A report on the status of the children in 25 slums of Surat

Navsarjan
Xavier's Cell for Human Development
Near Old RTO., Ring Road, Surat

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1. About Surat

Surat is a city in the western Indian state of Gujarat. Located at the mouth of the Tapti River, it used to be a large seaport. It is now the commercial and economic center in South Gujarat, and one of the largest urban areas of western India. It has well-established diamond and textile industries, and is a shopping Centre for apparels and accessories.

Children and special youth are strength of India. India has the largest adolescent population in the world, 253 million. In the current situation after Covid 19 pandemic, the situation of the children is worse than before. A big number of children were dropout from school, many children engaged with child labor. Many of the children have left the education because of the poor economic condition of their family.

2. About Navsarjan:

NAVSARJAN Xavier's Cell for Human Development (NXCHD)was established in 1986 under the Bombay Public Trust Act of 1950 and works under the aegis of Gujarat Jesuits. The overarching goal of NXCHD is to work towards improvement of urban governance and inclusive development with special focus on empowerment of women, children, communities and unorganised and seasonal migrant labourers.

The organisation approach to work and interventions with community-based organisations (CBOs) and communities is right based. NXCHD accompanies communities in their process of empowerment where people have the opportunity to realize their potential, their rights as citizens and contribute to wellbeing of themselves and others in the community.

NXCHD is mainly working with women and children. It runs number activities for women and children. To fulfill the below mentioned objective NXCHD had conducted survey in its 25 slums area.

3. Survey Areas:

25 slums of Surat City

4. Objective of the Survey:

1. To find out number of children & youth who are between 6 to 18 years in 25 slum areas.
2. To find out a ratio of girls and boys in 25 slum areas.
3. To find out a ratio of school dropout children in 25 slum areas.

5. Method of Survey:

The survey was conducted online with the help of Kobo collect application via mobile phone. The online survey form was prepared where one-to-one interview was conducted in 25 slum areas.

6. Data Analysis

6.1. Numbers of Families Surveyed

| No.	Name of Area	Numbers of Families		No.	Name of Area	Numbers of Families		No.	Name of Area	Numbers of Families
1	Rasulabad	391		10	Nagsennagar	192		18	Sidharthnagar	125
2	Indiranagar	79		11	Pachsheel	65		19	Hyatnagar	120
3	Anandnagar	101		12	Althan	88		20	Washimnagar	62
4	Nava Kamila	202		13	Rander	67		21	Dargah	54
5	Bhatena	285		14	Tadkeshwar	64		22	Kamrunagar	203
6	Udhana 7	25		15	Sanjaynagar	147		23	Patichawl	33
7	Udhana 9	120		16	Guttamnagar	79		24	Tanuawas	111
8	Shivshakti	109		17	Preminger	199		25	Batliboy	62
9	Swamiviveka	128								
									Total	**3111**

