

*JANPATH'S*  
*ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT*

*APPROVED BY:*

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Reporting period: April 2003 to March 2004

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## **Preface:**

I have the pleasure to present to you the 15<sup>th</sup> annual report of Janpath for the year 2003-2004.

For the last few years Gujarat has been facing strong natural and social upheavals. Janpath got heavily involved in relief and rehabilitation work through its network. While these upheavals have subsided, their aftermath continue to demand attention. This work of tying up loose ends, to continue to work towards getting compensations and justice for the victims is in some way more difficult because it is less spectacular, more mundane and less emotion evoking. World's attention get diverted to other matters, Janpath amidst this rather discouraging circumstances continues to work for more lasting benefits in Kutch of justice for the victims of communal riots, and towards social for harmony along with partners and associates.

Besides networking and advocacy work as its ongoing programmes as well as extending various kinds of support to its member organisations detailed in what follows, Janpath earnestly considered the newly emerging challenges to the voluntary sector. The general body of Janpath, its Niyamak Samiti and its Karobari as well as through participation in other relevant forums, Janpath considered the changing character of voluntarism, the strong currents of communalism and parochialism in the society, the effects of globalisation at the grass-roots and the state's hard-line attitude towards voluntary organisations.

The issue of globalisation and its concomitant globalisation syndrome – privatisation of even common property natural resources, liberalisations adversely affecting the organised and non organised labour force of the country, emphasis on 'results' rather than 'processes', profit culture, survival of the fittest, the great deal of weightage on payments for services, the "viability" ideology sometimes resulting into the neglect of less viable or unviable social services such as public distribution of essential goods, to the poor - all these issues have been continuously discussed at various levels in Janpath.

There is also the very major matter of the extensive disenchantment with voluntary sector sometimes the politics and bureaucracy openly deriding them as "Five Stars" outfits. The near subhuman conditions of the marginalised groups in the state such as salt pan workers and Maldharis, for whom Janpath has been working for last few years, continue to pose the tough challenges.

Janpath has within its very limited manpower and financial resources taken on these challenges along with its member organizations, and also contributed to the efforts of other activists. You will find some details in the pages that follow. But Janpath needs to work more rigorously on these challenges. For this, it not only needs the support and participation of its members but the solidarity of the concerned citizens at large.

Anil Bhatt

President

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> June 2004

# *PART B*

## *Internal Organisation:*

*Shri Indukumar Jani* sought early stepping down from the post of the president of Janpath due to personal reasons. The first executive committee meeting held after the AGM in September 2003 selected **Prof Anil Bhatt** as the new president.

### **Janpath has four layered organisational structure**

#### THE GENERAL BODY

Consists of all the members of JANPATH and meets once a year. It is the highest body of the organization and all important decisions have to be ratified by it.

NIYAMAK SAMITI (Advisory Council for Policy directions) consists of one fifth of total number of members: Tenure of its members is one year. One cannot seek re-nomination till all members of Janpath have had one chance in the first round. Meets twice a year to discuss and approve major decisions and give directions to the organisation..

#### KAROBARI SAMITI (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)

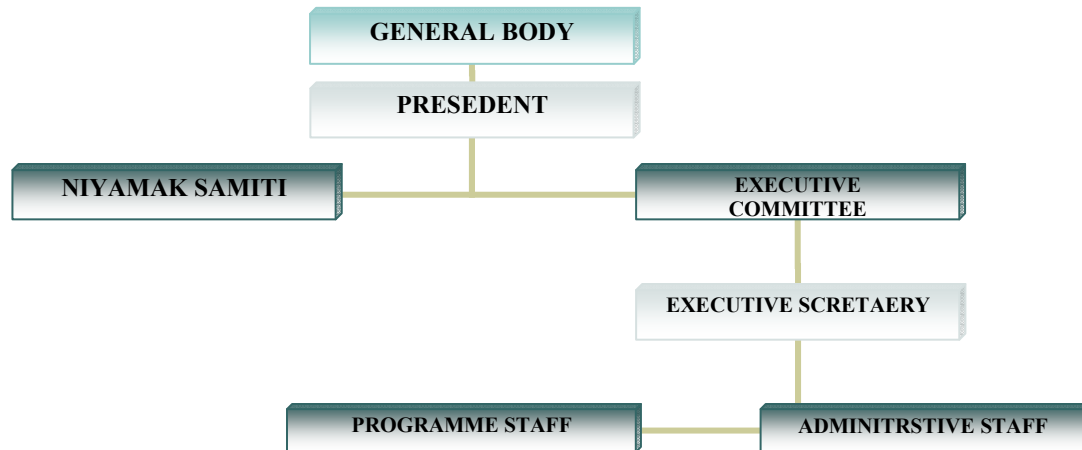
Consists of four members elected or nominated by the General Body. Additionally, one member is co-opted by the executive committee. Past presidents of the organization, and some academicians-activists also participate as permanent invitees. One member retires by rotation every year. Every four-years the E.C. has a completely new set of members. Meets at least once in two months or more frequently if required. The committee takes all the administrative decisions monitors and reviews the works.

#### THE PRESIDENT

Head of the organization. His/her tenure is four years. Presides over and conducts the Niyamak and Karobari Samiti meetings.

