CHAPTER VII

MAJOR FINDINGS AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

Short Statement of the Problem

An attempt has been made in this study to examine the relation between the two major aspects of rural development i.e. leadership in PR and agricultural development at village level. It is an in-depth study of 80 farmers and 77 leaders - members of the gram panchayats – of 8 selected villages of Anand and Vadodara talukas of Kheda district. It presents a picture of SES background, perception and orientation of the farmers as well as leaders towards the process and activity of agricultural development in the sample villages.

Owing to the specific nature of the study, it is not easy to make generalisations. No panchayat or sample villages can be representative of the entire country or for that matter, even of a state. However, the study throws light on the developmental activity of agricultural field at the grass-root level of Panchayati Raj. Therefore, its conclusions and recommendations are important and valid to identify the major areas which require improvement and the directions in which the improvement can be made. The conclusions of this
study, thus, provide broad guidelines for the policy purpose.

An Overview of the Problem:

National Level: Transformation of a traditional society into modern society is a goal of national development in India. It involves commonly accepted features like growth, forward looking, complex society, technological innovations, control of environment, rational approach, building of nation state, modernization of law, rule of law, institutional changes etc. India is a country of villages in which eighty per cent of her population live and work in abject poverty, ignorance, illiteracy and illhealth. Therefore national development in Indian context means rural development. It is a process directed essentially towards improving the living standard of the rural poor. Rural development in India includes following things:

- The removal of unemployment and under-employment.
- An appreciable rise in the standard of living of the poorest sections of the population;
- Provision by the State of some basic needs of the people in those sections like drinking water, adult literacy elementary education, health care, rural roads, rural housing for the landless etc.

Rural development in our country is predominantly related with the agricultural sector because it 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. Since last three decades sincere efforts have been made at
national level through different five year plans to uplift rural people. Rapid agricultural development forms the part of the strategy of our plan projects. However, agricultural development has not shown the continuous upward trend of growth till 1960. Rapid growth in population, urbanization, rising demand for food and agro-based commodities were the major challenges before Indian agriculture after independence. It was under a spell of stagnation particularly in early sixties.

To involve rural people in developmental activities and to provide them dynamic local leadership PRIS were recommended by Balwant Rai Mehta Study Team. Democratic decentralisation through PR took place in most of the States in later half of fifties and early sixties. Beneath the abstract ideas about democracy and development through PR, there was a more definite and limited aim to produce new leaders at local level. These newly elected leaders were supposed to replace the traditional leaders and also to provide the role as catalyst—agents in rural development. So far as agricultural development was concerned the specific aim of PRIS at all levels was to increase agricultural production. But soon after its inception, it was found that PR in most of the States of India has failed to provide new leadership and also to contribute to the agricultural development.

After 1960 green revolution in agricultural sector took place. It adversely affected the growth of PRI in most of the States. The political climate of 60's and 70's supplemented
with pressing demands of food-shortages and scarcity led to lessening role of PR in agricultural development. The agricultural break through generated by the new agricultural technology demand more efficient and quick administration with which PR failed to cope up. As a result number of new agencies and institutions began to compete with PRIS in rural areas. Except in States like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, etc. there are no genuine efforts to set up real PRIS.

**Situation in Gujarat**

Gujarat provides a different and unique model of progress with regard to PRIS and agricultural development. PR in this state has remarkably done its job within the role assigned to it in all spheres of rural development including agriculture. PR in Gujarat has been looked upon as one of the important programmes as visualised by Gandhiji for rural reconstruction. Therefore, it has got a very high place in the hearts of Gujarati people. PR is also fortunate enough in getting committed and dedicated leaders at least in its initial stage. Most of them were trained or influenced either by Gandhiji, Sardar Patel, Vinoba or Jaya Prakash Narayan. Basically all of them were social workers who were interested in the upliftment of the rural mass. The top-brass leadership of PR utilized this opportunity to lay a sound foundation for these new bodies in Gujarat.
Provision of specific allocation of functions among three tiers of PR with substantial financial and administrative powers has led to the success of PR in Gujarat. It has helped them to achieve the objective of planning and perform their role in different spheres of rural development.

