

## **4. TRANSFORMATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT**

### **4.1. INTRODUCTION**

To study the socio-economic composition of population in the study region, household/family has been considered as the basic unit. Considering the diverse nature and size of the study region and assessing the limitations of the field work, 343 households (about 0.26 percent of total households) from the 23 sample villages have been selected. During the fieldwork all respondents representing the selected households were interviewed personally by the researcher. Efforts have been made to ensure wider representation of all the categories selected on random basis from each sample village. However, considering objectives, purposeness introduced finally 343 households (0.26 percent of total households) with 0.31 per cent family members of total population from the selected sample villages were interviewed as per the questionnaire designed for the purpose. Thus the information collected and tabulated in Table 4.1 has been analysed.

### **4.2. POPULATION**

Population composition means a turning point from the gross to the refined and specific. It refers to the distribution within a population of one or more individually carried traits and attributes. The characteristic groupings which makeup the peculiar structure of a population at any particular time or its changing structure over a period of time is known as its composition. Socio-economic, cultural and political factors directly or indirectly also

influence the population composition. Population composition is always governed by the fertility and mortality.

The sample villages present a diversified picture considering to be completely of different kinds the number of households and the population of respective villages. Population ranges from 1,366 in Hanspura to 1,16,086 persons in the village Vejalpur while the number of households varies from 286 in Hanspura to 23,979 in Vejalpur village as has been presented in the Table 4.1. This clearly explains the effort being made by the researcher to cover various types of villages with diverse characteristics.

#### **4.2.1. SEX RATIO**

Unquestionably the classification of population according to sex generally influences the form and tempo of life in any region and of any group or community. The balance between the sexes is an important aspect of population structure. The proportion of male and female to the total population has vital bearings as these effects the supply of labourers through marriage and fecundity. In case the proportion of males is higher than that of females more workers will be available with an exception of females of lower classes. The customs and institution of any country vary from contributing to the wealth preclude women in our country. The Sex Ratio, which in its own turn may be affected by post fertility; mortality and migration, plays an important part in determining birth and death rates in respective communities.

The sex composition of the population bears reflection of the changes of birth, death and migration rates of it. Considerable changes in these demographic characteristics have been noticed among the sample villages, and this has created imbalance in the proportion of males and females. Sex ratio is the number of females per thousand males. An ideal sex ratio is 1,000, which means equal number of males and females in population which hardly exists in any region.

The study region has a greater variation in the tally of sex ratio (Table 4.1). Saijpur Gopalpur village with only 631 females per 1,000 males ranks last whereas Shilaj village with as many as 953 females per 1,000 males and ranks first considering the sex ratio and has more than the City Taluka's average sex ratio of 885 females per 1,000 males. Thirteen sample villages have the lower than the region's average sex ratio, while the remaining ten villages have higher proportion of female population. This clearly indicates the movement of males to the urban centres of Ahmedabad City Taluka region considering the job opportunities.

Changes in proportion of females per thousand males among the selected sample villages have been due to the continued effects of the urban influence especially on the villages close to the urban centres. The lower Sex Ratio is due to the migration of male population. On the other hand, gradually in reference to the distance from the urban center, in various sample villages the proportion of females too has start declining.

In most of the sample villages of the region it has been observed that more than 50.90 per cent population is married. Kali village in the region has the lowest proportion of married population with 43.64 percent whereas Bodakdev village has the highest number of married population with 61.59 per cent.

#### **4.2.2. RELIGION**

Religion is an important parameter to find out the socio-economic composition of the population living in the study region. In the region 84.55 per cent sample households represent Hindus followed by Jains and Muslims with 7.87 and 7.29 per cent respectively, Christians too have a share of 0.29 per cent and are living in Hathijan where the Scheduled Caste famillised have been adopted Christianity. The village also has a Church. Muslims dominate Danilimbda village and the out migration of local people can be clearly observed in Gamtal of this village. Their population with 85.71 percent has the maximum share of the total households living in this village. Similarly, majority of the sample households belonging to the Jain community are concentrating in Memnagar and Asarwa villages with 40.00 and 37.50 per cent of the total sample households respectively (Table 4.2).

Table 4.1 Ahmedabad Region: Demographic Characteristics of Households

S. No.	Sample Villages	Total Household of the village	Percentage sample taken	No. of hh surveyed	Total population of the sample village	Population of the household	Population in Selected Households (% of total population)	Sex ratio	No. of Married population	Per cent of married population in the households
1	Asarwa	799	1.0	8	3518	44	1.25	732	26	59.09
2	Bodakdev	4652	0.5	23	20778	138	0.66	920	85	61.59
3	Danilimbda*	4112	0.5	21	20621	147	0.71	841	84	57.14
4	Ghatlodiya	22962	0.1	23	109467	137	0.13	898	66	48.18
5	Ghodasar**	2830	0.5	14	12315	84	0.68	820	38	45.24
6	Hanspura	286	1.0	3	1366	17	1.25	924	4	47.06
7	Hathijan	400	1.0	4	1700	20	1.18	804	12	60.00
8	Jodhpur	9679	0.3	29	44388	145	0.33	932	70	48.28
9	Kali	7093	0.3	21	34220	110	0.32	877	48	43.64
10	Kotarpur**	266	1.0	3	1287	23	1.79	882	11	47.83
11	Lambha	3985	0.5	20	16722	96	0.57	856	56	58.33
12	Memnagar	8252	0.3	25	37284	115	0.31	936	60	52.17
13	Odhav	4401	0.5	22	21474	125	0.58	860	65	52.00
14	Piplaj	536	1.0	5	2409	25	1.04	771	13	52.00
15	Ranip	18349	0.1	18	92498	108	0.12	859	48	44.44
16	Saijpur Gopalpur	1259	0.5	6	5466	31	0.57	631	15	48.39
17	Sarkhej Okaf	5732	0.3	17	28808	97	0.34	906	48	49.48
18	Shilaj	837	1.0	8	4341	48	1.11	953	23	47.92
19	Tragad	465	1.0	5	2142	27	1.26	907	14	51.85
20	Vastral	8816	0.3	26	41919	133	0.32	832	65	48.87
21	Vatva	964	1.0	10	4313	108	2.50	776	52	48.15
22	Vejalpur	23979	0.1	24	116086	127	0.12	926	65	51.18
23	Visalpur	775	1.0	8	3822	46	1.20	887	21	45.65
	<b>Total</b>	<b>131429</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>626944</b>	<b>1951</b>	<b>0.31</b>		<b>993</b>	<b>50.90</b>

\* Merged in Ahmedabad city figures are of 1971 census

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

Source: Based on Household Questionnaire

Table 4.2 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Religion-Wise & Caste-Wise Composition of Households

S. No.	Samples Villages	Religion				Caste			
		Hindu	Muslim	Jain	Christian	General	OBC	SC	ST
1	Asarwa	62.50	--	37.50	-	62.50	25.00	12.50	-
2	Bodakdev	86.95	--	13.05	-	34.78	60.87	4.35	-
3	Danilimbda	14.29	85.71	-	-	100.00	-	-	-
4	Ghatlodiya	100.00	-	-	-	17.39	82.61	-	-
5	Ghodasar	100.00	-	-	-	-	92.86	7.14	-
6	Hanspura	100.00	-	-	-	66.67	33.33	-	-
7	Hathijan	50.00	25.00	-	25.00	25.00	50.00	25.00	-
8	Jodhpur	100.00	-	-	-	79.32	13.79	6.89	-
9	Kali	85.71	4.76	9.53	-	38.10	42.85	19.05	-
10	Kotarpur	100.00	-	-	-	-	66.67	33.33	-
11	Lambha	100.00	-	-	-	40.00	40.00	20.00	-
12	Memnagar	60.00	-	40.00	-	32.00	52.00	16.00	-
13	Odhav	86.36	-	13.64	-	22.73	63.64	13.63	-
14	Piplaj	100.00	-	-	-	-	80.00	20.00	-
15	Ranip	100.00	-	-	-	38.89	50.00	11.11	-
16	Saijpur Gopalpur	100.00	-	-	-	16.67	50.00	33.33	-
17	Sarkhej Okaf	52.94	11.77	35.29	-	82.36	5.88	11.76	-
18	Shilaj	100.00	-	-	-	37.50	37.50	25.00	-
19	Tragad	100.00	-	-	-	40.00	40.00	20.00	-
20	Vastral	100.00	-	-	-	3.85	80.77	15.38	-
21	Vatva	70.00	30.00	-	-	40.00	40.00	20.00	-
22	Vejalpur	100.00	-	-	-	-	66.67	33.33	-
23	Visalpur	100.00	-	-	-	62.50	25.00	12.50	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>290</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>47</b>	
<b>Percent</b>		<b>84.55</b>	<b>7.29</b>	<b>7.87</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>37.90</b>	<b>48.40</b>	<b>13.70</b>	

