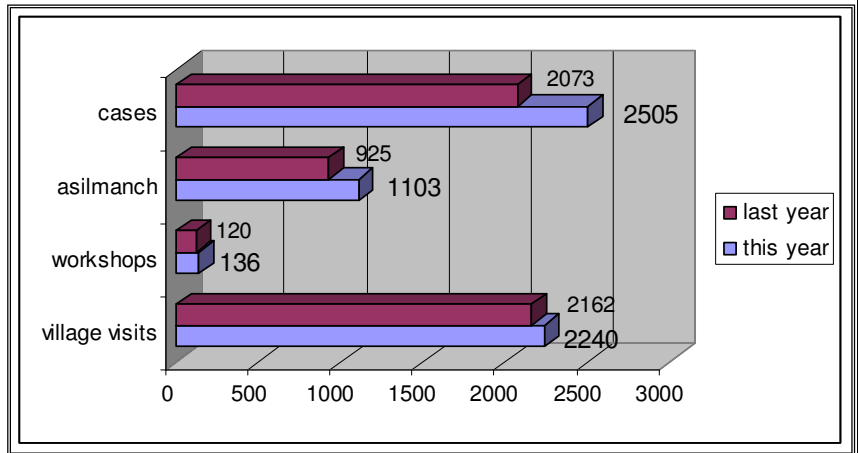
3. Assessment

The chart shows clear picture of improved performance.

- The chart clearly shows that the achievement of CSJ is 12 percent higher than the targets.

As per the comparative analysis of number of cases, village visits, workshops, Asil Manch and till the end of the year the overall assessment is done.

The strategies, situations, communication, accessibility, staff and many more reasons are responsible for the outcomes of each unit. However, outstanding performance at the front of cases is of Amreli.



The table also clearly establishes the direct link between the village interventions and numbers of cases.

Palanpur is quite significant as it shows almost two cases every such intervention.

District Law Centres	Cases	Village Intervention	Workshops	Asil Manch
PALANPUR	478	233	29	285
DANG	413	409	48	313
BHARUCH	235	221	26	93
AMRELI	862	698	26	372
MODASA	193	332	4	81
IDAR	324	347	3	106

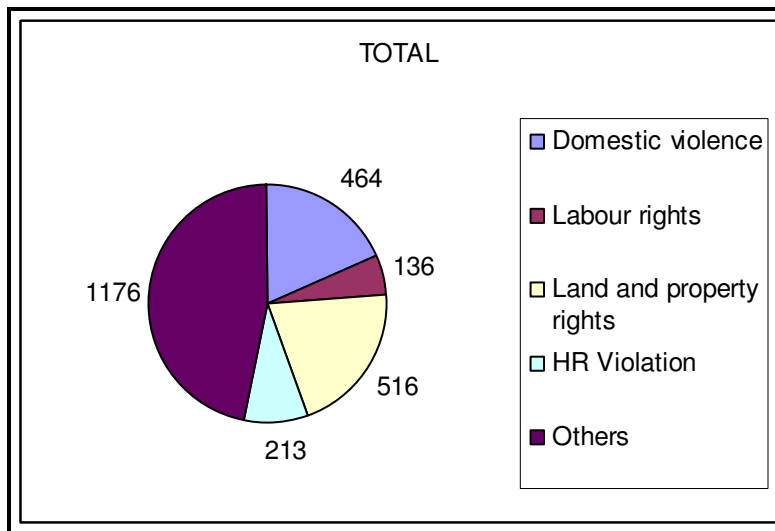
However the quantitative aspects are not the only criteria for the work but quality as well. Collaboration with Law College in Bharuch, on the spot distribution of job Cards, achievement in the case of Bukana and compensation in the cases or riots and other cases are noteworthy as well.

ANNEXURE:1

Detailed activities of Field Units

Table 1 : Analysis of the Cases:

Categories of cases	Amreli	Bharuch	Dangs	Idar	Modasa	Palanpur	TOTAL
Domestic violence	106	79	131	75	29	44	464
Labour rights	19	12	29	37	13	26	136
Land and property rights	78	38	121	83	16	180	516
HR Violation	53	83	5	13	13	46	213
Others	606	23	127	116	122	182	1176
Total	862	235	413	324	193	478	2505



- Dang centre has done maximum cases related to domestic violence while Modasa centre dealt with minimum no. of cases (28).
- The cases related to Land & Property Amreli centre is leading with 117 cases.

- The cases of HR violation are less in every centre.

Table 2: Legal Aid and Advice

UNITS	LEGAL ADVISE	LEGAL AID	COURT CASES
PALANPUR	18	447	13
DANG	25	358	30
BHARUCH	21	201	13
AMRELI	14	791	57
MODASA	2	165	26
IDAR	24	284	16
Total	104	2246	155

- Dang, Palanpur and Amreli are the achievers in legal advise, legal aid and court cases respectively
- This year the total legal aid provided by the centre increased by 127 percent

Table 3. Legal Awareness Camps

NAME OF THE DISTRICT	NO OF CAMPS	NAME OF ISSUE
PALANPUR	29	D.V. Act, N.R.E.G.A, Mines Workers ,Tribal Land, RTI, Women and Land Rights
DANG	48	Part -1, R.T.F, N.R.E.G.A, Tribal Land, RTI, Women and Land Rights
BHARUCH	26	R.T.F, Women and Land Rights D.V.Act, workers, N.R.E.G.A, RTI
AMRELI	26	R.T.F, R.T.I, Panchayat, Women and Land

		Rights, N.R.E.G.A., Dalit Atrocity
MODASA	4	R.T.F, R.T.I, Panchayat, Women and Land Rights, N.R.E.G.A. , Dalit Atrocity
IDAR	3	R.T.F, Panchayat, Women and Land Rights, N.R.E.G.A.,
Total	136	

- Modasa centre and Idar centre have done only 7 camps that are lowest numbers of camps
- RTI,RTF and Women & Land Rights are the common issues that covered
- Dang centre organized the camps almost double the numbers than others.

Table 5: Out reach

Law Centre	No. of Village Visits	Reach out (in person)
Amreli	661	10561
Bharuch	220	5331
Dangs	405	3548
Idar	326	7659
Modasa	297	3013
Palanpur	225	9549
TOTAL	2134	39946

- Amreli centre made the highest visits in the villages and had the widest reach to the persons
- However the most interesting equation developed in Palanpur centre. Though the numbers of visits are only 225 (second lowest) the reach is second highest with 9549 persons.

Table 6. GO and NGO visits:

	PALANPUR	DANG	BHARUCH	AMRELI	MODASA	Idar	TOTAL
GO VISIT	73	53	93	98	37	28	382
NGO VISIT	39	40	41	32	4	8	164

- Amreli made maximum visits of GOs while Bharuch is topper in the visits of NGOs. However Modasa is the unit with minimum visit record.
- Dang holds quite similar record of visits of Go and NGO with 53 and 40 visits respectively
- It is noted that total no. of NGO visits is increased by 256% as compared to last year

Table 6 : Asilmanch

Law Centres	Members	Activities
Amreli	285	Representation for basic facilities like sitting space, drinking facilities, for litigants in Court ‘Justice March’ was organized on free legal aid day, when a memorandum was given to DLSA for improving free legal services Letter campaign to legal Services Authorities (LSA) for right based awareness camps
Bharuch	93	Advocacy for converting Waghra Link Court in to Full Court
Dangs	230	Representations to Court Administration for better facilities for litigants in Court Representation for speedy disposal of pending court cases Advocacy towards activating LSA and proactive disclosure at their offices
Idar	106	Representation for speedy disposal of summary matters like maintenance case Letter campaign to legal Services Authorities (LSA) for

		right based awareness camps
Modasa	81	Do
Palanpur	285	Representations for activating Takedari Samitis Letter campaign to legal Services Authorities (LSA) for right based awareness camps
TOTAL	1080	




Table 7: Public Money Generated in Sample of 7 Interventions- Around Rs. 6809 Million (\$195 m)

This is a monetary analysis of 7 sample intervention where, CSJ has contributed, through instituting Public Interest Litigations and Writs and grass root implementation of laws. This table is to given a qualitative picture of the activities in terms of money vis a vis money spent on the interventions. All the samples have resulted or expected to result in release of funds from the State for the target groups.