## THE SECRETARIAT

Consists of administrative, field and research staff, headed by the Executive Secretary, responsible for all activities and for running of the organisations.



### 1. *Janpath Executive Committee 2003-2004*

Name	Organization
1. Anil Bhatt	Individual
2. Devuben Pandya	Mahiti
3. Indukumar Jani	Naya Marg
4. Prasad Chako	Behavioural Science Centre.
5. Premji Patel	Vrukshprem Sewa Trust
<b>Invitees:</b>	
1. Harshad Desai	Individual, ex. president of Janpath
2. Harinesh Pandya	Secretary, Janpath
3. Rajesh Shah	SAVE; ex. president of Janpath
4. Sudarshan Iyengar	Centre for Social Studies, Surat; sp. invitee
5. Sukhdev Patel	Ganatar
6. Vipul Pandya	Bandhkam Mazdoor Sangathan

## **II. Niyamak Samiti** (*Advisory Committee*)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1. Amarsinh Gohil	Nirman Trust
2. Anil Patel	Arch-Vahini
3. Anil Bhatt	Individual
4. Batuk Vora	Individual
5. Bhikhubhai Vyas	Vedchhi Pradesh Seva Samiti
6. Devuben Pandya	Mahiti
7. Dharmendra Kumar	Yusuf Meharali Centre
8. Dipak Bhatt	Swarajdeep
9. Harshad Desai	Individual, ex. president of Janpath
10. Hausalaprasad Mishra	Kamdar Swasthya Suraksha Mandal
11. Ms. Indiraben Hirve	Individual
12. Indukumar Jani	Naya Marg
13. Karshan Bharwad	Samaz Turst
14. Dr. Kaushik Raval	Individual
15. Ms. Kokilaben Trivedi	Pathik
16. Dr. Nitin Gurjar	Individual
17. Ms. Neeta Hardikar	Anandi
18. Prasad Chako	Behavioral Science Center.
19. Premji Patel	Vrukshprem Sewa Trust
20. Rajendra Desai	Individual
21. Rajesh Bhatt	Ahmedabad Study Action Group
22. Rajesh Shah	SAVE; ex. president of Janpath
23. Ms. Roshanben Shekh	Mahila Patchwork Co-operative Society
24. Sudarshan Iyengar	Gujarat Inst. of Development Research (GIDR); sp. invitee
25. Sukhdev Patel	Ganatar
26. Ms. Vijayaben Sheth	Saraswatam
27. Ms. Vimalaben Kharadi	Disha – Himmatnagar
28. Vinubhai Gandhi	Manav Vinu Trust
29. Vipul Pandya	Bandhkam Mazdoor Sangathan

### *III. Decision Making Process Within Janpath:*

The Karobari Samiti ('Executive Committee), consisting of five regular plus five invitees, takes all administrative decisions on the basis of the agenda presented by the Secretary, as also about any matter raised independently by the members. It also monitors the working and reviews the progress of the organisation. It prepares & proposes new programmes, activities and approaches on the considerations of the Niyamak Samiti and the General Body

The Secretary is its executive or implementing arm. He/she conducts the office-administration as well as the programs in the field. In matters of personnel and finance, including major material facilities he/she is advised by the Personnel and Finance Committee.

The Niyamak Samiti is the Advisory Council for providing general guidelines on issues worth taking up, or direction of our policies. At present it has 29 members (one fifth of the total), which is fairly representative of the general body and considers various approaches and opinions on all important issues in the state of Gujarat. It deliberates for about eight to ten hours spread over four sessions in about 24 hours including an overnight stay at the venue. Local activists of the region also remain present and are quite interested to see such a unusual of gathering worrying about people's problems.

### *IV. Meeting of the three bodies of Janpath in 2003-04.*

#### *a. General Body Meeting:*

The **AGM** was held on 20-21<sup>st</sup> September 2003, at Seva Dal Academy – Mehamadabad. The theme of the Annual meet was “**Changing Development context in Gujarat and Role of Voluntary Organizations**” All together 125 member organisations attended the convention and actively participated in the discussion held during two days. The brief of the discussions are as follows:

- Member expressed their deep concerned on the impact on marginalised groups of changing macro socio-economic and political environment in the state, and also the need to understand and respond to it.



- Our response and directions should be based on sound understanding of the external environment, thus we need to undertake collective learning processes on this subject.
- Such processes would establish greater vertical and horizontal linkages among VO's and CBO's and individuals associated with voluntary sector.
- Janpath being a state level network will be able to contribute to the emerging need of the sector by initiating learning forums/ discussions/ debates on various dimensions of topics in relation with globalisation, privatisation and liberalisation.

### ***b. Executive Committee Meetings:***

During the year, the Executive Committee held five meetings to plan out different programmes and to address administrative concern. Members also shared their concerns on effective and collaborative role of member organisations, Credibility Alliance and Globalisation and Challenges before Voluntary Sector.

