

JANPATH'S

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

APPROVED BY:

ANIL BHATT
PRESIDENT

HARINESH PANDYA
SECRETARY

Reporting period: April 2004 to March 2005

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Preface:

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

Anil Bhatt

President

Date: 25th June 2005

PART B

Internal Organisation:

Prof. Anil Bhatt was the president of JANPATH for the period 2004-2005.

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..

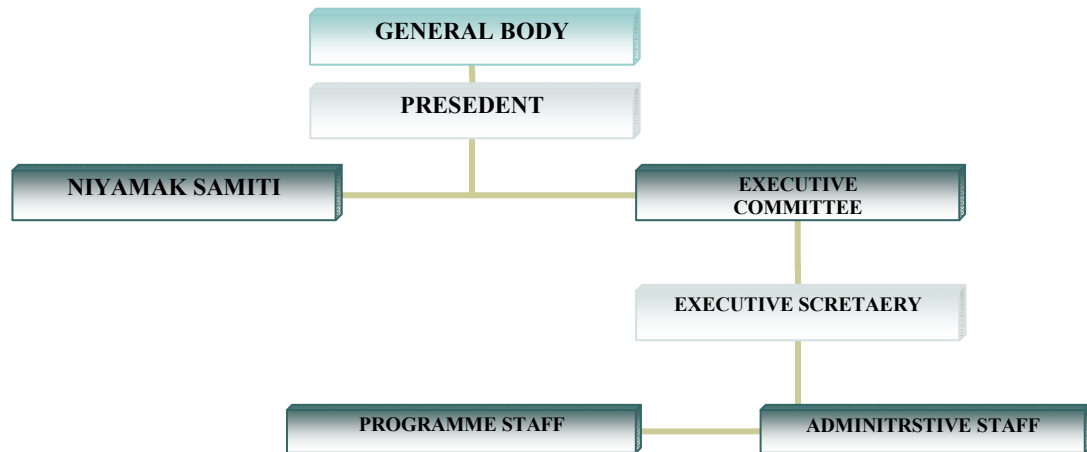
THE PRESIDENT

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.

b. Organogram



c. Janpath Executive Committee 2004-2005

Name	Organisation
1. Anil Bhatt President	Individual
2. Indukumar Jani	Naya Marg
3. Premjibhai Patel	Vruksh-Prem Seva Trust
4. Devuben Pandya	Mahiti
5. Kalubhai Dangar	Vikas Center for Development
6. Neetaben Pandya (invitee)	Anandi
7. Vipulbhai Pandya	Bandhkam Majdoor Sangathan
8. Sudarshanbhai Ayyaenger	Center for Social Studies
9. Rajesh Bhatt, (invitee)	Asag, Invitee
10. Prasadbhai Chako (invitee)	Individual
11. Sukhdevbhai Patel (past president)	Gijubhai Bal Academy
12. Harshdbhai Desai (past President)	Individual
13. Rajeshbhai Shah, past president	SAVE

d. Niyamak Samiti 2004-2005 (Advisory Committee)

Name	Organization
1. Nafisa Barot	Utthan
2. Mihir Bhatt	Foundation for Public Interest
3. Sheetal Bhatt	Ganatar
4. Prof Anil Gupta	Loksarvani
5. Mehrunnisa Desai	Ahmedabad uslim Women's Association
6. Sanat Mehta	Shramik Vikas Sansthan
7. Snajay Wincent	CEDRA
8. Bipin Thackker	Pathey
9. Vishnubhai Raval	Individual
10. Manchubhai Gamit	Pungarbari Gundiya vibhag Adivasi Punarutthan Mandal
11. Babubhai Desai	Individual
12. Dr. Aswin Shah	Gram Seva Trust
13. Bhupat Ugareja	Koli Patel Samaj Khedut Majdoor Sangathan
14. Parul Sheth	Shaishav
15. Sushma Ayyengar	Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan
16. Sandeep Virmani	Sahajeevan
17. Giriraj Singh	Sarathi
18. Jansakanbhai Chaudhary	Motibhai Schudhary Foundation
19. Dr. Lalit Shah	Anjali
20. Lallubhai Desai	Manav Kalyan Trust
21. Kamlesh Parmar	Rural Upliftment Trust
22. Prof. D. S. Ker	Gram Vikas Trust
23. Kalaben Dedhaniya	Dholka Antyodaya Vikas Yojana
24. Sonal Rathwa	Bhasha
25. Indukumar Jani	Naya Marg
26. Premjibhai Patel	Vruksh-Prem Seva Trust
27. Devuben Pandya	Mahiti
28. Anil Bhatt	Individual (President)
29. Kalubhai Dangar	Vikas

e. 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.

f. Meeting of the three bodies of Janpath in 2004-05.

Annual Convention and General Body Meeting:

14th Annual Convention and general body meeting was convened on 4th 5th September 2005 at 'Muni Sevashram' – Goraj, taluka-Vaghodia, district Baroda. The main theme of discussion was GO-NGO – Role and Relationship in Developmental Context. Apart from this, three panel discussions were also held on 'impact of changing economic environment on rural economy', 'credibility alliance', and 'national policy on voluntary sector'. All together 115 member organisations attended the convention and actively participated in the discussion held during two days. The brief of the discussions are as follows:

GO-NGO Role and relationship in context of major developmental issues like water, health, children, disaster relief and rehab, tribal and marginalise community was deeply discussed senior members The common concerned shared was that there is absence of mutual trust between the government and the voluntary organisations, over the period of time mutuality of the relationship

has weakened. Members suggested that, Janpath, in its next programme period should address this issue. The efforts shall be focused upon understanding the current status of relationship in its various dimensions and to build health and strong relationship as both play very important role in the development of marginalise groups.