Source: Based on Household Questionnaire



**DANILIMBDA – ENTRY TO GAMTAL****DANILIMBDA – RELOCATION OF HINDU COMMUNITY****HATHIJAN – PRESENCE OF MUSLIM POPULATION****HATHIJAN – PRESENCE OF CHRISTIAN POPULATION****HATHIJAN – PRESENCE OF HINDU POPULATION****SARKHEJ OKAF – DERASAR****Photo Plate 4.1 – Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Religion**

Source: Photographed by Scholar

### 4.2.3. CASTE

The caste system is the most fundamental and a peculiar feature of a society which not only controls the behaviour of individuals but directly or indirectly influences the rate of mortality, fertility and migration of people representing various caste groups. In the Indian sub-continent even today there are

numerous occupations and the status is governed by the social caste of individuals.

Caste is a significant factor in the rural areas of the region as many economic activities are identified broadly with one caste or the other. Caste wise analysis of the selected households clearly shows that about 48.40 per cent households belong to Other Backward Caste (OBC) followed by the general and Scheduled Castes households with 37.90 and 13.70 per cent respectively. Scheduled Tribes are absent in the responding household.

37.90 percent of the total households belong to the general category and in more than fifty per cent sample villages the proportion of the households belong to the general category is around 40.0 per cent.

Asarwa, Visalpur, Hanspura, Jodhpur and Sarkhej Okaf accounting for more than 60.00 per cent of general households clearly shows the dominance of Patel community in these areas. On the other hand, there are villages namely Ghodasar, Kotarpur, Piplaj and Vejalpur where either Patels were not present or have totally migrated out into other areas due to the influence of urbanisation.

Among the 343 selected households 13.70 per cent households belongs to Scheduled Caste and most of them are living in 87.00 per cent of the total sample villages. The proportion of Scheduled Caste households is less than 30.0 per cent in most of the villages leaving few exceptions of Kotarpur, Saijpur



Gopalpur and Vejalpur where it is 33.33 per cent. The Scheduled Caste households are absent in Danilimbda, Ghatlodiya and Hanspura villages. It can also be seen that with an increase in urbanisation the proportion of Scheduled Caste has declined especially in Bodakdev, Jodhpur, Ghodasar, Ranip, Sarkhej Okaf, Asarwa, Visalpur, Odhav and Vastral villages which account for less than 15.0 per cent of the total household belonging to Scheduled Castes. Villages with more than 15.00 per cent of the Scheduled Caste households other than the ones mentioned above include Memnagar, Kali, Lambha, Piplaj, Tragad, Vatva, Hathijan and Shilaj.

In the study region, the households belonging to Other Backward Castes with 48.40 per cent have the highest proportion among the total households. These mainly consist of Thakors who generally define the characteristics of the villages where they dominate. More than 50.0 per cent of the sample villages have population of OBC higher than 50 per cent namely in Hathijan, Ranip, Saijpur Gopalpur, Memnagar, Bodakdev, Odhav, Kotarpur, Vejalpur, Piplaj, Vastral, Ghatlodiya and Ghodasar. Other villages also have a significant proportion of OBC except Sarkhej Okaf and Jodhpur where the proportion is less than 14 per cent.

The Indian Society in terms of its production organisation system, is constituted of the four socio-economic classes i.e. the agriculturists, the artisans, the services castes and the landless agricultural labourers. The primary data on the subject related to

Ahmedabad City Taluka clearly reveals the magnitude of transformation in the traditional occupations, where a particular occupation is associated with a specific caste. Majority of population in the region has changed their occupation according to the level of urbanisation and industrialisation. Expansion of educational and other developmental multipliers also have greatly transformed the existing trend.

General introduction regarding the age, income, occupation, educational status, reading of newspaper, listening of radio and watching the T.V. etc., too has been briefly studied in order to understand the changes being made and noticed in the level of awareness and the attitude of the selected respondents from the selected sample villages with the development programmes and schemes are being initiated in transforming rural people as well as their surroundings.

#### **4.2.4. AGE**

The composition of age is one of the important basic characteristic of a population. One cannot proceed very far in the study of population growth and that of migration without studying and examining the age composition. Practically all aspects of an individual or that of the group and/or community life; social attitude, economic activities, political propensities, military service and mobility etc. are affected by the age of the people. The study and analysis of the age structure of the population becomes necessary to understand various

dimensions of population. It enables us in determining the availability and the proportion of the workers in the total population.

**Table 4.3 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region : Age-wise Composition of households**

S. No.	Sample Villages	Below 25 years	25-35 years	36-45 years	46-55 years	Above 55 years
1	Asarwa	40.90	4.55	18.18	22.73	13.64
2	Bodakdev	38.41	21.74	8.69	13.04	18.12
3	Danilimbda	42.86	4.08	14.97	9.52	28.57
4	Ghatlodiya	45.26	6.57	13.14	10.22	24.81
5	Ghodasar	50.00	4.76	14.29	14.29	16.66
6	Hanspura	52.94	23.53	-	17.65	5.88
7	Hathijan	40.00	10.00	-	45.00	5.00
8	Jodhpur	42.07	9.66	12.41	15.17	20.69
9	Kali	40.91	15.45	-	7.28	36.36
10	Kotarpur	52.17	-	8.57	13.17	26.09
11	Lambha	41.66	-	16.66	25.00	16.68
12	Memnagar	47.83	5.21	3.48	19.13	24.35
13	Odhav	44.00	7.20	12.00	9.60	27.2
14	Piplaj	48.00	8.00	16.00	16.00	12.00
15	Ranip	55.56	6.48	2.77	25.93	9.26
16	Saijpur Gopalpur	51.61	12.90	12.91	6.45	16.13
17	Sarkhej Okaf	43.29	13.40	11.34	14.44	17.53
18	Shilaj	31.25	8.33	16.67	27.08	16.67
19	Tragad	48.15	3.71	14.81	14.81	18.52
20	Vastral	51.13	15.79	6.77	9.02	17.29
21	Vatva	41.66	10.19	21.34	9.21	17.60
22	Vejalpur	48.82	3.15	12.59	22.05	13.39
23	Visalpur	54.35	6.52	8.69	13.05	17.39
<b>Total</b>		<b>881</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>393</b>
<b>Percent</b>		<b>45.00</b>	<b>9.00</b>	<b>11.00</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>20.00</b>

Source: Based on Household questionnaire

It also becomes helpful in assessing the proportion of children, which are to be provided with educational institutions of repute. It clearly indicates, in the age of social security, the approximate number of people who attain working age year after year, as against the number of persons who have completed their working life, so that an estimate may be made to develop and/or create the additional facilities to ensure the availability of jobs considering capabilities as per the age groups.

The age of the respondents is very important because awareness and age are closely associated. The age of the selected respondents varies from <25 to 55 years and is placed

in five categories as is shown in the Table no. 4.3. About 9.00 per cent selected respondents belong to the age group of 26 to 45 years. While 15.00 per cent belongs to the age group of 46 to 55 years and 20.00 per cent are of the age group of more than 55 years. 45.00 per cent of the total selected respondents belong to the younger group and most of them are below 25 years (Table no.4.3).

