



PEOPLES TRAINING & RESEARCH CENTRE

43, Shrinathdham Duplex, Dinesh Mill - Urmi Road, VADODARA - 390 007
Telefax - 0265 - 2345576, Email : ptrcvdr@yahoo.co.in, Website : www.peoplestraining.org



Annual Report for the year 2024 -25

Summary

During the reporting period, we could contact 721 workers exposed to silica, out of which 119 silicosis cases were identified and 38 of them died. A comparison with the figures for the year 2023-24 can be seen in the table below.

Year	Nos of new contacts	Silicosis patients from among new contacts	Death due to silicosis
2023 - 24	503	103	12
2024 - 25	721	119	38
Total in 2 years	1224	224	50

Looking at the figures for these two years, it has be seen that there was a increase of 43% in the new contacts during the report period and perhaps due to this there was a 15% increase in the identification of the silicosis patients. In 23-24, 12 deaths were reported but during 24-25, 38 deaths were reported which indicates an increase of 216%.

These patients are mostly from Surendranagar and Morbi districts. It is not that there are no silicosis patients in other districts of Gujarat but this picture emerges because the organization is active only in these two districts.

During the year, we filed two complaints before the National Human Rights Commission for 30 deaths and 48 survivors due to silicosis. In the previous year also, we had filed two complaints before the National Human Rights Commission which were for 19 deaths and 47 survivors due to silicosis. Our 15 complaints are pending before the Commission, in which details of 103 deaths and 198 survivors have been given.

During the year, the Gujarat Government paid Rs. 1/- lakh as compensation to the families of 8 workers who died due to silicosis. There is every possibility that this information is incomplete.

We continued to help the workers covered under the ESI Act to get them the benefits they are entitled to. Based on the available evidence of disability, we filed a petition for a patient with silicosis to get disability benefits and we were successful in it after a year. It was not paid till last year's report. We continued the representation and the payment was started but the patient died on 22/04/25. Now we have filed a petition for his widow to get dependent benefits.

During the year, we published posters, pamphlets and booklets on silicosis and safety of construction workers. The organization is currently supported by the Human Capability Foundation for the work on silicosis. A project on safety of construction workers was taken up for 3 years with the support of the Azim Premji Foundation in cooperation with the organization, but the work could not be done as expected, so the project was closed in August, 2024 and the remaining money was returned to the donor.

We continued to provide assistance to silicosis patients with equipment such as oxygen concentrators, nebulizers and toilet seats. We help the families of workers who have died due to silicosis to get financial assistance from the Gujarat government. During the year, we conducted many programs for awareness and advocacy. We received a lot of support from the media during the year, which can be understood by looking at the list of published reports.

At the end of the financial year 23-24 - on February 21, 2024, we, filed a petition in the Gujarat High Court on the issue of the state government not complying with an order given by the esteemed Supreme Court in 2017 through well-known human rights activist and the current President of Gujarat PUCL, Shri Anand Yagnik. We could do this only because he agreed to do this *pro bono*. It was not clear until the end of the year whether the court would admit the petition or not, so we avoided

mentioning it in the report of that year. During the period of this report, the matter was mentioned on 31 dates, but no order had been made regarding the admission, by the end of the year. However, at the time of writing this, a lot of progress has been made in this matter, which will be detailed in the next annual report.

Detailed Report

We participated in several on line meetings as listed below

No	Subject/Organization	Date
1	NAPM	12/04/24
2	ANROEV	14/04/24
3	ABAN	25/04/24
4	ANROEV	08/05/24
5	Status of workers in independent India - lecture presented in online meeting	11/05/24
6	Safe in India Foundation	17/05/24
7	LG Accident group	12/07/24
8	AAGIVEEKA	16/07/24
9	Safe in India Foundation	19/07/24
10	ANROEV	06/08/24
11	OEHNI	18/08/24
12	ANROEV	29/08/24
13	Silicosis group	09/09/24
14	LG Accident group	19/09/24
15	ANROEV	25/09/24
16	Silicosis group	19/10/24
17	IIPH Training	08/12/24
18	WPC Yatra planning	23/12/24
19	MFC Annual meeting planning	23/12/24
20	ANROEV	30/12/24

