

Paryavaran Mitra

Narrative Report for
April.2010 to march 2011

Paryavaran Mitra

JANVIKAS

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(a) Environment Public Hearing

- Intervened in 73 EPHs by sending comments, Visited field area in 53 EPHs, Visited 140 villages & Contacted 37 NGOs
- Organized 52 meetings with affected people/NGO workers
- 1742 people contacted and empowered (by providing information about procedure of EPH, project detail, points to raise during EPH & helping to prepare written presentation)
- 3164 people participated in EPH due to our direct and indirect intervention
- 34 EPHs attended by representative of ParyavaranMitra

EPH List – District wise (Total : 73 EPH)

Kutch	12	Gandhinagar	3
Mehsana	2	Navsari	1
Anand	7	Amreli	2
Vadodara	6	Bhavnagar	1
Rajkot	4	Ahmedabad	9
Sabarkantha	1	Surat	8
Surendranagar	2	Bharuch	3
Junagadh	2	Panchmahal	2
Jamnagar	7	Kheda	1

Achievements

Four EPHs on same day in Khambhat

- 4 EPHs for Shital Chemicals Unit.1 and Unit.2, Cambay Organics Pvt Ltd and Gujarat Halogen Petrochem Corporation were held on 15.5.2010 with very short time durations.
- Paryavaran Mitra drawn attention of Gujarat Pollution Control Board and Ministry of Environment and Forest in this matter and demanded to cancel these 4 EPHs and rearrange on different days.
- These EPHs were rearranged on 4 different days and Public notices were given in the newspapers again.

Kutchh Power Generation Limited & Mundra Port and Special Economic Zone Limited, Taluka.Mundra, Dist.Kutch

- Two back to back EPHs were arranged on 5.10.2010 with only 1.30 hr time duration in between which was very short time for EPHs.
- We drew attention of Gujarat Pollution Control Board and Ministry of Environment and Forest by writing letters in this regard but no action was taken.

- Our correspondence was used for filing PIL in Gujarat High Court by Bhadreshwar Setu.
- Finally Gujarat High Court passed order that only after finishing first EPH the next day other EPH should be arranged.

M/s.SVGI Gas Power Project, Survey No.47,48,49,50, Village. Tena- Barbodhan, Taluka.Olpad, Dist.Surat

- The venue of EPH was at religious place. In this regard attention of Gujarat Pollution Control Board was drawn by a letter and change in the venue was demanded. ***Due to these efforts the venue was changed by Gujarat Pollution Control Board .GPCB also issued a circular about not to held EPH at any religious place.***
- During EPH the company committed to give 85% employment to local people.
- Also the company agreed to form a committee of local people for utilization of fund by the company towards social development and environment betterment.

Gujarat Bhal Chemical Park, Dholka-Ahmedabad

- The project fall under 2 districts but EPH was arranged at only 1 district for which attention of Gujarat Pollution Control Board and collector of both Ahmedabad and Anand District was drawn by us.
- Land required 2475 acre out of which 50 % was already acquired. The acquired land was shown as waste and Khar land but 417 hector land was agriculture land
- proposed plan include 500 chemical units, 200 engineering units, 12 hospitals and hotel
- Only 5.69 % greenbelt development instead of minimum 25% (max 33%) by guidelines of Ministry of Environment and Forest.
- Water requirement 2,20,000 KLD granted but actual requirement was 42,220 KLD while there is no water in the surrounding region for agriculture and irrigation.
- Media Advocacy in Gujarat Samachar, Ahmedabad Mirror and GTPL.

Archean Chemicals, Bhuj-Kutch

- EPH venue was 120 km far from project site. In this regard 2 letters were sent to Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Ministry of Environment and Forest and Collector of Kutch for changing the venue of the EPH to Hajipir rather than Bhuj. Also Sahjivan (NGO) and other local people were made to submit written presentations in this regard.
- Due to all these attempts 2 EPHs for the same project were arranged at Hajipir and district centre Bhuj.
- Land acquired 262 hector but already constructed bund walls in more than 262 h land without Prior Environment Clearance.
- Media Advocacy in Gujarat Samachar.

Star Claytech Ltd, mandvi-Kutch

- Land acquired 44515.421 sq.m
- Construction work completed and product was also tested once without Environment Clearance
- Already developed greenbelt while Environment Clearance is not even granted.

Kutch Chemicals Industries, Gandhidham – Kutch

- We found the draft EIA report as copy-paste report of earlier project of a different company from same region.
- We wrote to Ministry of Environment and Forest about this and helped local people to represent their case to different authorities including Gujarat High Court.

Bharuch Power Limited, Jambusar – Bharuch

- Wrong data in draft EIA report
- 2900 acre of land to be acquired by project proponent
- Major effect on livelihood – specially on agriculture, fisheries
- Place of stay for migratory birds will also be in danger

Learning

- Our experience shows that we have to contact local people through local leader/NGO to get more support. Networking is must.
- Written documentation is useful to relate with new problems of same region.

Challenges

- Many people show interest in participating in EPH as a source to make their presence and to obtain benefits in future. We have to identify such people and not to help them.
- To involve NGOs is a tough task as they consider this as an just an environmental issue.
- Lack of skilled staff is again a challenge for involving more public participation and to study EIA reports and also in representing to different authorities.