Proportion of respondents having less than 25 years of age ranges from 30.00 per cent to 55.00 percent, with Shilaj having lowest and Ranip having highest percent of young population. Proportion of respondents in the age group of 26-35 years and 36-45 years is lower and ranges between 3.15 per cent in Vejalpur to 23.53 per cent in Hanspura and 2.77 per cent in Ranip to 21.34 per cent in Vatva. In the range of 46-55 years, the variation is from 6.45 per cent to 45.00 per cent in Saijpur Gopalpur and Hathijan respectively. This can be attributed to the immigration of labourers in Saijpur Gopalpur due to the presence of process houses in the village and the lesser impact of urbanisation seen in Hathijan. In 74.00 percent sample villages the proportion of elders in the age group of more than 55 years is more than 15.00 per cent as has been shown in the Table no. 4.3.

### **4.3. EDUCATION**

Education is a strong indicator to gauge the level of development prevailing among the rural areas and the rural people. Gradually attempts are being

made to bring the desirable changes on the socio-economic front of life of the people by providing them proper training. In fact education is the aggregate of all the processes by means of which a person develops abilities, attitudes and other forms of behaviour with positive values in the society where one lives. Through these social processes, people are influenced by selected and controlled environment.

**Table 4.4 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Level of Education Among Households**

S. No.	Sample Villages	Primary	Middle	Secondary	Graduation	School Going		
						Primary	Middle	Secondary
1	Asarwa	29.55	4.55	9.09	6.82	11.36	6.82	4.55
2	Bodakdev	42.75	6.52	0.72	0.72	10.87	1.45	5.07
3	Danilimbda	45.58	4.76	0.68	2.04	8.84	0.68	4.76
4	Ghatlodiya	32.12	2.92	4.38	2.92	21.17	3.65	3.65
5	Ghodasar	41.67	2.38	2.38	0.00	15.48	1.19	1.19
6	Hanspura	23.53	5.88	17.65	0.00	11.76	0.00	0.00
7	Hathijan	25.00	0.00	5.00	5.00	15.00	10.00	5.00
8	Jodhpur	33.79	3.45	2.07	2.07	23.45	2.07	3.45
9	Kali	30.91	0.91	7.27	1.82	19.09	1.82	1.82
10	Kotarpur	21.74	0.00	0.00	4.35	8.70	4.35	4.35
11	Lambha	27.08	5.21	3.13	1.04	19.79	1.04	3.13
12	Memnagar	34.78	2.61	5.22	1.74	25.22	7.83	6.96
13	Odhav	32.00	12.00	5.60	2.40	19.20	1.60	2.40
14	Piplaj	28.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
15	Ranip	29.63	6.48	2.78	3.70	23.15	6.48	5.56
16	Saijpur	22.58	0.00	3.23	0.00	25.81	3.23	3.23
	Gopalpur							
17	Sarkhej	24.74	2.06	8.25	5.15	19.59	7.22	4.12
	Okaf							
18	Shilaj	27.08	2.08	6.25	2.08	14.58	0.00	2.08
19	Tragad	18.52	0.00	3.70	7.41	22.22	3.70	3.70
20	Vastrapur	29.32	0.00	0.00	0.75	24.81	4.51	0.00
21	Vatva	28.70	1.85	3.70	1.85	17.59	4.63	2.78
22	Vejalpur	21.26	1.57	2.36	2.36	22.83	1.57	1.57
23	Visalpur	23.91	2.17	4.35	2.17	28.26	2.17	8.70
	<b>Total</b>	<b>31.62</b>	<b>3.54</b>	<b>3.64</b>	<b>2.20</b>	<b>19.12</b>	<b>3.18</b>	<b>3.43</b>

Source: Based on Household Questionnaire

The education is considered as a very important factor in promoting awareness among the rural masses and being motivated for the adoption of the innovations. 66.74 per cent of the sample respondents in the region are literates leaving 33.26 per cent in households as illiterates. In the proportions of literate respondents most have successfully completed various educational levels ranging from class Seven to Graduation.



Among the selected sample villages, percentage of graduates is very low and ranges between 0.72 and 7.41 in Bodakdev and Tragad respectively. Villages like Ghodasar, Hanspura, Piplaj and Saijpur Gopalpur have no graduates among the respondents. Proportions of people with secondary education were maximum in Haspura with 17.65 per cent followed by Asarwa and Sarkhej Okaf with 9.09 and 8.25 respectively. Villages Kotarpur and Vastral have respondents with only primary education with an exception of a lawyer and a teacher respectively.

#### **4.3.1. LEVEL OF EDUCATION**

Table no.4.4 clearly shows the proportion of literate population which has attained different levels of education. The table also shows that majority of literates have completed their education only upto the primary level. Of the total literates representing sample villages in the region, 31.62 per cent are primary followed by higher secondary, middle and graduate with 3.64, 3.54 and 2.20 per cent respectively. While the proportion of school going again with primary level ranks first with 19.12 per cent followed by higher secondary and middle with 3.43 and 3.18 per cent respectively. It is observed that most people are literate up to primary school only and the drop out rate for secondary examination is very high. Off the people studying in the middle school most of the students have left study after class 9th due to the difficulty in passing Board examination due to low standard of education and affordability as one of the reasons.

### 4.3.2. LITERACY

Literacy is one of the important characteristics of population. The degree of education in a community is applied to measure the pace of progress towards modernisation. As a demographic characteristic it also indicates the level of sophistication, socio-economic position, the degree of familiarity with culture and the receptivity to new ideas and information as a part of individuals. In this reference, educational status of the respondents has a direct relevance for a wide array of concerns ranging from measuring the facility, morbidity, mortality and other demographic events to inventories of human resources with emerging possibilities to achieve the social change systematically. Consequently literacy and educational status of individuals in a society serve as one of the important indicators of quality of population and the years of schooling completed becomes a trait that is highly useful in assessing and understanding the prevailing internal diversities. Lastly, the progress of literacy and education often becomes helpful to opt for any change in the existing employment and occupational pattern. This also helps in accelerating the mobility of the people within the region or out of the region.

Among the sample villages, the proportion of literacy varies between 43.48 to 84.35 per cent in Kotarpur and Memnagar respectively. Other than Memnagar, Ranip with 77.78 percent, Odhav with 75.20 percent, Asarwa with 72.73 percent and Visalpur with 71.74 per cent also have a higher literacy than the

Gujarat state with urban percentage of 71.26 (Census 2001).

While Kotarpur with 43.48 and Piplaj with 52.00 have the lowest among all villages as has been shown in Table no.4.5.

**Table 4.5 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Composition of Literates among Households**

S. No.	Sample Villages	Per cent of literates to total population	Per cent of literates to total male population	Percentage of literate to total female population	Per cent of male literates to total literate	Per cent of female literates to total literate
1	Asarwa	72.73	66.92	80.65	53.13	46.88
2	Bodakdev	68.12	83.46	51.43	63.83	36.17
3	Danilimbda	67.35	68.87	65.54	55.56	44.44
4	Ghatlodiya	70.80	70.65	70.97	52.58	47.42
5	Ghodasar	64.29	80.18	44.91	68.52	31.48
6	Hanspura	58.82	67.90	49.00	60.00	40.00
7	Hathijan	65.00	81.18	44.88	69.23	30.77
8	Jodhpur	70.34	73.27	67.20	53.92	46.08
9	Kali	63.64	76.80	48.64	64.29	35.71
10	Kotarpur	43.48	65.45	18.56	80.00	20.00
11	Lambha	60.42	65.72	54.21	58.62	41.38
12	Memnagar	84.35	84.16	84.55	51.55	48.45
13	Odhav	75.20	74.41	76.11	53.19	46.81
14	Piplaj	52.00	63.77	36.74	69.23	30.77
15	Ranip	77.78	92.95	60.12	64.29	35.71
16	Saijpur	58.06	68.38	41.70	72.22	27.78
	Gopalpur					
17	Sarkhej Okaf	71.13	78.59	62.90	57.97	42.03
18	Shilaj	54.17	56.96	51.24	53.85	46.15
19	Tragad	59.26	84.77	31.14	75.00	25.00
20	Vastral	59.40	78.50	36.43	72.15	27.85
21	Vatva	61.11	64.15	57.20	59.09	40.91
22	Vejalpur	53.54	68.25	37.66	66.18	33.82
23	Visalpur	71.74	73.86	69.35	54.55	45.45
	<b>Total</b>	<b>66.74</b>	<b>75.22</b>	<b>57.16</b>	<b>59.75</b>	<b>40.25</b>

Source: Based on Household Questionnaire

Villages having the medium literacy percentage are Hanspura with 58.82, Tragad with 59.26, Vastral with 59.40, Lambha with 60.42, Vatva with 61.11, Kali with 63.64, Ghodasar with 64.29, Hathijan with 65.00, Danilimbda with 67.35 and Bodakdev with 68.12, Jodhpur, Ghatlodiya and Sarkhej Okaf have literacy more than 70.00 percent.

