

CHAPTER – I

Rise of the Gaikwad's and establishment of the Baroda State : Condition of Transport

The process of modernization in context of transportation can be understood as an expatiation of development in a span of time. The process is possible due to contemporary political, economic and social condition. The study of economic condition in the context of transport and communication has become imperative and essential because the modes of transport are profoundly connected and related with industrial growth, development of trade and commerce, development of agriculture and other economic activities. The growth of modern transport and communication which has considerably affected the life in cities and towns and in the village of the Baroda State in particular and India in general. The traditionalism was replaced by the wind of modernism in which transport has played a vital role by breaking old age isolation of the society.

There were nearly 562 Indian states within the British Indian territories and it covered total area of 712,508 sq. meters some of them as independent or semi independent principalities came into existence in the eighteenth century on the decline of the Mughal Empire and the rise of the Marathas. Many states were annexed to the British Empire and other Indian states accepted the supremacy of the East India Company and so they were not annexed to the empire. In Gujarat, the rise of the Maratha power had already taken place under the Gaikwad's when Pilajrao founded Gaikwad state in 1721 and its territorial expansion was led by Damajirao II (1732 – 1768). In 1805, the Gaikwad accepted some of the provisions of the subsidiary Alliance and established cordial relations with the British. In 1820, the Peshwaship was abolished after the defeat of the Marathas in the fourth and the last Anglo Maratha war and all the powers of the Peshwa in Gujarat were then transferred to the British as a successor of the Peshwa. The cordial relationship between the Gaikwad and the British gave sufficient scope in maintaining peace and order and gave freehand to Gaikwad to develop the policy in favour of the Baroda State.

The Baroda State was spread over 8,127 sq. miles, one of the strongest regions of Gujarat and Indian state within the British empire. The territories of the state were scattered into three divisions of Baroda, Kadi and Navsari while the Kathiawad division was known as Amreli. Okhamandal was a part of Amreli. There was the strange manner in which the Gaikwad's dominion lied scattered over Gujarat and Kathiawad. The territories were inter-spread owing to the British sovereignty of Thane district of the Bombay presidency, Kutch to Palanpur, in the south east to the extreme north-east of the Kathiawad Baroda district in for the most part compact, lying between the Mahi and the Narmada rivers. The district of Broach (Bharuch) formed the western and the south west boundary of the Baroda State. The main block of Kadi lied to the west of the Sabarmati river. Navsari lied to the south of the Tapi, it was divided by Surat.

The district of Baroda (Vadodara) in Gujarat is a recent territorial phenomena with the emergence of Gujarat as a state of India on 1st May, 1960 out of the territories of the Bombay State. Baroda was the capital of the Gaikwad's before it was merged into the Bombay state on the 1st May 1949. ¹The ancient name of Baroda was Chandavati, Viravati mentioned in Skandh Puran. It was knows as Varpatra (leaf of Banyan tree). From 1482 to 1638 Baroda remained under the political influence of the Muslim rulers.

The modern history of the Capital of Baroda State was closely interwoven with political history of the Gaikwad's house. But Baroda did not become the capital of the state for some years. Songadh was the capital of Gaikwad's during of Pilojirao and then Damjirao II. Then it was changed to Patan.

1. James Tod, Travel in the West India (1839) P. 245

Baroda district was divided into the sub-divisions of Baroda, Dabhoi and Petlad. Dabhoi sub-division included the talukas of Dabhoi, Sinor, Sankheda, Karjan, Tilakwada, Chandod, Petlad sub-division included the talukas of Petlad, Padra, Savli, Vaghodia and Peta taluka of Bhadran.

Kadi district was divided into sub-divisions of Patan, Visnagar and Kadi. Patan Sub-division included talukas of Patan, Chanasama, Siddhpur, Kheralu, Peta Mahal of Harij. Visnagar sub-division included the talukas of Visnagar Mehsana. Kadi division included talukas of Kadi, Kalol, Vijapur, Dehgam and Petataluka of Attarsamba.

Navsari sub-division was divided into the sub-division of Vyara and Kamrej. The Vyara sub-division included the talukas of Vyara, Songadh, Navsari, Mahuwa. Kamrej sub-division included the talukas of Kamrej, Pulsana, Gandevi and Mangroli.

Amreli was bounded by the Bhavnagar state, Junagadh state, Jetpur Lakhapadar Agency. Amreli was consisted of the block of territories of which Amreli, Dhari, Damnagar were fairly compact and rest Kodinar, Ratanpur and Bhimketta were detached.

Okhamandal Mahal and Byet peta Mahal were separated from Amreli division since the rendition of full control over the Vaghers in 1920 and they were placed under a special officer who exercised full power as a suba and district judge. Okhamandal was a small territory on the North –west corner of the province of Kathiawad that was bounded on the North by the Gulf of Kutch, on the west by the Arabian Sea Rann of salt marshal that separated it from Navanagar.

Marathas emerged as political power after the death of Aurangzeb in 1707. They were involved in internal quarrels for a few years and so Kingdom could not be founded. Marathas invaded Gujarat and Kathiawad, they did not have any firm determination for establishing political kingdom there. In 1707 Azam Shah released Shivaji II with the idea of securing the imperial territories from the plunder by the Marathas because it was believed that the return of Sahu

to his kingdom would inevitably cause a division among the Marathas. It happened when Sahu's claim was strongly opposed. With the help of Balaji Vishwanath, Sahu came out victorious. Bajirao I made Peshwaship as headship of the Maratha empire. Gradually, the Marathas established their authority. They were empowered to collect tribute and they established themselves as revenue collectors in place of representatives of the muslim rulers.

Gujarat was invaded by the Marathas under Shivaji in 1664 and in 1670 upon city of Surat. In 1675 Broach was attacked by them. From 1675 to 1699, for a period of 14 years, Gujarat was left in peace as the Marathas were busy at their internal strife in the Deccan. The Marathas used to collect chauth and Sardeshmukhi. Mulkgiri was followed by the Mughal and Marathas in the Peninsula of Kathiawad. It was a revenue raid system for successive expeditions rather than to incur the expense of a permanently occupied area with a army.⁻²

The first Mulkgiri raid took place in 1711 and it became frequent under Damajirao. The first Maratha expedition was made in Kathiawad by Khanderao Dabhade and his lieutenant Damajirao Gaikwad. It was a landmark in the political history of the Marathas in Gujarat.

