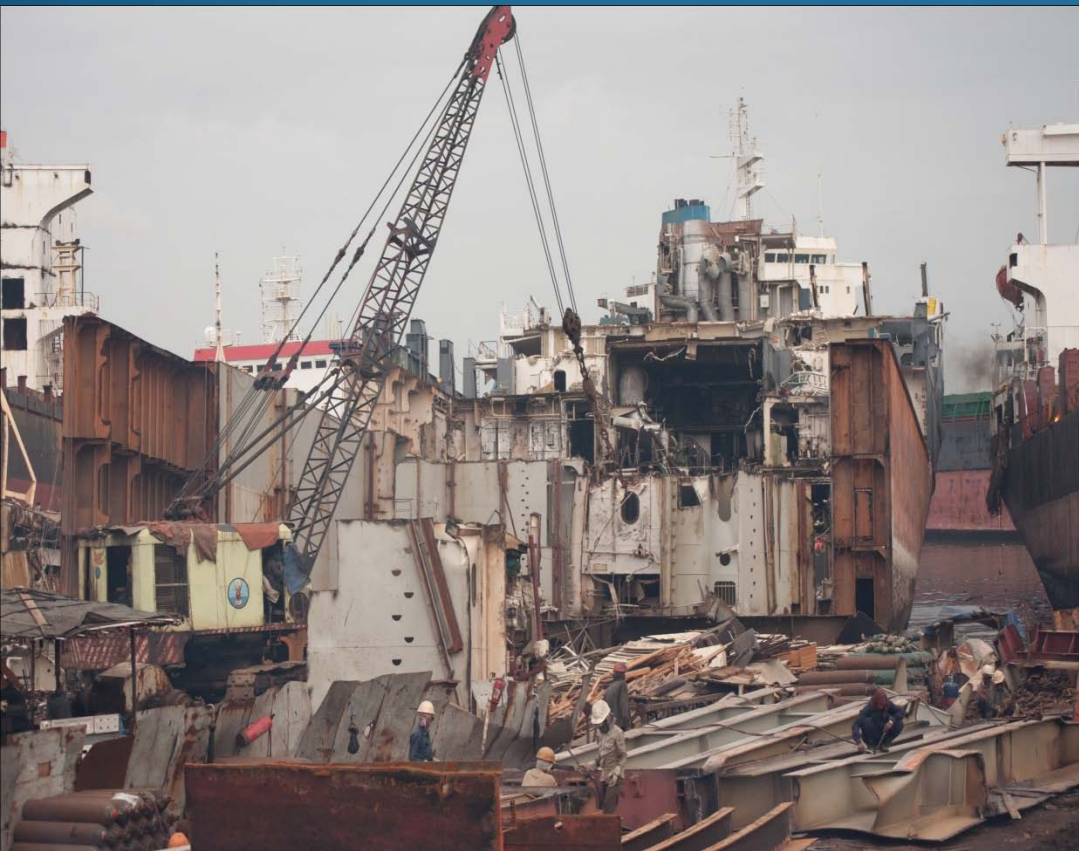


# Shipbreaking Industry of India

An attempt of organizing unorganized workers



By

Vidyadhar Rane

# Shipbreaking Industry: An overview

- Alang and Sosiya (Gujarat) and Darukhana (Mumbai) are two important places in India where shipbreaking activities are carried out.
- Initiated in 1913 at Mumbai and Kolkata but major activities were started from 1983 at Alang. It was happened due the low- skilled and low wages jobs shifted to the third world countries.
- An average of 700 ships are taken for dismantling every year the world over and about 350 to 450 ships are scraped in India