Table – 1
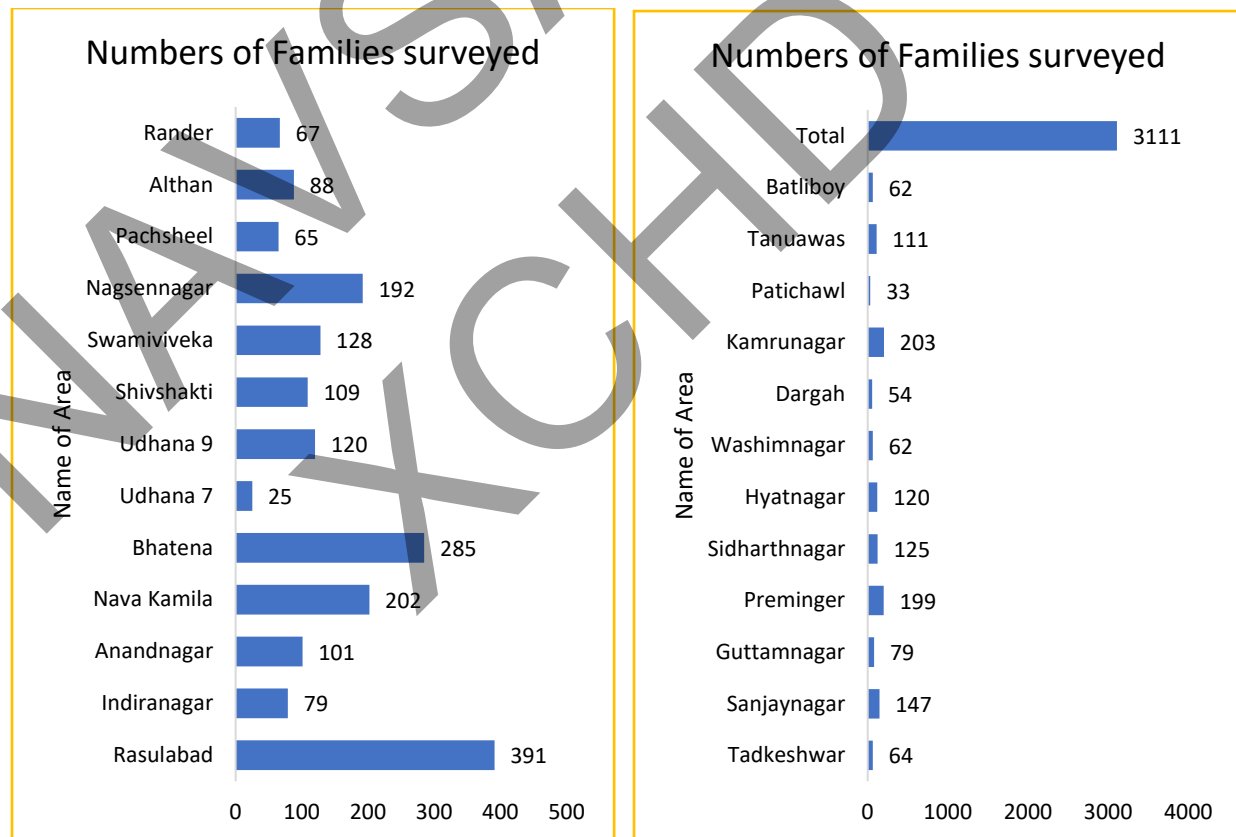
Chart -1

The total number of families living in in 25 areas as per the chart. 1 – are 3111. The total number families living in Rasulabad are 391. The total number of families living in Udhna.7 are 25.

6.2. Types of Families

"Normal" – Here, the meaning of "Normal" is considered that the child is having both parents, i.e. father and mother.

"Only mother" – Here, the meaning of "only mother" is considered that the child is having single mother, who could be a widow or the woman who has been separated from her husband.

"Only father" – Here, the meaning of "only father" is considered that the child is having single father, who could be a widower or the man who has been separated from his wife.

Types of Families			
Normal	Only Mother	Only Father	Orphan
2933	140	22	16

Table – 2
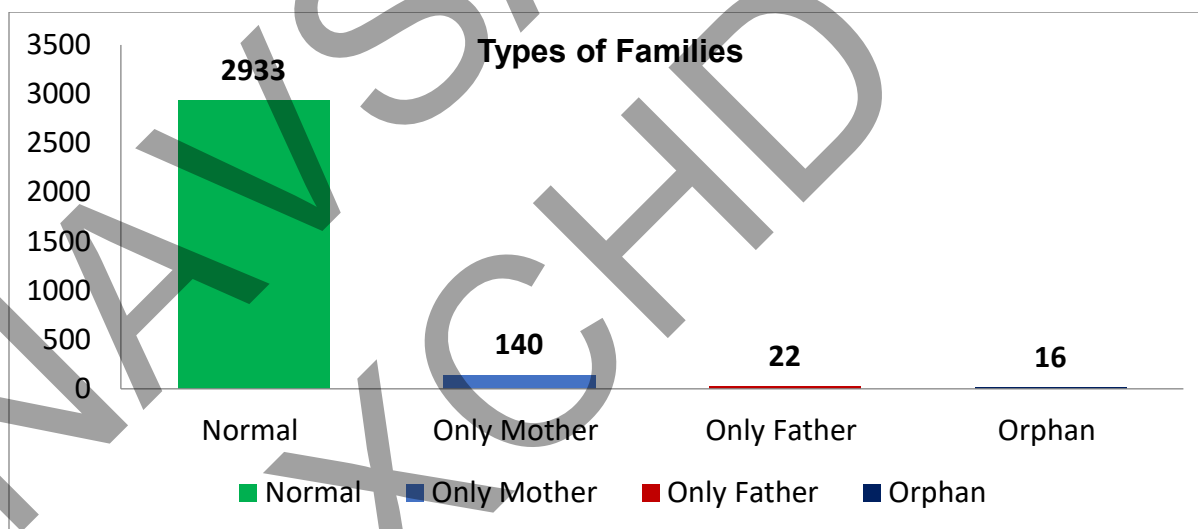

Chart – 2

A total of 3111 families in the new 25 slum areas were the part of the survey as per the chart.2. Out of which 2933 families were normal where children are having both the father & the mother. About 140 families the children were having only mother & no father while children of 22 families had only father while the children of 16 families without father & mother/orphans

