

Continuous toll of Landmines: Indian Experience

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Indian Campaign to Ban Landmines

MAN MADE EPIDEMIC

Almost every conflict/war since the Second World War used landmines.

A mass murder in slow motion. Each year with new wars, more countries were added to the list of mine-affected countries, but none were removed.



Small Beginning

- **ICRC Surgeons of field hospital in war stricken countries had seen more civilians affected than military personnels.**
- **"The Coward's War: Landmines in Cambodia" jointly issued by Asia Watch of Human Rights Watch (HRW) and Physicians for Human Rights (PHR).**
- **Medical fraternity has taken initiative in this campaign.**

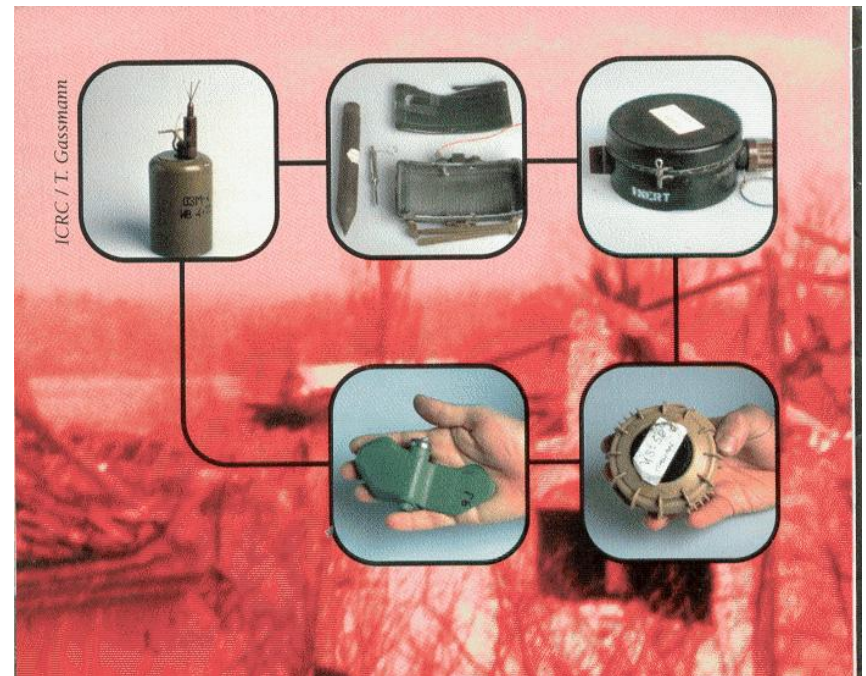
LEAD TAKEN BY MEDICAL FRATERNITY

- **Handicap International, Medico international, Physicians for Human Rights, Human Rights Watch, Mines Advisory Group, and Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation came together in October 1992 to formalize the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL).**

- February 1994 - [ICRC](#)'s president declares that from a "humanitarian point of view" a “world-wide ban on antipersonnel mines is the only truly effective solution.”

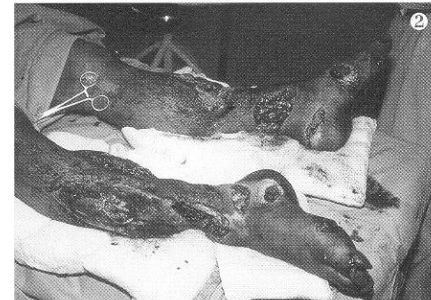
Indiscriminate weapon

- small device., 10 to 250gms of explosives
- exploded by 1/2kg. pressure.
- Indiscriminate weapon
- After war Maim or kill the person
- 80% civilians
- Extensive injuries
- Treatment is needed urgently



Injuries by Landmines & Treatment

- 1-Blastmine causing traumatic amputation
- 2-Fragmentation mine -tearing the person
- 3-Accidental handling of landmine in mine planters, mine clearers, in children



- **Evacuation**
- **Resuscitation**
- **First aid measures**
- **Transportation**
- **Surgical treatment**
- **Amputation**
- **Blood transfusion**
- **Physiotherapy**
- **Prosthesis**
- **Rehabilitation**