21	DHATRI online silicosis training	07/01/25
22	Call conference with Dr Zachariah & Dr Alex CMC Vellore	23/01/25
23	ABAN meeting	29/01/25
24	ANROEV	07/02/25
25	WPC Yatra meeting	08/02/25
26	MFC Feedback meeting	27/02/25
27	Attended online lecture by Dr.Ritu Priya	27/02/25
28	ANROEV	03/03/25
29	OEHNI Pune meeting participants	06/03/25
30	MFC OHS Group	14/03/25
31	CMC Vellore students -gave presentation	17/03/25
32	CMC Vellore students	24/03/25
33	ANROEV	25/03/25

During the year we made representation before different authorities as can be seen in the list below:

No	Date	To	Subject
1	05/04/24	Commissioner, H & FW, Govt of Gujarat	Silicosis diagnosis
2	08/04/24	Collector, Morbi	Demands by the patients
3	17/04/24	Principal Secy, Health & FW, Govt of Gujarat	For relief to be given to the silicosis patients
4	30/05/24	Collector, Morbi	Action demanded on the representation dated 08/04/24
5	30/05/24	CDHO, Morbi	Demand to issue health card to the patients
6	30/05/24	Suptd, Civil Hospital, Morbi	Demand to issue I card to the patients
7	08/06/24	Chief Minister, Gujarat	Good wishes & Demands
8	09/06/24	Minister, PDS, Gujarat	Demand to issue Antyidaay card to the silicosis patients

9	10/06/24	Minister, Social Welfare, Gujarat	Demands for the silicosis patients
10	10/06/24	Minister, Health and Family Welfare, Gujarat	Good wishes & Demands
11	10/06/24	Minister, Social Welfare, Gujarat	Good wishes & Demands
12	10/06/24	Labor commissioner, Gujarat	Problems faced by the claimants
13	11/06/24	DISH, Morbi	Action demanded to get compensation for 9 named patients
14	24/09/24	DISH RAJKOT	For better enforcement of Factory Act
15	09/12/24	CDHO, Morbi	Providing Oxygen concentrators to the silicosis patients
16	26/12/24	Collector, Morbi	
17	26/12/24	CDHO, Morbi	Silicosis diagnosis at the Civil Hospital Morbi
18	07/01/25	Collector, Morbi	
19	13/01/25	Certifying Surgeon Rajkot	
20	15/01/25	District Child Protection Officer. Surendranagar	Action reg child labor suffering from silicosis
21	26/01/25	Guj Legal Service Authority, Gandhinagar	Representation to the services for silicosis patient in Morbi
22	26/01/25	I.K.Jadeja, Sr leader BJP	For representation with the Gujarat government
23	05/02/25	Secy, Lab & Employment	Introduction
24	06/02/25	DISH, Morbi	Demand to consider disability of the silicosis patient to be 100%
25	10/02/25	Secy, Lab & Employment	Demand to frame rehab policy for silicosis patients
26	18/02/25	Secy, Lab & Employment	
27	27/02/25	Minister, Lab and Employment	Seeking appointment
28	19/03/25	GMERS.Morbi	
29	23/03/25	Collector. Morbi	Provided list of silicosis patients in Morbi with reference to a question raised in legislative

			assembly
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Help and support to the victim:

One fine day we received a phone call. Some lady was speaking from the other end in very low voice. She was Ms.Zubeda Sarkar, silicosis victim in Kahmbhat. Her husband is disabled and can not work. The couple have no issue. We helped them to get one month ration in the month of May, 24. We then requested a philanthropic organization to help her. They started paying her monthly pension.

