

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is one of the major stake holders in Gujarat not only from its industrial presence point of view but from social responsibility perspective also. Its CSR is a daily activity. Face-lifting of villages, actual day to day house-keeping of main streets of villages, medical services, cow-fodder etc keep even our senior executives preoccupied. Awareness programs for cleanliness drive-*Swachchhata Mission* are carried out. Distribution of about 1500 school kits in 42 villages of Jamnagar and Lalpur talukas every year since 2006 is also a '*Shala Praveshotsav*' for us. We have constructed school buildings and class-rooms, compound-walls of village schools etc.

To inculcate the awareness of public health and sanitation among villagers, scientific disposal of waste generated and a total sanitation drive in association with Sulabh International is carried out at Moti Khavdi, Meghpar, Padana, Nani Khavdi etc villages.

Community Medical Centre at Moti Khavdi, with an average of 400 OPD patients per day, caters to the village population as well as the floating population. The Community Medical Centre caters free of cost, round the clock, comprehensive health services to about 45 villages, supporting health and hygiene needs of 1.5 million people. The Centre is equipped with ARV (Antiretroviral) Treatment for AIDS and gives patients free of cost services since October 2007.

The company has built temples in about 16 villages, constructed mosque/church in villages surrounding the refinery. Constructing/repairing cement concrete roads, drainages, drinking water tanks and sumps; community halls, construction and maintenance of cowsheds in villages and maintaining 16 cow-sheds housing 2410 cows by providing fodder on a regular basis in tune with needs of villages have been the activities close to our hearts.

RIL has been on forefront when it comes to facelift pilgrimage Dwarka. Since last one and half decade and more, RIL, in collaboration with the Government of Gujarat's developmental projects in Dwarka, contributed for beautification, infrastructure development, etc. The company has been instrumental in revamping 16 ghats on the bank of Gomti river in holy city Dwarka and setting up an inn for pilgrims. House-keeping of ghats and cleaning of algae from the steps is a daily routine. At present, construction of a cable-staid pedestal bridge to cross Gomti river is in progress. This project is also on PPP basis with Government of Gujarat. Earlier, RIL constructed a wide bypass road on marshy land leading close to the temple and avoiding congestion of the narrow streets of the holy place. A guest house for pilgrims has recently been constructed and inaugurated at Somnath. RIL has also contributed in renovation of Ganeshpura Temple at Koth near Ahmedabad.

RIL and Gujarat are two inseparable entities. RIL, though headquartered in Mumbai, set up its first manufacturing plant in Gujarat at Naroda in Ahmedabad. 'Only Vimal', the famous textile brand of RIL, began from here. RIL's success in Gujarat led it to the first step in vertical

backward integration to manufacture polyester fiber and yarn, and Linear Alkyl Benzene (LAB) – a detergent intermediate at Patalganga in Maharashtra.

RIL came back soon to Gujarat. It created a huge petrochemical complex at Hazira, near Surat in Gujarat. The Company's drive for substantial value creation by way of backward integration reached its peak when the world's largest grass-root refinery was set up at Jamnagar. Jamnagar became the world's refinery hub with one more refinery by Reliance especially for exports. RIL consolidated its business of petrochemicals when it acquired IPCL. With this acquisition RIL owned Vadodara and Dahej petrochemical complexes in Gujarat; along with one in Nagothane in Maharashtra.

Reliance Rural Development Trust (RRDT) implemented Government of Gujarat's comprehensive scheme of village development. 7,902 village infrastructure facilities in around 5,894 villages of Gujarat, across 25 districts and 218 talukas were created. The facilities included 1,603 village cement concrete roads, 3,804 anganwadi buildings for tiny tots, 1,507 community halls, 741 panchayat office-buildings, 158 drinking water facilities and 39 check-dams.

The company has voluntarily also donated in the initiative of Honourable Chief Minister for Knaya Kelavni and Swachchhata Abhiyan. The Dhirubhai Ambani Scholarship supports meritorious students of district level to pursue higher studies, post their Higher Secondary examination in a stream and institution of their choice. Reliance Foundation awards the scholarship in three different categories – boys, girls and differently abled students.

RIL is actively involved in wildlife care, conservation and protection. Open wells in periphery of the Gir forest were a major threat for Asiatic lions and cubs. To address problem of accidental deaths of the famous Asiatic lions from falling in open wells, RIL constructed parapet walls on 1249 open wells in Gir forest area. RIL has also committed for setting up Rescue Center in Gir at a cost of Rs20 crore and offered to GoG to construct railway fencing near Pipavav in PPP mode.

RIL always stood by people of Gujarat in natural calamities. During draughts in 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003, millions of liters of drinking water was supplied to Jamnagar city, Jam Khambhalia and surrounding villages from the sea-water desalination plant at refinery complex, and through tankers in villages on a daily basis. Our such role during Kutch earthquake in 2001 in rescue and relief to rehabilitation is still fresh in memory of people. Rescue and relief during floods in Central and South Gujarat in 2005 and host of such engagements give us satisfaction of contributing our mite to the society.

Gujarat has become a core centre of RIL's manufacturing, business and social responsibility activities. It has been possible only due to a very conducive, peaceful and growth loving character inherent in the land of Gujarat. For Reliance, Gujarat is the home not only for majority of its manufacturing activities, but also for our founder Dhirubhai Ambani who

belonged to Chorwad, a village of Gujarat; whose legacy is carried forward by Shri Mukesh D. Ambani.

*(Mr. Parimal Nathwani is Group President of Corporate Affairs and Projects at Reliance Industries Ltd and a Member of Parliament – Rajyasabha from Jharkhand.)*