### ***c. Advisory Council (Niyamak Samiti) meetings:***

- Advisory Council of Janpath met on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2003 at Gujarat Khetvikas Parishad- Ahmedabad for a day. The main topics of discussion were 'Credibility Alliance - National Process and Janpath' & Impact of Globalisation on Voluntary Sector of Gujarat.
- In all fourteen members attended the meeting. Members talked at length about the reforms in revenue related laws that are affecting marginalised farmers and decided to gather information and data about the incidence of land acquisitions by the corporate farmers, MNCs or by local money lenders.
- The lands of costal belt of Gujarat are acquired at high rates due to growing port economy and communities are forced to migrate elsewhere. Secondly there is a large scale interstate migration of labourers in this region. These workers being unorganised, are subjected to various types of exploitation.
- Members also discussed the status of credibility Alliance of NGO's programme at national level and its status in Gujarat. It was decided that Janpath would encourage its members to follow the norms of the credibility Alliance. A suggestion was made that

Janpath should also undertake series of programmes on Good Governance/internal governance of Voluntary organisations in its next programme period.

## **V. Our Associates**

At the end of financial year 2003-2004, Janpath has 125 Organisational and 76 individual members on its list. During the reporting period we invited three organisations as listed below to join Janpath and all of them have become our members.

1. Ahmedabad Muslim Women Association – Ahmedabad
2. Bhasha –Vadodara
3. Yusuf Meherali Centre - Bhadrashwar – Kutch

## **VI. Janpath Team:**

**President:** Anil Bhatt

**Secretary & Programme co-ordinator:** Harinesh Pandya

**Administrative Staff:**

Haresh Bhatt

Ms. Dhara Patel

Ms. Kapila Parmar

Parabhat Rana

**Programme Staff:**

Sachin Patel

Imtiyaz Mansuri

Bhimdev Vala

Ms. Pankti Jog

## **VIII. Staff Development Efforts**

- ↪ One member attended Seven Days training programme conducted by **National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development(NIPCCD) at New- Delhi** on Governance in Voluntary Sector
- ↪ One member attended Two-Day training Programme on Project Management conducted by Ahmedabad Management association.
- ↪ Three members attended World Social Forum Event held at Mumbai during 16<sup>th</sup> 21 January 2004
- ↪ One member represented Janpath in the national level workshop organised by V.V. Giri Institute- Noida, at Tuticorin on the subject of Salt Pan Workers.

## ***IX .Financial Situation:***

During the year 2003-2004 Janpath received funds from following agencies:

1. HIVOS (Financial Reports are attached herewith)
2. Ministry of social Justice and Empowerment – New- Delhi

## *Part C*

### *Activity report:*

#### *I. Networking - Connecting people across the sector*

##### *a. RAHBAR – A monthly programme of sharing the experiences of member organizations*

‘RAHBAR’, means ‘the one who shows the path’. This programme facilitates the exchange of knowledge among our partners. Wherein, every month one of the member organisations is invited to share its knowledge, experiences, learning and achievements. A brief note about the organisations that would make presentation is circulated beforehand to more than 400 organisations and individuals all over the state. The presentation, not merely in formal method, brings out the journey of an organisation since beginning, the insights from the grass roots, the challenges faced by organizations, and its relevance in the new economic surroundings. The presentation is followed by questions answer session. The participants are leaders and middle level workers of various voluntary organisations, activists and journalists. This programme has proved to be very useful for the knowledge and information for young cadre in the voluntary sector. It also updates people about the development and struggle activities of organisations across the state of Gujarat. Occasionally, as follow up participants get in touch with each others for initiating new programme, building more active and substantive linkages and drawing support from each other. It also strengthens solidarity among member organisations. This year following organisations made presentations on their work.

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Name of the organisations Invited for introduction</b>	<b>Date of the Programme</b>	<b>Areas of working</b>
1	Vruksha Prem Seva Trust - Upleta	26/4/2003	Water conservation & rain Water

			harvesting Systems
2	Seva Rural - Zagadia - Part I	21/6/2003	Health, Livelihood support to marginalised community in Zagadia district and employment and oriented training, job placement of poor rural youth.
3	Seva Rural - Zagadia - Part II	16/8/2003	
4	Swati - Dhangadhra	12/7/2003	Women Empowerment
5	Vedchhi Padesh Seva Samiti	26/7/2003	Primary Education
6	Behavioural Science Centre - Ahmedabad	23/8/2003	Social discrimination, Human Rights
7	Vichar Valonu Manav Vikas kendra	29/11/2003	Perspective building and sensitization
8	Sahayog Kustha Seva Yagnya Trust - Sabarkantha	27/12/2003	Treatment and rehabilitation of leprosy affected people.
9	Ganatar Part I	31/1/2004	Elementary Education for the children of Migrant community, Child Rights
10	Ganatar - Part II		
11	Vikas Sanstha - Ahmedabad - Part I	27/3/2004	Human Rights, economic empowerment of marginalized community.
12	<b>Vikas Sanstha - Ahmedabad - Part II</b>	<b>22/04/2004</b>	

Proceedings of Rahbar are regularly reported in Janpath's newsletter, Samachar Sankalan.

### *b. Exposure Visits*

During the year 2003-2004 we had conducted three exposure tours. The themes of the tours were, Organic Farming, Women participation in Developmental issues and models of water harvesting and conservation. The objective behind conducting such tours is to promote replication of successful efforts model interventions in developmental field and also to build linkages between the established organisations and the small emerging groups in the sector. These visits have been very useful. Several organisations have taken up new programmes in their areas such as organic farming and water harvesting. Sometimes at the request, of the participating organisations follow-up workshops as in the case of organic farming have been organised.