Visited

1. 14 April Gandhinagar- Got the copy of the resolution for Rs. 4lakh financial assistance in case of death due to silicosis. Visited Labor secretariat and represented for ESI MAT in Vadodara. Made representation before the Health Secretary for various demand like Oxygen concentrator etc.Visited NIOH and met with Dr. Rupani and other scientists.
2. Visited Stone park training institute in Dhrangadhra with Akhilesh Pandey on 30 April and had fruitful discussion with the faculties of the institute.
3. On 10 June we visited Minister, Food supply, Government of Gujarat to help Silicosis patients get Antyoday card. The Minister was sympathetic to the demand and immediately contacted the Secretary to add this item on the agenda of the meeting to be held next day. We were told that the Ministry will seek opinion from the Ministry of health to confirm if silicosis is a serious disease. We also visited offices of the Chief Minister, Health Minister, Social Welfare minister and deposited memorandum.
4. We joined Gujarat Anna Suraksha Adhikar Abhiyan in a meeting with the Secretary,Public distribution ministry at his office in Gandhinagar on 10 July to discuss the pending issues including Antyoday card to the silicosis patients
5. Visited Dr.Durgesh Modi at his Ahmedabad clinic on 20 July to introduce PTRC work. We presented him our publications
6. Visited office of the Partner in Charge in New Delhi and talked to the staff on PTRC journey on 9 August
7. Visited Dr. Vihang Majmudar, retired professor, PSM, Government Medical College, Vadodara on 21 September. Presented him with PTRC publications
8. Visited a silicosis patient and her family at village Dabka in Padra taluka on 5 November
9. Visited head of the Physiotherapy department of civil hospital, Morbi on 2 January to discuss the services to be provided to the silicosis patients visiting Civil Hospital. Also visited RMO of the hospital to represent problems faced by the silicosis patients. We then visited the CDHO also and made representation. Later in the day we visited District TB officer.
10. Visited Dr. Ramesh Raval, a leading family physician in Dhrangadhra to introduce PTRC activities and appeal him to support on 2 January.

11. Visited Principle Secretary, Labor and Employment, Government of Gujarat on 4 February at his office in Gandhinagar to introduce PTRC and make representation for rehabilitation policy for silicosis patients

12. Visited Director of Center for Culture and Development, Vadodara on 24 March to introduce PTRC. We presented a set of our publications

Training/Talk

13. On 8 July we joined training organized by AAjeevika Bureau for their fellows at Ahmedabad. We gave presentation named "Beyond hard hats" on safety and health at work

14. On 23 July talked to a group of students from department of journalism, at Vadodara

15. Gave a talk on the autobiography of Alice Hamilton on 24 January on invitation by a literary group called Sahitya Samipe at Vadodara

Work with ESI:

16. On 12 June our staff from Dhrangadhra along with silicosis survivor attended Suvridha Samagam At Ahmedabad to represent case of Dinesh Bhaktiram Chauhan who was waiting for disablement benefit for a long time.

17. Attended Suvridha Samagam on 30 October at Vadodara to represent complaints of insured persons

18. Attended Suvridha Samagam at Vadodara on 5 March to represent complaints

Attended

1. On 22 June, we attended a meeting organized by SVNIT, Surat on Safety of construction workers. Jagdish Patel was invited to speak on Occupational health of the construction workers

2. Meeting invited by Safe in India Foundation at Delhi on 8 & 9 August

3. Meeting invited by JAGORI on domestic workers in Delhi on 22 & 23 August. Spoke on OHS on 23 August

4. Attended meeting invited by Jan Swasthya Abhiyan India at Gandhi Peace Foundation, Delhi on 24 August

5. Attended meeting organized by a group of trade unions and labor NGOs on labor coded at Ahmedabad on 14 September. Spoke on OHS code before the audience

6. Attended a training of youth at Lok Niketan, Ratanpur Banaskantha on 24/11/24 and spoke on OHS

7. Attended UNNATI meeting on Disaster management at Vadodara on 29/11/24. Made presentation.

8. Attended various programs as ANROEV representative to commemorate Bhopal gas leak disaster in December 1984 at Bhopal from 2 December to 5 December. Spoke at one of the meetings

9. Attended a meeting at Gandhi Bhavan, Bhopal on 5 December by SOCHARA and friends which was invited to meet us. I was given opportunity to talk on OHS Situation in the country

10. Attended meeting of activists of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan India at Bhopal on 20 February

11. Attended Medico Friend Circle annual meeting at Bhopal from 21 -23 February. We handled one session on Silicosis and other OH issues. The meeting was well attended. At the end of the meeting a group on OHS was formed which was joined by the students and others attending the meeting. The group would work on the issues in future

12. Attended a meeting invited by SEWA at Ahmedabad to discuss their new cross country project on OHS issues of unorganized sector women workers on 18 March

Visitors:

1. Journalist Akhilesh Pandey visited us from 27 April to 30 April. We took him to Rajkot, Than. Morbi and Dhrangadhra where he met with the silicosis survivors and their families. His article was later published in CARAVAN

2. Mr. Raja Singh, Delhi visited us on 1 September with reference to his research on asbestos and mesothelioma

Organized:

1. Observed International Workers Memorial Day on 28 April at Thangadh. It was attended by the family members who lost their loved ones in Silicosis as well as the silicosis patients, industrial workers and interested citizens

2. On 19 June we organized a medical camp for the diagnosis of Silicosis at Hasanpur village in Wanakaner taluka of Morbi district.