In the region 75.22 per cent of the male population is literate. This analysis focuses on the fact that in the region with 75.22 per cent of total literates males have a dominating share while

the proportion females is only 57.16 per cent. Male literates are maximum in Ranip with 92.95 per cent and lowest in Shilaj with 56.96 percent.

Kotarpur, Tragad, Saijpur Gopalpur and Vastral have the lowest percent of female literates to total literate with 20.00, 25.00, 27.78 and 27.85 percent respectively. Memnagar with 48.45 percent is the highest among all the sample villages.

#### **4.4. FAMILY TYPE**

Family is an important and basic unit of our social structure. The nature, type and composition of families has been affected by urbanisation and industrialisation. Over a period of time due to the accelerated process and pattern of urban growth, the traditional family pattern of patrilocal and potrilineal nature has recorded a major change. The country as well as the study region is well known for its strong tradition of joint families, where every member gradually develops the capability to adjust, tolerate and jointly share the resources available with the family. Joint family consists of more than two generations i.e. head of the family his wife, children, father, mother, brothers and their family and sisters, and others dependent of the family. The members of joint family not only are emotionally attached but they also share the domestic and professional responsibilities. On the other hand a nuclear family consists of the husband, wife and their children, at times their parents too are dependent.

**Table 4.6 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Composition of Families**

S. No.	Sample Villages	Type of Family	
		Joint	Nuclear
1	Asarwa	75.00	25.00
2	Bodakdev	73.91	26.09
3	Danilimbda	71.43	28.57
4	Ghatlodiya	69.57	30.43
5	Ghodasar	57.14	42.86
6	Hanspura	100.00	-
7	Hathijan	100.00	-
8	Jodhpur	62.07	37.93
9	Kali	57.14	42.86
10	Kotarpur	100.00	-
11	Lambha	60.00	40.00
12	Memnagar	48.00	52.00
13	Odhav	90.91	9.09
14	Piplaj	80.00	20.00
15	Ranip	38.89	61.11
16	Saijpur Gopalpur	50.00	50.00
17	Sarkhej Okaf	52.94	47.06
18	Shilaj	75.00	25.00
19	Tragad	80.00	20.00
20	Vastral	80.77	19.23
21	Vatva	80.00	20.00
22	Vejalpur	70.83	29.17
23	Visalpur	87.50	12.50
<b>Total</b>		<b>232</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>Percent</b>		<b>67.64</b>	<b>32.36</b>

Source: Based on Household Questionnaire.

During the field survey, to gauge the impact of urbanisation on the type of family, effects of before and after displacement on the configuration of the families, emerging changes in these types of families, data is collected by interviewing some affected persons. Study of the collected data and its interpretation with the help of discussions held during the field work clearly indicate that before growth of the city, majority of the people in the sample villages located in the fringe area were living in joint families. However, with the movement of the people in search of employment gradually the ratio of nuclear families has increased. With increasing pace of urbanisation in Ahmedabad City Taluka, the proportion of nucleated families has increased and the share of joint families has proportionately declined.



The detailed study of the sample households representing the sample villages indicates that 67.64 per cent of the total belongs to joint families followed by nuclear families with 32.36 per cent.

Considering the higher proportion of joint families, Hanspura, Hathijan, and Kotarpur villages ranks first with 100.00 per cent followed by Asarwa, Shilaj, Piplaj, Tragad, Vatva, Vastral, Visalpur and Odhav where proportion of joint family is more than 75.00 per cent. On the other hand, Saijpur Gopalpur, Sarkhej Okaf, Ghodasar and Kali villages have medium proportion between 50.00 to 60.00 per cent. Ranip shows lowest proportion of joint family population at 38.89 per cent as has been tabulated in the Table no.4.6.

Most of the families engaged in cultivation still live together with traditional lifestyle. The emerging changes in the family structure are mainly due to space constraint with expansion in families and changes in marital status. Level of urbanisation has had little impact on the family structure with only Ranip and Memnagar having proportion of joint family less than 50.00 per cent. Even when most of the population in these sample villages engage in non-agricultural activities, moving out of the village has not happened. This may be attributed to the improved communication facilities and increased living cost in the city.

#### **4.4.1. REASON FOR THE CHANGING PATTERN**

The process and pattern of changes in the composition of the families is prompted by the availability of employment opportunities in respective villages. Family disputes, marriage, increased family responsibilities, increase in family size and

enhanced migration have also played an important role. The main reason for split is the employment opportunities. Most of members in a family who find jobs in different institutions are forced to move considering the long distances between the work place and their native place. There are a good number of families whose priorities too have changed as they have start giving greater importance to the education of children and failed to spare money to share the responsibilities of a joint family. As a result they opted to live independently rather as a part of the joint family. The other two major reasons for change are marriage and increased family size. Few respondent reported that the families had broken up because their family members have migrated to Ahmedabad city. However the assets owned by the joint family too were compensated by providing employment for single person. This also has led to a split in the family. The nuclearisation of the family conceals a grave reality, that of impoverishment. The collectively owned assets have been yielding work to all members of the family and income with varying proportion for every one, including the womenfolk.

#### **4.5. HOUSE TYPE**

Broadly the houses built for residential purposes are classified into three types i.e. kuccha, pucca and mixed. In the kuccha houses roofing, flooring and walls are made by the locally available construction materials. In a typical kuccha house country-made tiles are used for roofing, mud-flooring and mud-wells. While in the pucca houses, walls are made of bricks, roofing by cement-concrete and the flooring by red tiles. On the other

hand, in mixed houses various types of construction material is used depending upon the availability of the materials, their cost and affordability of the families.

Type of houses being constructed in the region is considered as one of the parameters to judge the socio-economic status of the households which indicates the life style of the people living in the sample villages of the region. Nature and type of the residential houses becomes one of the main factor that determines the use of electricity with its enhanced frequency for domestic purposes. All the sample households have the electricity connection. During the fieldwork it has been noticed that most of the Kuchha houses are using electricity only for domestic lighting only, and their consumption of electricity is very limited. Whereas most of the Pucca houses with electric connectiona are using electricity for lighting, cooling and for operating various appliances. They are also using various electrical appliances used for domestic needs including electric fans, iron, grinders, refrigerators and television sets etc.

About 6.71 percent of the respondents in the region are living in Kuccha houses followed by mixed (Pucca and Kuccha) type houses and Pucca houses. The per cent of these types has been 28.28 and 65.01 respectively among sample villages. It has been found that high proportion of sample respondents from Kotarpur village with 66.67 per cent are living in the Kuccha houses.

On the other hand, Asarwa, Danilimbda, Ghatlodiya, Hanspura, Hathijan, Jodhpur, Kali, Memnagar, Odhav, Piplaj, Ranip, Saijpur Gopalpur, and Shilaj making 56.52 per cent of the total sample households surveyed have no respondents living in kuchha houses (Table no. 4.7). Other than

Kotarpur; Bodakdev, Ghodasar, Lambha, Sarkhej Okaf, Tragad, Vastral, Vatva, Vejalpur and Visalpur have varying per cent ranging from 4.25 to 30.00 percent living in kuchha houses.

