

Major Research Project:

Theme: **“District Human Development Report: Jamnagar District”**

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Sponsor: Directorate of Human Development, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar

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Conclusions

With respect to three important aspects of human development the following can be concluded.

- i. The District is rich with natural resources like minerals, sea coast, and a few fertile tracts of agricultural land. Its industrial development potential is being harnessed for last 20 years with arrival of petroleum refineries in the district. It has experienced mono centric urban development. Such urban development poses problem of planning for urban dwellings and supply of civic amenities etc.
- ii. Majority of households in the district depend for their livelihood on agriculture, fishing and cattle rearing- i.e. primary activity. With low irrigation facility and scanty and erratic rainfall pattern, the livelihood possibilities are constrained for agriculture dependent households. BPL incidence is found high among vulnerable groups like landless labourers, small farmers and SC communities.
- iii. Declining yield of grass from pasture land has limited transformation of cattle rearing from a subsistence vocation to production of marketable surplus. Unless scientific innovations for improving livestock yield are employed, the livelihood options for the *maldhari* (shepherd) communities will remain very limited.
- iv. The women from the lagging talukas have been active and successful in organizing themselves in groups (SHGs) with help of NGOs and in a true sense they are empowering themselves. Though the process has not been without hiccups of transformation. Now the same can be replicated with the help of these groups through proper networking in other talukas of the district.
- v. The delivery of the quality primary and secondary education is very crucial. The secondary data and our field observations indicate that there is eminent need for improving infrastructural amenities at the school level and also the delivery system.
- vi. Public healthcare system seems to be in short supply at the village and taluka level.
- vii. Empowerment and awareness levels in the women from lagging talukas are higher as compared to that of in well off talukas. This is the outcome of intervention by NGO and other agencies. Model is replicable in other talukas.
- viii. It is difficult to draw conclusive inferences about health scenario of the district with regard to human development concerns specifically due to paucity of concrete and specific data.

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