Eminent Gandhian, Shri Chunibhai Vaidya spoke about the **impact of changing economic environment on rural economy**. He said, "MNC have reached our villages. Water, land and forest are slowly going into the hands of these companies. Indian products are unable to sustain in the world market as foreign countries are dumping their products at much lower rate as that of ours. This is widely affecting Small scale industries of our country. Today independence is incomplete as rural India is loosing its resources. People are migrating to wards cities. 'Gram Sabha' is in fact mother of all other constitutional bodies. It should be recognised and shall be given absolute ownership of rural natural resources. This issue needs to be taken on Campaign mode.

Dr. Anil Singh, secretary of national level network VANI chaired a session on National policy on voluntary sector. He expressed his concerned on the definition of voluntary sector, mentioned in the draft policy and said, "In response to developmental challenges, voluntary sector is growing speedily. It needs full time professional workers. If such a policy had to formulated, then voluntary sector should be part of it from the very first stage".

Mr. Ranjan Rao, Executive Director, Credibility alliance- national process, addressed the session on credibility of voluntary sector. He said. "Credibility alliance has now registered as national society. Any organisations wish to join the alliance, shall comply minimum norms. The profiles of such organisations shall as put first on the website of 'Global reporting imitative for self disclosure'. Today, there are organisations that do not exist in reality, but still getting governments granted projects. We not only need to prohibit these grants being misused, and also need to initiate the process where the credible organisations are recognised.

Executive Committee Meetings:

During the year, the Executive Committee held six meetings to plan out different programmes and to address administrative concern.

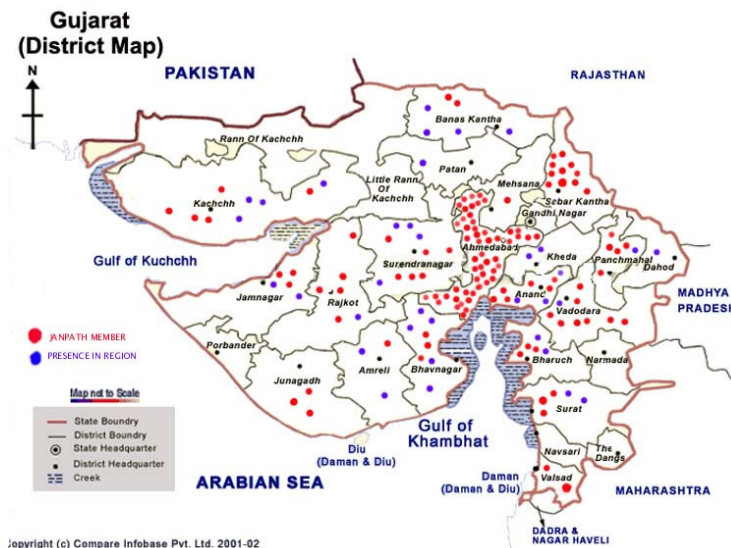
Niyamak Samiti (Advisory Council) meetings:

- Niyamak Samiti met twice in the year 2004-2005. **First meeting was held on 31st of July 2004 at Janpath office.**
- The agenda of the meeting was to discuss about Janpath's future programmes. Mr. Rajesh Shah, an executive committee member, and former president of Janpath did a short presentation on future challenges before voluntary sector and role of Janpath.
- Based on the discussions held with members on various forums in the past, the issues listed were Right to food campaign in context of Right to Information, Land rights on marginalized communities, Globalisation, Governance in voluntary sector and GO-NGO relationship.
- After a long discussion it was decided to keep Globalisation and its impact on marginalized community, Governance and land rights to be taken on the foremost priority. It was also decided to prepare a detailed plan of action and its budgetary requirements.
- **2nd meeting was held on 24th January 2005 at Khet Vikas Parishad, Ahmedabad.**
The agenda of the meeting was
 1. Janpath's structure, values, tradition and style of functioning during its start and the expected structure in the context of changing environment (socio-economical)
 2. ANNA SURAKSHA ABHIYAN (Food security Campaign) and role of Janpath
- During annual general meeting held near Vadodara, members expressed the need of review of Janpath's structure and style of functioning, especially about its low profile nature. Thus this agenda was kept for the discussion.
- Few of the founder members shared that Janpath is not mere a federation of VOs but it is thought process. It is invisible centre of ever-growing circle. Its low profile nature was decided at the time of its formation.
- However, few members strongly recommended that Janpath secretariat should have professionally trained staff, which can pro-actively take up new challenges.
- Anandi and few other members of Janpath, who have initiated this campaign in Gujarat, shared their experiences of regional public hearings on PDS system and recommended that Janpath should co-ordinate and promote replication of such events in other regions of the state. It was decided that Janpath will strengthen facilitate this process, would

disseminate information to all its members and will create opportunities for mutual learning.

g. Our Associates

At the end of financial year 2004-2005, Janpath has 125 Organisational and 76 individual members on its list. In addition to these 350 organisations, CBOs and activists are closely associated with us. Janpath has its presence in every district of the state (see fig.) Profile of the organisations associated with us is attached as annexure II)



PROFILE OF ORGANISATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH JANPATH.

