



NAVSARJAN

Xavier's Cell for Human Development

**Annual Report
2023-2024**



NAVSARJAN

Xavier's Cell for Human Development



Annual Report 2023-2024



Published by

Navsarjan

Xavier's Cell for Human Development, Surat

Near Old RTO., Ring Road, Surat-395001 Phone: (0261)2475683, 2472226

Email: navsarjansurat1986@gmail.com

www.navsarjan-surat.org

Contents

1) Navsarjan: Introduction	2
Establishment and Objectives:	2
Methodology:	2
Areas of Navsarjan's Interventions:	2
Vision:	2
Mission:	2
 2) Activities of Navsarjan	
1) Women's Organizations:	3
2) Education Department	8
3) Adolescent Empowerment Program	13
4) Rag Pickers Women's Association	14
5) Navchetan Trust	14
6) PEOPELSJ	16
7) Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society Limited	17
8) Surat Child- Line Help Desk 1098	19
9) Legal Aid Center	20
10) Street Children Welfare Program	20
11) Work with Migrant People	21
12) Housing	22
13) Training and Celebrations	23
14) Visits by Partner Organizations	23
3) Challenges	24

1) Navsarjan: Introduction

✦ Establishment and Objectives:

Navsarjan Xavier's Cell for Human Development is a non-profit organization run by the Gujarat Jesuits established in the year 1986.

Its main objective is to promote inclusive development and improved governance by empowering women, children, communities and urban informal and seasonal migrant workers.

✦ Methodology:

A comprehensive methodology for Navsarjan's objectives would involve Works in partnership with community-based organizations (CBOs) and communities.

Focuses on empowerment, helping people understand their capacities and rights and become active citizens.

✦ Areas of Navsarjan's Interventions:

1. Women empowerment, gender equality and community development
2. Child rights, protection and development
3. Informal workers and seasonal migrant labour in urban areas
4. Legal aid: support to marginalized communities, especially women and children

✦ Vision:

An egalitarian society, nation and world that prioritizes justice, non-discrimination and inclusion. A society that values everyone's well-being and provides opportunities for all to reach their full potential and contribute to a sustainable planet.

✦ Mission:

Navsarjan's mission is to improve the lives of poor, marginalized and discriminated people by empowering them and helping them access human and constitutional rights. This mission is achieved through partnerships with community-based organizations already working with these communities.

Navsarjan is committed to working with any individual or community regardless of religion, caste, tribe, culture, gender or socio-economic status.

2) Activities of Navsarjan

1. Women's Group
2. Navchetana Trust
3. Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative
4. Rag Picker's Association
5. Tuition / Balwadi Classes
6. Computer Classes

7. Sewing Classes
8. Classes for school dropouts and children who never went to school
9. Street Children Welfare Program
10. Surat Railway Child Help Desk Childline 1098 Program
11. Government Schemes
12. PEOPLESJ Program
13. Legal Aid Centre
14. Work with migrant communities 15. Housing

1) Women's Organizations:

a) Women's Groups (Mahila Mandal): As part of its strategy, Navsarjan forms women's groups in slum areas and empowers these groups by providing training so that they can work on local issues. Navsarjan works in a total of 52 slum areas, out of which women's groups have been formed in 32 areas. These groups organized a total of 341 core committee meetings in 2023-24, in which 2638 members participated.



b) Gali Meetings: Navsarjan also organizes Gali meetings to connect with community members and understand their issues. These meetings provide a platform to discuss local problems, women's issues and spread awareness about health. In 2023-24, Navsarjan workers organized 829 Gali meetings, in which 8643 community members participated.

c) Visits: School visits: There are a total of 42 government schools in Navsarjan's work areas. In 2023-24, a total of 366 school visits were made, in which 542 women's group members participated. During school visits, the women reviewed the school's situation by meeting with the school principal and teachers.





d) Ration shop visits: There are a total of 34 ration shops in Navsarjan's work areas. In 2023- 24, a total of 422 visits were made, in which 648 women's group members participated. During the visits, the women discussed with the ration shop owners whether adequate grains are being provided and the quality of the grains.

e) Anganwadi visits: There are 43 Anganwadi's in Navsarjan's work areas. In 2023-24, a total of 842 visits were made, in which 446 women's group members participated. During the visits, the women gathered information about new schemes Anganwadi workers.



f) Family visits: Navsarjan staff have made a total of 22,638 family visits to develop relationships with people, provide them various information, and help them avail benefits of schemes.