3. Organised meet with the Press in Morbi to share with them the situation of Silicosis

4. Organised meeting with a group of Silicosis victims in Khambhat on 2 July.

5. Organized training for construction workers at Ahmedabad under Azim Premji project with PRAYAS on 20 July

6. On behalf of OEHNI we organised a meeting at Pune on 11/12 December for the meeting. Report of the meeting is available on request.

7. We organized a physiotherapy camp in Morbi in collaboration with the Sheth College of Physiotherapy, Rajkot for Silicosis patients on January 1, 2025. Patients from Morbi, Than and Dhrangadhra attended the camp. Their PFT was done and counseling was provided by the students of the physiotherapy college. The venue in Morbi was offered by Aryatej Physiotherapy college.

8. Organised meeting with the Silicosis patients in Morbi on 2 January

Donation

1. We received Oxygen concentrator from Sri Jagrut Gadit (Vadodara) for the use of silicosis victims in Surendranagar

2. We received a desk top computer from Sri Brijesh Ranpariya, Morbi.

3. 100 spirometers were donated by a donor, wishing not to be named for the use of Silicosis patients.



As for ESI, 8 silicosis patients from Thangadh were invited for medical check-up at ESI Hospital, Ahmedabad on 20/01/25 but none has received any communication thereafter. During the medical check-up they carried out several tests like X-ray, PFT. It is verbally communicated that the files have been

sent to the HQ for decision.

Organizing victims:

Realizing our own error on emphasis to organize silicosis patients, in this period we paid little more attention. We started weekly online staff meeting to remind them of the project activities and requesting them to prepare a plan for the week, discuss and finalize. The meeting would also discuss execution of the planning.



As a result in this period, we had 20 meetings in all in 3 centers in which 120 numbers of patients attended. When needed we extended travel support to the victims and also served food. The meeting would discuss the problems faced by them and the action plan. They will decide the Government officer to

be visited and make a plan with our help. The plan would be executed.



Oxygen concentrators:

At present we have 3 oxygen concentrators in use. We received these in donation from Bhansali Trust as well as one individual in Baroda. Out of total 10 we received, 7 need repairs and not in use.



In addition, we received one concentrator from Red Cross, Ahmedabad.

5 concentrators have been given by the health department in Morbi to five patients

Volunteers

We paid some more attention to locate and appoint volunteers. Now we have 9 volunteers, 3 in each center. They are helping us in locating the patients, helping us in organizing meetings with the workers as well as the victims and so on.

Child Labor

In January we came across a bed ridden patient in a small village in Surendranagar district. He is diagnosed having silicosis. When we sought more details, we found that he was 16-year-old boy. His father said that his wife was suffering from cancer and he was under heavy debt for her treatment. Hence, he was forced to send his son to earn. He was employed by a ceramic unit where he got exposed to silica. He started working from the age of 14.



Silicosis among non-worker:

Daxaben Katariya is a house wife. Her husband was employed by a ceramic factory. They were given a room inside the factory premises to stay. Daxaben developed a tumor on her

shoulder so she visited a physician. Physician referred her for X-ray. She was informed that the tumor may be that of TB but her X-ray chest was showing unusual opacities. She was diagnosed having Silicosis. This came as a great chock to the couple. She informed us that the trucks bringing raw material in the form of powder would be unloaded in front of her room all day and night. The dust would flow inside the room. She did not know that it was so dangerous.



When diagnosed, the couple left the job and went to their native in Vadodara district.

In Morbi all most all the units provide rooms to the workers to stay inside. There must be hundreds of family members staying with their earning members.



How many family members might be suffering from this dreaded disease is a mystery.

State should have a policy or a legal provision not to allow anyone to stay in the factory premises.

Important intervention by a political leader:

Dhrangadhra is a town where sand large numbers of workers are engaged in sand stone carving to make statues and temple idols. This is an unorganized industry though there are some factories employing numbers of workers. But these units do not get registered under the Factory Act nor ESI Act. There is a notification published by the Government of Gujarat to bring all the units, even if employing one worker, under Factory Act, if the work involves exposure to silica. This provision is not enforced. So, workers here are neither protected nor have any social security.

