Chapter 4: Insights of the Primary Study

In this chapter, researcher has compiled the information that we received from village level meeting and Focused Group Discussions. As mentioned in previous chapter researcher has been to seven census towns. Becharaji (Mehsana), Bhiloda (Aravalli), Chhiri (Valsad), Icchapor (Surat), Kabilpore (Navsari), Kakoshi (Patan) and Kanodar (Banaskantha). Village surveys were compiled after taking opinions of the sarpanch and talati. Focused group discussions were conducted by meeting 10-12 senior members of the census towns so that they would have witnessed transformation of a village into a census town.

4.1 Becharaji-Mehsana

4.1.1 Introduction:

Becharaji is a village known for its temple it is located in Mehsana district of Gujarat state. The town is associated with Hindu goddess Bahuchara Mata worshipped as Bala. Pilgrims come with their children for ‘Mundan’. Becharaji temple is prime source for villagers’ economic activity and town development. Apart from that, animal husbandry is one of the main occupations in Becharaji (Mehsana) as they have Sabar Diary. Except diary there are no major non-farm activities. During researcher’s visit to the town we came to know that the funds allocated for pukka roads were misused. Due to lack of basic amenities this town is not popular as for in migration but it has high number of daily commuters for spiritual reasons. Mismanagement of funds was the biggest complaint of the villagers against the sarpanch.

4.1.2 Demographical detail:

Becharaji has a population of 12,574 with growth rate of 1.78% of which 6,540 are males while 6,034 are females. In Becharaji the female sex ratio is about 923 against the state average of 919. The literacy rate of Becharaji is 82.50% higher than the state average of 78.03%. In this town, male literacy is around 90.85%, while the female literacy rate is 73.48%. Becharaji total population 12574, out of the total below poverty line (480) and SC, ST and OBC population 2600. Becharaji has total administration over 2,709 houses to which it supplies basic amenities like water and sewerage.
4.1.3. Workers’ Profile:

Out of total workers 95.44 per cent are main workers, 4.56 percent are marginal workers’, 10.65 per cent are farm workers and 89.35 percent are non-farm workers. Out of total population 63.6 per cent are non-workers.

4.1.4 Major Non-farm economic Activity:

There are few small-scale industries four -five labourers are working in automobile industry, ginning mill and cement industry. Non-farm employment is not much of a choice it is due to distress diversification in Becharaji. Majority of town dwellers are in animal husbandry and agriculture. Beautician, trading, tailoring and laundry are some of the most common rural non-farm employment in service sector. Other services are wood cutting, cement articles and Lawyers. Some casual labourers work in Khodiyar ginning industry.

4.1.5 Rural development schemes:

Rural development schemes that are applicable i.e.

- Rural housing schemes: Sardar Awaas Yojana and Indira, Awaas Yojana
- Health Scheme: Mukhyamantri Amrutum Vatsalya Yojana, Janani Sishu Surksha Karyakram, Janani Surksha Yojana and 108 Ambulance facility.
- Education Schemes: Scholarship programme for girls.

4.1.6 Reality Check:

Due to mismanagement of funds amenities provided are way below the line. The condition of roads is abysmal, unavailability of tap water, solid waste collection is not properly managed and lack of facility of transportation. We understood that basic amenities like water, electricity condition of road and transportation facility is one of the determinantal factor for thriving non-farm employment. Due to lack of the basic amenities we could say that small scale industries are not thriving.

The effects of converting this census town into a Nagar Panchayat would be huge. As the funds increase basic amenities and the condition of the amenities will increase. A big push
investment in amenities would also increase the industries and non-farm employment. Also, that due to better roads and transportation system girls will be able to continue their higher studies.
4.2 Bhiloda- Aravalli

Bhiloda has population of 16,074 of which 8,301 are males while 7,773 are females living in 3464 houses. It is a large census town population the growth rate of population in last one decade is 13.6% over 14151 population (2001). The major proportion (68%) of population belongs to ST community. In Bhiloda census town, female sex ratio is of 936 against state average of 919. Moreover, child sex ratio in Bhiloda is around 874 compared to Gujarat state average of 890. Literacy rate of Bhiloda city is 73.1%.

