

Annual Report

2016-17



PARYAVARAN MITRA

502, Raj Avenue, Bhaikaka Nagar Road, Thaltej Cross Roads,
Thaltej Ahmedabad-380059

Phone : +91-79-26851321

E-mail: paryavaranmitra@yahoo.com

Content

Chapter 1: Intervention in Environmental decision making process

- A. Intervention in Environmental Public Hearing process
- B. Monitoring the process of Environmental Public Hearing

Chapter 2: Advocacy

- A. Policy advocacy
- B. Advocacy through writing letters
- C. Advocacy through media and seminars

Chapter 3: Awareness

- A. Awareness Program at school level: Nurturing young minds
- B. Awareness through Media:
- C. Spreading awareness by participating as expert or speaker on environmental issues
- D. Supporting Educational Institutes

Chapter 4: Training and Capacity Building

- A. Teacher's training Program
- B. State Level Paralegal Environment Training Program

Chapter 5: Internship Program

Chapter 6: Publication

Chapter 7: Contribution at International level

- A. Sustainable Development Goals:
- B. Participation at international level conferences:
- C. Networking with National and International campaigns:

About Paryavaran Mitra:

Paryavaran Mitra is a Gujarat-based non-profit organization with Regd No: E/20934/Ahmedabad working on socio-environmental issues. It was initiated in 1997 as an environmental cell of Center for Social Justice within JANVIKAS to advocate for human rights in the face of growing environmental degradation and pollution. Since May 1, 2015, it has become an autonomous institution as a part of decentralization policy of JANVIKAS. Over the years, it has steadily grown and established itself in the field of environment especially encouraging public participation in environmental decision making processes in the state of Gujarat. It has been promoting sustainable development through participation in environmental governance at local, regional, and national level by participation in policy making process. Paryavaran Mitra promotes environment education and aware all group of the society through various programmes, seminars, and trainings. It has been supporting international initiatives towards evolving systems and processes for sustainable development. Paryavaran Mitra is an observer organization in United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and has participating in Conference of the Parties and high-level meetings.

Mission:

Striving for sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development, and environmental protection.

Vision

To create a sustainable well-being and climate resilience society.

Objectives:

- To create awareness regarding environmental legislation
- To educate the community for advocating for environmental justice through access to law, the courts, and public opinion.
- To educate community on environmental issues and assist them to cope, adapt and build resilience, and climate justice.
- Sustained efforts for ensuring climate justice
- To motivate and mobilize communities to participate in decision making process of environmental governance
- Awareness of the court verdicts pertaining to environment protection for its effective implementation
- Networking with local organizations to sensitize on the local environmental issues and strengthening them to effectively work towards redressal of environmental issues
- To promote and encourage the use of social audit system for environmental protection
- Capacity building-Educate / train, sensitize and demystify on issues of environment and industrial pollution – youth, women, voluntary organizations etc and organize interactive programs with academic institutions, experts and other stakeholders working for environment protection

Chapter 1: Intervention in Environmental decision making process

A. Intervention in Environmental Public Hearing Process

Gujarat has been one of the most economically advanced states of India. Policies, Practices and the undercurrent of entrepreneurship supports the State's various mechanisms that are channelized towards Industrialization. EIA process is an important component of sound development planning in the process of industrialization. Keeping this in mind, it is our experiences with the implementation of the EIA Notification 2006 and the EPH process that shall be highlighted here.

The term Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) refers to the anticipation of various impacts a project will have on the environment and the local community. It is a decision making tool, which guides decision makers in taking appropriate decisions prior to sanctioning clearance. The EIA Notification falls within the umbrella act – The Environment Protection Act, 1986.

Environmental Public Hearing:

According to this notification, the environmental clearance process comprise of four stages namely, Screening, Scoping, Public consultation and Appraisal, all of which may not be applicable to all projects. However in the EIA process, the public hearing (or public consultation) stage is the only stage where there is some scope for intervention by local communities, where comes our role. Further, the consultation process has been divided into two, public hearing for local people and submission in writing from other plausible stakeholders. So NGOs/civil society organization (unless locally situated) have been excluded to take part in the public hearing, but can send their written presentations/comments as plausible stakeholders.

Reason for our intervention in EPH:

Reason for our intervention in public hearing is mainly due to lack of awareness and the inability of the affected communities to understand project proposals due to the low levels of literacy, absence of EIA capacity at the District Level to undertake public hearing, and absence of organized NGOs to assist communities at local level. Also EIA is a highly technical document preventing proper understanding to affected communities with low level of literacy and thus limiting participation.

Role of Paryavaran Mitra:

Paryavaran Mitra has been working extensively to strengthen EIA process and increase public participation in Environment Public Hearing ever since its inception. The efforts were to make it a transparent, participatory and effective tool of public accountability, as envisioned in the Environment Protection Act, and further mandated by the notification. Our invariable intervention has strengthened public hearing process and improved quality of EIA over years. We have been doing it through:

- Sending our comments on the Environment Impact Assessment Reports as plausible stake holders in the State of Gujarat.
- Sharing information with local communities about the upcoming project, discussing issues with the affected people, encouraging public comments and participation in the public hearing.
- Use of local voluntary organizations/NGOs, groups, and individuals to reach people in rural or remote areas to inform them about the upcoming public hearing and environmental effects of projects and motivate them to participate in the EPH.
- Raise awareness among locally affected people about public hearing process and reviewing executive summary of EIA by organizing meetings. Also encourage them to participate and raise their issues effectively during the public hearing.

Intervention in Public Hearing during this year:

During the period of April 2016 to September 2017, the Global Greentrans Fund was a great respite to us since we were somehow struggling to continue our flagship program under operation since 1998. It was a vital support to us as it not only helped our organization gain access to spaces for advocacy or decision-making but also opened some new directions that needed to be explored. The program is an essential need to protect environment in Gujarat as there is no other voluntary organization that make intervention in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

During this period from April 1, 2016 to March 30, 2017, a total of 76 EPH (including cancelled) were announced by Gujarat Pollution Control Board (the details of which is annexed in **Annexure – 1**). Out of total 73 EPH (excluding cancelled), we submitted our critical comments/suggestions to GPCB and District Collector under whose presence EPH is conducted in 70 projects. Additionally, we also contacted local voluntary organizations/NGOs, groups, and affected people to reach people of the affected project areas of all the projects about the upcoming public hearing and environmental effects of projects and motivate them to participate in the EPH through phone calls and emails.

However, in 19 projects, we did intervention by actively mobilizing community through group meetings and larger public meeting detail of which is provided in Annexure I. The reason for intervention was mainly people's demand and some due to environmental issues (reason described in annexure I). We also contacted local Voluntary Organizations (VO) of the respective area and educated them about public hearing process and reviewing executive summary of EIA. Encouraged affected people to participate and raise their issues effectively during the public hearing. We also attended all the 19 hearings also and gave real time support to the people so that the people could raise their concerns effectively as far as possible, with confidence and without fear. Their capacity has been developed to understand the environmental issues they may have to face in future due to proposed project which would help them to raise voice against such issues but they would need external support for raising the issues at appropriate forum and authority.

It may be noted that as per EIA notification 2006, only locally affected people and Voluntary organizations are allowed to speak in the public hearing, so although, we attended public hearing to support people, we only submitted concerns & comments in writing.



Photo: Environmental Public hearing of M/s Safe Enviro Pvt Ltd.

For month-wise public hearing details please see the following table

Month (2016- 17)	Number of EPHs	Our Role
April	03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To study draft EIA reports of every project coming up for EPH ➤ To prepare written comments and sent to GPCB as a plausible stakeholder ➤ To inform local people and organizations about upcoming EPHs ➤ To provide information about possible impact on natural resources ➤ To encourage them to participate in public hearing
May	07	
June	15	
July	04	
August	03	
September	08	
October	05	
November	05	
December	08	
January	02	
February	06	
March	07	
Total	73	

Beneficiaries:

Public participation in environmental assessment review is essential and may lead to substantial benefits for both the proponent and affected community. So the beneficiaries of the environmental public are wide area but the basic beneficiaries include project affected people. The beneficiaries of the public hearing process can be divided into two categories, direct and indirect beneficiaries. Direct beneficiaries are the people who participate in the public hearing through our intervention and indirect include people who fall in the affected area of the project which comes under 10 km radius of the project, and comes under locally affected people which include men, women, youth, and children of the area.