With the help of the well formulated agricultural policy and programmes, the government of Gujarat has sincerely tried to solve the problems of agriculture which possess all India characteristics viz., (1) Low productivity in terms of an average per hectare; (2) Problems of small land holdings; (3) Problem of land ceiling and distribution of surplus land; and (4) problem of agricultural labourers and agrarian movements. Self reliance in agriculture is one of the main objectives of different plans and projects undertaken by the Gujarat government. PR in Gujarat has been looked upon as the main agency by the government in implementing its policies, plans, programmes etc. especially designed for agricultural development. However, due to the difference in soils, topography, climate, irrigation facilities, cropping pattern, farm practices etc. the performance of agriculture in Gujarat State has not been uniform.

Situation in Kheda district and two selected talukas

With the inception of PR in early sixties Kheda district Panchayat came into being as a powerful executive body at the district level. Government of Gujarat transferred most of the functions of agricultural development within the district to this new body. In the last two decades PRIS have played significant role in promotional activities designed for rapid agricultural development.
The percentage utilization of budget provisions of plan schemes implemented by the PR bodies as discussed earlier is on constant increase which shows interest and capacity of these bodies to implement the state programme. Similarly, Kheda District Panchayat has shown a constant upward trend in its expenditure on agriculture. It is equally true in case of Anand and Vadasinor taluka Panchayats. However, expenditure pattern varies with the levels of PR and the development programmes due to the difference in priorities.

A profile of agricultural development shows that there is an upward trend of development in the district as well as in Anand and Vadasinor talukas. However, a closer look on the figures of different indices of agricultural development in relation to Anand and Vadasinor talukas clearly reveals that there is a big gap between the two talukas in all the aspects. Vadasinor taluka lags behind Anand taluka in almost all the items pertaining to agricultural development. Historical, geographical and situational differences supported by uneven distribution of land have played great role in creating this situation.

This phenomenon of imbalanced agricultural development in Kheda district may be explained in terms of changing pattern of leadership from village level to district level. According to caste composition of the district it can be said that Baraiyas (Kshatriyas) who were in the lower ladder of the society are replacing the traditional leadership of Patidars at all levels of PR in the district. Due to the implementation
of the progressive land Acts, the baraiyas who were generally tenants of the Patel landlords have come up as the new class. Politically they are more conscious about strength of their numbers and thereby demand more and more share in the power structure of Panchayati Raj.

Also competitive model of PR leadership throughout the area has helped the agricultural growth into certain respects i.e. implementation of various programmes prepared for resource development, productivity and rural employment. But increasing party politics has affected the distributive function of PR as a system due to the contradictory claims and demands of the groups of haves and have-notes.

Thus process of agricultural development and process of democratic participation of the people have mutually helped each other in Kheda district upto certain extent. It is more visible at the taluka and district levels rather than at village level.

II

Conditions of Farmers in the Villages under survey

1. Gujarat Panchayat Act, 1961, has specifically allotted certain functions to village panchayats with regard to agricultural sector. Also a gram panchayat is empowered to collect land revenue from the village and also entitled to get its share from its collection. Moreover, gramsevak (V.L.W.) and panchayat secretary are engaged in the developmental
activities at the village level. Gram sevak has become an important link between the farmers of the village and the higher levels of PR and government administration. He remains in direct touch with the village panchayat members - leaders - and through them with the farmers of the village. It is he who brings to the notice of the farmers of the village the latest and modern techniques of farming, agricultural inputs and implements. This process as well as activity has generated agricultural development through out the 8 sample villages in the area. Looking to the budgets and records of the different gram panchayats, it has been found that gram panchayat as an institution has not yet taken up any specific function of agricultural field. Acute shortage of finance coupled with growing demands for civic amenities have made them unable to venture in this sector.

2. Upward trend of agricultural development has been definitely found in all the 8 sample villages of Anand and Vadasinor talukas of Kheda district. Since the inception of gram panchayats, all the villages have shown increase in area under irrigation, agricultural inputs and implements during the period of last two decades. As a result more production in agriculture and employment have taken place in both backward as well as developed villages.