**First visit: Water harvesting and conservation models.**

**Date:** 14th – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2003

**Organizations visited:**

1. Aga Khan Research Study Programme – Sayala taluka of Surendranagar District
2. Vruksh Prem Seva Trust – Jam Kadorana Taluka of Rajkot district
3. Gram Vikas Trust – Dwarka - Jamnagar District

The northern western districts of Gujarat received good monsoon last year. Considerable work is being done on water conservation in these districts. The organizations visited during the tour have significantly contributed to this work, by mobilizing fifty percent resources within the community for constructing these structures.

The participants were inspired by the interactive sessions organized with the community to learn how watershed schemes of the government can turn into a model for community participation in development and some have undertaken these activities.

### **Second Visit: Various models of Organic Farming & marketing**

**Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> September 2003 to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2003

#### **Organizations and individuals visited during the tour:**

1. **Agriculture University - Anand district**
2. **Jatan Organization – Vadodara**
3. **Gram Seva Samaj – Vyara**
4. **Gandhi Veedyapith – Vedchhi**
5. **Bhaskarbhai Save – an individual Farmer**

Farming has become non viable activity with increasing cost of the inputs in it. But an organization like JATAN at Vadodara has set an example that farming done in an eco-friendly manner is not only cost effective but a significant way for sustainable development. Participants visited various models of organic farming, learnt about certain techniques of organic farming of pesticides, manure etc from the experts, and also discussed about the scientific aspect behind the concept of organic farming. As a request by the participants of this tour, we conducted a two-day workshop for the participants to discuss the principles and practices of Organic farming. It is not merely a farming using organic manure, but a concept for sustainable, eco-friendly development. This lead several participants to propagate and start work on organic farming in their areas. Janpath participated in organizing ‘Organic Food Festivals’ in three major cities of Gujarat, namely Ahmedabad, Vadodara and Rajkot and received good response.

### **Third Visit: Women’s Participation in Village development.**

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2004

**Organizations Visited:**

1. SWATI – Dhangadhra Taluka of Surendranagar District
2. GANATAR – Patadi Taluka of Surendranagar District
3. ANANDI – Maliya Taluka of Rajkot District
4. Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan – Mandvi Taluka of Kutch District

We had chosen four organizations that have organized thousands of rural women under the programme of ‘self help groups’ but have empowered them with ideas, knowledge, self confidence to address the regional issues.

Through this tour, we could build linkages between the remote & interior regions of the state having crucial social, caste, and gender biases (like in some talukas of Bharuch and Kutch district) and such women’s groups that have created the space and scope for prime concerns of their regions.

***C. Knowledge Dissemination through Samachar Sankalan***

Samachar Sankalan, Janpath’s Monthly news bulletin in Gujarati, highlights prominent current issues, announcement of the future programs and reports of programs carried out by Janpath as well as its member organizations and circulated among our associates, friends and well-wishers all over Gujarat, broadcasting the information and bringing in the reflections from the society in the responses from various sectors.

The bulletin also includes articles, on the concerns for voluntary sector such as policy formulated by the planning commission for voluntary sector, campaign for credibility alliance, globalisations and its impact on the voluntarism etc.

***e. Publications:***

This year we came out with two publications

1. APNO MAHITINO ADHIKAR (OUR RIGHT TO INFORMATION): A booklet on Right to Information and developmental issues. This booklet is prepared as part of the

resource material prepared for the regional stakeholder workshops conducted by Janpath during 2003-2004 on Right to information issue in context of Gujarat.

2. MATADAR MARGDARSHIKA (VOTERS GUIDE): Booklet appeals voters to use their right of voting to elect proper person as their leader. It gives detail information about voter's right to know about the candidate financial and educational background. It also talks about various laws through which misbehaviour at the polling booth or violation of the Elections code of conduct of can be prohibited. This booklet was widely circulated among our member organisation which then were used for orientation of voters during for Panchayat as well as assembly elections

### ***f. Awareness and Advocacy Efforts through Media:***

Janpath considers mass Media as important stakeholder in the process of encouraging civil society participation in the matter relating to developmental affairs of the country. We use this medium for educating and sensitising larger society on the marginalised groups. Janpath continuously attempts through its associates like regular column writers, journalists, editors of certain well known magazines like "Naya Marg" to discuss and highlight prime issues in their write ups. Janpath supplies them with materials ad information wherever required. During the year almost 12 articles were published on the editorial pages on the subjects of Salt pan workers, policy for voluntary sector, governance in the voluntary sector, electoral reforms, Right to Information etc.

## ***II. Concern Issues:***

### ***a. Agariya:***

Gujarat produces 70% of the salt of the country. The labour force, the saltpan workers or 'Agarias' as they are locally known, are in substantial numbers. According to the latest report by the Salt commissioner, the number of saltpan workers in Gujarat is 1,04,000. The Agariyas are very poor, work under tremendous hardships and live virtually sub-human life.

**Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch** promoted by Janpath is a forum of the voluntary organizations, CBO's and individuals associated with the issue of saltpan workers. This



forum is an extension of the working group formed by Janpath on the issue of Agariya (salt pan workers) in the year 2000. The problems of saltpan workers are complex and extensive. Not much progress has been achieved in the welfare programmes of Agariyas inspite of substantial funds from the government, in addition to the programmatic efforts from some voluntary organizations. During the series of working group meeting organized by Janpath, this concern was deeply shared. All the organizations, individuals working in the salt producing districts/ talukas and the representatives of the Agariya community were then involved to share their data, experiences, and Research studies on various aspects of the problems of this much neglected but numerically substantial community. Based on this information Janpath first published a memograph detailing the condition and problems of Agariyas. 'Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch' conducted series of regional consultations. The charter of demands was then prepared which contained:

- 1. Each Self Employed Agariya (Salt Worker) shall be allotted 10 acres of land for salt production.**
- 2. Government shall constitute a separate welfare board for saltpan workers, Agariya Kalyan Board. All existing welfare schemes of the government, scattered in different departments, be brought under the proposed welfare board.**

Janpath representatives and Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch then met the concern department of the ministry to rigorously advocate on the above demands. After several serious discussions with the Industry commissioner and The Minister for the Industry, government recognized the significance of the two demands in context of the sustainable development of the Agariya community. Government has already recognized the work of Janpath and is consulting Janpath organisation on various issues of welfare and development of this group.

### ***b. Right to Information***

Though Gujarat has been considered among the progressive states, it has not legislated the right to information. This lack of information became eminently evident during the series of natural and social disasters that has struck the state in the last few years. During recent earthquake, coordination centres established by Janpath Citizen's Initiative provided information about packages of relief and rehabilitation in the community was of great help to the victims. On the other hand during communal violence, wrong information spread by the

media and the political leaders destroyed mutual faith and harmony among the communities in many parts of Gujarat.

Janpath in collaboration with member organisations 'Anandi', 'Disha', 'Save', and few others conducted several workshops/ seminars on Right to Information in different areas of the state and with different stakeholders like media, students (Journalism and Sociology), community based groups, Gram Panchayat members, self help groups, legal aid centres etc.

This year we conducted two regional workshops and three seminars on Right to information in context of the local issues of Northern, central and south Gujarat. The objective of the workshops/seminars is to get awareness about importance of information flow as an important component in the development and to mobilize support for action.

This series of programmes has developed linkages between different stakeholders in the development issues. For e.g. In North Gujarat, an independent forum called Uttar Gujarat Vikas Manch came into being as a result of these efforts and is being supported by Janpath. The forum is seeking to collect and collate information on various development issues in North Gujarat.

### **C. *Akik (agate) Workers***

Khambhat region of Kheda district of Gujarat is known for semi-precious stones - AGATE (AKIK) - polishing. SILICOSIS has become major occupational disease among the workers of AKIK stones leading to high incidence of lung diseases and early mortality. The 'LIC of India' insured about sixty workers for Rs. 10,000/- at the premium of Rs. 30, but finding the death rate too high, next year it withdrew the collective insurance scheme. Janpath has been working on Akik (Agate) workers health issue since last seven years. We had done comprehensive study of the AKIK workers and their occupational health problems and initiated several activities including identification of better stone polishing machine. Factory owners were prevailed upon to buy those better machines. In continuation of that, this year also large-scale awareness programmes like essay writing competitions in schools, street plays, stage shows etc. We also supported a group of Agate polishing workers to write a play script written a drama named "Jivtaru Machine" ( ) focussing on the SILICOSIS in agate polishing workers. This was then staged in Ahmedabad and received significant response of the media and the civil society. With help from Janpath, this work is now being

continued by our member-organization **People Training and Research Centre (PTRC), Vadodara (Baroda)**, which works on the occupational health issue.

#### *d. The Maldharis (The shepherd community) of Gujarat*

Maldhari' as it is being known locally is a shepherd community in Gujarat. Barring monsoon season through the year, this community migrates along with the family in search of grass for their cattle, sheep, and goats through out the year. The population of this community is estimated to be 2% to 3% of the total population.

Over the years, the problems of this community have remained neglected by the state. It has been observed that usually, the landlords are encroaching upon designated village grasslands under the guise of fake co-operative societies. Frequent droughts in Gujarat have enhanced the problems of maldharis. The community also faces threats from communal elements.

For past many years, Janpath is facilitating collective efforts on this issue. Many a times, we have supported grass root interventions, but mainly focused upon the advocacy part of it. We have also been constantly putting efforts for identifying and taking along, local community based organizations and individuals having concern on this matter. Today, an independent forum, named "Gujarat Maldhari Adhikar Manch – PADKAR" consisting of voluntary organisations, CBO's and community representatives, has been formed. This forum spontaneously formed in response of the posed challenge, due the resolution passed by the Gujarat government on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2003 regarding prohibition of loitering of cattle's on the roads in Ahmedabad city. Thousand of Maldharis were gathered in Ahmedabad city to protest against the resolution and finally this resolution had to be cancelled. In another instance in Surendranagar, forum organised huge rally to raise the issue of land entitlement. Government has taken serious note of it, and matter is being out. Janpath is supporting this forum whenever and wherever necessary, but will face out slowly as forum is getting stronger with more and more peoples organisations joining it.

### **e. *Credibility Alliance:***

‘Credibility Alliance’ is a loose network of people with concern to promote good governance and practices that will enhance the credibility of the voluntary sector. It is a self-regulatory framework developed within the sector, to increase transparency and accountability by adopting the norms of the credibility alliance.