We intervened in all the EPH which were organized in different areas of state of Gujarat within the area of 196,024 square kilometers. Most of the proposed projects are located in rural areas. Rural economy is predominantly agriculture and animal husbandry base, therefore, farmers and people engaged in animal husbandry economic activity are the people who benefitted from our intervention the most.

As mentioned earlier our intervention benefits all the locally affected people of the project, but recently our efforts to intervene in common infrastructure project especially end of the pipeline treatment projects like Common Effluent Treatment Plant, Treatment transport, storage, disposal facility for hazardous solid waste etc which have benefited the people at large. Like in M/s. Safe Enviro Private Limited, which was a project located in Vill: Magnad, Ta. Jambusar, Dist. Bharuch, but as it was a TSDF site, solid waste of all the

industries situated within 200 km will be disposed in this site. So indirectly people living in this region were benefited.

We also intervened in one such project for CETP (common Effluent Treatment Plant) named “The Ahmedabad Hand Screen Printing Association” which was going to serve almost 732 units and was located in core city area of Ahmedabad. The main beneficiaries of this project were urban people living in Ahmedabad.

Strengthening Women’s participation in Environmental Decision making:

In addition to helping people know about their rights, we also try that woman’s participation in decision making process gets strengthened. Whenever we organize group meetings or public meetings, we always insist for women participation in the meetings as well as EPH since they are also important stakeholders. Like in two projects namely M/s. Zydu Infrastructure Private Limited and M/s Macro Polymers Pvt. Ltd. (Unit-3) which were Sanand Taluka of Ahmedabad, and Gujarat Fluorochemicals Ltd, in Panchmahal district, we intervened through women group thus increased number of women in leadership role in environmental decision making process as well as protecting the environment. In two projects, namely M/s Macro Polymers Pvt. Ltd. (Unit-3), Sanand Taluka of Ahmedabad and Gujarat Fluorochemicals Ltd, Panchmahal, we intervened through women’s group (Sanand Mahila Vikas Sangthan and Anandi) thus benefiting them by empowering them as well as protecting the environment.



Photo: Meeting with Woman group (Anandi) at Panchmahal, Gujarat

List of local voluntary organizations that were contacted:

Sr. No.	Name of the Voluntary Organization	Name of the person contacted
1.	Dehgam Taluka Gram Swaraj Samiti, Dehgam, Gandhinagar	Vinubhai B. Amin, Ushaben S. Pandit
2.	Gujarat Lok Samiti, Ahmedabad	Nita Mahadev
3.	Lok Adhikar Sangathan, Kutch	Karsanbhai Rabari
4.	Sadbhavna Trust, Mahuva	Dr. Kanubhai Kalsaria

5.	Local leader, Mahuva	PratapbhaiGohil
6.	SETU, Anjar, Kutch	Chandresh
7.	SanandMahilaVikasSangthan, Sanand	Jasiben
8.	Mahisagar Shakti Sangathan, Local leader, Padra	ArvindhbhaiPadhiyar, Harmanbhai Parmar
9.	Local leader &JillaPanchayat Ex-Members – Padra	NatvarbhaiPadhiyar
10.	Local leader &JillaPanchayat Members – Vagodiya	Dilipbhai
11.	Local leader – Savali	Mulajibhai Patel, Nalinbhai Patel
12.	Local leader, Teachers – Magnad, Jambusar	Jitendrabhai Patel
13.	Local leader, Rtd. Govt. Servant Khambhat	Pratapsinh Parmar
14.	Anandi- DevgadhBariya	Neeta Hardikar
15.	Local leader – Ghoghamba	KiritSolanki
16.	Local leader, Anjar	Harishbhai
17.	DehgamTaluka Gram SwarajSamiti, Dehgam, Gandhinagar	Vinubhai B. Amin, Ushaben S. Pandit
18.	Gujarat LokSamiti, Ahmedabad	Nita Mahadev
19.	LokAdhikarSangathan, Kutch	KarsanbhaiRabari
20.	Sadbhavna Trust, Mahuva	Dr. KanubhaiKalsaria
21.	Local leader, Mahuva	PratapbhaiGohil
22.	SETU, Anjar, Kutch	Chandresh
23.	SanandMahilaVikasSangthan, Sanand	Jasiben

B. Monitoring the process of EPH:

ParyavaranMitra acts as a watchdog and closely monitors the process of Environment Clearance and specifically ensures public participation at every step. We also write directly to concern authority regarding any anomaly during the EPH process.

Date	Name of Authority	Issue
28/06/2016	Surendra Kumar, Member Secretary, EAC (Non Coal Mining)	Request for cancellation of Environmental Public Hearing of M/S UltraTech Cement Limited (UTCL) held at Bambhor, Kotda, and Jhanjmer, Ta: Talaja, Dist: Bhavnagar on 15 th and 16 th June 2016.
22/10/2016	GPCB, Gandhinagar and	Regarding cancellation of

	Collector, Bhuj	Environmental Public Hearing fro M/S Electrotherm India Limited (village – Samkhiyali, Taluka – Bhachau, District - Kutch) scheduled on 25 th October, 2016 for giving 10 years old data in EIA report.
03/02/2017	Expert Appraisal Committee (industry-2)	Violation of EIA notification 2006 by M/s. Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited located at Village: Ranjitnagar, Taluka : Ghoghamba , District : Panchmahal, whose Public hearing was held on 20 th January 2017
07/03/2017	Expert Appraisal Committee (Industry-2)	Forwarding letter of Mr. Suresh Vasava regarding violation of EIA notification 2006 by M/s. Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited located at Village: Ranjitnagar, Taluka : Ghoghamba , District : Panchmahal, whose Public hearing was held on 20 th January 2017

Chapter 2: Advocacy

Paryavaran Mitra advocates for new policies and proper implementation of environmental laws. The Unique contribution of Paryavaran Mitra is in Public Interest Litigation (RTI) for more than two decades ensuring support and presence in all and one litigations of Gujarat. We have been instrumental in bringing some landmark judgment pertinent to environment which has strengthened public participation, increased accountability of government, and helpful in getting compensation to affected people.

a. Policy advocacy

As a part of advocacy we also influence government and judiciary in bringing effective legislation and policy change for sustainable development by using various means of advocacy like Right to Information (RTI), Media (print and electronic), judiciary, preparing questions for state assembly etc. During 2016-17 we advocated for two new draft policies details of which is given below.

1. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF) had issued a draft notification seeking to amend the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) of 2006, on 10th May, 2016, regarding violation cases under the provisions of EPA act 1986. Therefore, a consultation was organized by Paryavaran Mitra for inputs on “Draft notification for amendment in EIA notification 2006 regarding violation cases under the provisions of EPA Act 1986.” We invited people from all area of environment to share their perspective including Environmental Consultants, Academicians, students etc. After analyzing and all the suggestions and discussions held during the consultation, we sent comments/suggestions to the ministry.

2. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) had prepared initial draft national Indicator framework for monitoring of nationally defined Sustainable Development Goals and invited comments. With efforts of civil society organizations in Gujarat, a State-Level consultation on “Initial Draft National Indicators framework on the SDGs” was organized on 4th April, 2017 at Ahmedabad in which around 35 participants from around Gujarat were present. Based on the outcome of the consultation, we sent comments and suggestions on initial draft National indicator framework for sustainable development goals. Then a follow up to the State-Level consultation on “Initial Draft National Indicators framework on the SDGs” that was organized on 4th April, 2017 in Ahmedabad, the “Consultation on the National Indicators for the SDGs Implementation” was organized by Beyond Copenhagen, SADED, BCPH, DST, Pune, CEOEDECONBJVJ, & PAIRVI at Delhi on 6th April, 2017. The seminar was held after

the state consultations in various states and submitted comments and stated suggestions on initial draft national Indicators Framework on Goal 6.

b. Advocacy through writing letters:

1. Taking cognizance of our letter to National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on 20 July 2016 requesting to order appropriate authority to develop a mechanism to assess damage caused to people due to environmental pollution and degradation by the industries causing health hazards and provide compensation to the affected people, NHRC directed to the concerned Gujarat State authorities calling for an Action taken report within 4 weeks.