g) Ration Zone visits: In new working area, Navsarjan staff have taken 70 plus women from 7 areas like Chimni Tekro, Gandhinagar, Nehrunagar, Jawaharnagar, Salemnagar, Islampura and Razanagar for a visit to a ration zone. The women were informed about the work done in the ration zone. This was a first time these women have come out and went to meet the authorities



h) Health Centre and Ward Office visits: There were 23 women from 11 areas visited health centres and ward offices. The Officials provided information about the various departments and work of the health centres. These visits made the women aware of the different functions of the health centres and ward offices. These visits helped women to become aware of the facilities available for them and gave them confidence to gain access to these benefits directly.

i) Police Station visit: There were 23 women from 11 areas visited health centres and ward offices. The Officials provided information about the various departments and work of the health centres. These visits made the women aware of the different functions of the health centres and ward offices. These visits helped women to become aware of the facilities available for them and gave them confidence to gain access to these benefits directly.

There were 23 women from 11 areas visited health centres and ward offices. The Officials provided information about the various departments and work of the health centres. These visits made the women aware of the different functions of the health centres and ward offices. These visits helped women to become aware of the facilities available for them and gave them confidence to gain access to these benefits directly.



g) Other Activities of the Women's Groups

Navsarjan celebrates different festivals every year in its work areas. In 2023-24, it celebrated International Women's Day and national festivals.

1) Celebration of International Women's Day

On March 6, 2024, around 600 women gathered at the Municipal Community Hall, Harinagar-3, Udhna, Surat to celebrate International Women's Day. The chief guests for the event were Dr. Manishaben Jhawar, Gynaecologist, Surat and Shri. D.V. Gamit, Police Inspector, Cyber Crime Department, Surat.



The program began with a beautiful cultural performance by the women. This was followed by a poster exhibition to spread awareness on cervical cancer. Through this exhibition, the women were informed about the symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of cervical cancer.

At the end of the program, around 100 students of grades 10 and 12 were felicitated with certificates for their excellent academic performance.

The women participated in the program with great enthusiasm and energy. The cervical cancer awareness program was highly appreciated by the people.

2) Awareness Camp on Women's Helpline 181

An awareness program on the 181 Abhayam Women's Helpline was organized for a total of 148 people from 6 areas of Navsarjan's work. In these programs, the 181 team informed the women that 181 is a 24/7 toll-free number available to provide help to women facing any



kind of abuse or harassment. Women can call 181 Helpline to register complaints related to physical or mental harassment, domestic violence, inequality in education, crimes, and any other injustice. The women were also informed that they can download the 181 Helpline app on their phones to easily call 181 to seek assistance. The women asked many questions to the 181 team, who provided answers to all their queries.

3) Rally for Cleanliness Awareness



In collaboration with Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC), a rally was organized for cleanliness awareness and a puppet show was performed for children. The women from Rasulabad Women's Group, along with children, parents and SMC officials, took out a rally in the Rasulabad area to spread awareness and organized a program on cleanliness and malaria prevention.

October 2nd is celebrated as Gandhi Jayanti in India. As part of the celebrations, the women's groups of Rasulabad and Tukdeswar along with Surat Municipal Corporation carried out a cleanliness drive in these areas. A total of 56 people including children, sisters and brothers participated in the cleanliness drive and cleaned the entire area while also creating awareness among the people about cleanliness. This activity helped spread awareness about cleanliness among the people.

4) Eye Check-up Camp

To make slum dwellers understand the importance of eyes and eye care, and make them aware of eye diseases, a free eye check-up camp was organized by Suman Chemicals and Shri Jyotirlinga Charitable Trust in Rasulabad. A total of 108 male and female participants benefited from this camp, out of which 60 people were given spectacles as per the prescription. People were very happy with this camp and became aware about taking care of their eyes.



5) Kidney Disease Awareness Camp

Navsarjan organized kidney camps in its work areas to create awareness among people about kidney diseases. These camps were held in 27 different areas. A total of 595 women and 16 men participated in these camps.

At the health camps, participants received information about kidney diseases, including their symptoms and preventive measures.



These camps raised awareness about kidney disorders and taught people how to identify the warning signs.

Following the kidney awareness camps organized by the India Renal Foundation, participants were offered free screenings for blood sugar and blood pressure. These camps helped people learn about kidney diseases, recognize their symptoms, and receive basic health checks.

At the end of the screening, those found to have blood pressure and sugar issues were provided relevant medical advice.



