

## **3.STATUS OF SAMPLE VILLAGES**

### **3.1. SELECTION OF SAMPLE VILLAGES**

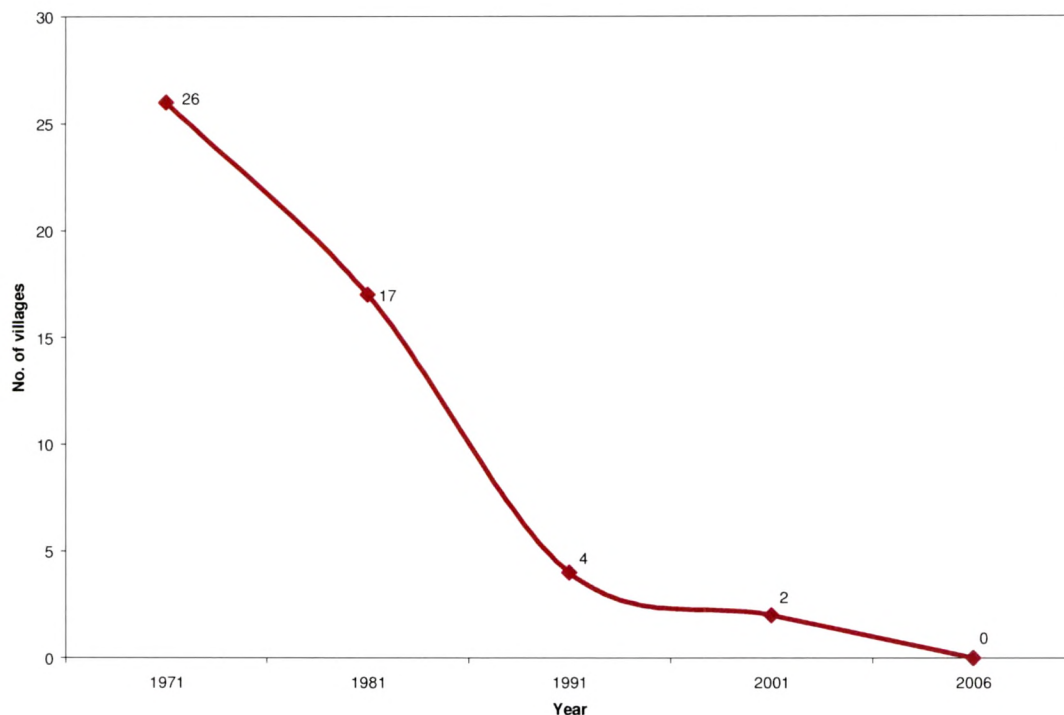
While designing the sample for the present study an element of purposiveness has been deliberately introduced at some stages not only to understand and study the role of urbanisation but also to gauge its impact in transforming the rural environment in the study region. 23 villages from the study area have been selected as sample villages for the detailed study. As per the objectives of the study a set of questionnaire comprising of Village Questionnaire and Household Questionnaire have been designed and developed to facilitate the collection of data and information from the selected households representing the selected sample villages. At this stage an attempt has been made to understand and analyse various aspects related to the topic.

Over all 23 villages were selected from Ahmedabad City Taluka region taking into account the distances and directions to ensure the wider representation of the study area considering the objectives of the study.

In the present chapter attempt has been made to study the status and the process of rural transformation happening in the sample villages which are influenced with the smooth implementation of various development programmes and related activities along with the impact of urbanisation over a period of time.

The present chapter deals with the location, accessibility of the selected sample villages, socio-economic status, infrastructure development and diversification of services with the expansion of urban needs.

Looking at the level of urbanisation in Ahmedabad City Taluka over the decades it is noted that there were 26 villages in 1961, which reduced to two villages in 2001, and by 2006 these too subsequently denotified into Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation. Villages from Daskroi taluka too came under the influence with the expansion of Ahmedabad city. The changes in the number of villages in the study region has been shown in the Plate 3.1



**Plate 3.1: Ahmedabad City Taluka – Merger of Villages into Urban Territory**

Source: Tabulated

Therefore 13 villages from Ahmedabad City Taluka and 10 villages from Daskroi Taluka have been selected for the primary survey. These villages have been classified considering the level of urbanisation in last four decades in reference to their distance and direction from Ahmedabad city. There have been some administrative changes in the City Taluka region. Tragad and Kali at present a part of Ahmedabad City Taluka were earlier a part of Daskroi Taluka.

There are other villages that were together for revenue purpose e.g. Vejalpur and Jodhpur and later were divided by the two gamtals present in this one village of Vejalpur. While village like Sarkhej Okaf had one gamtal and two different revenue boundaries. During the delimitaion of Ahmedabad city in 1986 new entities were created from the existing villages as Nava Asarwa, Juna Asarwa, Nava Vatva and Juna Vatva, etc. according to the survey numbers falling on either side of the road. Present gamtals of Kotarpur and Piplaj village are at the rehabilitated location after the floods of Sabarmati in 1973.

The Table no. 3.1 shows that Ranip got urbanised as early as in 1961 followed by Danilimbda, Sarkhej and Odhav in 1971. Some villages like Hanspura, Piplaj, Tragad, Shilaj and Visalpur now the part of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation were rural areas till the delimitation of city in 2006.

Though the population in some sample villages is very high but the survey was conducted in the core village area called the **Gamtal**. In this area of the village has the concentration of initial village population owning the agricultural land. The village is commonly divided in to different Vaas according to the caste. Most common among the vaas are Patel Vaas, Thakor Vaas, Prajapati Vaas, Vaghari vaas, Vankar Vaas, Bharvad vaas and Bhoi Vaas, etc. Sometimes these are further divided according to the deity worshiped by them.

Even among the urbanized villages the basic *gamtal* are still known for their strong traditions and lifestyle. Stark contrast has been observed between *gamtal* and the societies that have mushroomed surrounding them. One gets to see the rural urban divide even in areas which were urbanised as early as the Sixties and Seventies. Whether or not the

people stay there, most of them are still retaining their ancestral houses. Some of these have been given on rent or simply locked and kept in possession. Attempts have been during the survey to cover the household considering the caste, occupation, and economic status. A total of 343 households have been surveyed from the 23 sample villages selected for the present study.

Looking at the urbanisation level of the 23 sample villages, Ranip was urban since 1961. Danilimbda, Odhav, and Sarkhej were also included in Ahmedabad according to 1971 census. In 1981 Asarwa, Bodakdev, Ghatlodiya, Godasar, Kali, Memnagar, Vatva and Vejalpur also became urban centers. Hathijan, Kotarpur and Vastral joined urban format in 1991.

During the Village and Household survey random sampling method was adopted to decide the proportion of sample households. A village wise table showing the number of households was prepared. Looking at the wide variations in the proportion of households only 1.0, 0.5, 0.3 and 0.1 percent of the total households of respective sample villages were selected as sample households to ensure proper representation. Considering the above criteria finally 343 households were interviewed during the field work.