The conquest of Gujarat was shared between the Gaikwad and Peshwas by a partition of treaty in 1752 – 53. By the treaty, Damjirao made over half of the conquest to the Peshwas. It was to secure an equal division of revenue and little regard was paid to any administrative convenience.⁻³

Gaikwad's family originally belonged to the village of Davadi near Poone. Pilajirao (1721 – 1732) has been regarded as the founder of the fortunes of the family. In 1722, Pilajirao acquired Songadh fort, the cradle of the Gaikwad's house and their head-quarter and capital that continued till Damajirao moved to Patan in 1766.⁻⁴

2. Gazetter of the Baroda State Vol. I. P. 431

3. Doctor C. M. Vadodara Naresh Shrimat Sayajirao III (1943) Vol. I. P.2,3

4. Bombay Government's selection Vol. XII (New Series)

Gaikwad entered Gujarat by crossing the Narmada and thence to Karnali where he got support of headmen of Padra, Chhani and Bhayli of Baroda district as the people of that area wanted to get rid of the Babi muslim rulers.

By 1725 Marathas lost the hold they had gained over Gujarat. Pilajirao led campaign against the Mughal Viceroy of Gujarat in vain. In 1732, Pilajirao was murdered at Dakor. In 1732 the Marathas having lost Baroda, fell back on Dabhoi to the south, to maintain the position.⁵ In 1734, Damjirao recovered Baroda after defeating the Governor Sher Khan Babi and thence Baroda had ever since remained in the hands of the Gaikwad (1734- 1949). Up to 1738 there was a considerable spread of Gaikwad's power. From 1736 – 1938 Damajirao's power increased rapidly both in Gujarat and Kathiawad. He captured Borsad. He was nominated deputy of the Marathas in Gujarat.

By the treaty of 1752 – 1753, Gujarat was almost equally shared between the Gaikwad and Peshwa. From 1763 to 1766 Damajirao crushed with undiminished vigor the combined efforts of the Muslim rulers in Gujarat who wanted to re-establish their rule once again on the remains of disasters caused by the third battle of Panipat (1761). He then captured Visnagar and Patan in 1766 and made Patan his head quarter and captured fort of Kheda along with Vadnagar Kheralu and Vijapur. Damaji got Amreli, Damnagar and Lathi because of matrimonial alliance in 1730. He also obtained some footing in Kodinar by stationing a thana at MulDwarka in Kathiawad.⁶

After the death of Damjirao in 1768, the quarrel for the succession arose which was the first step towards the breaking up of the Gaikwad power. Govindrao succeeded Damajirao in 1768 and 1771 Sayajirao I came to the throne.

5. Watson J. W. History of Gujarat P. 101, 102

6. Aitchison, Charles U. Treaty (1876) A collection of Treaties, Engagements & Sanades Vol. IV P. 176

In 1772 for the first time, British interference was noticed in Gaikwad house when Fatehsingh Rao, the regent of Sayajirao I, sought an alliance with the British in his contest with Govindrao as there was continuous internal strife for succession after the death of Damajirao. Bombay Government captured Bharuch. In 1780 there was Anglo-Gaikwad treaty which contemplated to remove the inconvenience arising from the matter of civil and criminal jurisdiction power and fiscal power. The territories were divided between the British and Gaikwad by the treaties signed by Fatehsingh Rao and those treaties were superseded by the treaty of Salbai in 1782. The matter of Gaikwad's treaty with the British against the Peshwa could be understood from a detail which was written by Elphinston thus, "The Gaikwad's was oppressed and subdued, a vassel rather than a confederate. He joined the first that appeared against the Marathas, in this part of India, and had adhered to his alliance to the last."⁷

The Gaikwad took help of the British which was ultimately meant to be a political intrigue against the Peshwa. But Elphinston considered it reasonable because Peshwa's policy was always unjust which ignored the interest and prestige of the Gaikwad.

Death of Fatehsingh Rao left Sayaji I without any guardian. He died in 1792. Because of the influence of the British on the side of the Gaikwad did not let the Peshwa divide the territories of the Baroda state. During the period of Govindrao, Surat and Ahmedabad were brought under the British. Govindrao died in 1800 and his death resulted into a dispute again as to who should act as regent and guardian confused Baroda affairs and led to the civil war and all those troubles beset the Baroda State at a time when her financial condition was deteriorating by paying to the Peshwa, nearly 79 Lakhs of rupees.

After the death of Govindrao, his eldest son Anandrao Gaikwad (1800-1819) came to the power. From the outset, he was weak - minded and addicted to opium. He was not strong in administration.

7 Aitchison, Charles U. Treaty (1876) A collection of Treaties, Engagements & Sanades Vol. IV P. 176

Due to this, disputes started for securing regentship among his other brothers. At the end, Kanhoji, the eldest brother of Anandrao, usurped the power.⁸ But he was soon removed and imprisoned by Raoji Appaji, the first Diwan of the Baroda State. The harassment of Kanhoji (Govindrao's illegitimate son) who governed in city of Baroda in 1793 and Malharrao of Kadi, forced Diwan Raoji Appaji to take assistance of the British. Malharrao and Kanhoji's open opposition and intrigue proved a constant source of anxiety to the Diwan who induced to solicit the aid of the British Government.⁹

In view of this, The Bombay Government sent Major A. Walker to Baroda to mediate. It was the time when the British influence was to remain in Baroda up to the end of the British rule in India. Major Walker came to Baroda in January 1802, settled the disputes in favour of the Diwan. An agreement was signed between the Diwan and Jonathen Duncan, the Governor of the Bombay Presidency. Subsidiary Alliance provided to keep subsidiary force of 2,000 soldiers and European artillery at a cost of Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 65,000 monthly to be paid by fund of landed property.¹⁰ The British service was rendered to the Baroda State, Gaekwad ceded the Chorasi pargana and Chauth of Surat as free gifts to the British. The British flag was hoisted at Velecha on July 1802, Pargana of Chikhli was ceded and a jagir of Kaira in 1803. In maintaining cordial relation with the British, the Diwan was sure of the reward.

The treaty of Bassien was signed on 31 December 1802. It made the British Government as arbitrator in disputes between the Gaikwad and the Peshwa. Major Walker became the Resident of Baroda in July 1802. It was guarantee of defence to the Gaikwad by the British who assumed power and responsibilities of surety. Resident was to have equal power to that of the Gaikwad in all matters of all political importance.