6) Adolescent Girls' Camp: Health and Well-being in Adolescence



Navsarjan organized adolescent girls' camps in a total of 9 areas, with 203 adolescent girls participating. The main objective of the camps in 3 areas was to create awareness among the girls on important topics like menstruation, physical and mental health, education and marriage. The camps also emphasized the importance of proper nutrition, hygiene and exercise.

The key topics covered in these camps included: Menstruation - what, how and why? Caring for physical and mental health, importance of education and career, skills for making responsible decisions, and tips for living a happy and satisfying life. Navsarjan organized a one-day camp for adolescent girls from slum areas, attracting 200 participants from various localities. At this camp, Dr. Amiben Yajnik, a gynecologist, addressed precautions and concerns related to adolescent health.



The organizers also provided information about the National Institute of Open School (NIOS) for girls unable to attend regular schools. Through videos and discussions, the camp explored the excessive use of mobile phones and its harmful effects. These camps have offered adolescent girl's new perspectives on their health and education.

2) Education Department

A) Non-Formal Education Classes [Grades 1 to 7]

Sr. No.	Classes	No. of Classes	No. of Children
1	Tuition / Balwadi Classes	5	438
2	Classes for Dropouts and Working Children	1	67
Total		6	505

Educational Program for School Dropouts:

Navsarjan works with children who are not going to school and those who are working. A total of 1 class is run for these children, in which 67 children studied during the year. Here, they are provided education through a combination of knowledge and fun activities. In June 2023, a total of 15 children from this class were re-enrolled in schools after completing the



preparatory work. Various competitions and activities were organized throughout the year for the overall development of these children.

B) Skill Enhancement Classes

Sr. No.	Classes	Number of Classes	Number of Students
1	Sewing Classes	2	76
2	Computer Class	1	38
Total		3	114

Vocational Training:

Sewing Classes:

- 6-month course with 3 modules
- Exams were conducted at the end of each module
- Quality education focusing on direct stitching, systematic cutting, finishing the pattern, etc.
- Total 2 sewing classes are running with 76 women
- students.

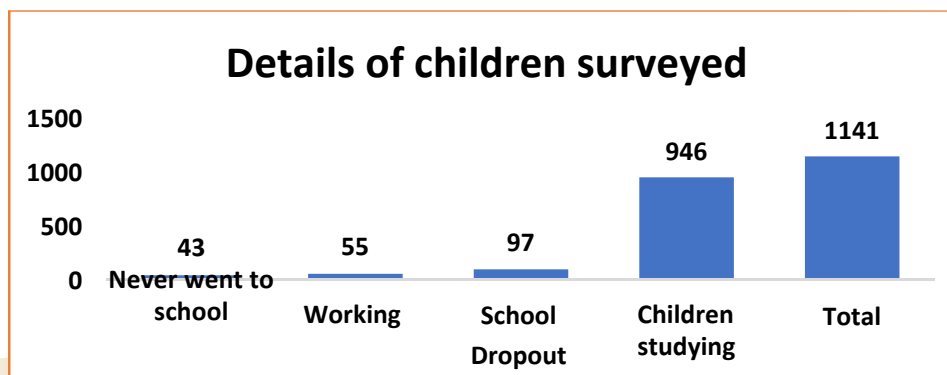


Computer Class:

- Currently, 1 class is running with 38 children
- Taught basic computer and Tally software accounting course
- Each child is given 1 hour
- 7 computers are provided in the class



A survey of 1141 children was conducted in 5 slum areas of Navsarjan's work to ensure the class benefits children from the local area.



- Parent-teacher meetings were held twice for the parents of students studying in Class 9. A total of 488 parents and 355 students attended these meetings. During these meetings, the progress of the students was discussed with their respective parents.
- The tuition teachers visited the school a total of 58 times during the year.
- A total of 13 meetings were held with the students, in which 622 students participated.
- Through parent-teacher meetings, a total of 3,109 home visits were conducted.
- Celebrations of all religious and national festivals were organized to promote communal harmony.
- Throughout the year, teachers participated in six training sessions designed to enhance their subject knowledge and improve their teaching skills.



- Health check-up camps were organized in 3 different locations, in which a total of 262 students participated. Students were also educated about maintaining personal hygiene.

- Monthly, half-yearly, and annual exams were conducted for the students in subjects like Mathematics, Science, and Gujarati. A total of 202 students appeared for these exams. Separate exams were also conducted for street children, dropouts, and students attending the sewing class.
- A welcome ceremony was organized at the start of the new academic session to welcome the students with joy and enthusiasm. A total of 297 students and 87 parents and women's group members participated in this event. The women's group members welcomed the students in their classrooms.