(b) Clean Development mechanism

Paryavaran Mitra regularly sends comments on CDM Projects at Validation Stage to UNFCCC. Following were the projects, on which comments were given,

Sr. no	date	Project name & location
1.	15.4.10	Fuel Switching From Fossil Fuel to Biomass for Thermal Energy in Bhavnagar.
2.	15.4.10	Utilization of BF Gas for Steam Generation at ESSAR Steel Hazira Limited
3.	11.5.10	19.5 MW Wind project by GMDC
4.	28.6.10	Utilization of Coke Oven Flue gas for power generation at Gujarat NRE Coke Limited at Bhachau, India.
5.	30.6.10	Natural Gas based Combined Cycle Power Plant, GPPC at, Gujarat
6.	8.7.10	Empowerment of residential house-holds for adoption of efficient house-hold lighting by distribution of CFL lamps at token Price in the District of Ahmedabad (India)
7.	8.7.10	5 MW Wind Power Project by Gokul Refoils and Solvent Limited
8.	21.7.10	Tata Power-wind power project at Samana in Jamnagar district, Gujarat
9.	4.2.11	Bundled Wind Power Project in Jamnagar, Gujarat
10.	18.2.11	15 MW bundled grid connected wind energy project in Gujarat, India
11.	18.2.11	6MW bundled Wind Power Project in Rajkot and Kutch districts of Gujarat
12.	18.2.11	AES Saurashtra Windfarms
13.	18.2.11	12 MW Wind Mill Project of GSFC Ltd
14.	18.2.11	1.25 MW Wind Power Project in Gujarat
15.	2.3.11	10 MW Biomass based renewable energy generation for the grid by Junagadh Power Projects (P) Ltd.in Junagadh District, Gujarat
16.	9.3.11	Energy efficient power generation at Dahej in Gujarat, India
17.	20.3.11	Fuel Switch, process improvement and energy efficiency initiatives at brick manufacturing plant in Golan,Gujarat, India
18.	24.3.11	Wind Power Project at Bhachau by Powerica Limited

Studying ground reality about CDM projects

For this study, Project Design Documents of the said projects were studied. The study includes - kind of pollution, problems due to the pollution, social development works by the industry in that area/village and observations of conditions of and surrounding the industry.

List of Project studied are as follows,

1. Phillips Carbon Black, Palej – Bharuch
2. Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers Company Ltd, Bharuch

3. Sajjan India Limited, Ankleshwar
4. Navin Fluorine international limited, Bhestan-Surat
5. Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited, Ranjitnagar, Panchmahal
6. Electrotherm Limited, Gujarat (study included project located in)
7. Sintex 7.5 MW Natural Gas based packages cogeneration project, Gandhinagar
8. 51 MW wind power project of ONGC at Surajbari, Kutch in India

Learning

We have to compare and re-check grass root reality with promises given by projects in case of social well-being and CSR activities. Need to take support from local people as well as from international organizations to understand and react on CDM issues.

Challenges

CDM involves many stakeholders – from a villager residing near plant to international buyer and other agencies – to understand and link the information together is a tough task. The work needs to understand different laws, procedures, technical information as well as ground reality and also needs sensitivity towards social justice issue.

(C)Advocacy

(1) Media Advocacy

Sr. no	Date	Newspaper	Subject
1.	11.3.10	Gujarat Samachar	Lokvichar on negligence of Mother tongue Gujarati
2.	28.4.10	Times of India	Save power, light up only lamps on Gujarat Day <i>An appeal to Gujarat Government to save electricity on Gujarat Day</i>

3.	11.5.10	Times of India	'Gujarat Pollution Control Board indifferent, green audit reports gather dust'
4.	22.5.10	Times of India	Millets production on rapid decline – press release in coordination with Millet Network of India on International Bio-Diversity Day
5.	5.6.10	Sandesh	Encounter of environment in Gujarat <i>Irresponsible discharge of polluted effluent by industrial estates</i>
6.	5.6.10	Times of India	Knowledge sharing of bio-diversity with children on 4 th June 2010
7.	5.6.10	DNA	
8.	5.6.10	Divya Bhaskar	
9.	5.6.10	GTPL- Gujarat News (Television)	Interview on climate change
10.	5.6.10	E-TV Gujarati	Newscoverage about program with Children on 4 th June
11.	26.6.10	E-TV Gujarati	Climate Change Lecture Series – Legal riddles of Bhopal Gas Tragedy
12.	July 1-15, 2010	Down to Earth	Ropeway threat to Girnar
13.	11.7.10	Doordarshan	Paryavaran Darshan : Pollution of Mahi River
14.	7.08.10	Aakashvani	Series of Talk on Global Warming
15.	8.08.10		
16.	9.08.10		
17.	10.08.10		
18.	11.08.10		
19.	12.08.10		
20.	27.08.10	Gujarat Samachar	Illegal construction works by industries
21.	5.09.10	Divya Bhaskar	Seminar on Biodiversity
22.	11.09.10	Gujarat Samachar	Grazing land encroachment by Mafias
23.	19.09.10	Gujarat Samachar	Right to Information Act – information not provided by GPCB
24.	16.10.10	Doordarshan	Green Tribunal
25.	30.10.10	Gujarat Samachar	Gujarat BHAL Chemical Park EPH – People oppose
26.		Ahmedabad Mirror	
27.	5.12.10	DoorDarshan	Paryavaran Darshan : Water Act
28.	12.12.10	DoorDarshan	Paryavaran Darshan : Air act
29.	19.12.10	DoorDarshan	Paryavaran Darshan : Environment Protection Act
30.	26.12.10	DoorDarshan	Paryavaran Darshan : Environment Protection Act
31.	19.01.11	DNA	About climate change
32.	20.01.11	DNA	Reduce travel time for cleaner air
33.	20.03.11	Divya Bhaskar	Save wood during Holi festival

34.	January 2011	DoorDarshan	Green Tribunal
35.	February 2011	DoorDarshan	Vigyan Darshan : climate change & sources of water
36.	March 2011	GTPL	Interview : Forest day

(2) Legislative Advocacy

- Submitted questions to raise in Parliament to Dr. Kirit Solanki, MP-Ahmedabad and Shri Jagdish Thakor-MP-Patan on various environmental issues.
- Regularly meeting Shri Shaktisinh Golil (leader of opposition) to raise various issues effectively in Gujarat Assembly.
- Also gave time-to-time analytical information about different environmental and human right issues to state president of congress party Mr.Arjun Modhvadia.
- During budget session we intervened through following ways.
 1. We intervened in 5 newly introduced bills by providing supplementary information – mobile tower, VAT, impact fee (to authorize illegal building), green cess.
 2. Inputs were given at the time of thanks proposal on Governor’s speech specifically on the following department’s work/subjects: water, environment, pollution, land issues & social justice
 3. At the time of discussion of supplementary demand for budget allocation for following department: social justice, water supply & sewage, revenue, environment & forest, climate change.
 4. Inputs were given with additional information at the time of discussion of starred questions.

