

PEOPLES TRAINING AND RESEARCH CENTRE

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Report for the financial year 2012-2013.

Year 2012-13 was special for PTRC. PTRC was formally established in November, 1992. The year marked 20 yrs of its establishment. We decided to celebrate the occasion. We, on one hand wanted to look back over the past years, evaluate and present our report card to our supporters in particular, and Society in general and on the other hand express our gratitude to the supporters for their continued support which made our journey not only possible but bit comfortable.



A public meeting was organized in Vadodara on December 2 which was presided over by Dr. Dilip Mavlankar, Director, Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar and attended by over 100 participants from all walks of life. Other Guests of Honor were Sanjiv Pandita (AMRC, Hong Kong), Mr. Sugio Furuya (Japan), Dr. Jagdish Parikh (Ahmadabad) and Dr. Shyam Pingle (Ex-President, IAOH). Participants came from as far as Japan and Honk Kong while several OHS activists represented different Indian States. In Gujarat some representatives came as far as Dwarka. Meeting was a grand success.

On 2 & 3 December, Seminar on “Occupational Health Movement in India” was held.

Work among Agate workers:

During the year Khambhat project was supported by Sir Dorabjee Tata Trust. The support- Small grant- was available for the period August, 2011 to October, 2012. (<http://www.dorabjitatatrust.org/pdf/SDTTAR2012.pdf>)

Day Care Centre:

On April 1, 2006 we initiated Day care center for children of age group <5. The Centre is an initiative to protect children of Agate workers- particularly women workers- from lethal Silica dust. When the women workers (including widows) work on wheels to give shape to agate stones, they carry with them their little ones where the tiny tots used to get exposed to silica. We could continue



the centre with generous support we received from our donors. The Centre has capacity to serve 20 children. Centre has earned good reputation among the community. In last 6 yrs 87 children have taken advantage of the center. On 02/07/12 a function was organized to welcome the new comers and bid fare well to the outgoing children. Outgoing children were offered small gifts. Each month parents are invited for meeting. We could arrange picnic for children on 12-05-12 to

famous Kankaria Lake in Ahemdabad once during this period. 14 children and 04 staff joined the picnic.

Work With Silicosis sufferers:



Instead of 28 April, program to pay homage to the diseased workers- International Workers Memorial Day- was organized on May 1, Labor Day. Photographs of the workers died in last one year were garlanded by the family members. Jagdish Patel and others spoke on the occasion to express their solidarity with the bereaved families. Later, the victims and victim families joined rally to the Mamlatdar office in Khambhat, 3 km away in scorching heat. Memorandum was presented to the Mamlatdar. This was first ever rally by workers of Agate industry.

Cash Benefit:

We have been paying cash benefit to few identified individuals/families who have no other support. We supported 03 families during the year. In the report period we spent Rs. 4750/- in this program. After we linked needy families with Bhansali Trust, the Trust is helping 24 families with direct cash transfer.

Diagnosis & Treatment:

Weekly clinic: With the help of Sri Krishna Hospital (SKH), Karamsad and Cardiac Care Center (CCC), Khambhat we run weekly clinic for screening of exposed agate workers. Each Wednesday medical experts from Chest and TB dep't of SKH visit Shakarpur and examine patients. If needed, they refer patients for X-ray. X-rays are carried out at CCC free of charge. Later, X-rays are sent to SKH for diagnosis. Certificates are issued for the patients found suffering from Silicosis. PTRC field staff move around to locate exposed workers and encourage them to visit clinic. During the year 163 new patients were registered. 884 old patients attended the clinic in this period. We received 119 X-rays. 17 (14.28%) were found suffering from Silicosis. 727 patients were examined from 2007 to 31-03-13 out of which 229 were found suffering from Silicosis.

44 workers diagnosed to be suffering from Silicosis were issued health cards by health and family welfare department, Government of Gujarat in this period.

Health Education:



We organized 43 small group meetings in which 181 male and 107 female workers totaling 288 participated. 8 big meetings were organized in which 220 workers participated. In all 508 workers participated in the meetings. We also had one-to-one meetings with individual workers.

