

ANNUAL REPORT 17-18

**INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION AND LEARNING
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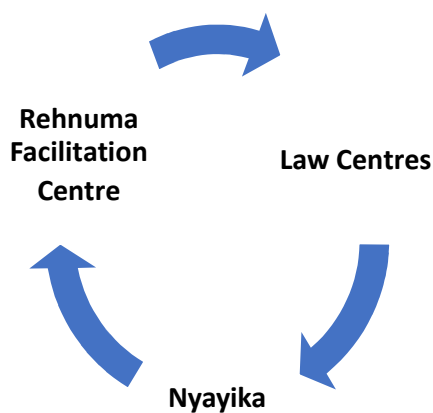
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1. ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW:

Established in 1993, Institute for Development Education and Learning - Centre for Social Justice (henceforth referred as CSJ) is a human rights organisation fighting for the rights of the marginalised and the vulnerable, principally in the sphere of access to justice. Inspired by Freirean thought, CSJ has been active in more than ten States across India creating human rights interventions using law as a key strategy through an intimate engagement with grassroots realities. Over the last 25 years, CSJ's experience in the access to justice field has led to the development of a unique conceptualisation of vulnerability founded in the interface between individual and collective identities. This has meant that CSJ not only assists in the empowerment of vulnerable communities through the enforcement of socio-economic and civil-political rights, but also (within a broadly restorative view of justice), more crucially, engages with reordering social relations that perpetrate discrimination and violence with a view towards a long-term re-alignment of intra- and inter-community dynamics of power. CSJ works with the law as a medium to bring about social change and legal empowerment among the vulnerable and marginalised communities. CSJ through various approaches works directly in the states of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat; while it works with partners in the States of Karnataka, Telangana, Odisha, Jharkhand and West Bengal. Various models, concepts, and approaches developed by CSJ, such as Rehnuma and Nyayika, integrate symbiotically into a cohesive and comprehensive legal intervention.

Law Centres: The Law Centres are the node through which CSJ carries out its systemic socio-legal interventions in its field areas. Having determined staff strength, built and moulded based on community needs and local requirements, CSJ's law centres operate in a unique manner. The Centres are the point of interface between the community and CSJ. The CSJ Law Centre is also a singular point in the community for a wide variety of services and activities, both from the standpoint of the community, as well as, from the programmatic standpoint of the organisation. For the community, the Law Centre is a fixed location where all forms of legal aid and advice is provided. The Law Centre also operates as a 'safe space' for counselling of victims/survivors and conciliation proceedings. It thus is beyond simply a desk office where lawyers can be found. Moving into a sphere where the Law Centre is identified in the community as a space of justice and fairness, where effective and just dispute resolution is the focus rather than simply a space for lawyers to meet clients.



Nyayika: Nyayika was initiated as and continues to be a chain of multi-specialty law centres offering affordable professional legal services at the grassroots working towards the end of increasing access to justice, both substantial and procedural. The Nyayika framework is premised on a system which believes in the need of for accountability and transparency in the practice of law, and the need to do so in a manner sensitive to the needs of the impoverished and the vulnerable. Nyayika provides legal services to the poor and the vulnerable. Its law centres offer legal aid and advice in all types of legal matters, including civil, criminal, revenue, consumer, labour, and do so at a fixed fee in order to ensure

sustainability of the model. The mission is to make quality legal services available to people from marginalized sections, particularly Dalits, minorities, Adivasis and women.

Rehnuma Law Centre (RLC) – A facilitation and Entitlement Centre for Vulnerability Group: Viewed from the lens of CSJ's identitarian conception of vulnerability, religious minorities are amongst the most vulnerable groups in the country. Since the 2002 Gujarat communal riots, CSJ has actively engaged with minority communities to ensure access to justice delivery, respond to abuses of Human Rights and facilitate entitlements under various government welfare programmes. Carrying this forward, CSJ collaborated with organisations in 6 states to develop the Rehnuma Entitlement Facilitation Centres to ensure implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 – Point Programme for Welfare of Minorities and the Multi-Sectoral Development Plan while operating as a conventional law centre staffed with lawyers and paralegals addressing human rights violations perpetrated against vulnerable communities. The Rehnuma program was run through a network of facilitation centres in identified Minority-concentrated Blocks, Towns and Districts (a bureaucratic turn of phrase).

Central to CSJ's efforts are its institutional interventions in legal reform and research which bridge and symbiotically combine grassroots activism, law and policy-making on a wide gamut of issues concerning the rights of women, Dalits, Adivasis, minorities and other socially vulnerable groups. This has only been possible because of the Centre's tireless efforts – through its wide network of law centres – in training and strengthening community lawyers and paralegals; thus, building capacities for paradigm-altering leadership within their communities. The law centres – consisting of a team of lawyers, paralegals and researchers – not only provide litigative support and outreach to communities but become nodes for the propagation of a more holistic conception of Human Rights that incorporates a vision for peace and justice beyond the confines of the rights-framework.

It has, now, 14 centres in the State of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. Additionally, it has seven centres called 'Rehnuma - A facilitation and Entitlement Centre for Vulnerability Group' in partnership with other organisations in Karnataka, Telangana, West Bengal and Odisha with a specific focus on minority rights. CSJ have responded to 3531 cases in 2017-18 through this network of centres.

Vision:

To strengthen human rights culture & an all-inclusive pluralist society, free of violence, injustice, discrimination, prejudices and stereotyping.

Mission:

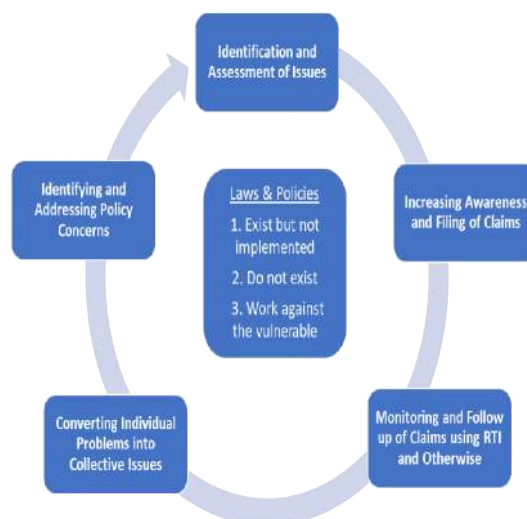
To use law for social change to ensure access to justice to vulnerable communities and to secure social justice, equity, equality, and fraternity.

To promote an enabling policy and legislative environment that respects, promotes and protects human rights of vulnerable communities.

Strategies and Framework for Access to Justice:

Since its inception, CSJ has adopted two-fold approach of directly engaging with the marginalised communities, and emgaging with institutional engagement agencies responsible for ensuring and strengthening the rule of law.

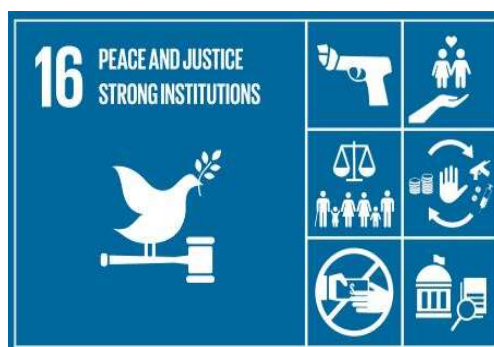
The strategies to achieve this have been Legal Awareness, Legal Aid, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms, Law Reform and Capacity Building initiatives. CSJ works with the core principles of promoting social justice and grassroot lawyering, victims as crusaders by strengthening lawyers and paralegals from the community, enabling leader lawyers, and changing the discourse at the Bar, in Academics and Social movements with a clear entry and exit strategy.