	Main issues of Concern	MO	MI	AO	AI	Networks	Total
1	TRIBALS	18	1	4	1		24
2	DALITS	19	5	5	2		31
3	HEALTH	9	1	1	3		14
4	EDUCATION	30	5	3	4		42
5	NRM & DEV	19	2	3	4	2	30
6	CHILD RIGHTS	11	1			1	13
7	URBANISATION	4			2		6
8	GENDER & WOMEN EMP.	25		3		1	29
9	POVERTY ELAVATION	22	1	1			24
10	DISASTER MITIGATION & PREP.	9			1		10
11	HR& SOCIAL JUSTICE	14	4	6	2		26
12	SALINITY & DESERTIFICATION	2	1			1	4
13	MASS COMMUNICATION	7	5		1		13
14	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH	3	2	1			6
15	AWARENESS THR. CULATURAL ACTI.	2	0	1	1		4
16	SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS	4		1	2		7
17	DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE	3	1	2		1	7
18	UNORGANISED LABOUR	12	1	1			14
19	RESEARCH AND TRAINING	5	6	3	1		15
20	ENVORONMENT & ECOLOGY	3			1		4
	Total	221	36	35	25	6	323

MO Member organisations

AO Associated Organisations

MI Member Individuals

AI Associated Individuals

h. Janpath Team:

President: Anil Bhatt

Secretary & Programme co-ordinator: Harinеш Pandya

Administrative Staff:

Haresh Bhatt

Ms. Dhara Patel

Ms. Kapilaben Parmar

Prabhat Rana

Programme Staff:

Sachin Patel

Pankti jog

Bhimdev Vala

i. Financial situation:

During the year 2004-2005 Janpath received funds from following agencies:

1. HIVOS (Financial Reports are attached herewith)
2. TDH- Germany (for a short term flood Relief project)

Part C

3. Progress Report

3.1.1 Networking - Connecting people across the sector

‘RAHBAR’, means ‘the one who shows the path’. This programme facilitates exchange of knowledge among our partners. Wherein, every month one organization or individual from voluntary sector is invited to share its knowledge, experiences, innovations, learning and achievements.

An organization or individual or groups of individuals working for development of vulnerable groups with rights-based approach is selected for this programme. Such organization/individual or groups of individuals is visited by JANPATH secretariat to know, understand and document significance of the programmes, and activities. A brief note about the same is circulated beforehand to more than 550 organizations and individuals all over the state.

The presentation is more of a non-formal sharing and brings out the journey of an organization since the beginning, the insights from the grass roots, the challenges faced by organizations, and its relevance in the new economic surroundings, its innovations. The presentation is followed by questions answer session. The participants include leaders and middle level workers of various voluntary organizations, activists and journalists and students of sociology and journalism.

This programme is found very useful for volunteers of various organisations in developing right perspective about various issues in the state. *It also updates people about the development and struggle activities of organisations across the state of Gujarat and strengthens solidarity among member organisations.*

Proceedings of Rahbar are regularly reported in Janpath’s newsletter, Samachar Sankalan. Selected Rahbar is published in the form of booklet.

This year we conducted eight Rahbar programmes. The details of which are shown the table below:

Sr. No	Name of the organisations Invited for Introduction	Date of the Programme	Areas of working
1	Bhasha	26/6/2004	Tribal issue, Education and women's empowerment
2	Ahmedabad Study Action Group (ASAG)	24/7/2004	Health, Education, Women's Empowerment and Child rights Livelihood support to marginalised community.
3	Ahmedabad Study Action Group (ASAG)	28/8/2004	
4	Vishwagram	21/8/2004	Activities with youth
5	Sahiyar	25/9/2004	Women's Rights
6	Ahmedabad women's Action Group (AMWA)	23/10/2004	Women's empowerment among Muslim Community, helpline for women, Education and legal aid, family counselling.
7	Pathey	18/12/2004	Budget Analysis
8	AWAG	26/2/2005	Women's Rights & Empowerment, Helpline for women.

3.1.2 Exposure Visits (creating Opportunities for mutual learning)

Exposure tours are being organised on selected themes for past three years. These visits are another initiative by JANPATH to create mutual interactions, learning and adoption of activities by small community based organisations. The visits are usually organized for two to three days. The participants are grass roots and middle level workers from various VOS and CBOs.

The main objective of this program is to strengthen networking among member organizations, build linkages between grass roots workers, and facilitate sharing of ideas and experiences and to adopt new activities, practices and approaches.

Our experience indicates that besides providing exposure to new places, persons and practices to the participants, these visits create a sense of solidarity among VOs. It motivates the workers of the visited organization as their work is recognized and appreciated.

Almost invariably, some of the participants of exposure tours after the visit continue their contact and adopt some the activities in their own organizations. In some cases the participants have followed up repeat visit consisting of the staff of their own.

1. Exposure visit to national process of **Right to Information:** on 7th to 11th October 2004, Janpath conducted exposure tour to Delhi to understand national level efforts on Right to

Information. This tour was conducted on the occasion of 2nd National convention of People's right to Information and representatives of Anandi, Asag, SAVE, Swati, Rural Developmental society and Pravah participated in the same. On the first day national level public hearing on Public Distribution System (PDS) was conducted, where in people from all the states shared expressed their grievances gaps in the PDS. On behalf of Gujarat, representatives from an organisation Anandi made the presentation on criteria for deciding BPL families. According to survey done by the organisation, considerable number of BPL allotted to families that actually are above poverty line, while on the other hand there are number of huge number of genuine cases have not received BPL card. Almost all over India the quality and quantity of food given in PDS, seems to be the biggest issue. On 2 and 3rd day, participants attended national convention on right to information. During various group discussions sessions they got chance to intersect with representatives from other states. This experience was really enriching, and was much useful for us to strengthen state process.