We organized one day training on 15-05-12 at Bochasan which was attended by 17 male and 8 female workers. Dr. Siraj Vohra of Anklav PHC and Jagdish Patel were faculties.

We distributed 200 copies of Kalmukho Silicosis, Gujarati booklet on Silicosis, 150 copies of Ghasiya-no-Ghar-Sansar, comic booklet on Silicosis, 25 copies of Survey report and 750 copies of leaflet giving information of clinic.

Silicosis deaths:



During April-12 to March-13, 11 (8 male + 3 female) confirmed deaths due to silicosis were reported. In immediate past two years-2011-12 & 2010-11 this number was 17 and 8 respectively.

Advocacy:

On 27 April Garib Kalyan Mela- a public meeting to give out benefits of Government schemes was organized by Govt. of Gujarat. Huge population was expected to attend the meeting to be presided over by Minister of Health as representative of State Government. We decided to set up a hoarding at the venue to draw the attention of general public as well administration. The hoarding, in Gujarati read: Save Agate industry, Get rid of Silicosis (*Akik udyog bachao, silicosis bhagao*)

Visitors:

1. Dr. Mayur, Ms.Neha and Mr.Apoorva visited Khambhat project on 23-05-12.
2. Dr.Niraj Pandit, Professor, Community Medicine, SBKS MIRC Sumandeep Uni, visited Khambhat project with 3 PG students on 14 September, 2012.
3. Mr.Govind Madhav, Program Officer, Sir Dorabjee Tata Trust, Mumbai visited Khambhat project on 19 October, 2012.
4. Group of students 2nd year Human Resource Management Course, Karve Institute of Social Service, Pune led by Ms.Chitra Rajuskar Maharashtra visited Khambhat project on 27 October, 2012.
5. Group of 8 activist from different parts of India visited Khambhat project on 4 December, 2012.
6. Jasson Overdroff, journalist working for US based Global Post (www.globalpost.com) visited Khambhat on 29 January, 2013.
7. Michael Mazgaokar, Terry Odendahl (CEO, Global Green Grants Fund, Hillary Byerly and Elizabeth Weinstein visited Khambhat project on 9 February, 2012. (Find their report here: <http://www.greengrants.org/2013/02/14/executive-director-terry-odendahl-reports-from-india/>)
8. Dr.J.R.Parikh, PTRC Trustee and ATIRA representative Sri Panchal visited Khambhat project on 12 March, 2013.

Inquiry/Research/Visits:

In May, 2011 we received request from a OHS expert to help patient of occupational lung disease. While following up with the case, we came across several of her colleagues who were suffering from similar lung disease following working briefly in dusty environment of a chemical factory



manufacturing polymers of Acrylic Acid. We prepared a report on based on our inquiry. Report was released at a press-conference organized at Ahemdabad on June 23, 2011. Press-conference was attended by victims and experts as well. Electronic and Print media covered it very well. We then sent a letter addressed to the Registrar, Gujarat High Court seeking intervention. Taking serious cognizance Honorable Court filed Sua-Motu PIL (86/2011) and issued notices to the Labor and Health departments of Government of Gujarat, National

Institute of Occupational Health and Corel Pharma-chem. We then, filed petition to allow us to join the petition as respondent. Petition was allowed. NIOH was instructed to examine existing workers of the unit which revealed that 33 of them had either occupational lung or liver sickness. The unit made changes in the technology to reduce dust levels. The Court also ordered Labor department to examine workers of all the hazardous units in the State. In this exercise, State found 3 more unit manufacturing same material and few workers affected. Petition is being heard. PTRC report was taken note of by science blog of NIOSH.

OSH Trainings/Meetings:



- ✓ On 3 October we organized to discuss Citizen's expectations and hopes from Gujarat State Budget for the year 2013-14 in collaboration with Pathey Budget Center at Hotel President, Baroda. 32 participants from voluntary organizations in Baroda, Anand and Panchmahal districts.



