

Chatha Village at a Glance

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I. INTRODUCTION

Chatha village is located in Goghamba taluka of Panchmahal district in the middle region of Gujarat. The nearest market town from the village is Goghamba and Devagadh Bariya. The village settlement is located on 22° 38' 12.8" North latitude and 73° 46' 43.5" East longitude. The main settlement of the village is located 28 km southeast of the district headquarter Godhra and taluka headquarter Goghamba, and is 164 km away from state capital Gandhinagar. The Gujarat State Road Transportation Corporation - GSRTC (state transport) - bus comes to Chatha from Godhra three times a day, and the buses return to Godhra each time. In addition, autos and private vans from the nearby market town cater to the needs of the villagers. The village is located 7 km towards the south from Damawah, a market at the road-juncture located on the Pavagadh to Devagadh Bariya highway.

Under funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), the Markets, Institutions and Policies Research Program (RP-MIP) of ICRISAT under the project "Village Dynamics in South Asia (VDSA)" has selected 18 villages in five states of SAT India, which includes four villages from the state of Gujarat. Chatha village (Chatha) is one of them, and represents the socioeconomic and agricultural production pattern of the tribal region of northwest India. VDSA is tracking changes in rural poverty in household and village economies in South Asia. In this connection, this Village at a Glance document has been prepared with the objectives of providing readymade and handy information on basic statistics and socioeconomic and institutional characteristics of the village - Chatha. This document is expected to be useful to researchers and rural development planners in getting basic information and socio-institutional features of the village at a quick glance.





II. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND / DEVELOPMENT OF THE VILLAGE

General context and social fabric: According to key informant farmers, the first settlement in the village was established about 300 years ago. Over 12 castes are prevalent, among them the Bariya caste is dominant over the others. Bariya is a tribal community and the community that started farming on their land just 1-2 generations ago. Patel, Rathwa, Tadvī, Chamatha, Nayak, Patelia, Rajput, Koli, Harijan are the other important castes found in the village. Compared to many other parts of Gujarat, no major caste barriers are noticed in the village, as people (farmers) from all castes can sit on the same platform and participate in a group meeting jointly. There are no obviously seen physical barriers between people from Harijan and upper castes (OBC).

By and large, all OBC families are considered as rich households, whereas all families belonging to castes such as Harijan, Nayak, Patelia STs are relatively poor and less empowered. In fact, a large part of the Panchmahal district comes under the Tribal Development area jurisdiction of the state government of Gujarat, and major inhabitants of the Chatha village also belong to the tribal community. Farming started in the village just 2-3 generations prior to the present inhabitants of the village.

Political: The Gram Panchayat (administration) of Chatha village consists of seven elected members. The Sarpanch is elected directly from among the villagers since the 2001 general election in the state (Gujarat). Earlier, it was a part of a Gram Panchayat consisting of three villages. The Sarpanch is the executive officer and the Gram Sevak is the secretary of the Gram Panchayat. There are two dominant political parties in the village,

headed by local leaders belonging to the Scheduled Tribe (ST) community. However, major decisions in both the parties are usually taken by people belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBC), though the population-wise majority of households (population) in the village are from the ST group. The first Sarpanch of Chatha village was Ms Manchiben Patelia belonging to the ST Community and was illiterate. At present, the Panchayat members come from different social groups and cast structures: ladies (2), ST (4) and OBC (2). The role of the Village Gram Panchayat institution is becoming more prominent, especially after the construction of the Village Gram Panchayat's own building in the village.

Economic: According to the villagers' perspectives, the per capita income of the average household has been increased in recent times. Farming, especially crop production activities, is the major economic activity in the village, as more than 60-70% of the income of a large number of households is generated from agriculture and allied activities. Cereal crops such as rice, maize and pulse crops such as pigeonpeas are widely cultivated. The overall cropping intensity of Chatha village is much lower than other developed parts of the state; however, the cropping intensity and crop intensification in general has increased over time.

Many members of the village are also working as casual laborers in nearby cities such as Ahmedabad, Surat, Godhra and Vadodara. Likewise, many of them are also working as mason laborers (construction industry) in other nearby district-towns. The young people are also attracted to either Government or private sector jobs outside the village and district. The OBC and Rajput caste households, by and large, hold more land per household, and also good quality land with good irrigation facilities, compared to the people of the majority caste like the Bariya. Production and selling of milk 450 Lt (dairy) is another important source of income for many households



in the villages. There are more than 300 she-buffaloes and over 100 cows of which 10% are cross breed. A milk collection center of 'Panchmahal Co-operative Dairy' has also been set up in the village about 15 years ago. Likewise, in 2011/12, four households bought their own tractors and one household got a thresher, which they have also been renting out to other farmers. During the off-season, tractors are also used for local transportation purposes. The agricultural wage rates in the village in 2011/12 were as follows: Farm work: Male - `100–120 per day; Female: `80–100 per day.