In the villages of Lambha, Visalpur, Piplaj and Vejalpur the proportion of mixed houses is more than 50.00 per cent with Vejalpur being the highest with 70.83 per cent. Proportion of pucca houses are a direct indication of the level of urbanisation in villages Danilimbda has maximum number of Pucca houses with 90.48 percent followed by Ranip, Memnagar, Asarwa, Ghatlodiya, Kali, Odhav and Hathijan with 88.89, 88.00, 87.50, 86.96, 80.95, 77.27 and 75.00 per cent respectively. Lambha, Vejalpur, Kotarpur, Visalpur and Piplaj have less than 50.00 per cent respondents living in Pucca houses.

Room density in the region is dependent on the affordability of an individual household. Households which do not have constant source of income or have not invested money properly when their agricultural land was sold or failed to have got the reasonable amount for their land, room density is high specially in Kotarpur and Lambha.

Table 4.7 Ahmedabad Region : Nature and Size of the Residential Houses among Households

S. No.	Sample Villages	Not applicable	House Types	Electrified House	0-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	401-500	501-600	601-700	Above 701	Room Density
			Kuccha	Mixed	Pucca								
1	Asarwa	-	-	12.5	87.5	100	12.5	-	-	50	-	37.5	1.83
2	Bodakdev	-	4.35	26.09	69.56	100	-	26.09	34.78	-	13.04	21.74	2.09
3	Danilimbda	-	-	9.52	90.48	100	19.05	-	61.90	-	-	19.05	2.19
4	Ghatlodiya	-	-	13.04	86.96	100	8.70	-	34.78	8.70	-	43.47	2.12
5	Ghodasar	-	7.15	35.71	57.14	100	21.43	14.29	-	21.43	-	35.71	2.47
6	Hanspura	-	-	33.33	66.67	100	-	-	-	-	33.33	66.67	1.13
7	Hathijan	-	-	25.00	75.00	100	-	-	-	-	25.00	75.00	1.00
8	Jodhpur	-	-	31.03	68.97	100	10.35	10.34	-	13.79	17.24	48.28	1.27
9	Kali	-	-	19.05	80.95	100	-	14.29	-	28.57	-	57.14	1.18
10	Kotarpur	-	66.67	-	33.33	100	66.67	-	-	-	-	33.33	2.56
11	Lambha	-	30.00	50.00	20.00	100	20.00	-	-	20.00	30.00	20.00	2.18
12	Memnagar	-	-	12.00	88.00	100	8.00	-	-	20.00	36.00	32.00	1.44
13	Odhav	-	-	22.73	77.27	100	9.08	-	9.09	4.55	22.73	54.55	1.69
14	Piplaj	-	-	60.00	40.00	100	-	-	40.00	20.00	-	40.00	1.79
15	Ranip	-	-	11.11	88.89	100	-	5.57	-	5.55	38.88	50.00	1.77
16	Saijpur	-	-	33.33	66.67	100	-	-	33.34	-	33.33	33.33	1.72
17	Gopalpur	-	23.53	11.76	64.71	100	11.76	-	11.76	17.66	5.88	47.06	2.02
18	Sarkhej Okaf	-	-	37.5	62.5	100	-	12.50	12.50	-	12.50	62.50	1.92
19	Shilaj	-	-	20.00	60.00	100	-	-	20.00	-	-	60.00	1.50
20	Tragad	-	20.00	20.00	60.00	100	3.85	15.38	3.85	26.92	19.23	19.23	1.90
21	Vastral	-	15.38	34.62	50.00	100	10.00	10.00	-	20.00	-	60.00	2.07
22	Vatva	-	10.00	40.00	50.00	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.79
23	Vejalpur	-	8.34	70.83	20.83	100	8.34	20.83	8.34	16.66	25.00	20.83	1.92
23	Visalpur	-	12.5	50.00	37.5	100	12.5	12.5	12.5	25.00	-	37.50	1.92
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>28.28</b>	<b>65.01</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>131</b>	
<b>Percent</b>		<b>6.71</b>					<b>0.29</b>	<b>7.87</b>	<b>12.54</b>	<b>14.29</b>	<b>15.16</b>	<b>38.19</b>	<b>1.81</b>

Source: Based on Household Questionnaire.



The detailed analysis of the room density represents a very diverse picture considering the size of the built up area in different sample villages. It clearly indicates that irrespective of the size of the houses, room density is high especially in the villages located near the industrial areas and is financially backward. Similar has been noted in those villages that are accessible with the urban centre through dependable fast transport.

Average per room density in the region comes to 1.81 person per room while in 12 villages the room density is higher than the average with 2.56 in Tragad being the maximum and Vastral being the lowest with 1.00. 38.19 per cent sample respondents owned built up area of houses more than 700 square feet followed by 15.16 per cent houses with an area of 601-700 square feet, 14.29 per cent houses between 501-600 square feet and 12.54 percent houses 401-500 square feet. This clearly explains that built up area in 67.64 per cent residential houses in the region is more than 500 square feet. Leaving few exceptions, most of the respondents are owning a house with one or two rooms, with some space for other utilities.

During the fieldwork it has been noted that over a period of time the living environment in most of the residential areas of the sample villages has start degenerating due to the construction in a very unplanned manner. The increasing gap in the civic amenities as compared to the construction of the residential houses and expansion of residential areas presents a disorderly and unhygienic condition in and around the residential areas. In some areas the houses are congested and cramped. It has also been noted that some of the rooms do not have the proper lighting and lacks cross-ventilation and living becomes highly unhygienic. In some houses the use of electricity has become a necessity even during the day time due

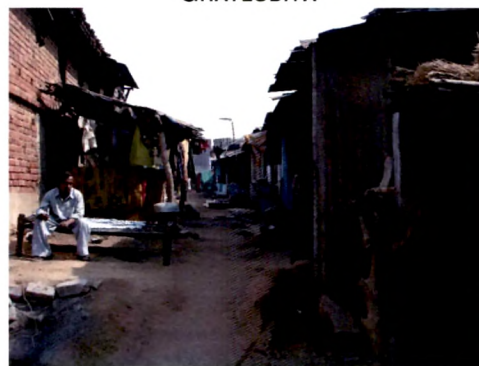
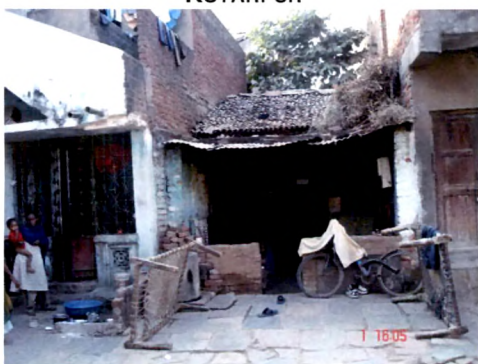
to poor lighting. With the road network and increased frequency of various type of vehicles the village character of having fresh air is lost with increase in level of particulate matter in the air. Speedy conversion of agricultural land into non-agricultural uses has been responsible for the change.

As per the tabulation of the data 8.16 per cent respondents from the sample villages use open space to attend their nature's call. The shift to more hygienic methods is due to non-availability of open space in the villages. Leaving few exceptions as Kotarpur, Lambha, Piplaj, Saijpur Gopalpur, Sarkhej Okaf, Tragad, Vastral, Vatva, Vejalpur and Visalpur all other villages have shifted to the use of flush toilets.

On the other hand most of these villages have started accommodating the population gradually using their open areas comparing the cost of living and even the rent they have to pay. The villages located on the rural urban fringe of the study region have witnessed the increasing pressure on the available residential space. To meet the expanding demands of residential and/or commercial space efforts have been made by modifying or altering the available space by adding residential space and also by converting the residential space in to commercial space.

About 15.16 per cent respondents with limited income living in the sample villages of the region use fire wood and / or cow dung cakes as the main fuel due to its easy availability from the areas close to their villages. While only 5.71 per cent of the respondents use Kerosene. 79.13 per cent respondents of sample villages have shifted to use L.P. Gas in last 15 to 20 years.

