

Babrol Village at a Glance

VK Chopde, M Bhattarai, UK Deb and MCS Bantilan

I. INTRODUCTION

Babrol village is in Santrampur taluka of Panchmahal district, Gujarat. It is 8 km away from taluka headquarters – Santrampur, and about 85 km from the district headquarters of Godhra. Babrol village is located about 155 km east of Gandhi Nagar, state capital of Gujarat. In terms of location, Babrol is located on the boundary between Panchmahal and Dahod districts of Gujarat state, with geospatial location as of 23° 11' 16.4" N and 73° 57' 23.1" E.

Babrol is also one of the four biggest villages in the Panchmahal district of Gujarat, and is spread over about 12.5 square km, with a length of 5 km and a width of about 2.5 km. Very scattered settlements (scattered houses or hamlets) are found in Babrol. However, Babrol is also in a very fast pace of transition from a tribal form of rural livelihood to a more settled, farming based livelihood,

with adoption of modern agricultural technologies and crop management practices. Santrampur is one of the poorest talukas of Gujarat state, and thus Babrol village as such falls under one of the poorest categories of villages in Gujarat and in northwestern India.

The Research Program on Markets, Institutions and Policies (RP-MIP) of ICRISAT under the research project on "Village Dynamics in South Asia (VDSA)", to track changes in rural poverty in household and village economies in South Asia, has selected 18 villages in five states of SAT India for in-depth study on village economy. This includes four different villages from the state of Gujarat, and Babrol is one of them, also representing socioeconomic and agricultural production pattern of the tribal region of northwest India. In this context, this village-at-a-glance document has been prepared with the objectives of providing ready-made and handy information on basic statistics and





socioeconomic and institutional characteristics of the village – Babrol. This information would be expected to be useful to researchers and development planners in getting basic information about the farming systems and socio-institutional features of the village.

II. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND / DEVELOPMENT OF THE VILLAGE

Social: According to key informants and old farmers, the village “Babrol” was established about 400 years ago. In Babrol, the majority of the population belongs to eight major castes (communities), Patel, Rajput, Tadavi, Malivad, Amaliyar, Vadi, Mal and Harijan. Each of the castes implies certain occupation groups and specialized livelihood earning activities in the rural lives. Moreover, the village is dominated by the Tadavi community, who belong to the tribal caste, ie, ‘Adivasi’ Bheel. This community is a dominant tribal community in the Panchmahal district, and in that part of Gujarat as such. For example, over 90% of the population in Babrol village belongs to the Bheel community. Out of a total of 750 families/households, only a few are from high caste communities –15 families are from Kadwa Patel and 17 families from Rajput caste.

The village is divided into 11 colonies (hamlets or settlements), locally called *phaliya* and it is known by major caste based groups who are staying in that particular *phaliya* (or settlement). Some of the larger scale of such *phaliya* includes Patel *phaliya*, Amaliyar *phaliya*, Dungra *phaliya*, Vadali *phaliya*, Zavari *phaliya*, and so on. In addition, many of the adivasis (families) stay in temporary houses close to their crop fields, which are usually small houses cum cattle-shed and storage area. Patel families stay in the village and they have well-constructed big houses. Despite being

inhabited by many castes, there are no caste barriers and discrimination (or taboo) in the village. People from all castes can sit on the same *Khatia* (Cart) or any other platform; also there are no major noticeable disputes in the court because of infighting between castes, or social groups. During the focus group discussions, several elder farmers reported that until two generation ago, the villagers in this area used to work on the land belonging to local kingship, or Rajauria system of land tenure; and who used to pay annual rental (tax) to the kingship and local Rajputs (ruling class at that time).

Political: Babrol village panchayat consists of ten wards. Among the total seats of panchayat members, 1/3rd seats are reserved for women, including the position of the head of the panchayat sabha (village council), which is now represented by a woman member from the Bheel Community. The village has its own panchayat building constructed in 2010. There are two dominant political groups in the village that are political rivals, but the leaders/prominent positions of both parties are dominated by the members of the Adivasi Bheel caste.

