Since independence India is engaged in a task of national development. The objective is that of transformation of an agrarian society into a developed nation. According to Chi-yuen Wu "Development is a process of social transformation from traditional society to a modern society and such a transformation is also known as modernization". It is not possible to give a general definition of development that can be acceptable to all. Different writers have given different definitions. However, out of these definitions certain important features of development can be construed as follows:

(i) **Growth**: To development means to advance, to further, to evolve or to expand by a process of growth.

(ii) **Forward Looking**: Only modern society is forward looking with attention concentrated on future progress.

(iii) **Complexity**: A modern society is a complex society, with high degree of division of Labour and specialisation and high degree of interdependency among different tasks and different individuals and organisational units.

(iv) **Technology**: Modern society is one which has undergone an industrial revolution or a process of technological innovations.

(v) **Mastery over environment**: A modern society is one in which human race often considers itself the master of its own destiny.
Development is a process whereby human being try to shape and reshape the natural environment.

(vi) Rational Society: A modern society is also a rational society....extensive use has been made of the rational approach in dealing with physical and social problems.

(vii) The Building of nation-State: A modern society is one which builds nation state as the unit of development. This is why modern development is often known as national development.

(viii) The modernisation of law: Gunner Myrdal calls a state comprising all the various types of social indiscipline as 'soft state'. It includes defects in legislation, deficiencies in particular law observation and enforcement; disobedience of public officials, existence of wide spread corruption, laxity, arbitariness, and collusion of politicians and public administrators with powerful persons and group of persons.

A modern state is one which has successfully moved from soft State to a disciplined State.

(ix) Rule of Law: A modern State is a State in which there is a rule of law. It is also a juridicial State in which every one is enabled to obtain and enjoy the right that his due.

(x) Institutional Changes: Development or modernisation involves institutional changes. In the process of modernisation, traditional or feudalistic institutions (which hinder the establishment of modern society) would be replaced by modern institutions.
These salient features form the 'norms' of a developed society. As a developing country, India is trying to achieve these objectives through planned development.

Concept of Rural Development in India:

India is a country of villages. According to 1971 Census, 80 per cent of her people live in villages having rural background. A large section of rural population live and work in abject poverty, ignorance, illiteracy and ill-health. Therefore, development in Indian context essentially means rural development. In a country of India's size and diversity, rural development in whatever way it is defined, is obviously a massive and complex endeavour.

"Conceptually, to Mohit Bhattacharya, rural development, in our context is a process directed essentially towards improving the living standard of the rural poor". Like the term Development, there is also no agreed definition of rural development. However, Uma Lele has given the following features of rural development administration in African context but they are equally applicable to India:

(a) Mobilization and allocation of resources so as to reach a desirable balance over time between the welfare and productive services available to the subsistence rural sector.

(b) Mass participation to make sure that resources are allocated to the target group and that the productive and social services naturally reach that group; and
(c) Making the development process self-sustaining in terms of development of appropriate skills and implementing capacity and of institutions at different levels to ensure effective use of existing resources and foster mobilisation of additional financial and human resources. The aims and objectives of the strategy of rural development are now and then declared by the Prime Ministers, Ministers and numerous sections of the Five Year Plan. Their statements make clear the tasks to be performed and the priorities to be accorded in rural development. Some of them are as follows:

- the removal of unemployment and significant under-employment in rural areas.
- an appreciable rise in the standard of living of the poorest sections of the population.
- provision by the state of some of the basic needs of the people in those sections, like drinking water, adult-literacy, elementary education, health care, rural roads, rural housing for the landless and minimum services for the urban slums.