It has been expressed by the respondents that in recent years most of them have start facing the problems relating to the fuel availability, increasing cost and distance to be covered for collecting the required fuel. They also expressed that intensity of such problems is gradually increasing. With the growth of population need for fuel is increasing practically in all villages, of course with varying degree considering their distance from the urban area.

**DANILIMBDA****GHATLODIYA****KOTARPUR****LAMBHA****BODAKDEV****GHATLODIYA****Photo Plate 4.2 – Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Changing House Type**

Source: Photographed by Scholar



**BODAKDEV****DANILIMBDA****GHODASAR****GHODASAR****JODHPUR****KOTARPUR****GHATLODIYA****MEMNAGAR****Photo Plate 4.3 – Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Construction of High Rise in Gamtal**

Source: Photographed by Scholar

## 4.6. INCOME

Income of an individual and/or family is an important social as well as economic aspect. Therefore, to study the socio-economic status of the

people living in the study region a detailed household survey has been carried out to know the details of the income as per the questionnaire and the selected respondents thereafter have been categorised after adopting the income classification. The progress, prosperity and development of the rural / urban society mainly depends on income of the people. Amount of the income being received by respondents to a great extent influences their living standards. The attitude and the degree of the awareness for adopting the innovations too are influenced as can be seen from Table no. 4.8. On the basis of the annual income, respondents are divided into two groups:

- Respondents Below Poverty Line (BPL).
- Respondents Above Poverty Line (APL).

#### **4.6.1. RESPONDENTS BELOW THE POVERTY LINE**

As defined by the Government of India, households having annual income less than Rs.11,000 are placed below the poverty line and the details are mentioned in documents being used for the survey. Though the limit of the annual income has been raised to Rs.11, 000 during the 8th Plan. However, considering the wide variation in the income of households and to ensure the proper coverage specially the households living Below Poverty Line, these are further divided into sub-groups on the basis of their annual income i.e.

- Nirdhan (Rs. 8,501 to 11,000).
- Ati Nirdhan (Rs. 6001 to 8,500).



- Atyadhik Nirdhan (Rs. 4001 to 6,000).
- Deenheen (Rs. 0 to 4,000).

#### **4.6.1.1. NIRDHAN**

The households with annual income of Rs.11,000 are included in the group of Nirdhan. Among the selected households 5.25 per cent of the total sample respondents belong to this income group. In Shilaj, Vejalpur, Visalpur, Saijpur Gopalpur, Piplaj and Tragad about 12.5, 12.5, 12.5, 16.67, 20 and 20 per cent of the total sample respondents respectively belongs to this group. Asarwa, Bodakdev, Danilimbda, Hanspura, Hathijan, Jodhpur, Kotarpur, Memnagar and Odhav villages hardly have any sample household which is Below Poverty Line.

#### **4.6.1.2. ATI NIRDHAN**

This income group comprises of households having annual income of Rs.6,001 to 8,500. Only 15.49 per cent sample residents from the region belong to this income group. Only Vastral and Kotarpur with 3.85 and 66.67 per cent respectively residents belong to this group.

#### **4.6.1.3. ATYADHIK NIRDHAN**

Only those households come under this income group whose annual income ranges from 4,001 to 6,000.

None of the sample villages have the household belong to this category.

#### **4.6.1.4. DEENHEEN**

Households having an annual income of Rs.4,000 are defined as 'Deenheen'. None of the respondents covered during the field work had the income levels as low as of Rs.4,000.

### **4.6.2. RESPONDENTS ABOVE POVERTY LINE**

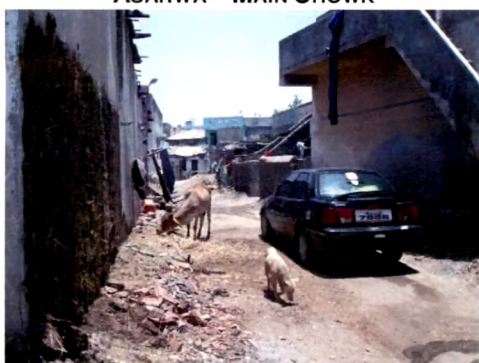
The households whose daily income is more than Rs. 30.00 are grouped into categories living above the poverty line. Households having a sum of Rs.11,000 or more as their annual income belong to this income group or living above the poverty line. Only 10.79 per cent sample respondents in the region belong to this income group. Considering the villagewise pattern the variation is large ranging between 4.35 to 37.50 per cent between Bodakdev and Asarwa respectively. 74.00 per cent in sample villages have the respondents belonging to this income group.

67.06 per cent sample households belong to the income group of more than Rs. 20,000 annually while 16.04 per cent earn between Rs.15,000 and Rs.20,000 annually. Even the households, having BPL cards, are actually earning more than Rs. 20,000 annually but try to hide this fact in order to avail other facilities.

**Table 4.8 Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Income wise Distribution of Households**

S. No	Sample Villages	Below poverty line (in Rs.)				Above poverty line (in Rs.)		
		0-4000	4001-6000	6001-8500	8501-11000	11001-15000	15001-20000	Above 20000
1	Asarwa	-	-	-	-	37.50	37.50	25.00
2	Bodakdev	-	-	-	-	4.35	21.74	73.91
3	Danilimbda	-	-	-	-	9.52	9.52	80.96
4	Ghatlodiya	-	-	-	4.35	13.04	-	82.61
5	Ghodasar	-	-	-	7.14	14.29	28.57	50.00
6	Hanspura	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.00
7	Hathijan	-	-	-	-	25.00	-	75.00
8	Jodhpur	-	-	-	-	10.35	6.89	82.76
9	Kali	-	-	-	4.76	14.29	14.29	66.66
10	Kotarpur	-	-	66.67	-	-	-	33.33
11	Lambha	-	-	-	10.00	10.00	-	80.00
12	Memnagar	-	-	-	-	12.00	20.00	68.00
13	Odhav	-	-	-	-	9.09	13.64	77.27
14	Piplaj	-	-	-	20.00	-	40.00	40.00
15	Ranip	-	-	-	-	-	16.67	83.33
16	Saijpur	-	-	-	16.67	33.33	-	50.00
17	Gopalpur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	Sarkhej	-	-	-	11.76	5.88	17.65	64.71
18	Okaf	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Shilaj	-	-	-	12.50	12.50	25.00	50.00
19	Tragad	-	-	-	20.00	-	-	80.00
20	Vastrapur	-	-	3.85	7.69	15.38	50.00	23.08
21	Vatva	-	-	-	10.00	-	20.00	70.00
22	Vejalpur	-	-	-	12.50	8.33	8.34	70-83
23	Visalpur	-	-	-	12.50	25.00	12.50	50.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>Percent</b>				<b>0.87</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>10.79</b>	<b>16.04</b>	<b>67.06</b>

Source: Based on Households Questionnaire

**ASARWA – MAIN CHOWK****DANILIMBDA – RECONSTRUCTED HOUSES****ODHAV – GAMTAL****KOTARPUR – GAMBLING****Photo Plate 4.4 – Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Prosperity Indicative of Income**

Source: Photographed by Scholar



**BODAKDEV – CONSTRUCTION OF NEW HOUSE****GHATLODIYA – GAMTAL****MEMNAGAR – GAMTAL****SARKHEJ – SLUM IN GAMTAL****LAMBHA – PROSPERITY LEVEL****TRAGAD – RECONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES****Photo Plate 4.5 – Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Prosperity Indicative of Income**

Source: Photographed by Scholar

## 4.7. LAND HOLDINGS

Living standard of the cultivators to a great extent used to depend on the size of the landholdings owned by them. The analysis of the landholdings is considered as one of the essential parameter not only to assess the present status but also to initiate the process for the development of agricultural land irrespective of its nature and type. The Table no. 4.9

clearly reveals a glaring inequality in the number as well as the size of landholdings owned by the farmers of the sample villages. The present and future consumption of electricity normally depends on the type of farmers, i.e. small, marginal, medium and big considering the size of land holdings.