Intervention	Calculation Formula	Public Money Generated/ Expected (in Rupees)
NREGA in two villages	600 (Number of labourers) X15 (days)X Rs. 85 (daily wage per labourer)	0.77 million (Released)
NREGA in 90 villages	Rs. 100 ((daily wage per labourer) X 100 (Labour days/labourers) X 40 (Labourers/village) X15 (villages/law centre) X6 (District Law Centres)	36 million (expected)
Tribal Land Rights	2 acre (Average land holdings transferred) X10000 (Number of Applicant of forest land) X Rs. 150,000 (Average Market Price/acre of land)	Rs. 3 billion (expected)

Right to food case	850000 (Number of Beneficiary) X2.3 Kg. (Quantity of undistributed Grain) X15 (Average Market Price/Kg Wheat) X 12 (Months)	Rs. 351.9 million/annum (expected)
Riot Compensation	As per new compensation package	3 billion (Released)
Bukana Dalit Forced Displacement case=	[39 acre (Land allotted) X 250,000(Average Market Price/acre of land)]+ [150,000 (Death Compensation)] + [Rs. 75,000 (House assistance per family) X 21 (Number of family)]+ [2,000,000 (funds sanctioned for development of the village) + 600,000 (Cash dole) + 30,000 (widow pension/annum)]	13.7 million (Released)
Electricity and water supply, Shiyal Baet	As per the approved plan	Rs. 400 million
Houses under Indira Awas Yojana (Sabarkantha)	200 (Number of houses sanctioned) X Rs. 35000(housing assistance per family)	7 million

Table 8: Organizations will start work using Rights based approach

<p> CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT- working with women on women rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated workshops for the field activists and mid level staffs on-Fundamental rights; Police and Court Administration; and Around 50 women have participated in the workshop <p> SAHYOG- working on rights of slum dwellers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated workshop on Violence against Women including Domestic Violence Act; Police and Court Administration; and around 60 members have participated in the workshops. <p> ANANDI- working on food security and women empowerment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated three workshop on Violence Against Women; Tribal Land Rights vis a vis the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest

Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006; and Police and Court Administration etc.

✚ **MAHILA PATCH WORKERS' ASSOCIATION-** A women collective working on livelihood in the Slums of Ahmedabad–

- Facilitated two workshops on Violence Against Women and Basic Human Rights; Courts and Police Administration and rights against illegal and arbitrary detention; and 40 women have participated in these workshops.

✚ **VIDEOSHALA**

- Facilitated One day workshop on "Democracy; Constitution and Law" was conducted at its Bhawnagar Unit (Hind Swaraj Mandal) for its video producers and trainers.
- Helped in script development on democracy and fundamental rights for teaching video to be used in primary schools

✚ **KAIRA SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY**

- Facilitated One day workshop on Right based advocacy vis a vis law and judiciary

Table 9 List of the Manuals Developed by PSG unit

- **Manual on Internal Displacement for Development Workers-** it includes concept, UN Guiding Principles, International, National and Local complaint instruments etc.
- **Basic Citizenship Course Manuals-** it includes concept; organs of governments; structure, powers and duties, basic human rights; international standards and Indian response, local self-governance and right to information.
- **Manual for development workers on use of RTI-** A compilation of field experiences with Dos and Don'ts vis a vis the field experience; including RTI quickies, basic RTI formats etc.
- **Manual on "Powers and Functions of Food Commissioners and Advisors" for State Advisors and development workers**
- **Manual on Rights of Persons with disability**
- **Manual on Public Interest Litigation and Writ petitions**

Table 10. List of Schools covered in HRE by CSJ

SABARKANTHA	Private schools: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Shree janseva khadi gramodhog vikas sangh, Dhansura2. Yogi kyupa high school, modasa3. Navyug vidyalaya, bayad4. Adarsh nivasi school, boys school, ider5. Shree jivan jyot ashram shala, agyol6. Madrasa high school, himmatnagar7. A P thakur vidyalaya, rajpur, vijayanagar
BANASKANTHA	Private schools: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Aroma high school, bhagal, palanpur2. Convent of jesus and mary, Palanpur3. S K M high school and D B W T secondary school, kanodar4. Lokniketan ratanpur samiti vicharti jati ashramshala, kanodar5. Adarsh vidyalaya, basu
DANG	Government schools in following areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ahwa2. Chikatya

3. Pimpri
4. Bhavadi
5. Chichinagavtha
6. Waghai
7. Ghavlidhod
8. Lavchali
9. Subir
- 10.Nandanpeda
- 11.Bhisya
- 12.Galkund
- 13.Chichpada
- 14.Liga
- 15.Pandwa

Private schools:

1. Jivanjyot residential school, pimpri
2. Navjyot prathmik school, subir
3. St. Xaviers school, shamgahan
4. Dungarda ashramshala
5. Chichinagavtha ashramshala
6. Shivarimal ashramshala
7. Sarvar ashramshala
8. Bheskatri ashramshala
9. Javda ashramshala
- 10.Galkund ahsramshala
- 11.Chikatiya ashramshala

BHARUCH	<p>Private schools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unnati vidyalaya, ling road, bharuch 2. Unnati vidyalaya, jhadeshwar road, bharuch 3. Shrimati manjula ben zaveri bhai patel saraswati vidyamandir, tarlsa, bharuch 4. Vikas vidyalaya, bhua, bharuch 5. Dhyan vidyalaya, nava bazaar, karzan, vadodara (muslim school) 6. C Varad bhai lalubhai patel prathmik shala, nikhora 7. Shrimati arvind vidyamandir, janor bharuch 8. Universal experimental school, makhtampur, bharuch 9. Raja memorial high school (muslim school), tham village, bharuch 10.Varediya sarvajanik high school, varediya, bharuch 11.Shravan vidyamandir, makhtampur 12.Narayan vidyavihar, narmada nagar, bhulau, bharuch 13.Shrimati mogiba tribhovandas bhimji zaveri primary school, nikhora, bharuch
AMRELI	<p>15 government schools:</p> <p>Leeliya Taluka:</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary school, Khara village 2. Primary school, Kakanch village 3. Primary school, Gundaran village <p>Lathi Taluka:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary school, Matirala village 2. Girls' school, Lathi village 3. Primary school, Chavand village <p>Babra Taluka:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary school, Kariyana village 2. Primary school, Fulzar village 3. Primary school, Kotda Peetha village <p>Kunkavav- Wadia Taluka:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Girls' primary school, Vadia village 2. Primary school, Bantva Devli village 3. Primary school, Barvada bavad village 4. Primary school, Tunthiya Peepjiya village 5. Primary school, Nava Ujda village 6. Primary school, Nani kunkavav village 7. Boys' school, Mothi Kunkavav
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	village
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Table 11.

Works worth mention:

Governance

- The central government had announced compensation for the victims of Gujarat riots, 2003. It had been 18 months after the announcement and the victims did not get the compensation. Due to that, PSG unit filed PIL in the High Court. As a result, 50 cror rupees were sanctioned as the compensation for property loss. Still the work of distribution is going on. Recently, in the name of upcoming elections the work was stopped. So, once again it was brought in the notice of Gujarat High Court. As a result, the work is started once again.
- During Ganesh Festival in Baroda, Moh. Idris Saiyed was killed in the police firing. His mother presented the case before different authorities for compensation. But she did not get it because as per the police department Saiyed was an accused for rioting. In the High Court the case was dispatched by the bench of single judge. Thereafter the verdict was challenged in an appeal and the case was won by the PSG unit. 50,000 rupees compensation was also given to his mother.