DEVELOPMENT DISASTER

- **Deprive people in some of the poorest countries of land and infrastructure.**
- **They hold up the repatriation of refugees and displaced people.**
- **They also hamper reconstruction and the delivery of aid.**
- **Assistance to landmine survivors is an enormous strain on resources.**
- **Landmine casualties deprive communities and families of breadwinners.**
- **Mines also kill livestock and wild animals and wreak environmental havoc.**

Present Scenario

- **Most contaminated places are Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chechnya, Colombia, Iraq, Nepal and Sri Lanka .**
- **Cheap and easy to make, producing one antipersonnel mine costs \$1, yet once in the ground it can cost more than \$1,000 to find and destroy.**



- **13 countries continue to produce -**
- **Burma, China, India, Nepal, North Korea, South Korea, Pakistan, Singapore, and Vietnam), one in the Middle East (Iran), two in the Americas (Cuba and United States), and one in Europe (Russia).**
- **Armed non-state actors or rebel groups still produce home-made landmines such as improvised explosive devices.**

The solution

Multi-level approach

Action is needed to:

- **remove mines from the ground;**
- **Ensure that minefields are fenced off and marked and that communities receive education about mine risks;**
- **Destroy mines in stockpiles;**
- **Meet the needs of mine victims -- from emergency medical care and rehabilitation .**

- **All countries joins the Mine Ban Treaty.**
- **Countries outside of the Mine Ban Treaty abide by the spirit of the agreement and refrain from use, production and stockpiling of the weapon.**
- **Persuade non state actors to ban landmines and abide by the spirit of the treaty.**
- **condemn any use or production by a state or non-state actor.**

Indian Mines: M14 and M16



- Landmines used in these Wars.
- India Pakistan Wars :
-1947-48, 1965 and 1971.
- India China War 1962
- Kargil event

- **After the attack on Indian Parliament on 13th December 2001, India planted the landmines across 1800 miles Indo-Pak border.**
- **Mines are planted in Desert parts of Rajasthan, Plain & fertile land of Punjab and Jammu & Mountainous parts of Laddakh & Kashmir.**
- **Mine field extended 6 to 10 KM from the border**
- **Man to mine ratio is 1:10**
- **Demarcated & fenced.**



Mines shifted

- Mines shifted due to natural phenomena: Sand storms, heavy rains in flat land and snow.
- Field rats took the mines in the borrows.
- Former military officials said due to these reasons 15 to 20 percent mines are not recovered during mine clearance.

Economical Loss

- Farmers lost three crops
- Farmers observed that mine field will decline in fertility due to growth of weeds and lack of irrigation over the last two years.
- Number of field rats have been multiplied , caused damage to crops in nearby fields.

Plight of Landless laborers

- Poor laborers out of job. Faced economic hardship.
- No compensation like farmers.
- Due to economical constrain took the risk and entered into mine field.
- After losing limbs, not in a position to work in field.

Social Impact

- **The vast majority of victims are civilians and not soldiers.**
- **This is not just during a conflict – most of the countries where casualties are reported are at peace.**
- **Landmine victims put burden on family and society.**



In children the trauma is much more. Psychologically the child is devastated. Amputated, mutilated child is outcaste, prohibited from social functions. Future life and marriage are often in dark.

- **In children artificial limb is changed at every 6 months interval due to growing age & the cost gets multiplied.**



- The married women often are divorced by their husbands and in unmarried girl chances of getting married are very less



STRAIN ON AGRICULTURE ECONOMY

- **Lost the yield**
- **Barren land**
- **Danger of Landmines**
- **Farmers lost three crops**
- **Farmers observed that mine field will decline in fertility due to growth of weeds and lack of irrigation over the last two years.**
- **Number of field rats have been multiplied , caused damage to crops in nearby fields.**