- ✓ On October 20 we organized meeting to discuss working conditions of agate workers at Khambhat. Madhavlal Shah High School offered its hall and other facilities to be used. Meeting was attended by 40 participants including eminent local political leaders from both major political parties of Gujarat- INC and BJP, NGO

representatives, medical experts, Trade unions reps, school teachers, journalists and agate workers. Initially Jagdish Patel presented results of the survey PTRC carried out. Then platform was open for discussion. Sukhdev Patel (Director, GANATAR) was of the view that it must be examined how many agate workers were benefited from the Garib Kalyan Mela

organized by Government of Gujarat. Several others expressed their views. Report of the meeting is prepared in Gujarati and distributed widely through its news bulletin SALAMATI

Advocacy:

- On 27 April Garib Kalyan Mela- a public meeting to give out benefits of Government schemes was organized by Govt. of Gujarat. Huge population was expected to attend the meeting to be presided over by Minister of Health as representative of State Government. We decided to set up a hoarding at the venue to draw the attention of general public as well administration. The hoarding, in Gujarati read: Save Agate industry, Get rid of Silicosis (*Akik udyog bachao, silicosis bhagao*)
- On 27 April, we presented memorandum to Sri Jay Narayan Vyas, Minister for Health & Family welfare, Govt. of Gujarat. Though our request for meeting was not granted by the administration, we presented the memorandum through local politician when minister was about to leave after public meeting.
- On June 1, we visited Taluka Development officer Ms. Krishna Vaghela in Khambhat.
- Again on 4 July we visited newly appointed TDO Ms. Shital Goswami. She was joined by Dy.DDO and Dr. Fernandez, In-charge, TB clinic.
- Visited Industry Commissioner, Govt. of Gujarat, Gandhinagar on 16 May, 2013-09-22
- Visited GJEPC, Gujarat Chapter President Sri Chandrakant Sanghvi on 25 May.
- Visited Sri Shankarsinh Vaghela, Leader of Opposition in Gujarat State Assembly on 14 March, 2013.

Legal work:

- ❖ We are following up with NHRC for the complaints we have filed for relief to the families of the workers who died of silicosis. In April, 2013 we filed new complaint for 11 deaths. Complaints filed by us are as under:

NO	Complaint no.	Number of deaths	Location
1	351/2010	45	Khambhat
2	511/2010	05	Khambhat
3	1365/2010	03	Khambhat
4	739/2011	07	Khambhat
5	1121/2011	06	Khambhat
6	174921012	06	Khambhat
7	592/2013	11	Khambhat
8	212/2010	09	Dahod
9	334/2010	03	Dahod
10	499/2010	04	Bharuch
11	1012/2011	05	Dahod
12	260/2011	87*	Chhotaudepur, Dist:Vadodara

*Silicosis positive-not dead

- ❖ Suo Motu petition 86/2011 filed by Gujarat High Court following our letter to the Court bore good results. In its interim order Honorable Court passed its first judgment in November, 2011. It asked National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmadabad to examine existing workers. Accordingly, NIOH examined the workers and submitted its report to the Court. As per the report, 33 were suffering from either occupational lung disease or from occupational liver problem. The Court ordered Company to give them rest, provide free treatment, protect their pay and reinstate them when their condition improves. Jagdish Patel filed one more affidavit in April, 2012 drawing attention of the Court on the past workers of the factory who have died and those who are suffering. Later, the factory filed affidavit that they have installed exhaust system to reduce dust exposure to workers. Facility was inspected by the experts of NIOH and approved when the respondent Factory was discharged from the petition by its order in June 2012.
- ❖ In our applications in Medical Appeal Tribunal, Hon'ble Tribunal ordered ESIC to send Mr.Kalupuri Goswami (Application no.3/12), Mr.Shankar Parmar (Application no.2/12) and Mr.Parasnath Saroj (Application no.16/01) to Special Medical Board for assessment of their disability. We are now waiting for ESIC to execute the order.
- ❖ Special Medical Board examined 6 victims of Chromium toxicity- Suryasinh Chauhan, Maniram Yadav, Prahlad Vaidya, Dinesh Jadav, Jagailal Verma and Ashok Ajmeri- at its meeting at Ahmadabad on 11 June, 2012. All were given disability percent in the range of 5-15%.



- ❖ Long battle for compensation for the family of Late Kallu Bijiya who died of Silicosis ended in June when his father Bijiyabhai was paid first installment of dependent benefit.
- ❖ We filed application in ESI Court on behalf of Mr.Radhyshyam Kahar. The application has been accepted.