2. On October 7, 2016, we wrote a letter to Shri O.P. Kohli, Governor of Gujarat, Gandhinagar for appointment to meet and discuss regarding inclusion of Millets in Public Distribution System (PDS) under National Food Security act, 2013. We were given appointment for the same and we were able to give our suggestions to state government.

3. On 10 November 2016, we wrote letter to NHRC seeking attention to toxic gas leaks in two different places in Gujarat within very short period of time. The objective was to bring attention to these two cases of human right violation and urge for immediate intervention. Our complaint was placed before commission on 28/11/2016 and the commission directed to transmit a copy of the complaint to the concern authority calling for the action taken report within four weeks. Thus accordingly on 3 January 2017, our complaint was sent to District magistrate, Bharuch and Ahmedabad and also to Commissioner of Police, Ahmedabad and The Superintendent of Police, Bharuch for immediate action. To know about the action taken report we have done RTI to above authorities seeking information about the action taken.

4. On 12 September 2016, we wrote a letter to Prime Minister Office with a request to make solid waste disposal system a priority in Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and seeking his attention to the scenario in Gujarat getting worse as the solid waste disposal sites are mismanaged. We also gave some suggestions to improve Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and make it a success. In response to this letter PMO office suggested us that “Ministry of Drinking water and sanitation administers Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) and provides technical and financial support to State Governments for execution of works relating to it. Precisely, sanitation is a state subject.” So we forwarded our complain to Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat.

c. Advocacy through media and seminars:

1. Through media advocacy, Paryavaran Mitra managed to resolve an issue that had been neglected by environmental authorities in Gujarat. On the occasion of World Environment Day, a press conference was organized by Paryavaran Mitra on June 4, 2016, on

Environmental Status of Gujarat, where Mr. Mahesh Pandya, Director of Paryavaran Mitra, highlighted issues which required attention of the authority, among which was the status of the air pollution monitoring station of Ahmedabad. Following up on this case, we found that since November 2015 till present (June 2016), there has been no monitoring data available on AQI system of Ahmedabad. This issue was covered by all the media present in the press conference on the World Environment Day, i.e., June 5, 2016. After this coverage within one month that is on June 30, 2016, the AQI station of Ahmedabad started working and the results could be seen on the website.

2. Press conference was organized on September 2016 on “Right to Food” organized by Paryavaran Mitra, Paryavaraniya Vikas Kendra, Vikalp, and Anaya Suraksha Adhikar Abhiyan, Gujarat. The purpose of the seminar was to highlight inclusion of Millets in Public Distribution System (PDS) under National Food Security act, 2013.

Other matters that got attention of media was about the decrease in Gujarat’s tree cover since 2013 and status of municipal Solid waste disposal systems in Gujarat which is given in annexure IV.

Chapter 3: Awareness

A. Awareness Program at school level

Project Name	My Class My Forest
Project Duration	2016-17
Implementing area	Ahmedabad City

Introduction:

“My Class My Forest” was a project initiated by Reforestation Up2Green, a France-based NGO in collaboration with **Paryavaran Mitra** during 2016-17. The goal of the project was to “*Educate and engage elementary school students in forest conservation and reforestation in the world*”. The objective behind this one-year project was to sensitize primary students of standard 6th and 7th (approximate age group from 11 to 13 years) of Ahmedabad about the importance of trees and forests.

The Goal of the project is “Educate and engage elementary school students in forest conservation and reforestation in the world”. The main emphasis of this project was to bring awareness among the children about the functioning of forest ecosystems and their interactions with biodiversity, water cycle and carbon cycle in a fun and interactive manner. Although the topics are taught in their respective curricula, the idea behind this project was to teach the students differently and emphasised in great detail. Also, the students needed to be aware why the forests are diminishing as a consequence of urbanisation and the need for reforestation for sustainable development.

While Reforestation Up2Green provided the materials, Paryavaran Mitra was the backbone and support of the project, approaching the schools, training tutors, and conducting sessions, and reporting. Tutors were thought of as the key elements and facilitators, who would be working closely with the students, so identifying tutors, giving them training and guidance to undertake activities in a systematic manner in order to achieve the objectives was an important part of project. Leading to this was trainings organised for the selection and training of tutors; and designing and developing implementation patterns of sessions.

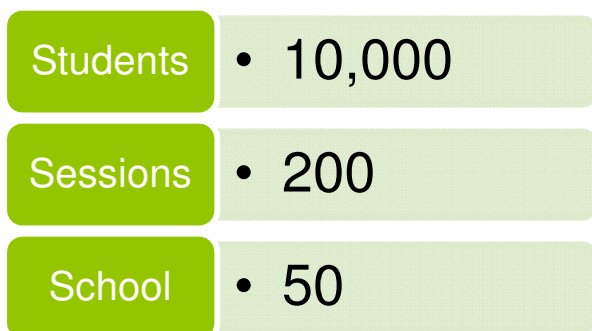
The main criterion was to approach maximum schools from economically weaker sector, while primary schools run by Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and private schools were also approached.



The session consisted of 45-minute presentation about importance of tree that was interactive and detailed. To inculcate this awareness permanently, the participating students given chance to express their union with the concept of reforestation by drawing a tree on the sheet of paper and all the drawings are uploaded on <https://india.myclassmyforest.org/> thus representing a virtual forest.

Brief synopsis of the program:

The resource material and theme of the project was provided by Up2Green Reforestation where as Paryavaran Mitra added value in terms of approaching the schools, finding tutor, tutor training, conducting sessions and of course, reporting. As the target for My Class My Forest project was to reach 10,000 students in Ahmedabad, it was estimated that around 200 sessions will be needed with an average of 50 students per session and 50 schools. It was well understood that the exact number will not be possible due to various reasons stated later in this report, we always tried that sessions did not exceed 50 students per session while taking confirmation. The ground work of the My Class My Forest Project started much earlier, but the real work started in early June of 2016. Our target for the project was:



Our main criteria for selection of school were based on following:

1. Efforts were made to approach maximum schools from economically weaker sector
2. Also Primary schools run by Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation were preferred
3. Private schools were also approached to reach the economically middle and upper middle class students.
4. Elite class schools were also approached for interaction with the students hailing from economically well of families.

Training and capacity building:

The tutors are the key motivators and facilitators in this project. The tutors working closely //with students has a need to identify the pattern of teaching and schedule the activities to be undertaken, and provide necessary guidance to students to undertake activities in a systematic manner, taking care that the objectives are achieved.

1. First through our network we selected some tutors who we thought could be helpful or be part of our project.
2. Meeting was organized at Paryavaran Mitra office for the selected tutors and Paryavaran Mitra members for developing implementation pattern and training the tutors.
3. First tutor-training was held at 'JANVIKAS' by Mr. Miguel, UptoGreen Reforestation & Director of Paryavaran Mitra, Mr. Mahesh Pandya.
4. There was sharing of ideas by participating tutorson how to conduct sessions. We got valuable opinions from them and on that basis, we finalized the presentation to be used during sessions and the pattern that would be followed.
5. Finally tutor selection process was done and a total of 5 tutor initially namely, Mahesh Parmar, Mahesh Pandya, Manisha Patel, Sahil Desai, and Yash Patel were selected.

6. Thereafter, we had three more tutor's training programs which were in-house to train tutors for conducting sessions. All these tutors were also given exposure to sessions before they actually conducted any session.

Note: Tutors were Jatin Sheth, Mahesh Parmar, Sahil Desai, Yash Patel, Arvind Dave, Alpesh Bhavsar, Ranjan Lakhani, Minal Singhal and Kusum Chauhan.