8 D.N. Apte, Shri Maharaja Sayajirao Tisare Yanche Charitra (Marathi) (Baroda, 1936) Part-I P.23. Op. cit.

9 In the memo of willough by pol. secretary, Bombay Government. dated 4/8/1847 P.7

10. Forbs J. Ras Mala II. P.29, 45

From time to time, the state was provided assistance by the British whenever it was needed. Subsidiary force was raised. Subsidiary alliance was consolidated regularly by drawing up supplementary treaties. No foreign policy could be concluded without the consent of the British.

By the treaty of Pune which was drawn up in 1817, all past claims of the Peshwa on the Gaikwad were renounced and Gaikwad was made an independent ruler. But Gaikwad had to be dependent on the British.

Fatehsinhrao died in August 1818 and succeeded his younger brother Sayajirao II who was a man of exceptional vigor, self assertion, extraordinary tenacity of purpose, capable of the most vindictive and projected hatred towards those who opposed him or denied his authority. He ruled for 29 years and died in 1847.

Ganpatrao Gaikwad came to the throne. He maintained good relations with the British. During his period, certain social reforms were introduced like infanticide, sale of children, reduction in expense of marriage ceremony and other evils.

Khanderao Gaikwad came to the throne in 1856. He maintained cordial relations with the British in the best way and strengthened the rule. He helped the British during the outbreak of the Mutiny (1857). He was rewarded by remission of three lakh annually paid for the maintenance of Gujarat force for his loyal assistance.⁻¹¹

A Sanad was addressed to him on 11 March 1862 confirming upon him the right of adoption. He was markedly designated as "His Highness the Maharaja Gaikwad of Baroda" Okhamandal was disturbed by the Vaghess during his period. The uprising was suppressed with help of the British under the Resident Colonel Wallace. Khanderao died on 28th November 1875. His brother Malharrao came to throne.⁻¹²

11. Col. Malleson, Native States of India P. 252

12. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vol.I. P. 595

Malharrao was guilty of gross misgovernment and Phayre, the Resident, exposed the abuses of his administration. Thereupon the Gaikwad was alleged to have made an attempt to poison the Resident (November 1874). Lord Northbrook had the Gaikwad arrested in January 1875 and appointed a commission for his trial. The commission included three Indians and three Englishmen and was presided over by the chief justice of Bengal. The commission were divided in their opinion. The Englishmen held Malharrao guilty of the charges but the Indian members were of the opinion that the charges were not proved. The Government of India accordingly acquitted Malharrao of the charge of attempted murder, but deposed him for "his notorious misconduct, his gross misgovernment of the state, and his evident incapacity to carry into effect the necessary reforms".⁻¹³

Malharrao was accordingly deposed from the sovereignty of the Baroda State on 22nd April, 1875.⁻¹⁴ The same proclamation also announced that the widow of late Khanderao, Her Highness' Maharani Jamnabai would adopt a member of the Gaikwad house with the concurrence of the Government of India and would be seated on the throne of Baroda.⁻¹⁵ Accordingly choice fell upon a boy named Gopal who was distantly connected with the ruling family. Arrangements were made for the proper education and training. Diwan T. Madhavrrao ably administered the state till the boy became a major. The boy who was thus called Sayajirao III, became one of the most enlightened rulers of India and under his paternal guidance, Baroda became one of the most progressive states of India.

During the Diwanship of T. Madhavrao, the relations between the state and the Government of India for the first time were based on mutual confidence and good-will. Finance became sound under him, land revenue assessment and all other taxation had been systematized which was a remarkable reform and anomalous taxes as unnecessary had been swept away and land tax was reduced.

13. Sir.L. Pelly East India Papers, (Baroda) No.V. 32 Also quoted by Stanely Rice, Life of Sayjirao III Maharaja of Baroda Vol.I.P 8

14. Ibid

15. Ibid 9

Government departments with clearly defined sphere of work and power had replaced the old haphazard system. Regular courts of justice and strong police force together with a medical and education department were for the first time brought into existence. For the establishment of order out of chaos the Diwan received much valuable assistance from the Resident at Baroda. From 1875 to 1882, administration was made effective and systematic. On the 10th November 1875, Prince of Wales visited Baroda. The Royal visit of the Prince in Baroda had great impact both politically and socially and it strengthened the relation of the British with Baroda. ⁻¹⁶ Sayajirao along with the Resident and the Diwan visited the Imperial Assemblage in Delhi in 1877. His Highness Sayajirao was informed by the Viceroy of India that he would be conferred the title of "Own favoured Son of the British Government". ⁻¹⁷ To make himself acquainted with his subjects and with the details of the administration of districts, Sayajirao made district tours and consolidation of Gaikwad rule by introducing changes in political sphere was thence undertaken.

Administration

During the period of Sayajirao III, all the departments of the State were personally directed, regulated, and supervised by him. Almost all the administrative reforms which were introduced, were profoundly impressed with the administrative systems of the British India.

Under the Gaikwads relations with the British, except during the period of Malharrao Gaikwad, remained cordial. The Gaikwad enjoyed the full status of independent sovereign and the British Government provided help whenever, wherever it was needed. Resident of Baroda was a political officer. Political and other correspondences between the state and British Government were carried on through him.

16. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vol. I. P.608

17. Ibid P. 609

Chief officer of the State was Diwan. His office consisted of two branches H.P.O. dealt with all correspondence with Residency and other H.K.B. (Huzur Kutchery Branch) concerned with different departments of the state.

The formation of a regular legislative council 'Dhara Sabha' with some seats reserved for members elected by people was proposed in 1904. Finally, in 1908, Legislative Council rules were framed. The total numbers of Councilors were fixed to 26 with President Naeb Suba, Naeb Diwan, Sar Suba and Legal remembrance, 6 nominated numbers by the Govt., 4 were non-officials representing various interests. The representatives of Mahal Panchayat were 10 and an elected member under the supervision of Naeb Suba of the 10 sub-divisions.⁻¹⁸

From the beginning of the Gaikwad's rule, the traditional old system of imparting justice prevailed in the state. Baroda was fully won for the Gaikwad House. The final conquest over the Babies and the arrival of the British Resident in Baroda was landmark in the history of Gaikwads in Gujarat, it showed the seeds of progress and prosperity.⁻¹⁹

Throughout the imperfect and gradual conquest, the Marathas were ambitious for acquiring booty and there was no eagerness to introduce law, administration which remained sternly rough and ready. As the territories of the Baroda State were intermingled with other states and the British Government, extradition was necessary. By the article of 9 of the Definitive Treaty of 1817 made between Anandrao Gaikwad and the East India Company, it was agreed that promotion and maintainance of general peace and order of their respective possessions and intermixture of some of the territories belonged to the Gaikwads and the British Government, they should help each other in the best way.⁻²⁰

18. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vol. II. P.242

19. Ibid P.243

20. Aitchison, Charles U. Treaty (1876) A collection of Treaties, Engagements & Sanades Vol. VI Chapter XXV Article a, Para 138.