- ❖ Our application in Anand Labor Court under Workmen Compensation Act is progressing well. During the year Medical Expert and applicant were cross examined by the respondent.
- ❖ Affidavits were filed during the year by Khumsing Fata (Complaint no.12/8), Kamila Fata (Complaint no.13/8), Magan Kheta (Complaint no.17/8), Soka Harji (Complaint no.28/8), Virsing Joti (Complaint no.18/8), Lalsing Kamol (Complaint no.16/8), Menaben Nandu (Complaint no.20/8) and Jaswant Manji (Complaint no.19/8). They all were cross examined. IN case of Subhash Soka and Menaben Damor amendment applications were filed.



Presentations/ Lectures:

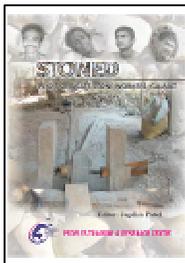
- Delivered lecture on 13-05-12 on OHS before construction workers at a training organized by Bandhkam Mazdoor Sangathan at Baroda
- Delivered lecture on OHS before group of workers of Indian Rayon, Veraval at training organized by their Union at Baroda on 3 June, 2013
- Delivered lecture before students of Law College, Palanpur on 31 August, 2012.
- Delivered lecture before visiting group of students of 2nd year Human Resource Management Course, Karve Institute of Social Service, Pune, Maharashtra at Baroda on 26 October, 2012.

- Delivered lecture before students of International Honors Program – a program for students of American Universities at Ahmadabad on 4 January, 2013.



- Delivered lecture before students of IIPH, Gandhinagar on 16 January, 2013.
- Delivered presentation at international workshop on Basic Occupational Health Services titled- “BOHS: My Role, My Goal.” organized jointly by SCOHDev (ICOH’s Scientific Committee on Occupational Health & Development) & Indian Association of Occupational Health proudly present at Bangalore on 22 January, 2013.
- Delivered lecture before students of Master in Labor Welfare, Gujarat University on 5 February, 2013.
- Delivered presentation at Medico Friend Circle Annual meeting on the theme “Work, Health and Rights” on 8-9 February, 2013.
- Delivered lecture before students and faculties of Indian Inst. of Rural management (IRMA), Anand on 20 Feb. 2012

Publications:



- ✚ In May, 2012 we published report of our study of conditions of agate workers of Khambhat in Gujarati as well as English bearing titles respectively “*Majbut Patthar, Majbur Majur*” and “*Stoned*” Vice Chancellor of Gujarat Vidyapeeth Sri Sudarshan Ayengar wrote preface.
- ✚ In May, 2012 Parichay Trust, Mumbai published its booklet no.1278 on Occupational Health written by Jagdish Patel. Parichay Trust is active since last 54 years which publish 24 booklets in a year to introduce different subjects to its subscribers.
- ✚ During the year we published 6 issues of SALAMATI- our Gujarati bimonthly newsletter. 600 copies are printed out of which 350 are posted while rest are distributed during meetings, programs.

Attended:

- Meeting of ESI Dispensary No.15 advisory committee at ADMS Office on 12-04-12.
- Meeting organized by Construction Workers Union jointly with Contractor Association and Builder Association at MGLI, Ahemdabad on 28 April, 2012
- Meeting on Universal Health Care at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai on 10-11 May, 2012.
- Meeting at Ahmadabad on 4 June to discuss CAG report organized by several NGOs.
- Meeting of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan at Sewa Rural, Jhagadia on 13 July, 2012



- Meeting of Medico Friend Circle at Bhimtal, Uttarakhand on 21-22 July, 2012
- Regional Workshop on Occupational Lung Diseases organized by Asia Monitor Resource Center at Hong Kong on 9-11 August, 2012
- Meeting on Pharmaceutical

industry organized by Raman Consultants and CUTS International at Ahmadabad on 11 September, 2012.