**Table No. 3.1 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Location and Status of Sample Villages**

S. No.	Village	Distance from Ahmedabad (km.)	Direction	Taluka in 1961	Census years					
					1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2006
1	Asarwa	04	NE	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
2	Bodakdev	03	W	Daskroi	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
3	Danilimbda	07	S	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
4	Ghatlodiya	12	NW	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
5	Ghodasar	01	SE	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
6	Hanspura	10	NE	Daskroi	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural	AMC
7	Hathijan	17	SE	Daskroi	Rural	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	AMC
8	Jodhpur	06	W	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
9	Kali	15	N	Daskroi	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
10	Kotarpur	09	NE	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	AMC
11	Lambha	11	S	Daskroi	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural	Urban	AMC
12	Memnagar	10	NW	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
13	Odhav	08	E	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
14	Piplaj	09	S	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural	Urban	AMC
15	Ranip	08	N	Ahmedabad City	Urban	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural	AMC
16	Saijpur Gopalpur	06	S	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural	Urban	AMC
17	Sarkhej Okaf	12	SW	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
18	Shilaj	15	W	Daskroi	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
19	Tragad	14	N	Daskroi	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural	AMC
20	Vastral	12	E	Daskroi	Rural	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	AMC
21	Vatva	11	SE	Daskroi	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
22	Vejalpur	9	W	Ahmedabad City	Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban	Urban	AMC
23	Visalpur	17	SW	Daskroi	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural	AMC

Source: District Census Handbook: 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991, District Census Handbook on CD for 2001

### 3.2. LOCATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

Selected sample villages in the study region are located within a radius of 15 to 20 kms from the central point of the Ahmedabad city. Visalpur, Hathijan, Kali and Shilaj villages are located at a distance of more than 15 kilometers. While Hanspura, Memnagar, Lambha, Vatva, Ghatlodiya, Sarkhej Okaf, Vastral and Tragad lies between 10 to 15 kilometers. On the other hand rest of the eleven villages are located with radius of 10 km from the city (Table 3.2).

Over a period of time accessibility to various villages has recorded a tremendous improvement and almost all villages barring a few like Piplaj, Hanspura and Saijpur Gopalpur enjoy direct and frequent connectivity to the city with metalled roads. The villages also enjoy direct accessibility with the nearby urban centre as well as with surrounding areas. With the construction of Sardar Patel Ring Road the villages located on it or close to it have recorded a major change in reference to the growth of population and conversion of agricultural to non-agricultural activities. As a result the development in last few years has been at a speed much greater than what villagers can envisage in last few decades. Frequency of bus services practically in every village has improved significantly and the maximum waiting time has declined to 1 hour between available bus services.



Table 3.2 - Ahmedabad City Taluka: Location and Accessibility of Sample Villages

S. No.	Sample villages	Place	Distance (in km)	Type of Road	Percent of total Road Length	Nearest Railway Station	Railway Distance (in km)	Gauge
1	Asarwa	Ahmedabad	4	Pucca	100	Asarwa	0	MG
2	Bodakdev	Ahmedabad	3	Pucca	100	Ambli Road	3	BG
3	Danilimbda	Ahmedabad	7	Pucca	100	Maninagar	2	BG
4	Ghatlodiya	Ahmedabad	12	Pucca	100	Chandlodiya	2	BG
5	Ghodasar	Ahmedabad	1	Pucca	100	Maninagar	3	BG
6	Hanspura	Ahmedabad	10	Pucca	100	Naroda	4	MG
7	Hathijan	Ahmedabad	17	Pucca	100	Vatva	5	BG
8	Jodhpur	Ahmedabad	6	Pucca	100	Vastrapur	2	MG
9	Kali	Ahmedabad	15	Pucca	100	Kali	0	MG
10	Kotarpur	Ahmedabad	9	Pucca	100	Sabarmati	3	BG
11	Lambha	Ahmedabad	11	Pucca	100	Vatva	7	BG
12	Memnagar	Ahmedabad	10	Pucca	100	Vastrapur	6	MG
13	Odhav	Ahmedabad	8	Pucca	100	Ahmedabad	8	BG
14	Piplaj	Ahmedabad	9	Pucca	100	Maninagar	8	BG
15	Ranip	Ahmedabad	8	Pucca	100	Sabarmati	2	BG
16	Saijpur Gopalpur	Ahmedabad	6	Pucca	100	Maninagar	5	BG
17	Sarkhej Okaf	Ahmedabad	12	Pucca	100	Sarkhej	0	MG
18	Shilaj	Ahmedabad	15	Pucca	100	Ambli Road	5	BG
19	Tragad	Ahmedabad	14	Pucca	100	Kali	2	MG
20	Vastral	Ahmedabad	12	Pucca	100	Maninagar	7	BG
21	Vatva	Ahmedabad	11	Pucca	100	Vatva	0	BG
22	Vejalpur	Ahmedabad	9	Pucca	100	Vastrapur	1	MG
23	Visalpur	Ahmedabad	17	Pucca	100	Sarkhej	8	MG

Source: Based on Village Questionnaire

On the other hand the proportion of other private vehicles like shared Auto, Tempo and Jeeps etc. too has recorded a substantial improvement which make the access to these villages in a less time consuming, easier and faster. However in the absence of proper culverts and free movement, connectivity to some villages becomes a problem during the monsoon. This has adversely affected the development process in these villages. Low lying areas of villages like Sarkhej Okaf, Piplaj, Vastral and Kotarpur are badly affected during monsoon and there are areas which remain disconnected with the nearby adjoining areas during the rainy season due to the non-existence of fair weather roads.

Railways also provide a wide connectivity to the sample villages as many station like Ambli Road, Maninagar, Chandlodiya, Vatva and Sabarmati on Broad Gauge line and Naroda, Vastrapur, Kali and Sarkhej on Meter Gauge line fall within a radius of 5 kms from these villages.

In the study area, villagers are using all types of vehicles; most common among these is two-wheelers. People who are working in the city or have some business links with the city are mostly own a two-wheeler.

Communication in all the villages has reached the next level and all enjoy a facility of good network of mobile phones and Internet facilities. During the interactions it has been noted that villagers are aware of the advantages of phone and internet and these are being frequently used for business which at many times is done through mobile phones. Every sample village has the facility of post office.



### 3.3. HOUSEHOLD AND POPULATION

The pace of population growth, pattern of distribution and redistribution; its size and composition has been effecting the process of development especially in the developing areas, regions, states and countries and region under study is not an exception to this.

Human resources are germane to building up of an economy and they have a prolonged relationship with economic growth. Population is the most dynamic agent of production as well as the beneficiary of the entire process of development. In other words, on one side population has a production aspect and on the other side has a consumption aspect. As an agent of production active population contributes as a working force, which acts as the natural resource, produces goods and services required for satisfying the human needs.

The household is not necessarily a family, but merely a group of people living together. Family is a social group based on marriage and united by ties of kinship with a similar cultural background and a common household. The changing number and size of families and households to a great extent has been influencing the character of sample villages and that is of considerable significance. Spatial variations of households in pretence to the number and size are studied to understand the pattern of social organization as well as emerging demographic trends in the study region

Danilimbda, Godasar and Kotarpur villages have become a part of Ahmedabad City as mentioned in Table no. 3.1 . Other villages such as Asarva, Bodakdev, Hathijan, Odhav, Saijpur Gopalpur, Vatva which were out growth areas now have been included as wards of the city.