Special activities for children: 1) Science Exhibition by Slum Children



Children from 4 slum areas in Surat, managed by Navsarjan and Women's Group, organized a science exhibition. The main objective was to kindle interest in science among the children and provide them an opportunity to learn through experiments. Each area showcased 6-7 science projects. The exhibition was enthusiastically attended by the children,

parents, and local community members. The local community, principals and teachers from municipal schools, and students were present at the science exhibition.

2) Sewing Skill Demonstration

The Women's Group organized an exhibition showcasing dresses and other items sewn by students from their sewing classes. Students proudly displayed garments they had crafted themselves. The event, which combined the sewing exhibition with a science exhibition, drew an enthusiastic crowd of approximately 1,450 to 1,500 children and community



3) Distribution of Notebooks

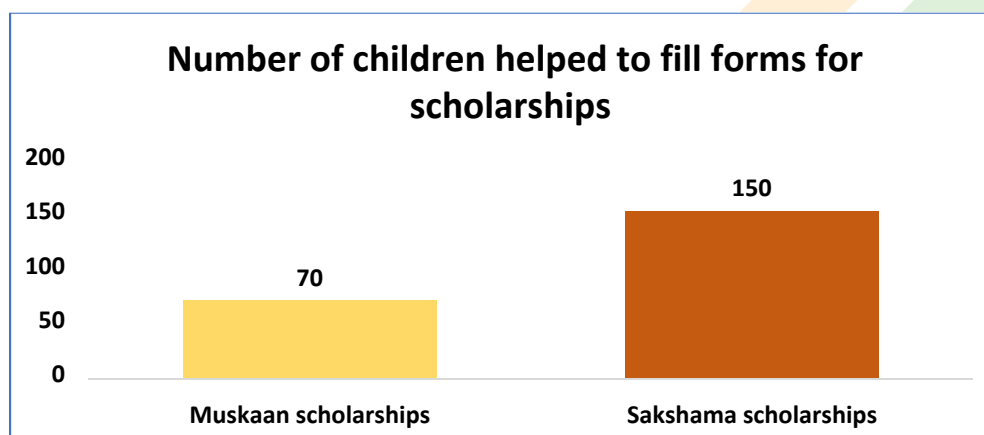


Navsarjan facilitated the distribution of stationery worth over Rs. 50,000, including notebooks, pens, pencils, and writing pads, for 300 children to support their studies at the start of the new academic year. This assistance was greatly appreciated by the children and parents. A benevolent individual distributed notebook, ballpoint pens, and pencils to a total of 90 children from the tuition and computer classes in the Bhatha area on the occasion of their birthday. The individual also encouraged the children to study harder.

4) Muskaan and Sakshama Scholarship Camps by Synergy Company

Navasarjan collaborated with Synergy Company, which provides scholarships from grade 1 to post-graduation. Navasarjan facilitated the application process for the Muskaan and Sakshama scholarships for the children in its operational area. **A total of 220 children received scholarships worth Rs. 21,30,000**, which boosted the motivation and aspirations of our children and their parents.





5) Training on Constitution and Preamble

Navsarjan and women's Group provided training on the Constitution and its Preamble to children attending their classes. The training, which incorporated educational videos, saw participation from 146 children across four areas.



6) Sports Day

Sports Day was organized to bring out hidden talents in children and encourage participation in various sports. 447 children and 43 parents/women's group members from 4 areas enthusiastically played different games.



7) Assistance in NIOS Form Filling

Seventeen children who had dropped out of school or were studying from home received guidance on taking Class 10 or 12 exams through the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). Of these, four boys and thirteen girls ultimately sat for the exams.



8) Life Skills Workshops for Girls

Life skills workshops were conducted for 40 girls from 2 areas by Hina ben Patel. Topics included self-awareness, purpose in life, discipline, values, self-confidence, communication, problem-solving, responsibility etc. The workshops have increased the girls' self-confidence and ability to express themselves openly.

9) Children's Day Celebration

Children's Day was celebrated with the theme "Boys and Girls are Equal" in Rasulabad Bhatar



area with over 800 people. Children presented cultural programs. Eminent guests emphasized equality between boys and girls.

10) Exposure to Old Age Home and Garden



To instil respect for elders and a spirit of service, 122 children from grades 1-7 participated in an educational picnic. The day's activities included playing games in a garden and visiting an old age home. At the home, the children interacted with the elderly residents, engaging them in games and sharing snacks. Demonstrating their commitment to service, the children donated money from their personal savings to the old age home and purchased fans for the facility. This experience taught the young participants the importance of respecting elders and the joy of helping others.