The system of justice in Gaikwad's territories and Mulkagiri districts of Kathiawad and the Mahikantha was principally one of the ordeals and oaths.⁻²¹ During the reign of Khanderao Gaikwad, Civil Code was passed which was permissible for the courts to decide case by administering special oaths.

In the words of Major Walker "the First Resident of Baroda," justice in Gujarat was not administered according to the written law of the several castes, but it depended on the will of the persons in whose hands the local authority may be placed. The system of administration of law and justice was an established department, but always changing and varied from one rule to another.⁻²²

In the districts, civil and criminal justice was in hands of the former revenue officers whose neglect of justice offered trouble and made people restless and dissatisfied. The disputes of civil nature concerning landed property and debt were almost always submitted to the arbitration of the Panchayat.⁻²³

In criminal case, Kumavisdar was the judge but his power was limited to account by the Government for excessive fines, capital punishment, imprisonment and banishment. Gradually with the coming of the British in the court of Baroda, under the medium of the Resident, old system of justice began to be given up. The head of the justice was Maharaja the Gaikwad and his advisors.

From 1802-1819, the state was ruled by a commission of whom the Resident was a prominent member and the British interference raged over the each and every part of the administration of the Baroda State.⁻²⁴

21. Jems Forbes Rasmala P. 572

22. Forbes : Oriental Memories Vol. II. P.23

23. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vol II. P.247

24. Ibid P. 248

It can be said that the foundation of modern system of law and justice was laid by Captain Carnic, the Resident of Baroda, who believed that the prevailing practice of arbitration as a system of justice could not operate in large civilized society when rights were not determined by a written law. He, therefore, advocated the establishment of courts with positive powers whose decisions might be placed on record to set up a body of precedents. He viewed Panchayats, decided on points of law and were not subject to revision of any regular tribunal, without the intervention of Government.

Captain Carnic suggested for the establishment of central court at Baroda in the place of court of Kotwal. The central court was empowered with both criminal and civil powers under the headship of Gaikwad the Supreme judge presided by chief justice.

In 1860, Khanderao Gaikwad instituted Faujdari Court, a magistrate and criminal court. Iazardari revenue forming system was ended. Sub-divisions were placed under Vahivatdars. Khanderao introduced system of written laws which took shape of Codes. In 1861, a criminal code on the British model, was first applied to Baroda city and in 1863, it was extended to the whole state later on. A civil code was revised and amended in 1869-70 based on the Bombay Regulation of 1827. Stamp Act and Registration Act were passed and in 1865, Revenue Code was enacted.⁻²⁵

In 1871 High Court of final appeals in civil, criminal and revenue matter was instituted by Malharrao Gaikwad.⁻²⁶

Under the Diwan T. Madhavrao, new judicial department based on the system of British India came into existence. In each district, a district court was opened. There was a great freedom of appeals and no enhancement of the sentence was permitted except to Varisht Court.

25. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vol. II. P.252

26. Ibid P. 253

Bail was granted more freely than by the code of criminal procedure and non-bailable offences were murder, dacoity and riot of a serious nature. T. Madhavrao made judicial department efficient. P. S. Melvill the Resident of Baroda (1878-79) wrote that the judicial department of the Baroda state was established on a firm basis.⁻²⁷

Real reforms in judicial department were introduced under Sayajirao III. Powers of courts and the constitution were revised. Old laws were amended and new laws were codified. He formed a Law Committee and several Acts regarding stamp, registration and police were framed. A new penal, criminal procedure and police code for the state were drafted which brought the state laws in harmony with the corresponding laws in the British India. In 1904, custom of child-marriage was attacked by fixing marriage age for boys and girls and marriage below that limit was made punishable. (18 to 14 - for boy, 16-12 for girl). In 1904, Legal Remembrance Department was created for the work of legislation. Sayajirao Gaikwad separated judicial and executive duties in 1904 in order to make administration of each department more efficient.⁻²⁸

The judicial policy of the state had aimed at securing uniformity and certainty in law and procedure, dispatch in the disposal of work and the co-operation of people. The administration of justice had been brought to such a high state of efficiency and integrity that the decrees passed by the Baroda courts were executed in British India as if they were passed by the British courts themselves.

The protective force of the state was police which was mostly closely connected with law and justice. Before 1861, izara system prevailed in the state. Izardars used to perform magisterial and police functions. Vartanias, village watchmen, thanedars were mainly connected with police duties. Powers of thanedars and Vahivatdars were defined by their Kalambandis i.e. agreement. In Baroda before 1860, there were Chautras where izardars exercised criminal and police powers.

27. Ibid P. 259

28. Ibid P. 261

From 1860-70, Chautras and izardari were abolished during the period of Khanderao Gaikwad and huzur fauzdari courts took cognizance of all offences. The lowest police officer was the Mukhi, responsible for the safety of the village and then thanedar was responsible for the safety of group of villages. Vahivatdar was an important police officer.

After 1875, at the end of Malharrao Gaikwad, a body of mounted police was organized or detached from the Military Department. T. Malharrao's reform changed old system of police department. Magisterial and police functions were separated. Districts were put under Naib Suba, Suba and police inspectors were appointed for sub-divisions, fauzdars for talukas, naeb fauzdar for thanas. He created regular police force of modern type for Baroda. There was a clear demarcation between the army and the police force.

In Okhamandal there was the Assistant Resident located at Dwarka, who was to carry on juridicial power. In 1920, the post of Assistant Resident was abolished and Okhamandal Commissioner was appointed and Okhamandal Police reverted to the state.²⁹

The First Police Act was framed in 1881. In it, the powers and duties of the Head of the police, the District Subas, the police naib Subas and other police officers were defined. The arrangement was made for better registration and investigation of crime. System of patrol was made effective for preventing crimes. Finger impression system was introduced in the beginning of the 20th century. Baroda was recognized as a Finger Print Bureau.³⁰

Before the years, there were Chautras in the city and lock-up in the Mahal for the imprisonment of offenders. In Kadi and Patan, there were pretty large jails. In 1857, during the time of the Resident R. Shakespeare, Baroda Central Jail was created and principal jail i.e. Central Jail of Baroda was opened in 1881 and District jails at Navsari, Patan, Dwarka, Mehsana, Amreli etc., were created.