6.3. Number of children:

| No.	Name of Area	Number of children		
		No. of Boys	No. of Girls	Total Children
1	Rasulabad	333	447	780
2	Indiranagar	64	76	140
3	Anandnagar	101	99	200
4	Nava Kamila	225	246	471
5	Bhatena	277	309	586
6	Udhana 7	20	23	43
7	Udhana 9	102	113	215
8	Shivshakti	113	100	213
9	Swamiviveka	134	100	234
10	Nagsennagar	167	187	354
11	Pachsheel	59	59	118
12	Althan	76	81	157
13	Rander	67	71	138
14	Tadkeshwar	54	58	112
15	Sanjaynagar	142	159	301
16	Guttamnagar	76	79	155
17	Preminger	188	180	368
18	Sidharthnagar	101	85	186
19	Hyatnagar	111	119	230
20	Washimnagar	54	63	117
21	Dargah	52	49	101
22	Kamrunagar	209	233	442
23	Patichawl	28	34	62
24	Tanuawas	79	106	185
25	Batliboy	47	54	101
	Total	**2879**	**3130**	**6009**

Table -3
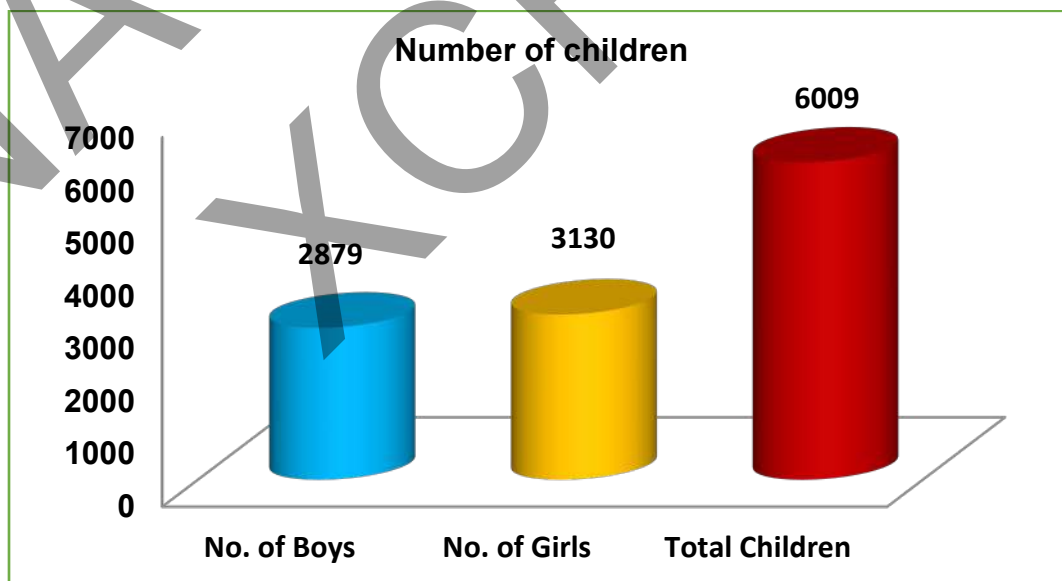
Chart 3

The total 6009 children were surveyed in the 25 slums area of Surat as per the chart.3. The families in slum areas were the part of the survey. Out of which 2933 families were normal that means children had both father & mother, 140 families were with only mothers that means, children had only mothers while 22 families were with only fathers that means the children were having only fathers and 16 families were orphans that means the children were without mothers and fathers.

6.3.1 Number of children in families with single parents and orphan

Types of Families & number of Children in Families					
Only Mother -140		Only Father -22		Orphan - 16	
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
105	155	23	18	11	14

Table 3.1

6.4. Age wise details of Children

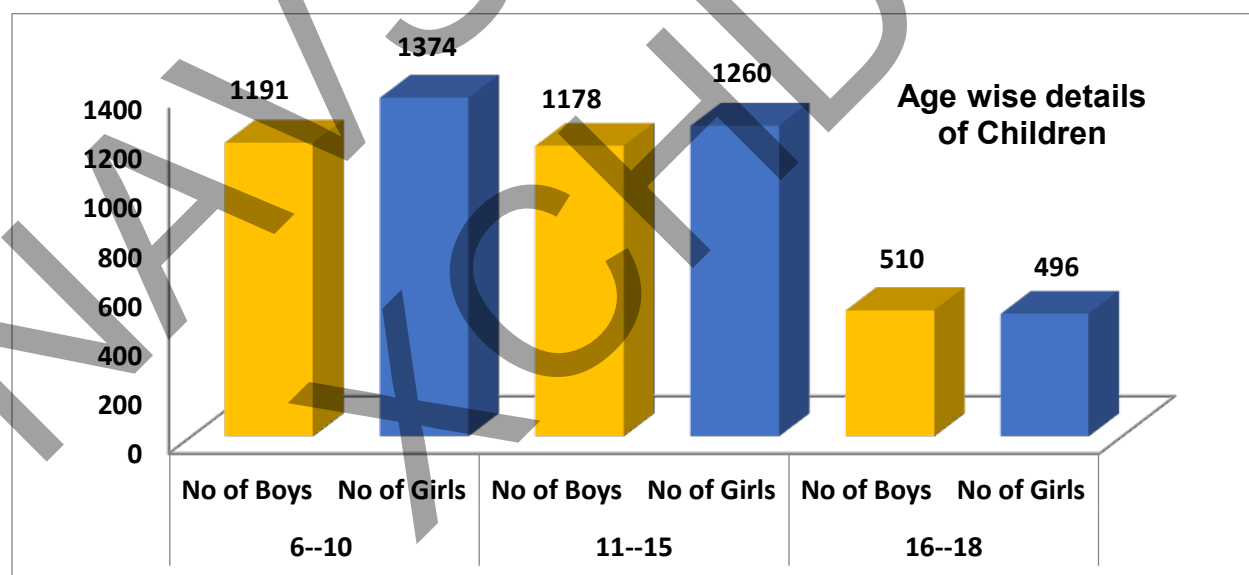| Age Groups					
6 -10		11-15		16-18	
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1191	1374	1178	1260	510	496