However, the rate of development differs from village to village in both the talukas. Difference in agricultural development is more obviously noticed in developed areas of
as against backward areas. This is also true of big farmers v.s. small farmers. Having in possession of more favourable conditions both human as well as physical, the developed villages have remained far ahead than backward villages in all respects of agricultural development. Some times inputs provided by the higher authorities have totally changed a village from backward category to developed one. For example, a tank or pond (reservoir) constructed by taluka panchayat in Jetholi village of Vadasinor taluka has completely changed its face.

Gram Panchayat has been functioning as one of the many agencies at village level to generate agricultural development. Other agencies working in the same field and direction are not under the direct control of village panchayat. Therefore, the role of gram panchayat in this sector has become more and more limited and indirect. It is also true that the panchayat leadership has to compete with the leadership of cooperatives and milk producer's societies for resources. These agencies with the help of nationalised banks have surpassed village panchayats in mobilising financial resources and other aids given to the farmers. Thus the role of leadership in gram panchayat has become restricted and therefore less influencial at the end of two decades.

A close study of SES background of the farmers in sample villages has revealed important factors connected with imbalanced agricultural growth in the area.
Patel-farmers as the representatives of high caste have been found dominant in developed villages. Whereas Khhatriyas who belong to middle and lower middle castes have been found dominant in backward villages. This is also true in case of developed as well as backward talukas. Patel-farmers are found comparatively young, educated and economically better off than their counterparts in the region.

This relatively higher SES background has helped the Patel farmers in adopting better cropping/pattern and farm techniques. It has resulted into higher yields especially in developed villages. As for example Patel farmers have left the age old farming of cereals and adopted cash crop like tobacco which earns more income from their fields. On the other hand Baraiyas in backward villages still keep them attached with traditional farming which earns less income from their fields.

By and large the farmers of both the categories appear to be more attached with co-operatives than the village panchayats. Except for few big and prosperous farmers in developed villages all of them were the members of the co-operative society and Milk producer's society in their respective villages. They were benefitted by financial aids, as well as supply of agricultural inputs provided by the co-operative societies. Milk producers societies also helped them to earn extra income from their dairy enterprise which is successfully organised by Amul Dairy situated in Anand.
Thus it appears that better economic condition of farmers in developed villages have helped them to take more advantage from the co-operatives to develop their agricultural business in terms of utilisation of agricultural inputs like irrigation facilities, fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides, improved seeds etc.

Almost all the farmers in the sample villages complained about inadequate marketing facilities to sell their agricultural produce. They have to go to taluka place to sell their produce or else they have to sell it to local traders. Small and marginal farmers throughout the area are compelled to sell their produce at low price to the local traders. It is more so in case of the farmers of backward villages compared to the farmers of developed villages. Lack of holding capacity has led to the exploitation of the poor farmers as a class. It has led to dis-satisfaction among the farmers throughout the area. This has been frequently represented to the higher bodies of PR. Most of the farmers believed that their panchayat leaders were not of much help to them in this problem.

With increase in agricultural production the demand for inputs like improved seeds, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides and finance, is growing more and more in villages. This is understandably so in developed villages than in backward villages. It is also true that big and prosperous farmers will have more share in this respect than the small and marginal farmers. However, the quality of these inputs as well as their
transportation are not the acute problems faced by the farmers. The higher prices, unavailability in time, inadequacy of supply and lack of finance are the major problems of farmers in relation to agricultural inputs and implements. Since this being a recurring phenomenon in agricultural development, the big and prosperous farmers have become more vocal and organised in this matter. However, these problems are being dealt with by village co-operatives, the panchayat leaders can't be of much help to them in solving these problems.