2. **Exposure tour along the coastal belt: DARIYA KINARA SAMVAD YATRA:** the idea of such exposure visit emerged from a workshop organised by Paryavaraniya Vikas Kendra, Protsahan and Center for Environment and social concern at Rajkot on "coastal Natural resource management. The idea was further discussed in a meeting with few organisations working on issues of coastal communities for past many years. It was felt that, this issue needs to be taken on Campaign mode and exposure visit will become its important component for social mobilisation on the issues of coastal communities. Thereafter one state level and three regional workshops were conducted to plan out the tour. Exposure visit is named as 'Dariya Kinara Samvad Yatra' and was decided to be organised in three phases, Kutch, Saurashtra and South Gujarat ranging for one and half to two months of time. More than 50 organisations have joined in this process. Due to heat wave the Yatra had to postpone and will start from to October this year. While, the organisations involved in each of the phase, would bare major part of the expenses, Janpath will take the responsibility of audio-video documentation and co-ordination. There would be sharing workshop in between the phases and at the end of Yatra, there would be state level workshop to share the finding and experiences of the exposure visit. The future plan of action will be checked out based on these experiences. Janpath would facilitate this process.

3.1.3 Knowledge Dissemination through Samachar Sankalan

Samachar Sankalan, JANPATH's Monthly news bulletin is regularly being published for last eight years, 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 disseminating information and bringing in the reflections from the society in the responses from various sectors.

This year 10 issues of the bulletin were published. The bulletin also published articles on various crucial issues like Right to Food, Right to Information, campaign for credibility alliance, globalizations-impact on the rural economy, policy on voluntary sector etc.

The bulletin is circulated to 550 associated organisations and individuals. We receive good feedback from our readers with suggestions and recommendation regarding our programmes.

3.2 Awareness and Advocacy Efforts through Media

Media is an important stakeholder in the process of encouraging civil society participation in the developmental efforts. This year we conducted following events with the media:

1. **Press meeting on the issue of Tsunami:** South India was badly hit by Tsunami this year. Since Gujarat has got longest coast, there was lot of anxiety in the society about possibilities of Tsunami in Gujarat. No Timely and proper information was released the public, giving scope for rumours & stories. We conducted press briefing about 'Physics behind Tsunami' inviting eminent scientists Like Dr. Mukul Sinha and Dr. Manav Chakravarti to brief the media about on scientifically aspect of Tsunami. They discussed in detail about various fault lines on the Asian continent that are currently active and its probable implications in context of India, particularly Gujarat. This information was widely published by media. It was perhaps for the first time, in the state such detailed scientific information about any the disaster was covered by the media. It also raised questions about disaster preparedness measures taken by the government. This event received response from society.

a. Exhibition and Press Conference on the issues of salt Pan Workers: the occasion of 75th anniversary of *Dandi Yatra* was celebrated nation wide. However the issues of saltpan workers were not in the focus of these celebrations. Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch, a forum promoted by Janpath on issues of salt pan workers, conducted press conference on the eve *Dandi yatra* conclusion. Representatives from Agariya community talked with media on lack of education & health facilities at work place,

about their exploitation in the hands of salt traders and about the states negligence on these issues for several years. An exhibition of amateur the photographer and saltpan worker Shri Ambubhai Patel, depicting the plight of Agariyas was arranged on the footpath of Gandhi Ashram, which received over whelming response from the civil society. Based on the media coverage of the issue, honourable high of Gujarat has issues Suo-Moto Writ Petition to govt of Gujarat Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch has joined as party in this petition. This petition has broadened the scope for policy advocacy.

3.3 Initiating & Nurturing Collective Action on Issues of Concern.

Initiating voluntary efforts on lesser-known issues is one of our main objectives and has been an ongoing important activity of JANPATH since its inception. We carry out studies on selected issues that are primarily action oriented and aims to initiative collective action over the period of few years.

These studies are carried out on the basis of field level experiences, information and insights of our member organizations that will be part of the working group of specific issue. The working group is the main guiding force, and includes of each study will include organisations, individuals concern over the issue, experts on the particular subject, academicians, and journalists.

Such a group holds several regional meetings and seminars with concern organisations, involve other stakeholders and organisations in the process, and bring a common understanding over the issue. This process requires a period of 3-5 years with proper facilitation, co-ordination and networking.

JANPATH have an experience of carrying out at least 8 such studies, which have today grown into independent efforts on those problems In past JANPATH carried out studies, which include – Manual Scavenging, Akik Polishing workers, Issues of drinking water etc, issues of Maldharis etc.

If the subject is complex, and needs much deeper exploration and understanding, these processes will be given a form of **8-12 months participatory research and training workshops (PRTW)**. This is one of the key components of our future programmes, which mainly would

focus upon understanding micro-level issues in the context of macro level changes thereby making our interventions more meaningful and relevant to changing socio-economic conditions. For past few years we had taken up following issues:

3.3.1 Salt pan Workers in Gujarat

Gujarat produces 70% of the salt of the country. The number families involved in salt making is 40,000. They are locally known as ‘Agariyas’. The Agarias work under tremendous hardships and live virtually sub-human life and belong to economically and socially most marginalized sections of the society.