Table 4

Chart 4

The total 6009 children were surveyed in the 25 slums area of Surat as per the chart.4. Out which 2565 children, total number of boys were 1191, while total number of girls were 1374. The age group of these children was between 6 to 10 years. Out of 2438 children, the total number of boys were 1178, while total number of girls were 1260. The age group

of these children was between 11 to 15 years. Out of 1006 children, the total number of boys were 510, while total number of girls were 496. These age group of these children was between 16 to 18 years. Highest children were between 6 to 10 years.

6.5. Present Status of Children:

Present Status of Children							
Going to school		Working		Involve in some courses		other@	
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
2545	2735	173	113	13	41	148	241

Table -5

@: Children never went to school, stay at home neither studding or nor working, school dropout children
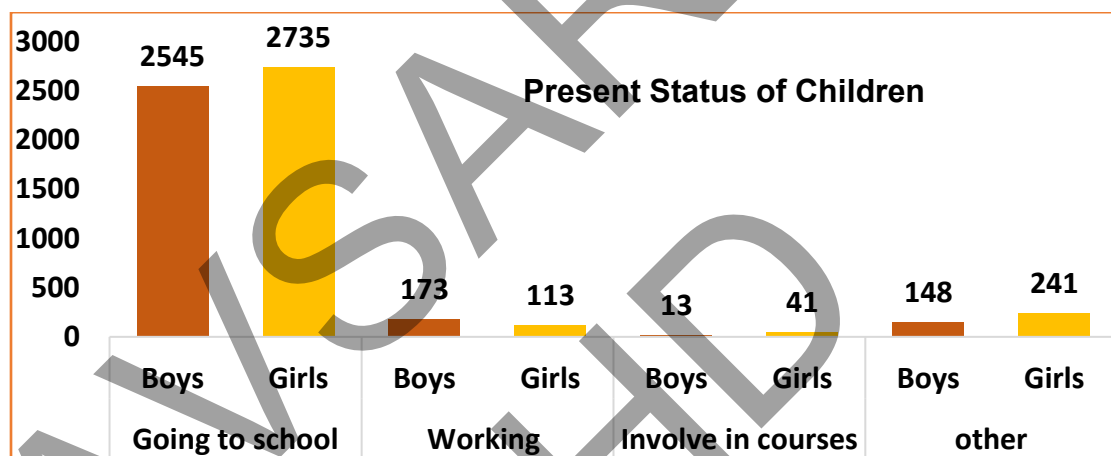
Chart -5

As per the survey, out of total 6009 children, 5280 children (2545 boys and 2735 girls) were going to school, 340 children either working or doing any course to learn, 389 children were doing nothing, they were staying home. See the chart.5

6.6 Details of School going children

6.1.1 Types of School

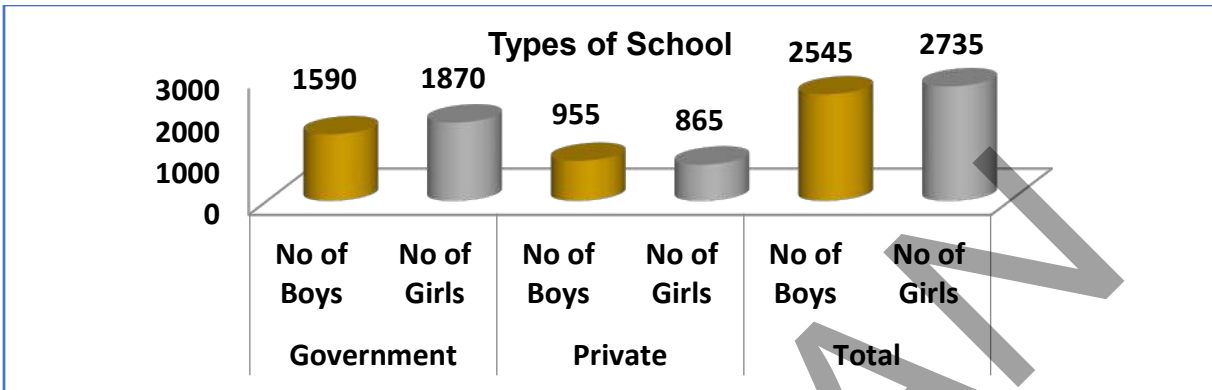| Types of School					
Government		Private		Total	
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1590	1870	955	865	2545	2735

Table – 6

Chart – 6

As per the survey, total 5280 children were going to study. Out of 5280 children, 66 % were school going children i.e. 3460 children were going to government school while 34 % i.e. 1820 children were studying in the private school.

