PREFACE

Twenty five years ago, as a college student, first time I came across with the rural development work carried out by Kheda Social Service Society (KSSS), Nadiad and Behavioural Science Centre (BSC), St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad. Since then I have been closely associated with NGOs. It is realised that non-governmental organisation sector can be a potent instrument for bringing total and integral transformation in building egalitarian and humane society.

In this context present study is a modest empirical endeavour to explore the economic development of tribal and rural areas accomplished by the non-government organisation in Surat district, Gujarat.

The study has been divided in to seven chapters:

- Chapter one deals with the concepts of development and Indian economic review with special reference to Gujarat State.
- Different aspects relating to non-governmental organisations sector has been discussed in the second chapter.
- Review of research work already done in the area of non-governmental organisations and economic development specifically in view of levels of living and inequalities among tribal and rural areas in Gujarat and elsewhere is covered in the third chapter of Review of Literature.
- Chapter four deals with the dimensions of the problem and research methodology.
- Chapter five discusses the levels of living with regard to household income, expenditure and assets of the beneficiary of NGO and non-beneficiary sample households.
- Inequality prevailing among the sample households of beneficiary of NGO and non-beneficiary with regard to household income, expenditure and assets is dealt with in chapter six.
- The last chapter – Chapter seven – deals with the summary and conclusions.

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to all those who have helped me directly or indirectly in the completion of this research work.

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Words prove inadequate when I begin to express the co-operation lent to me by the colleagues of my South Gujarat University, Surat. I make
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I also put on record my feelings of deep appreciation for PAMI, my wife, who is eternal source of motivation, encouragement and her devotion in ways more than I can enumerate and acknowledge in the completion of this research work.

Finally let me end here with the memorable words of Prof. Jagdish Bhagwati, one of the foremost international trade theorist form Gujarat, India, expressed in Ahmedabad during his last visit at the beginning of new millennium “You need not measure poverty. Mahatma Gandhi never measured it. He just saw it. Poverty and income are not new subjects. We need policies and programmes to remove poverty.”

I believe that non-governmental organisations have an unique and historical role to play in the years to come for the total and integral development of human society.

Roman Bhatia

Surat