C: A Case for Agricultural Development in India:

The aims and objectives of rural development in India may be achieved primarily through the agricultural development. Because agricultural sector contributes nearly 45 per cent of the total national income and provides employment to about 70 per cent of the country's total labour force. Therefore rural development in India is predominantly related with the
agricultural development. According to S.K. Rau, "In any attempt at the improvement of rural economy, agriculture is bound to be a prime factor. The agriculture, forestry, fishery etc. sectors contribute about 45 per cent to the net national product of the country. (1975 - 47.4 per cent, 1976 - 44.2 per cent, 1977 - 45.5 per cent). The biggest occupational group is agricultural, its percentage being 73.8 per cent (1971) to the number of total workers". 6

Since last three decades, sincere efforts have been made at national level through different Five Year Plans to uplift the rural people. Rapid agricultural development forms the part of the strategy of plan - projects. However, agricultural development has not shown satisfactory rates of growth. National Commission on Agriculture has reviewed the whole situation in following words:

"The partition brought an imbalance in the country's agricultural resource endowments. After Independence, the Central and State Governments adopted the objective of planned economic growth and social development. Also, there were new aspirations among masses who look forward not only to a higher standard of life but also for an egalitarian social order. Due to rapid growth in population, urbanisation and increase in income, the demand for food and agro-based commodities began to rise fast". 7
The Commission while assessing the performance of agricultural sector observes: "faced with these new challenges Indian agriculture at that time, particularly in early sixties, was under a spell of stagnation. In mid-sixties application of science and technology supported by infrastructural facilities and the requisite incentives and services ushered the new technology of agricultural development. There was a break-through in one or two cereal crops with a promise of similar break-through in other cereal and some non-food crops. While there was an impressive increase in foodgrains, there were critical shortages in fat and protein production. It therefore became necessary to diversify agriculture and to secure an integrated development crop production, livestock development, fisheries and forestry." The new definition of agricultural development, according to Commission, requires policies and institutions to cope up with the new problems. It has observed, "In this phase of agricultural growth and development, there is urgent need for policies to deal with the emerging problems of disparity among low and high income farmers, the irrigated and the rainfed and disadvantageous areas, and to establish an agrarian system based on equity and justice. This calls for sustained efforts in institution building and orienting research and extension facilities to new demands in development." 

As stated in the document of Sixth Plan, "The aim of agricultural and rural development will be growth for social justice, achievement of full employment in the rural areas
in a period of ten years and removal of poverty." It is interesting to study whether the preconditions to achieve these goals of agricultural development are fulfilled or not. Among them institutional infrastructure deserves the first priority.

Institutional Infrastructure of PR for Rural Development:

It is very clear from the above discussion that so far as India is concerned, agricultural development is the pre-condition of rural development and also rural development in turn is the pre-condition of national development. It can be achieved through the modern institutions working in rural areas. Such institutions were recommended by Balwant Rai Mehta Study Team in 1957, which are popularly known as Panchayati Raj Institutions. "Democratic decentralisation" of power from the State Governments to the rural people was the major aim after the recommendation of Panchayati Raj. The installation of these institutions throughout the country since early sixties was expected to provide dynamic leadership and active involvement of the people concerned in rural development.

In a democratic country like India, the process of planned development needs active co-operation and involvement of the people for its success. Lack of such co-operation and involvement was found right from the implementation of CDG and NES schemes in fifties. The indifference of the people with the activities of rural development was the main reason of the low achievements in the field of rural development.
This factor of indifference or non-co-operation of the people has led to the failure of planning in India. Prof. D.T. Lakdawala, Ex.Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission of India, emphasises this point in following words:

"The success of planning essentially depends on the co-operation, and in a democratic society, the willing co-operation of different groups. Each of these groups..... is expected to play an important role in the developing economy. Once a plan is accepted, it is the responsibility of all participating elements to ensure its successful carrying through".11

What is true at national level is also equally true at local level. Leaders working in different levels of Panchayati Raj can ensure the expected co-operation of different groups to which they represent. It is interesting to know whether working of Panchayati Raj since last 20 years, has provided such leadership or generated the involvement of the people in the activities of rural development.

Aim and Objectives of this Study:

In the light of the foregoing discussion it may be said that leadership in PR has to play a unique and distinct role in rural development which ultimately leads to national development. The concept of leadership is in Indian context has been developed and studied at macro level by many scholars of national and international fame. In recent times more attention has been given by scholars to the study of rural
leadership at micro level. It would be more interesting and meaningful if some kind of relationship would be established between the changing pattern of PR leadership and rural development especially in agricultural sector.