Economic: The main source of livelihood for the villagers is agriculture production and earning wages from agricultural as well as non-farm work. Many members from the village go to work in agricultural fields in the Saurashtra region located in south-western part of Gujarat, with a developed agricultural production and agri-business. A good number of people from this village are also working as casual laborers like masons, waiters in hotels, and in factories in nearby cities such as Surat, Ahmedabad and Vadodara. Thus, income from seasonal migration is another major source of income for a large number of households in the village, especially landless and poor households.



The Rajput and Patel caste households (people) possess more land holding compared to the majority households such as the Bheel community. In addition, the lands belonging to Patels and Rajputs are usually of good quality and with a better access to irrigation facility (open well or bore-well), located near road heads, and they usually cultivate rice, wheat and groundnut in their irrigated plots.

Nevertheless, for the majority of farmers, maize is the main crop in *kharif* season, followed by paddy and pigeonpea. During the postrainy season, chickpea and wheat are the two crops cultivated by many households, followed by bajra (pearl millet) and other minor pulses.

Bullocks as well as manually operated machineries are popular for cultivation and intercultural operations. Recently, power operated machinery like tractor, thresher, groundwater pumps, etc, are also becoming popular. Most of the farmers have kept their own livestock and mulching animals (cows); income from milk-sale to the milk cooperative is also a major source of livelihood for many households.



The wage rates followed for male and female laborers for working in farming are the same, ie, ` 100-150/day and for working in non-farm activities it is ` 150-200/day. More than 200 people from this village are working in government services as teachers, clerks, police personnel, and some are Deputy Collectors and Collectors. Many of them live outside the village too. A few members of this village are also working in abroad. Compared to other parts of Gujarat, Babrol village is a tribal community, as the majority of the households belong to tribal castes; they are mostly 2nd or 3rd generation farmers.

Technological: Compared to many other places (villages) in Gujarat, Babrol village is lagging behind in adoption of new farm technologies because of lack of awareness, irrigation facility and small land holding per household. Under the Indo-German watershed project, the officials encouraged farmers to grow vegetables under irrigated land and provided them improved seed, pesticides and fertilizers, which led to increased crop acreage under vegetables. Usually, only high caste people, and/or, educated people use HYV seeds and fertilizers.





Recently, farmers have been attracted to bore-wells for irrigating their fields. About ten bore-wells are in working condition in the village. In recent years, some farmers are using improved seeds and fertilizer for cultivation of maize, chickpea and wheat. About 10 years ago, all cows here were local types, not a single cross-bred cow was there in the village, but recently 10 improved cows have been purchased by villagers with partial support from the Government Welfare Program.

Institutional: Babrol village has a separate Gram Panchayat, milk collection center of Panchmahal Co-operative dairy and sub center of Primary Health Center (PHC). There are 11 primary schools, one secondary school, and one junior college. Besides, seven Anganwadi centers have been established to take care of women and for child development initiatives. This village has its own post office since 1967. There are four bhajan mandals and eight women self-help groups in the village.

Infrastructural: The village is well connected to taluka and District headquarters by tarred roads, with nearly 6-8 km of tarred road constructed inside the village. Most of the houses are electrified since early 2000s. Until last year (2012), there were nearly 250 hand pumps actively used in the village for improving access to drinking water. The State water supply unit has provided one solar plant unit for providing drinking water to the villagers. There is no Primary Health Center or community hall in the village. A state transport bus goes from this village to Santrampur twice a day. In addition, private jeeps and autos also cater to the needs of villagers to reach the nearby cities.

Educational: Many of the villagers seem to be aware about the value of education and so are giving high priority for education. Almost all students eligible for education are regularly attending the school in the

village. There are 7 Anganwadis, 11 primary and upper primary schools, including one boarding school in the village. The first primary school was established in the year 1953. There is one secondary school within the village. Babrol is one among the ten villages in the district having good results in the Standard 10 board examinations. A Junior College was started in the village during 2011–12. Attendance of girls is more than boys in the school. Babrol village is the place of residence of one Collector, Deputy Collector, District Superintendent of Police, two Tehasildars, 30-35 clerks and around 125 teachers. Besides, there are 8–10 people working abroad.

Religious: All villagers belong to the Hindu religion. Villagers celebrate Makar Sankranti, Holi, Janmastami, Navratri, Dussera and Diwali. Besides, they celebrate National festivals like Independence Day (15 August), Republic Day (26 January) and Gandhi Jayanti (2 October). In the tribal community, girl children marry at the age of 15–17 and boys marry at 18–20 years of age.