Domestic animal: Victims of landmines

Cattle injury
Loss of grassing area

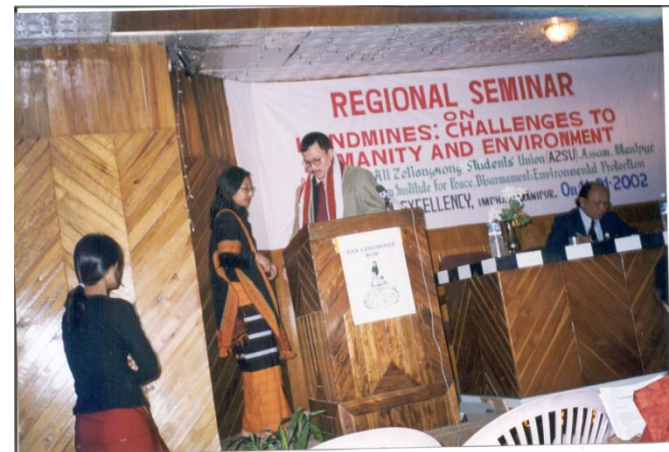


Cow went to minefield for grazing and lost her one foot.
Owner: Baldev Singh Village: Kcsrisingghpur



Indian campaign

Conferences, Regional Seminars for Landmine & small Arms



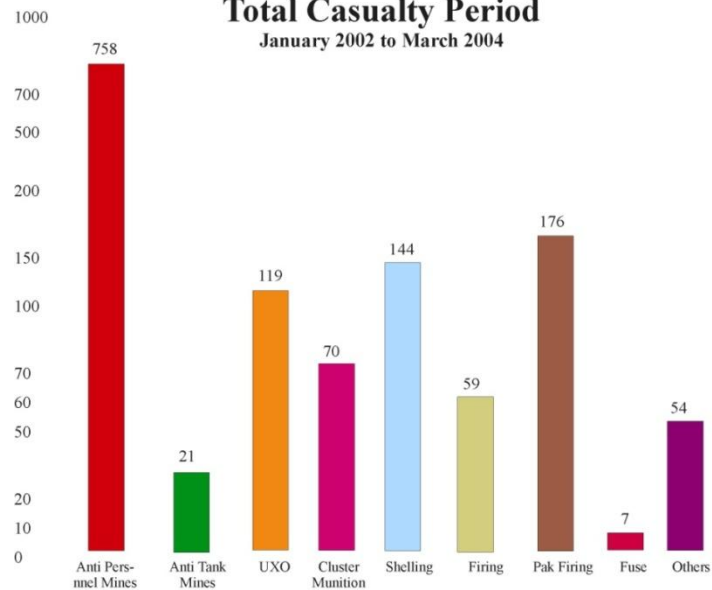


ICBL Ambassador Jody Williams, Indian Campaign to Ban Landmines coordinator Balkrishna Kurvey and Indian students and campaigners pose after the Indian Campaign to Ban Landmines national conference in New Delhi, India in Jun 2001.
Credit: Indian Campaign to Ban Landmines.

Data collection in Indian border villages



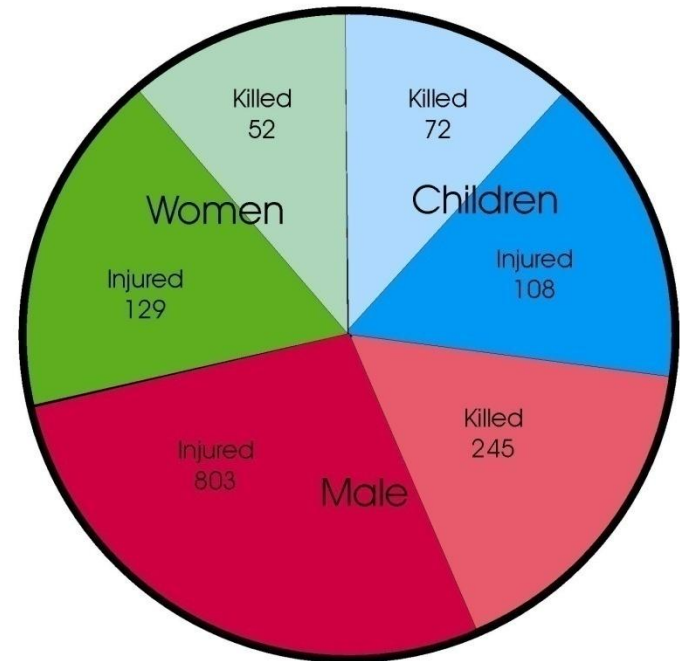
Total Landmine/UXOs Victims
Border State of Rajasthan : Districts
 1) Barmer, 2) Jaishmer, 3) Bikaner, 4) Sri Ganganagar
Border State of Punjab : Districts
 1) Firozpur, 2) Gurudaspur, 3) Amritsar
Border State of Jammu & Kashmir :
Jammu province Districts : 1) Kathua, 2) Jammu, 3) Rajuori, 4) Poonch
Total Casualty Period
January 2002 to March 2004