Somewhere eight years back, when we began to work on this issue. Initially there were only 3 organisations working with saltpan workers. The main reason was these workers stay at workplace for more than 8-10 months in a year and are scattered in the little Runn of Kutch or along the coastal belt.

Janpath facilitated dialogues with various stakeholders and community consultations to build common understanding and to identify the gaps. The charter of demand was formulated that include:

1. Demand for allocating land for the family actually producing the salt. (similar to ‘land to the tiller’)
2. Demand for constituting a separate welfare board brining all welfare schemes and programmes for this community under one umbrella for effective implementation and monitoring.

The working group was extended to involve more organisations and individuals to form *Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch (a forum)*.

Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch focussed upon mainstreaming this issue through media advocacy, seminars, public programmes, several meetings with all concern departments of the state and other important stakeholders. It also facilitated monitoring of implementation of existing schemes, identified the loopholes and communicated it with the government from time to time.

Ganatar, member of core committee of the Manch has been recognised as monitoring organisation for implementation of the schemes in context of public interest litigation in the Supreme Court on the issue of salt pan workers. Manch is also member of empower Committee a high power committee constituted by the dept industries, meeting every three-month, focussing on welfare of salt pan workers.

Today AHM has grown into a separate issue-based network with over 40 organisations and individuals. Its future plan action has been collectively chocked out and is supported by (from May 2005) Care India in its initial stage.

3.3.2 Right to Information

Janpath initiated work on Right to Information 5 years back. Gujarat does not have its own Right to Information law. Thus we focussed upon awareness for the need of such law and also use of existing laws like Panchyat Act and Citizen's charter of demand with which one can acquire basic information about developmental activities and welfare schemes of the government. We carried one Day seminar on 6th August 2004 in collaboration with M.S. University, and Baroda in south Gujarat. This mainly focussed upon understanding right to information in context of core issues of development and building strategy for creating demand for information among various stakeholders.

Many of our members like Disha, Anandi, Bhasha, Asag, Pravaah, Save, Pathey and individuals like Indukumar Jani and many others are actively working in this regards, are part of working group guiding the whole process.

Many among these, including Janpath are also actively involved with Right to Food & Right to Work campaign. Since both these campaigns are very closely associated with Right to Information, we conducted a state level workshop on 25th January 2005, mainly to discuss inter relation between these three and to develop common collective strategy for Gujarat. A forum called *Mahiti Adhikar Gujarat Pahel*, (Right to Information Initiatives-Gujarat /RTI-Gujarat) thus formed.

Forum joined actively with national level process such as NCPRI, and CHRI, demanding for effective RTI Act. We carried out state level consultation on RTI bill and recommended few important changes in the bill.

The developments at national level are shared in the state through meetings, letters and reports in the newsletters. Some prominent column writers were asked to write about the issue, there by extending our reaching to larger society.

Now that the law is in place, we RTI Gujarat will focus upon awareness generation about the law and will insist for its effective implementation.

3.4 Responding to Contemporary Issues

In order to generate awareness and public opinion on few (critical) contemporary issues, JANPATH will facilitate and organize public events such as Sammelans, public meetings, rallies or demonstrations.

In past, after devastating earthquake of 2001, JANPATH played important role in influencing the policy decision in relief and rehabilitations schemes by having continuous dialogue with the state. Similarly, after communal violence of 2002, we initiated series of *Sadbhavana Sammelans*, to help restoration of peace and feeling of brotherhood. Currently JANPATH is supporting campaign to repeal POTA.

These efforts are carried out jointly with several other grass root level organizations.

3.4.1 Relief work in cyclone and flood affected village, *Bayal Dhankrol* of Sabrkantha district was facilitated by us. Dalit Adhikar Chalaval, A forum of CBOs working on Dalit Rights issues executed the relief work. TDH Germany, extended financial support for the same. Galvanised sheets, Tarpulin sheets, Cement, Ration kit, and Educational material fro students was distributed to 36 severely affected families of this village. In addition to this, Janpath also participated in the state level co-ordination efforts for flood relief in Gujarat.

3.4.2 Public convention was conducted on the occasion of *Eed, Diwali* and *Guru Nanak Jayanti* between Vejalpur and Juhapura areas of Ahmedabad City. These areas, adjacent to each other are known to be most sensitive to communal tension. Juhapura is largest Muslim populated area and Vejalpur is Hindu locality. Leaders of both the communities were invited to address public on the issue of Human rights. The meeting was attended by 4000 people of both the communities. This meeting was jointly organized by 25 organizations. In addition to these more than 5-6 small celebrations were held jointly by both the communities to celebrate Hindu and Muslim festivals. This has helped to bring both the communities close to each other.

Seminar on “Role of Youth on Communal Harmony” was organized in collaboration with Naya Marg and Satyajeeet Trust, and Janpath. Mr. Ram Puniyani was invited as key speaker for this seminar. More than 50 youth from various background participated in the seminar.

3.5 Developing Small Groups:

JANPATH has received very encouraging result in this activity. Small, upcoming groups in the sector are finding difficult to get financial supports from government or private sources. They also do not get easily the support from foreign funding organizations due to difficulties in getting prior permission or FCRA registration from government of India. Thus it is very much necessary that such emerging groups get timely monetary as well as other inputs. This year we supported two such initiatives.