4.2.1 Demographic Detail:

Bhiloda has population of 16,074 of which 8,301 are males while 7,773 are females living in 3464 houses. It is a large census town population the growth rate of population in last one decade is 13.6% over 14151 population (2001). The major proportion (68%) of population belongs to ST community. In Bhiloda census town, female sex ratio is of 936 against state average of 919. Moreover, child sex ratio in Bhiloda is around 874 compared to Gujarat state average of 890. Literacy rate of Bhiloda city is 73.1%.

Due to the infrastructure and proximity to the town near Bhiloda. There is huge inflow of migrants from communities. Marwari and Sindhi are the main migrant community and engaged mostly in trading, money laundering and real estate. They have been living in Bhiloda around 25-30 years back. Bhiloda has some seasonal migrated people: during the peak season, they come from tribal area for their employment. Daily commuters: some of the people are coming from surrounding for their employment they are daily commuter, most of commuters are vendors, tailors and retailers who find better business in Bhiloda than their hometowns. Here researcher has discussed about the infrastructure that researcher has in the village in terms of education, hospitals, banks and water facilities.

Market: There is an APMC market in Bhiloda where farmers come from nearby Himmatnagar, Syamlaji. Bhiloda and surrounding villages to sell wheat, cotton and castor etc on minimum support price. Farmer gets the crops price information through a display on a notice board (APMC). Farmers are kept well informed accordingly can sell their
products in the market. This keeps local traders to get any benefit as these are government supported prices.

4.2.2 Rural Development Schemes:

**Housing facility:** There are many schemes by the government in this town for houses. Majority of people live in pucca house only 20 per cent live in semi pucca. There are some Housing related rural development Scheme: IAY (Indira Awaas Yojana), SAY (Sardar Awaas Yojana), Pundit Dindayal Yojana and Aadiwashi Niwash Yojana.

**Government health scheme:** there are some schemes in the health sector as well in Bhiloda i.e. Maa Amrutam Yojana, Rastriya Swasthya Bima yojana (RSBY), Ambulance facility (108), Janani Shishu Suraksha Yojana (JSSY) free body checkup and medicine facility.

**Road /Transportation Scheme:** In Bhiloda there are no. of road scheme i.e. PMGSY (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana), MGSY (Mukhyamantri Gram Sadak Yojana) the gram panchayat got 50lacs fund for RCC road.

**Agricultural Activity:** Land size 25% small farmer, 25% marginal farmer, 30% medium farmer, 20% large farmer and only 500 landless household. Major crops – Cotton, Wheat, Caster, Cash crops. Green house activity has increased in the town in few years. They adopted GM crop technology and they said it is very effective for crops, crops production has increased. They are very aware about Krishi Mohotsav Programme and other agricultural programme, farmer’s online registration so they get all updates related to agriculture i.e. price information, HVY seeds information, fertilizer and they get all the information about agricultural schemes and their benefits i.e. kisan credit card facility and other facility.

**Economic Activity:** Villagers from Bhiloda are majorly involved in service sector activities i.e. tailoring, beautician, real estate and government jobs.

Main Non-farm activity is trading; there are 7982 shops till 2012. Various kind of non-farm activities are there i.e. Trading (tailor shops 30-35), beautician (10) and saloon (30),
laundry (4); Animal husbandry: Sabar dairy; Real Estate (agents 20); Money Laundering and Retail shop.

4.2.3: Amenities and Infrastructure

Water: Some people who have farming as their main economic activity are facing a lack of abundant water as a problem. In last five years, the water level has dipped from 100 ft. to 150 ft., availability of Narmada water would solve the problem in Bhiloda.

Road Facility: In Bhiloda main arterial, collector and distributor roads is pucca perhaps local road is semi pucca. A scheme called PMGSY (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) is there.

Lack of Medical staff: Govt. Hospitals in the village has shortage doctors & other staff.