To strengthen its work in the area of grassroot lawyering an ‘Entitlement – Availability Framework’ is developed which had an impact on the way the cases were identified and their subsequent treatment. This had a positive impact. It was decided that the issues identified would be divided into two categories: firstly, those, which emerge from our own efforts, and secondly, those that have been identified by stakeholders. 50% of institution’s energies and resources are directed towards grassroot lawyering.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals:

CSJ’s work in the arena of ‘Access to Justice’ relates directly to the Goal 16 of the SDG’s which lay emphasis on Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. CSJ strives to achieve these with its work for many years by building Community Volunteers, Paralegals, and Lawyers. And also, by working closely with several stakeholders ranging from the Legal Services Authorities of the State, Government bodies, Academic Institutions, Policymakers to assisting civil society to fight for both their individual and collective rights. CSJ plays an active role in promoting Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions (Goal 16).



In the recent past, within the context of Goal 16 of the SDG’s, CSJ has been working strongly on the thematic issues ranging from Dalit Rights, Women’s Rights, Child Rights, Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Self Governance. The work undertaken by CSJ on these thematic issues has led to

addressing several goals set out under the SDGs in general. In addition to the thematic issues, CSJ has played an active role in collecting the data on the condition of prisons to bring about prison reforms in the country. CSJ has been an active participant in the consultation on Goal 16 conducted by NITI Aayog, where representation from various civil society organisations were present. In addition, CSJ has also participated in various other consultations that have taken place on Goal 16. The organisation has taken the initiative to conduct workshops on SDGs attracting various Civil Society Organisations, and National Institutions with a specific focus on monitoring, advocacy, budgeting, data collection and analysis as far as the SDGs are concerned, with an aim to ensure that the participating organisations/institutions understand SDGs within the context of their work and also to imbibe the culture of working with SDGs.

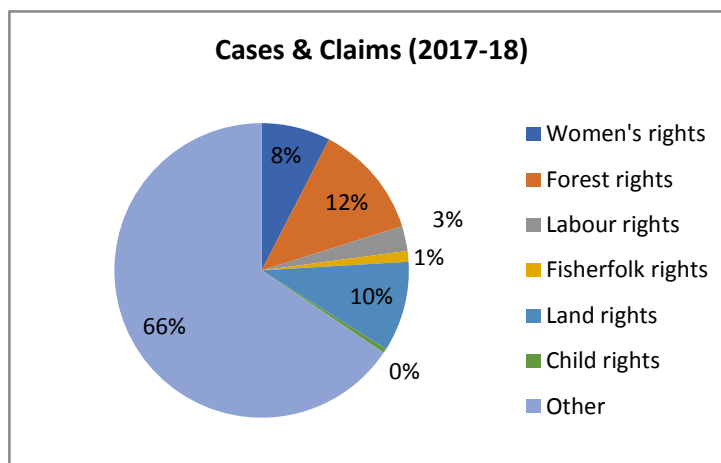
2. PROGRAMME OVERVIEW:

CSJ takes a theme-based approach to its work. The thematic interventions on women's rights, human rights violations, labour rights, land rights, child rights, fisherfolk rights and minority rights are cross-cutting among all the Law Centres of CSJ, while some regions have specific focus on issues of forest rights, fisherfolk rights, child rights, rights of street vendors and manual scavengers, etc. which are depicted in the map given below.



Case/Claims handledby Centres (2017-2018)

Themes	OBC		Minority		SC		ST		General		Total		TOTAL
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Rights of women against violence	20	65	7	31	15	38	6	48	8	31	56	213	269
Rights of forest dwellers under FRA	3	7	10	0	111	1	293	18	0	0	417	26	443
Rights of labourers	22	9	4	1	23	9	11	9	5	4	65	32	97
Rights of fisherfolk	23	7	8	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	33	9	42
Rights of women, dalits, displaced people over land	39	10	64	29	32	9	106	33	23	5	264	86	350
Rights of children	3	3	1	0	1	4	0	3	1	0	6	10	16
1Others[1]	511	304	232	172	330	201	273	154	84	57	1430	888	2318
Total	621	405	326	234	512	262	691	266	121	97	2271	1264	3535



[1]Others include cases and claims related to entitlements.

State wise bifurcation of cases/claims:

Gujarat:

Themes	OBC		Minority		SC		ST		General		Total		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Rights of women against violence	13	20	7	29	3	10	3	37	4	21	30	117	147
Rights of forest dwellers under FRA	2	7	10	0	109	1	292	17	0	0	413	25	438
Rights of labourers	15	3	3	0	16	3	8	4	2	0	44	10	54
Rights of fisherfolk	20	6	8	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	29	8	37
Rights of women, dalits, displaced people over land	28	8	63	29	27	7	102	30	21	3	241	77	318
Rights of children	3	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	5	4	9
Other	165	118	204	163	90	61	199	89	49	37	707	468	1175
Total	246	164	296	222	245	84	605	178	77	61	1469	709	2178

Madhya Pradesh

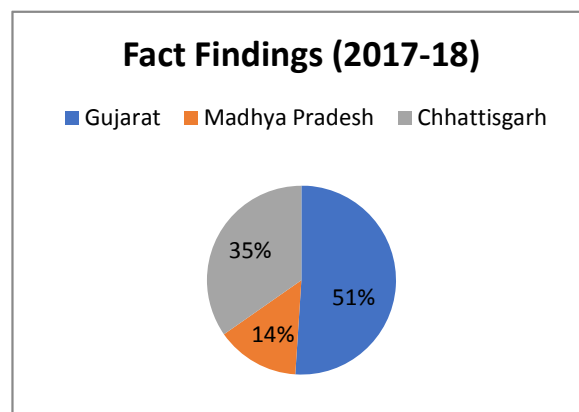
Themes	OBC		Minority		SC		ST		General		Total		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Rights of women against violence	3	11	0	1	8	10	0	3	3	3	14	28	42
Rights of forest dwellers under FRA	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	1	4
Rights of labourers	4	3	1	1	4	3	1	4	3	4	13	15	28
Rights of fisherfolk	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	1	5
Rights of women, dalits, displaced people over land	6	2	1	0	2	1	2	1	2	1	13	5	18
Rights of children	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	3
Other	249	109	28	7	124	71	54	36	29	17	484	240	724
Total	266	126	30	9	140	86	59	46	37	25	532	292	824

Chhattisgarh

Themes	OBC		Minority		SC		ST		General		Total		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Rights of women against violence	4	34	0	1	4	18	3	8	1	7	12	68	80
Rights of forest dwellers under FRA	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Rights of labourers	3	3	0	0	3	3	2	1	0	0	8	7	15
Rights of fisherfolk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rights of women, dalits, displaced people over land	5	0	0	0	3	1	2	2	0	1	10	4	14
Rights of children	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	4	4
Other	97	77	0	2	116	69	20	29	6	3	239	180	419
Total	109	115	0	3	127	92	27	42	7	11	270	263	533