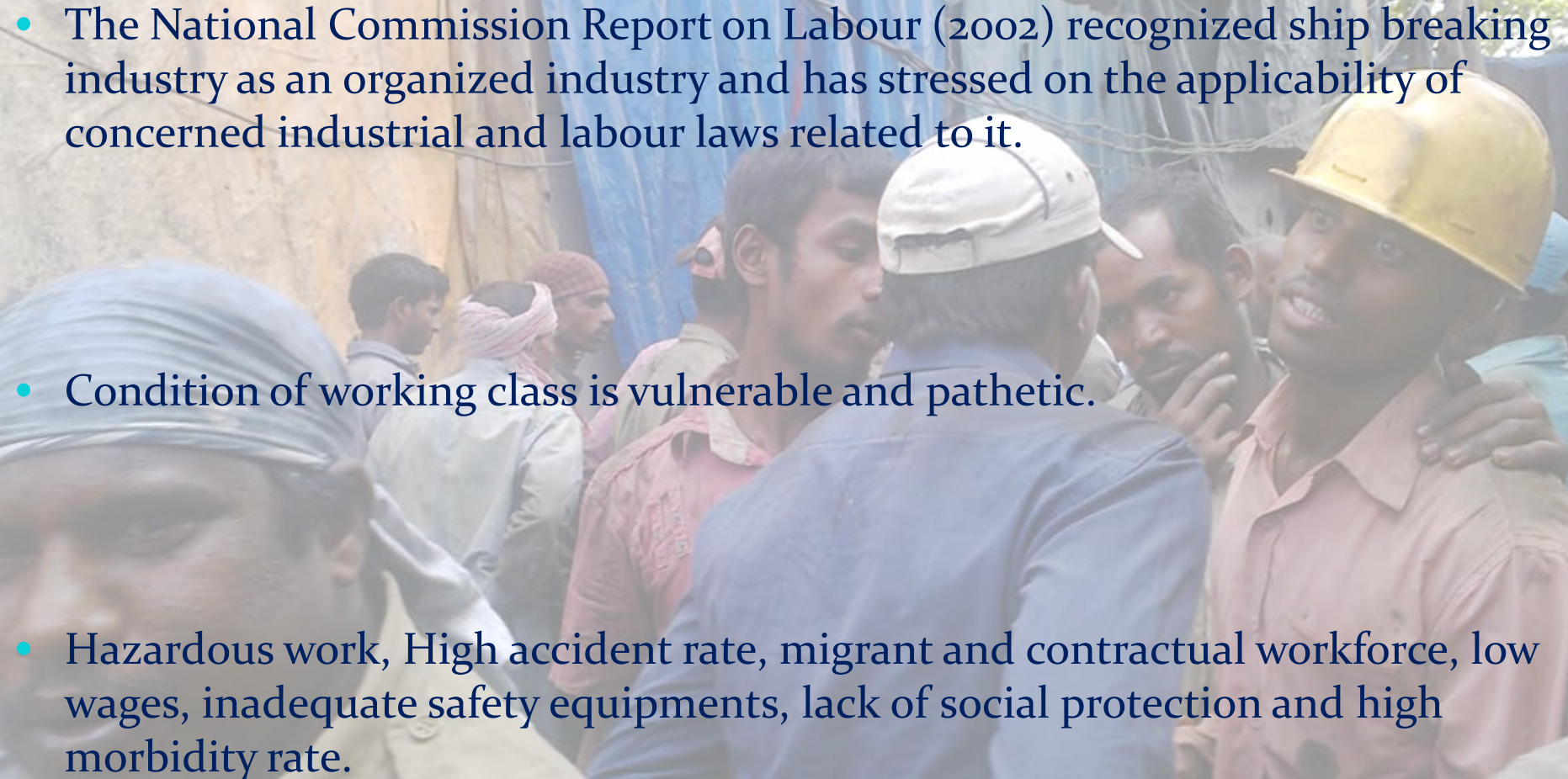


# Economical Importance

- Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) earned INR. 468 crore (USD\$ 86.5 Million) by renting out ship-breaking plots, the State Government over INR. 1,000 crore (USD\$ 184.6 Million) through sales tax and the Centre about INR. 8,000 crore (USD\$ 1.477 Billion) in customs duty and excise. Individual owners of the plots also made a tremendous profit (The Hindu: March 2006).
- Giving steel to the country without depletion of natural resources
- Play vital role in strengthen the economy through generating employment opportunities