III. BASIC STATISTICS OF THE VILLAGE

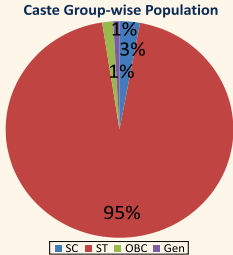
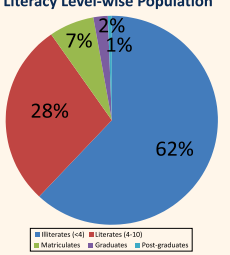
A) LOCATION/ACCESSIBILITY

- Village: **Babrol**
- Tehsil: **Santrampur**
- District: **Panchmahal**
- State: **Gujarat**
- PIN: **389260**
- GPS values: (a) Latitude: **23° 11' 16.4" N** (b) Longitude: **73° 57' 23.1" E** (c) Altitude (m): **197**
- Nearest town: (a) Name: **Santrampur** (b) Distance from village (km): **9**
- Nearest State Highway: (a) Number: **SH 59** (b) Distance from village (km): **5**
- Nearest National Highway: (a) Number: **NH 8** (b) Distance from village (km): **45**
- Name of the Village Panchayat in which the village falls: **Babrol**
- Details of the Sarpanch/Village Panchayat President: (a) Name: **Mrs Dakshaben Maheshbhai Taviyad** (b) Cell No: **9909734115**
- Details of the Gram Sevak/Agricultural Assistant: (a) Name: **Mr Babubhai Haribhai Patel** (b) Cell No: **9429291196**

B) DEMOGRAPHY (in 2012)

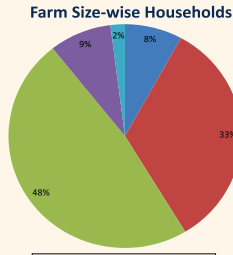
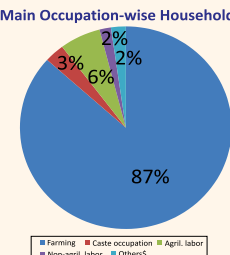
- Population (No): **4500**
- Households (No): **750**
- Voters (No): **2500**
- Farmer accounts/*Khatas* (No): **1702**

5. Classification of population:

Category	No.	Farm Size*	No.	Religion	No.	Caste	No.	Literacy	No.	Gender	No.
SC	130	Landless	490	Hindu	4498	Bheel	4289	Illiterates (<4)	2790	Male	1792
ST	4260	Marginal	1380	Jain	2	Patel	70	Literates (4-10)	1275	Female	1635
OBC	70	Small	2160			Rajput	63	Matriculates	310	Children	1073
General	40	Medium	390			Vadi	41	Graduates	98	(<14y)	
		Large	80			Harijan	26	Post-graduates	27		
						Jain	11				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Caste Group-wise Population</p> <p>SC: 1%, ST: 3%, OBC: 1%, Gen: 95%</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Literacy Level-wise Population</p> <p>Illiterates (<4): 28%, Literates (4-10): 62%, Matriculates: 7%, Graduates: 2%, Post-graduates: 1%</p> </div> </div>											
Total	4500		4500		4500		4500		4500		4500

* <0.1 ha=Landless; 0.1-1 ha=Marginal; 1-2 ha=Small; 2-4 ha=Medium; >4 ha=Large.

6. Classification of households: Male-headed (No): **720** Female-headed (No): **30**

Category	No.	Farm Size*	No.	Religion	No.	Caste	No.	Main occupation	No.
SC	38	Landless	60	Hindu	748	Bheel	670	Farming	650
ST	688	Marginal	250	Jain	2	Patel	15	Caste occupation	23
OBC	15	Small	360			Rajput	17	Agri.labor	47
General	9	Medium	65			Harijan	21	Non-agri.labor	13
		Large	15			Vadi	25	Others\$	17
						Jain	2		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Farm Size-wise Households</p> <p>Landless: 9%, Marginal: 2%, Small: 8%, Medium: 33%, Large: 48%</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Main Occupation-wise Households</p> <p>Farming: 87%, Caste occupation: 2%, Agri.labor: 6%, Non-agri.labor: 3%, Others\$: 2%</p> </div> </div>									
Total	750		750		750		750		750

* <0.1 ha=Landless; 0.1-1 ha=Marginal; 1-2 ha=Small; 2-4 ha=Medium; >4 ha=Large;

\$ including salaried, money lenders, middlemen, service sector, etc.