Photo: Training program conducted at Janvikas, Ahmedabad

Resources required for conducting sessions:

Resource material which includes kits for school, maps, and certificates for children, projectors needed to conduct sessions, cameras;laptops were provided under My Class My Forest project. Paryavaran Mitra added value by implementing the project in schools of Ahmedabad. Conducting a session is a team-work, so from correspondence with schools and finalizing the sessions to taking the sessions, it involves in-house efforts like making kits for session, arranging transportation, coordination with tutors, and reporting. Depending upon the medium of language, tutor was selected according to his/her comfort with the language. While tutor was conducting the session, another person was always required who was well acquainted with setting the projector, screen, camera etc. Also we need to take the materials like crayons, drawing sheets, projector, screen (6 ft!), maps, kit bags, camera etc. Thus, for conducting a single session, at least 2-3 persons were required.

Project implementation:

Most of the *schools* in Ahmedabad commence their new academic year *after the summer vacation in second week of June*. So after listing down schools we followed the following steps:

1. E-mails and letters were sent to over 100 schools seeking their interest for participation. A very few school responded so we decided to visit the school personally.
2. Visit to school to seek their interest for participation and if interested confirmation to finalize date and time of session, number of sessions required based on number of students limiting to 50 students per session.
3. Seeking information about the facilities available in school for conducting sessions and medium of language in which session would be conducted.
4. Conducting session
5. Scanning of drawings of each student
6. Uploading the drawing on website

As planned, the sessions were registered with schools in the third & fourth week of June. As the schools had just opened and schools were not much regularized, we started getting confirmations.



Till September 2016, the program was smoothly running, but from October due to school exams and then Diwali (midterm) vacation till mid of November, we could not get dates for the sessions from the schools. Meanwhile, we got consent from Taluka Primary Education officer of two taluka(block) of Ahmedabad, namely city area and Daskoi Taluka for carrying out session in 181 schools under its jurisdiction. So this confirmation made our purpose a bit easier, but then at this stage we needed to train more tutors to cope up with the no. of sessions that were to be conducted. Also as these schools have economically and socially weaker section children, it will add value to our objective.



At the end of the project, we conducted 212 sessions (with an average 50 students per session) and were able to reach 10,040 students and 71 schools (English and Gujarati Medium). The project was a success among the students, showing their concerns towards such environmental issues and being made aware of them by including the tutors as well. The amount of participation was also said to be quite monumental and turned out to be a great hit. School were enthusiastic and we received very good response from students as well tutors.

Students •10,040 (target was 10,000)

Session •212 (200 was expected)

Schools •71 (50 was expected)

Challenges in implementation:

1. We have experienced that schools generally do not respond to communication via email or letters so all the correspondence needs to be done either by calling them or meeting them personally which is very time consuming. Although, we make sure to take appointment before going to meet them, they are either busy with their work or in meeting which also increases our efforts.
2. We received kit and maps late in July 2016, although we started getting confirmation of the session before that so it was difficult to handle for us as we already had confirmation but due to lack of kit and maps could not take sessions. Since we had not received school kits & maps and the sessions were finalized, we conducted the

sessions with the help of power point presentation which were considered as pilot sessions and provided onsite training to the tutors.

3. Many a times, even after our clear instructions Schools donot give us right information about the medium of language. While taking confirmation, they say its English medium and we arrange for English tutor, but when we go to take session, we got to know that it is Gujarati medium school. So in this type of situation, tutors are kept in difficult situation and manage to take session in Gujarati language.
4. The most common problem we face during the session is with schools providing widely incorrect number of students for the session. Like if we are told that there are 100 students and we go with 2 tutors, we find there are hardly 40 students! So in such cases, as we are going with preparation of 2 sessions a lot of resources get wasted as we have to conduct only one session.
5. Fixing no. of session to 50 was very difficult as in some schools no. of students in 6 and 7 were very less or there were many sections with less no. of students in each session.
6. The Gujarati medium school insisted school kits in Gujarati as the English kits were of no use to them. We receive no. of written feedback for this.
7. We also faced difficulty during scanning and uploading due to technical issues which also hindered progress of the project.
8. Also we faced implication on project by financial situation in India due to impact of demonetization dated 8/11/2016. Cash deficit created difficulty for us in taking sessions in school. As there many a times there was no cash in any Bank, cash could not be withdrawn from ATMs and limited cash could be withdrawn from bank which hindered our work.
9. As per the project, we had to give each students snacks priced 20/-, but when we communicated this to school they refused us as the school provides them mid-day meal and suggested us to give some other thing. So we decided to give compass box of the same value.
10. During our sessions, we found that students of this age and status (especially middle and lower class schools) are more interested in regional and national information of the forest rather than world. So showing them world map and giving information about forest of the world made the session lengthen and boring.
11. We had completed the sessions by February 2016, but the uploading was so time consuming that it took too much effort and time to complete it. We didn't find it worth also as due to technical issues and time consuming process the uploading of drawing got quite late which resulted in disinterest in student to see their drawing on site.

12. Moreover, for uploading of the drawing we needed to bring all the drawing to our office and now these drawings are piled in our office without any use. So it is wastage of time and resource.
13. Most of the schools don't have availability of internet and practice of visiting website so visiting website for students was not observed.

Learning from project:

In spite of all the obstacles, challenges, and hindrances, we kept moving forward and were able to conduct the sessions very successfully. Learning was reciprocal as we learnt many things while actually implementing the project. Many schools were very much satisfied with our sessions and have also given letter of appreciation. Some of the letters of appreciation are annexed in Annexure I. We also experienced children's perspective expressed through drawing and their creativity. Some of the drawing which really impressed us are annexed in Annexure-II.



B.Awareness through Media

We have been using media to spread awareness in different sectors of society by participating and giving talks on various environmental topics. The list of program that we participated in year 2016-17 is given below.

Sr. No.	Name of the Program/Topic	Name of the TV Channel	Date
1.	Talk on "Green Audit"	Nirman Channel	13/05/2016
2.	Talk on "Climate Change"	ETV	27/05/2016
3.	"Hello Kanoon" program, spoke on	Doordarshan	13/08/2016

	environmental issues and laws		
4.	Spoke about environmental issues	Nirman Channel	02/08/2016
5.	Spoke about Pollution issues	VTV	03/08/2016
6.	Spoke about Paris Agreement	Nirmal Channel	4/10/2016
7.	Spoke about Climate change	Nirman Channel	5/10/2016
8.	Exclusive Interview on World Earth Day	Gujarat News Channel, GTPL	22/04/2017
9.	Exclusive Interview on Climate Change	Mantavya Channel	26/04/2017
10.	Exclusive Interview on Plastic Waste	Nirman Channel	29/04/2017

Links to the above programs are:

- Maheshbhai Pandya: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gc5Qt_Saigc
- Maheshbhai Pandya: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggHHhrHlscM>
- Maheshbhai Pandya: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggHHhrHlscM>
- Maheshbhai Pandya: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IM3p3e-oriU>
- Maheshbhai Pandya: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNJPspV9po>
- Maheshbhai Pandya: <https://youtu.be/4y4IO0lyu4A>

C. Spreading awareness by participating as expert or speaker on environmental issues

To enhance awareness about the environmental issues in students and other people of society we take lectures in various universities and programs. The details of which is provided in the following table:



Sr. No.	Name of the Program	Venue	Date
1.	National Conference on Science, Economics and Politics of climate change and India's of climate change and India's Response to International obligation	School of Law, Gujarat university, Ahmedabad-India	04/02/2016 and 05/02/2016
2.	Being member of Green Audit Committee of Nirma University, participated in member's meeting	Nirma University	13/05/2016
3.	Tree Plantation by IL&FS Engineering and Construction Company Ltd	Near Metro station at Gyaspur	5/06/2016
4.	Speaker at SPIPA on "Gujarat (Right of Citizens to Public Service) Act-2013"	SPIPA, Ahmedabad	06/06/2016
5.	Meeting with AMC director regarding Solid Waste Management at Pirana	AMC, Ahmedabad	15/06/2016
6.	Speaker at National Seminar organized by Samarth on environmental issues in country and implementation of environmental law	EDI, Ahmedabad	23/06/2016
7.	Being member of Bio-medical waste Committee of Ahmedabad City, participated in meeting under the chairmanship of Collector	Collector Office, Ahmedabad	28/06/2016
8.	Lecture to students of Economics department of Gujarat Vidhyapith on Environmental issue	Gujarat Vidhyapith, Ahmedabad	30/06/2016
9.	A full day lecture series on Environment, Human resource, and RTI at North Gujarat University, MSW students under SETU program	North Gujarat University, Patan	19/07/2016
10.	Participated in conference on "Silicosis" organized by NHRC	New Delhi	22/07/2016
11.	Participated in "International Pre BRICS Consultation at National level 2016" Organized by Wada Na TodoAbhiyan	India Habitat Centre, Delhi	28-29/07/2016
12.	National Consultation on Energy- "Energy /Electricity in India: Current Status, Trends, Multi-Dimensional Transition Possibilities and	Bhopal (Pastoral Centre)	11-12/08/2016

	Challenges”.		
13.	Pre BRICS Consultation Organized by VANI (Voluntary Action Network India)	Delhi	16-17/09/2016
14.	High Level Meeting on AMR at UN General Assembly	UN Headquarters, NY	21/09/2016
15.	Strategy Meeting for Sweepers organized by Jan Sanghrah Manch	Jan Sanghrah Manch, Paldi	24/09/2016
16.	Speaker on “High Level Meeting on Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR)” attended by me	Movement for Secular Democracy (MSD)	29/09/2016
17.	Program on Gandhi Jayanti organized by Nav Gujarat Samay	Kocharb Ashram, Paldi (Gandhi Birth place)	2 /10/2016
18.	National Pre-COP 22Cinsultations	Deputy chairman hall, constitution club of India, New Delhi	22/10/2016
19.	Gujarat Ecology Commission (Gujarat Government)	Gujarat Ecology Commission (Gujarat Government)	14/10/2016
20.	Urban Governance Consultation	Ahinsasodh Bhavan hall, Gujarat Vidyapith, Income tax circle, Ashram Road, Navrangpura	10/12/2016
21.	Upcoming Exhibitions		
(a)	Vibrant Gujarat 2017	The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Samruddhi, Makkai Bridge, Nanpura, Sura	16/12/2016 to 19/12/2016
(b)	Surat International Auto Expo. 2017		26/01/2016 to 29/01/2016
(c)	SITEX (Surat International Textile Expo)		24/02/2017 to 26/02/2017
(d)	SuperhitSurat		06/01/2017 to 09/01/2017
23.	State level convention (strengthening of RTE Act Implementation)	OEG, Ahmedabad	05/03/2017

D. Supporting Educational Institutes:

As a part of knowledge partnership we take students to attend environmental public hearing to give them exposure through field experiences. During the reporting period, as a part of knowledge partnership we took students from Faculty of Law, Nirma University to attend EPH.

Chapter 4: Training and Capacity Building

A. Teacher's training Program

Project Name	Jidd Karo Paryavaran Bachavani
Project Duration	2016-17
Implementing area	Ahmedabad and Rajkot districts

Aim of the Program:

Aim of the program was training and capacity building about environment in primary school teachers and B.Ed students who are an effective medium for embedding environmental values in young students.

About Program:

Paryavaran Mitra, GPCB, Paryavaraniya Vikas Kendra, and Aditya Birla Group undertook program titled "Jidd Karo Paryavaran Bachavani" for training of Primary teachers and B.Ed. students of Ahmedabad and Rajkot districts during the year 2016-17. Objective of the program was to train them to inculcate environmental education through simple activities. An activity book for environmental education was also published as a part of this program that can be included in school curriculum also. A total of four programs (1 teacher and 1 B.Ed. student in each district) were organized, 2 in Ahmedabad and 2 in Rajkot. Details of the training programs held in Ahmedabad are as under:

1. A 2- Day teacher's environment awareness training program titled "Jidd Karo Paryavaran Bachava Ni" on March 01, 2017, Tuesday, Ahmedabad Management Association, Ahmedabad. Around 115 primary school teachers from 5 talukas of Ahmedabad district namely Daskroi, Sanand, Bavla, City, and Dolka participated in the program.
2. A one-day student (B.Ed students) environmental awareness training program was organized on 31st March 2017 at M.N. Shukla B.Ed College, Thaltej. Students from 5 colleges took part in the training program.

Program in detail:

1. Teacher's training program titled "JiddKaro Paryavaran Bachava Ni" on March 01, 2017, Tuesday, Ahmedabad Management Association, Ahmedabad

Time: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

A 2-Day training program for environmental awareness was organized by Paryavaran Mitra, ParyavaranVikas Kendra, Aditya Birla Group, and Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB). Participants were 115 primary school teachers from 5 talukas of Ahmedabad district namely Daskroi, Sanand, Bavla, City, and Dolka.

Guest and Speakers:

- Mr.Mahesh Pandya. (Director of Paryavaran Mitra NGO Ahmedabad based)
- Mr.TusharPancholi (Director of Paryavaran Vikas Kendra NGO Rajkot based)
- Mr M P Mehta (District Education Officer, Ahmedabad)
- Mr K C Mistry (Member Secretary of GPCB, Gandhinagar)
- MrAshu Parekh (Senior Representative, Aditya Birla Group)
- MsFalguni Joshi (Consultant, Paryavaran Mitra)
- MrDipesh Patel (E-Colli Waste Management)
- MrVivekSheth (Envirokleen solutions Representative of GPCB)
- Mr Anil Raval (Principal, Divan Ballubhai Primary school, Kankaria)
- MrRajendra Mehta (Retired Teacher C. N. Vidyalaya)

Following suggestion were given by participants:

- E-waste collection activity in school.
- To facilitate solar system in school through Gujarat government scheme.
- Tree plantation in school by personalizing it with student's name.
- Use of solar energy in MadhyahanBhojan Scheme.
- Reuse of plastic to make creative things.
- Disposal of all waste to produce manure.
- Promoting natural product instead of chemical-base product.

2. Students's training program (B.Ed students) organized on 31st March 2017 at M.N. Shukla B.Ed College, Thaltej.

One-day training program for B.Ed. Students on environmental awareness was organized by Paryavaran Mitra, ParyavaranVikas Kendra, Aditya Birla Group, and Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB). Students from 5 colleges, approximately 150 students took part in the training program.

B.State Level Paralegal Environment Training Program

A one-day State Level Paralegal Environment Training Program was organised by Paryavaran Mitra on 26th April, 2017 at Janvikas Training Centre. The objective behind this training program was to interact with paralegals to know their issues and strategies, their need for guidance, and capacity building by updating them about the new legal and technical concepts. The training program also included inculcating awareness about the new laws and amendments brought up that can be made use of in their respective issues. Around 30 paralegals from Padra, Jhagadiya, Rajula, Khambhat, Bharuch, and Anand participated in the program.



Photo: State-level paralegal training program organized by Paryavaran Mitra

Chapter 4: Internship Program

Our aim:

Paryavaran Mitra provides internship to students from diverse fields with an aim to build and enhance environmental values in them which they can apply in their respective field.

Internship at Paryavaran Mitra:

An internship is a form of experiential learning that integrates knowledge and theory learned in the classroom with practical application and skills development in a professional setting. Internships give students the opportunity to gain valuable applied experience and make connections in professional fields they are considering for career paths; and give employers the opportunity to guide and evaluate talent. Through internship, we encourage students from engineering or other technical field to look voluntary sector (NGO) as new opening as job opportunities. Also through internship program we will introduce scope and scale of CSR activities in environmental sustainability.



Paryavaran Mitra provides opportunity to students around the world to put into practice and deepen their theoretical knowledge that they have learned in classrooms. We also offer a chance to know more about various developmental perspectives related to environment through in-depth orientations, hands-on experience of research, training and advocacy. We have been

providing internship since 15 years and have been instrumental in giving internship to around 143 students in last 10 years from 23 Universities and over 5 countries. Students from various faculties like environment, law, journalism, social work, management etc have done internship with us and were able to undertake an experiential learning related to their course as well as interest area.