Political issue: According to the town dwellers as this town is majorly ST population historically they have been choosing Congress and now as BJP is in power due to political reasons Bhiloda could not be declared Nagar palika by the Government.

Sewerage facility: only 25-30% sewerage connection has been provided under Rurban project.

Solid waste management: In Bhiloda no proper management system of solid waste collection. Gram Panchayat provide sweeper and garbage tractor, but they are not working regularly.

Poverty: The Poverty level has been increased since last 10-20 years’ poverty ratio has been growing up because no major industry is there. Poor and Rich gap has been increased over the year, due to lack of employment opportunity, lack of industry (GIDC).
Conversion of Census Town into a town

Availability of funds as a town would solve problems related amenities i.e. drainage, solid waste management, RCC road and water supply.

The health facility might be increased: If Bhiloda might be converted into a town some better hospital facility might be there because now a day only normal treatment facility is there, in case any critical case will come they refer to Sabarkantha, Himmatnagar.

Solid waste management related problem might be solved out when the Gram Panchayat converted in Nagar Palika municipal corporation might be provide sweeper and tractors facility for garbage collection.
If gram panchayat might be converted in nagar palika various small scale /GIDC might be come and level of income gap problem might be solved out because many of surrounding villages are dependent on Bhiloda, so if industry might become many of people get employment facility.

If gram panchayat might be converted in Nagar Palika the slum related problem might be solved out.

People perceive that tax will be increase as the tax the corruption level might be increased because many of the government employees handle Nagar Palika and corruption levels might be increased.

4.2.4: Some household level observation:

Bhiloda is an epicenter of the surrounding villages and also the locus as a main market. As the population is 16000 in this CT chances are that it may change and become a nagar palika.

The urbanization impact: In Bhiloda we see the impact of urbanization i.e. consumption pattern of people has changed, upper hand life style, improved education level and increased awareness level of people. Housing pattern has changed from semi-pucca to pucca. Living pattern has changed from as it is more urbanized. Level of other physical infrastructure has also improved no of the facility are there i.e. main market area, bank come, APMC market and other facility.
4.3 Chhiri-Valsad

4.3.1 Introduction:

Chhiri is a census town in Pardi taluka in Valsad district of Gujarat state. The state of their living is below standards that it felt as if it is in a different century. It is located 32 kms towards south from district headquarters Valsad. 2 kms from Vapi, Daman and Diu, Amli, Silvassa are the nearby cities to Chhiri. This Census town is adjoining to the border of Valsad and Diu. It is near to the Daman & Diu union territory border. It is near to the Arabian Sea. This Census town has 18829 population (census2011) and 7000 voters. As per field observations, total population of Chhiri is approximately 60000-70000. Evidently, the funds that village panchayat gets for development is insufficient. There are various types of problems in this census town esp. related to amenities and infrastructure i.e. no proper drainage line, no proper sewerage connection, open sewerage line, no proper water facility.

![Figure 4.2 Illegally built high Rise Building](image1)

![Figure 4.3: Gram Panchayat Office](image2)

Demographic detail: Total population of Chhiri 18829 out of total 11702 males, 7127 females, 260 SC, 1021 ST and 93.2 per cent in general category. There are 4757 households.

Slum Population: In Chhiri around 5000-10000 people are living in slum they have abysmal level of living. They live in semi pucca house, no tap, drainage and sewerage facilities. There is lack of scheme for development of economically weaker section. Most
slum dwellers have migrated from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh to work in GIDC chemical industries. These people have no card of permanent residency and only 20% population get benefit. Due to lack of hygienic living conditions life expectancy is below national average and there are various social problems i.e., robbery and alcoholism.

Fig. 4.4: Slum Condition (Lack of Housing and basic amenities)  
Fig. 4.5: Open Drainages System

Fig. 4.6: Housing Condition  
Fig. 4.7: Garbage/ Solid Waste Management Problem

There are some characteristics of a census town high level of in migration, agriculture is not a primary source of income and population is more than 5000.
Migration: In-migration is very high in this census town 80% people are from (UP, Bihar, Rajasthan and another state as there are many GIDC chemical industries. Only 1-2% have out – migrated to other countries, Mumbai, Vapi, Valsad and Navsari in order to have better job and education facility.