**Table 4.9 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Distribution of Land Holding among Households**

S. No.	Sample villages	Size of landholdings (in hectares)				House-holds owning land	House-holds do not owning land
		Below 2.5	2.5 - 5.0	5.0 - 25	Above 25		
1	Asarwa	-	-	-	100	12.5	87.5
2	Bodakdev	33.33	66.67	-	-	26.09	73.91
3	Danilimda	100	-	-	-	9.52	90.48
4	Ghatlodiya	82.61	13.04	-	4.35	82.61	17.39
5	Ghodasar	60.00	-	-	40.00	35.71	64.29
6	Hanspura	-	-	33.33	66.67	100.00	-
7	Hathijan	25.00	-	75.00	-	100.00	-
8	Jodhpur	-	54.55	18.18	27.27	37.93	62.07
9	Kali	100.00	-	-	-	14.29	85.71
10	Kotarpur	100.00	-	-	-	33.33	66.67
11	Lambha	78.57	-	21.43	-	70.00	30.00
12	Memnagar	100.00	-	-	-	12.00	88.00
13	Odhav	75.00	25.00	-	-	18.18	81.82
14	Piplaj	33.33	-	66.67	-	60.00	40.00
15	Ranip	100.00	-	-	-	5.55	94.45
16	Saijpur	-	-	100.00	-	33.33	66.67
	Gopalpur						
17	Sarkhej Okaf	20.00	53.34	13.33	13.33	88.24	11.76
18	Shilaj	16.67	50.00	33.33	-	75.00	25.00
19	Tragad	25.00	-	50.00	25.00	80.00	20.00
20	Vastral	56.25	25.00	18.75	-	61.54	38.46
21	Vatva	-	42.86	28.57	28.57	70.00	30.00
22	Vejalpur	-	4.17	4.16	-	8.33	91.67
23	Visalpur	28.57	14.29	42.85	14.29	87.50	12.50
<b>Total</b>		<b>62</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>204</b>
<b>Percent</b>		<b>44.60</b>	<b>24.46</b>	<b>20.14</b>	<b>10.79</b>	<b>40.52</b>	<b>59.48</b>

Source: Based on Households Questionnaire

Hence a detailed analysis of the farmers owning the agricultural land has been carried out and the data tabulated in Table no. 4.9. The analysis indicates that 40.52 per cent of the total respondents own the land while 59.48 per cent respondents do not own land. About 44.60 per cent of the farmers considering the size of their landholdings i.e. land of 2.5 hectares or less belongs to the category of small farmers. Similarly 24.46 per cent farmers belong to the category of marginal farmers with a landholding of 5 to 25 hectares of land. Among the sample household only 10.79 per cent respondents own more than 25 hectares of land. This includes land



purchased by them out side the study region also after selling the land of the sample villages. On the other hand, 59.48 per cent of total respondents are engaged in other non-agricultural activities as they do not own agricultural land or have sold it off. In Lambha, Vatva, Shilaj, Tragad, Ghatlodiya, Visalpur and Sarkhej Okaf villages more than 70.00 per cent respondent households own the agriculture land, while all respondents of Hanspura and Hathijan own agricultural land. Kali, Asarwa, Memnagar, Danilimbda, Vejalpur and Ranip have more than 85.00 per cent sample households without any land holding clearly shows their level of urbanisation.

44.60 per cent of the total sample households in the region belong to small farmers category and are mainly concentrated in the urbanised villages of Vastral, Ghodasar, Odhav, Lambha, Ghatlodiya, Danilimbda, Kali, Kotarpur, Memnagar and Ranip. As can be seen from the Table no. 4.9, the basis of the size of the land holdings owned by the sample households are divided into four groups. The class interval adopted include (i) less than 2.5 hectares (ii) 2.5 to 5.0 hectares (iii) 5.0 to 25 hectares and (iv) above 25 hectares.

The high population growth in the urban-rural fringe area clearly indicates the increasing influence of urbanisation. Due to the high population growth and increasing demand of residential houses and other non-agricultural activities, available agricultural land gradually has been converted to meet the requirement of residential plots and other diversified non agricultural activities. As a result, to accommodate the emerging changes apart from conversion, the land holdings are further fragmented with increasing pace to meet the growing demand. Considering the family tradition, normally the



agricultural land owned by the family is divided among the sons of the family. It has been noticed that in the recent years due to the continued fragmentation of available agricultural land owned by families the proportion of marginal and small farmers has increased and the region under study is not an exception to this urban array.

On the other hand in the recent years the pace of fragmentation of land has accelerated so as to accommodate the increasing pressure due to shifting of residential and various diversified activities to the adjoining rural areas. As a result, on a large scale agricultural land is being transformed into the non-agricultural uses and thereafter it is being constantly fragmented into small pieces assessing the demand and cost of land.

#### **4.8. OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE**

Analysis of the occupational structure of selected respondents reveals that the villages are at different stages of urbanisation and dependency on agricultural and other allied activities i.e. as cultivators, agricultural labourers and in dairy, etc. has gradually declined practically in all villages as most of the respondents have started earning their livelihood from agriculture as well as other non-agricultural activities, commercial activities, services, rural artisans and other services.

Table no. 4.10 clearly explains that agricultural labourers and rural artisans have the minimum share with 1.46 and 2.33 percent respectively, followed by Government Service with 9.33 per cent while 13.41 per cent are earning their livelihood as cultivators. Maximum proportion of respondents with 30.32 per cent are self employed followed by Private Service with 24.20 per cent. The proportion of non-agricultural labourers is 18.95 per cent.

Dependency on agriculture still ranks high where majority of respondents from village Hanspura, Visalpur, Shilaj, Tragad and Hathijan with 100.00, 75.00, 62.50, 60.00 and 50.00 per cent respectively. This also shows the significant place of agriculture in these villages. The proportion of agricultural labourer has declined in Lambha, Visalpur, Vatva and Tragad villages. The local people clearly expressed that they have started opting the better paying industrial and / or commercial jobs as quick options to enhance their earnings. Over a period of time the wages of labourers too have increased. As a result it is becoming difficult for small farmers to sustain such changes. Labourers from Panchmahal and Dahod districts now have started migrating to the region as agriculture labourers. Gradually the proportion of the workers engaged in non-agricultural activities, apart from working as agricultural labourers for a short duration has increased practically in all villages.

Making a quick appraisal of the socio-economic profile of the respondents representing the sample villages in the region one can say that the available data related to infrastructural facilities in the village i.e. education, health, transport, nutrition and power, certainly has been playing important role in the over all development of the villages as well as has been influencing the changes in the occupational composition of the people.

It has been observed that people residing in the adjoining villages have responded to the available employment opportunities being offered by the city, while rural areas have their own limitations. Gradually rural people have opted for salaried jobs with minimum salaries as they join most jobs as helpers or as unskilled workers in the industrial units and at times even as Chowkidar, Peon, Gardener and Sweepers mostly in the private sector.

It has been recorded that apart from other sectors, commercial sector has a dominating share in offering the job opportunities in potential areas to the rural people living in the fringe areas. Considering the availability of wide variety of opportunities some of the rural people start working as wage earners doing few odd jobs while some are working as Vendors, Hawkers, Barbers, and so on specially by the people belong to the low castes and also as the artisan castes in particular, who tend to take the initial steps in this direction.

A concomitant change that has occurred in most of the sample villages is that the villagers have understood the significance of education and started giving importance to education. As a result the proportion of children sent to the schools within and outside the villages has increased substantially. The upper castes, who do not want to be left out, too have start taking initiatives for higher education of their children with a hope that this will help in providing better jobs as office assistant and/or supervisory levels in the city.

With steady progress in the process of urbanisation occupational changes in the region to a great extent has helped in providing the employment atleast to one member of the rural families that have opted to work or join non-agricultural activities in the city. Cultivation is still carried out in some parts of the study region. In certain areas little change is due to the prevailing rate of illiteracy. As an outcome of this, a new category of part time farmers too has emerged in recent years. As a result of this the actual functioning of the agricultural activities has gradually been transformed due to the migration of landless labourers. Over a period of time it has also increased with the diversification of non agricultural activities as compared

to agriculture and allied activities. However there has been a minimum change in the participation of female workers in the agricultural sector.