(3) Policy Level Intervention

Sr. no	Date	Subject	Department
1.	29.5.10	Comments on the Draft CRZ Notification, 2010	Ministry of Environment and Forest
2.	7.7.10	Comments on Draft Wildlife (protection) Bill 2010	Ministry of Environment and Forest
3.	12.7.10	Comments on the draft E-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2010.	Ministry of Environment and Forest
4.	15.7.10	Comments on National Green Mission for a Green India	Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Ahmedabad

5.	15.10.10	Comments on 'Draft paper' of Monitoring the Compliance of Environment / CRZ Clearance Conditions - A New Approach submitted	Sri. S.K. Aggarwal, Ministry of Environment and Forests, (IA Division), New Delhi.
6.	27.12.10	Comments on Amendments to RTI Rules	Under Secretary RTI, ministry of Personnel, Public Grievance and Pension.
7.	20.1.11	Letter to NAC	Right to food

Policy related letters

- Letter to her Excellency Kamla Beniwal, Raj Bhavan for declaring New Industrial Policy as Public document on date 11.12.2010
- Letter to her Excellency Kamla Beniwal, Raj Bhavan for declaring BIG 2020 Report as Public document on date 11.12.2010
- A letter to Shri Saurabh Patel, Industries Commissioner, Gandhinagar on date 11.12.2010 for declaring New Industrial policy.
- Letter to Shri Jairam Ramesh on 13.12.2010 to draw attention towards incorrect information given in Environment Clearance with regard to National Environment Appellate Authority (NEAA) and Green Tribunal. After passing National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 on date 19 October 2010 the NEAA was repealed even though same old conditions were given Environment Clearance.
- Letter to National Advisory Council, Planning Commission and Ministry of Environment and Forest about rapid growth in consumption of water in process of industrialization in Gujarat. Agricultural lands are used for industries and it affects agriculture production and livestock as well as drinking water.
- Letter to Ministry of Environment and Forest about not taken Environment Clearance for bigger projects like Sabarmati riverfront and Mahatma Mandir. After our intervention, process of taking EC has been started – both the projects applied for EC.

(4) Right To Information

Total 46 Applications including follow up and new RTI Applications by members of Paryavaran Mitra.

Achievements

1. We got information about not getting environment clearance for sabarmati riverfront project. On the basis of that information we wrote to Ministry of Environment and Forest and this issue also discussed in assembly during budget session.
2. Information received under RTI application about gaucher land given to industries in Jamnagar. We also received information about compensation money (which is 30% of market price).The story published in leading daily Gujarat samachar.
3. We got information about GDP growth rate which we sent to MLAs to discuss the matter in assembly.
4. We got useful documents through RTI for one industrial accident in one industry in Padra Taluka. We did that application to get information about past visits by Gujarat Pollution Control Board and factory inspector. This information serves as a important proof to get justice for the death of one worker in that unit.
5. We got information about Government's circular about converting waste land into agricultural land – we got information specifically for lands given to one project in Anjar Taluka. We shared this information with local people. On the basis of these information people will surely monitored at local level.

Learning

On the basis of received information and analysis, we can take further steps and achieve justice in favour of people.

Challenges

Many times authorities don't give us information within time frame and we are not able to use information for desired purpose.

(d) Awareness

Climate Change Lecture Series

Climate Change Lecture Series was initiated by Paryavaran Mitra in November 2008 on every second and fourth Saturday per month. After March 2010 it was decided to arrange only one lecture per month. Total 42 lectures were delivered by various experts on variety of subjects related to climate change till December 2010.

Date	Subject	Speakers
10.04.2010	Climate Change, Environmental Laws and food security	Mahesh Pandya Pandya (Paryavaran Mitra) Kanchi Kohli (Kalpavriksh)
22.05.2010	Climate Change: Impacts and Mitigation Measures (In reference to urban areas)	Rutool Sharma (Faculty of Planning and Public Policy, CEPT University, Ahmedabad)
26.06.2010	Legal Riddles – Bhopal Gas Tragedy	Mr. Bhushan Oza (Human Right Activist and Senior Advocate, Gujarat High Court) Mr. Raj Panjvani (Senior Lawyer, Supreme Court of India) Mr. Tanmay Shukla (Advocate)
24.07.2010	Climate Change – Effects on Agriculture	Mamaiyabhai Kumbharwadia (Rtd. Deputy Director, Agriculture Department)
28.08.2010	People's participation in Forest conservation	Shri Pravin Majithia (Deputy Conservator of Forest, Eco Tourism, Gandhinagar)
25.09.2010	Climate Change : Role of Media	Shri Sanjay Dave, Charkha Paresh Dave, Development Support Centre, Ayesh Khan, Indian Express
23.10.2010	Livelihood and Climate Change Gender and Climate Change	Ms. Alka Palrecha (People in Centre) and

		Ms. Dharmista Chauhal (Gender Resource Centre)
27.11.2010	Climate Change and Biodiversity	Dr. Y.T. Jasrai (HOD, Botany Dept., School of Science, Gujarat University)
25.12.2010	Why do we need to conserve Biodiversity?	Ms. Yatri Baxi (Environment communicator & Editor, Paryavaran Santri)
22.01.2011	Effects of climate change on Birds	Dr Bakul Trivedi (editor VIHANG)
26.02.2011	Effects of climate change on Maldharies	Ms. Mona (MARAG)
26.03.2011	Importance of Celebrating Environment Days	Mr. Paresh Dave (Programme Manager, Communication, DSC) Ms. Jaya Hemnani (Teaching & Research Associate, GNLU)

Academic Inputs

Every year academic institutes invites Paryavaran Mitra as resource person for part of their curriculum.