C) LAND USE PATTERN (2009-10)

1. Distribution of Geographical Area:

Particulars	Ha
Agricultural land	930
Forest	316
Wastelands	9
Land used for roads, buildings and non-agricultural purposes	544
Total Geographical Area	1799

2. Cropped Area:

Season	Ha
<i>Kharif</i>	952
<i>Rabi</i>	437
Summer	0.00
Annual/Perennial crops	0.00
Gross Cropped Area	1389

3. Irrigated Area:

Season	Ha
<i>Kharif</i>	430
<i>Rabi</i>	164
Summer	0.00
Annual/Perennial crops	0.00
Gross irrigated area in <i>Rabi</i> (%)	594.0

D) LAND RESOURCES

1. Soil distribution:

Soil type	% area
Medium black	30
Shallow black	60
Red	10

2. Irrigation sources (as on 31 December 2010):

Sources	Total No.	Working No.	Approx. depth (m) of working wells	Irrigated area (ha yr ⁻¹)
Bore-well	30	12	83	11
Open well	290	210	30	584
			Approx. land area covered (ha)	
Ponds	0	0	0	0

3. Rainfall (Jun'9-May'10):

(a) Quantity (mm yr⁻¹):
(b) No. of rainy days:

Normal: **859** Actual: 821.8
Normal: **38.6** Actual: 37

E) CROP PRODUCTION (2009-10)

Kharif		Rabi		Summer		Annual/Perennial Crops	
Crops	Area (ha)	Crops	Area (ha)	Crops	Area (ha)	Crops	Area (ha)
Maize	713	Chickpea	275				
Paddy	166	Wheat	101				
Pigeonpea	73	Maize	61				
Total	952		437				

F) ASSETS (as on 31 December 2010)

1. Productive Assets:

Livestock		Heavy Machinery	
Type	No.	Type	No.
Cow(indigenous)	800	Tractor	6
Buffalo	350	Thresher	3
Bullock	980	Cart	21
Goat	800	Jeep	7
		Flour mill	12
Milk sale (lt/day)	1400		

2. Consumer Assets:

Type	No.
Television	42
Refrigerator	26
Air conditioner	3
LPG connection	38
Dish Antenna	30
Motorbike	73
Car/jeep	13
Computer	2

3. Buildings:

Type	No.
Houses-pucca	380
Houses-kuchha	310
Houses-thatched	60
Cattle sheds	33
Storage godowns	10
Underground storage structures	2

G) BASIC NEEDS (as on 31 December 2010)

- Type of food (No. of households): (a) Pure vegetarian: **750** (b) Non-Vegetarian: **0**
- Type of clothes: (a) Men: **Pants/dhoti and shirt** (b) Women: **Sari and blouse**
- Type of houses: (a) Pucca: 380 (b) Kuchcha: 310 (c) Thatched: 60

H) INFRASTRUCTURE (as on 31 December 2010)

- Village electrification: **Yes** No. of houses having access to electricity: **670**
- Tar/metal/cement road to village: **Yes**
- Is there a tar/metal/cement road inside the village? **Yes** Length of road (km): **8**
- Public transport facility:
Public/private bus facility to village: **Yes** No. of trips/day from town to village: **2**
Other modes of travel available? **Yes** Mode(s) available: **Auto, Jeep**
- Drinking water facility: **Yes** Source(s): **Open well, Bore well and Hand pump (46)**
Tap connections available? **No** Number of connections:
- Public toilet/urinal facility: **No** Number of units available:
- Public health facility: **No** PHC sub-center: **1**
- Veterinary health facility: **No** Distance to nearest facility (km): **4**
- Banking facility: **No**

10. Educational facilities:

Level	Number of institutions	Enrolment (Number)	
		Male	Female
Pre-primary (Anganwadi)	5	199	212
Primary (1-7 years)	6	352	343
Higher Secondary (8-10 years)	1	185	181
College (11-12 years)	1	35	35