Recurrance of natural calamities is a common feature of Indian agriculture which adversely affects the economic conditions of farmers in the villages. Most of the farmers were of the opinion that in case of general calamity of widespread nature, the panchayat leaders could be of some help. They take initiative to represent the problems before the leaders and officials at higher levels of PR. But in case of calamity affecting individual farmers or of a small section of farmers the panchayat leaders are found hesitant in taking initiative unless they are personally approached by the farmers. Moreover, the leaders are found more active if their relatives or political supports are affected by such calamities. Farmers' habitual dependence on the government on one hand and the lack of appreciation of such efforts on the other deter the panchayat leaders to take initiative in such matters. It is the unanimous opinion of the farmers that village panchayat leaders are active only during elections rather than the normal period between the two elections.
III

Perception and Orientation of Farmers

1. Most of the farmers in backward villages of Anand and Vadasinor talukas perceive the panchayat leaders as important agents for agricultural development. They are in favour of devolution of more powers and functions to village panchayat so that they can generate rapid agricultural growth. It means increasing legitimacy of the village panchayat as modern institution in backward villages. It shows the growing faith of backward communities in PR leaders as catalyst - agents of agricultural development.

The perception of the rich farmers in developed villages of both the talukas was quite contrary to the perception of the farmers of backward villages. Most of the farmers do not consider it advisable to devolve more powers and functions to the village panchayats in agricultural field. To them leaders of the village panchayats are susceptible to favouritism, groupism and influence of big and prosperous farmers.

2. It is also found that the sarpanch enjoyed more confidence of the Baraiya farmers in the backward villages rather than Patel farmers in the developed villages. Among the village level officials gram sevaks (W.L.W's) are found more popular in developed villages where as secretaries are found more helpful to farmers in the backward villages.
This situation indicates the slow change in the pattern of leadership taking place in favour of Baraiyas than the Patels. As it appears in every subsequent election the Baraiyas have taken more and more hold of the Gram panchayats especially in backward villages. Panchayat elections provide them good opportunity to show their numerical strength. It has become instrumental in replacing Patel leadership in the backward villages. The increasing consciousness of their strength has helped the Bariayas in sustaining their faith in village panchayat and its leadership.

In this context, the low opinion of Patel farmers about the functioning of village panchayat and its leadership is indicative of the new challenge to their age old leadership at village level.

3: Method of contacts by the farmers at the different levels of PR suggests their inclination and interest towards agricultural growth. It involves the efforts on their part to get more agricultural inputs and implements from the panchayat functionaries.

Personal contact with officials is the most suitable method used by the farmers of developed as well as backward villages. Generally they prefer direct approach thus avoiding written correspondence, communication or contact-mem. This is a good sign which indicates their self confidence in the PR bodies at higher levels.
This study does not find any qualitative difference in the economic condition of the small farmers having 1 to 2 hectares of land and the agricultural labourers in developed as well as the backward villages. There is near unanimity among the respondents on the need for some additional source of income to this class of people to be provided by the government or panchayati raj.

According to them Bank loans for milch animals, agricultural inputs and for rural or cottage industries may serve the purpose. Village panchayat leadership can play an important role in getting these facilities to the weaker section of the rural community.

Opinion of the farmers was divided in almost equal proportion on the point of impact of land reform acts and policies of the Gujarat government. In backward villages, the opinion was slightly tilted in favour of the positive impact of such acts and policies. Majority of the farmers were non-committal about the impact of land reforms on general economic condition of the farmers.

In short, it can be said that the farmers of both the categories perceive that the land reforms have no significant impact on agricultural development in general. Also in their opinion it is not going to change economic condition of the small or marginal farmers and agricultural labourers in any substantial way. Transfer of population from agricultural sector to industrial sector is the only course left out to
improve the condition of the people. Since this is a problem to be tackled by the government at the higher level, panchayat leadership feels helpless in this matter.