Non-farm work: Male - `150–200 per day; Female - `100–120 per day.

As in many other places in Gujarat and in other states of India, a differential wage rate is followed for male and female agricultural laborers: the wage rate for women for working in farms is about 25% lower than that of their male counterparts.

Technological: Recently, due to better market accessibility, adoption of hybrid and high yielding varieties of maize, wheat and paddy have also seen

an increasing trend. About 40% of maize, wheat and paddy are under the HYV seeds, which is still much lower than many other places in Gujarat. The recent intervention of State Government programs like 'Krishi Mahotsav' has also contributed greatly in the adoption of HYV of these cereal crops.

It has been observed that more number of OBC and Rajput caste households have adopted hybrids and HYV seeds of the food crops than others; they also make up the rich households in the village. Farmers use very low dose of fertilizer, that too mostly for irrigated *rabi* crops such as maize, wheat and chickpeas. Likewise, tractors are commonly used for land preparation and transporting of farm produce. There is one thresher in the village, which is used for threshing wheat, paddy and maize. Use of pesticides and insecticides is limited. Low-cost sprinkler or drip irrigation technologies have not yet been introduced in the village. In case of livestock, less than 10% cows are cross breed. In general, compared to other developed regions of Gujarat, adaptation of new technologies in agriculture is at an infant stage, which is due to the lack of awareness of new farm technologies





among farmers, lack of purchasing power of farmers, and poor economic condition of farmers to adopt such practices.

Institutional: Recently, a separate Gram Panchayat for Chatha village has been set up, and it is functioning in its own building since 2001. A milk collection center of 'Panchmahal Co-operative Dairy' has been operating in the village since 1996. There are three self-help groups (SHG) of female members in the village; each group consists of 10–12 women members belonging to different castes, with the total beneficiaries being around 35 households. The SHG members conduct meetings every month and contribute for saving a fixed amount on a monthly basis. A primary school, an upper primary school, and 3 *Anganwadis* (pre-school for children) have been established and are functioning well, all supported by the government fund.

Infrastructural: The village is connected by a tar road to the taluka and adjoining districts, and is also within a distance of 25 km from the national highway. Just 10 years ago, all the roads in the village were *kachha* (temporary road without gravel/tar). Recently, a concrete road of nearly 3.5 km has been constructed inside the village, supported under the state government welfare program. The village is well-electrified with more than 90% of houses having electricity. Around 30% houses are *pucca* (or concrete) houses. Nearly 55 open dug wells and 46 hand pumps cater to the drinking water needs of the villagers. Nevertheless, they have to travel 5 km for basic access to a primary health centre (PHC) and post office services.

Educational: Chatha village has a literacy of about 45 percent. Young females have almost the same literacy level as their young male counterparts. There are two schools in the village: one primary (classes 1-4) and one upper primary school (classes 5-8). Nearly 232 boys and 203 girls were attending the school in 2011.

After Class 8, for higher education, students have to go to Chatha village, which is located more than 1 km away from the main settlement of Chatha village. For school-going students, free text books and uniforms are provided by the state government of Gujarat. There are 3 *Anganwadi* programs (pre-school program) in the village, benefiting 47 boys and 32 girls. Almost all school-age children are attending the school. Contradictory to many other places in India, the percentage of girl students going for higher studies is more than boys in Chatha village. Parents are happy to spend more money on the education of girls than on boys in Chatha village, which is also due to local tribal tradition and the more important role of women members in everyday decision-making in local tribal culture followed in the area.

Religious: All households (and castes) in the village belong to the Hindu religion. Religion plays an important role in the daily life of villagers. Participation in fairs and festivals and visit to holy places carry special importance among the Hindus. The popular places of pilgrimage near the village are Pavagadh and Sarsa Sansthan, near Anand. The popular festivals celebrated in the village are Diwali, Holy, Dussera, Janmastami, Makar Sankranti, Raksha Bandhan and Param Guru Sat Kaiwal Saheb Pragat day.