Ranip, Vejalpur and Ghatlodiya with population of more than one lakh each contribute to 53.81 per cent of the population and households of the sample villages showing the high urban character of these villages.

**Table 3.3 – Ahmedabad City Taluka Region : Population and Household**

S. No.	Sample Villages	Total Household of the village	Total population of the sample village
1	Asarwa	799	3518
2	Bodakdev	4652	20778
3	Danilimbda*	4112	20621
4	Ghatlodiya	22962	109467
5	Ghodasar**	2830	12315
6	Hanspura	286	1366
7	Hathijan	400	1700
8	Jodhpur	9679	44388
9	Kali	7093	34220
10	Kotarpur**	266	1287
11	Lambha	3985	16722
12	Memnagar	8252	37284
13	Odhav	4401	21474
14	Piplaj	536	2409
15	Ranip	18349	92498
16	Saijpur Gopalpur	1259	5466
17	Sarkhej Okaf	5732	28808
18	Shilaj	837	4341
19	Tragad	465	2142
20	Vastrapur	8816	41919
21	Vatva	964	4313
22	Vejalpur	23979	116086
23	Visalpur	775	3822
	<b>Total</b>	<b>131429</b>	<b>626944</b>

\* Merged in Ahmedabad city figures are of 1971 census

\*\* Merged in Ahmedabad city figures are of 1981 census

Source: District Census Handbook: 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991, District Census Handbook on CD for 2001

Bodakdev, Odhav, Sarkhej Okaf, Kali, Memnagar, Vastrapur and Jodhpur with individual populations between 20,000 to 50,000 form 38.72 per cent. Hathijan, Hanspura, Tragad, Piplaj, Asarwa, Visalpur, Vatva, Shilaj, Saijpur Gopalpur and Lambha together account for the remaining 7.48 percent of the sample villages (Table 3.3). It can be clearly seen that population is directly proportional to the stages of urbanisation.

Mostly villages in the survey area consist of certain communities, which form a large part of the village population. Like any other village these villages are also divided into the different groups of the society with Patels

and Thakors together account for most number of landowners, while the proportion of the other castes vary according to the development stage of the village. During the field work it has been recorded that with the implementation of the reservation policy by the government, the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribes have been the real beneficiary of the urbanisation process. With the availability of education and employment opportunities, these castes have progressed steadily on their own.

With the level of urbanisation the proportion of general population has also gone up. Maximum share of general population is found in Danilimbda where leaving a few families the rest belongs to Muslim population. While in Sarkhej Okaf, Bodakdev, Jodhpur, Vastral and Ghatlodiya village each have more than 70.00 per cent people belong to general category (Table 3.4).

OBC's largely consisting of Thakors, are concentrated around Ahmedabad and more than 65.00 per cent are being accommodated in Saijpur Gopalpur, Piplaj, Kotarpur and Ghodasar. They are in majority specially in Ghatlodiya, Vastral, Bodakdev, Vejalpur, Hathijan, lambha and Tragad villages. However with continued in migration due to the increasing pace of urbanisation gradually their proportion has declined over a period of time. Over all the proportion of SC and ST has been relatively very low in the sample villages with not more than 20.00 per cent in any of the villages. SC per cent has been maximum in the Lambha with 19.41 per cent followed by Asarwa with 15.58 per cent. ST per cent was not more than 3.00 per cent in any sample village and the maximum found in Visalpur with 2.64 per cent followed by Kali with 2.19 per cent. On the other hand

Danilimbda, Ghodasar, Shilaj and Tragad samples villages do not have Scheduled Tribe population.

Looking at the over all picture of the sample villages, in the proportion of general category Ghatlodiya ranks first with 24.44 per cent of the total general population in sample villages followed by Vejalpur and Ranip with 15.64 and 12.09 per cent respectively. Vejalpur with 24.41 and Ranip with 18.34 per cent together account for about 42.75 per cent of the total OBC population living in the selected sample villages.

The proportion of SC too has been highest in Ranip village with 28.08 followed by Vejalpur with 23.44 per cent. ST percent is also maximum in Ranip and accounts for 21.58 per cent of the total ST population living in the sample villages, Kali with 17.71 per cent and Vejalpur with 15.33 per cent ranks second and third. This analysis clearly shows that due to the expanding opportunities in the urbanised villages, the composition of various caste has been changing.

**Table 3.4 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Caste wise Population and Proportion to Total Population**

S. No.	Sample villages	House holds	Population		Caste wise Population				Population Percentage				% in total sample village population			
					Gen.	OBC	SC	ST	Gen.	OBC	SC	ST	Gen.	OBC	SC	ST
1	Asarwa	799	3518		1916	1050	548	4	54.46	29.85	15.58	0.11	0.46	0.59	1.66	0.09
2	Bodakdev	4652	20778		15098	5235	289	156	72.66	25.19	1.39	0.75	3.65	2.97	0.88	3.68
3	Danilimbda	4112	20621		20553	18	50	0	99.67	0.09	0.24	0.00	4.97	0.01	0.15	0.00
4	Ghatlodiya	22692	109467		101015	6450	1591	411	92.28	5.89	1.45	0.38	24.44	3.65	4.83	9.69
5	Ghodasar	2830	12315		275	12015	25	0	2.23	97.56	0.20	0.00	0.07	6.81	0.08	0.00
6	Hanspura	286	1366		700	555	95	16	51.24	40.63	6.95	1.17	0.17	0.31	0.29	0.38
7	Hathijan	400	1700		955	638	75	32	56.18	37.53	4.41	1.88	0.23	0.36	0.23	0.75
8	Jodhpur	9679	44388		32917	8500	2590	381	74.16	19.15	5.83	0.86	7.96	4.82	7.86	8.99
9	Kali	7093	34220		19123	12749	1597	751	55.88	37.26	4.67	2.19	4.63	7.22	4.85	17.71
10	Kotarpur	266	1287		65	1134	76	12	5.05	88.11	5.91	0.93	0.103	0.64	0.23	0.28
11	Lambha	3985	16772		5900	7292	3245	285	35.28	43.61	19.41	1.70	1.43	4.13	9.85	6.72
12	Memnagar	8252	37284		24236	12500	459	89	65.00	33.53	1.23	0.24	5.86	7.08	1.39	2.10
13	Odhav	4401	21474		10560	10602	288	24	49.18	49.37	1.34	0.11	2.56	6.01	0.87	0.57
14	Piplaj	536	2409		150	2118	134	7	6.23	87.92	5.56	0.29	0.04	1.20	0.41	0.17
15	Ranip	18349	92498		49961	32375	9247	915	54.01	35.00	10.00	0.99	12.09	18.34	28.08	21.58
16	Saijpur	1259	5466		1150	3720	528	68	21.04	68.06	9.66	1.24	0.28	2.11	1.60	1.60
17	Gopalpur															
	Sarkhej	5732	28808		20604	4609	3399	196	71.52	16.00	11.80	0.68	4.99	2.61	10.32	4.62
	Okaf															
18	Shilaj	837	4341		2817	1520	4	0	64.89	35.01	0.09	0.00	0.68	0.86	0.01	0.00
19	Tragad	465	2142		850	1155	137	0	39.68	53.92	6.40	0.00	0.21	0.65	0.42	0.00
20	Vastral	8816	41919		36031	5350	478	60	85.95	12.76	1.14	0.14	8.72	3.03	1.45	1.42
21	Vatva	964	4313		2285	1930	16	82	52.98	44.75	0.37	1.90	0.55	1.09	0.05	1.93
22	Vejalpur	23979	116086		64629	43086	7721	650	55.67	37.12	6.65	0.56	15.65	24.41	23.44	15.33
23	Visalpur	775	3822		1500	1878	343	101	39.25	49.14	8.97	2.64	0.36	1.06	1.04	2.38
<b>Total</b>			<b>626944</b>		<b>413290</b>	<b>176479</b>	<b>32935</b>	<b>4240</b>	<b>65.92</b>	<b>28.15</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Based on village questionnaire