29. Ibid. P. 293

30. Ibid

Revenue Department comprised land revenue lands outside the grain yard applied to all lands free from assessment, Giras, Boundaries and railway demarcation, Registration and stamps, charitable institutions, customs, excise, Opium local board and municipalities. The head of revenue department was Suba and was authorized to carry on administration like that of revenue commissioner of Bombay presidency. Revenue department was organized on the modern line based on the British local self-government structure. It was improved during the reigns of Sayajirao II, Khanderao, during the regency of T. Madhavrao and under Sayajirao III. Revenue Commissioner was assisted by two joint SirSuba having charge of excise, customs, commerce, agriculture, co-operative society, etc. There was taluka Vahivatdar who had the revenue and judicial charge. Circle inspector supervised the work of village heads and accountants.

Khanderao Gaikwad introduced reforms in revenue department by separating police department from revenue department, so that systematic arrangement can be made for the collection of taxes. In order to do this, judicial department was re-organized by framing rules and regulations for the officers. As a result, system of revenue collection was improved, though the whole structure was not changed till the coming of Sayajirao III. Sayajirao III introduced scientific survey of land, equitable settlement of rates, rules and regulations were revised. Alienated lands were thought to be taken into cultivation. In 1883, a regular survey and settlement department for the whole state was organized.⁻³¹

In 1905, Government decided to create Local Board and Local cess was to be separated from land revenue to local board. Local cess was imposed on Government land in Kadi and Navsari.

31. Baroda State Administration Report of 1875-1876, P.193, 195, 199.

In Baroda state, practice of registration prevailed which had been executed and was supposed to prevent fabrication of false document of land. Registration Act was passed in the British India in 1864. During the reign of Khanderao, Registration Act was passed in 1869 in Baroda State. Registrars were appointed, in talukas, the Vahivatdars were appointed to register documents of movable and immovable property; pecuniary transactions etc. An inspector in general was appointed to supervise sub-registrars who were appointed in each taluka. Registration department was put under the judicial department. In 1897, it was transferred to the Revenue Department Registration Act of 1885 was revised in 1902.³²

The stamp duty was not known in the state before 1827 when it was for the first time introduced by Sayajirao II. In 1869, during the period of Khanderao, Stamp Act was passed. Combined in one Code both general revenue and court fees stamps were introduced under Sayajirao III. The Stamp Act was similar to that of the British India related to general revenue stamp. Special provisions were made by the Baroda Government to supervise the work of the department through Account General and Chief Revenue Officer. Especially the sale of stamp and working of Stamp Act. The revenue increased from sale of stamp was Rs. 2,06,410 in 1876-77 to Rs. 2,26,553 in 1880-81, and to Rs. 3,34,755 in 1885-86.³³

In the Baroda State, districts were one of the most important administrative divisions. Districts were sub divided with convenient numbers of villages together with regards to area, population and natural boundary. The whole district was in charge of Suba like Collector and District Magistrate in the Bombay Presidency.

Before the coming of the British, the villages in India were self-sufficient and self-contained autonomous civic organizations. With the introduction of new land revenue settlement and especially ryotwari system cultivators were directly connected with the government. The new land settlement weakened the age-old

32. Baroda State Administration Report of 1876-77 P. 444

33. Revenue Administration Report of 1877 and 1886 P. 163

traditional socio-economic structure of villages and their traditional administration and judicial set-up. In order to preserve the original village organization, Baroda State made efforts and re-established Gram Panchayat based on its original structure. Government reduced revenue demand and the expense of administration.⁻³⁴ Throughout dominions and village, panchayats were set up and in 1901, it was decided to introduce elective system into village panchayat to bestow them with ample power and thereby develop original form of local self government. The idea was to build-up complete system of representative from village to taluka, taluka to district and district to the legislative assembly. In 1902, rules for making efficient village panchayat were passed: In 1904, there were 2,011 village panchayats in the state, 627 in Baroda, 788 in Kadi, 444 in Navsari, 212 in Amreli having five to nine members including headmen, accountant, educational officers etc. The panchayats were provided ample fund to carry out functions of administration. In 1920, tremendous improvements were made to develop panchayat as solid base of local self government. They were supplied more fund by giving authority of imposing local cess.⁻³⁵

In 1904, Local Self-Government Act was passed to reorganize formation of taluka and district panchayat. Duties were allotted to taluka board and district board. Local public work department was entrusted to district panchayat. .⁻³⁶

The whole municipal administration vested in the corporation or Sudharai which was responsible to the Government of the state for its efficient management of municipal affairs.

34. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vol. II P. 226

35. Baroda Local Self Government development Report 1904 Administration Report of 1904-05.75

36. Ibid

During the reign of Sayajirao III Baroda State made considerable progress. He established systematic and civilized government, effective administrative machinery with profound internal reforms (long period of his reign is considered to be the most important period in the history of the Baroda State). He abolished the old systems prevailing in administration which hindered progress of the state especially related to land revenue. He was very much impressed by the modern western administrative machinery and the reforms which were introduced were largely inspired by it. Old laws were amended and new codes were framed, executive and judicial department were made separate.

Baroda Government provided all required support to the postal and telegraph authorities in providing facilities for the people to develop means of communication. Whatever measures taken or suggested by the British Government for famine relief or other calamities, were worked out and adopted to carry out the general policy in the manner best suited to local condition.

Baroda administration was always kept in touch with the adjoining British districts and Bombay Presidency and it deputed officers to see and report on their working. Government of India's recommendations of Commissions were adopted as far as possible and the state officers were requested to acquaint themselves with movements of importance in British India and the states.

There were systematic divisions of each and every department such as Agriculture under Directorate of Agriculture, Commerce under Directorate of Commerce and Industry and co-operative society was under Registrar of Co-operative society. Forest department was part of the revenue department and later on was looked upon separately under a conservator of forest. The institution of regular forest department worked on system of contract. In 1890, Sub-Assistant Conservator of forest was in charge of forest department.

The population of the state as per general information was, 2,126,522 in 1921 (1,100,564 males and 1,025,958 female). The population was roughly one-ninth of the population of the British districts of the Bombay presidency.

The density i.e. average number of persons per square in the state was in 321 in Baroda, 296 in Kadi, 188 in Navsari, 142 in Amreli and 93 in Okha.⁻³⁷

The area of state was 8,127 square miles. The greater part of the state lied within the area of the coastal band of alluvium which had been formed by the encroachment on the shallow, Gulf of Cambay and of the deposits brought down by many large and small rivers.⁻³⁸

The number of eminent hill was very small in Baroda district. Lachara of Lonadra hill in Sankheda was note worthy. There was no hill in Kadi but far and wide range of hill was seen in the Mahi kantha territories and the Palanpur state. There was no eminent hill in Navsari. In Amreli, smaller portion of hill forest within Dhari and Chachai was significant.