6.1.2 School going Children According to standards

Standards			
1 to 4	5 to 8	9 to 12	Collage
2147	1954	1129	50

Table – 7
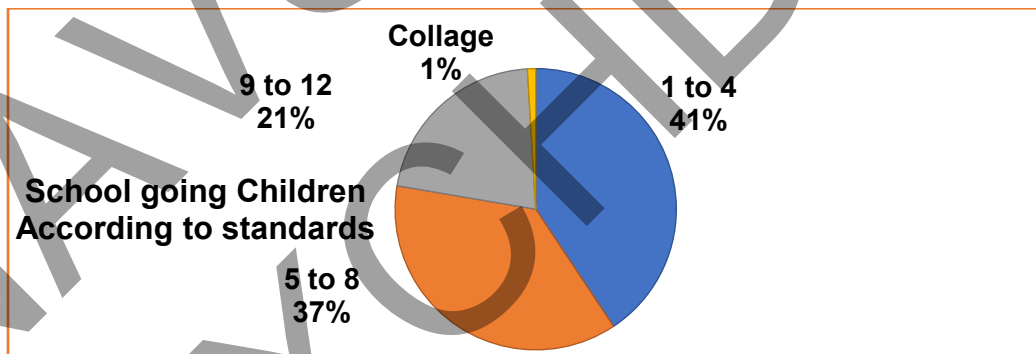
Chart 7

As per the Chart.7, the number of school-going children according to their standard has been indicated. In the standard 1 to 4 the total number of children is 2147 i.e., 41% children are school going children.

6.1.3 Medium of children's education

Medium of Education						
Gujarati	Marathi	Urdu	Hindi	English	Udiya	Other
1721	1177	623	850	652	253	4

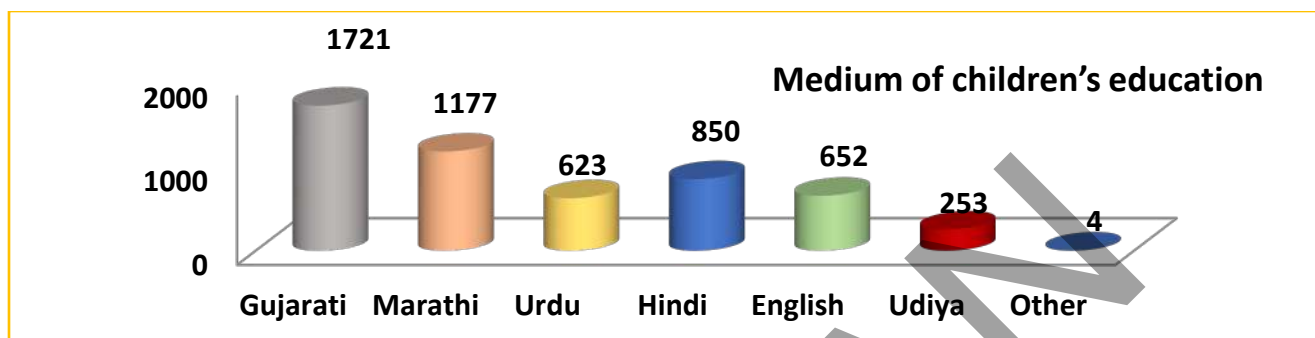**Table – 8**

Medium of children's education

Chart 8

As per the Chart.8, the number of school-going children according to the medium of the education has been indicated. 33 % children were going to Gujarati Medium school. 5 % children were going to Oriya Medium school.

6.7 Working, school dropout children and doing course children
6.7.1 Details of School dropout or doing course children

| No.	Name of Area	School Drop Out		Doing course	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	Rasulabad	49	69	4	7
2	Indiranagar	3	2	0	0
3	Anandnagar	11	7	1	3
4	Nava Kamila	33	47	0	6
5	Bhatena	28	44	1	13
6	Udhana 7	2	2	0	0
7	Udhana 9	4	11	0	0
8	Shivshakti	4	6	0	1
9	Swamiviveka	11	4	0	2
10	Nagsennagar	4	5	4	1
11	Pachsheel	11	4	0	0
12	Althan	1	3	0	0
13	Rander	3	6	0	0
14	Tadkeshwar	1	3	0	1
15	Sanjaynagar	13	14	1	3
16	Guttamnagar	5	7	0	0
17	Preminger	17	10	0	0
18	Sidharthnagar	6	5	0	0
19	Hyatnagar	7	11	0	1
20	Washimnagar	4	3	0	0
21	Dargah	2	8	1	1
22	Kamrunagar	22	31	1	2
23	Patichawl	3	2	0	0
24	Tanuawas	4	2	0	0
25	Batliboy	1	4	0	0
	Total	**249**	**310**	**13**	**41**