### 3.4. SEX RATIO

Analysis of the sex ratio among the sample villages clearly shows the dominance of male population with 886 females per thousand males. However considering the caste wise Sex ratio wide variations has been found as has been shown in the Table 3.5.

Lowest sex ratio is being recorded in Saijpur Gopalpur with only 631 followed by Asarwa with and 732, Piplaj with 771 and Vatva with 776. The lowest sex ratio can be attributed to the immigration of labourers in large numbers to these industrial zones.

**Table 3.5 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region : Castewise Sex Ratio**

S. No.	Sample Villages	Sample villages	General	OBC	SC	ST
1	Asarwa	732	732	730	827	3000
2	Bodakdev	920	920	890	927	835
3	Danilimbda	841	841	830	-	-
4	Ghatlodiya	898	898	890	919	795
5	Ghodasar	820	820	820	-	-
6	Hanspura	924	924	920	939	778
7	Hathijan	805	804	800	-	-
8	Jodhpur	932	932	932	913	621
9	Kali	877	877	792	894	878
10	Kotalpur	882	882	882	-	-
11	Lambha	856	856	856	867	1096
12	Memnagar	936	936	936	961	618
13	Odhav	860	860	823	756	1667
14	Piplaj	771	771	769	1197	1333
15	Ranip	859	859	860	919	864
16	Saijpur Gopalpur	631	631	630	948	1125
17	Sarkhej Okaf	906	906	899	898	867
18	Shilaj	953	953	953	1000	-
19	Tragad	907	907	905	986	-
20	Vastrapur	832	832	967	912	622
21	Vatva	776	776	774	1286	1000
22	Vejalpur	926	926	873	906	906
23	Visalpur	887	887	885	796	836
	<b>Total</b>	<b>886</b>				

Source: Based on Village Questionnaire

The range of Sex ratio varies from 631 in Saijpur Gopalpur to 953 for Shilaj in general category of population. Asarwa , Piplaj, Vatva, Hathijan, Ghodasar, Vastrapur, Danilimbda, Lambha, Ranip, Odhav, Kali and Kotarpur village too have sex ratio lower than average Sex ratio for sample villages.



Among the OBC category there are nine villages, which have more than the average sex ratio. These mainly include Bodakdev, Ghatlodiya, Sarkhej Okaf, Tragad, Hanspura, Jodhpur, Memnagar, Shilaj and Vastral villages with 890, 890, 899, 905, 920, 932, 936, 953 and 967 females per thousand males respectively.

In Odhav, Danilimbda, Visalpur, Asarwa, Lambha and Hathijan villages, Sex ratio is more than the region's average in the SC population. It ranges from 1286 females per thousand males in Vatva followed by Piplaj and Shilaj with 1197 and 1000 respectively.

Surprisingly, no ST population is found in Danilimbda, Ghodasar, Tragad and Shilaj villages. Variation in Sex ratio is also very high in most of the villages ranging from 618 to 3000 for Memnagar and Asarwa respectively. Other villages with 1000 or more females per thousand males include Odhav with 1667, Piplaj with 1333, Saijpur Gopalpur with 1125, Lambha with 1096 and Vatva with 1000. There is wide variation in the Saijpur Gopalpur with lowest Sex ratio in general and OBC category and one of the highest Sex ratio in the SC and ST category.

Finally, the proportions of sex ratio in various caste groups recorded clearly shows the changing pattern due to the influence of intra and inter regional movement of sex selective groups to the nearby areas in search of employment opportunities.

### **3.5. INCOME GROUPS**

Income of the people has a direct bearing over the awareness and the adaptation of innovations. Income is also an important factor, which substantially raises the socio-economic status of any household. It helps people in meeting their day-to-day requirements. Thus income determines the purchasing power of the people. Income of the people has a direct bearing over the awareness and their attitude towards the adoption of new things. Considering the income of the households the region have been divided into two groups (1) Households above poverty line, and (2) Households below poverty line (BPL).

#### **3.5.1. HOUSEHOLDS ABOVE THE POVERTY LINE**

Households having more than Rs. 11,000 as annual income are placed above the poverty line. These households have been grouped into three categories their annual income i.e. Middle income group (Rs. 11,000-15,000), High income group (Rs. 15,000-20,000) and Very high income group with more than Rs. 20,000).

#### **3.5.2. HOUSEHOLDS BELOW POVERTY LINE (BPL)**

As per the approved norms households whose annual income is less than Rs. 11,000.00 are placed Below Poverty Line. Considering the wide range of variations, households belonging to this category have been further regrouped into four sub-groups i.e.

- Nirdhan (Rs. 8,500.00-11,000.00).
- Ati Nirdhan (Rs. 6,001.00-8,500.00) and
- Atyadhik Nirdhan (Rs. 4,001.00-6,000.00)
- Deenheen (Rs. 4,000.00 and below)

Practically, people from every village are registered under the income group of Below Poverty Line and are availing the benefits. But the field observations suggest that the percentage of people under BPL is almost zero and most of the people feel shy while sharing details about their actual income. Interactions with various people from most of the sample villages suggest that a floating percentage of about 10.00 per cent can be considered under BPL. Most of these people are mainly migrant labourers who have migrated to the study region in search of employment and have settled in the adjoining villages considering the relatively low cost of living. Urbanisation has played an important role in supporting the rise of the income levels practically in the whole region. The region has adequate job opportunities practically for all type of workers and skilled to unskilled labourers who manage to earn a minimum of Rs. 80-100 per day. This accumulates their annual income anything between Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 25,000, taking into consideration that they have at least 20-22 working days in a month.

For Kotarpur village status of people has remain unchanged over the years after they lost their land to government without getting proper compensation, while in Vastral though the prices of land have drastically gone up but due to prevailing social evils

the status of people still has not changed. Incidentally these are the villages where country liquor is prepared locally. It is observed that gambling is also prevalent among all ages irrespective of caste.

Another alarming feature noted during the field work is that the income of people who are dependent on non agricultural activity is much higher than the farmers who are still dependent on agriculture and other allied activities. Among the families owning and cultivating agriculture land joint family system exists. It is a common feature being noted that one member is engaged in cultivation and the others are in service in order to ensure regular income and also for sustaining the increasing expenditures of joint family under the influence of urbanisation.