Total Landmines/UXO civilian victims killed and injured

Total Landmine/UXO Victims Killed & Injured

	Killed	Injured
Children	72	108
Women	52	129
Male	245	803



VICTIMS: JANUARY 2002 TO MARCH 2004

Data collection period: December 2003 to March 2004

	Anti Person nel	Ant i Ta nk	Shelli ng	Firin g	Oth er UX O	Cluster Muniti ons	Pak - Firin g	Fu se	IE D	Oth er	Total Victims
Shruggin g- nagar	170	4	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	7	187
Jaisalme r	6	3	-	-	-	46	-	1	-	6	62
Badmer	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	5
Bikaner	5	-	-	-	65	-	-	-	-	-	70
Jammu	117	6	1	10	6	6	142	-	-	7	295
Poonch	169	-	143	37	9	2	-	-	-	5	365
Rajouri	135	3	-	-	14	9	1	-	-	4	166
Kathua	33	4	-	12	-	-	33	-	-	4	86
Amritsar	33	1	-	-	40	5	-	-	-	5	84
Gurudas pur	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	31
Firozepu r	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	58
Total	758	21	144	59	134	70	176	7	-	40	1409

MOBILIZING THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY

The Indian Campaign to Ban Landmines is attracting the attention of medical personals including students, NGOs, general public as well as media persons.





Aligarh Muslim University

**MEDICAL-SOCIAL IMPACT OF PROLIFERATION OF SMALL ARMS &
LIGHT WEAPONS IN SOUTH ASIA & ITS EFFECT ON INDIA
SEPTEMBER 4, 2004-
POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH,
CHANDIGARH, PUNJAB**



Dr. Dalbir Singh, Dr. Mrs. Sudha Suri, Dr. Talwar, Dr. Kurvey, Dr. Bansal on Dias