Voluntary Action Network India has initiated this process at National level. Janpath carried out several consultations the proposed norms and the suggestions were documented and communicated at the national level. Janpath also two-day workshop held at Delhi last year to gather feedback of all state-level processes. Janpath will take up programmes to encourage its member to adopt the norms of credibility alliance once the norms are finalised.

### **f. *Child Rights***

#### **i. Grass root interventions through Childline**

Janpath is nodal organizations for Childline Kutch. Childline is a programme of Department of Social justice and empowerment and currently running in 54 cities in India. Childline works through 24 hours telephone helpline for children in need of care and protection. We have three partners in this programme, Ganatar, Gram Swaraj Sangh and Marag working in Anjar, Rapar and Bhuj talukas of Kutch district of the state respectively. In Bhachau this programme is run by Janpath itself. Being in rural area with non availability of connectivity in the telephone we stress upon outreach programmes in villages. Children’s forums called as Bal Panchayat have been formed in the villages. Bal Panchayat members conduct various activities like Bal meals and street plays etc with the help of Childline team members. They play active role in school enrolment campaign or any other children related issue at local level.

#### **ii. Advocacy with the government**

New Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act was formed in the year 2000. We along with our associated working on child rights carried out consultation on model rules to include disaster specific provisions for Gujarat. Constant follow-up was done to get these rules finalised and sent to legal department the state. This issue was well discussed on the floor of

one day children Assembly held in Ahmedabad on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2003. Governor took immediate note of it and the rules were notified soon. We also constantly discuss about child rights issue labour, police. For e.g. Janpath and members of CACL, Gujarat chapter had series for meeting with the labour department on the crucial issue of engaging children in polishing golden ornaments in the eastern side of the Ahmedabad city. Labour department carried out a sample raid in this area, few children were rescued. The issue is quite complex and number of such children is significant. Thus department is consulting other concern departments and planning out the strategy for the same.

### *e. Expanding Space for Democracy*

Since its beginning Janpath has always tried to contribute to the process of representative democracy during elections by undertaking variety of activities.

During last Lok Sabha elections Janpath undertook the programme facilitating the “Voter’s Right to Know” as propounded by Supreme Court in its decision in March 13 2003. With the support of Association of Democratic Reforms, a national level organisation Janpath disseminated through our 450 associates the Gujarat Elections Watch Report. Janpath also prepared and distributed over 400 poster and 1000 copies of voters guide titled “Matadar Margadarshika”. There was unexpected tremendous response to this and our associates kept on asking for more copies. In addition, Janpath has always been participating and supporting efforts for strengthening and vigilance of democracy such as Gujarat Jan Andolan, Jan Sangharsh Manch. We support these efforts through publishing awareness materials like poster, banners, pamphlets etc and disseminate this to our members.

## *III. Facilitating the formation of issue based networks*

### *a. Gujarat Social Forum:*

Janpath took the responsibility to provide secretariat for Gujarat process of World Social Forum. Large number of organizations from Gujarat participated in the global convention of World Social Forum held at Mumbai from 16<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> January 2004. Socio-economic issues of

Gujarat were represented through a multi-media presentation called GUJARAT WINDOW. The exhibition highlighted major problems of Gujarat, and the efforts by voluntary sector. Regional meetings were held in some districts of the state to discuss and build common strategy for presentations of the issues at WSF. This helped in building linkages between the organizations, both across the issues and the districts.

### ***b. BAL SANSAD:***

One-day children's Assembly was held at Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2003. The event was jointly carried out by some of among our member organizations active on Child Rights and 24 schools on the eastern side of the Ahmedabad (considered to be poor and less developed). In all 135 children (both school going and non school going) participated as the member of the assembly and expressed their concerns on the issues through street plays, symbolic demonstrations and various form of folk arts. The four main issues highlighted in the event were: Children and disaster; Education; Health and Street Children (Children in need of care and protection)

Schools involved in **BAL SANSAD** formed a forum called 'teachers for children' who have undertaken a programme of spreading awareness on Child Rights in the communities where they teach. Janpath facilitated the dialogue between different stakeholders of child rights and brought them on one platform, to strengthen the advocacy for protection of child rights and is continuing to support **BAL SANSAD** and its off shoots. Children of Bal-Sansad were then invited by the honourable Governor of state, where in children put foreword crucial questions regarding quality of education, health and disordered condition in the city. Children also submitted their Pratigya Patra (Oath letter) to the Governor saying that they will raise their voice for protections of child rights. Children appealed the governor for helping them to eradicate child labour from the city and create an environment where each child would be enrolled in the school. During Lok Sabha election these demands were also put before the candidate of two major parties in the state. The expenses of all the events have been done by mobilising local resources and contributions from various voluntary organisations.

All these events were widely covered by the media, thus drawing the attention of the governmental system. Governor of the state has shown his interest to for expanding this process to other regions in the state.

### ***C. Gujarat Jan Andolan - A Collective Forum of Trade Unions and Voluntary Organizations***

While many of the objectives of both the voluntary organizations and organizations of labourers and workers are common there are hardly any linkages and collaborations between the two. Janpath initiated a dialogue between these two kinds of organizations to undertake joint programmes. The first joint programme was organized on Labour Day 2003 in the form of a rally to demand rights for dalits and minority communities. More than thousand workers and members of voluntary organizations participated in the event. The 'Jan Andolan' platform is now used for joint advocacy of the programmes concerning trade unions and voluntary organisations.