During the survey it has been recorded that due to the escalating prices of land close to the urban area, people have started selling their agricultural land at premium cost and have purchased cheaper land in relatively interior villages. In certain locations, agricultural land has been rented out to various non-agricultural activities. It has been significantly noted that farmers have started depositing their additional earnings with the banks. The additional income with the interest has been systematically used to improve their lifestyle. This clearly shows the changing attitude and the level of awareness amongst the rural people.

Surprisingly the economic state of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes too has improved. Most of these people have gradually discontinued their traditional jobs over a period of time

with an increase in literacy levels and the level of awareness. Gradually they have started selecting the job opportunities available in the government sector as well as its subsidiaries. In most of the villages, at least one person from each SC/ ST family is working in one or the other department of the government sector.

### 3.6. HOUSE TYPES

A house is considered as the basic need of human beings. On the other hand type and nature of the construction materials being used in the construction of house along with the built up area and number of persons residing in a house are considered as the main indicators to gauge the living conditions of the rural people in the region as has been shown in the Table 3.6. Only 1.43 per cent of the total houses in the study region are Kuchha followed by mixed and Pucca houses with 5.64 per cent and 92.92 per cent respectively.

There are no Kuchha houses in Asarwa, followed by a meager per cent of 0.03 for Ghatlodiya. In other villages also the proportion of Kuchha houses is negligible. Only Kotarpur followed by Visalpur villages with 65.41 and 48.52 per cent respectively have relatively higher proportions of Kuccha houses.

**Table 3.6 – Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Composition of House Types**

S. No.	Sample Villages	Percent of Pucca Houses	Percent of Mixed houses	Percent of Kuchha Houses
1	Asarwa	95.62	4.38	0.00
2	Bodakdev	98.67	1.07	0.26
3	Danilimbda*	99.83	0.12	0.05
4	Ghatlodiya	99.86	0.11	0.03
5	Ghodasar**	98.37	1.24	0.39
6	Hanspura	31.47	54.55	13.99
7	Hathijan	40.00	40.00	20.00
8	Jodhpur	99.79	0.15	0.05
9	Kali	98.94	0.99	0.07
10	Kotalpur**	10.15	24.44	65.41
11	Lambha	7.53	91.22	1.25
12	Memnagar	98.00	0.79	1.21
13	Odhav	92.73	5.68	1.59
14	Piplaj	55.97	31.90	12.13
15	Ranip	99.29	0.54	0.16
16	Saijpur Goplapur	64.26	31.77	3.97
17	Sarkhej Okaf	78.19	13.96	7.85
18	Shilaj	84.47	11.95	3.58
19	Tragad	60.00	31.40	8.60
20	Vastral	93.48	5.10	1.42
21	Vatva	80.81	15.56	3.63
22	Vejalpur	97.60	1.88	0.52
23	Visalpur	40.52	10.97	48.52
<b>Total</b>		<b>92.92</b>	<b>5.64</b>	<b>1.43</b>

Source: Based on villages questionnaire

In mixed houses the lowest proportion with 0.11 per cent is found in Ghatlodiya, while the highest was found in Lambha with 91.22 per cent. Hanspura, Hathijan, Piplaj, Saijpur Gopalpur and Tragad villages follow with 54.55, 40.00, 31.90, 31.77 and 31.40 per cent respectively.

Twelve villages together account for more than 90.00 per cent pucca houses with highest proportion at Ghatlodiya with 99.86 per cent. Lowest proportion of pucca houses was recorded in Lambha with 7.53 per cent, followed by Kotarpur with 10.15 per cent and Hanspura with 31.47 per cent.

### 3.7. EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Generally education is considered as an important input, which has a direct link with the process of development. The differential spread of the literacy can, therefore be properly analysed in the system of interdependencies



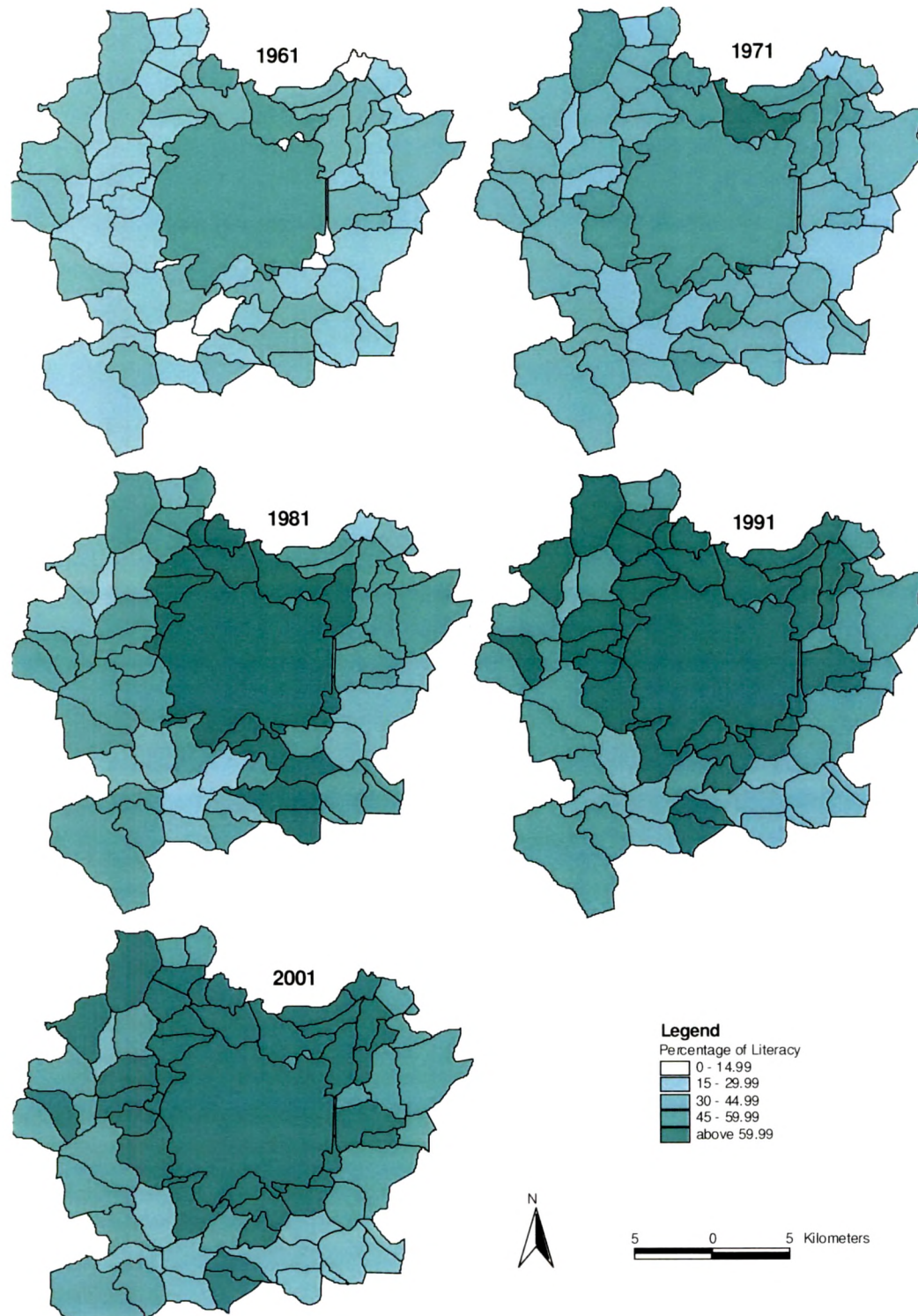
having bi-directional linkages with the development process, in consensus with the marked disparities, in diversified socio-economic conditions across the sample villages in the region. The level and response of educational opportunities also varies among sample villages. The changes in the educational levels play a positive role in the development of human resources in the region.

