

3. The Vagad Area Labourers and Farmers Association –

This People's Organization works in Dungarpur and Banswara Districts, across 5 Blocks. The monsoon of 2004 failed in the area, and the Association listed out what work for how many families was needed in order to help the people to survive the drought. They gave their demand to the Dungarpur and Banswara District Collectors, and mobilized the people to demand that drought relief work be started. They were successful in getting the area declared "drought affected" and got more work started, which helped the people a lot.

The work across the whole District on Tribal Self Rule continued, and there was special effort made to increase the women's participation in the Committees of the Gram Sabhas of the Village Republics.

The Forest Land Struggle Committee continues to meet monthly at the District level, and continues to meet the Forest Department, and the MLA and MP regularly about the issue.



Vagad Labourers and Farmers Organization worked hard to build ground awareness and pressure for The Employment Guarantee Bill, with provision of 100 days of work per year for one family member of poor families. Here, a Rally is in process, displaying the banner on which hundreds of Dungarpur 's poor have signed.



Declaring their village a Village Republic, under the Tribal Self Rule legislation. The plaque in the middle of the group of "republicans" lists the various rights that are now theirs – rights over minor forest produce, over minor water bodies, over placement of liquor shops, over dispute resolution, etc. And the plaque is garlanded – these rights are welcomed into their midst, with honour.

Meetings in a year-

- Executive Committee (Sanchalak Mandal) - 10
- Field workers meetings - 13
- Planning with field workers - 11
- Area wide meetings per month - 15 (in a year 150-160 meetings)
- Village Level meetings per month - 26 (in a year 310-330 meetings)

S.N.	Programme	Date	Participants
1.	Training of Trainers was organized on "How to strengthen organization & leadership quality"	11-13 August, 04	
2.	Camp was organized for village level committee members	18-20 August, 04	
3.	Camp for Women Literacy was organized in Udaipur	18-24 August, 04	26
4.	Micro planning was done in the Village Assembly (Gaon Sabha) at Valota Panchayat, as part of the PRISMO programme	August, 04	
5.	Literacy Follow up Camp was organised.	9-10 September, 04	19 leaders who took part in earlier literacy trainings
6.	Women Awareness Camp held at Kushalgarh	8-10 September, 04	
7.	Workers leadership training camp at KVK Dungarpur,- on what should be the political approach of the organization.	13-14 September, 04	
8.	Village Assembly (Gaon Sabha) Camp at Simalwara under the PRISMO programme	19 September, 04	
9.	Village Assembly (Gaon Sabha) Camp at Sibeem Rediya - under the PRISMO programme.	18 September, 04	
10.	Attended large tribal gathering of the Tribal Development Forum at Kotra	23-24 September, 04	75
11.	Walking Tour from Jaipur to Kaladera against Pepsi-Cola and tribals demonstrated in support of their rights over Natural Resources.	25-26 September, 04	6
12.	Workshop was held in Jaipur on the "Right to Work" and "Right to Information."	29 September, 04	7
13.	In 5 Panchayat areas, 15 PESA Gaon Sabha Committees were re-elected	October, 04	
14.	Six Gaon Sabhas reviewed the work of the Committee members, and reformed those Committees.	November, 04	
15.	Women awareness camp – held at Rampur Panchayat. The Issue discussed in the Camp was "Tribal Self Rule and Women's Participation in Village Assembly (Gaon Sabha)."	23-24 November, 04	80 Women and 10 Men

16.	Applications were submitted at Dungarpur Block Office under the Employment Guarantee Scheme	29 November, 04	491 women and 761 Men
17.	Under the Employment Guarantee Scheme, applications submitted at Block Offices- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simalwara - 200 Women and 178 Men • Sagwara - 140 Women and 236 Men • Dungarpur - 220 Women and 470 Men 	8 December, 04 9 December, 04 16 December, 04	
18.	Gaon Sabha Committee Camp in Valota	14-15 December, 04	49
19.	Village Republic Conference, 6 Committees were re-elected	24 December, 04	
20.	Block Camp at Charwara, Sagwara	9 January, 05	285
21.	Regional Meeting of Kodyagun area	10 January, 05	70
22.	Camp of Gotiya Amba, Bagidora	11 January, 05	175
23.	Area Wide Meeting of 9 Villages of Talliya area	13 January, 05	82
24.	Camp of Anpura, Simalwara	16 January, 05	248
25.	Follow up Area Wise Meeting of Rampur area	17 January, 05	65
26.	Women's Conference of Dungarpur and Banswara Districts	15-17 February, 05	460
27.	Zone wise Rallies on Forest & Land Rights issue	28 February, 05	150
28.	A Sit-In at Jantar Manter, New Delhi, in order to support the Scheduled Tribes Recognition of Forest Rights Bill, 2005 and 730 Postcards were sent to the Prime Minister	8-12 March, 05	105 in the Sin-In 730 postcard writers

The structure of the P.O. has modified somewhat, and in the leadership group of the Vagad Labourers and Farmers Association, they have given special responsibility to one person to follow-up on the work that is decided on, on different issues. i.e. one person will be responsible for the Employment Guarantee Scheme campaign, one person for Drought related matters, one person for Forest Land displacement work, etc.

For the first time, the people of Jalukua Gram Panchayat collected the forest produce, "awla" or Gooseberry. Up to now, over all these hundreds of years, the people have not collected this forest produce, which can be marketed widely for pickles, jams, hair oil, churan (digestive), etc. They earned a net profit of Rs. 50,000! No doubt this is just the beginning.

There was a Women's Camp, training for the issue of Credit and Loaning, the big event on December the 24th – the anniversary of the passing of the Central Government legislation on Tribal Self Rule (PESA).

In Banswara, the work has started in Kushalgarh Block, and leadership training was done, and issues that arise are being taken up by the members of the Association there.

4. The Tribal Development Forum –

The main area of work of the Tribal Development Forum is in Kotra Block, of Jhadol Block in Panarwa area of Udaipur District, and in Pindwara Block of Sirohi District. It has members and activity in 334 villages. The main leadership group of the Forum is composed of 23 men and women of which there are 16 men and 7 women. The members of the Forum number 5,525. There are another 2,105 members who joined this year, of which men are 1,460 and women are 645.

The tribal leaders of the Forum hold monthly leadership group meetings at Kotra, and at the village level and the Gram Panchayat levels, the workers/leaders of the Forum hold and conduct the monthly meetings on fixed dates. The cluster meetings of key people from the village groups associated with the Forum, meet in these monthly meetings at : Panarwa, Ambassa, Swarupganj, Pindwara, and Devla.

Work done in 2004-05

Forest Land – The Forum worked in this year with those tribal families, living on what is now Forest Department Land, in attempts to get the legal land papers to their homestead land.

- Opposing eviction of forest land dwellers, attempted by the Forest Department. Rallies were held, and Sit-Ins too, to oppose these evictions.
- The Forest Department sent notices to show cause why they should not be evicted, and in the court, 300 tribal farmers defended themselves
- The Forest Department tried to build a boundary wall around portions of the forest land, and the Forum opposed this construction. As a result, 285 families of 12 villages were able to save their homestead and farmland
- 935 tribal farmers put up their cases in the ACF (Assistant Conservator of Forests) Court against displacement.

The forest land displacement efforts of the Forest Department, to displace the tribal families from their homesteads on what is now forest land, continues. 535 families were given notices by the Forest Department, and the P.O. helped the people to give their replies to the Department. No displacements have taken place.