## ***IV. Capacity Building of Voluntary Organisations***

### **a. Training Programmes Organised for Member Organisations**

Topic of the training	No. of trainings conducted	Organised by	Duration of the training	No. of participants	Topic covered during training
Accounting and Financial management	One	Janpath	Three days	20	Best practices in daily accounting, FCRA, Income Tax, Trust Act, Professional Tax, Gratuity Act & Provident Fund Act
Capacity Development for Community Based Mental Health interventions	Three (Central & South Gujarat; Kutch Saurashtra and North Gujarat)	Janpath in collaboration with Ahmedabad Management Association (AMA) and Indian Institute of Management (IIM)	Three days	50	Basic orientation In Mental health problems identified in the community
	One		Three days	50	Counselling skills for NGO volunteers
Project Management in Voluntary organizations	One		Two days	45	Proposal making, planning, MIS, Impact and evaluation of the project.
Skill development in NGO volunteers	One	Janpath in collaboration with Gandhi Labour Institute (GLI)	Three days	20	Various Schemes for of Dept of social defence and Women and child welfare dept for village development

## *b. Support to Small Groups*

Promoting value based voluntarism is one of objective of Janpath. We identify new groups to provide them financially and with intellectual inputs & guidance if necessary. At later stage, we also help them to build linkages with donor organisations willing to work in partnerships on their issues of concern. This year we supported one such groups and one issue based network.

1. ***Antyoday Manav Vikas trust*** is an upcoming organisation of youths Valmiki community, the most marginalised section among Dalits. This community is mostly engaged in sweeping, cleaning work in residential colonies, stay in slums in most inhuman conditions and are exposed to all kinds of exploitation. Literacy ratio is very poor, and people believe strongly in traditional practices and rituals.

Antyoday Manav Vikas Trust is focussing upon organising Valimiki community to form Mandals, Self help groups etc. These groups are then engaged in various kinds of activities to get awareness on local issues, to understand them thoroughly and to seek way out of it. Besides giving financial assistance to its activities, Janpath also provide timely guidance to an organisations carry out its activities effectively.

2. ***Child Rights Collective*** is state level network, currently in its initial stage. Gujarat chapter of national level network, Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL) has initiated this process. Four consultations have been carried out, (north, South, East and central region of the state), with organisations and individuals active on child rights to discuss and work out a common minimum agenda on the issue. Janpath has extended its financial support to this process and also play important role in bringing together various organisations and other issue based networks in the state on one platform. We also try to bring other state level process

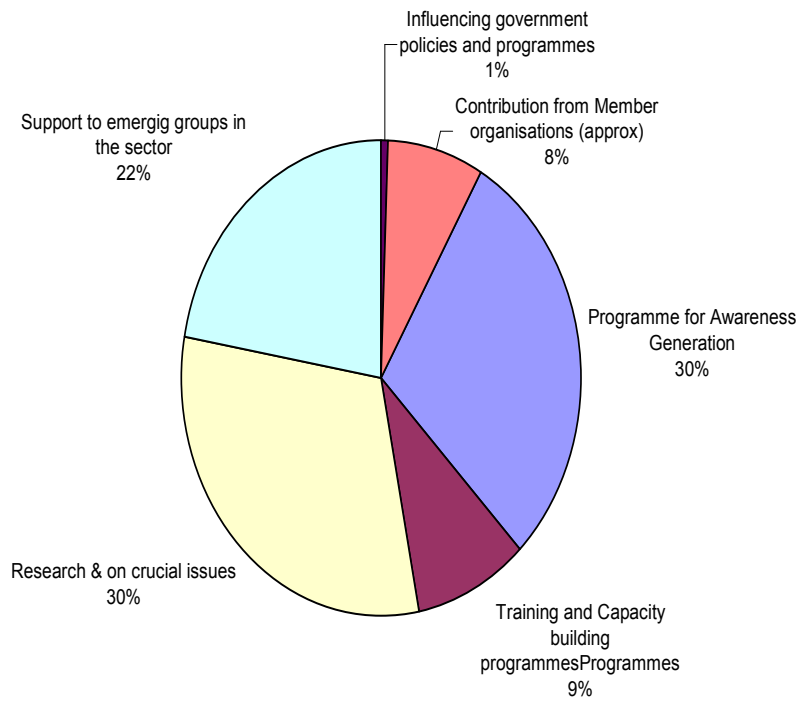
## *VI. Changing Economic Environment and Role for Voluntary Sector*

During the past decade with the initiation and implementation of economic policies of liberalisations and globalisation, the development context in the country is undergoing major changes. New market oriented economy may have raised hopes and opportunities for few but



has posed challenges and has added compounded to the issues of economically and socially marginalised sections of the society. In this context voluntary organisation need to redefine their development strategies and roles. We need to initiate and strengthen people's organisations to articulate, demand for rights and also participate in the overall process of development. The local people affected by new economic environment, though not enough in comparison to the intensity and spread of problem do get organise and fight for their rights. Special Economic Zone was planned along the coast of Okha Taluka of Jamnagar district of Gujarat. Forty villages of Okha Taluka were to be displaced without any provision for rehabilitation and compensation. Local groups in these villages under the leadership of Prof. Ker of Gramya Vikas Trust got organised. They passed a resolution in the Gram Sabha and submitted to the Government. Several Demonstrations and Rallies were carried out. Janpath supported this struggle by providing legal help. The PIL was filed in the court. The court upheld the voice of marginalised sections and Proposed project of Poshitra port and infrastructure development was cancelled. Similarly an incidence of forcing an MNC company to cancel their project implantations in a small village of Kerala due to local people struggle is another example to be proud of.