Mine Risk Education



Mine Risk Education



Mine Risk Education



MINE RISK EDUCATION

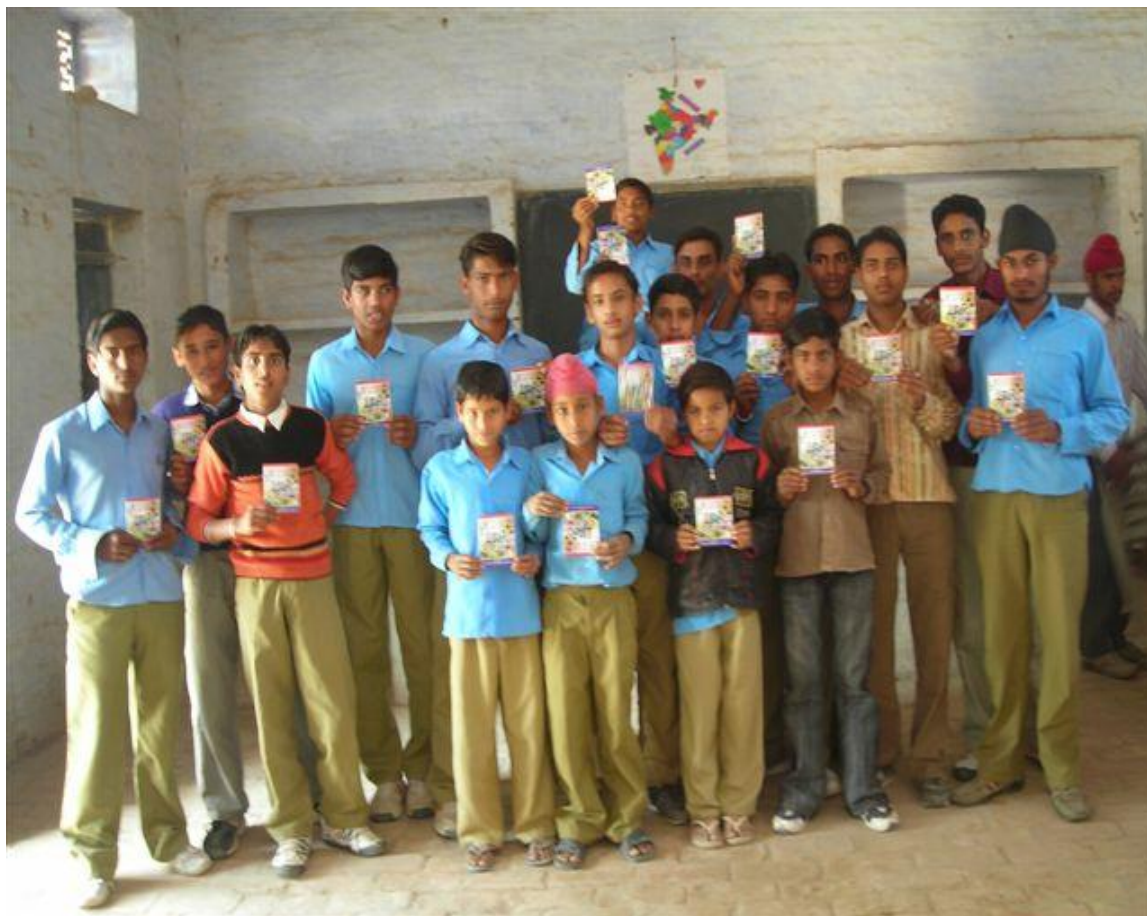


Shankar Pannu, Member of Parliament in Mine Risk Education





- On the eve of 10 years of Mine Ban Treaty, Indian Campaign to Ban Landmines has arranged Event Making a Difference On the Ground - Public raising-awareness events: Marches & Public Rally of Landmines Affected and Survivors in Sri Ganga Nagar, Rajasthan (landmines affected state) February 27,2009.
- Prior to Rally the meeting was arranged and landmine victims put forward their vows and difficulties faced by them.
- 128 Landmine victims march to the city's prominent road culminating into public rally. Petition of demand of landmine victims and Ban on Landmines and Cluster Munitions was handed over to the Collector, head of the administration. The copy was also sent through proper channel to the President of India, Prime Minister, Defence, Home and Foreign Minister of India.





Women victims in rally



Indian Campaign to Ban Landmines Public Education and Awareness Campaign:

Cooperation and Support from the Indian Army



General Krishna Rao, Chief of the Indian Army and ex Governor of Jammu & Kashmir addressing the delegates

**REGIONAL SEMINAR: ILL EFFECTS OF LANDMINES &
SMALL ARMS ON SOCIETY**
Kargil, Jammu & Kashmir (India) November 1, 2001



Lt. General Arjun Ray speaking in the workshop

**MINE RISK EDUCATION WORKSHOP
BARMER (RAJASTHAN) 23 FEBRUARY 2003**



I.t. General Gurbir Mansingh Consultant International Committee of Red Cross
Speaking on small arms and landmines .