Some enterprising village families have also started their independent businesses in the respective village and along the roads, mainly focusing on grocery shops, cloth shop, readymade garments, cycle repairing shops and tea shops etc. as a side business. Over a period of time the composition of private enterprises has widened to include almost every type of enterprise.

**Table 4.10 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Occupational Structure**

S. No.	Sample Villages	Occupation						
		Cultivator	Agriculture Labourers	Non Agri. Labour	Self Employed	Rural Artisan	Govt. Service	Private Service
1	Asarwa	-	-	12.5	37.5	-	12.5	37.5
2	Bodakdev	13.04	-	43.48	17.39	-	8.70	17.39
3	Danilimbda	-	-	19.05	61.90	-	-	19.05
4	Ghatlodiya	-	-	34.78	21.74	-	8.70	34.78
5	Ghodasar	-	-	28.57	42.86	-	7.14	21.43
6	Hanspura	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Hathijan	50.00	-	25.00	25.00	-	-	-
8	Jodhpur	-	-	-	37.93	-	27.59	34.48
9	Kali	-	-	4.76	28.57	-	14.29	52.38
10	Kotarpur	-	-	66.67	33.33	-	-	-
11	Lambha	20.00	10.00	15.00	25.00	5.00	10.00	15.00
12	Memnagar	-	-	8.00	48.00	-	20.00	24.00
13	Odhav	-	-	18.18	31.82	-	13.64	36.36
14	Piplaj	40.00	-	20.00	-	-	-	40.00
15	Ranip	-	-	5.55	50.00	5.55	-	38.90
16	Saijpur	33.33	-	33.33	-	16.67	-	16.67
	Gopalpur							
17	Sarkhej	47.07	-	11.76	17.65	5.88	11.76	5.88
	Okaf							
18	Shilaj	62.50	-	-	-	25.00	12.50	-
19	Tragad	60.00	20.00	-	-	20.00	-	-
20	Vastral	26.92	-	50.00	23.08	-	-	-
21	Vatva	10.00	10.00	20.00	30.00	-	-	30.00
22	Vejalpur	-	-	16.65	37.50	-	8.33	37.52
23	Visalpur	75.00	12.50	-	-	12.50	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>46</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Percent</b>		<b>13.41</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>18.95</b>	<b>30.32</b>	<b>2.33</b>	<b>9.33</b>	<b>24.20</b>

Source: Based on Household Questionnaire

This stage has marked quantum jumps in terms of spatial mobility of the rural population. Invariably the villages are connected by the city bus service, either as a terminal point or as an important transit point in the network. Two wheelers have become as common as bicycle and are

playing an important role in facilitating the movement of man and material.

The village economy in most of the sample villages has been transformed in many ways in the recent years. Shops selling wide variety of urban consumer goods too have started in the sample villages. Transistors, Television sets and other electrical and household gadgets are now locally available in many sample villages along with the facility of repairing shops.

Danilimbda and Ranip villages account for more than 50.00 per cent of respondents as self employed followed by Memnagar, Godasar and Asarwa, it is lowest in Bodakdev and Sarkhej Okaf with 17.39 percent each. The reasons are different in both villages. Bodakdev has adequate unskilled labourers as the proportion of people investing on property after selling their agriculture land is very low while in Sarkhej Okaf the literacy level is high as Brahmins and Jains still are dominant population and usually join white collar jobs in Ahmedabad.

In last two decades of the study region an overall transformation in the occupational structure has been recorded. Even in certain categories changes in the proportion of male-female workers too has been noticed due to the movement of male workers. The pace of such variations also varies from one village to the other.

As the first and most important impact of urbanisation and industrialisation, the composition of occupational structure has been transformed. As a result of this the proportion of agricultural workers has substantially declined. In the study region, with the expansion of urban and industrial activities, large numbers of rural workers have shifted to different types of industrial units in search of better job opportunities. Such a shift has been supported due to declining demand of agricultural labourers in the villages,



with the adoption of agricultural machinery and conversion of land. As an outcome of these changes wide variations have been noticed in the intra-regional migration among the sample villages.

One can clearly understand that the proportion of agricultural workers has increased in reference to the increasing distance from the urban and industrial centres. Still total dependency on agriculture among the sample households is found in Vatva, Vastral, Lambha, Bodakdev, Hanspura, Shilaj, Visalpur, Sarkhej Okaf and Piplaj villages with 10.00, 25.00, 28.57, 33.33, 33.33, 33.33, 85.71, 86.67 and 100 percent respectively.

**Table 4.11 - Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Composition of Farmers among Households**

S.No.	Sample Villages	Farmers totally depend on cultivation	Farmers partly depend on cultivation and non-agricultural activities	Farmer totally depend on non-agricultural activities and give land on hire
1	Asarwa	-	-	100.00
2	Bodakdev	33.33	-	66.67
3	Danilimbda	-	-	100
4	Ghatlodiya	-	-	100.00
5	Ghodasar	-	20.00	80.00
6	Hanspura	33.33	66.67	-
7	Hathijan	-	100.00	-
8	Jodhpur	-	10.34	89.66
9	Kali	-	-	100.00
10	Kotarpur	-	-	100.00
11	Lambha	28.57	42.86	28.57
12	Memnagar	-	-	100.00
13	Odhav	-	25.00	75.00
14	Piplaj	100.00	-	-
15	Ranip	-	-	100.00
16	Saijpur Gopalpur	-	100.00	-
17	Sarkhej Okaf	86.67	13.33	-
18	Shilaj	33.33	66.67	-
19	Tragad	-	100.00	-
20	Vastral	25.00	37.50	37.50
21	Vatva	10.00	60.00	30.00
22	Vejalpur	-	-	100.00
23	Visalpur	85.71	14.29	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>Percent</b>		<b>10.84</b>	<b>20.80</b>	<b>68.35</b>

Source: Based on household questionnaire

Meanwhile farmers from Danilimbda, Ghatlodiya, Kali, Kotarpur, Memnagar, Ranip, Asarwa and Vejalpur villages though own agriculture land but still are dependent on non-agriculture activities. The Table no.

4.11 clearly explains the pattern of agricultural activities and involvement of people in other activities living in the sample villages.

Majority of the persons living in sample villages are usually dependent on agricultural and other allied activities. But in last twenty years the proportion of people engaged in non-agricultural activities has substantially increased. However, agricultural sector still account for the major share of workers for three different reason i.e., firstly, persons who are fully depend upon cultivation of land; secondly, persons who are engaged in agricultural activities and partly depend on non-agricultural activities and thirdly persons, who have given their land on hire and are totally engaged in non-agricultural activities.

About 20.80 per cent farmers are engaged in agriculture alongwith other activities. These people clearly expressed that with the kind of changes being recorded in the region in the recent years it has become important to improve their economic condition and living standards.

Most of the farmers specially the younger members of their family are presently engaged in various non-agricultural activities i.e., teaching, construction activities, transport, industrial activities, mining activities, commercial activities and other professional activities.

The above discussion clearly explains that in the region, most of the farmers have gradually shifted to diversified non-agricultural activities and have opted to lease out of their land for cultivation. This also explains the impact of urbanisation and industrialization directly and indirectly transforming the occupational structure practically in all sample villages. It has also been observed that most of the people have joined the industrial and other allied activities to improve their financial status and living

standards. Some of them are engaged in agricultural activities for the namesake in order to remain as farmers in Form 7/12 of the Government of India. With these changes it has been noticed that efforts are being made by number of respondents to ensure the modernisation of their respective rural areas.



**TRAGAD – POTTERY**



**RANIP – POTTERY**



**HATHIJAN – EMBROIDERY**



**VISALPUR - POTTERY**

**Photo Plate 4.6 – Ahmedabad City Taluka Region: Rural Artisan**

Source: Photographed by Scholar