3.5.1 *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 engaged in organising the communities to fight for their basic rights like housing and occupational health etc. Besides giving minimum financial assistance to its activities, we also have given timely guidance and support on advocacy issues.

3.5.2 *Child Rights initiatives in Kutch:* Immediately after the earthquake, Janpath initiated Childline programme through its partner organisations in five most affected blocks of Kutch. Childline played key role in protecting property and compensation rights of rights of earthquake affected children, and also in ensuring these children get back to schools once schools were restarted. At later state, children were organised to form Children's Panchayat (Bal Panchayats) in to enable children to advocate for protection of basic rights. We extended support to these activities in Bhachau block, one among the five most affected blocks.

3.6 Supporting Right based movements

3.6.1 Gujarat Jan Andolan

Jan-Andolan is a platform voluntary organisation, activists, trade unions and civil liberty organisations. It was formed in May 2002, with a felt need of larger solidarity among working class, minority and other marginalised sections.

Since then, Jan Andolan has successfully raised various crucial issues like POTA, Globalisation, housing rights of slum dwellers etc. This platform is being used in others states like Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Ranchi and New Delhi to raise human Rights violation issues.

In Gujarat, after 2002 communal violence, POTA was systematically used by the state to sabotage minority community. More than 300 minority youth are put behind bars under POTA. Gujarat Jan Andolan mobilised the mass opinion against POTA through several demonstrations, rallies public meetings within and outside state. Many a times, common demonstration were organised in 7 states on this issue. Jan Andolan also intervened legally on most of the POTA cases.

3.6.2 Right to Food Campaign: Anandi, Gram Vikas Trust, Paryavaraniya Vikas Kendra and few other member organisations has taken lead in the state level process of Right to Food Campaign. Three public hearing on PDS system were organised where in thousands of women came foreword and registered their complaints. Senior officials from health and food supply departments of the state were invited as panellists during these hearings. Janpath supported this campaign for developing awareness material, documented and disseminated the developments widely amongst the voluntary sector. We facilitated spreading of this campaign in other parts of the state.

3.6.2 Gram Swaraj Campaign: Father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi, father of our nation, gave the concept of Gram Swaraj. To him independence meant independence of rural India. But today, rural economy is facing severe threat due to globalisation. Large scale migration is seen towards cities. The root cause behind these issues is that villages are loosing hold on to their land, water and forest. Recent case of *Plachimada* village (in Palakkad district of Kerala) opposing Pepsi-Coke plant, and decision of the high court saying village Panchayat has no power to stop the company from making production has raised basic question about the ownership of village resources. Gram Sabha is the suppose to be the supreme power in the democracy, though recognised as constitutional body very recently, does not have given any powers with which it can participate in planning and execution of village developmental activities.

Gram Swaraj Campaign aims to achieve these powers to transform representative democracy into participatory democracy. Under the leadership of eminent Gandhian Shri Chunibhai Vaidya, Janpath and its associates including **Panchyati Raj Institutions** have joined in this campaign. A charter of demand has been prepared and being signed by the ‘Gramsabhas’. The slogans about Gram Swaraj are being written in the villages. This campaign is getting great response from the villages. Major part of the expenses are being mobilised at village level, Janpath along with other state level networks like Pravah, Mahila Swaraj Abhiyan, Western India Forum for Panchayati Raj (WIPRA), support organisations like Unnati are sharing expenses of co-ordination, information dissemination and process documentation. The slogan of this campaign is ‘*YEH AZAQDI ADHURI HAI, DOOJA JUNG JAROORI HAI*’.

3.7 Being together for solidarity (participating in events and programmes organised by associated organisations)

The strength of JANPATH is its strong bonds with grass root level organizations. The nature of work in which we all are involved often require emotional support and empathy rather than only technical, managerial or financial support. Grass- root workers often face opposition from vested interests, local authorities and even sabotage. It is at that time that they need support and handholding. One of the major functions of JANPATH has been to provide support to the members in crisis situations and facilitate legal or expert advice when needed. As a member put it” JANPATH has given us lot of warmth”.

JANPATH participate actively in the programmes and events organized by its associated organizations on various human rights and developmental issues. Being a state level network, such participation gives a feeling of being together and strengthens the solidarity. Besides these visits keep us update with grass root processes. In the last financial year we spent approximately 200 working days in the field.

3.8 Building Linkages with National Level Processes.

2.6 Building Linkages with National Level Processes

JANPATH is associated with various national level processes and represents its member's voice at national level. During the reporting period we actively participated in the process of **Credibility Alliance, National policy for voluntary sector, and NCPRI**. The information regarding the developments about these issues is circulated to all our associates through email and new bulletin. Opinion of the associated organizations is gathered, documented and communicated at the national level from time to time.

3.9 Workshops & Seminars:

1. A seminar was conducted with joint efforts of Office of "The Office of Industry Commissioner and Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch at Mahatma Gandhi Labour Institute, Ahmedabad on 22nd July 2004 on the **issues of Salt Pan Workers (AGARIAYAS) in Gujarat**.

Honourable minister of Industries Shri Anil Patel chaired the seminar. Seminar marked the presence of senior officials of different departments of the state such as Salt commission, Industries, Labour, Health, Education, Forest & Environment and Revenue along with the representative of Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch (total 75 people).

Dr. Viren Doshi, a core committee member of the manch, made the presentation on behalf of Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch.