During April-March 2016, Paryavaran Mitra got interns from different regions and universities. The list of interns is given in annexure II.

Chapter 5: Publication

Publication of magazine “Paryavaran Mitra”

About Magazine:

“Paryavaran Mitra” is a bimonthly Gujarati magazine established by Paryavaran Mitra (NGO) in 1997. The magazine brings awareness of environment among common people and reaches wide variety of readers. Its founder editor is Mahesh Pandya who is also director of Paryavaran Mitra organization. He is known for his vibrant role as an environmental and human rights activist for almost two decades. The Magazine is handled by team of experts who have experience in the field of environment for more than 20 years. The magazine accepts article from experts engaged in various fields especially from professors/teachers, activists, researchers, journalist, environmentalists, environmental engineers, lawyers, Govt. officers etc. We also share our experiences and researches that are part of our organizational work with the audience. Our audience include grassroot people, gram panchyats, academic institution, judges and lawyers, students, volunteer organization, youth groups, activists, govt. offices, youths etc. It is distributed in all districts of Gujarat and other states like Maharashtra, Diu and Daman, and Goa also. We do not except any advertisement and only take voluntary contributions for the magazine. Till now 227 issues have been published with around 1400 subscribers. We welcome regular feedback from our readers on how we can improve our contents and also if interested can contribute articles in our magazine.

Specification of the magazine:

Details	Specification
Language	Gujarati
Frequency of magazine	Bimonthly
No. of Copies (print)	1500
No. of Copies (E-copies)	500
Minimum No. of Pages	28
Size	A4

➤ Main topics covered in Issue of March- April 2016

1. Gujarat’s Drought: natural or human induced?
2. National Tree Policy
3. World Environment Day
4. Sustainable development Goals
5. Why water is scare in developed Gujarat?

6. Environmental Protectors
7. Segregation of Plastic is key for success to Swach Bharat Part-1
8. Trees plantation important for Earth
9. CAG report on CETP
10. Environment News

➤ **Main topics covered in Issue of May- June 2016**

1. Mismanagement in Metro Rail Project
2. Shri. Pravin Rashtrapal: Raising voice for vulnerable
3. Environmental Public Hearing of Mining projects
4. World Environment Day special
5. Protection of Water Scarce area
6. World Environmental Day-5th June 2016
7. Plastic Waste Management Rules Part-2
8. Trees Essential for Earth: Plantation is necessary
9. Environmental Protectors
10. Vidhan Sabha Questionnaire
11. Shri. Trupti Shah: A fighter for Environmental justice
12. Environmental news
13. Sustainable Development Goals

➤ **Main topics covered in July- August 2016**

1. Draft notification issued for public comments that gives license to damage environment and increase pollution
2. Activities related to environment by children of SKUM's school
3. Planning and management of Deposits
4. Environmental Protectors
5. Waste Management Rules
6. Municipal solid waste management rules 2016
7. Vidhan Sabha Questionnaire
8. Gujarat High Court verdict that gives compensation for environmental damage
9. International Day of the World's Indigenous People-9th August

➤ **Main topics covered in September-December 2016**

1. COP-22 Climate Change Conference not so promising
2. UN General Assembly-High-level meeting on Antimicrobial resistance

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3. Non-Maintenance of Records done by the Administration Department regarding Waste Management
 4. Protection of the Water Bodies for a bright future
 5. Indian Vulture crisis
 6. International Ozone Day-2016
 7. India ratifies the Paris Agreement on Climate Change on Gandhi Jayanti
 8. Ecological Balance to shape a better life
 9. Post-Facto affecto Environmental public hearing
 10. Environment-Vehicles-Pollution
 11. BRICS : New begning or as it is?
 12. New draft notification notified by MOEFCC
 13. The use of ponds still exist

➤ **Main topics covered in January-March 2017**

1. Environment in 2017-18 budget
2. Problems of treatment plants in municipalities of smart cities
3. Integrated development of industrial corridor
4. Climate change and We
5. Save the Sparrow: Movement to save sparrow
6. Environmental Protectors
7. Implement environmental laws: Supreme Court
8. Gujarat Vidhyapith's Canteen: Gift for Environment
9. Tree cutting on common land: Paryavaran Mitra's Efforts

Chapter 6: Contribution at International level

A. Sustainable Development Goals:

Paryavaran Mitra have been involved towards helping in achieving SDG and our work directly contributes to many of the goals related to environment like water, climate change, livelihood, health etc. We have been part of many regional and national level consultations in nationalizing the sustainable development goal which is given below.

➤ Consultation on initial Draft National Indicators framework on the SDGs

A State-Level consultation was organized by Paryavaran Mitra and other NGOs on 4th April, 2017 at Ahmedabad in which around 35 participants from various sectors of civil society organization from all over Gujarat participated. Based on the outcome of the consultation, we sent comments and suggestions on initial draft National indicator framework for sustainable development goals. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) had prepared initial draft national Indicator framework for monitoring of nationally defined Sustainable Development Goals. The consultation was aimed with particular focus on the present scenario of SDG in various states of India, discussion about the draft national indicators, and come up with the way forward to develop indicators that can be suggested for various goals.

➤ Consultation on the National Indicators for the SDGs Implementation

In a follow up to the State-Level consultation on “Initial Draft National Indicators framework on the SDGs” that was organized on 4th April, 2017 in Ahmedabad, the “Consultation on the National Indicators for the SDGs Implementation” was organised by Beyond Copenhagen, SADED, BCPH), DST, Pune, CECOEDECONBJVJ, & PAIRVI at Delhi on 6th April, 2017. The seminar was held after the state consultations in various states and Mr. Mahesh Pandya from Paryavaran Mitra represented it from Gujarat. We also submitted comments and stated suggestions on initial draft national Indicators Framework on Goal 6.

B. Participation in international level conferences:

Paryavaran Mitra is an observer organization in United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and has participated at international level in the following:

- Participated in High-level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance at 71st United Nations General Assembly Conference held on September 21, 2016.
- COP-22: Participated in UNFCCC twenty-second Conference of the Parties held in Marrakech, Morocco from November 7 to 18, 2016.

C. Networking with National and International campaigns:

Paryavaran appreciates joint efforts in combating environmental issues and has mobilized many grass root organizations to avoid duplication of efforts and extend its reach. Over the years, Paryavaran Mitra has developed many national and regional NGOs linkages for mutual benefits and assistance needed to fulfil its objective. Networking has also helped to extend our outreach by gaining access to broader spectrum of people especially for increasing public participation in decision making process. Paryavaran Mitra has been part of various seminars and programs during the reporting period. The list is given in annexure III.

Annexures

Annexure I: List of Environmental Public Hearing in which Paryavaran Mitra did active intervention:

Sr. No.	Name of the Industry	Location	Reason for selection
1.	Ultratech Cement Limited (UTCL) with mining lease area 851.3216 ha	Villages Methala, Madhuvan, Jhanjmer, Rajpara, Ralia, Gadhula, Taluka: Talaja, Dist: Bhavnagar, Gujarat	<i>This intervention was by people's demand and owing to the close proximity of the project to coastal area and its nature i.e. mining project which may result in salt-water intrusion in the agricultural area nearby so we decided to intervene in the project. Moreover, there were many check dams and ponds near by the mining lease area. Also Methala Protected Forest was approximately 0.78 km and village Jhanjmer was only 0.23 km in SE direction which needed special attention.</i>
2.	Ultratech Cement Limited (UTCL), with mining lease area 670.4826 ha (Public hearing: 15/06/2016)	Kalsar, Dayal, Kotada. Taluka: mahuva, Dist: Bhavnagar, Gujarat	As above
3.	Ultratech Cement Limited (UTCL) with mining lease area 193.3269 ha	Bambhor, talli, Tal: talaja, Bhavnagar, Gujarat	As above
4.	Zyodus infrastructure Pvt. Ltd	Matoda, Tal: sanand, Dist: Ahmedabad	This project was expansion of existing Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) waste water generated from High Tech Pharmaceutical (Formulation) Manufacturing units and is located in Special Economic Zone. So