Positive impact of urbanisation has witnessed in the whole region with the establishment of many private schools and colleges along with government schools. Over a period of time dependency only on infrastructure provided by the Government has relatively declined. Improvement in monthly income has also helped people in choosing better options from the available schools and colleges. Good roads and connectivity of rural areas with Ahmedabad too has helped students choose from the Higher Secondary Schools, Colleges and even Professional institutes from the study region. Educational levels are still not very high in villages like Piplaj, Saijpur Gopalpur, Tragad, Hanspura, Hathijan, Lambha, Kotarpur and Vastral.

An important fact to be recorded is that practically every sample village has a primary school in the region. These schools impart education upto the class Seven. Most of the children in the sample villages are enrolled in schools but still attendance remains an issue of major concern. Proportion of teachers in government schools is also not adequate and this remains a reason of concern for most parents, who feel that normally teachers take interest in every other activity rather than teaching. This is how the literacy level of sample villages is guided by the kind of teachers imparting education and their level of dedication. Employment opportunities after

education also play an important role in creating awareness amongst parents for improving education of their children for assured future. Reservations for SC/ST in various government jobs have properly been utilized by the population, as observed during the survey the level of education in Harijans practically in all villages is higher than average in the village. There has been a constant upwardly movement of the SC/ST with the help of jobs offered to them. They have been absorbed in various government departments such as Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation-Sanitary department, Ahmedabad Electricity Company and Gujarat Electricity Company.

The level of education in Patel community has always been higher than the other communities living in the villages. The effort to send children to good and even English medium schools in the nearby localities and even to the city centres has become a very common phenomenon. In fact, with urbanisation very few Patel families have remained in the village *Gamtals* and most of them have moved to the nearby societies looking for better infrastructure and living environment. This outwardly movement is also a result of matrimonial difficulties faced by people staying in the villages. In the recent years it has become a common feature that no one wants to marry the people who are staying in the villages.



**Plate 3.2 – Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Percentage of Literacy**

Source: Prepared from Base Map, BISAG, Gandhinagar

On the other hand, no positive change in the education status of Thakors has been seen over the last few decades. Level of urbanisation and accessibility to educational facilities has failed in changing the mental

frame of Thakors who usually study up to primary. One third of the students discontinue their study after primary level. Education of a girl child is still not considered as an important issue, as most of them study only upto class seven even today.

The prevailing awareness among the Patels has helped to have get proper returns from the agriculture land owned by them. One finds a distinction between a village with Patel dominance and Thakor dominance. For example, in Asarwa village Patel community are the majority landowner, though the land was first given on lease for non agricultural activities and subsequently was sold to mills. These landowner then moved out of the villages towards western side of Ahmedabad looking for the better quality of life. Girl child is also given equal opportunity. Most of the children from this village have settled abroad, especially in USA. Danilimbda was initially a Thakor village with few Patel families. But over a period of time, the land got transferred to Patels for various reasons, as Thakors could not retain their land. Patels also later sold this land to Small Scale Industries units and allied ancillary units. Over a period of time the village has changed its character as most of the residents have moved out with the fear of riots etc. Slowly the village got dominated by Muslim population, which now clearly shows the fragmented rural society. Jodhpur village has witnessed a totally different dimension of urbanization with high quality of societies being made and their standards are maintained. Memnagar and Ranip too are witnessing the impact of rapid urbanisation and land rates have also escalated steeply. Sarkhej Okaf and Visalpur though at a distance of 12 km and 17 km from Ahmedabad have shown tremendous improvement in level of education and education of girl child.

The level of urbanisation and the development of area around it clearly define the socio-economic conditions of the villages. The proportion of different castes also plays a very distinctive role in a way the village is developed.

### **3.8. ELECTRIFICATION**

Electricity is considered as one of the powerful instrument positively supports the process of socio-economic development of the rural areas and region under study is not exception to this. The economic development largely depends on the well-developed infrastructure facilities alongwith the adequate supply of power. Among various facilities, availability of electricity is considered as the most important one. It is a well known fact that in most of the developing regions the basis of development take-off has been with the establishment of industries in the urban and adjoining rural areas, and this becomes difficult rather impossible without the adequate supply of electricity.

Availability of the electric power in the rural areas is considered as an important and basic infrastructure supporting the diversification of agricultural and non agricultural activities. Rural electrification brings about significant changes in the rural areas in context of domestic, irrigation, commercial and industrial sectors. With the electrification not only an individual family is benefited but its impact is witnessed on the over all environment of the rural areas.

100 percent sample villages in the region are electrified and practically every household has an electricity connection. In most of the villages electricity is used by the domestic, commercial and irrigation sectors. Most

of the power is used by the domestic sector followed by commercial, industrial, irrigation and street lighting sector as has been shown in the Table No. 3.7.

With highest consumption of electricity by domestic sector Hanspura rank first with 93.62 per cent of total electricity consumption while the lowest is Asarwa with 73.42 per cent. Lowest consumption of electricity by commercial sector is in Lambha with 0.14 per cent followed by Katarpur with 0.60 per cent, while it is highest in Vastral with 14.36 per cent followed by Asarwa with 14.32 per cent.

Unlike rural areas street lighting in the study region forms a major part of electricity consumption with Lambha having highest percent of 10.14 followed by Ranip with 7.73 per cent, Asarwa with 7.45 per cent and Jodhpur with 7.12 per cent. Lowest is observed in Hanspura with 0.98 per cent.

Use of electricity by industrial sector is recorded only from eleven villages. Maximum in Odhav with 12.14 per cent followed by Piplaj with 10.53, Saijpur Gopalpur with 10.53, Vatva with 10.50, Asarwa with 4.81, Sarkhej Okaf with 4.10, Danilimbda with 3.14, Shilaj with 1.26, Lambha with 0.58, Ranip with 0.09 and Kali with 0.03 per cent.

Nine villages do not use electricity for irrigation while in Ranip, Ghatlodiya, Vatva, Vastral and Bodakdev villages the consumption is less than 1.00 per cent of total electricity consumed. Maximum electricity consumption for irrigation purpose has been reported from Visalpur with 8.95 per cent followed by Tragad with 7.15 per cent and Sarkhej Okaf with 6.73. These are the only three villages, which account for more than 5.00 per cent of



the electricity consumed for irrigation. In the remaining six villages, electricity consumption ranges between 2.00 and 5.00 per cent.