Mr.I.K.Jadeja is a political leader from the ruling party. He represented this constituency for a long time and was a Minister also. In his early life, he was employed by Dhrangadhra Chemical Works, a huge chemical factory in the town. This is the only factory in the region. He was in safety department. Through a common contact we approached him to seek his help. Our common friend talked to him over phone and requested him to look at the appeal that we had sent. He looked at it and he not only agreed, but wrote a recommendation on his letter head and sent it to the Minister, Labor and Employment. He then invited to meet him to represent any other problems faced by the workers. We plan to meet him in next month.

Important visits and meetings:

A new Secretary was appointed in the Labor and Employment department. We decided to visit him to welcome him. Through a common friend we sought his appointment. He immediately agreed. We met him and introduced ourselves and our work. Later we sent him two separate representations briefing him the problem, NHRC recommendation for rehabilitation policy and request for concrete action in this regard.

We are also trying to set up meeting with the Minister, Labor and Employment.

At local level PTRC staff kept meeting with the district collector in Morbi and Surendranagar, Industrial Safety and Health officers, Government Labor officers and Dy Labor commissioners, District Health officers, Superintendents of the civil hospitals, ESIC officers, TB officers, ASHA workers and other officers.

We also kept visiting private medical professionals, social workers, political leaders and the journalists of print and electronic media.

CARAVAN Story:

Caravan is prestigious magazine. Mr. Avainash Pandey accompanied with his photographer visited us and stayed with us for 3 days visiting Rajkot, Than, Morbi and Dhrangadhra. That was in last April. The story got published in its September issue. The story titled, "Choking to death – Silica dust from India's industries is killing its workers" runs into 29 pages. The story takes note of silicosis patients in Gujarat from Rajkot, Morbi and Thangadh. With the print story it also produced a documentary which also has interviews from Gujarat.

Employers Association organized camp:

Employer's organization in Thangadh, under tremendous pressure organized a seminar first. In this seminar the speakers spread blatant lies about silicosis. The industry leaders said that even nuisance dust on road can lead to Silicosis. Industry is un necessarily blamed for Silicosis. Then they also wailed that the workers have habit of drinking alcohol which impact their health and not silicosis.

Later, the employer's association organized a medical camp. It was declared that the camp would be for three days. At the end of the first day, they issued a press note in which it was claimed that so and so numbers of workers were examined at the medical camp but not a single case of silicosis was detected! Surprised, the silicosis victims in Thangadh, few concerned citizens, workers and volunteers decided to make an inquiry. Next day, they visited the camp with a demand to examine themselves. But they were asked to get a prior sanction from the Association office to get examined. Workers suspected foul play. They inquired about the people who were already waiting there for their turn for the medical examination. To their shock and surprise, they found that those waiting were some non-workers and some were workers but not exposed to silica. So, they started shouting at the organizers and demanded to close the camp. Later, the delegation visited the Mamlatdar (Block Officer) and represented. Mamlatdar then issued a notice to the Association leaders. Media took serious note and carried stories about the fake medical camp. Their program came to a tragic end.

Case for Guj Human Rights Commission:

Babubhai and his wife Chetnaben, both were employed by a well-known ceramic factory. The couple was given a room in the factory premises to stay. Babubhai's health deteriorated and despite treatment there was no improvement. They waited for 3 months and then went to an expert who referred them for CT scan. Based on the CT scan report, he was diagnosed having Silicosis. He informed the management. Management transferred him to another department. Until now, his wages were deposited in the Bank but now, they started paying them in cash. The management attitude had changed and the couple suspected that they will be fired. The couple has a mentally retarded girl to look after. For some personal reasons, Chetnaben had to take leave for few days which she took with prior intimation. But, when she resumed duty, she was told by the Supervisor that her services have been terminated. So, she represented with the owner who abused her and refused to allow her to resume the duty. When she reported to her husband, he got shocked and depressed. His health suddenly deteriorated and had a bout of breathlessness. She immediately took him to the Civil hospital for hospitalization where she reported the case. The hospital considered it to be a medico-legal case and reported to the police. Next day, the police arrived at the hospital and invited her to another floor for statement. When she went there, she found that the factory supervisor and his colleague were there and they requested her not to file complaint with the police but Chetnaben was firm. Thereafter, the owner of the factory appeared there with a woman police officer. The police officer tried to persuade Chetnaben not to file complaint. When Chetnaben did not retract, she threatened her of the dire consequences. In the meanwhile, another police constable went to Babubhai who was admitted on the upper floor, asked him to sign on a paper, saying that your wife has agreed not to file complaint! He signed the paper, trusting the police. But he was cheated. He was not even allowed to read the statement nor was allowed to take a picture.