Table –9
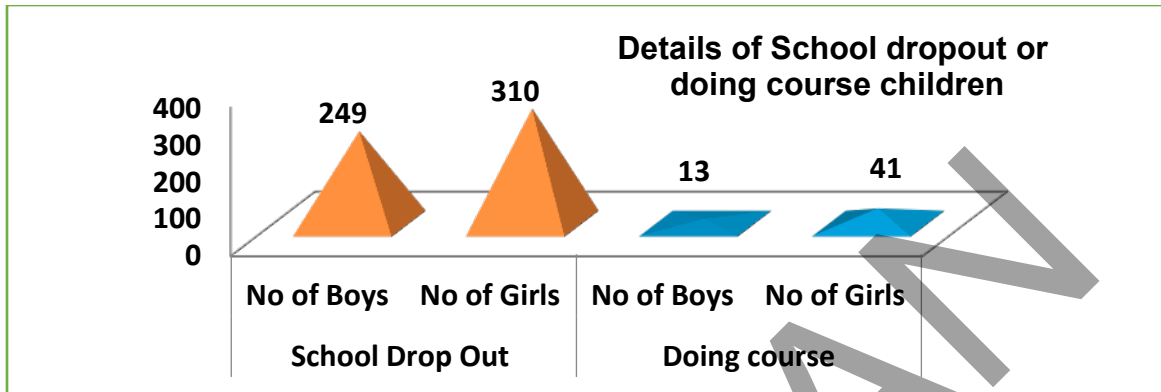
Chart – 9

As per Chart.9, the total number of school-dropout children was 559 and 54 children were doing courses such as tailoring, fashion designing and basic computer. See Chart.9 Among the school dropout children 249 were boys and 310 girls while 13 boys and 41 girls were engaged in some courses.

6.7.2. Details of Class wise school dropout:

| No.	Name of Area	Standards			
		1 to 4		5 to 10	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	Rasulabad	3	6	46	63
2	Indiranagar	0	0	3	2
3	Anandnagar	3	1	8	6
4	Nava Kamila	2	2	31	45
5	Bhatena	2	5	26	39
6	Udhana 7	1	0	1	2
7	Udhana 9	0	1	4	10
8	Shivshakti	0	0	4	6
9	Swamiviveka	1	0	10	4
10	Nagsennagar	0	0	4	5
11	Pachsheel	2	0	9	4
12	Althan	0	1	1	2
13	Rander	0	0	3	6
14	Tadkeshwar	0	0	1	3
15	Sanjaynagar	4	2	9	12
16	Guttamnagar	0	1	5	6
17	Preminger	0	4	17	6
18	Sidharthnagar	1	1	5	4
19	Hyatnagar	0	2	7	9
20	Washimnagar	0	0	4	3
21	Dargah	0	0	2	8
22	Kamrunagar	3	2	19	29
23	Patichawl	0	0	3	2
24	Tanuawas	1	0	3	2
25	Batliboy	0	0	1	4
	Total	**23**	**28**	**226**	**282**