Sr. no	Date	Name of institute	Subject
1.	21.4.10	Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, Gandhinagar	Climate Change
2.	21.4.10	CEPT University, Ahmedabad Environmental Planning lab	Vapi-Daman Region Environment Management - Jury member
3.	21.6.10	Bhavnagar University, Bhavnagar Social Work Department	EIA, Climate Change – SETU program
4.	27.6.10	J.C. Kumarappa Mahavidhyalay, Gadhada, Bhavnagar Social Work Department	Environmental Status of Gujarat - SETU program
5.	7.7.10	Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad Social Work Department	Environmental Status of Gujarat - SETU program
6.	21.7.10	Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan Social Work Department	Environmental Status of Gujarat - SETU program
7.	29.7.10	M.L. Gandhi college, Modasa Social Work Department	Environmental Status of Gujarat - SETU program
8.	11.10.10	S.V. College Ahmedabad	Environment and Human Rights
9.	22.10.10	Department of social work Vallabh Vidyanagar	Climate Change a Poverty Issue

10.	3.12.10	CEPT – Centre for Environment Planning and Technology	Final Jury of Rural Lab – 2010
11.	4.12.10	IIMA – Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad	Environment Pollution – Filed trip (Vatva Industrial Estate, Common Effluent Treatment Plant(CETP) at Naroda and Treated Stabilised Disposal Facility (common landfill site) at Naroda followed by lecture
12.	8.12.10	Gujarat Vidhyapith By Pathey	Critiques about Budgetary allocation for Tribal and Dalits
13.	19.1.11	CEPT	Panelist in a Panel discussion about sabarmati riverfront
14.	17-22 January	C N Fine Arts Nirma Law	Moderator in a discussion after environmental film screening
15.	9.2.11	BISAG – Gandhinagar (Bhaskaracharya Institute For Space Applications and Geo-informatics)	Resource person for a live discussion program for college students
16.	17.2.11	Management Faculty, Nirma University	Environmental issues and role of ParyavaranMitra
17.	February 2011	M sc (climate change) Gujarat University	12 Lectures on different subjects
18.	24.2.11	Social work department Patan	Workshop on environmental problems of North Gujarat

Meeting/Seminar/Workshops

Sr. no	Date	Organizer and venue	Subject
1.	12 & 13.4.10	Christian Aid, New Delhi	Partner Consultation on Downward Accountability
2.	17.6.10	Janvikas	Board meeting
3.	28-29.6.10	Janvikas	Janvikas restructuring meeting
4.	5-6.7.10	Paryavaran Mitra, MINI, DDS, KRAPAVIS, Academy of Development Sciences	Western region consultation Millets: the future of food and farming
5.	19.7.10	Mahila Swaraj Abhiyan	Meeting for Women Tribunal program
6.	26.7.10	Janpath, Ahmedabad	strategy of interventions for issues raised by Amit Jethva in PIL
7.	28.7.10	Vasudha Foundation, WWF –	Civil Society Inputs to the World

		India, Development Alternatives, Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSAs) and Alternative Futures, India Habitat Centre	Bank Energy Strategy: A round-table workshop
8.	30.7.10	Eco-Sarjan	Swarnim Gujarat Prakruti Utsav E-waste
9.	31.7.10	Community Education Centre	Climate Change
10.	5.08.2010	Vapi	Solid waste dump sites
11.	12.09.2010	Development Support Centre Nani Devi	Global warming and Human Rights As Resource Person
12.	15.09.2010	Gujarat Pollution Control Board	Meeting for Eco-fund
13.	19.09.2010	Janpath	Annual meet
14.	22 and 23.09.2010	Action Aid, Aadipur-Kutch	Climate Change training As Training moderator
15.	28 and 29.09.2010	Janvikas	Janvikas Restructuring meeting
16.	2.10.2010	Gujarat Vidyapith	Kisan Swaraj Yatra
17.	3.10.2010	Dastak	Strengthening Democracy: Role of Judiciary
18.	4.10.2010	Gujarat High Court	2 EPHs of MPSEZ and KPGL on same day with very less time span
19.	5.10.2010	MARAG	Issues of Maldhari
20.	8.10.2010	Sardar Patel Institute of Public Administration – SPIPA	RTI As Resource Person
21.	22 and 24.10.2010	Janvikas	Report writing Workshop As Resource Person
22.	3.11.2010	Centre for Environment Education- CEE	Corporate Social Responsibility As Resource Person
23.	17.11.2010	Manav Kalyan Trust	Youth convention
24.	19.11.2010	By multi organizations At Gujarat Vidyapith	Vichar Vimarsh – Land water issues
25.	19.11.2010	DNA	DNA 3 yr Anniversary meet
26.	26.11.2010	KMVS	Elected Panchayat Members meet- Role of Panchayat As Resource Person
27.	27 and 28.11.2010	Mundra – Ujas Mahila Sangathan	Mundra SEZ Affected fishermen meet – Law and movements As Resource Person
28.	29.11.2010	Ministry of Environment and Forest meeting	Committee o Forest rights act by MoEF/MoTA- publication consultation

29.	2.12.10	Janvikas	Janvikas Restructuring meeting
30.	17.12.10	Meeting of Sarpanchs of Anjar and Gandhidham at Khambhara SETU Centre	industrial pollution problems and solutions were discussed.
31.	19.12.10	National Council for S&T Communications At Gujarat Council of Science City	'S&T Communications for Eco-WASH Awareness and Literacy' – special invitee in brainstorming meeting
32.	23.12.10	WGWLO : reflection workshop on public land	Participation of women in environment public hearing
33.	10.2.11	Sarvodaya mandal, Ahmedabad	Environmental problems of Kutch
34.	14.2.11	KhetBhavan	Meeting with Jagdish Thakore (MP) to discuss problems of Gujarat
35.	18.2.11	GLI , Ahmedabad	State level Consultation on community and disaster risk reduction
36.	21.2.11	Ahmedabad	Public hearing on the situation after 2002
37.	21.2.11	by GERMI at PDUPU, Gandhinagar	International conference on Conventional of fossil fuel and carbon management
38.	25.2.11	Kutch Nav Nirman Abhiyaan , Bhuj - Kutch	Training program on Aayojan Ka Adhikar -- rights of panchayat for water and land - Resource person
39.	4.3.11	Bhopal	5 years of RTI act & looking ahead : participated in workshop for western states
40.	6.3.11	Ahmedabad	Lecture on asbestos
41.	9.3.11	meeting with Environment Minister, New Delhi	To represent environmental issues of Gujarat
42.	11.3.11	CSJ and Dalit foundation	Talk with young lawyers about advocacy strategies

Publication

1. ParyavaranMitra newsletter:

6 issues of Paryavaranmitra newsletter had been published in last year.