### **3.8.1. ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES**

In last two decades the use of different types of electrical appliances by the residents of the sample villages has increased manifold. This clearly indicates the changing pattern of life style as well as the attitude of the people. However, this also indicates the change in their income levels. During the field work most of the people expressed that to improve the agricultural production they have adopted modern inputs. Similarly they have also started sparing the money for purchasing the electrical appliances to meet the domestic requirements. All sample villages are having electricity for more than three decades and have now moved on to use all appliances being introduced in the market from time to time. Radio and Television sets with cable connections / direct-to-home connection can be seen in almost every households. In addition to this, gradually DVD players are also finding their way into these households. However, Electric Fans are still not very common in every room of a house, as people prefer to sleep out in the air. In addition to this almost all the households who have sold their agriculture land recently are equipped with Mixer-Grinder, Aata Chhaki, Refrigerators even Air Conditioners, etc. in their newly constructed or renovated houses.

Table 3.7: Ahmedabad City Taluka Region : Sectorwise Consumption of Electricity

Table 01: Unagulated City and Rural Region - Socioeconomic Characteristics of Electricity Consumption											
S. No.	Sample Villages	Sectorwise Electricity Consumption				Sectorwise proportion of Electricity Consumption					
		Domestic	Commercial	Industry	Road	Irrigation	Domestic	Commercial	Industry	Road	Irrigation
1	Asarwa	587	114	38	60	0	73.42	14.32	4.81	7.45	0.00
2	Bodakdev	4278	182	0	146	46	91.97	3.91	0.00	3.13	0.99
3	Danilimbda	3704	176	129	103	0	90.08	4.28	3.14	2.50	0.00
4	Ghatlodiya	21249	883	0	802	28	92.54	3.84	0.00	3.49	0.12
5	Ghodasar	2489	218	0	123	0	87.95	7.69	0.00	4.36	0.00
6	Hanspura	268	5	0	3	10	93.62	1.83	0.00	0.98	3.50
7	Hathijan	352	10	0	22	17	87.96	2.44	0.00	5.42	4.24
8	Jodhpur	8174	8125	0	690	0	84.46	8.42	0.00	7.12	0.00
9	Kali	6596	247	2	247	0	92.99	3.49	0.03	3.49	0.00
10	Kotarpur	247	2	0	18	0	92.69	0.60	0.00	6.70	0.00
11	Lambha	3465	6	23	404	87	86.96	0.14	0.58	10.14	2.18
12	Memnagar	7083	708	0	460	0	85.84	8.58	0.00	5.58	0.00
13	Odhav	3568	188	534	110	0	81.08	4.28	12.14	2.50	0.00
14	Piplaj	432	22	56	7	20	80.54	4.02	10.53	1.24	3.72
15	Ranip	16677	234	17	1418	4	90.89	1.27	0.09	7.73	0.02
16	Saijpur	989	79	133	16	43	78.54	6.27	10.53	1.24	3.41
Gopalpur											
17	Sarkhej Okaf	4306	496	235	309	386	75.12	8.66	4.10	5.39	6.73
18	Shilaj	744	32	11	29	21	88.93	3.84	1.26	3.49	2.51
19	Tragad	412	11	0	9	33	88.55	2.34	0.00	1.96	7.10
20	Vastral	7332	1266	0	190	28	83.17	14.36	0.00	2.15	0.32
21	Vatva	727	84	101	51	1	75.42	8.67	10.50	5.26	0.10
22	Vejalpur	21630	833	0	1515	0	90.21	3.48	0.00	6.32	0.00
23	Visalpur	664	22	0	19	69	85.66	2.89	0.00	2.50	8.91
Total		115974	6633	1280	6750	791	88.24	5.05	0.97	5.14	0.60

Source: Based on village questionnaire

### 3.9. TRANSPORT FACILITIES

Transport network is considered as the main feeding veins influencing the economy of a region. The movement of people as well as the goods from one place to other places becomes possible only with the availability of efficient, fast dependable transport network along with other related facilities.

Transport is an important and essential asset has supported the development of the rural people and activities operating in the region. The expansion of the societies and economic activities gradually requires a safe, efficient, fast and dependable transport network. All related systems too are expanded and diversified gradually to ensure the movement of man and material from local, regional, national and international level with intra and inter variations. Human being has strived from time immemorial, to develop and improve the means of transport and ensure the movement of man and materials to various places. As a result the rural and urban societies have been benefited with the growth of efficient transport network at various levels.

Transport facilities are the hub around which revolves the development of a region as has been noted in the study region. The regions is having a good network of transport facilities and this is evident from its level of development. Important modes of transport available in the sample villages include Motorcycles, Cycles, Tractor Trolleys, Shuttle Autos, Car, Jeep, and Bus. Most of these means of transport are widely and commonly used by the rural people for maintaining inter and intra connectivity of villages in the region.

### 3.10. RURAL ARTISAN

Over a period of time, proportion of traditional works done by different communities is declining due to the inferiority complex and the number of families actively involved in such activities is decreasing. The younger generation is not showing inclination towards these professions.

Member of the Prajapati community engaged in making of earthen pots used for storage of water and other decorative articles made of clay are living in all villages. They use the soil available from the village ponds to make such clay based articles. With increase in education levels and exploitation of soil from village ponds for various construction purposes; legal or illegal, gradually the availability of good quality soil is declining. Cost of production has also gone up due to the non-availability of cheap fuel. Sustainability with just traditional means of earnings over a period of time has become increasingly difficult. As a result they have gradually started joining government jobs. Another phenomenon observed is that since the demand for earthen pots is ever increasing with increasing population, artisans from the adjoining and neighbouring districts have starts migrating into these villages and are meeting up the demands of the region.

Presence of cobblers, carpentry work, blacksmiths, goldsmiths, tailors, etc. is there in every village to cater to the needs of the people.

### 3.11. SERVICE UNITS

During the field survey it has been recorded that all sample villages in the region have shops dealing with variety of materials. The more urbanized a village more is the number and variety of shops. From bicycle repairing

shops to electric repairing shops to all types of service units to grocery and other minor type of services are present in all the villages.

There are villages which have almost no agriculture land left and what ever is left with farmers is retained, for getting better land rates. Meanwhile, they grow grass locally called Lackho for cattle to keep land registered under agriculture land. Villages still cultivating are growing crops like Bajri, Wheat and Rice. There are many villages that have turned industrial in nature. Table 3.8 is showing the trading of important commodities imported, exported and manufactured / produced in the sample villages.

### 3.12. LANDUSE PATTERN

The use of land as agricultural land specially for producing various agricultural produces is the widest and very significant form of activity emerged as the sustenance of humanity. From early times man has been tilling the land, which is a renewable stock resource. The history of resource use clearly shows that with the increasing number of people and their capability with the advancement of science and technology gradually the use of resources has been diversified to meet the growing demands with increasing human population. Similar has been the case with the land resource. Initially with sparse population only best lands were cultivated. However with increasing pressure of population, even the marginal lands are being gradually brought under cultivation. At the same time science and technology too has been applied to meet the emerging challenges to feed the increasing population. All this has caused and is causing changes in the pattern of landuse, its intensity, crop rotation and multiplication of crops specially to meet the growing demands for diversified agricultural

produces by the urban population as well as bio-industrial units. Mostly Wheat, Rice and Jowar, etc. are grown in the region (Table 3.9).