IV

PR Leadership at Village Level:

1: Two dominant castes, namely, Patels and Kshatriyas are mainly represented in village panchayats of the 8 sample villages. In terms of relative strength in panchayat membership, the Patels have dominance in developed villages in contrast to the Baraiyas having dominance in the backward villages. However, in overall representation, the Patels are getting larger share than the Baraiyas and thus the balance of power tilts in favour of upper castes. It is more so in relation to the core leadership of village panchayat i.e. sarpanchs where Patel's dominance has been clearly established. Out of total 8 sarpanchs, 6 are from Patel community and 2 from Kshatriyas. Thus in spite of their numerically inferior position Patels still dominate over the Kshatriyas in the villages. It will take quite some time before the Kshatriyas are able to assert their numerical superiority in the villages dominated by the Patels. However, the frequent elections of the PR bodies, have politicised Kshatriyas to accept the challenge posed by the traditional leadership of the Patels at least at the village level. And they have succeeded in some cases.

2: This study also reveals that the village panchayat leadership is in the hands of younger people. Most of the
leaders fall in the age group of 20-40 years both in developed as well as backward villages. Replacement of old leadership by younger generation is a good sign for the rapid development of the rural areas. Most of the leaders have shown their active interest in various schemes and projects prepared by the taluka or district panchayats for agricultural development. This type of mental psyche on their part will prove useful for the developmental purpose in agricultural sector.

3. Occupation still plays an important role in making the leadership at village level. Farmers and agricultural labourers as a group has dominance in panchayat membership of the sample villages. Other occupational groups have negligible representation. A close scrutiny of the membership pattern has revealed that rich and big farmers of either communities are replaced by the middle class farmers. Though small and marginal farmers as well as land labourers have increased their membership in terms of numbers, they have not been able to increase their political power. Middle class rich peasantry having support base in the caste structure has been able to maintain its leadership hold on village panchayats. It is evident from the fact that not a single sarpanch out of 8 villages has come from the poor section of the society. Thus better economic condition rooted in land holdings still plays an important role in deciding core leadership of the village panchayat.

4. Most of the leaders in backward as well as developed villages were having education upto secondary level. If illiteracy was negligible, the higher education was also found
wanting in the members of the grampanchayats. However, the higher rate of education among the leaders in comparison to the rate of education among the people as such is a good sign for the rural development. It was observed during the course of personal discussion that these leaders were much more acquainted with the new schemes and projects of agricultural development than the general public. Most of them had developed the habit to read newspapers and listen to radio which feed them with information regarding new technology and innovations in farming.

So far as sarpanches of all the 8 village panchayats are concerned, 6 of them have acquired education upto secondary and 2 are graduates. Their knowledge regarding agricultural development was very appreciable. It may be due to their contacts with the leaders and officials of the higher levels of PR.

5. It is also found that most of the members of the village panchayats are non-partisan in attitude irrespective of their party affiliations. This indicates that affiliation of the members of the village panchayats to political party does not have any impact on the agricultural development of the village. The sarpanchs of the sample villages have open affiliation either with the Congress (I) or Janata party. If sarpanches are considered as core leaders at the village level their political affiliation with higher levels has proved advantageous in maintaining their leadership in the village.
Sarpanches of developed villages in both the talukas were affiliated with Janata Party whereas the sarpanches of backward villages were affiliated with Congress (I). This affiliation of the sarpanches with political parties at higher levels is subject to change with the change in party dominance at higher levels. However, their political affiliation helps them to solve many problems of agricultural development at village level.

Concluding Remarks

(i) PR leadership at village level in all the sample villages has direct roots in the agricultural communities of the areas. Many common features have been noticed in the SES background, perception and orientation of the leaders and the farmers of these villages. However, certain variations in these matters were found because of the difference in their particular roles, interests and belongingness to the groups of the village concerned.

(ii) No direct relation has been observed between the pattern of leadership and the agricultural development. It is because of the fact that not a single village panchayat under survey has directly taken up any function of agricultural development. In a way, it is the failure of leadership at the village level for not helping agricultural development.

(iii) The panchayat leaders of the 8 villages are found young and moderately educated. They generally belong to the middle class of the landed peasantry. Between two dominant castes of
Patels and Kshatriyas, the former has an edge in all matters over the Kshatriyas.

(iv) The prevailing pattern of leadership in the sample villages have generally shown higher perception and orientation towards agricultural development than the farmers. Inadequacy of funds and financial resources of the gram panchayats do not allow them to translate their ideas in realities.