3) Adolescent Empowerment Program

1) Meetings with Adolescent Girls and Boys

Meetings were held with a total of 124 youth aged 12 to 19 years (38 boys and 86 girls) from Navsarjan's operational areas of Rasulabad, Bhathena and Nagsenagar. The aim was to provide training on developing leadership qualities, inculcating good values, and creating health awareness among the youth. Individual meetings and group discussions were conducted throughout the month to gather preliminary information about the youth



2) Visit to Police Station with Adolescent Girls and Boys

A total of 78 children from Rasulabad, Bhathena and Nagsenagar areas were taken on a visit to the police station. The objective was to motivate the children to become police officers, build friendship with the police, and familiarize them with the functioning of the police department.

During the visit, the children learned about the various departments of the police station and the duties of police officers. They also saw police vehicles and equipment.

The children asked many questions to the police station head about police work, challenges and achievements. Many children expressed the desire to become police officers, and the police officers encouraged them to fulfil their dreams.



4) Rag Pickers Women's Association



Navsarjan has been running the Rag Pickers Association and a shop since 1997. By organizing this most marginalized section of society, Navsarjan established their cooperative shop. Currently, under the Zero Garbage Cities initiative, all open garbage bins in the city are being removed, causing rag pickers to quit their jobs as they no longer have access to waste.

Navsarjan started purchasing packed bottles to support the women. This provided them slightly higher income from collection and sales. This year, the shop recycled 298 metric tons of recyclable waste. Currently, 25 women who are members of the association sell their collected material at the shop. The shop also purchases PET waste bottles in bulk, does baling, and sells to factories.



During last Diwali, a good bonus was given to members from the profits. A new centre has also been opened in Bharuch. This new venture is gradually gaining momentum. Under this, paper pickers in municipal areas are being organized, enrolled with the government, and benefits of government schemes are being facilitated. The plan is to organize them and form their cooperative society on the Surat model.

5) Navchetan Trust

Navchetan Trust is a federation comprising 32 women's groups. This organization addresses various social issues across Surat. Throughout the year, Navchetan held 10 meetings, with a total attendance of 375 members.

During these meetings, members collaboratively planned Navchetan Trust's activities and campaigns for 2024. Other key topics of discussion included:

- Submitting a memorandum to the Supply Officer regarding the discontinuation of subsidized ration in ration shops by the government
- Explaining the structure of Navchetan's president and Bhagyalaxmi core committee
- Detailed discussion on the shortage of teachers in government schools
- Preparing a memorandum for the upcoming elections in 2024 regarding the lack of schools from 9th to 12th standard.



- Submitting memorandums to the District Education Officer, Municipal Commissioner and Collector to increase schools from 9th to 12th standard in government schools
- Information about the children's camp at the U.N.M. Children's Hospital
- Discussion on providing notebooks to members from Bhagyalaxmi Corporate members
- Discussion on organizing a one-day adolescent camp at Navsarjan
- Discussion on the use of sanitary pads
- Meeting with the ITWILLBE team where members discussed the successful works or initiatives undertaken in the last 2 years for the people in the area
- Planning for Women's Day, Children's Day and Bhagyalaxmi Day celebrations and assigning various responsibilities to members



Dr. Manishaben Zaveri, a gynaecologist, attended the meeting to raise awareness about women's health issues. She provided detailed information on cervical and breast cancer, menopause, and early onset of menstruation in girls. Through this educational session, the attendees learned about critical women's health concerns and preventive measures they can take.



The members of Navchetan Trust submitted memorandums in the following events:

1) Memorandum to the food Supply Officer from Navchetan Trust

The members of Navchetan submitted a memorandum to the Supply Officer regarding the discontinuation of subsidized ration in ration shops in slum areas.



2) Memorandum for increasing Sumanshala schools in Surat city



Navchetan Trust submitted a memorandum to the Municipal Commissioner and Collector of Surat regarding increasing the number of Sumanshala schools (for grades 9-12) in Surat city. The officials stated that if informed about the need for schools of which medium in which zone, they would consider it together.

6) PEOPLE'S

1) Awareness of Indian Constitution and Preamble:

To make children aware of the Constitution and its fundamental principles, Navsarjan facilitated the display of the Preamble in 45 schools in its operational area.



2) Training for Volunteer Leaders (PSJ): Navsarjan hosted a three-day training session for 110 volunteer leaders representing 49 areas. The program focused on developing presentation skills, understanding the importance of organization, and learning about legal rights. The training utilized videos and photos to enhance the learning experience.