In this background an attempt has been made in this study to find out the co-relation between the two important aspects of rural development namely leadership in PR and agricultural development. The aspect of PR leadership is related with the institutional changes brought about in rural India to achieve the goal of democratisation of the traditional society. It involves the study of the social and political dynamics of change in rural life. While the development aspect is more related with the economic dynamics of change through the plan process which leads to the goal of modernisation of agricultural sector. The interaction between the two has direct bearing on rural development which ultimately affects the process of national development.

With the implementation of Gujarat Panchayat Act, 1961, a three tier system of Panchayati Raj has come into force in Gujarat State since 1st April 1963. A period of twenty years of its working in rural life is sufficient enough to review and assess the performance of these bodies in the field of rural development especially in agricultural sector. PR of Gujarat has earned many praises and tributes not only from the academics but also from the different committees, commissions
and study groups appointed by the State or Central Governments. The present study has been taken up to throw more light on the problems of leadership and development at the grass roots level of Panchayati Raj in Kheda district of Gujarat State. It is intended to make an indepth study of the existing pattern of PRIS at village level of the district and its role performance in agricultural development in the area. It is an effort to observe the dynamics of development in rural life of the district which is one of the well developed districts of Gujarat State. In terms of development Gujarat is also considered as one of the progressive States of India. Thus the case study of the Kheda district in relation to PR leadership and agricultural development at village level may lead to the more understanding of the process of development and national building.

II

The Problem and Methodology:

Against the background of foregoing discussion an attempt has been made in this study to provide a comparative picture of the present pattern of leadership and the state of agricultural development in developed as well as backward villages of two selected talukas of Kheda district. It will attempt to provide a comparative perspective on the role of present panchayat leadership in agricultural development at village level.
Objectives:

The study is concerned with the following objectives:

(i) To find out how far the Panchayati Raj structure has fulfilled its role as development agency in rural India with special reference to agricultural sector.

(ii) To assess the role of present pattern of leadership in PR at village level in agricultural development.

(iii) What are the actual conditions of farmers in the developed or backward villages?

(iv) What physical, human and institutional obstacles come in the way of fast and balanced development of villages?

(v) What meaningful role can the local leaders in PRIS play to improve the prevailing situation?

The major aspects of agricultural development which have been studied are:

(i) What are the actual conditions of farmers in the developed or backward villages?

(ii) What physical, human and institutional obstacles come in the way of fast and balanced development of villages?

(iii) What meaningful role can the local leaders, functionaries of Panchayati Raj at higher levels and the Government of Gujarat in improving the prevailing situation?
What should be done to improve this paradoxical situation of imbalance in development?

Selection of the District and Talukas:

According to Dr. H. J. Pandya, Kheda district is one of the developed districts of Gujarat. To select a developed district, he dichotomised all the districts in the State in terms of having developed talukas and under-developed talukas. Also, he added percentage of rural population in each taluka and then ranked the districts on the basis of the percentage of rural population (developed) in descending order. Thus out of total 18 districts, Kheda takes the ninth position in overall ranking. It has registered 973 villages having total population 1977540. Out of its total population, 46.55 per cent live in developed areas and 53.45 per cent live in backward areas. Out of its total 10 talukas, 4 are ranked by the Government of Gujarat as developed and 6 as backward talukas.

In consultation of District Development Officer of Kheda District, Anand taluka is selected as developed taluka and Vadasinor as backward taluka. It is also supported by the overall ranking of total 184 talukas of Gujarat State in terms of development by the Gujarat Government. It has given 36th rank to Anand taluka, 151st rank to Vadasinor taluka in terms of development. This obviously proves the difference of development between the two talukas. For detailed study, four villages from each of the taluka are selected. Thus from Anand taluka two developed villages viz., Gana and Sandesar.
and two backward villages viz., Salabordi and Parvata are selected. Similarly, from Vadasinor taluka two developed villages of Dehvari and Jetholi and two backward villages viz., Dharodi and Pandava are selected.