Rich water resources had made the region most fertile which in turn enhanced its agrarian potential. The state had a direct access to the coastal area that further provided it with opportunity for international trade and commerce led to growth of non-agrarian potentialities.

The rivers in Baroda division are Vishwamitri, Jmabuwa, Orsang, Unchh, Dhadhar, Narmada and Mahi. In Kadi the main rivers are Sabarmati, Vatrak, Meshwo, Khari, Rupen, Banas and Sarasvati. In Navsari, Tapi, Mindhola, Ambika, Purna, Anjali are main while Shetrunji, Sel, Thebi, Somato, Shingavado, Sangvati, are main rivers in Amreli. The rivers like Narmada, Mahi, Sabarmati, Tapi, Ambika, Purna were the main rivers in the state.

Agriculture was the main part of the people's economic life. The village was the basic unit of communal living and each village was an almost self-supporting community. In spite of political convulsion, religious, upheavals, devastating wars, the self sufficient village as the basic economic unit had existed for centuries in India. Besides the peasant families, the village population also

37. Baroda Census Report of March 1929

38. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vol. I. P.8

included industrial workers like smiths, carpenters, potters, weavers, barbers, etc. They all worked exclusively for satisfying the needs of the village population. All exchange of agricultural or industrial products, produced by the village workers, was limited to the village community in the traditional customary system.⁻³⁹

The soil was alluvium except in hilly areas of Navsari and Amreli. South-east corners of the Baroda there were gorat and sandy, black and besar type of lands. Bhata lands in Navsari was the most fertile. There was sandy land in Kadi and gorat and black type of land in Amreli. The main major crops were cotton, tobacco, oilseeds, jawar, bajri, rice and pulses. Coastline and the western talukas of Navsari were very fertile for horticulture. In Amreli, Damnagar, Amreli and Kodinar talukas were fertile tracks. The crops were generally thriving and plentiful in Baroda and Kadi.

The average rainfall, 40 to 70 inches in Navsari, 30 to 50 inches in Baroda, 15 to 35 inches in Kadi and 13 to 30 inches in Amreli. Thus, rain fall was the heaviest in the southernmost districts and went on diminishing as the monsoon current travelled from the south to the north considerably in Gujarat proper then in Kathiawad. The Baroda State Government had done well in developing irrigation work. Water supply was provided through means of pipe. Step-well or Vav, Vavadi, lakes were chief sources of water supply. Small irrigation work was done by paddy tanks, Allidhar Vellar Bundh, near Harmadia, Natalia Bundh in Dhari, Amreli, Chikhali, Bhandrapada and Tichkiya Bundh in Navsari.⁻⁴⁰

In a project under the year 1899-1900, a great stimulus was given to the construction of irrigation project under the famine relief measures due to occurrence of great famine of 1899-1900. Tagavi loans were given by the state government to the farmers at low rate of interest. They were given under the term like (i) fixed (ii) famine (3) special, in order to reduce indebtedness of the cultivators. Money lending by the Sahukars did not encourage saving but increased considerable indebtedness of poor cultivators. It did not organize agriculture nor did it improve the condition of farmers economically or morally..

39. Wadia and Merchant, Our Economic Problem (1946) P. 30

40. Baroda State Gazetteer Vol I. P. 431

The condition of money lenders was such that it could not be uprooted. The Baroda Government afforded to introduce thoroughly efficient system of agricultural banking to provide better system of agricultural finance.

(1) Fixed Tagavi was granted for developing means of irrigation, agricultural improvement with the purchase of bullocks, seeds, implements and for maintenance of family. In 1922, Rs, 299, 500 were allotted to all talukas annually.

(2) Famine relief Tagavi, for affected areas.

(3) Special Tagavi for special improvement in cultivation, installation of oil, engine, pump and tractors was offered. After famine of 1899 large sums were allotted. From 1900-1908, 5,500 new wells were constructed for promoting means of irrigation. It was a matter of fact that people applied for tagavi from government only, when they were unable to obtain any money from money lenders.⁻⁴¹

In the state, 640 persons out of 1000 were supported by agriculture. Persons depending on agriculture in Navsari were 748, 717 in Baroda, 623 in Kadi, 589 in Amreli and 370 in Okha. While the persons supported by industries were 220 in Baroda, 140 in Amreli, 134 in Kadi, 77 in Navsari, 47 in Okha. It indicates that a large number of people depended on agriculture

Lands under cultivation was 5,675,640 bigha in 1921 and 1,293,440 bigha available for further cultivation lands were divided according to the use mode of it into jirayat, kyari, and bagayati. The average holding per land holder for the whole state was 21 bigha. Okha and Amreli stood first with 73, and 70 bigha per land holder, Navsari 20, Kadi 19 and Baroda 16. Agricultural Banks were started by the Baroda Government in Vyara, Songadh, in Harij, in Kadi (1899-1900), in Amreli (1909) and Bhadran in Baroda in order to promote agriculture.⁻⁴²

The debt of the cultivators was considerable and few men with average holding did not owe anything to the money-lender. Money was borrowed by one not for productive purpose but to balance his family budget and to meet his loss.

41. Ibid P. 275-276

42. Ibid P. 256-258

The state gave tagayi loans to farmers to finance agriculture and its improvement and famine relief fund on a low rate of interest. But the cultivators preferred money-lenders. The whole state was liable to occasional partial or complete failure of rain. Cultivator's holdings were small and scattered and under heavy burden of indebtedness. After the First World War, the condition of agriculture was improved. More lands were taken under cultivation in 1922.⁻⁴³

Forests contribute a lot in the economic life of a country. Provide building and other materials required for the domestic and industrial need of people. There were 630 sq. miles of forest area in the state, distributed in 71 miles in Amreli, 11 miles in Sankheda and 548 miles in Navsari and no forest in Kadi. 548 miles of forest in Navsari were distributed in Vyara, Songadh, Vajpur, Sadadvel and Vakali from where Teak, Sag, Techtona, Grandis, Lac and Gum were obtained. Herbs, fruits-tree, timber-tree, flora and fauna were plentiful in the forest area of Sankheda and Navsari.