			we decided to intervene and enhance public participation in the decision making process.
5.	Redd Mica Pvt. Ltd	Village: Lavad Tal: Dehgam, Dist: Gandhinagar, Gujarat	Our aim behind intervention in this project was that there were too many existing laminate industries in the area, so we wanted to seek attention of concern authority that a cumulative assessment was needed before giving environmental clearance to more laminate industries in this area.
6.	Welspun Steel Ltd	Village: Vershamedi, Tal: Anjar, Dist: Kutch, Gujarat	This was a large scale project and its group company has already existing units in this area. These existing units had many legal environmental issues including encroachment of water reservoirs and roads. So by people's demand we decided to intervene in this project. The existing units also had laid pipeline for discharging effluent to sea without permission of owners of land involved.
7.	M/s. Electrotherm India Limited,	Village: Samkhiyali, Taluka: Bhachau, Dist: Kutch.	This was a very complex case with interference from court as well as MOEF regarding the environment clearance of the existing unit. So we decided to intervene in this public hearing to make local people aware of the fact about the case.
8.	M/s Kalintis Healthcare Pvt Ltd. . (Public hearing: 21/04/2017)	Village: Gardhiya, P.O. Taluka: Savli, Dist: Vadodara	The intervention behind this was that this area was a new avenue for various chemical and dye industries and there were issues of water scarcity.

			So people wanted us to intervene in this project for guidance to representation of their issues in public hearing.
9.	M/S Admark Polycoats Private Limited., (Public hearing: 19/04/2017)	Village: Luna, Taluka: Padra, Dist: Vadodara,	As Padra Taluka is already highly industrialized zone having pharmaceutical, chemical and dye industries. There are persistent issues like ground water coloration and contamination, air pollution etc. So we decided to intervene in this public hearing.
10.	M/s Macro Polymers Pvt. Ltd. (Unit-3) (Public hearing: 08/03/2017)	Village. Moraiya, Ta. Sanand, Ta: Ahmedabad.	Sanand has been a newly developed industrial zone and have pollution issues are increasing day-by-day. The reason behind Paryavaran Mitra's intervention was demand by women's group "SanandMahila Vikas Sangthan, Sanand.
11.	M/S Prism Industries Limited, (Public hearing: 10/02/2017)	Village: Khambhat Kalamсар, Taluka: Khambhat, District: Anand.	Due to close proximity to Gulf area, Khambhat is a new avenue for upcoming projects. As it is necessary that a planned industrialization be done, we decided to intervene in this public hearing.
12.	M/s. Maple Panels Private Limited, (Public hearing: 14/02/2017)	at Survey No. 173/1, Village: Padana, Padana-Bhimsar Road, Taluka: Gandhidham, District: Kutch.	Being an industrial zone Kutch has seen a peak of industrialization around, thus causing pollution and this was the reason why that Paryavaran Mitra decided to do an intervention.
13.	M/s. Safe Enviro Private Limited (Public hearing: 01/02/2017)	at Plot Nos. 697 to 721, 723 to 742, 867 to 874, 893, 938 - 940, 942 to 957, 966 to 976, 1040, 1045 to 1049, Vill: Magnad, Ta. Jambusar,	As this was a common infrastructure project especially end of the pipeline treatment project, industries situated within 200 km will dispose off their industrial

		Dist. Bharuch.	waste at this site. So it was going to affect people at large. Also, there was underground petroleum gas pipeline passing through at the site so we decided to intervene in this project.
14.	M/S Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited., (Public hearing: 20/01/2017)	Village: Ranjitnagar, Ta. Ghoghamba, Dist. Panchmahal.	This was expansion of the project and Paryavaran Mitra had intervened earlier also due to excessive ground water contamination due to the project. Due to our earlier knowingness to issues related to the project, we decided to intervene in this project.
15.	M/s. Macro Polymers Private Limited., (Public hearing: 06/12/2016)	Village: Moraiya, Ta. Sanand, Dist: Ah madabad.	The reason behind Paryavaran Mitra's intervention was demand by women's group "SanandMahila Vikas Sangthan, Sanand.
16.	M/s.Nisol Manufacturing Company Private Limited., (Public hearing: 07/12/2016)	Village: Jahaj, Dharmaj-Khambhat Road, Taluka: Khambhat, District: Anand	An observation from our intervention was that many industries were coming up to Khambhat from various places and villages and setting up their factories here. The area was more of an industrial zone and because of the Gulf area, it would be too easy for the industries to illegally discharge chemical effluents.
17.	M/s. AbhayLaminate LLP (Public hearing: 18/11/2016)	Village :Sokhada, Bahadurgadh Road, Ta. Morbi, Dist. Morbi.	Paryavaran Mitra decided to do an intervention in this case because there seemed to be increase in the number of Laminate companies, industries and units.
18.	The Ahmedabad Hand	Behrampura, Ta:	This was also a common

	Screen Association. (Public hearing: 08/11/2016)	Printing hearing:	Ahmedabad, Ahmedabad	Dist:	infrastructure end of pipe treatment project, a CETP which was going to serve almost 732 units and was located in core city area of Ahmedabad. The project was going to affect urban people living in Ahmedabad and effluent from micro,small & medium scale textile, hand screen printing and few small dyesblending/manufacturing units was going to be treated. It was necessary to intervene in this project as it may affect large group.
19.	M/s. Kutch Chemicals Industries Limited., (Public hearing: 08/11/2016)		at Survey No. 169, 170, 175, 190, 191 of Village: Varsana, Taluka: Anjar, District: Kutch		Kutch has seen a peak of industrialization around resulting in pollution and this was the reason why that Paryavaran Mitra decided to do an intervention.

Annexure II: List of interns during 2016-17

Sr. No.	Name of Interns	Gender	Name of Institute	Course	Internship Period
1.	Nikita Patel	F	Hemachandracharya North Gujarat University	BSW	01-07-16 to 25-07-16
2.	Parita Acharya	F	Hemachandracharya North Gujarat University	BSW	01-07-16 to 25-07-16
3.	Sheetal Katara	F	Maharaja Krishna Kumar Singhji, Bhavnagar University	MSW	20-07-16 to 19-08-16
4.	Sumitra Katara	F	Maharaja Krishna Kumar Singhji, Bhavnagar University	MSW	20-07-16 to 19-08-16
5.	Pragna Parmar	F	Maharaja Krishna Kumar Singhji,	MSW	20-07-16 to 19-08-16

			Bhavnagar University		
6.	Arti Vaghela	F	Maharaja Krishna Kumar Singhji, Bhavnagar University	MSW	20-07-16 to 19-08-16
7.	Prarthana Vaghela	F	Maharaja Krishna Kumar Singhji, Bhavnagar University	MSW	20-07-16 to 19-08-16
8.	Shilpa Gameti	F	Maharaja Krishna Kumar Singhji, Bhavnagar University	MSW	20-07-16 to 19-08-16
9.	Radha Dodiya	F	Maharaja Krishna Kumar Singhji, Bhavnagar University	MSW	20-07-16 to 19-08-16
10.	Chetna Nayi	F	Maharaja Krishna Kumar Singhji, Bhavnagar University	MSW	20-07-16 to 19-08-16
11.	Ranjan Lakhani	M	Krantiguru Krishna Shyamji Verma, Kachchh University	MSW	01-08-16 to 02-09-16
12.	Kusum Chauhan	F	Hemachandracharya North Gujarat University	MSW	21-11-16 to 21-12-16
13.	Minal Singhal	F	Hemachandracharya North Gujarat University	MSW	21-11-16 to 21-12-16
14.	Hardi Sukhadiya	F	Dr. S. & S.S. Gandhi Government Engineering college	B.E. (ENVIRONMENTAL)	27-05-16 to 20-06-16
15.	Raju Modhavadiya	M	Krantiguru Krishna Shyamji Verma, Kachchh University	MSW	16-01-17 to 15-02-17
16.	Kajal Solanki	F	Gujarat University	MSW	12-01-17 to 25-03-17
17.	Dharti Patel	F	Gujarat University	MSW	12-01-17 to 25-03-17
18.	Radha Bilvad	F	Gujarat University	MSW	12-01-17 to 25-03-17
19.	Payal Vaghela	F	Gujarat University	MSW	12-01-17 to 25-03-17
20.	Tushar Agarwal	M	MGLI, Gujarat University	MSW	17-01-2017 to 8-04-2017
21.	Manisha Jha	F	MGLI, Gujarat University	MSW	17-01-2017 to 8-04-2017