When Chetnaben came to know about this fraud, she decided to fight out. Babubhai took discharge from the hospital. The couple visited the police station at 10.30 pm to get the FIR registered. The police did not agree. The couple decided to stay in the police station, till their demand is not met. At 1 am Babubhai's health deteriorated and he had to be rush to the hospital again and was admitted in civil hospital in emergency.

Next day, she again went to the police station but the police refused to register the complaint. She then contacted PTRC and sought help. PTRC Coordinator Chirag helped her file an on-line complaint with copy to DGP and other higher up officers.

Later she filed complaint with the Gujarat Human Rights Commission also.

As a result of these efforts, they were allowed to stay in the factory premises. The management also negotiated to offer compensation. Since it was much less than the amount they would get under the provisions of the law, they refused to accept.

The Factory inspector filed several complaints in the court for violating the provisions of the Factory Act against the employer.

Struggle continues.

Physiotherapy Camp:



When PTRC visited the Physiotherapist in the Civil hospital to explore the possibility of providing physiotherapy to the silicosis patients, we were advised to contact Physiotherapy college in Rajkot. Chirag then talked to the Dean of the college and then visited the college. It was decided that a camp would be organized by the college. The college helped PTRC to get in touch with a newly started Physiotherapy college near Morbi. It was decided that on 1 January the camp would be organized in the college in Morbi. Students would come from Rajkot college equipped with the machine for carrying out lung function test and provide counseling. PTRC agreed to pay for the bus fare for the students. Local college offered lunch for everyone. On January 1, 40 patients came from Than, Dhrangadhra and Morbi. All of them went for lung function test and then explained what exercise can help them. Demonstration of use of spirometer was also shown and were advised to buy the spirometer.

Next day we visited the Physiotherapy department in the Civil hospital, Morbi who had advised us to contact Rajkot college. We thanked him for his help and advice. During the discussion we informed him that the patients have been advised to use spirometer but they may not afford buying it. He immediately contacted a trader to know the rates. The trader offered him huge discount if bought in bulk. He then contacted a donor and talked to him if he can donate 100 spirometers. The donor immediately agreed. Order was placed and in 2-days' time 100 spirometers were supplied.

We distributed them to 27 the silicosis victims in Dharngadhra, Thangadha and Morbi. Here, priority has been given to those who attended the Physio camp and knew the importance of its use and know how to use it.



ESI Survey:

As planned, we started working on the survey. We designed the tool which is kept as simple as possible. Carried out field tests before finalizing and after finalizing, got them printed. Real challenge was to convince the workers to be respondents. Initially we spent a good deal of time to find the volunteers for the survey. We visited the colleges and talked to some college students and offered them some handsome amount but we could not find any. Then we talked to some workers and some NGOs. Initially it was very disappointing we but we kept trying different strategies and ultimately, we succeeded.

We have been able to fill up 1000 forms already. The goal is to reach 2,000. We have started talking to some people for data entry and hopefully it will start soon.

It may take 2 more months to complete the survey, data entry, analysis and preparation of report.

Right to information Act:

We filed 11 RTIs before various authorities.

No	RTI before	Date	Information sought
1	ESIC Local office, Morbi	02/09/24	Information on the notified areas under ESI Act in Morbi district, List of the units registered under ESI Act in Morbi, Data on TDB paid for ODs
2	Civil Hospital, Morbi	04/09/24	Data on silicosis and the existing facilities
3	Civil Hospital, Rajkot	20/09/24	Data on silicosis and of the Committee on Silicosis exist
4	CDHO, Morbi	20/09/24	Committee on

			Silicosis
5	CDHO, Rajkot	20/09/24	Committee on Silicosis
6	M G Hospital, Surendranagar	30/09/24	Data on silicosis and Committee on Silicosis
7	Asst. Comm. Of Labor office, Morbi	07/10/24	Nos of claims received by the office for Financial Assistance, rejected claims and the reasons thereof
8	ESIC Local office, Morbi	28/01/25	List of the units registered under ESI Act in Morbi with the copies of RCs
9	DISH, Morbi	6/02/25	Action taken with reference to the Guj High Court order to consider 100% disability in case of silicosis
10	Civil Hospital, Rajkot	18/02/25	Data on silicosis, List of members of the committee on Silicosis, details of the meetings of the committee
11	Collector, Morbi	25/02/25	Minutes of the meetings of committee on Silicosis

Training :

Chirag was selected



for the “Health Equity Course – 2024” by PRAYAS, Rajasthan in collaboration with Asian Health Network. More than 60 candidates applied to take up the course. After due process, Chirag was selected. PRAYAS is a well-known voluntary agency working on health rights.