March-April 2010: Topics covered in this issue were discussions related to environment in Gujarat Assembly, Climate Change Lecture Series, festivals and pollution, Transportation-Environment & Health, Environment Impact Assessment-Current

Situations; pollution affected Padra Taluka, Global Warming: Post Copenhagen, climate Change and Indian Environment Laws. Etc.

May-June 2010: Topics covered were Bhopal Gas Disaster, Environmental Status of Gujarat, Oil spillage in Gulf of Mexico, Local Assembly Questions, etc.

July August 2010 : The Issue contains articles on **Whistle blower system, Climate change** lecture series, A **training on environmental issues** by Paryavaran Mitra for Padra region, Report on Program on Millet, Rejection for EC for Vedanta-Orissa, Rejection for CDM project of Tata in Mundra, Formation of Eco-Fund, water, etc

September October 2010: This issue contains articles on EPH Venue, Role of social worker in EPH, illegal limestone mining, book-review, green tribunal, climate change lecture series, etc

November - December 2010 : Topic cover National Green tribunal, Carbon Market - GHG Standards & protocol, effects of Climate change on livelihood, importance of Biodiversity, Important EPHs of year 2010, Endosulfan, CAG Report on MoEF's Green Plan, etc

January – February 2011: The issue contains articles on - Carbon Credit, Climate Change Department, PIL against development of Port in Kodinar Taluka, Climate Change Lecture Series, Gujarat High Court Order on mining, Environment Clearance Process, Paryavaran Mitra's experiences of EPHs, etc.

2. Publication about millet: Paryavaran Mitra coordinated the publication work of Gujarati version of book on millet “Adbhut Anaj” as a partner of Millet Network of India.

Work of Enviro-Paralegal

PADRA

- A meeting on date 18.04.2010 with 33 people from Munjpur, Chokari, Karkhadi, Mahuvad, Padra, Abhor, Dabka, Umariya villages to give them information and knowledge about RTI Act and various environmental laws and acts.
- Meeting on date 23.04.2010 at Padra with 35 people from Munjpur, Chokari, Narsinhapura, navapura, Karkhadi, Pavda, Mahuvad, Abhor, Dabka, Umraiya . Mr. Solanki, senior scientist, GPCB-Vadodara explained them the role of GPCB in regional environment problems. Moreover information on environmental problems and solutions, powers and responsibilities of district level govt offices, role of Gram and Taluk Panchayat, EIA Notification etc was given to them.
- A visit to Padra on 19th and 20th June 2010 find out environmental conditions of this region. Ekalbara, Dabhasa, Dudhwada villages were visited and meetings were done with Talatis, Sarpanch and members of Gram Panchayats.

Effluent Channel Project Limited, Padra : Visit

A visit of Padra-Effluent Channel Project (ECP) was done with following people,

1. Mahesh Pandya, Paryavaran Mitra, Ahmedabad
2. Falguni Joshi, Paryavaran Mitra, Ahmedabad
3. Mahesh Parmar, Paryavaran Mitra, Ahmedabad
4. Snehal Satyapanthi, Environment Consultant, Ahmedabad
5. Alka Palrecha, People in Centre, Ahmedabad
6. Vipin Makwana, Social Work Department, J.C. Kumarappa Mahavidyalay, Bhavnagar

The objective was to find out ground realities of the ECP i.e. the maintenance, current situation, effluent quantity and quality, industries near to ECP, etc.

The ECP starts from Nandesari GIDC and ends at Sarod, Jambusar-Bharuch. The place where this ECP releases its effluent at Sarod is called J-Point. During the visit list and location of industries near to the ECP were noted with worst condition of the channel at many places. It was also found that few industries directly release its effluent into ECP.

EIA Training Programme: 17-18 July 2010 at Padra

Paryavaran Mitra has developed a new group of concerned people as Paralegals in Padra. As there is increase in pollution with increasing number of chemicals and pharmaceutical industries people in this region are being active and aware. With 26 concerned people EIA training was arranged to give them proper understanding of finding out information from Executive summary of EIA Report and raise issues.

J.R. Mehta, Vigilance officer, Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Gopal Shah-EMS consultant, Mr. J.P. Patel-Samajik Nyay Morcho were the speakers for this training program.

Pollution problems

- Complaint to district Collector – Vadodara for releasing chemical effluent by Cadilac Chemical Pvt Ltd.
- Complaint to Gujarat Pollution Control Board Vadodara, chairman-Gujarat Pollution Control Board, and Collector-Vadodara for release of toxic gases by Transpak Silox Industries Ltd and negative effects due to it on health and agriculture.
- Gujarat High Court passed an order to form a committee under district collector/district magistrate for compensation of pollution related effects. A demand was put before district collector-Vadodara for setting up such committee due to pollution problems.
- A Visit of Gavasad village done on 21.12.2010. Air pollution problem due to fine powder from Bell Ceramics is affecting agricultural land and agriculture. A meeting with Local people and farmers was done in this regard.

- In Karkhadi village toxic gas release problems arises frequently by Transmetal Limited. Affected people were guided to demand compensation for damage to agricultural yield due to this problem. **Compensation of Rs. 4000/- was given by the company to a farmer Shambhubhai due to these efforts.**
- March 2011 : Complain to Gujarat Pollution Control Board about pollution problem of Ekalbara village – one unit namely onero chemicals released poisonous gas which affects crops of surrounded land and also affects the livestock.
- Complain to Gujarat Pollution Control Board about pollution by other company at bodal village.
- Complain to Munjpur Gram Panchayat and also to district development officer about polluting factory and about encroachment in gaucher land.

Gramsabha

- Demand of arranging Gramsabha at Mujpur village to District Development Officer – Padra on date 18.12.2010 for the issues of land encroachment, pollution problems and local employment problems caused by M/S. Gulbrandsen Chemicals.
- A Gramsabha was arranged on date 20.12.2010 at Mujpur village. To pass Resolutions regarding issues of grazing land encroachment, pollution, local employment and social development works by Gulbrandsen Chemicals and cancel the resolution date 14.6.2010 by Gram Panchayat. More than 200 people participated in this Gram Sabha. Total 7 resolutions were passed in this Gram Sabha and sent to concern authorities for further process.