III. BASIC STATISTICS OF THE VILLAGE

A) LOCATION/ACCESSIBILITY

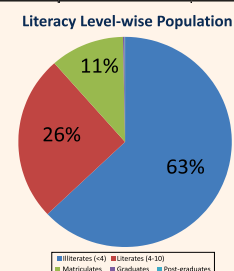
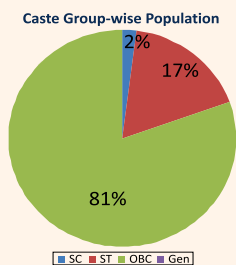
- Village: **Chatha**
- Tehsil: **Ghogamba**
- District: **Panchmahal**
- State: **Gujarat**
- PIN: **389341**
- GPS values: (a) Latitude: **22° 38'12.8" N** (b) Longitude: **73° 46'43.5" E** (c) Altitude (m): **196**
- Nearest town: (a) Name: **Godhra** (b) Distance from village (km): **27**
- Nearest State Highway: (a) Highway Number: **155** (b) Distance from village (km): **7**
- Nearest National Highway: (a) Highway Number: **NH 59** (b) Distance from village (km): **27**
- Name of the Village Panchayat in which the village falls: **Chatha Gram Panchayat**
- Sarpanch/Village Panchayat President (in 2012):
(a) Name: **Mr Pateliya Bharat Bhai Rup Singh** (b) Cell No: **09825862454**
- Gram Sevak/Agricultural Assistant:
(a) Name: **Patel Harsukbhai Raysingh** (b) Cell No: **9427686966**

B) DEMOGRAPHY (in 2012)

- Population (No): **1951**
- Households (No): **289**
- Voters (No): **1258**
- Farmer accounts/Khatas (No): **184**

5. Classification of population:

Category	No.	Farm Size*	No.	Religion	No.	Caste	No.	Literacy	No.	Gender	No.
SC	39	Landless	115	Hindu	1951	Harijan	39	Illiterates (<4)	1228	Male	621
ST	341	Marginal	1003			Koli	10	Literates (4-10)	498	Female	676
OBC	1571	Small	554			Rajput	04	Matriculates	219	Children (<14y)	654
		Medium	192			Bariya	898	Graduates	05		
		Large	87			Tadvi	65	Post-graduates	01		
						Rathwa	76				
						Patel	421				
						Chamatha	57				
						Nayak (ST)	135				
						Nayak (OBC)	41				
						Pateliya (ST)	71				
						Pateliya (OBC)	134				
Total	1951		1951		1951		1951		1951		1951

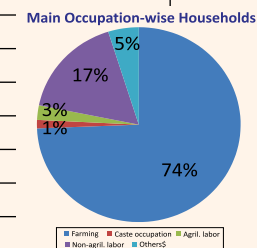
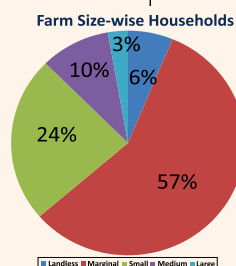


*<0.2 ha=Landless; 0.2-<2.5 ha=Marginal; 2.5-<5 ha=Small; 5-10 ha=Medium; >10 ha=Large

Source: VDSA census in the village, 2009 (ICRISAT).

6. Classification of households: Male-headed (No): **285** Female-headed (No): **04**

Category	No.	Farm Size*	No.	Religion	No.	Caste	No.	Main occupation	No.
SC	04	Landless	18	Hindu	289	Harijan	04	Farming	215
ST	56	Marginal	166			Koli	01	Agril.labour	07
OBC	229	Small	69			Rajput	01	Non-agril.labour	49
		Medium	28			Bariya	133	Caste occupation	04
		Large	08			Tadvi	09	Others\$	14
						Rathwa	14		
						Patel	56		
						Chamatha	10		
						Nayak (ST)	21		
						Nayak (OBC)	06		
						Pateliya (ST)	13		
						Pateliya (OBC)	21		
Total	289		289		289		289		289



*<0.2 ha=Landless; 0.2-<2.5 ha=Marginal; 2.5-<5 ha=Small; 5-10 ha=Medium; >10 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	433
Forest	25
Waste lands	118
Total Geographical Area	576

2. Cropped Area:

Season	Ha
<i>Kharif</i>	1080
<i>Rabi</i>	260
Summer	8
Gross Cropped Area	1348

3. Irrigated Area:

Season	Ha
<i>Kharif</i>	
<i>Rabi</i>	59
Summer	6
Gross irrigated area in <i>Rabi</i> (%)	23%

D) LAND RESOURCES

1. Soil distribution:

Soil type	% area
Medium black	30
Shallow black	15
Red	55

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

Sources	Total No.	Working No.	Approx. depth (m) of working wells	Irrigated area (ha yr ⁻¹)
Borewell	2	2	160	6
Open well	40	40	55	49
			Approx. land area covered (ha)	
Ponds	0	0	0	0
Tanks	0	0	0	0
River	1	1	6'-10'	4