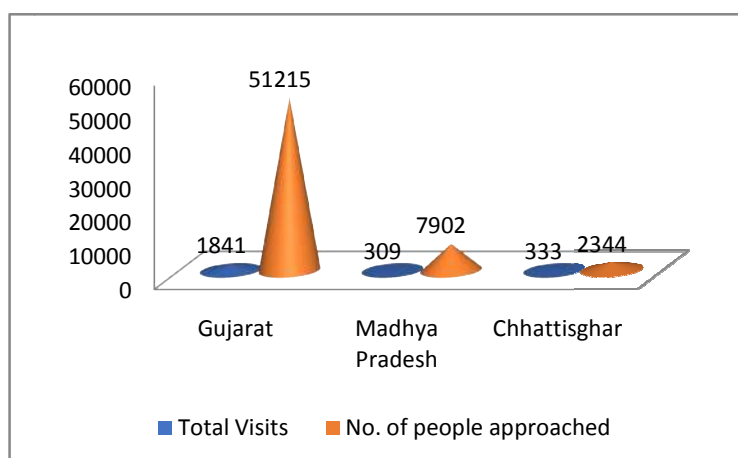
Fact Finding Cases for the year 2017-18

State	No. Of Fact Findings Conducted	Type of Incidents
Gujarat	25	Atrocity, Murder, Eve Teasing, POSCO, Rape, Suicide, Kidnapping
Madhya Pradesh	07	Atrocity, Eve teasing, Harassment, Rape, Communal Violence
Chhattisgarh	17	Murder (In dispute of land) Violence against women (Rape, Land rights), Eve teasing, Rape, Harassment
Total	49	



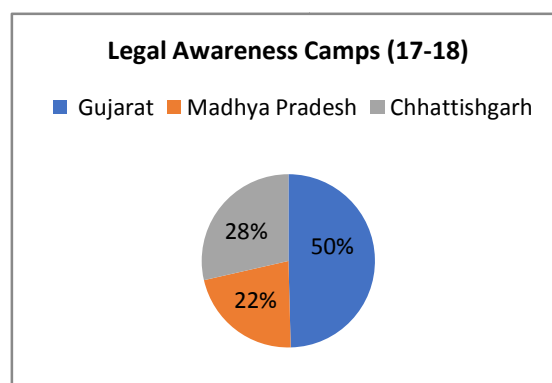
Details of Village Visits conducted in 2017-18:

States	Total No Visit	No. Of People Approached		
		M	F	T
Gujarat	1841	27480	23735	51215
Madhya Pradesh	309	4015	3887	7902
Chhattisgarh	333	972	1541	2513
TOTAL	2483	32467	29163	61630



Details of Legal Awareness camps organized in 2017-18:

States	No of Legal Awareness	No. Of People approached		
		F	M	Total
Gujarat	59	1146	772	1977
Madhya Pradesh	26	418	439	883
Chhattisgarh	34	1277	568	1879
Total	119	2841	1779	4739



Sources of Case/Claims:

Source	Gujarat	Madhya Pradesh	Chhattisgarh	Total
NGO	24	20	11	55
Government offices	33	3	5	41
Pamphlet - hand bill	97	20	13	130
Volunteer	368	73	25	466
Campaign	127	41	20	188
Shivir	72	19	155	246
Village visit	882	137	213	1232
Publication	23	2	12	37
Old Reference	299	261	55	615
Self Visits	62	182	14	258
By Relatives	175	66	11	252
By letter	9	0	0	9
Para - Legal	4	0	0	4
Reference by other advocate	2	0	0	2
TOTAL	2177	824	534	3535

3. THEMES AND INTERVENTIONS

A. Rights of women, dalits, displaced people over land



Often, members of vulnerable communities are evicted from ancestral land for market based private and Government development projects and are not rehabilitated or given access to a fair alternative. CSJ has been crusading to ensure that the land acquisition regime does not overlook marginalized sections by filing PILs and Writ petitions wherever required. Apart from the issue of land acquisition by government, at the sametime people are also facing problems because of the allocated land being captured by third parties, issue of land grabbing, etc. where CSJ fought and tried to ensure justice for the victims. CSJ has helped 350 community members in filing applications for claims related to fencing, inheritance, land registration, etc. and also has helped in filing 99 cases before the court on issues of land.

Though several legislations explicitly provide for women's property rights, the prevailing customs in the society do not allow that the women are given their due share in the property. CSJ makes efforts through awareness camps and campaigns to educate women of their rights over property.

In Chhattisgarh, two PILs on land acquisition have been filed of which one was disposed of. In Dagoril village of Bilaspur, agriculture and residential land were given to the villagers on a 20-year lease, but the villagers were asked to evict without prior notice. CSJ, on behalf of the villagers, filed a PIL and the case is on-going. An important area of intervention in the domain of land rights is our work on the regularisation of Vadas i.e. land folds (used either for animal husbandry or as kitchen garden or for both). A Government Resolution (GR) was formulated on the 10th April 2017 mandating the regularisation of Vadas which were registered before the year 1968. This GR will be crucial in CSJ's initiative to regularise the Vadas.

KailashbenAshokbhaiVamja, a 45-year-old HIV positive woman from the Akala village of Lathi Taluka is a widow. Though Kailashben's husband had ancestral property, after his death Kailashben and her son were finding it difficult to get their ends met as the land was owned and cultivated by her in-laws. During a district-level meeting of HIV positive women, Kailashben happened to meet the Amreli team of CSJ and shared her story with the team. She expressed that if she could claim her share in the husband's ancestral property her and her son's future would be secured. CSJ team assisted her in procuring required land related documents. Additionally, Kailashben's in-laws were counselled by the CSJ team and were able to convince them that Kailashben has right in ancestral property and therefore should be given part of it. The legal formalities were also completed helping Kailashben procure 12 acres of land in her name.

B. Rights of labourers



CSJ fights for the rights of the marginalised and underprivileged labourers from farm workers to manual scavengers. The methods adopted to reach out the labourers include identifying their problems through village visits, bringing about awareness on laws and schemes through the legal awareness camps, analyse the laws to identify their non-implementation, prepare for collective action through PILs and assist the labourers in filing cases and claims.

Capacity Building initiatives on Labour Rights have helped 112 labourers to apply for the Employee Provident Fund (EPF) funds which were held up for a long time due to non-traceability of the registered company which was based in Mumbai, Maharashtra and the work was carried out through a third party in Chhattisgarh. At the same time, CSJ's survey of 300 street vendors in Bhopal has helped develop a research report with a clear finding that the Street Vendors Act is not implemented. The research concluded that the scenario of Street Vendors in Bhopal makes a strong case for PIL. CSJ helped set up Street Vending Committees in different major markets in the city and build their capacities around their rights. Several applications were made on behalf of street vendors to the Bhopal Municipal Corporation(BMC) asking them to cease any eviction drive against them in accordance with law. Several applications were also made on behalf of mobile street vendors to

receive financial assistance for their business and most of them have received the assistance. CSJ has assisted community members to file cases against the BMC involving illegal eviction of street vendors, helped them secure registration as street vendors and assisted in dividing markets into prescribed zones.