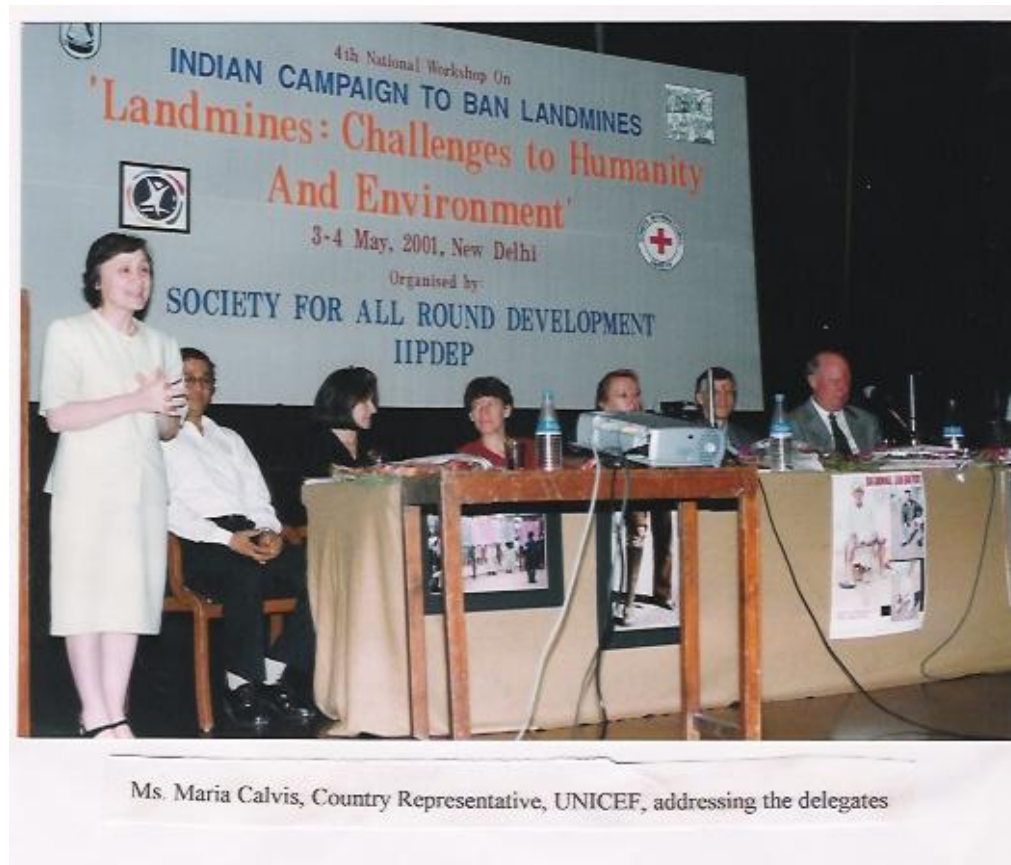
Dr. Subram Rajkhowa, President, Citizens Collective, North-East India
 Ms. Savita-Varde-Naqvi, Media Officer, ICRC (South Asia)

Major General Dua, General Commanding Officer, Mr. Chris Cooter, First Secretary,
 Canadian High Commission, New Delhi. Dr. Balkrishna Kurvey, Coordinator, Indian
 CBL

Support from the Politicians, Intellectuals and policy makers



Support from International Community



Ms. Maria Calvis, Country Representative, UNICEF, addressing the delegates



Ms Jody William, Noble Laureate of Peace & Ambassador, International Campaign to Ban Landmines in her inaugural speech.



Ms. Sylvia Junod, Chief of Delegation, International Committee of Red addressing the delegates



Honorable Peter Sutherland, High Commissioner of Canada, addressing the delegates