Predominance of agricultural economy did not mean that the population of the urban area was small in the state. Non- agricultural class of traders, artisans etc. formed larger parts of population. The urban population could not have amounted to more than 20 per cent of the total population and even many of the so called towns were merely overgrown villages. The socio-economic condition in villages differed from those in towns. The time had come when traditional occupations were broken because of the import of western products and creation of new employment.

The state was essentially agricultural and towns were overgrown. Villages where people were employed in production and distribution; industrial enterprise were confined to Baroda, Petlad, Patan, Siddhpur, Dabhoi, Navsari, Billimora, Amreli. There were 38 towns in the state, of these Baroda was regarded as a city, although its population was rather less than 1,00,000. There were 38 towns in the state and 2,902 villages.⁻⁴⁴

43. Manilal Mehta, Agricultural indebtedness Report of 1922

44. Baroda State census of 1921.

District of the Staff	Towns	Villages
Baroda	19	820
Kadi	5	1035
Navsari	8	764
Amreli	4	242
Okhamandal	2	41
Total	38	2902

Distribution of the Population in		
State	Towns	Villages
Baroda City	94, 712	--
Baroda Division	103, 990	508, 810
Kadi	150, 080	750,498
Navsari	48, 080	292,192
Amreli	31,916	120,192
Okhamandal	11, 945	13, 530

The total urban population of the state was 440,723 and remaining 16, 85, 222 rural-⁴⁵

45. Baroda State Census of 1921

In order to remove the harassing duties from a large number of petty articles, trade tariff reforms were introduced for facilitating trade and business in the state. Baroda Government expected to promote trade of towns of the state and thereby paved way for industrial development by introducing reforms. But the interest of state was always ignored where interest of the British was involved regarding traffic policy.⁻⁴⁶

Weekly markets were held in the city of Baroda and Navsari, market called Gujari was attained by people of surrounding villages for selling and purchasing articles. Fairs were held not totally for commercial purposes but also for pilgrimage and pleasure.

The state had good quantity of minerals etc., iron was in considerable quantity in Kadi, Navsari and several parts of Baroda, gold was acquired near Sigum in Sankheda, iron pyrites, bauxite, chemicals like salt natural soda, china clay, pigments and colours, cement, marbles, building stones, granite, basalt, cate rite, limestone, sand stone, mill stone etc were main minerals.⁻⁴⁷

A number of small industries were there in the state. Home weaving industry of was main in Baroda, Dabhoi, Petlad, Vaso, Amreli, Patan. Embroidery work in Baroda and Navsari, dyeing and Calico printing in Padra, Sankheda, Petlad, Dabhoi in Baroda, Kathor, in Navsari, Nandol, Visnagar, Vadnagar in Kadi and Damnagar in Amreli.

Iron work was manufactured in Atarsamba, Sword making in Dehgam, Patan in Kadi and Sojitra, Vaso and Petlad of Baroda division. Brass and copper, utensils were manufactured at Dabhoi, Petlad, Kadi, Visnagar, Patan. Gold and Silver ornaments of a superior quality were manufactured in Baroda, Patan and Amreli. Pottery developed throughout the state but Patan was famous for its ornamental pottery. Baroda, Patan, Kadi, Visnagar, Vadnagar, Navsari and Billimora were famous for wood carving of superior quality, Sandal wood and

46. Elliot F.A.H., Survey and settlement Report of the Baroda State (1893) P. 225-226.

47. Bruce Foote, Geological Survey of the Baroda State Report (1898)

ebony work were examples for sale in Europe. Knot printing was developed. Sankheda in Baroda was well-known for lacquer work, fishery was developed in Amreli and Okhamandal.⁻⁴⁸

Machinemade and cheap foreign articles were rapidly crushing the cottage industries of the state. Government gave certain patronage to develop industries especially weaving. After 1876, the period of reconstruction in the state started that led to the industrial advancement. Kalabhavan and museum were started in Baroda. Students were sent abroad for acquiring industrial knowledge. Keen interest was taken for the development of each and every mode of transport which was one of the most important factors in the way of industrial progress in the state and especially extension of railways all over the state.

Loans were given at a low rate of interest to industries and custom duties were revised. Small industries like rice mills, cotton ginning and press factories were given patronage by the Government.⁻⁴⁹

Industrial development which was there in the state was due to Baroda Government's policy that promoted it through the establishment of Department of Commerce and Industry, Bank of Baroda (1907). It also gave impetus to local industries, and transport and supervised the abolition of export and import duties. The first industrial survey of the state was made in 1893. In 1899, agriculture debtedness enquiry was made to consider the questions regarding industrial progress.⁻⁵⁰

The competition of machine-made cheap goods had been fatal to many of the older industries, while modern industries, in spite of the attention paid by the Government, were making slow progress. After the World War I, the condition of industry improved considerably.

48. Baroda State Economic Development Report, 1919

49. Report of Industrial Survey in the State

50. Ibid

The most striking peculiarities of the Indian society were represented by the Hindu caste and joint family systems and other peculiarities of Indian social system were law of inheritance, the purda system, profoundly religious attitude towards the problem of marriage and of begetting children, the religious and spiritual prejudice against female education and other social ceremonies. Religious attitude pervaded every sphere of life and tended to create rigid traditionalism and conservatism. Religious dogma adversely affected Indian way of life. Decline and ultimate collapse of the Mughal empire marred all progressive forces and subjected the century to dreadful political turmoil, and social disorders.⁻⁵¹

In the Baroda State like other parts of India, the Hindu population was divided over 300 caste and sub-castes.⁻⁵² In Indian social evolution, family had always meant the joint family that was made-up of many generations of collateral relatives living under one roof and sharing a common heritage and greater generation depth.⁻⁵³ No separation or particularization of accommodation was unthinkable in joint families. Caste system and joint family were the basis on which social life among Indian especially Hindus was organized. Caste system and joint family were in practice interlocked to an extent which made them in effect a common institution of Indian society.⁻⁵⁴

51. R.C. Majmudar, The History and Culture of India people Bombay Vo. IX P. 751-752.

52. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vol. I P. 153

53. Desai I.P., The Joint family in India Sociological Bulletin, Vol. V No. 2 P. 148

54. Pannikeir K.M., Hindu Society at Crossroad. (Bombay) 1955 P. 19

The members of family jointly undertook production and consumption and were the joint owners of the wealth of the family and so it is called co-operative institution because of joint ownership and presence of co-operation among the members.⁻⁵⁵

Caste- system is one of the oldest institutions which is a pillar Hinduism. It is an endogamous social group and an extension of the family, the principle of grouping appeared to be blood or marriage bound.