Economic Activity: In Chhiri only 2-3 per cent of town dwellers are engaged in farming activities and rest of the major portion are working in non-farm sector i.e. GIDC industry and service sector. Major crops sown are rice and mango. Irrigation is from canal and tube well.

4.3.2 Village development:

- Solid waste collection: Gram panchayat has to provide tractors for garbage collection and 15-20 sweepers for cleaning village. On 1st May i.e. Gujarat Divas gram panchayat has given dustbins to every household under Swatch Bharat Mission. New sewerage line has been constructed as gram panchayat has got the fund related to sewerage line connection.
**Solar Street light**: gram panchayat has provided solar street light because electricity charges are very high, so they are using solar light.

**Interior road**: Gram panchayat has constructed a new interior road.

**Water facility**: GIDC has provided tap water facility in the village.

**Major Economic Activity**: Various kinds of industries are there i.e. Large Scale Industries: Micro ink and Bayer industry and Small Scale industries: Engineering industry, Plastic industry

4.3.3 **Main problems**:

**Health problem**: In Chhiri many health issues are there i.e. malnutrition, TB (3-4 cases) and malaria due to open drainages system.

**Pollution**: After industrialization environment of village has deteriorated and various glitches have been created i.e. air pollution, water pollution as contaminated discharge of chemical industries.

**Lack of sufficient fund**: The villagers and local authority told us there is lack of sufficient fund for rural development because in migration is very high and cases of illegal encroachment are high.

**Lack of amenities**: in terms of garbage collection, open drainage system, semi-pucca or kutcha road, lack of transportation and bus connectivity, slum dwelling and lack of housing facility schemes

GIDC encroached land of 400 vighas GIDC has acquired land from villages like Karwad, Rata, Kochrwa, Dungara, Chharawada and Chhiri. Some villagers did not want to go give their land willingly and were forced to do so. The contaminated discharge of pollution by GIDC industries has deteriorated the environment. There are various diseases i.e. of bone and lever among the grownups.

**Worker status**: Bayer has 1300 worker, 500 employed as casual labours and 800 are staff members. Maximum workers are daily commuters, they come from Navsari, Valsad, Vapi
and surrounding area, only 20% are migrated labours, they come from another state i.e. UP, Bihar and Rajasthan.

Microink has 1200 workers, 85% are daily commuters and only 15% are migrated workers who have come from other states, 250 workers are permanent staff members.
4.4 Ichhapor-Surat

Introduction: Ichhapor is a census town in Surat district of Gujarat state. Surat is a port city it is an economical capital and ninth largest urban agglomeration of India. It is the administrative capital of the Surat district. The city is located 284 kilometers’ south of the state capital, Gandhinagar; 265 kilometers’ south of Ahmedabad; and 289 kilometers’ north of Mumbai. The city centre is located 22 km south of the Tapti River. This Census town is on DMIC corridor, GIDC area and it is on highway. Surat is the 3rd "cleanest city of India", and 4th fastest growing city of the world. Ichhapor has all the amenities and infrastructure required in a town. It is one of the cleanliest and well maintained village that we came across. Sarpanch and villagers are confident that by next census town it would be merge in Surat as an urban agglomeration.

Demographic Details: In this town, majority of people belong to SC and OBC (53%) Total population of Ichhapor12097 out of 6,980 are males while 5117 are females as per report released by Census India 2011 living in 2870 households. In 2001, total population was 8292 living in 2521 households. It has an average literacy rate of 79.1% in 2011 and 89.6 % in 2001 higher than national average of 59.5%. In Ichhapor Census Town, Female Sex Ratio is of 733 against state average of 919. There are 96 BPL households.

Major Economic Activity: Economic activities have shifted from agriculture straight to service sector. In non-farm activities, labour work mainly in Industry as a casual labour. Income derived from renting houses to migrants. Handiwork on sarees and job as a casual labour in diamond industry. In service sector, teaching, tailoring salon and beauticians are an important segment.

