Development is a multi dimensional phenomenon. The real development upholds the supremacy of man as a member of the human community which aims at promoting individual's welfare. To the geographer, development constraints consist of the measures to deal with anomalies in the spatial allocation of resources. Development is not merely a question of how much is produced, but what is produced and how it is distributed. The process of development has to be seen in the context of the nature of resource distribution, the level of technology and distributive systems.

Mankind is facing the problem of growing disparities in socio-economic development both within and between the different geographic scales such as settlements, regions and countries. These inequalities create tensions and conflicts in the society. Ameliorative measures have to be taken to minimise the disparities at all levels to the extent possible. One of the basic pre-requisites for moving toward this goal is to acquire a precise knowledge of the spatial disparities, in their various dimensions. It is a challenging task which eminently fits into the philosophy and methodology of Geography. The geographer's findings with regard to spatial disparities in spheres of socio-economic activity or total development and the causal factors associated therewith, surely lead him to make prescriptive recommendations for future planning.
It is in this spirit that the present study relating to city size and the levels of development in Gujarat was taken up. The present study aims at understanding more precisely and scientifically the levels of development of towns on the basis of certain selected indicators of demographic, social and economic aspects, for the purposes of effective planning. It further attempts to understand and analyse the underlying relationship between the city size and the levels of development. The study becomes more relevant as it identifies towns which are less developed, for the purposes of taking corrective planning measures. It is hoped that the finding of this study would be of direct relevance and will serve as useful guidelines for the civic planners and administrators to achieve much desired balanced urban development.