3) Health and Hygiene Awareness Camp: A camp on maintaining physical hygiene and consuming nutritious food was organized at School No. 215, attended by around 100 children. They learned about the importance of cleanliness, how to maintain hygiene, and what constitutes a nutritious diet.



4) Self-Defence Awareness Program: To make children safe outside home, an awareness program on self-defence was conducted at School No. 216, attended by 85 children. They were taught precautionary measures, safe touch, and unsafe touch.



5) Gender Equality, Values and Citizenship Training in SMC Schools: Gender equality training was provided to 1,378 students of grades 6-8 in 10 SMC schools. The difference between sex and gender, and societal discrimination against girls was discussed. Training on values and duties of good citizens was given to 120 students at SMC School No. 15. They discussed important values to develop and responsibilities of good citizens.

6) Training on Gender, Emotional and Mental Health: Gender, emotional and mental health training was conducted twice at School No. 52 in Rasulabad area, attended by 214 girls and 126 boys. The training sensitized children about gender equality and importance of mental health.



7) Training on Adverse Effects of Internet and social media: The principals of schools run by Surat Municipal Corporation organized training on the adverse effects of internet and social media. Navsarjan was invited to conduct this training program. Navsarjan showed videos to the children to explain the uses and disadvantages of the internet and social media.



The training provided information to the children about the drawbacks of social media and its impact on their mental health. They were taught that by reducing the use of mobile phones, they can better utilize their time for education and career development. A total of 1,619 children from 6 schools participated in this training.

8) Training on HIV Prevention: Dr. Niyati Patel provided training on HIV prevention and personal hygiene to 99 children from grades 6 to 8 at School No. 255. The training covered the causes, symptoms, and preventive measures for HIV. The importance of personal hygiene and ways to avoid diseases were also explained to the children.



During the training, videos were shown to the children, and they were encouraged to ask questions if they did not understand anything. The children showed great enthusiasm and active participation in the training. By the end of the training, the children had a good understanding of HIV and the measures to prevent it. They also understood the importance of personal hygiene.

7) Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society Limited

The Bhagyalaxmi Savings Organization was established in 2008. People living in slums were not getting loans easily. Bhagyalaxmi Savings Organization was formed with the objective of providing loans easily to people and inculcating the habit of savings among them. Over time, the number of transactions in the Bhagyalaxmi Savings Institution increased, and in 2019 it was registered as Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society Ltd., giving it the status of a credit co-operative society.



During the year, the members of Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society Ltd. saved a total of Rs. 1,04,67,312 and provided loans worth Rs. 61,52,347 for various purposes such as paying school fees, house tax, home loan instalments, and medical expenses. These loans have helped the members meet their financial needs. The Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society Ltd. had 1,203 members during the year, which has increased the society's assets and capabilities.

The management committee of Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society Ltd. held 9 meetings, attended by 135 members. One general body meeting was also held, attended by 52 women. The meetings discussed the importance of the core committee, the role of core committee members, the rules of Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society Ltd., membership, deposits, loans, interest rates, and other important rules for the women.



The meetings also covered topics like the death assistance scheme for members, distribution of notebooks to members, increasing Bhagyalaxmi's membership, increasing loans, presenting the income-expenditure account, the types of loans available in the area, what can be done for grain loans, providing new memberships, and personal loans, as well as providing grain/oil loans and insuring loan-taking members. The meetings were very useful and informative.

Celebration of Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society Ltd.'s Establishment Day

The establishment day of Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society Ltd. was celebrated on December 11th, with more than 700 members participating in the event. Women who had saved the most in the society were felicitated, and other members were encouraged to increase their savings. Additionally, the importance of savings was explained to everyone present.