Selection of Respondents:

This study confines to the institutional leaders who are either members or position holders in the gram panchayats of the 8 selected villages. All the selected members, co-opted members including women members, scheduled castes members etc. of the gram panchayats of the selected villages constitute the sample of the inquiry.

Also a survey of farmers of the sampled villages is undertaken with a view to know their actual conditions and their perception and orientation towards agricultural development. By random sampling method ten farmers from each villages are selected in such a way that they represent different categories of farmers in proportion to their caste composition, land holdings and economic position.

Thus the universe of this study is Kheda district of Gujarat State. In Kheda district Anand as developed taluka and Vadasinor as backward taluka are selected as sub-universe to provide the comparative picture. Further, out of each of these two talukas four villages - two developed and two backward - are purposively selected.
Thus it is a comparative and analytical study of the total 77 members as leaders of 8 gram panchayats of sample villages. It also gives a comparative picture of the stage of agricultural development of these villages through the survey of 80 households of farmers.

Data Collection:

Data for the study are collected through the following methods and tools.

Sources:
1: Records of Panchayats at village level.
2: Unit data scheduled for village.
3: District census Handbooks for Kheda district.
4: Kheda district Gazetteer.
   Reports of Study Groups and high power committees appointed by the Government.
6: The perspective plan of Gujarat, 1974-84.
7: Government documents on Five Year Plans.

Tools:
1) One Schedule: To collect information about development at village level. See, Appendix IV, Part. A.
2) A Questionnaire used at Village Level:
   Part I: To get the information of all the leaders about their socio-economic, status, political affiliation and developmental
**CHART - I - 1**

*Sampling Chart*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Developed taluka</th>
<th>Backward tabka</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developed villages (2)</td>
<td>Backward villages (2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Figures in parenthesis denote the number of units to be studied.
Selection of Districts, Talukas & Villages

State: Gujarat
District: Kheda

Taluka: Anand Vadasinor
(Developed) (Backward)

Developed Backward Developed Backward
(2)* (2) (2) (2)

Gana Zalabordi Dehbari Bharodi
Sandesar Parvata Jetholi Pandava

* Figures in parenthesis denote the number of units to be studied.
**Chart - I - 3**

**Selection of Respondents**

Village level  
(i) All the members of the gram panchayats of Selected villages as leaders.  
(ii) Ten farmers from each village.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondent Interviewed</th>
<th>Village level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Name of the developed villages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gaps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sandesar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Debhari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jetholi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total of Developed villages</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the backward villages</th>
<th>No. of members</th>
<th>No. of farmers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Zalabordi</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Parvata</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Bharodi</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Pandava</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total of backward villages</strong></td>
<td><strong>35</strong></td>
<td><strong>40</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>77</strong></td>
<td><strong>80</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAP OF ANAND TALUKA

- DEVELOPED VILLAGE
- BACKWARD VILLAGE
MAP OF VADASINOR TALUKA

- DEVELOPED VILLAGE
- BACKWARD VILLAGE
perspective. (See, Appendix I
, Part - B).

Part - II: To get the information about the actual conditions of farmers at village level and their perception and orientation towards agricultural development through Panchayati Raj (See, Appendix I
, Part - C).

III

A Brief Survey of Literature on PR Leadership

An attempt has been made here to survey in brief the literature on leadership in PR and rural development especially in agricultural sector. In 70s more and more academics began to study different aspects of PR leadership from different angles and perspectives. Most of them were micro-level studies concentrated on different aspects of leadership such as composition and emerging pattern, change in pattern, SES background, value orientation, party affiliation, elections and campaign, role performance and relationship with rural development etc.