Right to Life

- Awareness of NREGA was spread in the meeting of *Gramsabha* (village committee) so that people start demands in regard to their wages, unemployment allowance, facilities at work place etc. After that collective application was sent to the TDO. As a result on the spot job cards were distributed to the people and work began under NREGA during the visit of TDO in Talivatar village of Babra taluka

Dalit Rights:

- Internally displaced people of Bukna village got 39 acre land, 75000 rs as housing facilities to 21 families, 20 lakh Rs. as return for leveling the land and the widow of victim also got total 40,000 Rs.
- Palanpur unit done a good job of monitoring in eight schools and as a result the students get regular scholarships
- Palanpur DSP sent a resolution to the police stations in the district stated that departmental steps would be taken against the police officers who do not take appropriate measures in the case of dalit atrocities.

Tribal Rights:

- Under Forest Right Bill 2006, applications for people's rights were made in 60 villages. In response to that 60 forest right committees were set up and they got necessary forms and material. In these villages, applications are done for forest land right.

Other rights:

- **Bharuch unit** collaborated with Police department and provided training on laws to the police personnel of Bharuch district.
- To spread the identity of CSJ forum of 30 young lawyers was set up by Bharuch unit. The lawyers from Karjan, Dediapada, Mangrol, Narmada, Rajpipla, Valia and Bharuch district are members of the forum. 3 training workshops were organized by the unit.
- Law students of M.K. Law College received training from the unit and the college gave them 5 marks for attendance.
- Law college **Modasa** permitted to start a law clinic
- A ration shop in Kifayat nagar, **Modasa** started

Annexure-2

Narrative Report of IIPLS

For April to March 2009

Year 2007-2008 has been a crucial year for IIPLS. It was a year of revisiting learning, achievements and concerns arose in the diverse institutional processes, both at operational and policy level.

Paralegal identity charged with motivation, enthusiasm and vigor is strengthened for building partnerships, training and monitoring and identifying spaces for legitimization. Since its inception in year 2002, IIPLS maintained a principle of diversity and promoted collaborative leadership from its stakeholders, namely, partners (known as Facilitation Centres –FCs), paralegals (trained, registered and operational) and its resource pool (trainers, resource persons, like-minded organizations). So far the experience on this count has been mixed one. The clarity amongst the paralegals about their exclusive identity inspired a processes to strengthen the paralegal solidarity and work towards focused advocacy. This facilitated review of network based organizational structure as well.

This report is narration about the activities undertaken by IIPLS through its regional centres in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra. It is necessary to keep in mind that the activities accomplished by IIPLS in its geographical focus areas varies considering the location, issue focus, response from regional partners and contextual issues related to social sector & advocacy in that particular region.

ANDHRA PRADESH

The regional centre that facilitates the paralegal identity building process in Andhra Pradesh and parts of Orissa is hosted by Laya, an organisation working with tribal communities on issues of empowerment and development.

Till date RRC-East (RRC-E) has been successful in expanding its partnership with 9 organisations (FCs), of which 8 works in Andhra Pradesh while 1 belongs to Orissa.

[Resource for Legal Action (Rajahmundry); Mesro (Srikalahasti); Jana Jagruthi (Tuni); Sevanajali (Vizianagaram); Adivasi Adhar (Paderu); Chaitanya Vikas (Visakhapatnam); Chetana (Anakapalle); Parichay (Srikakulam) & Seva Bharati (Orissa)]

The geographical focus of RRC-E has been on Scheduled Areas and Non-Scheduled Areas, where tribal inhabitants are in large number. The role of paralegal in RRC-E is in the context of land

entitlement rights, displacement, encroached land entitlement, land tenancy, injustices committed against dalits, women' human rights, governance issues with PRIs, child rights, human rights issues of deserted women, devdasis, and women & children vulnerable from the viewpoint of trafficking.

Areas of competence development of paralegals in Andhrapradesh and Orissa:

1. Awareness and perspective building about Fundamental Rights and legal rights amongst tribal and rural poor
2. Improving accessibility of rural poor and tribal in particular, towards revenue machinery (getting land records, land entitlements, partition, registration of heirs, etc)
3. Pre-litigation counseling (minimising the cases referred to courts for justice delivery and reducing the hardships of poor tribal seeking justice)
4. Providing legal services to needy and poor through legal aid machiner
5. Assisting the victims of motor/vehicle accidents in enforcing their rightful & legal claims for compensation
6. Improving awareness about and accessibility of tribunals like labour courts of rural workers having migrated to cities for livelihood and now facing service related problems
7. Assisting rural poor in seeking justice remedies by using prevalent legal enforcement mechanism like police, lawyers, magistrate, etc
8. Providing guidance & advice to people in gathering legal documents, insurance papers, land records, evidence for a court case, medico-legal evidence, etc
9. Helping women, children and dalit communities in seeking justice in cases of dowry harassment, divorce, abuse, forced labour, maintenance and caste atrocities
10. Accompanying lawyer defending the victim with update on facts and assisting in building a strong case in courts of law

In addition to these competencies that paralegals in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa were mentored to assist legal aid bodies & lok adalats in matters of case management.

11. Training and Monitoring:
12. RRC-E facilitated trainings of 353 paralegals representing 9 FCs. On a need-based basis, the IIPLS regional team ensured qualitative standard of the training process by playing a mentoring and support role (part-finance management, monitoring, evaluation and documentation). And benchmarking the processes against a degree of quality in the overall process. These benchmarks were:
13. The issue/constituency focus is defined by the FC.
14. The FC works in at least one taluka in a district.
15. The FC would set up a taluka centre Advocacy Group for campaigning on legal and policy issues.
16. The FC would ensure presence of a lawyer at the taluka level or access to a lawyer at the district level.
17. The FC defined the role of the paralegals through 'deliverables' of types and number of cases at t he community levels.
18. The FC monitors the operational paralegal and ensures that paralegals are selected from the community which needs effective legal empowerment.
19. The FC has developed clear indicators of the paralegals' accountability to the 'target' community.

20. Apart from the FC designed competency chart, RRC-E aimed during 2008 that paralegals operational in various blocks and districts also demonstrate good research skills. By end of 2008, there are 424 paralegals trained since 2004 in addition to the 353 newly trained paralegals, ready for registration and certification process.

Advocacy:

RRC-E assumed a major responsibility of legitimizing the role for Paralegals in the region through the Facilitation Centers by affiliating the registered paralegals to the District Legal Service Authority. RLA one of the FCs has gained credibility in the arena of access to justice after a vast experience of 17 years. And with support from RRC-E, RLA engaged in a systematic advocacy with the District Legal Services authority in Rajhundry. The legal services authority has issued their ID cards to the paralegals.

NALSAR based in Hyderabad and IIPLS agreed that two interns will be placed with RRC-E during their winter internship as a placement measure of NALSAR. This will give IIPLS, NALSAR and the network an opportunity to assess its standards and prepare for building further processes with insights shared by the interns.

A number of coordination meetings at the FC levels were organized for conceptual clarity. Rigorous monitoring and evaluation process was done through area visits and meeting with the representatives at the FC levels.

Series of meetings with the heads of FC has made FCs progressive. The coordinator regularly visits the FCs when the training programmes are scheduled. The RRCE also facilitates series of program assessment with the 5 FCs namely Mesro, Jana Jagruthi, Adivasi Adhar, RLA & Sevanajli, The remaining 4 FCs are scheduled in the month of August 2008.

Most of the expectations of the role of FC have been fulfilled. Some aspects in conjunction with the other RRCs need review which is in progress. Issues like legitimization of paralegals, creation of an advocacy center, advance the legal campaigns on tribal rights, strengthening capacities to administer legal actions at the community levels. In Anakapalli, Chodavaram, Yellamanchili, Narsipatnam, each center gets cases from 4 to 5 mandals approximately. It was estimated that the courts at Anakapalli get 200-300 criminal cases, about 100 civil cases and up to 50 appeal cases. The centres in Rompachavaram, Rajahmundry sends the cases to the concerned Local courts. The cases that have come to paralegal center from a mandal which do not work, the center could report the information to the Zilla Union. The information send to the union representatives to visit those villages..

RRC-E has planned a regional convention of paralegals on 24th to 26th January in Vishakhapatnam.