# Workers of the Industry: Status

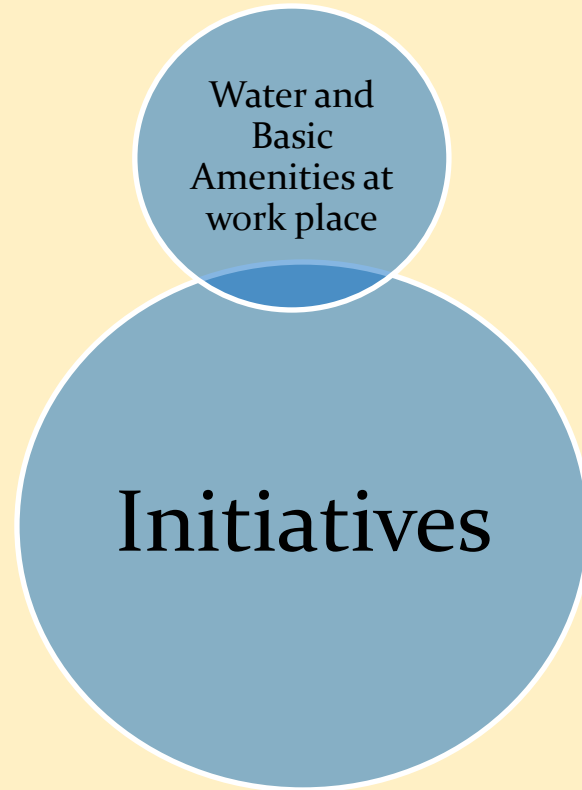
- The National Commission Report on Labour (2002) recognized ship breaking industry as an organized industry and has stressed on the applicability of concerned industrial and labour laws related to it.
  - Condition of working class is vulnerable and pathetic.
  - Hazardous work, High accident rate, migrant and contractual workforce, low wages, inadequate safety equipments, lack of social protection and high morbidity rate.
- 
- A photograph showing a group of men, likely workers, in an industrial or construction environment. They are wearing various types of headgear, including turbans and hard hats. One man in the foreground is wearing a yellow hard hat and a pink shirt, looking towards the camera with a slight smile. Other men are in the background, some in blue shirts and white caps, engaged in conversation. The background shows a structure made of blue and yellow tarps.

# Trade Union Initiatives: MPTDGEU and ASSRGWA



Initiatives

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# Major Activities of MPTDGEU and ASSRGWA

- Raising collective voice of workers on national and international stage
- Laisoning and coordination with Like minded organization
- Organizing gate meetings, training, workshops and health camps
- Pressurizing Concerned Authorities for releasing the compensation to the family members of the deceased shipbreaking workers
- Creating awareness on ILO, IMO and BC Guidelines, Hong Lkong Convention, Gujarat Maritime Board Notifications, relevant labor laws as well as Supreme Court of India directions on safe ship recycling.
- Conducting several Researches and Surveys on the condition of shipbreaking workers.



# Survey report on spending pattern

- A survey was conducted in Alang and Sosiya to understand the spending behavior of Shipbreaking workers.
- 1000 workers (700 in Alang and 300 in Mumbai) were interviewed to assess the information.
- The report reveals that mainly workers are saving 50% of their income and send it to their families.
- Due to very less payment and responsibilities of their families forced them to live a miserable life.



# Support from IndustriALL and FNV

**IndustriALL-** IndustriALL Geneva and South Asia Office are proactively participating in all kind of major activities for the welfare of shipbreaking workers.