In the year 2017-18, one of CSJ's key struggle was to ensure proper implementation of The Beedi and Cigar (Condition of Workers) Act, 1966 which guarantees legal protection to the workers in the Tobacco industry. Those working in this industry were found to be completely unaware of the existence of such schemes and the benefits thereunder. Holding the card, the workers were entitled to benefits such as access to hospitals, insurance, etc. CSJ assisted 900 beedi and cigar workers to file claims under the Act to be registered as workers.

C. Rights of fisherfolk



Gujarat sprawling coastal belt hosts a huge population that is vulnerable and still illusive to the State Government of Gujarat. The fisherfolk living around these coastal belts are one of the most vulnerable communities in Gujarat and as part of ensuring their legal rights, CSJ initiated working in Siyalbet an island located in Jafrabad block of Amreli district. Over the period of time, various strategies like collecting information from various stakeholders, converting individual problems into the collective problem,

building a cadre of volunteers, etc were adopted. In the year 2017-18 CSJ's Law Centre provided assistance in 16 cases and filing of 44 claims. Around 80 volunteers from the fishing community have been actively identifying/raising issues on various aspects such as roads, sanitation, schools etc and are making efforts to get them resolved by making applications, filing RTIs and visiting government offices. As a result, Panchayat of Sartanpar Village and Gadula village sanctioned Rs 2,00,000/- for the construction of Road. Similarly, Rs.3,83,000/- have been sanctioned for the construction of the lighthouse in Dhamrej village.

Siyalbet: An island village located in Jafrabad block of Amreli district. Based on local research two PILs were filed in the High Court of Gujarat. One to make the Primary Health Center (PHC) in Shiyalbet functional & the other to make available (108) ambulances. The High Court of Gujarat ordered that 110 new ambulances to be made operational within a period of 4 months from the date of the order. The Order also mentioned allocation and earmarked 10, 108 ambulances exclusively for the coastal areas. Further, the State was ordered to purchase and provide seven boat ambulances carrying medical equipment for a period of 6 months from the date of the order. The court also ordered a doctor to visit the PHC regularly. This order will have positive impact one lakh members of the fishing community.

D. Rights of forest dwellers under FRA



CSJ works in scheduled areas with the tribal population in the Southern and Northern belt of Gujarat and in others areas where the organization is operational. CSJ has been assisting forest dwellers to claim the rights over the cultivating land they are entitled to as per the provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA). Considering that Forest Right Act and PESA are the most crucial legislation for the tribal areas, awareness camps were organised in the Jhumbavadi and Andharikuva villages of Mandvi. A two-day long legal campaign was organized by 15-member team in

Meghraj district of North Gujarat, which covered three villages. Apart from creating awareness and supporting community members in filing their entitlements, CSJ's Law Centre has assisted the community members in filing 139 cases and in making 304 claims as per the FRA and associated schemes under the provisions of the law.

E. Rights of children



The Child Rights Paralegal Training programme was initiated by CSJ to develop a cadre of paralegals who would work for children facing violations, acting as a link between the community and the machinery involved, and be responsible for protecting the rights of children. The first phase primarily focused on training the paralegals on the relevant acts and procedures relating to protection of the rights of the children, ensure their representation at appropriate structures, responsible for protecting the rights of children through filing RTIs, registering FIRs, preparing drafts and applications, and

accomplishing the overall objective of creating a cadre of community-based child rights paralegals. The capacity building programme was conducted in two phases supported by UNICEF in the three districts of Madhya Pradesh - Bhopal, Shivpuri, and Rajgarh in partnership with five NGOs namely – Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS), Parhit, Eka, Muskaan, and Aarambh. This training and capacity building initiative enabled 75 paralegal volunteers (PLVs) to think in a way of approaching any socio-legal issue pertaining to child rights violations from a rights-based perspective. Through this, CSJ has made an identity as a capacity building hub in Bhopal on the issue of child rights violations. CSJ is also a part of a child rights alliance group in Bhopal, which is a group of local organizations, individuals and UNICEF that deal with issues and cases that involve child rights violations. Additionally, CSJ has also expanded its geographical area of working on the issue of child rights to Chhattisgarh to broaden the work and understanding it has gained from working on this thematic in Madhya Pradesh. Along with inculcating rights-based perspective on different organizations working at the grassroots, CSJ has filed 26 cases of sexual abuse of children under the POCSO Act, 2012 directly or through Childline.

F. Rights of Dalit:

The issues of discrimination, social boycott and atrocities are frequent among the Dalit communities in the States of CSJ's operation. The state machinery is not sensitized towards the problems of the Dalits and therefore it becomes hard to file a case under the Scheduled Castes and Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act), 1989. To reduce the gravity of the crime, these offences are often registered under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) using Sections such as 323, 506, 511 of IPC, which does not rightly capture the intensity of the problem. CSJ has been creating awareness through village visits, legal awareness camps and orientations, which happen regularly at all Units. These efforts have led to 3 court cases being filed under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act during the reporting period, legal aid being provided in 4 instances and 6 applications for victim compensation being filed under the Act. Two cases of violence taken before the National Human Rights Commission. Additionally, on the issue of atrocities against Dalits, fact-finding was conducted in 11 cases. With continuous effort and engagement Law Centre managed to get conviction to 25 accused of Dalit atrocity. To continue our fight, we are also collaborating with different actors, which include government and non-government organisations like National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights, One Stop Centre and Rastriya Dalit Mahila Andolan.

In a suicide case of a Dalit community member reported at the Amreli Centre of Saurashtra region of Gujarat, necessary assistance was provided to the victim's family for compensation. The victim committed suicide due to harassment by the upper caste members in the village. The family was assisted by the Amreli Centre to file an application for compensation towards atrocity committed. The family was helped procure a compensation of INR 4,00,000.

G. Rights of women against violence



Women's rights are a key theme which CSJ addresses by focusing on resolving, empowering, and advising on problems faced by women ranging from maintenance, domestic violence, dowry, rape, witchcraft, property rights, etc. National Legal Services Authority of India (NALSA) was mandated to

formulate a model scheme on "Victim Compensation Scheme for Survivors of Sexual offences and Acid Attack" based on the directions of Supreme Court. CSJ based on its vast experience of working with survivors of sexual violence has submitted its recommendations for the same. In the year 2017-18 CSJ has filed 306 cases and claims related to women rights across all the centres. In 2017-18 total 15 survivors were provided benefits of Relief and Rehabilitation for Victims of Rape schemes. CSJ has also been active in increasing awareness on the provisions of law and building community volunteers, paralegals and lawyers to identify the cases of violence and provide justice. A positive court order was received in a PIL filed in the Chhattisgarh High Court for the proper implementation of Domestic Violence Act, 2005 with the court making District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) a suo moto party in the case & ordering them to formulate a policy for creating awareness on domestic violence.

A 21-year-old girl, resident of Adhbar, Chhattisgarh, was drawn into a sexual relationship with a man aged 28 on the promise of marrying her post his elder brother's wedding. The accused took the girl to the temple and put sindoor to make her believe that he was serious about her. A few months later, she has come to know that he was engaged with someone else. When confronted, the family has abused her. The girl later approached CSJ for assistance. A case was filed under relevant sections of IPC and SC/ST Prevention of atrocities Act.

In the incidents of gang rapes and POCSO, cases have filed with the prosecution.