Rajasthan and Gujarat:

IIPLS processes in Western RRC have been in reflection and exploratory mode in both the states that it has been operating i.e. Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Rajasthan is the new area of intervention for IIPLS. Since 2007, when the work began with support organization Unnati, it was felt that a person be located in Rajasthan. Unnati is network of organizations working on dalit issues Rajasthan's socio economically and politically is

different. They are continuously engaged with oppressive structures of the society like police, courts, local administration, caste and class structures. Dalit movement is in nascent phase in Rajasthan and knowledge and awareness is required. The fear in dalit communities, patriarchal structures and imperialistic mindsets are very strong. Mainly the organizations are based in three districts of Western Rajasthan – Jodhpur, Barmer and Jaisalmer.

More than sixty villages were spot visited by an experienced professional, meetings with dalits as well as the leaders were held. Stark difference in Gujarat and Rajasthan in terms of fears in Dalit community was observed. To encourage more intake on legal issues, it was important to organize dalit groups strategically. IIPLS and Unnati will be working towards this.

RAJASTHAN PARALEGAL TRAINING

A four modular paralegal training started in 2007 - March 2008. Two modules were conducted in the year 2007; and two modules were conducted from 3rd to 9th February 08.

Following focus area was observed:

Women and Law

Dalit atrocity

Police and Court structure

Land laws

13 paralegals who attended the four module regularly were subjected to an exam and certification was done. RRC representative and Unnati representative prepared the exam paper. Seven persons cleared the exam with more than 50 percent marks.

SYSTEMS IN RAJASTHAN

At least for six months all coordination and other activities will continue through Unnati. After that if it is felt that IIPLS wants to work directly then this decision can be revived. IIPLS will be responsible for the capacity building of paralegals and their trainings

MEETING WITH UNNATI PARTNERS

A meeting was held ON 20TH May 2008 with Unnati and its partners There was representation of 11 organisations (Prayas, IDEA, SURE, Dhara, Lok Kalyan Sansthan, VSS, MGS, Shanti Maitri

Mission, Urmool, Samta, Jai Bhim Shiksha Seva Samiti) apart from Unnati, and CDHR who is supporting IIPLS team to initiate the process of paralegal identity building in Rajasthan. Orientation was given to all the partners about IIPLS, its objectives, processes. There were lot of questions about qualification and quality of paralegals, training of paralegals, processes as well as the need of IIPLS, monitoring systems etc.

A definite need of legal interventions and support for all the organizations working on legal issues in Western Rajasthan was identified. Since the whole concept is new and none of the participating organizations have earlier experience of paralegal work, there was lot of curiosity as well as insecurity leading to lot of clarifications.

Feedback from Meeting Held on 5th December 2008 was as follows:

1. Methodology was good
2. participants could not understand the language of trainer
3. Material to be in the context of Rajasthan and also in simple hindi
4. Consistency of the trainees in all the contact session
5. Levels of group members varied too much.

This feedback was incorporated for future training needs.

FUTURE PLANNING

The organizations which are part of Unnati are Dalit Resource (DRC) units have their Taluk Level Committees consisting of of twenty to twenty five members. There are 14 such DRCs. It is planned that from every taluka committee two strong leaders – one man and one woman will be selected and they will be trained for six months as Paralegals. Initially these paralegals will be trained as Single Issue – Multiple Skills Paralegals i.e Dalit issues and all skills encompassed to become effective paralegal. These paralegals will be monitored by person placed by IIPLS in Rajasthan with Unnati's support. Second training is announced in the month of January where 30 paralegals will be trained from DRCs as well as other organizations.

One more training with other organization will be conducted to explore legal interest of other organizations.

Gujarat in the previous year major policy level decision taken non subsidized training and strengthening of Para Legal Fund for supporting para legals as well as for Innovative programmes. With this, though new facilitation centre identification processes was initiated in the 2007-2008, there was a dilemma to address that facilitation centre's interest, motivation and stakes in the IIPLS is because of the monetary support or it was because of objective of building Paralegal cadre. Since this reflection was going on it was decided that major focus in Gujarat will be building of para legal associations, registering them and building capacities to lead the movement.

Paralegal Association:

In July 2007, there was all FC-RRC meeting in which decision was taken on various paralegal associations that will be formed at district levels. Also paralegal samelan and subsequent meeting in previous months had finalized Memorandum of Association which needed to be registered no. The process in the reporting period has been district level meetings, ratification of memorandum and election of district level executive committees. Following Association were formed:

Madhya Gujarat Paralegal Association, Dakshin Gujarat Paralegal Association, Narmada Bharuch Paralegal Association, Saurashtra Jilla Paralegal Association were formed by March 2008. the critical need at this juncture was now to strengthen the committees and speed up the process of registration of this Associations.

Meeting with CDHR and Exe.Comm. of Madya Gujarat Paralegal Association:

This meeting is conducted at CDHR office ,A'bad on 6th May 2008. All members of Executive Committee were present for this meeting .Dineshbhai from CDHR and Sayara Pathan And Ashwinee from IIPLS were also present at the meeting. All agreed to speed up the registration

process and a committee was formed to proceed with the formalities of registration of paralegal association.

After this there has been a series of meeting with the committee members in the association to take forward the process of registration. All the paper work needed to register an Association was completed, papers were submitted in the Charity commissioner's office

Meeting with CSJ And Paralegals of Leadership quality:

Abovesaid meeting was held on 7th may 2008 with an objective to create a system for overseeing the process of paralegal association. As an outcome, An organizing committee with six paralegals was formed to strengthen Paralegal Association, Registration of Paralegal association, and to identified issues/ needs of Paralegals and find solutions to the problems of paralegals.

Meeting with Paryavaran Mitra and Bharuch-Narmada Paralegal association:

The meeting with Paryavaran Mitra and Executive Committee of Bharuch-Narmada Paralegal Association was held at Paryavaran Mitra,Zagadiya in Bharauch on 8th May 2008. Issues related to the coordination between the FC and the paralegals came up for discussion.

Since the number of paralegals in the association is not 20, it was decided that it will not registered as of now but the process of strengthening of the committee, their understanding will continue.

Meeting with Paryavaran Mitra and Executive Committee of Saurashtra Jilla Paralegal Association

This meeting was held at Paryavaran Mitra Rajula,Dist. Amreli on 11th May 08. All members of Paralegal Association were present for meeting. It was decided that:

1. Every paralegal will train one volunteer.
2. Paryavaran Mitra will take lead to increase no. of paralegals in this Association.
3. Paralegal Association cannot register unless and until No. of registered Paralegals is increased. At present there are 13 registered Paralegals in Saurashtra Jilla Paralegal Association. But as per By-laws of Paralegal Association the minimum 20 paralegals should be registered in Paralegal Association to register it. So, Paryavaran mitra took responsibility to increase Paralegals.

ISSUE OF I CARDS TO PARALEGALS

Paralegals were registered after the process of refresher training and exam in all Facilitation centers. Total Para legal registered at present are

NAME OF FC	January 2008 to December 2008	CATEGORY
CDHR	26	A MULTIPLE SKILL MULTIPLE ISSUE
LAHRC	56	A MULTIPLE SKILL MULTIPLE ISSUE
CSJ	18	A MULTIPLE SKILL MULTIPLE ISSUE
KMVS	40	B - SINGLE ISSUE - MULTIPLE SKILL
PARYAVARAN MITRA	30	C - SINGLE ISSUE SINGLE SKILL

REFRESHERS AND REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR 2009

Since the registration will end in December 2008, refresher course for paralegals from all facilitation centres is planned in the month of December and January. Paryavarnan Mitra conducted the refresher course in the month of December. Paralegals were given the refresher training on issues of Environmental Rights and laws. At the end of the training exam was conducted for the paralegals. Navsarjan refresher course is planned for two days on 8th and 9th January 2009.

MATERIAL GENERATION

One way of translating understanding of law in simple ways is through generating material in simple ways. The material generated in this year was a book on Fact finding – “Taag”.

RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

Legitimization of the role of paralegal is one of major objectives of IIPLS. In this context it was felt that research should be conducted on the quality of implementation of Legal Service Authorities Act, 1987 which is instituted to uphold the constitutional Right of Equal Opportunity to Justice (Art. 39 A)

Hypothesis

1. Improper utilization of funds given to the district and state legal services authorities impacts the quality of service delivery
2. dissatisfaction in the beneficiaries is because of the low quality of services delivery
3. Monitoring systems for quality management has direct impact on quality of the services delivered
4. Lack of trained and motivated person in district and state level Legal Aid committees leads to ineffective implementation the NALSA.

Geographical Area of Research

This study was conducted by seeking information through Right to Information Act in all the districts of Gujarat. Also in six districts of Sabarkantha, Banaskantha, Amreli, Dang, Bharuch and Vadodara efforts were made to personally meet the legal aid authorities, legal aid penal lawyers, observation of the lok adalats as well the clients of the legal aid to seek the correct picture of the situation.

Major conclusions on the basis of the data received till now are as under:

1. No specific budgetary allocations for programmatic expenses
2. Constitution of Legal Aid authorities in most of the cases are exclusive and do not include external persons like social workers.
3. Weak monitoring systems as far as legal awareness camps, legal aid services, permanent conciliation forums are concerned
4. No selection norms or procedures for panel of Legal Aid lawyers. Also legal Aid Lawyers are under paid and payments made are also irregular
5. Legal Awareness camps more as formality and therefore does not able to achieve the objective. Quality of the camps needs to be improved
6. Lok Adalats are more of cases disposal mechanism rather than justice delivery mechanism

ADVOCACY

With the RTI applications all over the State, ripples were created in State Legal Authorities as well as district authorities. Constant follow up of the applications led to the point where State Legal Aid Authorities agreed to sit together to find out the strategies for improving the implementation of NALSA. In the proposal to State Legal Authorities, it is advocated that in the District Legal Authorities and in Taluka Legal Services committees trained para legals should be appointed so that quality of awareness, case conciliation, lok adalats etc can be improved. Twice meetings with State Legal Service Authorities have taken place.

INNOVATIVE PROJECT

In the innovative project a model program for Legal Insurance Cover for Women was initiated in month of June in collaboration with Saath organization which is working on Urban Slum Development.

This programme has been tested in Paldi area of Ahmedabad. Saath provides the institutional support whereas CSj provides legal support.

Legal Assurance Cover for women

Under this scheme women are insured for all kinds of legal services.

The **objectives** of the programme are :

- To provide legal support to women
- To provide legal assurance for women
- To provide legal protection against all kinds of violence and harassment
- To make legal service available to women in a cost effective manner

How does it work:

Any woman in need of legal assurance is required to pay a premium of Rs 120-00 Annually(Rs 100 as the premium for legal insurance and Rs 20-00 registration fee). This fee covers the cost of hiring a lawyer for any legal case that has to be filed in any court. Counselling is also provided to the client free of cost. However, the client has to pay the cost of stamp paper, typing expenditure and any other minor expenditure occurred in the court.

Benefits for the Insured

Legal cover is thus provided to the women regarding :

- Domestic Violence (physical, mental harassment, child custody, maintenance)

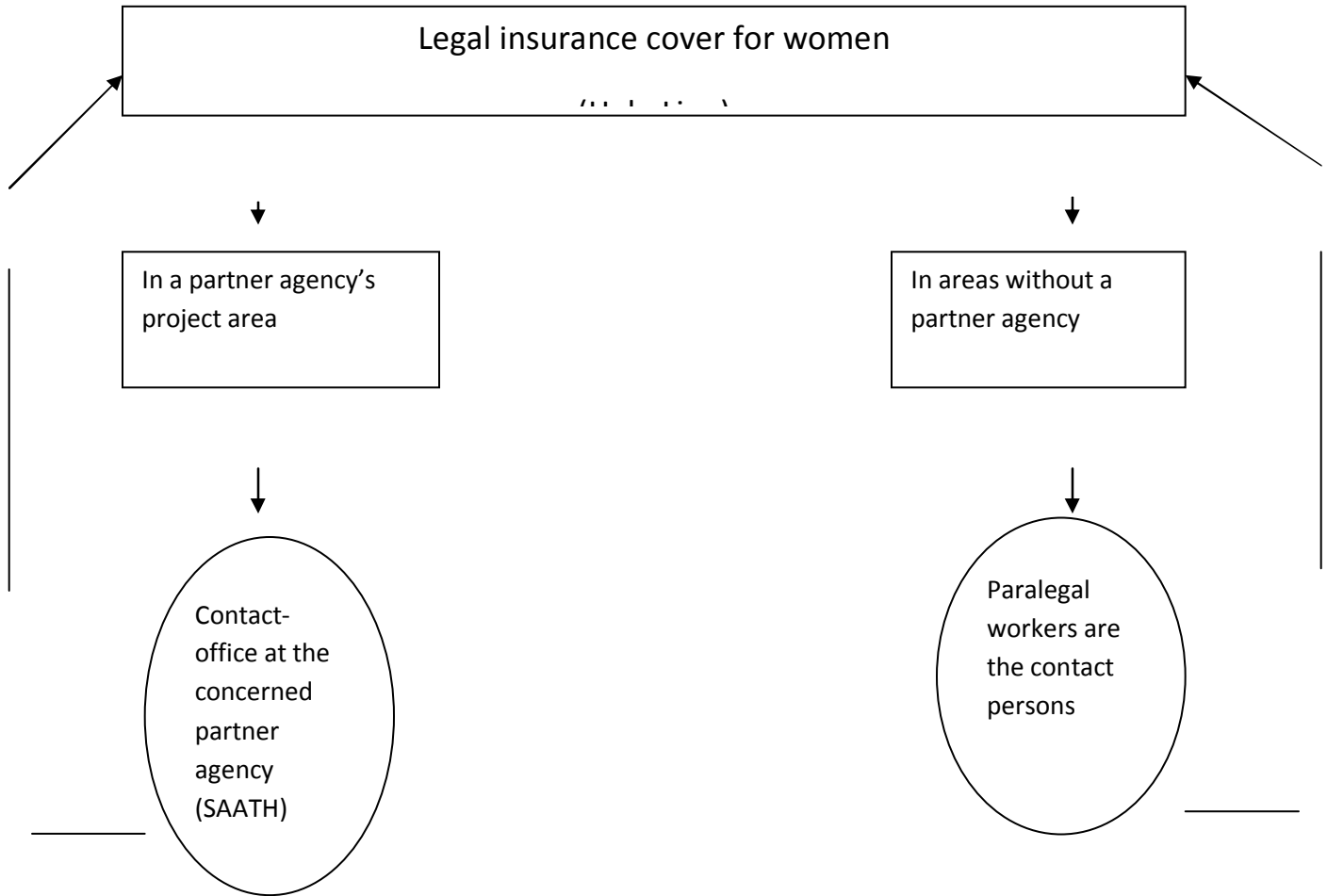
- Dowry Act and accidental death
- Cases related to property disputes
- Change of name in Gazette Office
- Also Maximum five affidavits regarding ration card, enrollment of children in school and obtaining birth/death certificate. This service is applicable to family members of the policyholder.

For the provision of the above service we have a one senior advocate to look after cases in High Court and two junior advocates to look after the cases in the lower courts.

Type of cases handled :

- Domestic Violence Act
- Dowry prevention Act
- Maintenance after divorce
- Custody of Children
- Property disputes

Project Structure



306 women were given Legal Insurance, 1 cards and policy papers. As per the legal coverage given, total 26 cases are till now taken up in court. There are 6 cases of conciliation, 6 cases of affidavits of Ration card, birth registration etc.