As a foreigner Mates Kihlberg has presented an authentic picture of the PR of India as debated by the Indians in books, magazines and research reports. In chapter on "New Leadership", he deals with the concept of leadership as developed in sixties and also analyses the findings of several research studies about the role of leadership in rural development. He finally arrives at the conclusion that "the performance of PR should not be evaluated as an agent of modernization but less ambitiously as an instrument for communication between elite (Leader) and rural masses. When it comes to mobilizing and organising the rural masses for development other instruments are needed, more
Another similar study is made by K. Sheshadri and S.P. Jain on Panchayati Raj and Political Perception of electorate. "It is clear that the Panchayati Raj functionaries have not been able to live up to the expectations of the country in increasing political socialisation. The process of opinion-building is an ever continuing one and it is a mistake to think that it is confined only to the period of intensive electioneering campaigns... The involvement of the political leadership at lower levels is inevitable, but wisdom lies in making this involvement more positive and contributive to developmental.....

P.C. Deb and B.K. Agarwal have claimed their study as first of its kind in India which throws light on the rural leadership structure in the background of the technological breakthrough in agriculture. It is a comparative study of the leadership of two villages of Punjab during the period of green revolution. It arrives at the following conclusions:

"The leadership pattern in the villages, one somewhat more developed than the other, is mainly polymeric in nature. The leaders in traditional and non-traditional social activities were also leaders in development and welfare functions. The incidence of leaders in traditional activities who were found in modern agricultural and other development functions, was quite high and only a few leaders were found in specific functions...... It further observes "the socio-economic structure and rural leadership pattern in the Punjab, however, show great departure..."
from the traditionally held view of the peasantry. No doubt several factors have played their role in bringing this change, but the most important factor seems to be the technological advances in agriculture and consequent rapid growth in rural economy in the past one decade. Although present leadership is not based on the development oriented functions, yet most of the leaders have functional importance in agriculture and welfare activities. According to writers, "the interesting fact is that there is a mixture of tradition and modernity operating simultaneously and, therefore, we find most functional leaders have roots in the traditional village activities.

M. Francis Abraham has made an attempt to predict and explain what type of community actors are likely to emerge as leaders in changing Indian village. It is a study of 2 to 3 villages of West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra State. The phenomenon of leadership is explained in terms of a new theory - designated as the theory of the structural devolution of power. It postulates that in modernizing village India there is occurring a gradual transfer of power from potential leaders to dynamic leaders. It means from those who only own the conventional sources of power to those who also involve themselves in the affairs of the community.

Finally he puts before us the comparative picture of opinion leaders and community leaders in following manner:
"whereas opinion leaders tend to be older in age and
tradition oriented, community leaders tend to be younger,
progressive and change oriented. Opinion leaders are progressive
on their technological orientation but conventional in their
value orientation they are rational in their self-orientation
but traditional in their religious orientation. Community leaders
are not only rational and liberal but they are also more
collectively-oriented than opinion leaders. Opinion leaders
are specific influentials whose influence is confined to the
informal realm of interpersonal relations whereas community
leaders are accredited spokesmen of the village community its
effective leaders.  

Iqbal Narain, K. C. Pande and Mohanlal Sharma have made
the largest and most detailed investigation of the rural elite. It is an attempt to survey the rural elite and its relations
to the people in five different districts representing different
ecological areas and development levels in Rajasthan. In the
elite are included mainly those who take part in PR at different
levels, district, block and village. In each district a
representative block was selected and in each block a represent­
tive village. The leaders were interviewed carefully and
discussions were also carried out with the people in the
villages and with local servants under a period of about one
year's field work. It was desired to test the amount of truth
in the criticism that had been directed against the rural
elite and PR in recent years. At the end of the study
following conclusions were arrived to: (1) the highest castes
are very over-represented, the middle castes are rather over-represented and the low castes are very under-represented. In the most developed regions the middle caste has obtained an especially strong position. There is here, for example, a tendency noticeable in many States; agricultural middle castes take over the leadership without the caste system in general being changed. Everywhere in Rajasthan the lower castes have a very weak position. Their numerical strength has not helped them to obtain influence in PR.

(ii) Within the castes, it is essentially those with economic resources and education who are recruited to the elite. It is more a question of dominating individuals rather than dominating castes. To summarise, no great change is found in the structure of the elite, caste and property are still decisive criteria.

(iii) A gap between leaders and people is confirmed by the findings of this study. However, the informal contacts between the leaders and people in various villages functions well. What is serious is lack of associations or organisations where people can more directly express their needs and desires.