11. Agricultural input shops:

Input	Available in village?	If no, nearest available place	Distance from village (km)
Seed	No	Santrampur	10
Fertilizer	No	Santrampur	10
Pesticide	No	Santrampur	10
Machinery – Purchase	No	Santrampur	10
Machinery – Custom hiring	No	Santrampur	10

- Agricultural output market: Weekly shandy (market) in the village? **No**
No. of wholesale traders/commission agents in the/visiting the village: **3**

- Storage godowns/warehouses: **No**

14. Other business units (number):

Grocery shop: 6	PDS Shop: 1	Kerosene shop: 1
Flour Mill: 12	Pan Shop: 14	Carpenter: 6
Potter: 2	TV/Radio mechanic: 1	Cycle repair shop: 1
Money lenders: 3		

15. Other institutions (number):

SHG Mandal: 8	NGO: 2	Milk Dairies: 2
Post Office: 1	Dispute Resolution Committee: 1	Bhajan Mandal: 3

16. Place of worship (No):

Temple: **1**

I) GOVERNMENT WELFARE PROGRAMS RECENTLY IMPLEMENTED (as on 31 December 2010)

SN	Government Program	Beneficiaries (No.of households)	Total Amount spend (` in lakhs)
1	Public Distribution System (PDS)	625	NA
2	TSP (Vanbandhu Kalyan yojana)	500	6
3	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)	380	20.42
4	Indo-German watershed development program	160	1.25
5	Horticulture garden	20	1.6
6	Agriculture (BPL kits)	18	0.504
7	Jeevandhara (Irrigation well)	8	3.36
8	DRDA (District rural development Agency)	6	2.4
9	Animal Husbandry (BPL Kits)	5	0.25
10	Gujarat Land Development Corporation (GLDC)	5	3
11	Assistance to widows	2	0.12
12	Solar Plant	Whole village	0.5
13	Krishi Mahotasava	Whole village	NA



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ICRISAT is headquartered in Patancheru near Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India, with two regional hubs and five country offices in sub-Saharan Africa. It is a member of the CGIAR Consortium. CGIAR is a global research partnership for a food secure future.

ICRISAT-Patancheru (Headquarters)
Patancheru 502 324
Andhra Pradesh, India
Tel +91 40 30713071
Fax +91 40 30713074
icrisat@cgiar.org

**ICRISAT-Liaison Office
CG Centers Block**
NASC Complex
Dev Prakash Shastri Marg
New Delhi 110 012, India
Tel +91 11 32472306 to 08
Fax +91 11 25841294

ICRISAT- Kano
PMB 3491
Sabo Bakin Zuwo Road,
Tarauni, Kano, Nigeria
Tel: +234 7034889836;
+234 8054320384
+234 8033556795
icrisat-kano@cgiar.org

**ICRISAT-Bamako
(Regional hub WCA)**
BP 320
Bamako, Mali
Tel +223 20 709200
Fax +223 20 709201
icrisat-w-mali@cgiar.org

ICRISAT-Bulawayo
Matopos Research Station
PO Box 776
Bulawayo, Zimbabwe
Tel +258 383 311 to 15
Fax +263 383 307
icrisatzw@cgiar.org

ICRISAT-Niamey
BP 12404, Niamey
Niger (Via Paris)
Tel +227 20722529,
20722725
Fax +227 20734329
icrisatnc@cgiar.org

**ICRISAT-Nairobi
(Regional hub ESA)**
PO Box 39063, Nairobi,
Kenya
Tel +254 20 7224550
Fax +254 20 7224001
icrisat-nairobi@cgiar.org

ICRISAT-Maputo
c/o IIAM, Av. das FPLM No 2698
Caixa Postal 1906
Maputo, Mozambique
Tel +258 21 461657
Fax +258 21 461581
icrisatmoz@panintra.com

ICRISAT-Lilongwe
Chitedze Agricultural
Research Station
PO Box 1096
Lilongwe, Malawi
Tel +265 1 707297, 071, 067, 057
Fax +265 1 707298
icrisat-malawi@cgiar.org

www.icrisat.org