Various departments mentioned above, presented their views on the conditions of saltpan workers and steps taken by their respective departments. Government officials expressed their concern on the issues of saltpan workers and appealed for the collaborative approach between the government and the social organizations for effective implementation of the various schemes meant for Agariyas.

This seminar become milestone for the Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch as 'Manch' was included thereafter in the 'empower committee' of the government, where in we could successfully influence welfare policies of the government in context of salt pan workers. Also, it was perhaps for the first time in history of Gujarat, various departments of the state sat together and tried to understand the complexity of the issue and need of inter-department collaboration and integrated approach was accepted.

2. On 7-8th August 2004, two-day workshop was organised at Sabarkantha district of Gujarat on “**Dalit Atrocities – situation and alternatives**”. Many upcoming groups and CBOs are in close association with Janpath from this district. These groups have formed a small informal network called Dalit Adhikar Chalval. The main issue of concern in this district, was growing incidences of atrocities on dalit communities. More than 60 representatives of 25 community based organisations and upcoming groups participated in the workshop. Few major incidences of atrocities were analysed critically. Community representatives also expressed their views. It was found that, most of the times victims compromise as she/he does not receive necessary moral as well as financial support from the community. Workshop helped to understand the gaps in cases of Dalit atrocities. The report of the workshop and the case studies was circulated widely to all the organisations working on similar issues.

Workshop on the issues along coastal belt of Gujarat: Gujarat has longest coastal belt of 1663 Km. which has become centre of attraction for industrial investments and mining activities. This has put livelihood means of coastal communities in threat. Lacks of families depending upon either fishing or salt making activity are facing severe danger of eviction. Two days state level workshop was organised at Ahmedabad on 31-1st February 2005, where in 35 organisations working on the issues along the coastal belt participated. On the first day organisation from Kutch, Saurashtra and South Gujarat made presentation on issues of salinity ingress, industrial pollution and its impact on the livelihood means of coastal communities.

It was decided to conduct study tour along the coast, to have dialogue with coastal communities especially regarding impact on their livelihood means in the changing economic environment.

On 2nd day, detailed planning of such a tour was carried out. The Whole coastal belt was divided into four zones. Kutch zone, Saurashtra1 zone and Saurashtra2 zone and South Gujarat zone. In each of the region, nodal organisation was identified and was given main responsibility of the proposed exposure tour. This workshop was followed by three regional workshops for detailed planning. This process involved more than 50 organisations including a marine ecology and environment activists.

3. A state level workshop was conducted on ***Gram Swaraj Campaign*** was conducted on 20th March joint efforts of Janpath, Gram Swaraj Samiti, Mahila Swaraj Abhiyan, Pravah, Unnati and WIPRA. Over 60 representatives of voluntary organisations, CBOs and Sarvoday Mandals participated in the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to choke out detailed action plan of Gram Swaraj Campaign.

Before the workshop, the literature about concept of Gram Swaraj campaign was circulated to more than 500 organisations and individuals all over Gujarat and received great response from the fields. In the first session of the workshop organisations gave their feedback and comments on concept, while in the second session planning exercise was carried out. Until end of December, more than 1200 villages will be covered under this campaign in the first phase. This workshop was followed by two regional planning meetings.

4. ***Training programme on Occupational Health and safety*** was conducted in Vadodara in collaboration with Paryavaraniya Vikas Kendra, Rajkot, PTRC and Janpath. 22 activists from voluntary organisations attended the training. Following issues were discussed in the training:

Details of types of health hazards in various occupations and the remedial measures can be taken to prevent or reduce the risk to ones health while working, legal provisions for accidents at workplace, social challenges, people's movements, and role of information were also discussed in detail.

4.0 Publications:

This year we came out with three publications

1. ***Vruksh-Prem Shows the Path of Change.*** A booklet on remarkable work on water conservation and harvesting in Saurashtra with effective peoples participation. Over 1575 water check dams have been constructed with more than 70 % people's contribution in last 5 years. This has resulted into revival of 'Fofal' River that was gone dry for last many years. The water table are as high as 10-15 feet even during peak summer. The booklet is published in both the languages English and Gujarati.
2. ***Kali Majoori Dholu Mithu*** (A booklet of selected d photographs by Ambubhai Patel, A giving voice to issues of salt pan workers in Gujarat. Ambubhai himself belongs to Agariya (salt

pan worker) family. Pictures stories made by him will play key role in advocacy with larger society. The publication cost of this booklet was sponsored by Dr. Vasnatbhai Parikh, convener of Agariya Heet Rakshak Manch, a forum promoted by Janpath on the issues of Salt pan workers of Gujarat.

3. A handbook *on Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act 2000 and State Rules.* Janpath earlier had published the act and commentary in Gujarati and found over overwhelming response from its members. This book is also used as resource material for training of JJ functionaries by dept of social justice and empowerment. System and police training academy. State rules for the JJ Act were framed in March 2004. We have published booklet of bare act and the rules, in Gujarati, which will be widely circulated to organisations working on child rights, police stations, Juvenile Justice Board, Child Welfare Committees and other JJ functionaries.

4.1 A Process of developing the future plan of action.....

In the year 2004, JANPATH completed 15 years of its existence. Members of JANPATH expressed the need to review the past activities of JANPATH and prepare a medium term (2005-2008) plan of action.

In view of this it was decided to carryout a planning exercise. For this purpose the president of JANPATH, set up a three persons committee including Mr. Rajesh Shah (Managing Director, SAVE) as convener, Mr. Prasad Chako, (Former Director, BSC) and Harinesh Pandya, (Executive Secretary, JANPATH) as members.