Only 50 farmers are engaged in agro as their main activity. In agriculture sector, Sugarcane is one of the most major crops and a decade prior vegetables was also an important crop. Water is one of the most important input in it and for the same there are water tanks, tap facility for drinking Water and Panchayat has its own R.O. Plant
GIDC

In 1980s, land encroachment for 1200 Acres of land for GIDC was done. 25% of people had not given their land willingly and were dissatisfied with the justice that Court provided. People were paid way below the market price 65000 for an acre land. To add plight in scenario some were not even fully paid. Some were forced to convert their land into a non-agricultural land. The contaminated discharge of pollution by GIDC industries has deteriorated the environment. There are various diseases i.e. of bone and liver among the grownups. Major Industries -Reliance, ONGC, KRIBHCO, RJD Textile and Gems and Jewelers.

One of the major problem faced in this village is of excessive Alcoholism due to which there is large scale of unemployment despite presence of large scale industries. At the same time, major industries face storage of workers and staff. Some senior citizens informed us that it is due to excessive money

**In-migration:** There are 6000 town dwellers who have migrated from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and work as casual labour. There are instances of 500 people living in Surat are daily commuters to Ichhapor.
4.5 Kabilpor-Navsari

Kabilpor is a census town located in the Navsari district of Gujarat state, India. 30 kms. South of Surat and on the bank of the river Purna, Navsari is now an important commercial centre. Historically, the first settlement of the Parsis took place in Navsari in 1142 AD. The sanitarium, fire-temple Atas Beharam and smaller agiaris, the Parsvanatha Jain temple, the legendary dargah of Sayed Saadat are chief attractions. The pioneer of the Indian steel industry and the founder of the House of Tata’s, Mr. Jamshedji Tata was born in Navsari. The house where he was born is well preserved and recommended for a visit. The nearest railway station to Kakoshi is Chhapi which is located in and around 3-kilometer distance in Navsari.

4.5.1 Demographic Details:

In this town, majority of people are Parsis (80%) only 20% are Hindu. Total population of Kabilpor 15699 in 2011 Census India 2011 it has increased from 11691 in 2001 living in 3486 households and has an average literacy rate of 81.2% (80% male and 69% female literacy rate) higher than national average of 59.5%. Population of Children with age of 0-6 is 2609 which is 12.99 % of total population of Kabilpor (CT). In Kabilpor Census Town, Female Sex Ratio is of 931 against state average of 919. Moreover, Child Sex Ratio in Kabilpor is around 962 compared to Gujarat state average of 890. Literacy rate of Kanodar city is 89.74 % higher than state average of 78.03 %.
4.6 Kanodar-Banaskantha

**Overview of the Town:** Kanodar is a census town in Banaskantha district in Indian state of Gujarat. It is a Village in Palanpur Taluka in Banas Kantha District of Gujarat State, India. It is located 11 KMs towards South from District headquarters Palanpur and 116 KM from State capital Gandhinagar

**4.6.1 Demographic Details:**

In this town, majority of people are Muslims (80%) only 20% are Hindu. Total population of Kanodar 12389 out of 6,132 are males while 6,257 are females as per report released by Census India 2011 living in 3500 households and has an average literacy rate of 74 %( 80% male and 69% female literacy rate) higher than national average of 59.5%. Population of Children with age of 0-6 is 1609 which is 12.99 % of total population of Kanodar (CT). In Kanodar Census Town, Female Sex Ratio is of 1020 against state average of 919. Moreover, Child Sex Ratio in Kanodar is around 962 compared to Gujarat state average of 890. Literacy rate of Kanodar city is 89.74 % higher than state average of 78.03 %.

**Migration:** Town dwellers are moving to other country for their education and occupation purpose. Kanodar has around 90-100 families migrated from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan and they work as causal labour working in non- farm sector.

In this town, every house receives tap water facility, 80% housing have drainage facility. Main problem in Kanodar people are not following the building norm as FSI is increasing. In Kanodar no street light facility.