Table – 10
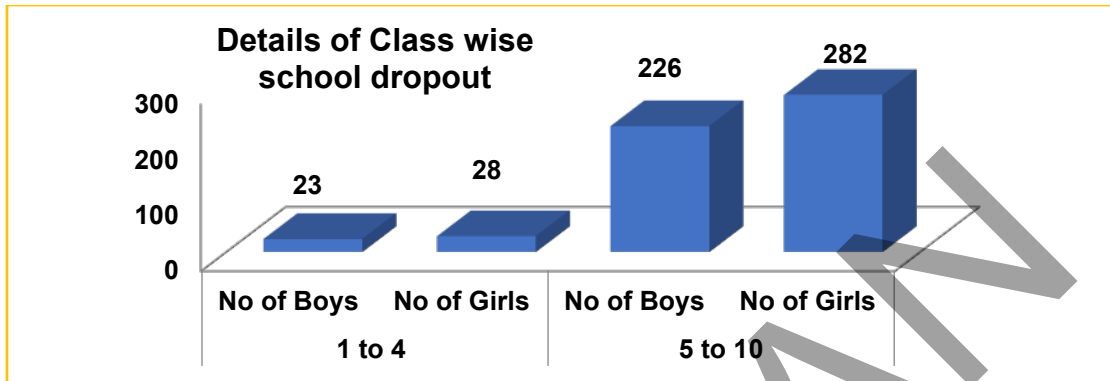
Chart 10

As the Chart.10. Out of 559 children, 51 children were school dropout. i.e. 9 % school-dropout children were studying in standards - 1 to 4. 508 children, i.e. 91 % school-dropout studying in standards - 5 to 10.
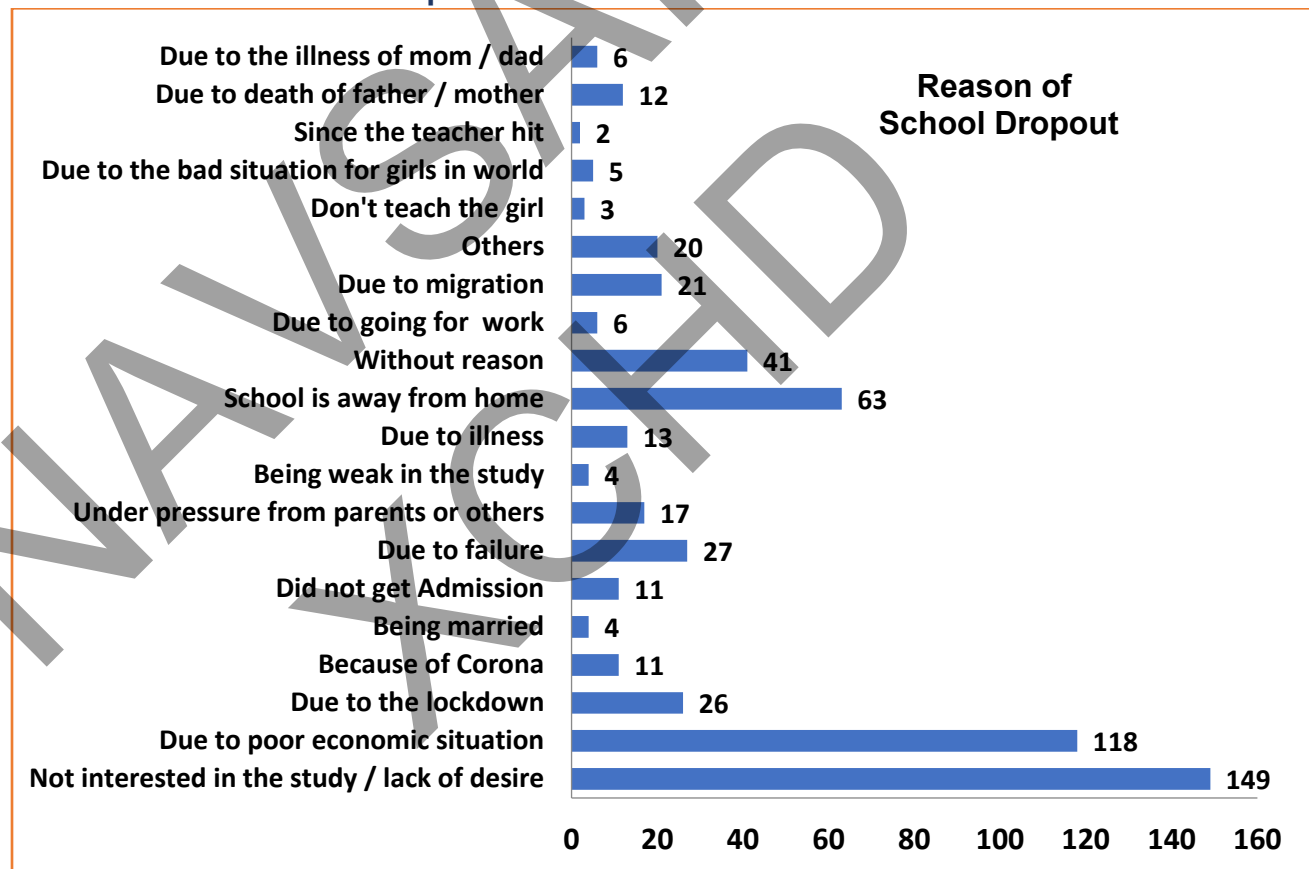
6.7.3 Reason of School Dropout