3. Rainfall (Jun'10-May'11):

(a) Quantity (mm yr⁻¹):

Normal: **890**

Actual: 1170

(b) No. of rainy days:

Normal: **46**

Actual: 50

E) CROP PRODUCTION (2009-10)

Kharif		Rabi		Summer		Annual/Perennial Crops	
Crops	Area (ha)	Crops	Area (ha)	Crops	Area (ha)	Crops	Area (ha)
Maize	590	Maize	245	Groundnut	6		0
Paddy	280	Wheat	15	Pearl millet	2		
Pigeonpea	170						
Blackgram	40						
Total	1080		260		8		0

F) ASSETS (as on 31 December 2010)

1. Productive Assets:

Livestock		Heavy Machinery	
Type	No.	Type	No.
Cow (indigenous)	78	Tractor	04
Cow (exotic)	08	Thresher	01
Buffalo	307	Cart	05
Bullock	452	Auto	03
Goat	949	Van	02
Poultry	548	Flour mill	04
Other (Specify):		Other (specify):	
Pig	23		
Milk sale (l/day)			

2. Consumer Assets:

Type	No.
Television	11
Refrigerator	03
Dish antenna	05
Motorbike	32
Computer	2
Other (specify):	

3. Buildings:

Type	No.
Houses-pucca	172
Houses-kuchha	93
Houses-thatched	24
Cattle sheds	113
Irrigation pump houses	44
Underground storage structures	3
Other (specify):	0

G) BASIC NEEDS/FOOD HABIT (as on 31 December 2010)

- Type of food (No. of households): (a) Pure vegetarian: **289** (b) Non-Vegetarian: **0**
- Type of clothes: (a) Men: **Dhoti and jubba; pants & shirt**
(b) Women: **Sari with blouse; pyjamas and kurta**

H) INFRASTRUCTURE (as on 31 December 2010)

- Village electrification: **Yes** No. of houses having access to electricity: **90%**
- Tar/metal/cement road to village: **Yes**
- Is there a tar/metal/cement road inside the village? **Yes** Length of the inside road (km): **3.5**
- Public transport facility:
Public/private bus facility to village: **Yes** No. of trips/day from town to village: **03**
Other modes of travel available? **Yes** Mode(s) available: Auto
- Drinking water facility: **Yes** Source(s): Open well, Hand pump (46)
Tap connections available? **No** Number of connections:
- Public toilet/urinal facility: **Yes** Number of units available: **01**
- Public health facility: **No** PHC sub-center: Private doctors: **01**
If no, distance to nearest PHC/private doctor (km): **5**
- Veterinary health facility: **No** Distance to nearest facility (km): **20**
- Banking facility: **No**
- Educational facilities:

Level	Number of institutions	Enrolment (Number)	
		Male	Female
Pre-primary (<i>Anganwadi</i>)	3	47	34
Primary (1-8 years)	1	232	203

11. Agricultural input shops:

Input	Available in village?	If no, nearest available place	Distance from village (km)
Seed	No	Godhra	27
Fertilizer	No	Damawah	07
Pesticide	No	Damawah	07
Machinery – Purchase	No	Godhra	27
Machinery – Custom hiring	No	Damawah	07

12. Agricultural output market:
Weekly shandy (market) in the village? **No**
No. of wholesale traders/commission agents in the/visiting the village: Nil
13. Storage godowns/warehouses: **No**
14. Other business units (number):
Grocery shop: **8** PDS Shop: **1** Kerosene shop: **1**
Flour Mill: **4** Pan Shop: **8** Carpenter: **3**
Potter: **4** Mason: **12** Cycle repair shop: **4**
Money lenders: **4** Motorcycle repair shop: **1**
15. Other institutions (number):
SHG mandal: **3** Milk dairies: **1**
Dispute Resolution Committee: **1** Bhajan mandal: **2**
16. Place of worship (No): Temple: **4**

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

SN	Government Program	Beneficiaries (No. of households)
1	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Program	122
2	Public Distribution System (PDS)	289
3	Anganwadi	80
4	Krishi Mahotsava	38
5	Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana	16
6	Vidhya Laxmi Bond	114
7	Watershed Development Program	07
8	Widow and Old-age Pension	04
9	Government Health Program	13



The **International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)** is a non-profit, non-political organization that conducts agricultural research for development in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa with a wide array of partners throughout the world. Covering 6.5 million square kilometers of land in 55 countries, the semi-arid tropics have over 2 billion people, of whom 644 million are the poorest of the poor. ICRISAT innovations help the dryland poor move from poverty to prosperity by harnessing markets while managing risks – a strategy called Inclusive Market-Oriented Development (IMOD).

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.

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