(v) The gram panchayats are least involved in agricultural development of villages. Whatever upward trend of growth found in agricultural field is due to the functioning of other agencies and institutions, like co-operatives and banks.

(vi) The panchayat leaders are not happy with diminishing role of the gram panchayats in comparison to the other institutions and agencies. According to them some kind of cooperation among Panchayats and these agencies is required to generate confidence in working of the Panchayatiraj institutions.

(vii) Imaginative policy and programmes at higher levels of PR are needed to change the potentialities of the PR leaders at village level into actualities. So that they can play more meaningful role in the rural development as the catalyst agents.

To sum up it can be said that PR leadership at the village level has shown mixed and sometimes contradictory results in relation with agricultural development. The record of the working of PR leadership since last two decades is not satisfactory. It needs active role by Panchayatiraj institutions.
at higher levels involving leaders as well as people at the grass-root level.

Since the village panchayats are the only democratically organized bodies they must be accepted as a centripetal force in working of the entire developmental set-up working for agricultural development at village level. No scheme of coordination of various agencies will provide an answer to our problems unless it has village leadership in the centre. Because it is the village panchayat leadership which ensures public participation and involvement in rural development which is the main objective of our national development.

* * * * *
(Questionnaire for Village Farmers and Functionaries of Village Panchayat)

STATEMENT

After independence, India is engaged in a himalayan task of rural development through the active participation of the people in Panchayat - institutions established in villages, talukas or blocks and Districts.

I believe that the success of this development - activity depends upon the leadership of these Panchayat - bodies. Therefore, this is my humble effort to understand and analyse the problems of leadership in Panchayati Raj.

Please fill up the Questionnaire attached herewith and oblige me. I, hereby, assure that the information furnished by will remain completely confidential with me and will be used only in my research study for Ph.D. degree.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

(J.N. Pandya)

Home Address
D-76, University Staff Colony, At & Post: Vallabh Vidyanagar 388 120, Dist: Kheda

To
Shri ____________________________
PART - A

General Information regarding village and Village Panchayat:

1. Name of the Gram Panchayat:
   Location Code No. in Census:
   Taluka:
   District:

2. Total members of Panchayat:

3. Total Number of the employees of Panchayat:

4. Annual Income under different headings of the
   Panchayat of last five years on a separate sheet.

5. Annual expenditure under different heading of the
   Panchayat of last five years on a separate sheet.

6. Information regarding budgets passed by the Panchayat
   since last five years on a separate sheet.

7. Information regarding facilities and aids provided
   by the Panchayat to the farmers' on a separate sheet.

8. Information regarding general facilities and
   activities available in the village:
   - Whether gram panchayat possesses its own building
     for office? Yes / No
   - Distance between the village and taluka headquarters
     (in km.)
   - Distance between the village and the District
     Panchayat Headquarter (in k.m.)
   - Whether the village is attached with S.T. Bus rout?
     Yes / No, If yes, How many?
- Whether the following facilities are available in the village?
  Telephone? Yes / No
  Water supply pipe-line? Yes / No
  Drainage? Yes / No
  Public Hospital? Yes / No
  Primary School? Yes / No
  Secondary School Yes / No

- Whether following institutions/associations are working in the village?
  Cooperative Society? Yes / No
  Milk Producing Society? Yes / No
  Banks? Yes / No
  Women Association? Yes / No
  Youth Association? Yes / No

9. Whether the village panchayat has achieved/won any award or prize?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Award/Prize</th>
<th>Name of the Awarding Agency/Institution</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount in Rs.</th>
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1.
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3.
4.
5.
10. Information regarding land and agriculture of the village.

Total land under cultivation (in acres and Gunthas)_______

Waste land _________

Pasture land _________

Land under Irrigation _________

Number of wells used for irrigation _________

Number of diesel oil engines _________

Number of electric pumps _________

Number of tractors _________

Number of cattle:

- Ox _________
- Goat _________
- Cow _________
- Others _________
- Buffaloes _________

11. Information regarding farmers/cultivators and land labourers of the village.

No. of farmers who come under land ceiling Act _________

Number of marginal farmers holding land between 1 to 2 acres _________

Total number of land labourers _________

- Males _________
- Females _________

12. Major crops of the village:

1.
2.
3.
4.
13. Major fertilizers used in the village.