*P*rogramme and *A*ctivity wise *E*xpenditure for the financial year 2003-2004



■ Programme for Awareness Generation	■ Training and Capacity building programmesProgrammes
□ Research & on crucial issues	□ Support to emergig groups in the sector
■ Influencing government policies and programmes	■ Contribution from Member organisations (approx)



## *VII. JANPATH complies: Credibility Alliance norms*

### *Disclosures as per Credibility Alliance Norms*

#### **1. Origin and brief history of the organization:**

Janpath is a friendly and solidarity forum for voluntary organizations, and concern individuals working in different parts of Gujarat on various issues of development and justice with various approaches but who are basically committed to the cause of the poor and oppressed sections of the society. It is a platform for expressions of common concern of NGOs, CBOs, activists, professionals and individuals, committed to working for the poor & marginalized, while maintaining unique identity of each of its members. It's a humble effort to facilitate sharing of information and to create common understanding among voluntary organizations on different aspects of people's empowerment.

The overall goal of Janpath is to get together through formal networks and less formal gatherings for solidarity, harmony, lobbying, advocacy, & policy influencing on critical issues of Gujarat.

For past many years Janpath has been consistently providing strong support and leadership to its associates along with intellectual inputs as and when required, there by increasing and sharpening their understanding and capability. It has effectively created depicted its impact in many parts of the state, through emergence of regional issue based networks.

#### **2. Registered address:**

**Janpath Trust**, B 3-1, 2 Sahajanand Tower, Jivaraj Park, Vejalpur, Ahmedabad-380051 – Gujarat - India

**Present Address:** Janpath Trust, B 3-1, 2 Sahajanand Tower, Jivaraj Park, Vejalpur, Ahmedabad-380051- Gujarat - India

[Regd. under the Societies Registration No. Guj/1710/Ahmedabad]

[Regd. under the Bombay Public Trust Registration No. F/1624/Ahmedabad]

[Regd, under Sec. 12A of Income tax Act, No. (J-6)/89, 90/AR.8]

[FCRA No. 041910167]

[80-G CERTIFICATE No. DIT(E)80G(5)/16/03-04 Dt; 30-12-2003 Valid from 1-4-2003  
To 31-3-2008]

**3. Details of board members:**

Indukumar Jani

Anil Bhatt

Prasad Chako

Premji Patel

Devuben Pandya

**4. Name and address of main Bankers:**

DENA BANK, Ambawadi branch, Nehru-nagar Char Rasta, Ambawadi, Ahmedabad - 15

**5. Name and Address of Auditors:**

C.A. Shah & Co., 801, Sahajanand Tower, Shahibaug, Ahmedabad - 380 004

**6. Staff details:**

DISTRIBUTION OF STAFF ACCORDING TO SALARY LEVELS

<b>Slab of gross salary (in Rs.) Plus benefits paid to staff</b>	<b>Male staff</b>	<b>Female staff</b>	<b>Total staff</b>
2250-7500	4	2	6
7,500-12,500	2	1	3
12,500-17,500	-	-	-
17,500-27,500	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>

**7. Reimbursements to Board members/ Trustees/ Shareholders:**

Travel cost for meetings or seminars by the board members are born by themselves.

**8. Total visits of National travel by all staff during the year:**

Following table gives the details of the travel of Janpath staff during the year 2003-2004.

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Name of the person travelled</b>	<b>Dates of travel / number of days</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Train/Air &amp; Destination of travel</b>	<b>Expenses born by Janpath</b>
1.	Harinesh Pandya	23-25 <sup>th</sup>	To attend Annual	Bangalore;	Rs. 8,140/-

		September 2003	General Meeting of VANI	Air	
2	Harinesh Pandya	26-27 November 2003	To attend national level workshop on Credibility Alliance	New-Delhi; Train	Expenses were reimbursed directly by the organisers
3	Bharat Patel	19-22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2003	To attend co-ordinator meet conducted by Childline India Foundation	Amravati-Maharashtra; Train	Expenses were reimbursed directly by the organisers
4	Harinesh Pandya Bhimdev Vala Imtiyaz Mansuri Pankti Jog + 4 volunteers	16-21 Jan 2004	World Social forum 2004	Mumbai; Train	Rs.11.121/-
5	Bhimdev Vala	23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2004	To attend National Level Workshop on the issue of Salt pan workers	Tuticorin; Train	Expenses were reimbursed directly by the organisers
6	Pankti Jog	22 <sup>nd</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2004	To attend training programme organised by NIPCCD on Good Governance in Voluntary Sector.	New-Delhi; Train	Expenses were reimbursed directly by the organisers

**9. Total visits of international travel by all staff during the year:**

None

**10. Networks/linkages:**

Janpath is associated with national level network Voluntary Action Network India (VANI) based at New-Delhi.