In a gang rape case of a minor girl in Savarkundla, the offenders had constantly been threatening the family of the victim to withdraw the case. The Amreli Centre provided all necessary support to the victim and her family in order to help them continue the case. These included:

1. Police protection to victim and her family
2. Boost the confidence of the victim to recount and state the incidents as they happened
3. A compensation of INR 50,000/- as an aid under the Rape Victim Compensation Scheme to the victim
4. Necessary legal support provided to ensure rejection of bail application of, offenders leading to their arrest and reduction in their political and economic influence on victims
5. To procure faster trial of the case by the Honourable High Court of Gujarat

This case witnessed a lot of challenges in terms of the Lawyers causing mental agony to the victim and her family to settle the case by threatening that the offender's bail application will be approved and he will walk not guilty by providing reasons such as late filing of the complaint and the negative report. In such conditions, the bail application had been rejected. Additionally, the local Police forced the victim to wait entire night at the police station before filing the FIR.

In such a scenario, it was a major challenge for the CSJ team to keep the victim and her family motivated to run the trial while the society was pressurizing them for settlement.

H. Rights of Minorities:

Issue related to rights of Minorities was catered through “Rehnuma: Empowering Vulnerable Communities and Facilitating Social Inclusion through Rule of Law”. Along with the CSJ Law Centre, Rehnuma program was implemented in Gumla (Jharkhand), Gulbarga (Karnataka), Ranga Reddy (Telangana) and Howrah (West Bengal), and Kandhamal (Odisha) through the partners Centre for Social Justice (CSJ), Human and Institutional Development Forum (HIDF), Drishti, Nari O Shishu Kalyan Kendra (NOSKK), SAHARA, SWATI, and CONARE. Various outreach activities and advocacy efforts to realise the entitlements of minorities were conducted by CSJ Law Centre as well as Rehnuma Law Centres. In addition to this, all the centres identified local volunteers and paralegals and trained them to serve as a beacon of legal aid in their areas. 1178 volunteers and paralegals were trained who were actively involved in rigorous outreach activities, identification of issues and cases, organizing awareness sessions, and assisting in case handling. In the year 2017-18, CSJ Law Centre along with Rehnuma Law Centres reached out to 25000 people by carrying out 1900 outreach activities in the form of 1948 village visits/village meetings and 250 awareness camps. More than 800 volunteers and paralegals were trained who were actively involved in rigorous outreach activities, identification of issues and cases, organizing awareness sessions, and assisting in case handling related to Minority Rights. A total of 7000² applications for claim to various departments have been made.

A Story of the struggle of an old lady to avail pension benefits.

Ratingia, Kandhamal, Odisha

Old age comes with multiple disabilities and serious neglect. The increased need for care, well-being and health makes it a very painful experience when mixed with impoverishment and illiteracy on one hand and inefficient and unaccountable governance structure at the village level on the other hand. Poverty-related migration from villages to urban or peri-urban areas for livelihood is also taking a heavy toll on elderly population from poor and marginalised families as most villages are left with no young population to care old people in the family. This leads to the destitution of elderly people.

During the village visit, one of the paralegals from RLC had come across Tunima Nayak, an old lady aged around 70 years, from Ratingia Gram Panchayat. She had no one in her family to care for her and her husband Chaitanya Nayak, as their sons had migrated with their family to Kerala in search of better livelihoods. Tunima and her husband were living in abject poverty, hunger and destitution. They had applied for the state-sponsored Old Age Pension, popularly referred as Madhu Babu Pension, and followed up with the panchayat office and other government officials but nothing worked until RLC intervened and filed a representation on her behalf and did several rounds of follow up at panchayat and block levels. It took more than six months to get her pension approved and sanctioned.

²Includes cases and claims handled by Rehnuma Law Centre of all 7 states.

4. RESEARCH & ADVOCACY:

- A. Ground Research on Minority Welfare “Minority Appeasement – Myth or Reality:”** A Ground Research on Minority Welfare was conducted by all 7 centres of Rehnuma. Action research agendas that were undertaken to bind the work of the centres included the implementation of the Prime Minister’s New 15-Point Programme, with a specific focus on effective and targeted implementation of the schemes - Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Scholarships, Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women (NaiRoshni), the Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madrasas (SPQEM). The findings from the administration of the toolkit led to a research report; **Minority Appeasement – Myth or Reality**, that presented the varied experiences resulting from the implementation of policies as they relate to minority men and women in seven different regions of the country and helped understand the gaps between policy formulation and its implementation through the vulnerability lens. Also, it was identified that the current climate of intolerance towards religious and other minorities, and the growing inequality between the sexes is a cause for great concern.
- B. “Empowering the Vulnerable - Experiences from Rehnuma Law Centres” - An Interim Report:** The study was largely conducted in an exploratory framework by attempting to record the ground situation with respect to PM’s New 15-point programme, Multi - Sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) and other minority specific developmental initiatives undertaken by various states. The trends at the block/district level are seen in the light of data being reported at the central level. As also, these ground observations are constantly compared and placed against the larger policy designs envisaged at the time of undertaking such minority specific development agendas. The study was an attempt to present the genuine picture of the variety of experiences resulting from implementation of a central policy in diverse regional settings and understand its success in meeting the aspiration and needs of the vulnerable sections. While the gaps and deficits in implementation are evident, on the brighter side, this study also captures a lot of positive activities and innovations that are taking place at the grassroots and changing the lives of people. This report was used for advocacy at both state and central level.
- C. Implementation of “Financial Compensation Scheme” for rape cases:** Bharuch and Amreli Centre conducted a research to know the status of Rape Compensation Scheme and amendments needed in the scheme - With increasing number of rape incidents in both Bharuch & Amreli District, centres decided to undertake a study of the State and Central Government Scheme “Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault/Other Crimes”. The objective of the study was to identify issues arising in the implementation of the scheme which requires additional attention and improvement. Details were acquired from various departments such as police stations, courts, free legal aid and social security centres. These details were analysed and on the basis of that, a District level workshop was organised on “International Women’s Day” and approximately 10 district agencies participated in the same.
- D. #JantaXAadhar:** An online campaign #JantaXAadhar was initiated by Rehnuma. The key purpose of the campaign was to bring out the counter-narrative to the Aadhar issue and to set the context for

a more responsible debate on the subject. Three videos on the issue of Aadhar were also uploaded on the website and shared on the Facebook page. This campaign has contributed to collecting data on Aadhar which was shared with the lawyer arguing the case against Aadhar in the Supreme Court of India.

E.Sustainable Development Goal Conclave, NITI Aayog:

CSJ participated in the Sustainable Development Goal Conclave (20th-21st December 2017) which was organized by the NITI Aayog in collaboration with NFI as well as different State Governments like State of Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Assam, Maharashtra and the State of Haryana. It was a two-day event and various Civil Societies from all over the country were part of the same.



The conclave was very much important and fruitful from the networking point of view. Also, the Conclave was majorly based on the roadmap to be adopted to achieve the SDGs till 2030.

F. Goal 16 indicators: Post - Sustainable Development Goal Conclave, CSJ conducted a small consultation event on Goal 16 in collaboration with NITI Aayog in New Delhi on 15TH of March 2018. The event witnessed a participation of representatives from NITI Aayog, NLU Delhi and various other Civil Societies. Presentations were done on indicators for Goal 16, flaws in the present mechanism of Goal 16, youth policy and its linkages with Goal 16. Subsequently, we were invited by the Special Officer on Duty, Niti Aayog to help her finish her work on targets and indicators for Goal 16.