**Government health scheme:** In the Kanodar no. of the government health schemes i.e. Maa Amrutam Yojana, RSBY (Rastriya Swasthya Bima yojana), Ambulance facility (108), JSSY (Janani Shishu Suraksha Yojana) and Chiranjeevi Yojana.

**Banks Facility in Kanodar:** In Kanodar no of the bank are there i.e. SBI (1), Dena Bank, BDC Bank and Co-operative societies2 (milk co-operative society, agro- cooperative society and housing co-operative society.)
**Road Facility:** In Kanodar main arterial, collector and distributor roads are pucca but local and approach road is semi pucca.

**4.6.2 Main Economic Activity:**

Historically, economy of Kanodar has been known for handloom production. 25 year prior, weaving was the primary source of income as time passed the maintenance of Handloom got expensive and government lacked in its support. So, occupation in weaving has declined from 500-600 to only 10-12 families. Now most villagers are engaged in non–agricultural activities i.e. services activities (automobile, trader, teacher and doctors). Kanodar is known as an automobile hub. Muslims are historically known for their skills of repairing machines. Kanodar is on DMIC corridor and its proximity to highway has made 250-300 garages possible. There is a biscuit and a chocolate factory which exports its products to South Africa.

Various kind of non-farm activities are there i.e. -

- Trading (tailor shops (25), beautician/ saloon (15), laundry (4-5)
- Animal husbandry: Banas dairy
- Real Estate agent/ builders (10-12)
- Money Laundering
- Retail shops
- Doctors (82), engineers (100), Lawyers (5), Govt Teacher (250)
- Hotel &Restaurant (6)
- NGO (4)
- Charted Accountant (2-3)
- Automobile – Auto Parts, Garage- 250

**Agricultural and Irrigation facility:** Only 5% of the villagers are pursing farming as their main economic activity. Within a decade, the water levels have dipped further from 200-300 ft. to 600-700 feet. Drip irrigation is a source of irrigation used. Main crops are wheat, castor, horticulture and cash crops.
4.6.3. Enterprise Details:

In Kanodar there are various small scale of enterprises i.e. automobile, chocolate factory, biscuit factory, restaurant and others. In these industries, around 30-50 people work and most of the workers come from surrounding village as daily commuters, only 5 workers are from this town. These enterprises collect all raw materials CRC material (steel plate) from Bombay, Tanzania, China, Karnataka, and Gujarat. They sell their manufactured products in Delhi, Ahmedabad, Surat, Gandhinagar and Kutch. Facilities for picking are provided by Tata Company.
4.7 Kakoshi-Patan

Kakoshi is a census town located in the Patan district of Gujarat state, India. Kakoshi is located around 84.7 kilometer away from Gandhinagar state capital. The nearest railway station to Kakoshi is Chhapi which is located in and around 10.5-kilometer distance. The other nearest district headquarters is Palanpur situated at 22.7 KM distance from Kakoshi. Kakoshi’s nearest town/city/important place is Sidhpur located at the distance of 11.8 kilometer.

4.7.1 Demographic Details:

In this town, majority of people are Muslims (80%) only 20% are Hindu. Total population of Kanodar 9734 out of 5,122 are males while 4612 are females as per report released by Census India 2011 living in 1853 households and has an average literacy rate of 72 % (80% male and 59% female literacy rate) higher than national average of 59.5%. In Kakoshi Census Town, Female Sex Ratio is of 979 against state average of 919.

Economic Activity: Major population of the town is in non-farm activities i.e. 73%. There is a rise in main workers from 90.13 per cent to 94.29 percent in last decade.

Sarpanch did not allow us to enter the census town. Here, researcher has compiled some of the observations. We could observe stark difference between poor and rich. As the slum condition was below living conditions but few miles far there was a gigantic mosque. The condition of the women seemed to be oppressed as all of them were wearing burqa even the young girls.
4.8 Conclusion

There were quite similarities in the chosen census towns there was influx of in-migration, diversification to non-agricultural sector.
A pleasant surprise for us was that most households knew that this village is not a village but an urban village and should be given town status.