- Meeting on Universal Health Care organized by JSA at Ahmadabad on 13 October, 2012.
- Meeting to discuss plan of chapters for the State of the urban Youth India 2012 Report organized by IRIS Knowledge Foundation, Vashi, Mumbai on 3 November, 2012 and again on 17-18 January, 2013.
- Meeting on Climate Change organized by Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar at Ahmadabad on December 13, 2012.



- Alongwith 5 agate workers and one staff member, meeting of silicosis victims organized by Occ. & Env. Health Network India at Khajuraho on 24-25 Feb. 2013.
- Attended Silver Jubilee function organized by M/s.Trivedi Associates at Vadodara on 2 March, 2013.
- Jagdish Patel attended training organized by Confederation of Indian

Industries on 7-8 March, 2013.

PTRC IN MEDIA:



In print media 18 times our story was carried by dailies like Indian Express, Times of India, Divya Bhaskar, Sandesh, Gujarat Samachar, Charotarno Awaj, Naya Padkar, Gujarat Guardian and Sardar Gurbhari as listed below:

No	News paper	Date	Title
1	1-05-12	Divya Bhaskar	Representation before Minister
2	2-05-12	Sandesh	Memorandum

			presented to Mamlatdar
3	10-05-12	Times of India	May day rally by Agate workers
4	21-05-12	Sardar Gurjari	Agate workers leading life full of struggle
5	03-08-12	Sardar Gurjari	Relief for the workers dying of Silicosis
6	18-0-12	Divya Bhaskar	Silicosis victims to get relief
7	5-10-12	Sandesh	2 Silicosis victims die in Khambhat
8	5-10-12	Naya Padkar	2 Silicosis victims die in Khambhat
9	5-10-12	Charotar no Awaj	2 Silicosis victims die in Khambhat; More 12 struggling with life
10	5-10-12	Divya Bhaskar	2 Silicosis victims die in Khambhat
11	21-10-12	Sardar Gurjari	Seminar organized to discuss problems of Agate workers
12	22-10-12	Divya Bhaskar	Workers take risk of life for Rs.2000/-
13	25-10-12	Times Of India	Khambhat Agate workers living in bitter condition
14	11-01-13	Times Of India	NGO flays Govt. over disaster Management
15	17-01-13	Indian Express	Silicosis: Govt. delays implementation of compensation scheme
16	19-01-13	Sandesh	Death toll reaches 26:2 more dies of silicosis in Khambhat
17	30-01-13	Guj.Guardian	Feature Article: Akik ni chamak ma Murzayeli Jindagi
18	21-03-13	Global Post (Daily published from US)	How shiny Agate stones are killing workers

Our Supporters:

- Institutional funding from Asia Monitor Resource Center: ₹ 3,55,560.00
- Individual donors:

NO	Name	Amount in ₹
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1	M/s.Sure Safety	05,000.00
2	M/s. Dushyant Dalal	50,000.00
3	Mr.V.L.Patel	25,000.00
4	Dr.J.R.Parikh	15,000.00
5	Sri Jaydev Gukulgandhi	02,501.00
6	Ms.Hina Gokulgandhi	02,501.00
7	Sri Kaushik Raval	00,100.00
8	Ms.Vasuben Gokani	02,500.00
9	M/s.Unisafe Services	10,000.00
10	Dr.H.N.Syed	05,000.00
11	Dhiru Mistry	00,500.00
12	Dr.D.N.Andhare	05,000.00
13	Ramesh K.Patel	10,000.00
14	Mahendra R.Trivedi	08,011.00
15	Dr.Yogindra Samant	10,000.00
16	Ms.Chitra Rajuskar	01,750.00
17	Ms.Nirali Trivedi	10,672.00
18	Sri Rashmikant Patel	05,336.00
	Total	1,69,871.00

FINANCES:

During the year 2012-13, we received grants/donations ₹.5,40,338/- including interest against which we spent ₹. 5,97,923/-

OUR TEAM:

Ours is a very small but dedicated team. At Baroda office I am assisted by Niranjana who looks after Accounts.

At Khambhat Office, we have team of 4 which includes Jayesh Dave (Coordinator), Ms.Naina Vaghela (Day Care), Ms.Manjula Rathod (Day Care), Ms.Umme Salma (Day Care) and Ramesh Makawana (Field worker).