G: Collective claims:

- **Writ Petition challenging the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2013 filed by Madhu Kishwar in the Delhi High Court:**

In March 2017 a Writ Petition (W.P.(C) No.2487/2017) was filed by Ms. Madhu Kishwar and two others before the Delhi High Court seeking that the Court strike down certain amendments introduced by way of the Criminal Law Amendment Act 2013, including expanding the definition of rape under Section 375 of IPC to include rape other than only penovaginal penetrative rape i.e. forced oral, anal, digital, with objects and other forms of forced penetrative sex as rape and the codification of consent introduced as an explanation to Section 375 IPC. The entire thrust of the Petition is that women are misusing the law and filing false rape cases and that the 2013 amendments are 'pro-women' and hence allows for false cases to be filed.

This Writ Petition is challenging some of the most significant amendments brought about as a result of more than 3 decades of the women's movement struggle as well as the recommendations of the Justice Verma Committee.

In July 2017, Anti-Rape Coalition (ARC) comprising of 19 organisations from across the country working on sexual violence and the law, including CSJ filed an application before the Delhi High Court to be impleaded in the aforesaid Writ Petition, since, as women's groups who have worked with victims of sexual violence as well as engaged with State functionaries and the

criminal justice system, their expertise would be essential to deciding the issues raised in the Writ Petition. The impleadment was allowed and ARC is now a party. The High Court will hear brief arguments by ARC and has allowed for written submissions to be filed on its behalf.

On behalf of ARC the following issues will be foregrounded and argued:

1. That the expanded Section 375 IPC reflects the lived experiences of women victims of sexual violence.
2. That the definition of consent is essential to the effective adjudication in a rape trial.
3. That it is settled law and reflective of the lived experiences of sexual violence that medical evidence is not essential in all instances of rape.

Indian law, judicial precedent, foreign and international law, as well as feminist research and material from the women's movement will be relied upon.

- **Vadagam Communal Violence:**

In Vadagam Communal Violence Case, the Rehnuma Law Centre had taken up Collective claims and initiated the process of filing a PIL in the High Court.

Vadagam is a village in the Dhansura Block of Aravalli District in Gujarat. With a population of close to 7000, the village has the mixed population of Hindu and Muslim. On the night of the 24th of March 2017, around 250 Hindu people entered into the Muslim Mohalla in Vadagam between 8 pm and 9:30 pm. Wielding iron rods, swords, hockey sticks and other improvised weapons, the mob began to engage in wanton destruction of property. Communally charged slogans and 'war-cries' were let out, telling the Muslim residents of the Mohalla that they had "grown too big for their boots" and that they will be "taught a lesson" by exiling them from the village thus making them homeless. Fuelled by this vitriol, the Hindu mob began to assault the residents of the Mohalla. Complaints of some of the victims also point out that the leader of the mob made statements to his cadre to 'finish the Muslims' and that he will take care of any fallouts of such actions, implying immunity from the law.

Caught unawares and fearing for their lives, around 300 Muslim residents of the Mohalla ran from their houses barefoot. Some of them took refuge in the houses of friends and relatives outside the Mohalla, whilst most of them went to the jungle and took refuge therein. Meanwhile, the mob continued to cause injury to life and property.

On the 5th of April 2017, the Rehnuma Law Centre in Modasa conducted fact-finding with the victims to gain an insight into what transpired on that fateful night, details about the perpetrators and the extent of damage to life and property. On the 7th of April 2017, the victims along with the Rehnuma Law Centre team went to Himmatnagar and a larger meeting ensued thereafter. The meeting was attended by members of several local NGOs, each bringing with them their own field knowledge. In this meeting, the Rehnuma Law Centre took up the mantle of providing legal aid to the victims. This responsibility entailed a complete start-to-finish engagement which began with filing applications and representations before relevant authorities (the Police, the Collector, the Social Welfare Officer, the DDO, etc.) and

extended to ensuring adequate measures were taken for providing housing and food for the victims.

This process of legal aid and assistance began on the 8th of April, with the filing of 19 FIRs in the local Police Station. A representation was made to the District Education Officer to allow for students, who were among the victims, to write their exams from their current residence considering the special circumstances that the students found themselves in, being chased out of the village while their exams were ongoing. In light of this representation, four students were allowed to write their exams from Modasa.

An application was sent to the Collector asking for housing, cash handouts and damage compensation for the victims. On the 20th of April 2017, it appeared as though a solution had been reached. In the presence, and with the participation of the Mamlatdar, the TDO, the village Sarpanch and members of local NGOs, a conciliation was arrived at. The terms of this conciliation allowed for the immediate return of the victims to the village and their houses. At this juncture, four families refused to return as per the terms of the conciliation, stating that they will return only once they have secured justice for their ordeal. This was met by an aggressive reply from the other party which said that if the victims do not move into the village immediately, they will not be allowed in later. This caused the atmosphere in the village to become toxic and volatile once again, and fearing further violence, the victim-families did not move into the village. Thereafter, few families returned to the village, whereas four families have still not returned to the village. A representation urged the Inspector General of Police to ensure action is taken by the concerned police officers. Subsequently, appeals were made before the District Police headquarters in light of the fact that no reply was received from the Dhansura Police on the RTI filed one month prior.

Even to-date, the four families are living outside their village as no proper action is taken either by police or concerned authorities regarding their security or compensation. ModasaRehnuma Centre has prepared the necessary documentation required for all the actions taken and all official correspondence, including RTI applications, representations, photos, etc. and is trying to file the matter before the High Court for further legal action. Filing in High Court got delayed due to the State elections in Gujarat and also due to the unfortunate death of the main petitioner Aminaben.

- **Efforts for implementation of Street Vendors Act:**

Bhopal Law Centre has been involved in implementation of the Street Vendors Act in Bhopal for two years. As part of this work, RLC carried out a survey of over 300 vendors to check the status of the implementation. Subsequently, RLC met two different Commissioners of Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) and began coordinating with BMC officials on the implementation. However, after a point, BMC failed to take any steps to implement the law.

Parallely, RLC began setting up Street Vendors Committees in major markets in the city and building their capacities around their rights. Several applications were made on behalf of

street vendors to the BMC asking them to cease any eviction drive against them in accordance with law. Several applications were also made on behalf of mobile street vendors to receive financial assistance for their business and most of them received this assistance.

In February 2017, members of several Street Vendors Committees presented a memorandum to the then BMC Commissioner with their demands including the immediate implementation of the act, ceasing evictions until then, and a consultation with them. BMC informed RLC that they were putting together a policy of their own, but RLC advised them against the implementation of this policy since its provisions were contradictory to the 2014 Street Vendor Act and no consultation was ever held with the vendors themselves. BMC did, however, put a moratorium on their eviction drive for a few months and decided not to go ahead with their own hawker's policy.

In April 2017, the State Government through the Directorate of Urban Administration and Development notified its own set of rules. After this, RLC changed its strategy to have the rules implemented.