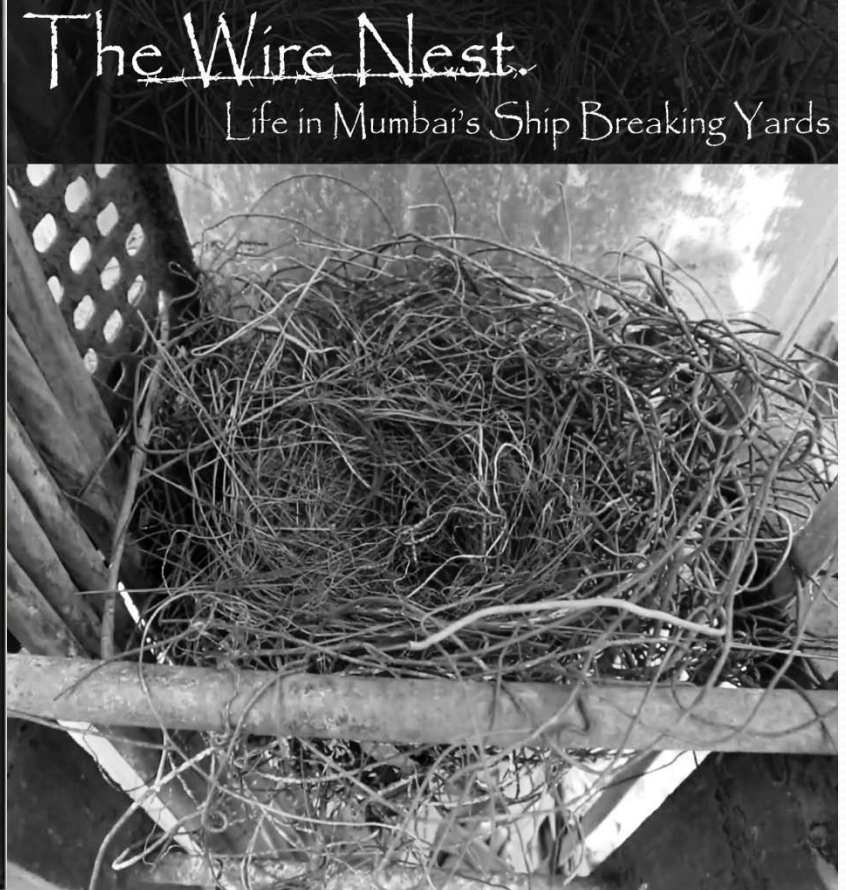
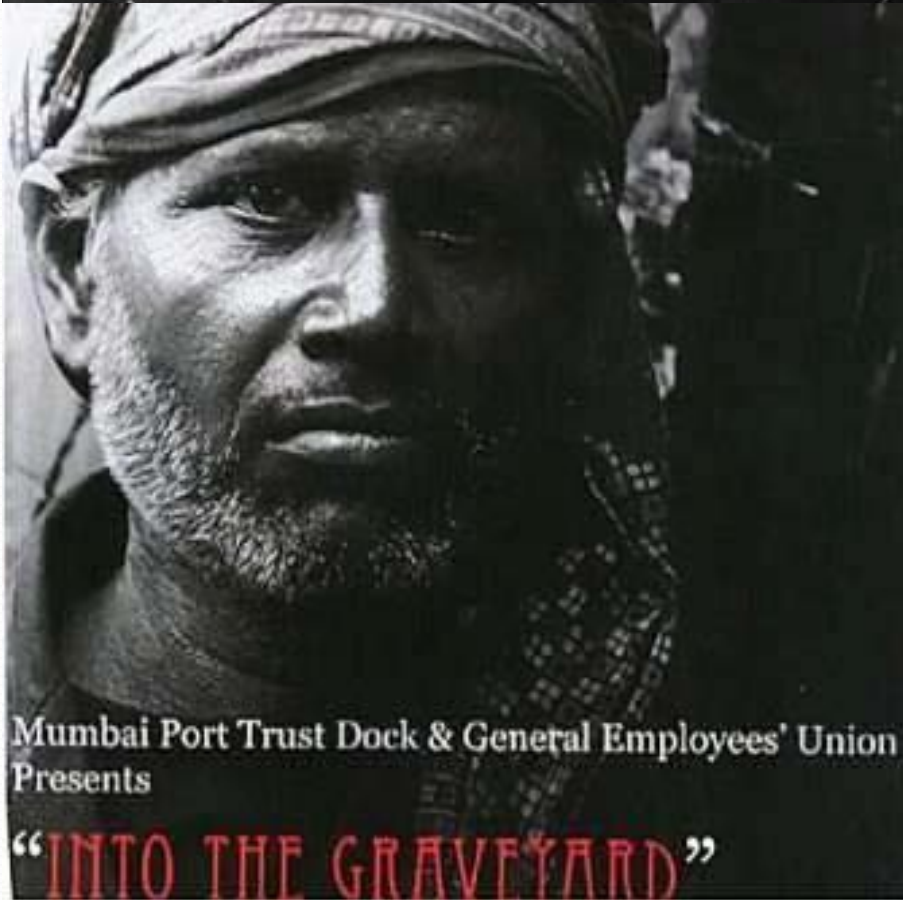
**FNV-** For the workers solidarity FNV has been supporting projects of the Union. With the help of FNV Union has conducted an affective ‘Trained the trainers program’ in Mumbai. FNV is also supporting Union for the establishment of their training centre in Alang.





Documentary: For more details you may watch

A Documentary on Ship breaking by  
Prathamesh V. Rane and Sinatra S. Diniz





Thank you!  
Jimmy