### **3.13. LAND HOLDING AND OWNERSHIP**

With the growing impact of the urban influence it becomes evident that the pressure of population on the available land is increasing in the adjoining villages. Their resources have been manifested in to sub-divisions and as a result with the increasing number of holdings the agricultural land has been fragmented both due to economic as well social factors. With the transformation of agricultural land to meet the growing demand of additional space for non agricultural activities, gradually the rich productive agricultural land is being permanently converted. As a result pressure on the available agricultural land further increases to enhance the production to meet the expanding demand of agricultural produces from the available land with the use of modern inputs.



**Table 3.8: Ahmedabad City Taluka Region – Trading of Commodities Among Sample Villages**

S. No.	Sample Villages	Imported Commodities Accordance to Importance			Commodities Exported Accordance to Importance			Manufactured / Produced Commodities		
		Commodity 1	Commodity 2	Commodity 3	Commodity 1	Commodity 2	Commodity 3	Commodity 1	Commodity 2	Commodity 3
1	Asarwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	Bajri	Wheat	Rice
2	Bodakdev	-	-	-	-	-	-	Bajri	Wheat	Rice
3	Danilimbda	Iron Raw Material	Cement	Food Grain	Iron Grills	Cement Pipes	Tyre	Iron Grills	Cement Pipes	-
4	Ghatlodiya	Food Grains	Edible Oil	Cutlery & Provisions	Steel Cupboard	Furniture	Tiles	Steel Cupboard	Furniture	Tiles
5	Ghodasar	Chemicals	Equipments	-	Chemicals	Equipment	-	Chemicals	Equipment	-
6	Hanspura	-	-	-	-	-	-	Paddy	Bajri	Castor
7	Hathijan	-	-	-	-	-	-	Paddy	Wheat	Rice
8	Jodhpur	Food Grains	Grocery Cloth	Vegetables Essential Commodities	Paddy Iron	Jowar Iron Bars	Bajri	Paddy Iron	Jowar Iron Bars	Bajri
9	Kali	Iron Plates	-	-	Galvanized Pipe	-	-	Galvanized Pipe	-	-
10	Kotarpur	-	-	-	-	-	-	Bajri, Jowar	Wheat	Rice
11	Lambha	Eatable Things	Cloth	Medicines	Paddy	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Wheat	Rice
12	Memnagar	Food Grains	Medicines	Edible Oil	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Odhav	Iron Raw Materials	Plastic raw Material	Aluminum Raw Material	Iron	Plastic	Soda	Clocks	Wooden Furniture	-
14	Piplaj	-	-	-	-	-	-	Paddy	Wheat	Bajri
15	Ranip	Fibre	Food Grains	Cement	Cement Pipes	Cement Sheets	Tiles	Cement Pipes	Cement Sheets	Tiles
16	Saijpur	-	-	-	-	-	-	Paddy	Wheat	Bajri
17	Gopalpur	Edible Oil	Food Grains	Cloth	Bricks	Vegetable	Earth of Vessels	Bricks	Earth of Vessels	Vegetables
18	Shilaj	-	-	-	-	-	-	Paddy	Bajri	Castor
19	Tragad	-	-	-	-	-	-	Grains	Vegetable	Bajri
20	Vastral	Food Grains	Cloths	-	Paddy	Flowers	Vegetables	Paddy	Flowers	Vegetables
21	Vatva	Chemical Raw Materials	Iron Raw Material	Coal	Chemicals	Engineering Equipments	Detergent Power	Engineering Equipments	Chemicals	Detergent Power
22	Vejalpur	Essential Commodity	Cloth	Edible Oil	Paddy	Jowar	Bajri	Paddy	Jowar	Bajri
23	Visalpur	-	-	-	-	-	-	Paddy	Bajri	Jowar

Source: Based on village questionnaire

**Table 3.9 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Composition of Crops Grown**

S. No.	Types of Crops	Crops Cultivated
1.	Cereal Crops	Paddy. Kharif Bajri Summer Bajri, Jowar Kharif Maize, Wheat, Barley. Kodri, Banti Ragi
2.	Pulse Crops	Gram Green gram Jowar, Black gram, Math, Val, Chavli
3.	Vegetable Crops	Potato, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Brinjal, Tomato, Lady's Finger, Singer, Smooth gourd, Cucumber, other Vegetables (Bitter gourd, onion etc.)
4.	Fodder crops	Lucerne grass, Guar, Jowar, Grass and Babuls

**Source:** Reconnaissance Soil Survey Report of Ahmedabad District; Technical Bulletin; Department of Agriculture, Nadiad; October 1998

### 3.14. CHANGING PRODUCTION OF CROPS

The factors consist of economic, social and personal factors while the natural factors stand for climate, soil, terrain and demand of crops. Most of these factors with minimum changes remain stable. But certain economic factors particularly economic factors are of dynamic nature. Therefore over the period of time their significance has changed. Technical factors consist of agricultural implements, machines, high-yielding varieties of seeds and fertilizers etc. are being extensively adopted by the farmers of sample villages. Among the social factors i.e. ownership of land, size and distribution of operational holdings certainly has influenced the nature and use of agricultural land in respective districts (Table 3.9 & 3.10).

The analysis of above aspect clearly confirms that, apart from the transport facilities, level of awareness among the residents of the area has positively motivated them to think in terms of new ventures. This is a stark and paradox fact that rural activities in some of the sample villages located on the main road or close to it and having direct accessibility with Ahmedabad city have been transformed with tremendous speed. In all such villages the process of diversification of non-agricultural activities has been initiated started with an accelerated pace gauging and realising the availability of vast expanding urban market. Surprisingly with such a process the homogenous character of the rural areas and that of the people has been



transformed into heterogeneous character. With this the prosperity has been achieved in most of the sample villages but the philosophy of oneness of the village or that of the family has been lost.

**Table 3.10 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Prevailing Crop Rotation**

S. No.	Traditional Crops	Adopted Crops
1.	Kharif Cotton	H.W Jowar / Bajra
2.	Kharif Paddy	Rabi wheat/Gram
3.	Kharif Paddy	H.W. Paddy
4.	Kharif Paddy	Sugarcane
5.	Kharif Jowar	Gram
6.	Kharif Bajra	Wheat
7.	Kharif Bajra	Castor/ Jowar
8.	Kharif Bajra	Vegetables
9.	Kharif Bajra	Mustard
10.	Kharif Bajra /Jowar	Cotton / Tobacco
11.	Tobacco	Tobacco
12.	Kharif Fallow	Wheat (Bhal area)
13.	Kharif Bajra	Camia /H.W. Bajra
14.	Kharif Paddy	Wheat/ Wheat+ Gram
15.	Rabi Mustard/ Gram	H.W. Bajra
16.	Rabi Wheat	H.W. Bajra
17.	Rabi Fenral	H.W. Bajra
18.	Rabi Potato	H.W. Bajra
19.	Kharif Rabi Tobacco	Fallow tobacco

**Source:** Reconnaissance Soil Survey Report of Ahmedabad District; Technical Bulletin; Department of Agriculture, Nadiad; October 1998