RTI Applications

- Appeal to Appellate Authority, Prant Kacheri – Vadodara. Earlier an RTI Application was done to Mamlatdar Office-Padra for getting site inspection report of Transpec Silox Company.
- RTI about seeking information about frequent visits by Gujarat Pollution Control Board and factory inspector to know past record of an unit named onero chemicals.
- Rti application to know about encroachment in gaucher land in munjpur village of padra Taluka.

Awareness

10 villages of Padra Taluka were visited with 3 IT Students from Paryavaran Mitra. They Helped villagers in awareness work regarding E-gram and Environment Clearance process to youths.

Paralegal Meeting

- 3 days meeting at Padra on 15 to 17.10.2010 for paralegals work and other environment pollution issues.
- Field visit and meeting with paralegals of Padra on date 28 and 29 December, 2010 for issues related to environmental problems and toxic gas release by chemical

industries. Further follow up of this problem and future planning was discussed in the meeting.

KHAMBHAT

April 2010

- Field visit of Khambhat on 29 and 30th April 2010 for field work of for 4 upcoming EPHs. 4 villages name as Kalamsar, Vatra, Sokhada and Neja were visited and met total 25 local affected people.

May 2010

- A meeting at Khambhat on various environmental problems in the region on date 6.5.2010. 16 persons from Kalamsar, Sokhada, Vatra, Ralej, Bajipura, Dali joined in this meeting. Information on land acquisition, RTI Act, role of GPCB, etc was given also specific problems of the area were discussed and follow up action was decided.
- Participation in a program by People's Training and Research Centre. On the occasion of completing 3 years of PTRC. The objective of participation in this meeting was to find out new contacts in Khambhat region.

July 2010

- To collect information on milk production data and other pollution problems due a chemical industry.

Sokhada and Kalamsar visit:

- Meeting with local people –Pankaj Patel, Vijay Patel, Sureshbhai, Rakeshbhai, Pratapsinh, Ghanshyamsinh and Dineshbhai.
- A committee from Ministry of Environment and Forest visited Khambhat in this month. A memorandum was prepared regarding pollution problems in Khambhat region.

Memorandum

- ❖ Members of Expert Appraisal Committee of Ministry of Environment and Forest arrived for site inspection in Khambhat on 6th August, 2010.
- ❖ In this regard a memorandum was prepared to submit before this committee.

December 2010

Khambhat Survey

Khambhat visit with current intern Vipul Patel from MSW College-Modasa. The purpose of visit was collection of baseline data of Khambhat through survey form. This visit was done on 29 December, 2010 to 4.01.2010

RAJULA

April 2010

Land acquisition

- Gujarat Power Corporation Limited (GPCL) acquired land in villages Rampara-2, Uchaiya, Bhachadar and Bherai for its power plant in the year 1999. No construction activity was done on this land till the year 2010. Now GPCL is handling this land to Torrent Power. As per Land Acquisition Act, company can not transfer ownership of acquired to anyone without permission of State Government. This is violation of Land Acquisition Act. Attention of collector was drawn towards this issue by a written application.
- Submitted a memorandum to deputy collector, Rajula to oppose the transfer of acquired land by GPCL to Torrent Power on date 9.4.2010
- Paralegals along with farmers and affected people did a movement on project site (at Rampara-2 and Bherai) and put forward the issue of harassment by police in this matter before DSP, DGP and Rajyapal, Gujarat.

May 2010

Land Acquisition

- GIDC is acquiring land in Rajula. A memorandum asking farmer rights was submitted to state government by affected farmers, farm workers and cattle rearers on date 11.05.2010.
- Acquired land by Metdist Industries Ltd at Hindorana village was seized by the collector, Amreli. In this regards a letter (dated 22.05.2010) for returning the grazing was submitted to the district collector.

Compensation

- A meeting with farmers to decide strategy for obtaining proper compensation as earlier acquired land by Gujarat Power Corporation Ltd was handled to Torrent Power.
- Proper compensation for acquired land was not provided to the farmers by Gujarat State Petronet Ltd. Affected farmers put their concerns before Collector, Amreli in this regard.
- A multi circuit tower line was built up illegally at Uchaiya village. Affected farmers submitted letters to collector, Amreli to take action in this issue.

June 2010

- A memorandum was submitted to state government about environmental problems of Rajula on 5th June 2010 - the world environment day.
- Section-133 of 'Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973' (CRPC) gives power to District Magistrate to give Conditional order for removal of nuisance. In issue of pollution by Pipavav Railway Yard a letter was submitted to Executive Magistrate, Rajula to take proper steps.
- A case is going on in the Gujarat High Court for land encroachment by Pipavav Port in Rampara-2 village. A meeting was held with Gram Panchayat Members of Rampara-2 for gathering information and further action.
- GIDC is acquiring land in Rajula which will cause increase the number of land losers. A meeting was held to discuss the effects of this land acquisition on the farmers and the land losers.

July 2010

- Salt pans were given on lease to salt pan workers which were source of livelihood for them. This lease was not renewed and the land was given for industrial use. A meeting with salt pan workers was held and explained to ask for lease renewal.
- Statements of Pipavav Marine Police Station were obtained on the complaint filed under CrPC, 1973 in the issues of pollution by Pipavav, Ultratech Cement Company and Pipavav Railway Yard.

August 2010

Land acquisition

- GIDC is acquiring land in Bhachadar and Uchaiya. In this regard meetings were held in these villages on 4.08.2010 with local people and primary information was collected. Also points for application under RTI Act were decided.
- Acquired land by Metdist Industries Ltd at Hindorana village was seized by the collector, Amreli because it was transferred to Ecomplex illegally. Metdist Industries Ltd filled writ in Gujarat High Court against this order. Local people of Hindorana village were informed and guided for being part of in favour of public interest.

Pollution problems

- An application under CRPC-133 was done for pollution problems due to L& T and Pipavav Port.
- Meeting with local people was done on date 14.08.2010 to prepare them to give statement to Marine Police Station – Pipavav Port.