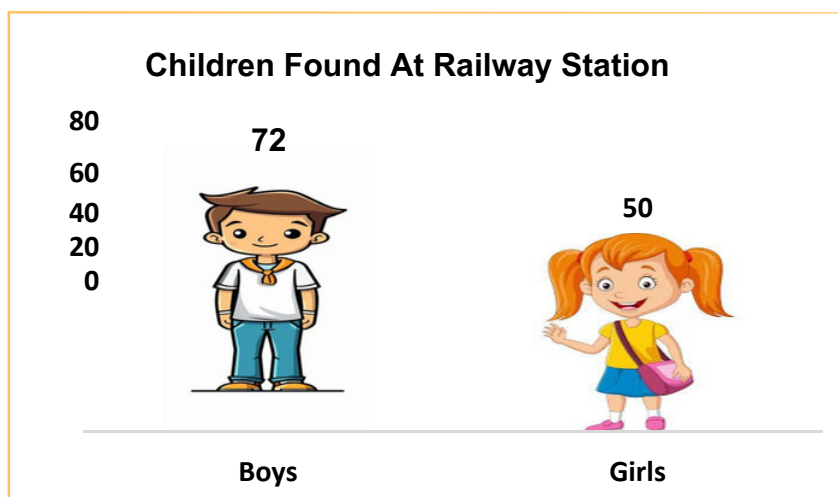
The main objective of Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society Ltd. is to organize the women, strengthen their financial situation through savings, provide easy credit when needed, and help women build their own financial management. The society currently has a total of 1,080 members.

Notebook Distribution: In June, three notebooks were distributed to each member's child to encourage their studies and help alleviate educational expenses. In total, 3,225 notebooks were distributed.



8) Surat Childline Help Desk 1098

In collaboration with Child Line India Foundation and Navsarjan, the Surat Railway Childline was started on May 10, 2018. The main function of Childline is to help children in need of care and protection. Additionally, passengers arriving at the station will be informed about 1098. From January to June 2023, a total of 122 children, including 72 boys and 50 girls, were restored to their parents.



The Central Government has decided to integrate the dedicated helpline for children, Childline 1098, with the national emergency number 112. Childline 1098 was discontinued by the Government from July 1, 2023.

a) World Environment Day Celebration

The Childline team celebrated World Environment Day at Surat Railway Station along with the Station Director, Station Superintendent, other railway employees, and sanitation workers. A rally was organized at the railway station, and the message of environmental awareness was conveyed.





b) Farewell Program

On June 19, 2023, the Childline team organized a farewell program at the station. The team felicitated the Station Director, Station Superintendent, RPF PI, and GRP by presenting them with thank-you mementos and expressed gratitude for their support to Childline.

9) Legal Aid Centre

A free legal aid centre is run at Navsarjan. People from Surat's slum areas and the city are availing the benefits of this legal aid centre. During the year, 12 cases were registered at the legal aid centre.



a) Legal Awareness Camps

Navsarjan organized legal awareness camps to educate people about the legal system and citizens' rights. These camps were held in a total of 23 areas, with 572 people participating.



The camps discussed important topics like women's rights related to marriage, post-marriage rights, marriage registration, right to maintenance, Domestic Violence Act and women's protection, the process of obtaining legal aid, the importance of proof of identity, property rights and documentation, proof for caste certificates, information about medical helpline 104, property rights, and women's helpline 181.

The participants became more aware of the legal system and their rights. Women were encouraged to seek legal aid to fight domestic violence and injustice. People understood the importance of legal documents and how to obtain them.

10) Street Children Welfare Program

Navsarjan has been working with runaway children living at railway stations and bus stations since 1998. A drop-in centre was set up near the railway station at Belgium Square, near Delhi Gate, for them, which has now been discontinued.

Over the years, 12 children who have been working with the organization are successfully building their careers through education. Of these, 6 children have been rehabilitated with their parents in their native places, while 6 children are currently pursuing their careers.

S. No	Name	Course	Name of institution
1	Jodiya Papu	Automobile Engineering	Gandhi Engineering College, Surat
2	Manoj Marathi	Computer Engineering	Tapi College, Surat
3	Denesh Nepali	ITI fritter	ITI Surat
4	Saiyad Sikander	STD 12	Vatsalyadham
5	Sahil Khan	STD 11	Vatsalyadham
6	Jodiya Raja Ram	STD 8	Vatsalyadham

11) Work with Migrant People

Improving Efficiency of Annapurna Scheme Stalls: A letter was submitted to the Labor Commissioner requesting dish arrangements at the Annapurna Scheme stalls located at various labour nakas (checkpoints). This initiative aims to make the facility more efficient and enable more workers to benefit from it.

Provision of Toilet Facilities at Labor Nakas: Representations were made to the Municipal Commissioner to provide toilet facilities, either through public toilets or mobile toilets, at the Udhna Three Roads and Dakshineshwar, Pandesara labor nakas. This provision aims to improve the working conditions for the laborers at these locations.

a) Distribution of Medical Kits

Navsarjan and Caritas India, Delhi, distributed medical kits to help migrant workers be aware of their health and provide them primary care. A total of 455 medical kits were distributed in various slum areas and shelters, covering 52 families near the Dargah, 65 worker families at the Mora Bhagal shelter, 8 paper-picking women, and 330 in Navasarjan's operational area. The kits contained Dettol, Betadine, Volini spray, glucose bandages, crepe bandages, paracetamol, and small scissors.



a) Migrant Help Helpline

Navsarjan started a Migrant Help Helpline (94844 97733) to reach out to tribal communities in South Gujarat. Discussions were held with various organizations working in South Gujarat to promote and disseminate information about this helpline. Awareness sessions were organized in Zankhanwa and Vyara.