S. N. Mishra has made an addition to the literature on rural leadership by his book "Pattern of Emerging Leadership in Rural India". It is an attempt at identifying community leaders using position and action as measures of leadership designed to delineate community leadership patterns relevant to the village
of Daravli, in the district Siwan, the State of Bihar. The conclusions arrived at the end of the study about the pattern of leadership are not so different from the conclusions of other studies noted before. However, the writer has made suggestions to improve the present leadership is a new element. He has also suggested some new areas for future study.

According to R.R.S. Mehta, there is a dearth of studies on allocation of values by a formal political organisation (Panchayat) and achievement and of political values (power) by political parties and sections. The related studies have given less attention to important aspects like political socialisation, political beliefs and values, political leadership, law and social control process, non-political functions of political organisation - political function of social groups like caste and family, interest group and interest articulation, interactions and relations between the political organisation and other groups etc. His study is an attempt to such relatively ignored aspects, with primary focus on political behaviour (processes). His book is meant to fill up the serious gap in the research being done on the subject. He observes that the socio-cultural and attitudal change in the community is reflected in the functional capacity of the Panchayat and personality of the Panchayat actors. The farmers' receptiveness to the agricultural innovations has increased the economic prosperity. The community's economic prosperity has helped the Panchayat in getting the maximum funds and in making the Panchayat functionary capable. It is also
an indepth study of the village Kwalia in the district and tehsil of Patiala in the Punjab.

Dr. Parmatmasaran has made an addition to the growing documents of various facets of leadership in India's rural polity. The author has explored the extent to which changes in the economic, political and social conditions in modernizing society result in corresponding changes in the attitudes and values of rural leadership. Data on the leadership patterns in sixteen representative villages of Bihar have been analysed in terms of the conflict between tradition and modernity in rural India. Bihar has often been described as a backward State because of the traditional values upheld by its people. The author contradicts this theory by his findings.

Niranjan Pant studies the leadership phenomena at the Block level of PR in Bihar State. This new dimension is also added by his new approach to study only the problems of relationship between officials and non-officials in PR. To him conflicts between officials and non-officials is the rock on which Panchayati Raj seems to be foundering. Who runs the show in the Panchayati Raj Administration? He observes that the love-hate relationship of officials and non-officials goes on merrily, the socio-economic development has receded into background. It defeats the purpose for which Panchayati Raj was introduced. The writer concludes that structural reforms do not seem to be panaceas for the ills of Panchayati Raj.
Therefore, what is needed is an enlightened and committed leadership and efficient and development minded officers. He further raises the question: Can we get such leaders and officers? The answer will be conditional: yes, if the large socio-political culture is congenial to their growth.\textsuperscript{30}

A. Y. Darshankar has provided a wider base to his study of PR leadership because it has covered the leaders of all three tiers of PR in Beed district of Maharashtra.\textsuperscript{31} It is a study of 22 Zilla Parishad members, 38 Panchayat Samiti members and 120 Sarpanchs and Panchas of Gram Panchayats. He makes the following conclusion:

"Leadership is, under these circumstances, regarded as a position of authority rather than one of service. Distribution of favours and patronage become one of the important functions of leadership in Panchayati Raj and nepotism also thrives unchecked, local leaders consider Panchayati Raj bodies as pockets of power and patronage.\textsuperscript{32} He further concludes elsewhere that leadership in Panchayati Raj in Beed district was dominated by the agriculturist class of the district, irrespective of their caste and political affiliation. Agriculturists can conveniently meet the voters in the village as they have plenty of leisure time. Poor sections of the village work in the fields of the agriculturist, and generally it is difficult to vote against their masters in the elections."\textsuperscript{33} The author observes that "functions in Panchayati Raj are closely related to the agricultural problems of the country."
Supply of good seeds, use of effective manure and protection of the crops from the pests are looked upon by the extension officers of Panchayati Raj. According to him the lower and middle classes have dominated the leadership position in the Panchayati Raj set up of the Beed district. However, the executive posts of chairmanship in Panchayat Samiti and presidentship in Zilla Parishad have been monopolised in the rich people only.