September 2010

- **Employment:** A meeting with Saltpan workers of Khera village on 9.09.2010 to know about issues of employment and demanding land on lease for saltpans to reduce the migrations of locals.

October 2010

Grazing land

- As per grazing land resolution 40 acre grazing land should be there per 100 cattle. In Dataradi village grazing land was not as per this provision.
- In this regard Sarpanchs and Gram Panchayat members of different villages were guided to ask for more grazing land as per the Resolution.

November 2010

Land acquisition and compensation

- Land acquisition was done by government for Gujarat Pipavav Port and proper compensation was also not provided. In this regard, a meeting with local people of Bhachadar and Uchaiya villages was organized to ask about received compensation from government.

Paralegal meetings

1. Discussion on work done by paralegals in the issue of land acquisition by Videocon Power Project, Torrent Power and Medist companies on date 19.5.2010. Further assistance was given in doing RTI Application, land acquisition and follow up action in environmental issues. 9 paralegals participated in this meeting.
2. Village visit of Rampara-1 and Bherai village on date 26.04.2010-30.04.2010 and 15.05.2010 for preparing profile and case study of paralegals. Nanabhai Vagh, Arjanbhai, Jikarbhai and Sarpanch were visited for this purpose.
3. A paralegal meeting with 10 paralegals on the issues of environment pollution, land acquisition by GIDC on date 12.06.2010.
4. Gujarat Energy Transmission Corporation Limited (GETCO) started fixing the electric poles in the land of farmers at Bherai, Bhachadar and Uchaiya villages without acquiring land rights. Attention of Executive Magistrate, Amreli was drawn towards this issue. As a result of these fruitful efforts the company has stopped the work.
5. **Paralegal meeting – 14th and 15th September 2010 at Rajula** : A meeting for new issues related to new amendments in environmental Laws, High Court orders, new local issues, paralegals work reports, land acquisition, pollution problems, etc. was organized at Rajula. Mamlatdar of Rajula also accepted invitation to attend this meeting and joined as resource person. He explained Land Acquisition process and provided guidance in this issue.
6. A meeting with paralegals for monthly work and environmental pollution problems on date 25.11.2010 at Rajula.

January – March 2011

- Awareness drive had been organized for affected people residing near pipavav port about pollution problems by pipavav port and ultratech cement plant. Also represent same problem to different authorities.
- Visited the affected villages and organized meeting with farmers on 7.1.11 on the issue of land acquisition in bhachadar, ucheya and rampra-2 village. Also planned future actions like giving memorandum to authorities and to organize rally.
- Prepared written representation for issue of effects of collecting sand from river in hindorna village.
- On 12.2.11, a rally of local farmers was organized on the issue of land acquisition for plan of videcon. Also gave memorandum to Mamlatdar _ Rajula at the end of the rally.
- Visited vad and chhatdiya villages to meet and aware people on the land issues.
- Visited vadli and kovaya villages to make people aware about mining issues.

JHAGADIA

May 2010

Quarry problems

- A meeting with 25 quarry affected people of Jhagadia was held at Hingoriya village on 4.05.2010. Environmental problems and damage, authentic evidences of pollution due to quarry etc were discussed. At the end of the discussion it was decided to pass resolution in concerned Gram Panchayats and further present it to government by Sarpanchs.
- An application was prepared for the affected farmers and submitted to Collector, Bharuch for damage to agriculture land due to quarries.

June 2010

Rock mines

- In Aambakhadi village there are rock mines. As a result of blasting rock matter falls in surrounding farms and cause damage to farmers as well as agricultural land.
- **RTI application** was done to geology office, Bharuch to find out the time of establishment, lease time, conditions given to the mining projects, etc. As the information was not provided a first appeal was filed and got an order to provide desired information.

Quarry problems

- Village visits of quarry affected villages Kadwali, Pipripan, Choki and Razalwada.

July 2010

- Follow-up of RTI Application in rock mines problem.

Paralegal meetings

- 4 day visit of Jhagadia for paralegal case studies during 20th to 24th April 2010.
- 20-21st May 2010: Monthly paralegal Meeting for each paralegal's work report.
- 22-23rd June 2010: Monthly meeting of paralegals for individual work.
- 30th July 2010: To decide dates of orientation program of paralegals at Jhagadia and Paralegal refresher training program at Ahmedabad.

August 2010

Paralegal training – 26.08.2010 at Jhagadia

- A refresher program for paralegals of Jhagadia was arranged at Jhagadia. 14 paralegals participated in it. Various subjects were covered i.e. Role of Panchayat in environment conservation, RTI and other environment related problems. Resource person includes a person from Tribal branch of Taluka Panchayat.

September 2010 to November 2010

Land acquisition

- A meeting with local leaders of GIDC Jhagadia affected villages at Utiya Village. GIDC is planning a ceramic SEZ in Jhagadia and for which started acquiring land. RTI Application for finding out acquired land was done and the information received was given to these affected people. Information for land acquisition process was also provided to these people.

Quarry – pollution problems

- A meeting with 22 locals & farmers of Hingoriya village and 4 paralegals was organized. Information on pollution related problems and power of Panchayat was provided to them.

December 2010

Paralegal Refresher Training Program

A training program for paralegal of Jhagadia on 13th and 14th December, 2010

Resource person and subjects were as follows,

- Aarti Pandya (Safety Health and Environment) - Industrial Safety
- Mahesh Parmar (Paryavaran Mitra) – people participation in land acquisition
- Badribhai Joshi (Shantigam, Tansa) – environmental problems and people's participation
- Regional officer, Gujarat Pollution Control Board-Ankleshwar – Role of GPCB
- Mahesh Pandya (Paryavaran Mitra) – Environment Laws and EIA Notification

January – March 2011

- Meeting with affected people at utiya and navagam village on the issue of land acquisition for SEZ and GIDC.
- Visited utiya, fulwadi, sardarpura, dadheda, navagam, kapalsadi and randedi villages to make people aware about land acquisition issue.