Honorable Truls Hanevold, Ambassador of Norway, addressing the delegates

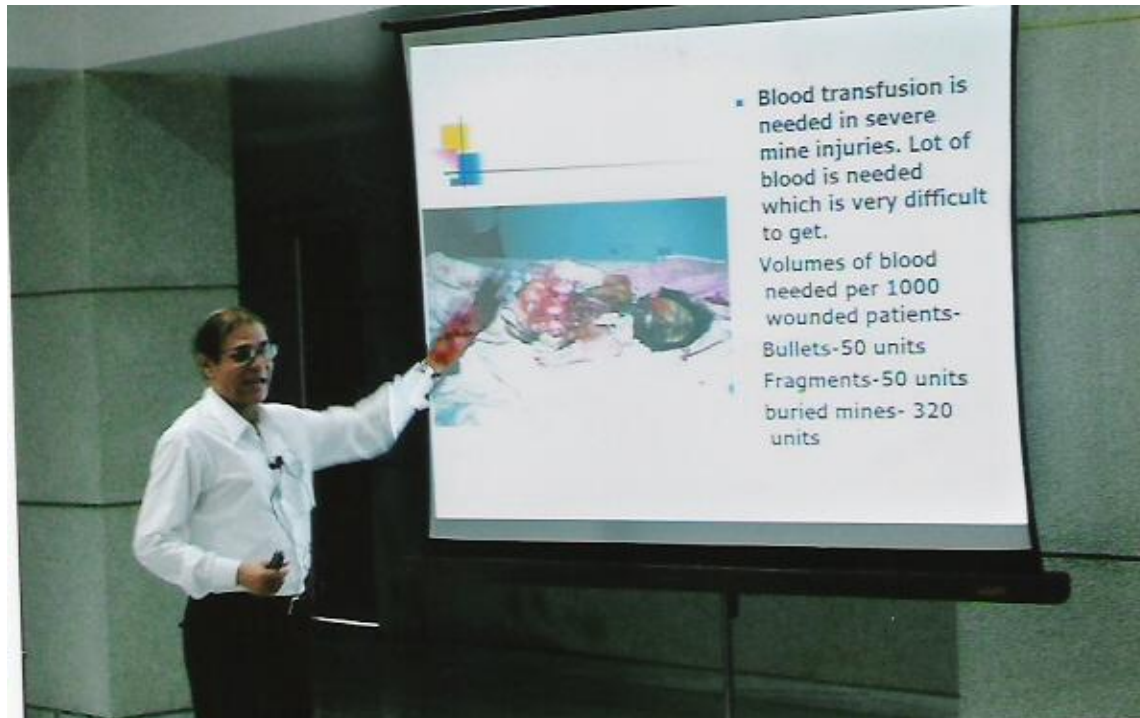
Success Story of Indian Campaign to Ban Landmines

- **Public Education & awareness**
- **Data collection and research**
- **Empowerment of APM victims**
- **Compensation**
- **Contribution in Landmine Monitor**





Indian Ban Landmine Campaign: Co-coordinator- Balkrishna Kurvey



Following the Path of Gandhi

IPPNW-central India doctors and students with Posters



Involving Medical as well as school children





Non State Armed Actors (NSA)and Ban Landmines

- SUCCESS STORY OF INDIAN CAMPAIGN
- Without signing Ban Landmines by NSAs the goal of Towards a Mine Free World will not be completed.

NSCN (I-M) signed the Deed of Commitment

- **Mr. Thuingaleng Muivah, General Secretary of the National Socialist Council of Nagalim (Nagaland) (NSCN)**
the largest and most influential armed group operating in North East India, signed Geneva Call's Deed of Commitment on 17 October 2003, it brought the number of signatories to twenty-five.



Kuki National Organization (KNO) signed the Deed of Commitment

- Mr. P.S.Haokip,
President, KNO
signed the Deed of
Commitment under
Geneva Call on 9th
August 2006 banning
landmines.
KNO is umbrella
organization of 8
armed wings.



Hope for Humanity

- **Ottawa Treaty.(Ban treaty)**
- **Signed in Ottawa, Canada ,**
- **December 1997.**
- **Banning Production, use, stockpile and export**
- **At present 158 countries signed Ottawa treaty.**
- **USA, Russia, China, India and Pakistan have not signed the treaty**

- **October 1997 - 1997
Nobel Peace Prize
awarded to
International Campaign
to Ban Landmines and
Jody Williams, ICBL
Coordinator which was
received on 10
December 1997 in Oslo,
Norway**



Continuous Process



- Peace movement is a continuing movement. Must be strengthened at National, Regional and International levels.
- **THINK GLOBALLY: ACT LOCALLY**

Towards A Mine Free World



- Ban Landmines is a humanitarian issue and it must be tackled on Humanitarian ground.