

2018 - 2019

ANNUAL REPORT



INTRODUCTION



MLPC works towards economic, social and legal empowerment of mineworkers by promoting responsible and sustainable mining with a people-centric approach. The organization is a strong voice of advocacy for occupational health and safety from the grassroots of Rajasthan. It has a strong presence in Rajasthan's five districts and is planning to expand its work in Madhya Pradesh. MLPC believes in empowering mine workers to claim their rights using different community organizations and development initiatives like Self-help groups (SHGs) and cooperative unions.

To empower the communities of mineworkers in Rajasthan to have a minimum standard quality of life, there are different programmes run by MLPC:

- Advocating ethical trading in the natural stone industry by collaborating with other organizations, government departments
- Increasing access to all federal and state government schemes and provisions by conducting OHS and Rights & Entitlements awareness campaigns
- Improving health and education for mine/stoneworkers children's and adolescents by enrolling Crèche and Non-formal education children into the mainstream education system.
- Creating mechanisms of assuring labour rights, welfare and occupational health and safety by creating a gender-balanced local representation of mine worker welfare board and researching with mine workers through surveys.
- Improving access to occupational medicine for all mineworkers by roundtable consultation on the subject with doctors and government officials and providing policy recommendation to relevant authorities in a public forum.
- Filling the gap of literature and research about the hazards faced by mine workers by conducting meta-data studies on projects funded by royalty and cess from natural stone industry
- Helping to find alternative livelihood for Pneumoconiosis affected mineworkers and their families.



LABOR RIGHTS AND WELFARE

MLPC, since its inception, is working for the rights of mine workers and issues related to it. We have been working in collaboration with state governments, academicians and CSOs for the welfare of mine workers. In our commitment to the cause, we have attempted to work with children of mine workers to achieve their inclusion in mainstream education. For the inclusive policy for mineworkers' rights, we have also organized several consultations with all stakeholders.

- MLPC has established and operated 5 Day Care Centres and Creches for the children of mine workers respectively in Jodhpur, Nagaur, Bundi, Bhilwara & Udaipur throughout the entire year from Aug-18 to July -19. We have also provided nutrition and educational material for every student. All crèches have observed the average daily attendance of 130.1 altogether.



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- We have also operated 5 Non-formal education centre operated in Jodhpur, Nagaur, Bundi, Bhilwara and Udaipur for the teenagers and adolescent of the mineworkers family. Apart from the daily classes, we have also provided educational material for each student. Average attendance at all NFE centres during the reporting period has been 127.8 children per day.
 - Besides regular classes, we have also conducted leadership training for NFE students in Bundi, Bhilwara & Jodhpur in Sept 2018. Life skill training such as stitching to NFE centres students Udaipur and Nagaur.
 - After training at the NFE centre, we have admitted all student enrolled in NFE to a government school.
 - In total 22 Registration camps held in all five districts during the year and 26,094 mine workers registered with the project. As we know, state and the central government doesn't have registration of mineworkers in Rajasthan. Hence, the state government has accepted the total of several silicosis patients suggested by MLPC and has even quoted it on their website.



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- In our commitment to form the Mine Workers Welfare Board, we have submitted the proposal to formulate the same to the state government, ensuring all benefits prescribed in the mineworkers' constitution. The government took cognition of a request and enlisted it in its election manifesto in the public domain.
 - MLPC has also done literature research, and survey of mining workers on Labour Union Welfare Boards conducted. A report has been prepared and shared with concerned authorities, and a Policy Brief has been published and shared with the government and the political parties. Parties included it in their election manifesto.
 - District Mineral Foundation trust is a government body which looks after the welfare of mining-related communities. We have organised the workshop on DMFT held on "Utilisation of District Mineral Funds, The National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) and Clean Energy Cess Funds- Issues and Ways Ahead" at MEAI, Jaipur on 13th Oct 2018 in which 66 individuals, mine workers, CSO representatives, govt. Officials participated—the Recommendations from the workshops shared with the authority- Department of Mines and Geology.



- District Mineral Foundation Trust has to involve mining-affected communities while planning the utilization of District minerals funds and increasing community participation. We did radio announcement and jingles about the DMFT and its activities.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY



- MLPC has organised a roundtable consultation on Pneumoconiosis diseases and preventive mechanism on Feb 11th 2019 at IDS, Jaipur in which, mine workers, CSO representatives, govt. Officials participated. The consultation's positive outcome was a set of recommendations to the draft Pneumoconiosis Policy for effective and inclusive policy. As a result of this consultation, we also gave a memorandum to the Government of Rajasthan to set up a National Institute for Pneumoconiosis Research and Control in Rajasthan

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- We have also organised a two-day training programme on the importance of Occupational health at AIIMS on November 19th and 20th 2018. Doctors & medical officers participated and were trained to diagnose pneumoconiosis. 44 mineworkers also participated in this training from Pali, Ajmer & Rajsamand
 - Roundtable conference with AIIMS held at IDS Jaipur on July 12th 2019 on "National Consultation on Prevention and Management of Pneumoconiosis" in which doctors, mine workers, CSO representatives, govt. Officials participated. Recommendation from this conference has been shared with state health and family welfare department and ICMR.
 - A training Curriculum for occupational health safety has been developed in collaboration at AIIMS Jodhpur. We have also submitted a proposal to the government for holding periodical training of doctors and other staff on Occupational health safety has been shared and discussed with the corresponding department in the Government.
 - In collaboration with IOAH, AIIMS and ICMR we have organised a national conference on Annual Occupational Health Safety.

ACCESS TO SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES

- MLPC has developed the film on Rights and Entitlement of mineworkers to raise awareness amongst them. We have screened it in community meetings at Jodhpur, Bhilwara, Bundi, Nagour and Udaipur.
- Throughout the year, we have organised community meetings on Rights, Entitlements, Awareness etc., at the average rate of 25 sessions per month. In total, 367 meetings during the reporting period have been held, and 19355 mineworkers and the community participated in these meetings.



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