The committee met several times and discussed the current activities of JANPATH and its relevance. The group discussed about the nature and character of JANPATH as state level forum of VOs. Committee studied in detail the discussion notes of general body meeting, Governing Body meetings and working groups meetings on various issues during past two years. Where in members expressed their concern on invasion on natural resources, increasing salinity in land and water resources, issues related to livelihood of fishing community and saltpan workers, increasing investments along the coastal belt leading to pressure on natural resources in the region ... vis a vis the role of JANPATH.

Other major issues of discussion included the programmes and activities of JANPATH in the context of changing external environment and approaches of voluntary sector, linkages with

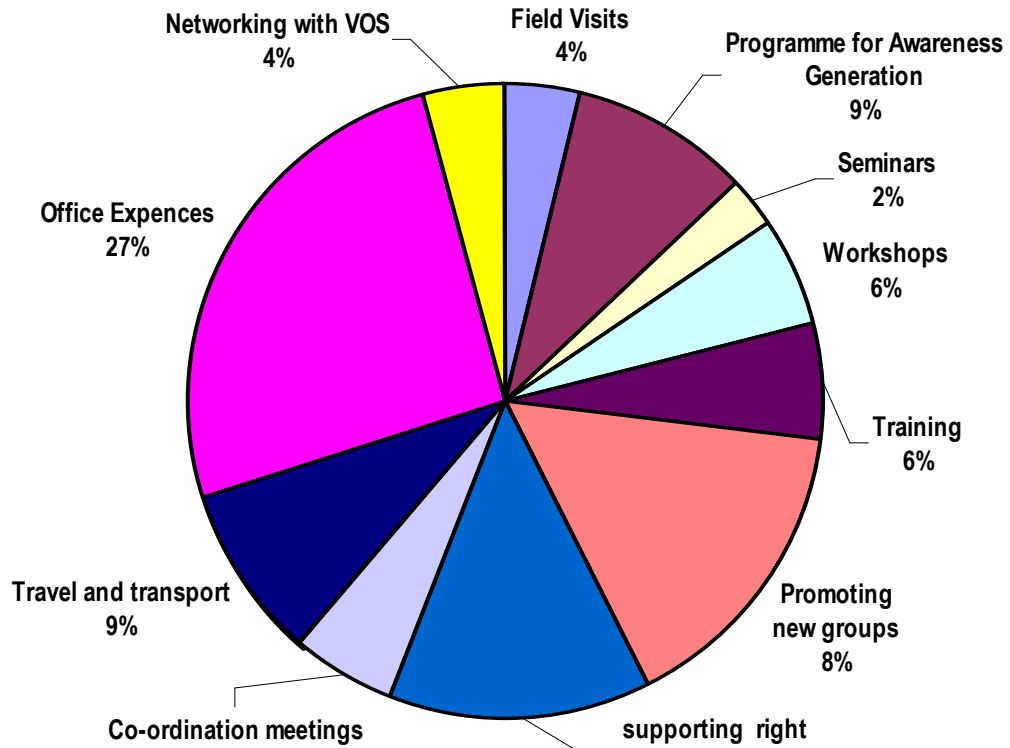
other VOs as well as present and future organizational structure, and human and financial resources.

The Committee observed that JANPATH has been playing very important role in promoting and strengthening voluntarism in the state for more than a decade. It was strongly felt that along with carrying out specific networking activities and expanding its area of influence, it has also been providing vital solidarity support– (hand holding and warmth at the times of crisis) to its members. Given the mission and objectives of JANPATH, its networking activities both on specific critical issues in Gujarat, as well as more general participative an solidarity work with its members was recognized as its most significant contribution.

Further it was also observed that JANPATH over the years has evolved as a forum of like-minded persons/ groups sharing similar social values and goals. JANPATH through its members has its presence in almost each block of the state. This has been possible due to strong but low profile nature of its leadership, which ensures sufficient space and autonomy for its members.

Committee felt that present role and nature of JANPATH of providing solidarity support and networking activities needs to be retained and enhanced while planning its future programmes.

4.2 Programme and Activity wise Expenditure for the financial year 2004-2005



4.2 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:

Anil Bhatt

Indukumar Jani

Premji Patel

Devuben Pandya

Kalubhai Dangar

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

Slab of gross salary (in Rs.)	Male	Female	Total
Plus benefits paid to staff	staff	staff	staff

2250-7500	4	2	6
7,500-12,500	2	1	3
12,500-17,500	-	-	-
17,500-27,500	-	-	-
Total	6	3	9

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 2004-2005.

Sr. No	Name of the person travelled	Dates of travel / number of days	Purpose	Train/Air & Destination of travel	Expenses born by Janpath
1.	Harinesh Pandya & Pankti Jog	26—28 th July 2004	Partners meet of Terr Des Hommes Germany	Mumbai / Train	Rs.1123/-
2	Sachin Patel, Harinesh Pandya, Pankti Jog, Shailesh Vankar	7 th – 11 th October 2004	To attend 2 nd Right to Information Convention.	New-Delhi; Train	Rs. 10,282/-
3	Pankti Jog & Harinesh Pandya	1 st -3 rd March 2005	To attend International conference on Child Rights Protection in Disaster conducted by Child Helpline International (CHI)	Chennai/ Air	Sponsored 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.