BRIGHT SPOTS

- A committed cadre of paralegal built who uphold their identity as paralegal
- Paralegals have started understanding need of paralegal associations, need to get organized
- A volunteers group in organizations apart from their karykartas as paralegals
- A group of skilled trainers for practicing alternative legal education has started building up.
- Manual for Para legal training and TOT in English ready for print
- Organizations coming forward for internalizing the concept of paralegal and overall work with legal perspective in their work
- Processes initiated in Rajasthan and minimum 13 dalit organizations will be in linked in the process through Unnati
- Series of law based books with simple understanding initiated. (5 books produced). Advocacy booklets under process

LEARNING SPOTS

- Need of focussed leadership
- To respond to needs and opportunities in time
- Organized secretariat with more professional touch
- Strengthening the advocacy efforts for legitimizing the role
- Monitoring processes needs streamlining
- Stringent follow up for quality maintenance of trainings of paralegals
- More material generation for para legals in simple language
- Consolidation of learnings till now in various para legals trained and replication of that (for eg. Enviro para legals)
- Nurturing identity of paralegal and strengthen it through various efforts for legitimizing at state level

Maharashtra:

- In 2008 RRC facilitated paralegal identity building processes on land rights, women' rights and dalit rights. In addition to the already registered and operational 193 paralegals, in Maharashtra a fresh batch of 165 paralegals has been trained. Also, Maharashtra RRC facilitated paralegal cadre building in Madhya Pradesh, where a group of 180 paralegals underwent a training process on women' rights including livelihood rights.
- Today in Maharashtra 130 paralegals are operational in districts of Vidarbha and Western Maharashtra on women's rights. These paralegal have been largely engaged in legal awareness and handling cases related to human rights violations of women, through conciliation (if practical) and by lodging police complaint. The 26 paralegal working in parts of Marathwada (Ahmednagar and Aurangabad districts) with the dalit, adivasis and nomadic communities are engaged in dealing with atrocities cases, human rights violations of adivasis and nomadic communities by forest and/or police machinery, sensitizing traditional justice forums like caste panchayats and taking up issues of human rights with the system through diverse advocacy efforts. There are 16 paralegals working in the 12 communities in the Nasik city on child rights issues. 20 paralegals working across different parts of Maharashtra (9 districts) are operational as

monitoring associates on the dalit human rights cases. These paralegals are affiliated to National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights on fact finding and reporting of dalit human rights violations.

- In terms of geographical outreach in Maharashtra IPLS has created presence through registered paralegals in nearly 19 districts of the total 35 districts. Majority of paralegals in Maharashtra belong to dalit communities and women constitute a sizeable portion of registered & operational paralegals.

Training and Monitoring:

In 2008, IPLS entered into a partnership with two networks, namely Vikas Sahayog Pratishtan and Dalit Hakk Abhiyan. The former is active on issues of land rights and livelihood issues in districts of Vidarbha, Western Maharashtra and Konkan. Dalit Hakk Abhiyan is focused on dalit rights, in particular atrocities committed against dalits, utilization of 15% budget by village panchayats for dalits and ownership of cremation land. IPLS has entered in partnership with Vikas Sahayog for training 25 paralegals in Vidarbha regions (districts of Chandrapur, Gondia and Bhandara), while 140 paralegals (50% are women) in 11 districts are trained on dalit rights for DHA.

Of the 25 paralegals of Vikas Sahayog 15 paralegals have enrolled themselves for certification and registration. The evaluation result of dalit hakka paralegals is in process of finalization.

Chaitanya one of the FCs in Maharashtra had prepared a batch of 60 women paralegals for certification and registration.

In 2008 with the partnership of Yuva and Prakruti, the RRC has started paralegal identity building process in four districts namely, Chindwara, Betul, Seoni and Balaghat. The focus of training conducted by Prakruti is on women rights and violence against women while the paralegal trained by YUVA will be working with communities on issues affecting women and rural poor on livelihood. Of 80 paralegals trained by prakruti 68 are

ned by YUVA in four districts of MP is yet to be known.

Monitoring of paralegal' work is usually done on the following points:

- Perspective
- Community acceptance
- How many people got the actual help?
- People/communities reached out
- Cases handled
- Awareness programme conducted

- Counseling/conciliations done
- Time spend in the field e
- Networking and advocacy with institutional stakeholders

Advocacy:

Women vigilance committees at police stations AKA mahila suraksha samiti (MSS) were formed. Initial study for assessing the need for paralegal on these committees was done in Pune, Nagpur and Amaravati, it was decided that women paralegals have a role to play on these committees by ensuring effective accessibility for women seeking justice in cases of harassment, violence and family feuds. A detailed study for policy advocacy was undertaken by RRC in 2008. The empirical study for this advocacy effort has been completed with the help from 15 partner organizations working in 16 districts. Of the total 835 Samities in 35 districts of Maharashtra, RRC has succeeded in approaching 106 Mahila Suraksha Samity in 16 districts. Till date, RRC has received data from all districts and in process of entering it for further analysis.

Before conducting the study, RRC approached the State Women' Commission, who has expressed their support for this effort.

Chaitanya, one of the FCs took the initiatives to legitimize its women paralegals at the revenue office in Junnar tehsil. After reviewing the work done by paralegals the sub divisional officer (prant) has appointed paralegals on the revenue committees constituted to engage in dispute resolution of petty revenue matters. Chaitanya has also got permission to run and coordinate a counseling centre at the District Panchayat headquarters through paralegals. RRC has documented this legitimization effort as case study.

Research on status of rights of deserted women in Shrigonda and Akole taluka, in specific context of cases filed under section 125 CrPC and implementation of court decision /orders for maintenance: The study conducted in collaboration with Adv. Nirmala Choudhary, lawyer working with Nyayadhar, a women lawyers group from Ahmednagar. The study is primarily to assess the implementation of Sec. 125 and orders given by the Courts. The need for this study arose from the discussion with local organization Navjeevan Bahuudeshiya Sanstha on the alarming number of deserted women in Srogonda taluka. The report based on the study has been submitted to the State Women' Commission and Department of Law and Justice (GOM), with following recommendations:

- As per central government policy one separate family court should be in every district. But the study shows that even the developed district like Ahemadnagar does not have family court.

- To give notice and warrant from police is the biggest challenge for women. One of the recommendations is the notice / warrant should be given through protection officer, the service provider organization or probation officer.
- There is a need to provide training to the Taluka level judges regarding gender justice and human rights.
- The other recommendation is while fixing the maintenance amount there is a need to see the status of women and also need to add expenses on education and health.
- Maintenance recovery should be done from husband self-acquired property and from inherited property.
- In the family court, on the place of counselor, paralegal person should be selected
- If the woman is staying more than five years in the same village, Talathi, Gram Sevak, Serpanch can be provide the "Rahivashi Dakhala" to them, which helps her to get ration card.

Regional Paralegal Convention: On 15th and 16th February 2008, 193 registered paralegals gathered in Pune to celebrate their three years association with IIPLS, and to share their experiences, fears, anxieties, success stories and challenges with the network. The Convention also offered a platform to the paralegal associations to brainstorm on their activities and how they can strengthen the role of paralegal in the society and in the context of Access to Justice. The Convention was meant to take the paralegals towards their expected role in the different justice delivery mechanisms. The paralegals gathered were enthused by the recognition and motivation given by Shri Ravi Patil, Dy. Director (Women and Child Development, Maharashtra), Adv. Surekha Dalvi, Shri. Anwar Rajan (Secretary, PUCL Maharashtra), Shri. T.K. Chaudhary (retd. DIG, Govt. of Maha) and Adv Shantaram Londhe (Legal Advisor, Maharashtra Women' Commission).

Strengthening the process of Paralegal Association was the area where RRC has not been able to do much. There was a process initiated by RRC with the 6 paralegal associations formed, to use RTI for seeking information in solving justice related issues.. At the core group meeting held on 29th and 30th December, it was decided that a systematic process of capacity building of paralegal associations, their office bearers must be undertaken.

Publications :

A compendium on basic laws used by paralegals in the field

A paralegal skill book,

four booklets on women' rights in Hindi, already published by Gujarat RRC for the Madhya Pradesh paralegals

National Liaison Update:

Adv. Zeenat Malick was appointed as consultant by IIPLS with following KRA:

to organise and coordinate the national consultation in Delhi,

to study the legal services authorities system under NALSA.

The national consultation could not take place.

Zeenat presented a literature review on "Role of Paralegals in Strengthening the Access to Justice through Legal Aid". She established an institutional linkage with NALSA. Zeenat made efforts to gather information on legal aid and present day status of the same using RTI in the Ministry of Home Affairs asking for information regarding pending cases in various Courts .RTI Application has also been filed in the Supreme Court of India asking for information regarding criterion of ratio on which the cases on maintenance were decided during last ten years.