The course was conducted at Jaipur from 12 Nov 2024 to 22 Nov 2024

Course objective : To build a community of young leaders and health frontiers for bridging health inequity through community mobilization and building effective demand for conducive health care policies and practices so as to make free, quality and accountable health care available and accessible to all.

राष्ट्रीय मानव अधिकार पंच समक्ष करेली इरीयादो:

Filed new complainant on Morbi district on 17 September and for Surendranagar on 18 September.

Morbi complaint was for _ silicosis deaths and _ survivor

PTRC in the media

In this period some 20 stories were carried by the local and vernacular media. 4 stories in electronic media appered.

NO	Name of the media		Title	Pic
1	Divya Bhaskar	14/9/24	Workers facing problems claiming compensation	
2	Divya Bhaskar	17/09/24	Second death in a month	
3	Divya Bhaskar	12/09/24	15 deaths in Ceramic in 6 months	
4	Divya Bhaskar	13/09/24	Migrant workers not registered for fear of compensation	
5	Fulchhab	10/09/24	15 deaths in Ceramic in 6 months	
6	Divya Bhaskar	20/09/24	No medical officers employed by the ceramic units	

7	Divya Bhaskar	21/09/24	Medical check-ups not carried out by the ceramic units	
8	Divya Bhaskar	01/10/24	Demand for free treatment	
9	Divya Bhaskar	02/10/24	Memorandum presented to the Collector	
10	Divya Bhaskar	11/10/24	Allegations of irregularities	
11	Amulya Gujarat	11/10/24	Allegations of irregularities	
12	Lok Samasya	28/10/24	After filing complaint with NHRC by PTRC, workers benefitted	
13	Divya Bhaskar	04/12/24	No protective equipment for workers in Morbi ceramic units	
14	Vatsalyam Samachar	24/10/24	Worker threatened by the employer aided by police	
15	Shwet Samachar	11/01/25	Expanding Silicosis in units near Thangadh	
16	Divya Bhaskar	11/11/24	Irregularities in medical camp in Thangadh	
17	Divya Bhaskar	10/01/25	Pulmonologist needed in Morbi Civil	
18	Morbi Mirror	14/01/25	Silicosis patients demand pension	
19	Divya Bhaskar	29/01/25	Oxygen concentrators given to the patients	
20	Vatsalyam Samachar	09/02/25	Silicosis victims demand effective officer for better	

			enforcement	
21	GTPL News channel https://youtu.be/I7srUuCLUoE?si=FycZbtQUHQG_JLIK	14/10/24	Representation before Collector, Surendranagar	
22	GTPL New Channel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JCuwUUpxcM4	10/11/24	Irregularities at Medical camp by Employer's association	
23	GTPL News Channel https://youtu.be/0e69FhmTFGg?si=9yXm_fLnkimPKEue	8/12/24	Chetnaben Babubhai presenting her demand for compensation	
24	GTPL News Channel https://youtu.be/4-u1EY_vbnI?si=SBMxpD_a01j-e0qn	28/01/25	Officer responsible for enforcement of Factory Act	

Our team:

PTRC has 3 field officers for the silicosis project in its team - one each at Morbi, Than and Dhrangadhra. We have Chirag Chavda in Morbi, Darshan Parmar in Than and Naveen Ramanuj in Dhrangadhra. We appointed Mr. Sarthak Tomar as the project director in November, 23 but he left at the end of January, 24 due to personal reasons. We appointed staff for the silicosis project in Rajkot, Wankaner, Surendranagar and Than but they did not stay with us for long. We appointed two field investigators for the project run with the support of Azim Premji but one of them left us while Akhilesh Parmar continues to work. Mr. Rohit Patel has been appointed as part-time accountant while Niranjana Patel helps voluntarily in maintaining the accounts.