   1.
   2.
   3.

14. Total population of the village ________
    Males ________  Females ________

Total voters of the village ________
    Males ________  Females ________
PART - B

(For the members and position holders of the Gram Panchayat.
To be filled in by interview).

1: General Information/Particulars:
   Name:
   Age: Years:
   Caste: Sub-Caste:
   Religion:

2: Education: - Last Standard Passed:

3: Present position of the respondent -

4: Annual income of the respondent:
   Round about Rs. _____

5: Sources of Income: -
   Primary          Secondary
   Agriculture      Agriculture
   Labour          Labour
   Service          Service
   Commerce/shop    Commerce/shop
   Industry        Industry
   Any other        Any other

Particulars regarding patterns of political leadership:

6: Connection with political party:
   Are you a member of any political party? Yes/No (Give reason)
   If yes, give the following information: -
7. Regarding elections:

What was the most effective factor that gave you success in your last election? (Give mark from the following).

Your caste:
- sound financial position
- political party's support

8. Do you give any importance to agricultural development in your election campaign?
(Give mark to any one of the following)

Always
Sometimes
Never

9. Are you connected/attached with institutions other than the gram panchayat in your area?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Name of the institution</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Position holder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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</table>
10. About your personal views/trends and values:

To provide successful leadership in Gram Panchayat what is more important in your opinion? (Give mark to any three of the following).

Educational Qualifications
Good nature
Compromising attitude
Good-Family Background
Sound financial position
Social service
Any other

11. What do you think about your Panchayat activity? (Give mark to any one of the following).

As a political activity
As a constructive activity
As a professional activity
As a pass-time activity

12. For Future trends:

Are you satisfied with your present position in the Gram Panchayat? Yes/No

If opportunity comes in future do you propose to contest election of any other institution? Yes/No

For Agricultural Development

13. Are you of the opinion that all the functions of agricultural development should be performed only through the gram panchayat? Yes/No
14. Do you believe that gram panchayat in your village has achieved success in performing functions of agricultural development? Yes/No

15. If no, then in your opinion what is the most responsible factor for the failure? (Give mark to any one of the following from each group).

1: Castism 5: Inadequacy of finance
2: Groupism 6: Inadequacy of power
3: Party politics 7: Lack of know-how
4: In-activeness of the people 8: Defective Administration

16. Who helps you most whenever you take up any programme for agricultural development? (Give mark to any one from the following each group).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At village level</th>
<th>At taluka level</th>
<th>At district level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Panchayat secretary</td>
<td>2. Agricultural Officer</td>
<td>2. Agricultural Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Sarpanch</td>
<td>3. President of Taluka Panchayat</td>
<td>3. President of District Panchayat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Any other</td>
<td>Any other</td>
<td>Any other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
17. Which method do you prefer most for communication if you take up any programme of agricultural development?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method of communication</th>
<th>At village level</th>
<th>At Taluka level</th>
<th>At District level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Personal Contact</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Any other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Respondent has no idea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. How is your contact with the functionaries working in PR?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of the contact</th>
<th>At village level</th>
<th>At taluka level</th>
<th>At district level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three monthly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No idea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
19. Upto what extent the activities of the different departments of the Government working at your village, Taluka or district are directly helpful to agricultural development in the area?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Department of planning &amp; Development</th>
<th>Department of Agriculture &amp; Irrigation</th>
<th>Department of Development &amp; Revenue</th>
<th>Department of Electricity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Helpful</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>To some extent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Indifferent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>No idea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20. To whom you will give priority if you have to distribute money available from funds of the Panchayat or from any other sources? (Give priority to the following):

Cleanliness  Agricultural Development
Roads       Light
Any other
Facility for Drinking water
Educational Facility