With the exception of a few tribe castes such as Rajputs, Kathis and Leva Kanbi, other castes had caste panchayat or standing caste committees, which dealt as a matter of course with all branches of caste rules and regulations. The jurisdiction of a Nyay Panchayat or caste committee extended over those who belonged to a particular caste within a particular area. Territorial jurisdiction of Nyay Panchayat extended to towns and villages in the state. A number of unwritten restrictions were imposed on the conduct of a man by the and in some cases even through written law of his community.⁻⁵⁶

Marriages were performed not only within the caste but also within the sub-caste. As a general rule, widow re-marriage was not allowed in upper caste but it prevailed among the lower class. In the upper caste, it was considered to be degraded and excommunicated. Prohibition of remarriage, spread of purdah and prevalence of polygamy worsened the position of women.⁻⁵⁷

Among the upper class the evil customs of incurring heavy expense on marriage and giving dowry to the bride prevailed. During the period of Ganpatrao Gaikwad, social reforms were introduced in which restrictions were laid on heavy expenses in marriage ceremonies.⁻⁵⁸ Slavery prevailed in the state, child -slavery

55. O Malley, Modern India and the West P. 148.

56. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vo. I. P. 157

57. Neera Desai, Women in Modern India, Bombay 1957 P. 61.

58. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vol I. P. 162

was made punishable during the reign of Ganputrao. Children were banned as an act of preventing child slavery. Female - infanticide was practice because in several castes of Hindu society like Jadeja, Rajputas and Kanbi where birth of girl was regarded as curse and marriage customs involved high expenditure for the relatives of the bride. It was a custom to kill the girl - child by banging them into a pot of milk. In the state it was until the early years of 19th century that serious efforts were made to suppress female - infanticide. In 1888, the question of abolition of infanticide was revived in the British Gujarat. It was thought that heavy expenses on marriage ceremony was the cause for the prevailing practice of female infanticide. The practice of infant marriage, marriage of older males with very young females, and other evils caused high female morality in the state in particular and Gujarat in general. ⁻⁵⁹

Untouchability was prevalent in the society. The social oppression of the untouchables had religious sanction. The depressed classes were demarcated from the upper caste Hindus by certain fundamental social oppression and disabilities were common to them.

With the spread of modern education and wider contact with the British rule and western culture, several changes were brought in the traditional old age structure of society such as change in dress. Collars and ties were then in general use. The social differences were bridged because of spread of education.

The trend towards individualism strengthened with the passage of time. Specific decisions by the British court may be cited to show how their administration of Hindu family law dealt serious blows to the joint family which was a guarantee of economic security to all. Increase of population and spread of western culture destroyed the joint family.

As a result of economic changes and legislative measures that were adopted by the state Government on the model of the British India, Hindu joint family had suffered a lot of internal cohesion and solidarity. Industrialization,

59. Gazetteer of the Baroda State Vol I. P. 104

development of modern transport and communication, decline of agriculture and village trade and impact of the West weakened the joint family. In spite of it, the Indian people continued with the family attachment and support their traditional morality.

The growth of modern industry gave rise to new social conditions, occupational opportunities and social classes.⁻⁶⁰ Many traditional occupations associated with inferior social status was given up. New occupation had led to the formation of groups like trade union which cut across caste barriers. Caste as ritual division of society was losing its importance. Caste system continued to be preserved and protected in villages, and in towns by endogamy, caste has not yet vanished but it only changed its tactics.⁻⁶¹

Baroda Government under Sayajirao took several measures to remove the social evils in the state. The wind of new awakening and social reform movement played an important role in changing traditional society and modernized it by advocating adoption of good elements of the West and by removing social evils throughout the movement through idea of rationalism and humanism etc.

When Sayajirao assumed power, he gave sufficient attention towards the development of education. Certain efforts were made for promoting education in the state but were not noticeable as were made by Sayajirao III. Primary education was made free and compulsory in the state by him. He was of the view that no one can do better without being educated. It was necessary for ambitions and wishes which he had for the future of his people⁻⁶². Full control was given to the Local Board over primary education, Government contributed 1/3 towards education and encouraged to take general interest in the schools. High schools, Anglo Vernacular schools, teachers' training schools, music schools and Sanskrit Pathshala were established.

60. R.K. Mukherji, *The Dynamics of a rural Society* (IX) P.9

61. Ghurye G.S. ,*Caste & Class in India*, Oxford (1967) P. 219, 223

62. Sayajirao Gaikwad's speech delivered in March 1892.

Maharaja Sayajirao advocated female education. He felt that it was essential for having the healthy society as she regulates the social life of people. He gave his special attention to the opening of girls' schools. After 1896, certain arrangements were made for higher education for women. In 1882, Baroda College was founded. Not only these, several steps were taken to spread education among the backward classes. Efforts were made for the development of education among the Muslims in the state. In 1921-1922, 124 Urdu schools were there in the state with 8,420 students. No fees were charged in Urdu schools. In 1910, library was established for the development of education in the state.⁻⁶³

Before the Development of Modern transport system, the condition of internal transport and communication was extremely poor in the state. Throughout the state, there was almost complete absence of roads and where they did exist, their condition was very unsatisfactory. The reason of lack of developed means of transport was that the economic life was constrained and exchange almost limited to the villages, there was no necessity for traveling, except for a marriage occasion or a pilgrimage once in many years, so, there was no stimulus for the development of means of transport.

Bullock-cart was the chief means of transport. During rains, the softness of the soil caused the roads to become impassable, and for months together outlying tracks, especially in the black soil regions of the state were practically cut off from all connections. During the dry season, vehicular traffic, in most of the parts of the state, was greatly obstructed by the absence of roads and their dreadful condition. Middle of the 19th century, transport was conducted by the means of pack animals, palaquin, bullock-cart and small river craft.

The village population lived for centuries an almost static economic life, based on self-sufficient rural agriculture and industry carried on by means of feedable technique before modern industry which was one of the important

63. Gazetteer of the Baorda State Vol. I.P. 314-316

causes for undeveloped means of transport in pre-railway period. An autonomic village, completely independent of the outside world and with the absence of any appreciable social exchange, remained for centuries an invulnerable stronghold of the same static, stereotyped, social existence. Some sort of movement was noticeable during the foreign invasion or occurrence of famine or drought.⁶⁴

In pre-British period, a few dirty roads connected with the local capitals and trading centres were in existence.⁶⁵ In short, condition of transport was unsafe and unsatisfactory.

64. Buchahan, D.H., The Development of Capitalist Enterprise in India, New York , 1934 P. 15.

65. Ibid P.134