A focus group interview and questionnaire was administered. The sample chosen for this has representation from NGOs doing work similar to IIPLS, NGOs working towards strengthening access to justice, lawyers at bar, retired judges, NALSA officials, etc.

Adv. Zeenat helped IIPLS in developing relationship with NGOs such as AALI in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh and Roshni Trust in Patna, Bihar.

Legitimising paralegal professional:

It was felt that paralegal legitimization must happen first at the level of academic institutions. This will help the profession credibility and legitimacy for arguing case for paralegals with the authorities. IGNOU-Indira Gandhi Open University, with its headquarter in Delhi with various regional offices across India was the first one to recognize the significance and relevance of paralegal role in the context of access to justice. Nupur Sinha, mentor of IIPLS process and executive director of Centre for Social Justice (the organisation who gave birth to IIPLS) made the ground work for designing the paralegal course with IGNOU.

YCMOU-Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University from Nasik, is another academic institution, with major focus on distance education in Maharashtra, that appreciated the role of paralegals and saw importance of collaborating with IIPLS on designing a diploma course on paralegal studies. Gauri Bhopatkar, taking insights from the IGNOU process, helped YCMOU to design a course. The present status of this course is that it is approved by the study council of YCMOU and due for its approval by the academic council. Once YCMOU confirms the decision of launching this course, IIPLS will work out details of its association with the university.

Reviewing and restructing IIPLS:

Internal review brought out following observations

1. Paralegal as change agent or change-maker in the access to justice framework is widely accepted and appreciated, by the communities as well by the local authorities.
1. Paralegal identity building process has received visibility and seeking sustainability for further improvement.
2. The standardisation of training as well as the monitoring of paralegal work with the communities feared to have failed the test of quality standards.
3. The structuring of IIPLS as a network itself became a bottleneck for speeding up the paralegal cadre/identity building process. The mutuality between RRC (regional resource centres) and FCs (facilitation centres) to strengthen the paralegal role affected by the dynamics of funding (subsiding the paralegal training by IIPLS) and resource allocation.
4. Lot of energies and resources of IIPLS gone in sustaining the network form of organisation than building and strengthening paralegal identity.
5. Paralegal associations and paralegal fund became two potential and vibrant areas for focused and intensive intervention.

Gagan Sethi and Nupur Sinha did the review and would soon be coming out with a detailed restructing paper on IIPLS.

As concluding remarks it must be noted that over past year's experiences have reaffirmed the relevance and significance of processes pioneered by IIPLS, in particular, conceptually designing paralegal identity, identifying spaces for role of a paralegals within the prevalent access to justice framework and codifying the paralegal profession through accreditation by academic institutions and / or universities. However, the organizational design of IIPLS as a network structure needs rethinking and without comprising on principle of collaborative leadership, IIPLS need to plan its strategies so as to make the paralegals and paralegal associations more visible and stronger for playing a vibrant, effective and efficient role in making access to justice a reality for the marginalized in India seeking their dreams of justice to be realized for last 60 years.

ANNUAL PLANNING (2009-2010)

This planning year the program is divided in to seven theme areas and every theme area covers different sub themes according to which activities, strategies, out comes, impact etc. are designed.

THEMATIC AREAS

1. Women Rights

- a. Domestic Violence Act (DVA)
- b. Immoral Trafficking
- c. Sexual Harassment of women at Workplace
- d. Pre Conception and Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act

2. Land Rights

- a. Dalit land rights
- b. Women Land rights
- c. Tribal Land Rights

3. Dalit Human Rights (DHR)

- a. Caste Atrocity (including gender based crimes)
- b. Manual Scavenging
- c. Health and Safety of Manhole Workers

4. Labour Rights

- a. Interstate Migrant Labourers
- b. Industrial Labourers
- c. Maternity Benefit

5. Right to Employment under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA)

6. Human Rights Education (HRE)

7. Right to Free Legal Aid

NEW STAKE HOLDERS

Keeping in mind the thematic areas, we are expanding our reach to new stakeholders including beneficiaries, state actors and non state actors. Few of the main stakeholders are given as under:

Beneficiaries

- Migrant labourers
- Manhole Workers
- Commercial Sex Workers
- Persons with disabilities
- Women employees/labourers vis a vis sexual harassment at work place
- Children

State Actors

- Disability Commissioner
- Department of Social Welfare
- Doctors/Medical Professionals
- District Advisory Committee and State Supervisory Board (PCPNDT Act)
- Medical Council of Gujarat and India
- Anti-Sexual Harassment Committee

Non State Actors

- Blind People's Association
- Ajivika- Rajasthan
- AALI- Uttar Pradesh
- DAG-Uttar Pradesh

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Theme- Right to Employment under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

Intervention at the level of Law Centre

Main activities involve-

- Training to Selected Swayam Sewaks (Community Paralegals) on NREGS
- Application for new Job Cards
- Application for job demand; for wage payment; travel allowance (where work site is at a distance beyond statutory limit); unemployment allowance
- Application/Complaint for remeasurement/ irregularity in measurement of work
- Application for facilities at work site
- Formation and activation of Social Audit Committee
- Conduct of Social Audit
- RTI Application for proactive disclosure and spot inspection

Secretariat Level Intervention

Main activities involve-

- Research design and tool formation including specimen RTI Application; data compilation and report making
- Secretariat support to field units for steering of the process
- Lobbying for new bye laws on tools and implements of work and recruitment of Mate
- Media feed
- Pre-litigation exercise on the basis of the report and field experience
- Public Interest Litigation (PIL) on the proper implementation of NREGS

THEME- WOMEN RIGHTS

Sub Theme No. 1- Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005

Intervention at the level of Law Centre

Main activities involve-

- Court cases
- Seminar on Domestic Violence Act with law colleges
- Networking with local NGOs working on women rights and Mahila Mandals, SHGs etc.
- Training to the members/paralegals of other NGOs, Mandals and SHGs
- Training of Protection Officer, Police, Lawyers and Judicial Magistrate with District Legal Services Authority
-

Secretariat Level Intervention

Main activities involve-

- Pre-Litigation exercise based on the field experience and the earlier report on the Status of Implementation of DVA
- PIL in High Court of Gujarat

Sub Theme No. 2- the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (Prohibition of Sex-Selection) Act

Intervention at the level of Law Centre

Main activities involve-

- Training of Swayam Sewaks on PCPNDT Act
- Awareness drive in the selected village
- Distribution of pamphlets
- Seminar on PCPNDT Act with Local Doctors Association
- Meeting with Village Panchayat, Anganwadi Workers and members of SHGs to sensitize
- Use of RTI to seek information relating committees, registration of genetic clinics, Ultra Sonography Centres etc.
- Orientation workshop for Committee members and other stakeholders
- Monitoring of District Advisory Committee

Secretariat Level Intervention

The main activities involve-

- Research design and tool formation
- RTI relating State Supervisor Board
- Two days workshop for field units' lawyers and paralegals
- Secretariat support to filed units
- Production of Gujarati version of PCPNDT Act
- Data compilation, analysis and report making
- Pre- Litigation Exercise on the basis of the report and field experience
- PIL in line with the Act and CEHAT case

Sub Theme No. 3- Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace

Intervention at the level of Law Centre

The main activities involve-

- Networking and co-ordination with NGOs for the constitution of Anti-Sexual Harassment Committee in the NGOs
- Constitution of Anti-Sexual Harassment Committee within CSJ
- Constitution of Anti-Sexual Harassment Committee in identified factories/industries, Government Offices, University, Colleges/Law colleges etc.
- Distribution of posters and pamphlets
- Follow up with the identified Committees with a view to activate
- Seminar with identified colleges and universities on Vishakha guidelines in collaboration with the Women Cell/Committees
- Court cases
- Petitions to the National/State Human Rights Commission and National /State Commission for Women

Secretariat Level Intervention

The main activities involve-

- One day workshop for lawyers and paralegal of all field units on Vishakha guidelines
- Production of poster and pamphlet
- Secretariat support to field unit
- Draft Bill on Sexual Harassment at Workshop
- Lobbying with Gender Resource Centre and Department of Women and Child for the legislation on the issue

- Pre- Litigation exercise for PIL and Contempt proceedings in High Court on the basis of the field experience
- PIL or/and Contempt in line with Vishakha case

Sub Theme No. 4- Trafficking of Women

Intervention at the level of Law Centre

Core Strategy- Collaboration with NGOs working with Commercial Sex Workers

The main activities involve-

- Training of members of NGOs on police administration and detention procedure
- Awareness camps in collaboration with the NGOs regarding DK Basu case and other relevant laws
- Legal aid and advice in cases under of Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act such as Bail, Public Defense etc.
- Dialogue with police, correction home etc.