21. If you give priority to agricultural development then to whom you will give priority from the following facilities? (Give priority to the following).
1. Improved Seeds 5. Tubewells & Irrigation
2. Fertilizers 6. Loans to the farmers
3. Insecticides
4. Improved Agricultural instruments

22. How far the members of the panchayat are co-operating in implementing such programme?

    Always
    Sometimes
    Rarely

23. What are the obstacles coming in the way of implementing such programmes? (Give priority to the following)

    Lack of involvement of the people
    Unwillingness on the part of panchayat's personnel
    Unnecessary control of the Taluka Panchayat or district panchayat
    Interference of the government officials

24. What steps are necessary by your village panchayat to help farmers directly in their problems?

    1.
    2.
    3.
    4.
    5.
25. Do you believe that your gram panchayat should prepare a ten-year's plan for agricultural development? 
   Yes/No

26. What are your suggestions to have fast and effective agricultural development in your village?

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
PART - C

1. General:

District: ___________ Taluka: ___________ Village: ___________

Name: ___________ Age: ________ in years

Education: ___________ Religion: ___________

Caste: ___________ A: Experience of agricultural activity: ___________ B: Experience of other work: ___________

Total Experience: ___________.

2. About Lands:

Total land under your cultivation: Acre/Gunthas/Bighas.

3. Nature of land of your ownership

1. " by tenancy
2. " sub-tenancy
3. Under irrigation
4. privately owned irrigation facility
5. under irrigation from outside sources
6. under different types and nature of irrigation e.g. Tubewell Channel Pumpset Any other

4. About crops:

A: What are the major crops which your land is used?

1. ___________
2. ___________
3. ___________
4. ___________
5. What is your opinion about the facilities given by the co-operative society?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Facilities given</th>
<th>Seeds</th>
<th>Chemical fertilizers</th>
<th>Natural Insecticides</th>
<th>Loans</th>
<th>Any other fertilizers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Adequate in quantity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Adequate in quality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>In time</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>No idea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. What are the facilities available in your village or nearby village to sell agricultural produces and purchase things for farming?

7. What do you feel about the present price of the agricultural inputs?
   Too High
   Reasonable
   Low
8. What do you think about the price fixed by the government for agricultural produces?
   Too high
   Reasonable
   Low

9. What difficulties are you facing due to the present system of distribution of inputs? (give priority to the following):
   Inadequacy of quantity
   Inadequacy of quality
   Delay
   Any other

10. How many times the major crops of your land have failed? (since last five years).
   1.
   2.
   3.
   4.

11. What are the main reasons for the failure of crops in your land?
   1.
   2.
   3.
   4.
   5.
12. For agricultural development:

Government has implemented various projects and programmes for agricultural development. In your opinion how far your village has got advantage of the following?

(give priority in each group)

1. Improved seeds
2. Fertilizers
3. Insecticides
4. Improvement of agricultural instruments
5. Tubewells or irrigation
6. Loans or financial help
7. No idea

13. What is the most helpful institution in your village in implementing your work? (give mark to the following in priority).

Gram Panchayat
Co-operative society
Bank
Agricultural Department
Any other

14. Are you of the opinion that all the functions regarding agricultural development should be done by the village panchayat? Yes/No

15. If no, then give the priority to the following reasons:

- Groupism in the members of the panchayat.
- Party politics
- Tendency to give benefit to the relatives or supporters
- Fear that it will give maximum advantage to the big farmers.
16. When you try to do any thing done by for the agricultural development who helps you most? (give mark to any one of each group).

At village level
- Gram sevak (V.L.W.)
- Sarpanch of Panchayat
- Secretary of Panchayat
- Members of Panchayat
- No idea

At taluka level
- T.D.O.
- Agricultural officer
- President of taluka Panchayat
- Members of taluka Panchayat
- No idea

At district level
- D.D.O.
- Agricultural officer
- President of district Panchayat
- Members of district Panchayat
- No idea

17. Would you suggest any other programmes to add the income of the small and marginal farmers (having 1 - 2 acres).

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.