Chart 11

As per the Chart.11, there are various reasons for children to drop from the school.
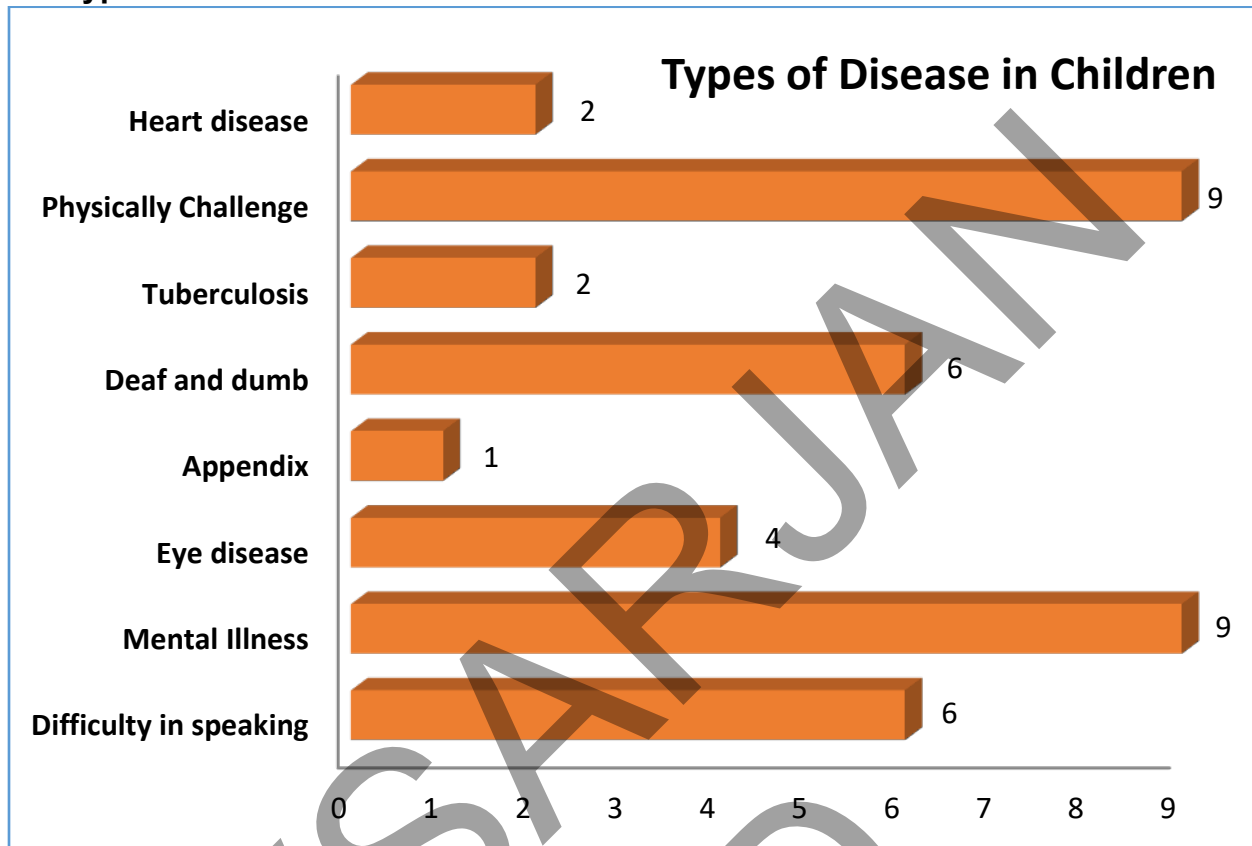
6.8 Type of Disease in Children

Types of Disease in Children

Disease	Value
Heart disease	2
Physically Challenge	9
Tuberculosis	2
Deaf and dumb	6
Appendix	1
Eye disease	4
Mental Illness	9
Difficulty in speaking	6

Chart – 12

As per the Chat – 12, out 6009 children surveyed, 39 children, i.e. 0.65 % had a serious disease. 9 children were handicapped, 7 children were mentally ill, 6 children were deaf and dumb and 6 children had difficulty in speaking.

7. Observations:

I.   Rasulabad slum, one of 25 new slum areas, has 391 families, higher than the other slums.

II. Udhna.7 has 25, the least number of families among the 25 new slums. It may be due to lack of space.

III. There are 140 families with only mother, 16 families with orphans, and 22 families with only father.

IV. The number of children was higher in the lower standards. There has been a decrease in the number of children in the higher standards. 1% of School-going children make up for standard collage.

V.   Gujarati medium has the most students, while Udiya medium has the lowest.

VI. Girls were more likely to drop out of school as compared to boys in both groups, i.e., school dropouts & coursers. Rasulabad, Nava Kamela, and Bahthena has more dropouts than Udhan 7, Althan, and Tadkeshwer.)

VII. It was clearly observed that the school dropout rate increased after the fifth grade. Dropout rates were highest among girls.

VIII. The highest number of children dropout from school because they have no interest in study or lack desire to study. The second highest reason is that children leave school due to poor economic conditions. Twenty-one children left school due to migration and 63 children left school due to being far away.

IX. In government school number of girls is higher while in private school number of boys is higher

X. Dropout rate of girls from Muslim dominant area is higher while in Hindu dominated area boy are at higher rate.

8. Recommendations

➤ Awareness about education is must needed.
➤ Need to work with schools, parents and children to reduce drop out rate.
➤ Sick children should be provided support to improve health.
➤ Educational support to school going children to sustain in the stream.
➤ More focus on girl child for education is needed.
➤ Need to work on health aspect also.
➤ Provide facility and orientation of NIOS to school dropout children
➤ Engaged dropout children in Drop out classes

9. Probable Intervention

10. Conclusion:

The survey was conducted so that the situation of the children can be studied and necessary actions can be plan. NXCHD will try to see that the picture which has emerge from the survey should be address properly.