B. S. Bhargav has made indepth study of Panchayati Raj in India from different angles and perspectives. He has also enriched the literature by providing it sound theoretical base, out of his various books "Panchayati Raj System and Political Parties" is worth mentioning. It is the first empirical work on the problem of the role of political parties in Panchayati Raj. So far as leadership is concerned he concludes that "Political linkages have developed between key leaders of Panchayati Raj institutions and higher level leaders...... It is no longer true that Panchayati Raj leaders just serve as "Vote Bankers for higher level leaders. It is clear that their political relationship is increasingly based on the principle of mutuality"...... There are definite trends of the politics of bargaining" as Panchayati Raj leadership is becoming more and more material oriented." He also observes further that 'Leadership that has emerged in Panchayati Raj is more interested in politics than in the fulfilment of development obligations. Instrumental use of linkages for personal/group gains 'exercise of Patronage powers', brokerage services are
the expressions which may be used to signify the "type of politics" generated in the Panchayati Raj system. 37

From the data of this above mentioned study of Jhunjhun district in Rajasthan, the same author has thrown light in the problem of relationship between political leaders and administrators working at the middle level (Block) of Panchayati Raj, politico Administrative Dynamics - has been taken here as a concept which deals with political and administrative roles in inter-acting situations in given system. 38

B. S. Bhargav has also specially dealt with the leadership in Panchayati Raj. His book "Grass Roots Leaders" contains his three articles/papers based on thematic unity. In his first paper "Grass Roots Leadership", he analyses the importance of leadership in Panchayati Raj as system in its own right. His second paper describes analytically the structural aspects of the system as prevailing in Rajasthan. The third paper is an attempt to analyse leadership in Panchayati Raj system in one (Jhunjhun) of the districts of Rajasthan on the basis of arbitrarily selected variables. It is a very good model of comparison between modern and traditional leadership. 39

The books of the 70s as mentioned above and others have thrown light on the different aspects of PR leadership. However, most of the studies undertaken by the different writers are micro-level studies concentrated on one or few villages in a district of their choice. There is a lack of comparative study of leadership between different villages,
talukas or districts of the same State. Also there is no overall comparison of PR leadership in different States of India. Even the leadership phenomenon in PR is not studied in depth from the development point of view. To clear the point it should be added that there is no specific study which throws light on the relationship of traditional or modern leadership with the concrete achievements in the different fields of rural development like, education, health, roads, agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry, etc. An analysis of the concrete performance of the PR leadership with respect to the decided targets of different plans, projects and programmes is the great need of present time. Such studies will explain the uneven development that has emerged between villages and talukas of the same district and between districts of the same State. Also in long run it will be helpful to find the causes of the uneven development of different areas in the country. The limitation of micro-level studies is that it is difficult to generalise anything from their findings. Therefore, large scale studies covering many villages, talukas, districts and States will help to provide the overall picture. It requires vertical and horizontal studies of the PR system in rural areas. Since it is beyond the capacity of individual researcher it requires team work of the scholars of the same discipline and also different disciplines. A sound and cohesive theory to study various facets of rural development and different aspects of leadership is yet to be evolved.
REFERENCES


2. Ibid., p. 3-4.


11. Dr. H.J. Pandya, Leadership in Panchayati Raj: Its Composition and Changing Pattern, (Mimeo.), Department of Public Administration, South Gujarat University, Surat, 1974, pp. 18, also see its Appendix - pp. 404.
13 Ibid., p. 404.
14 Ibid., p. 404.
16 Ibid., p. 78.
18 Ibid., p. 99.
20 Ibid., p. 53-55.
21 Ibid., p. 56.
23 Ibid., p. 107.
27 Ibid., p. 249.
30 Ibid., p. 93.

32 Ibid., p. 187.

33 Ibid., p. 191.

34 Ibid., p. 191.


36 Ibid., B.S. Bhargav, p. 403.

37 Ibid., p. 408.