22.	Palak Solaiya	F	MGLI, University	Gujarat	MSW	17-01-2017 to 8-04-2017
23.	Pallavi Ghorpade	F	MGLI, University	Gujarat	MSW	17-01-2017 to 8-04-2017
24.	Rashmika Maru	F	MGLI, University	Gujarat	MSW	17-01-2017 to 8-04-2017

Annexure III: List of seminars/programs in which Paryavaran Mitra participated during 2016-17

Sr. No.	Name of Program	Venue	Date
1.	Speaker at “Bat Chit” organized by Anahad on environment status of Gujarat	Juhapura, Ahmedabad	12/05/2016
2.	Being member of Green Audit Committee of Nirma University, participated in member’s meeting	Nirma University	13/05/2016
3.	Tree Plamtation by IL&FS Engineering and Construction Committee Ltd.	Near Metro Station at Gyaspur	05/06/2016
4.	Speaker at SPIPA on “Gujarat (Right of Citizens to Public Service) Act 2013”	SPIPA, Ahmedabad	06/06/2016
5.	Meeting with AMC Director regarding Solid Waste Management at Pirana	AMC, Ahmedabad	15/06/2016
6.	Speaker at National Seminar orgained by Samarth on environmental issues in country and implementation of environmental law	EDI, Ahmedabad	23/06/2016
7.	Being member of Bio-medical waste Committee of Ahmedabad City, participating in meeting under the chairmanship of Collector	Collector Office, Ahmedabad	28/06/2016
8.	Lecture to students of Economics Department of Gujarat Vidhyapith on Environmental issue	Gujarat Vidhyapith, Ahmedabad	30/06/2016
9.	Participated in conference on “Silicosis” organized by NHRC	New Delhi	22/07/2016

10.	Participated in “International Pre BRICS Consultation at National Level 2016” Organized by Wada Na Todo Abhiyan	India Habitat Centre, Delhi	28-29/07/2016
11.	National Consultation on Energy – “Energy/Electricity in India: Current Status, Trends, Multi-Dimensional Transition, Possibilities and Challenges”	Bhopal (Pastoral Centre)	11-12/08/2016
12.	Pre BRICS Consultation Organized by VANI (Voluntary Action Network India)	Delhi	16-17/09/2016
13.	A full day lecture series on Environment, Human Resource and RTI at North Gujarat University, MSW students SETU program	North Gujarat University, Patan	19/07/2016
14.	High Level Meeting on AMR at UN General Assembly	UN Headquarters, NY	21/09/2016
15.	Strategy Meeting for Sweepers organized by Jan Sangrah Manch	Paldi	
16.	Speaker on “High Level Meeting on AMR” attended	Movement for Secular Democracy (MSD)	29/09/2016
17.	Program on Gandhi Jayanti organized by Nav Gujarat Samay	Kocharb Ashram, Paldi (Gandhi Birth Place)	02/10/2016

Annexure IV: Media coverage



Photo: media coverage on solid waste disposal system

5/12/2017

A 100 trees hacked on road to vibrant - Ahmedabad Mirror

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A 100 TREES HACKED ON ROAD TO VIBRANT

By Alok Brahm

Updated: Dec 17, 2016, 11:25 PM IST



Road widening is going on the 5-km stretch from Sargasan to Mahatma Mandir, venue for Vibrant summit

Gandhinagar is on a beautification overdrive. Preparations for Gujarat government's mega event to attract global investors have led to road widening, recarpeting and transforming the capital city in time for the Vibrant Summit next month. The casualty, however, has been full-grown trees that once gave Gandhinagar the tag of greenest capital city in the country. At least 100 trees have been cut to widen the 5-km stretch from Sargasan to Mahatma Mandir, venue for the summit, according to the Gandhinagar residents association.

A forest official too confirmed the figure on condition of anonymity. Giving face-lift to a nursery at the entrance to the city at Ch zero has also resulted in the felling of more than 15 full-grown trees and the cultivation of saplings has fallen from 5 lakh to 3.5 lakh. Felling of trees due to rapid urbanisation has reduced green cover and with concrete buildings emitting more heat, the result has been rise in temperature, according to

environmentalists. Confirming the cutting of trees, Arun Buch, president of Gandhinagar Vasahat Mandal said, "At least 100 trees have been hacked for road widening. More trees will be cut for development of railway station as well."

A forest official who is close to the development confirmed the number on condition of anonymity. Referring to the thousands of trees cut for construction of Mahatma Mandir, environmentalist Mahesh Pandya said, "Development is fine, but that should not be at the cost of environment. The reducing green cover over the years has resulted in rise in temperature." Questioning the rationale behind the road widening, Pandya said, "Cutting down trees to widen road seems impractical as there was no need. Last year for the prime minister's visit, all security checks were done and the road was freshly laid and wide enough to tackle the rush, then why is it being widened again."

According to environmental activist Anjana Nimavat, "Development should not destruct nature and there was no need to widen the road. The tree cover has gone down over the years and this is a big concern."

Trees axed in nursery, too

At Ch zero circle there was a nursery at the corner of Sector 2. According to forest officials, there were plans to relocate the nursery and develop the place into a garden after felling the trees. After much discussion, the nursery remains at the same place, but the forest department is now developing a garden there, for which around 15 full-grown trees have been hacked, an

<http://ahmedabadmirror.indiatimes.com/ahmedabad/cover-story/a-100-trees-hacked-on-road-to-vibrant/articleshow/56041221.cms>

1/5

Photo: Media coverage on tree cutting

5/12/2017

AMC cuts trees as '2-cr transplanter gathers dust - Top News - News | News Syndication | Content Syndication



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AMC cuts trees as '2-cr transplanter gathers dust

DNAHM103444 | 8/20/2016 | Author : Gargi R | WC :360 | City:Ahmedabad

Back

The one with state forest dept too rem aine unused for want of a driver

Ahmedabad: When it comes to spending public money on costly machines and equipment, no one can beat the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC). The AMC acquired two tree transplant machines, or tree spades, in 2010, for Rs2 crore; reportedly the first civic body to do so. Inspired by it, representatives from civic bodies in Mumbai, Indore, Pune, and Nagpur visited Ahmedabad for a closer look at the machine, with an intention to buy similar ones.

The AMC had acquired the tree spades hoping to transplant trees instead of chopping them for developmental works. However, in the past five years, the civic body has not transplanted a single tree. In fact, the parks and garden department recently gave the contract to chop 29 trees for road widening at Town Planning (TP) 42 in Gota area to a private player.

The trees — seven neem trees and the remaining all babul trees — were not more than 7 to 10 years old.

"We are not using the transplant machine because it needs repair," said Jignesh Patel, director of the parks and garden department, adding that the machine developed trouble because of non-use.

Notably, a similar machine of German technology was acquired by the state forest department in the same year as the AMC. That machine is now lying idle at its Gandhinagar office for lack of a driver.

Environmentalist Mahesh Pandya said, "The state department should have a policy for tree cutting. Cutting trees may be inevitable for development, but we should also ensure that we plant or transplant trees. It is sad that the civic body is not using the machine despite having one."

According to sources in the AMC, in the absence of a machine, the civic body is now giving permission to chop trees, if development works demand so.

Tree saviours

A tree spade has eight wings and can transplant any tree having a circumference of 90cm to 100cm. "Transplanting a tree is easy. One has to make a pit that can comfortably accommodate the roots. A tree that has been pulled out from its original place can easily be replanted and fixed in seven hours," said Jignesh Patel, director, AMC's parks and garden department.

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