After building support in several more markets in the city and collecting information from street vendors about their grievances, representations were filed in late December of 2017 to three authorities: Ministry of Urban Development (Government of MP), Directorate of Urban Administration and Development (Government of MP), and Bhopal Municipal Commission on behalf of number of Street Vendors representing Street Vendors Committees in their markets.

Till date no response is received from the authorities, hence RLC is now prepared to file a PIL in the High Court.

- **Efforts for Implementation of Domestic Violence Act 2005**

The PIL, Rekha Raj vs. State of Chhattisgarh & others, was filed for an effective implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (PWDV Act, 2005) in the year 2013. The Chhattisgarh High Court in 2016 has issued an order for the State Government to recruit protection officers to assist the victims of domestic violence as prescribed under the PWDV Act. In 2017, the High Court has made State Legal Services Authority (SLSA, the legal aid arm of the State of Chhattisgarh), a Suo moto party in the case and has ordered them to formulate a policy in consultation with CSJ (the applicants) on recognizing the need, providing aid and awareness on domestic violence. At the same time, IDEAL CSJ has appealed to the court for the following remedies in its final verdict:

1. The state government shall appoint Protection Officers in each district through the process of State led public recruitment.
2. The state government shall notify the medical facility in each district under PWDV Act, 2005 where the survivors of domestic violence can approach for the treatment.
3. The state government shall appoint identified NGOs as service providers under the Act in each district.

4. The state government shall make arrangements for a shelter home in each district. Though the case is filed in 2013, since then CSJ has been able to sensitize the court on various issues emerging from either the implementation or the lack of it of the PWDV Act, 2005. The significant result in the reporting period is the court recognizing the inefficiency and the lethargy of SLSA which is expected to create awareness and provide legal support to the victims of domestic violence.

5. CAPACITY BUILDING

A. Influencing Curriculum of Law Courses: In continuation of our efforts around designing Law Poverty and Development and other courses of similar nature, CSJ is now ready to conduct short-term courses on subjects like Human Right Advocacy, Public Interest Lawyering, paralegalism, etc. This is a part of the strategy for increasing the number of people using Alternative Legal Education methodology pioneered by CSJ as well as of influencing young minds to look at human rights issues. The following courses are designed.

- Course on Human Rights Advocacy for National University of Juridical Sciences
- Summer programme for Vidyapith students on human rights
- Course on Alternative Dispute Resolution and Gandhian Studies for Vidyapith
- Course on PIL for Institute of Law Nirma University
- Family Law for Institute of Law Nirma University

B. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Workshop: The workshop has been scheduled in four phases and has the participation of people belonging to different organizations like Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA), Social Uplift Through Rural Action (SUTRA), Commonwealth Human Rights Initiatives (CHRI), ECONET and Foundation for Ecological Security (FES). People from CSJ also formed a major part of the SDG workshop. Thematics taken up during SDG Workshops were Dalit Rights, Child Rights, Women's Rights, Rights of Person with Disability and Self Governance. Various toolkits were prepared for these thematics during the course of time. 5 booklets have been prepared as part of this process that will contribute to the organizational visibility.

C. Women and Land Rights: CSJ is part of Working Group for Women and Land Ownership (WGWLO) and is working towards strengthening the movement on land rights for women and women farmers by organizing orientation programs as well as by conducting capacity building programs for the Swabhumi Kendra run by WGWLO. CSJ represented WGWLO in the planning meeting of MAKAM, a national-level network on rights of women farmers to determine and coordinate strategies on FRA and the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act.

D. Workshop for Students of The Entrepreneurship Development Institute: Every year CSJ conducts the workshop on an understanding of Human Rights for the Students of The Entrepreneurship Development Institute, Gandhinagar. This year too, a three-day event was organized for them. This year special attention was paid to Sustainable Development Goals.

E. Nyaya Darshan: A certificate programme in collaboration with Institute of NirmaLaw University was organized where 15 law students underwent a three-week training, which included one week in the field.



F. Paralegal & Lawyers Capacity Building Programs: More than 10 capacity building programs for paralegal and lawyers of CSJ Law Centres as well as Rehnuma Law Centres were organised in 2017-18. These capacity building programs were aimed at providing critical skill sets to the paralegal & Lawyers. Issues/topics covered during training programs were Understanding stereotypes and discrimination, Human Rights in the constitutional scheme of Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy, Budget analysis, RTI Act, Minority Rights, 15-point programme, Madarsa, strengthening WAQF institutions, State of cow slaughter laws in different states, Women rights, Forest rights, Labour rights, Personal laws, Research design, etc.

G. National Consultation on Minority Rights: A National Consultation on Minority Rights was organized. At the National Consultation, the experiences from implementing the Rehnuma project and the data collected from the field on the status of minority community members in relation to the laws, policies and schemes were presented at the Consultation. The National Level Consultation was organised in New Delhi on 24th November 2017 with 83 participants ranging from Rehnuma Law Centre lawyers, paralegals, volunteers, academicians, members from partner Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), Government Officials and Donors. This event served as a pedestal to engage in minority rights issues to share the experiences and learnings from the field amongst all relevant stakeholders.

6. MONETARY IMPACT

The work of CSJ at the field level has resulted in target group benefiting monetarily either in form of land or cash received through the cases fought or conciliations arrived at across many units. A sum of INR 113307326/- (**Rupees Eleven Crore Thirty-Three Lakhs Seven Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty Six**) was awarded to the victims in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh through the interventions made by the law centres. The details of the cases and the compensation received are detailed in the table below.

INTERVENTIONS	State/ Districts	Forum from where benefit availed	No. of Claims/People benefited	Public Money Generated/Expec ted Amount (Rs.)
Filing cases under Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, CrPC S. 125, IPC S. 376, etc in lower courts thus initiating the process of implementation of Acts and to create mass scale awareness amongst judiciary, administration and civil society	GujaratChattishgarh& Madhya Pradesh	Lower Courts at Taluka and District Level	28	15,76,650
Implementation of Scheme for Relief and Rehabilitation for Victims of Rape	GujaratChattishgarh& Madhya Pradesh	District Legal Services Authority	15	12,50,000
Benefits of Social Security Schemes like: Widow Pension, Disability Pension, Janani Suraksha Yojana, Old Age Pension etc	GujaratChattishgarh& Madhya Pradesh	Department of Social Welfare	341	15,16,700
Assistance provided under Accident Insurance scheme	GujaratChattishgarh	Consumer Court	4	4,28,667
Supported in ensuring alimonies in domestic violence cases through counselling at centre level	Gujarat – Amreli, Bharuch	Centre level	6	5,45,000
Compensation provided under SC/ST (POA) Act	GujaratChattishgarh& Madhya Pradesh	Department of Social Welfare	9	20,25,000
Secured Land Entitlements of community members	Gujarat - Amreli, Rajula (Coastal), Mandvi, Dang	Land Revenue Department	23	7,01,38,309

Responding to cases of Civil and political Rights of Fisherfolk community of coastal areas	Gujarat Coastal	Government of Gujarat	7 boat ambulance	2,50,00,000
			10 (108) ambulances @ Rs. 10,00,000 per ambulance	1,00,00,000
Supported Labourers in availing compensations for violation of their rights	GujaratChattishgarh& Madhya Pradesh	Labour Department	7	2,77,000
Miscellaneous	Gujarat, Mandvi	Civil Court	18	5,50,000
TOTAL				11,33,07,326

7 ● AWARDS/ACCOLADES AND RECOGNITION:

- **Guide Star Certificate:** GuideStar India certifies NGOs based on their level of transparency & public accountability after rigorous due diligence. CSJ has been awarded **GuideStar India Gold** (Advanced Level) by GuideStar India team based on verifying financial and legal compliances through a thorough scrutiny of registration documents, tax returns, FCRA returns, audited financial statements & auditor's reports, public disclosures, reporting key facts to stakeholders as per our Annual Report disclosure template and confirmation of third-party site visits and references.