Sub Theme No. 5- Violence Against Women (VAW)

The main activities involve

- Fact finding in cases of serious violence
- With Prosecution cases
- Petition to National/State Commission for Women and National/State Human Rights Commission

Sub Theme No. 6- Reproductive Rights of Women

The main activities involve-

- Use of RTI to seek information relating family planning camps
- Monitoring of Supreme Court's guidelines on safety standards for medical personal in conducting such camps (**Ramakant Rai case**)
- Intervene in cases of failure, injury or death in operations like vasectomy etc.

THEME- DALIT HUMAN RIGHTS

Intervention at the level of Law Centre

The main activities involve-

- Training of volunteers and members of Asil Manch on Dalit Human Rights
- Legal Literacy Camps
- Dialogue with Police, District and Block Vigilance Committees, District Education Officer, District/Block and Village Social Justice Committee
- Use of RTI to seek information regarding Vigilance Committee
- Fact finding in serious atrocities
- With Prosecution cases in Dalit Atrocity
- Activating Social Justice Committee for providing basic civic amenities in Dalit habitation
- School monitoring with a view to identify caste discrimination in schools
- Complaints to District Education Officer regarding caste discrimination in schools
- Petition to NHRC/SHRC, NCW/SCW, SC Commission etc. regarding serious cases of human rights violation of Dalits
- Monitoring of High Court's Guidelines on Manhole Workers
- Identify and monitor practice of Manual Scavenging and initiate criminal proceedings under Atrocity Act

THEME- LABOUR RIGHTS

Sub Theme No. 1- Inter-State Migrant Workers

The main activities involve-

- Production of Information brochure and pamphlets and their distribution;
- Identification of settlements where such workers live
- Networking with a Rajasthan based NGO namely Ajivika
- Legal Literacy Camps
- Use of RTI for seeking information relating status of implementation of the Interstate Migrant Workers Act
- Lobbying with department of Food and Civil Supplies for mobile ration cards for interstate migrant labourers

- Monitoring of the implementation of Interstate Migrant Workers Act including licensing of contractors, registration and identity card for labourers, social security, minimum wages etc.
- Lobbying with Department of Labour for implementation of the Act

Sub Theme No. 2- Maternity Benefit Act

The main activities involve-

- Legal Literacy camps in labour habitations, factories etc.
- Monitor implementation of the Act in Private factories
- Monitor maternity benefit provisions for Anganwadi workers
- Help Anganwadi workers demand Maternity Benefit
- Court case

THEME- LAND RIGHTS

Sub Theme No. 1 Women Land Ownership

The main activities involve-

- Monitor all government schemes relating housing and land whether it is entered in joint name of husband and wife
- Initiate process of allotment of land or house to destitute women especially single, widow and divorced women
- Initiate process of transfer of waste land in the name of woman as per the GR on Waste Land
- Initiate Process of *warsai* (entry of name in inheritance) in the name of sisters, wife, widows and other women in the family
- Activating Land *Kachehri* (Land Courts)

Sub Theme No. 2 Tribal Land Rights

The main activities involve-

- Follow up of the last years claim applications under the ST and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006
- Use of RTI to seek information relating status of implementation of the Act 2006 and claim applications

- Intervene in cases where Applications are rejected
- Initiate process of entry of property in joint name of husband and wife
- Activate the Forest Committees constituted under the Act
- Training to volunteers on new Act 2006

Sub Theme No. 3- Dalit Land Rights

The main activities involve-

- Initiate process of allotment of land or house to destitute women especially single, widow and divorced women
- Initiate process of transfer of waste land in the name of woman as per the GR on Waste Land
- Activating Land *Kachehri*

THEME- FREE LEGAL AID

Intervention at the level of Law Centre

The main activities involve-

- Organize law clinics with law students in collaboration of DLSA and Law College
- Legal Literacy camps in collaboration with TLSC and DLSA
- Membership of respective TLSC and DLSA as free legal aid lawyer and paralegal as social worker
- Postcard campaign through Asil Manch (Litigants' Forum) to TLSC and DLSA for holding Legal Literacy Camps on human rights laws
- Organize case registration camps in collaboration with TLSC and DLSA and subsequent follow up of registered cases through Asil Manch
- Organize drive for bail bonds under-trial prisoners in collaboration with DLSA
- RTI to TLSC and DLSA through Asil Manch for proactive disclosure u/S 4 of RTI Act
- Test cases through members of Asil Manch demanding representation (lawyer) of choice
- Training to panel advocates of DLSA and TLSC
- Linking of panel advocates and Social Justice Lawyers' Association (SJLA)

Secretariat Level Intervention

The main activities involve-

- Collaboration with SLSA for better implementation National Legal Services Authority Act
- Follow up with SLSA of the study on NLSA Act in Gujarat
- State Seminar on Access to Justice in India in collaboration with State Legal Services Authority
- Dialogue with SLSA for district and block level collaboration with District Law Centres
- To dialogue with SLSA for modification/amendment in the RTI Rules of Judiciary regarding application fees and information fees; for issuing a circular regarding service norms in the case of Domestic Violence Act

THEME- HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

Intervention at the level of Law Centre

The main activities involve-

- Human Rights Education curriculum in 5-15 schools in every district
- Monitoring
- Collaboration with Village/Talluka/District Education Committee, Parent-Teachers' Association.
- Organize events on the Schools Opening Program and Kanya Keravani Rath
- Collaboration with NGOs working on Child's Rights
- Cultural event for school children
- Post Card campaign through Asil Manch for adapting HRE curriculum in to mainstream curriculum
- Annual report

Secretariat Level Intervention

The main activities involve-

- Teachers' training
- Develop new modules for HRE curriculum
- Dialogue and collaboration with State Department of Education on mainstreaming of HRE in school curriculums

- Publish posters for children and schools on diversity, constitutional values etc.
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Organize *Mastan Mogali* in mixed community parks and gardens
- Partnership with other NGOs
- Follow up of earlier program
- Mega event for school children
- Annual Report

PROGRAM SUPPORT GROUP

Research and Advocacy

- Status of Implementation of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities and Full Participation) Act in Gujarat
- Status of implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in Gujarat

Training and Capacity Building

- **National Workshops**
 - Human Rights Education, Human Rights Based Advocacy and Women and Law
- **State Workshop**
 - Right to Information, Human Rights Based Advocacy and Rights of Persons with Disability

Human Rights Perspective in Other NGOS

- Blind People's Association; SAHYOG; SAATH; Mahila Patch Work; Kaira Social Service Society; Anandi; and Swati

Impact Litigation

- NREGA
- Disability Rights
- Witchcraft
- Domestic Violence Act

Publication

- Quickies/Quickies on NREGA
- Quickies/Manual on Social Security Regime in India
- Quickies/Manual on Domestic Violence Act
- Quickies/Manual on Labour Rights
- Quickies/Manual on Urban Laws
- Quickies/Manual on Land Rights

Seminars/Public Event

- Seminar on Access to Justice in India jointly with SLSA

Indian Institute of Paralegal Studies

- Expansion in new states like Rajasthan, UP, MP and Chattisgarh
- In Rajasthan partnership with Ajivika, Prayas, Astha and Pratirodh to be worked out
- In UP Partnership with AALI and DAG to be worked out
- In MP and Chattisgarh, partners to be identified and worked out
- Training of trainers for new States
- Paralegal Association will be constituted