(e) Events and other activities

1. Western region consultation on Millets 5th and 6th July, 2010

2 days consultation of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan on Millet crop was held at Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad. This program was jointly organized by Deccan Development Society-Hyderabad, Millet Network of India, Paryavaran Mitra-Ahmedabad KRAPAVIS-Rajasthan and Academy of Development Sciences (ADS)-Maharashtra.

Total 103 people from media, doctors, NGOs, farmers, citizens, and academicians participated in it.

The main issues discussed were,

1. Minimum Price Support for Millets, Millet Subsidies and Bonuses, Inclusion of Millets in PDS, Midday Meal Schemes, ICDS: Push both at national and state levels, political leaders the concept of millet, importance of millet crops in food security of the poor, etc.
2. Storage of the indigenous variety of millets by farmers to avoid buying hybrid varieties and a suggestion of storage facilities and seed banks, Policy for Fodder Banks.

3. Documentation, Research, Awareness Building (including media), and Interface with Agriculture Universities for Millets etc was discussed.

2. World Environment Day- 5th June

The UN declared year 2010 as 'International Year of Biodiversity'. Two different programs were organized by Paryavaran Mitra in coordination with Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Ahmedabad on 4th and 5th June 2010.



4th June 2010 – School going children are generally unaware of plants and their common-medicinal uses. A trip to garden of Vasant Nature Cure Hospital was organized for School children. 30 children participated in it. Shri Pravinbhai Dabhi-Gujarat Vidyapith introduced many plants and their uses/medicinal uses to children as well their parents.

5th June 2010

A program with women group of Bavla Mahila Vikas Sangathan was held at Bavla. Mr. Naresh Thakar from GPCB, Mr. Vivek Sheth, Prof J.N. Joshi and Ms. Falguni Joshi-Paryavaran Mitra addressed the women group in the issue of climate change.



3. Training program for MSW students of Gujarat, 7-10 September, 2010

A training program for MSW students of 8 different colleges of Gujarat was held by Paryavaran Mitra in collaboration with Gujarat Pollution Control Board and Centre for Science and Environment during 7-10 September 2010. The venue for the training program was Janvikas Training Centre, Vastrapur; Ahmedabad.

Objective:

- The world is facing problems due climate change. Gujarat is one of the industrialized states in India and with increasing industries various environmental problems are also increasing. Pollution and imbalanced environment can cause serious impacts on human life and other live forms.
- Industrialization is rapidly taking place but people are not aware about environment public hearings in various parts of Gujarat. Only local affected people can raise their concern during the EPHs and NGOs can not as per Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006. In such condition it is very important to make the local people aware and more concern about environment. So, Paryavaran Mitra decided to give basic understanding of environment and pollution problems to the local people.

- As the students of Social Work are seen as future social workers who will work with organizations and companies all over Gujarat, Paryavaran Mitra chose these students as target group for training.

Total 32 students from 8 M.S.W. colleges were invited which include 16 girls and 16 boys. 4 colleges from Bhavnagar, 1 college from Rajkot, 1 college from Ahmedabad, 1 college from Patan and 1 college from Modasa

4. EIA Training program for NGO Workers, 25th to 27th October 2010

3 days training program for NGO workers of Gujarat was held by Paryavaran Mitra. 18 NGOs members from 10 different NGOs participated in it. The NGOs were,

- Brakish Water Research Centre, Olpad-Surat
- Kutch Nav Nirman Abhiyan, Kutch
- Gramin Majdur Sabha -surat
- SETU Bhadreshwar, Kutch
- Eklavya Foundation, Bhachau-Kutch
- Ekalbara Foundation, Padra-Vadodara
- Sahjeevan, Bhuj-Kutch
- SETU Information Centre, Bhuj-Kutch
- VIKALP, Ahmedabad
- Bhartiya Kisan Sangh, Jamnagar

5. Seminar on 26th Anniversary of Bhopal Day - 3rd December 2010

A panel discussion was arranged on 3.12.2010 at University School of Law-Gujarat University. The panel consisted following people,

1. Shri S.P. Rathod (In charge Director, School of Law)
2. Shri N.K. Pathak (Former Director, School of Law)
3. Mahesh Pandya (Paryavaran Mitra)
4. Shri Bhushan Oza (Advocate, Gujarat High Court)

6. Documentary

Ms. Sheena Sumaria, a research student working on Displacement Issues in Gujarat wanted to prepare a documentary on the issues faced by fish-workers, women and other affected groups. Paryavaran Mitra guided her and provided her information and contacts in Mundra-Kutch.

Student Internships

1. Da-iict students

3 IT Students(Nilay Chheda, Naman Turkiya and Dhruv Patel) from Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology interned with Paryavaran Mitra during 1 December to 28 December, 2010.

During their internship period they worked in 21 villages of 3 Talukas namely Rajula of Amreli, Jhagadia of Bharuch and Padra of Vadodara district.

They did review and awareness of E-gram and Environment Clearance process through a simple presentations. Awareness about Environment Clearance Process included accessing websites of Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Gujarat State Environment Impact Assessment Authority and Ministry of Environment and Forest for the purpose of Environment Impact Assessment Reports, Environment Public Hearing Minutes and Environment Clearances of Industries.

2. MSW students

- A second year MSW student from Master of Social Work college(Vipul Patel), Modasa is currently doing internship with Paryavaran Mitra. His internship period is 16.12.2010 to 31.01.2011. He is collecting baseline information of Khambhat region through survey forms.
- Two students (Satish & Yogesh) from MSW department of Hemchandracharya University Patan came for placement at ParyavaaranMitra for 45 days during 16th January 2011 to 28th February 2011. They visited schools of Mehsana and Visnagar Taluka and organized awareness programs. They also organized Paryavaran Goshthi (full day workshop to discuss environmental problems of north Gujarat) in collaboration with Patan University for social workers.
- Two students from MSW department of Bhuj college– Gaurang & Amit interned with us for 20 days durng 4th February 2011 and 24th February 2011.they actively participated in pre-EPH meetings and spread awareness about environment public hearing.
- Two MSW students (Nimisha & Mrugakshi) from IGNOU interned with us for 5 days. They did small research project of comparing analyzed environment subject syllabus of PTC students and primary students.