In Surat, the team visited 9 labour nakas and informed around 460 migrant workers about the Migrant Help Desk and various government schemes. They also visited 13 construction sites and made 270 workers aware of the Migrant Help Desk and their rights.

c) Distribution of Health Kits to the Destitute, Elderly, and Sick

Navsarjan, in collaboration with Xavier's Cell for Human Development, Surat, and Caritas India, Delhi, distributed medical kits to the destitute, elderly, and sick individuals in various areas like Ramdevpir, Sanjaynagar, Premnagar, Gautamnagar, Ganeshnagar, Trisanala, Udhna-6, Phulwadi, Kamrunagar, Maftnagar, Dastagirnagar, and Khatrinnagar. The kits contained Dettol, Betadine, Volini spray, glucose bandages, crepe bandages, paracetamol, and small scissors.



d) Distribution of Educational Kits to Children of Worker Families

Navasarjan and Caritas India organized an educational kit distribution program at Navasarjan, benefiting 498 children from worker families studying from grade 1 to college. The kits included a school bag, 10 pencils, 10 ballpoint pens, a dictionary, an atlas, a compass box, a sketch pen, a lunch box, 6 notebooks, and an umbrella.



12) Housing

a) Demolition of Slums in Patichal Area

In the Patichal area, a notice was issued by the local government to demolish the slums as an 80-foot road needed to be constructed. Meetings were held with the community leaders to guide them on the legal course of action and file a public interest petition.

An application was filed in the High Court with the names of 165 residents.



The High Court directed the government to accommodate these slum dwellers in government housing schemes. Night meetings were held by the lawyer to explain the case to the people.

Two meetings were held with eight community leaders from the Patichal area to discuss the High Court order. The discussions focused on the demands of the local people concerning redevelopment and rehabilitation under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Following these discussions, a memorandum was submitted to the Commissioner.

13) Training and Celebrations

1. The Navsarjan staff celebrated the festival of St. Ignatius, the founder of the Jesuit Society. The significance of the festival and the values of St. Ignatius were explained by Fr. Nageen Makwana, the Vice President of Navsarjan. 19 Navsarjan staff members participated in this celebration.

2. The birthdays of Navsarjan staff members were celebrated together at the end of each month.

3. Celebrations of various festivals celebrated during the year were also organized.



4. A three-day self-development training was provided to the Navsarjan staff. The training covered topics such as understanding love, learning to say 'no,' and using various activities for training purposes. Twenty-five staff members participated, and the training proved beneficial for both their personal and professional lives.

5. Four gender training sessions were organized for 27 Navsarjan staff members over two days. Experts from a women's organization used various methods, including songs, videos, presentations, stories, group discussions, and role-plays, to sensitize the staff on gender issues. This training helped the staff develop a new perspective on gender and ways to address gender discrimination.



6. An annual staff picnic for Navsarjan staff was organized at Saputara Hills. The staff enjoyed trekking, had lunch, and spent the evening shopping.

14) Visits by Partner Organizations

1. The ITWILLBE organisation team visited Navsarjan and various slum areas in Surat, and discussed the successful initiatives undertaken by the Navchetan members.

2. The Savinco team, including Alexander, visited Navsarjan and the Bhagyalaxmi Credit Co-operative Society to understand their work and how the slum residents are saving and the changes it has brought in their lives.



3. Challenges:

Migrant communities face significant challenges that impact their well-being and integration into society. A primary issue is the prioritization of immediate economic needs over long-term investments in children's education and health. Given the often-precarious financial situations of migrant families, this focus on earning a livelihood, while understandable, can have lasting negative effects on the younger generation's prospects.

Combining this problem is the difficulty in engaging with these communities due to scheduling conflicts. Community meetings, typically held in the evenings after 6 pm, clash with the long working hours of many migrant workers. This timing mismatch hinders effective communication and outreach efforts, making it challenging to address the community's needs or involve them in important discussions.

These intertwined issues highlight the complex obstacles faced by migrant populations and underscore the need for flexible, innovative approaches to support and engage these communities effectively.