- **The Biennial Grassroots Justice Prize:** The Biennial Grassroots Justice Prize recognizes grassroots organizations and institutions, large and small, across the globe, that are working to put the power of law in people's hands. CSJ was among the selected ten finalists for The Nomboniso Nangu Maqubela Memorial Prize for Scale and Sustainability. The panel of judges greatly appreciated efforts, quality and strength of CSJ's work, along with strong strategies to scale. They also mentioned CSJ uses the sustainable approach in working together with the community so that they can know, use and shape the law. (<https://www.justiceprize.org/scale--sustainability.html>).

Comments shared by some of the judges about CSJ's work were:

- ✓ *Highly reputable organization with strong impacts and unique sustainability approaches.*
 - ✓ *It has presented a long established and sustainable approach to "addresses the issue of legal empowerment in a holistic method". The CSJ is also capable of action research and mobilizing all institutional and civil society resources to operate its Law Centers.*
 - ✓ *You have adopted a very participatory approach in implementing your paralegal training program*
- **Dasra:** Dasra highlights critical areas of giving to strengthen the governance landscape in India. **Tipping the Scales: Strengthening Systems for Access to Justice**, a report prepared by Dasra maps and presents solutions to the spectrum of issues that obstruct universal access to justice in India. The report also identifies 10 promising non-profits working across this framework, shortlisted from a master list of over 100 non-profits working in this sector. The 10 listed here are Haq, AALI, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Aajeevika Bureau, **Centre for Social Justice**, Daksh, CLAP Legal Services Institute, People's Watch, Prayas and Majlis.



- Kannabiran Peace Prize:** Mr Shobha Ram Gilhare & Ms Gayatri Suman, two lawyers from Chhattishgarh Centre of CSJ have been awarded "Kannabiran Peace Prize" for rigorously working towards Social Justice in Chhattisgarh on International Human Rights Day i.e. 10th December 2017. The award was conferred by PUCL, Chhattisgarh in the memory of K.G Kannabiran. The award ceremony was presided by Prashant Bhushan (Supreme Court Advocate), Ravi Nayar (Executive Director of South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre), V. Suresh (National Secretary, PUCL) & Gopal Krishan (Citizens Forum for Civil Liberty).



8. GOVERNANCE & FINANCE:

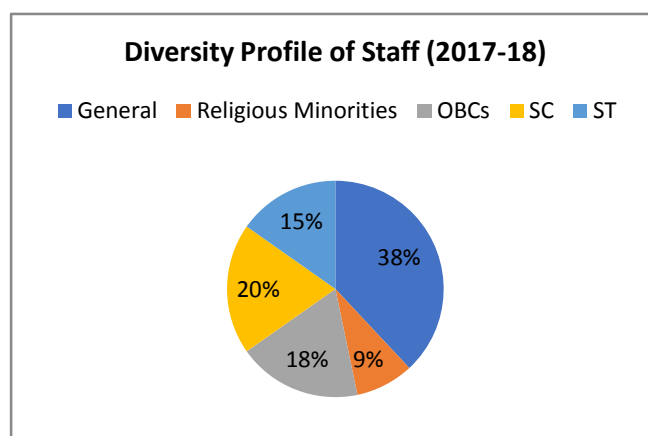
A separate unit called Governance and Financial Services (GFS) handles Governance and Finance of IDEAL CSJ. This is an autonomous unit, which provides a range of Governance and Finance related services to CSJ as well as other organizations.

During the year 2017-18, GFS organized two meetings of the IDEAL CSJ Board of Trustees and three meeting of its Finance and Monitoring Committee. Along with it, following legal compliances were fulfilled: -

- No Change Report was filed with the office of The Dy. Charity Commissioner, Ahmedabad;
- Internal and Statutory Audits were completed on time and all queries answered to the satisfaction of the Auditors;
- Income Tax and FCRA Returns for the previous Financial Year were filed on time.
- IDEAL CSJ Staff are no longer covered under the Provident Fund scheme w.e.f. 1st June 2017. All earlier Provident Fund Contributions were deposited with the Office of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner and all necessary returns filed before due dates. Since then nil returns are filed with the minimum administrative charge of Rs. 75/- per month. Information has been sent to the Provident Fund Commissioner's Office in this connection
- Income Tax (TDS) and Professional Tax was deducted, as per rules, and deposited with the respective authorities;
- Staff Mediclaim and Personal Accident Insurance Policies were renewed and updated from time to time, as required;

Diversity profile of staff as on 31st March 2018:

Social Group	Male Staff	Female Staff	Total Staff
General	15	20	35
Religious Minorities	3	5	8
OBCs	10	7	17
SC	13	5	18
ST	8	6	14
Total	49	43	92



Distribution of staff according to Consultancy/ Fellowship levels & gender break-up as on 31st March 2018:

Slabs of gross monthly Consultancies & Fellowship (Rs) plus benefits paid to staff	Male staff	Female Staff	Total Staff
Upto 5,000	4	6	10
5,001 - 10,000	20	10	30
10,001 - 25,000	18	17	35
25,001 - 50,000	7	7	14
50,001 - 100,000	--	3	3
100,000 >	--	--	--
Total	49	43	92

List of Trustees as on 31st March, 2018:

Name	Designation	Gender
Ms. NafisaGogaD'souza	Chairperson	Female
Mr. GaganSethi	Vice Chair Person	Male
Ms. Nupur Sinha	Managing Trustee	Female
Mr. Vijay Parmar	Trustee	Male
Dr.(MS.) Syeda Hameed	Trustee	Female
Ms. Vrinda Grover	Trustee	Female
Dr. Srikrishna Deva Rao	Trustee	Male
Retd. Justice R.A.Mehta	Trustee	Male

List of Donors as on 31st March 2018

Donor	Grant
MISEREOR	Strengthening Grass Root Initiative on Access to Justice by the Vulnerable. Research & Advocacy towards Law Reform Impacting the Disadvantages
AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE	Legal aid to vulnerable People
EUROPEAN UNION	Rehnuma: Empowering Vulnerable Communities and Facilitating Social Inclusion through Rule of Law
SWISS AID	Organise Paralegal Training Programmes
Women's Fund Asia (SAWF)	Support Nyayika Legal Aid Centre in the District of Bharuch, Gujarat
UN-WOMEN	Assessing the Rights and Entitlements of Women from Minority Communities
UNICEF	Setting up pilot entitlements centres in 10 minority concentrated districts and blocks to secure SER
FORD FOUNDATION	Ensuring Socioeconomic Rights for Vulnerable Groups Through Strengthening Legal Action at Community/ District Level Upwards
Friends Of Women's World Banking (FWWB, India)	Capacity Building of Professionals for Policy Deliberation on Revitalizing Rainfed Agriculture