Vision Rajkot@2047

A Beacon of Good Governance and Sustainable Development

सत्यमेव जयते

District Administration, Rajkot

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District – at a Glance

State	Gujarat
Region	Saurashtra peninsula
Coordinates of district	22°18'0"N 70°46'48"E (Lat, Long)
Area	11,203 km^2 (4,326 sq mi) Surrounded by Morbi district in north, Surendranagar and Botad districts in east, Amreli and Junagadh districts in south and Porbandar Jamnagar district in west.
No. of Administrative Blocks	14. And these are Paddhari, Lodhika, Dhoraji, Rajkot, JamKandorna, Upleta, Jetpur, Kotda Sangani, Jasdan, Vinchhiya, Gondal, Rajkot City-East, Rajkot City-West, Rajkot City-South.
No. of Villages	616
No. of Gram Panchayats	592
No. of Municipalities	7
Population (2011 Census)	38,04,558
Population Density	340/km^2 (880/sq mi)
Sex Ratio	924
Literacy Rate	85.44%
Agriculture Crops	Groundnut, Bajri, Jowar, Cotton, Sugarcane
Minerals	Major: Limestone and Perlite & Minor: Building Limestone, Black tap, Ordinary Clay, Chalk, Dolerite, and Soft Murram.
Industry	The manufacture of **cotton and woolen textiles** is a major activity; ceramics, diesel engines, and water pump sets are also produced in the city. Rajkot is known for its traditional handicrafts (silver work, embroidery, and patola weaving).
Climate	Hot to Moderate Hot and Dry
Parliament Constituency	1
Assembly Constituency	8
Dist. Panchayat Seat	36
Taluka Panchayat Seat	210

Overview

Rajkot district in Gujarat state, particularly in Saurashtra region is unique in several aspects. The district is named after its headquarter Rajkot. City of Rajkot literally means the city of Princes. Rajkot city was founded by Thakorji Vibhaji in the year of 1610 and he ruled about 282 square miles' area with 64 villages throughout. In 1720 the deputy subehdar Masum Khan belonging to Sorath regiment defeated the ruler and the name of Rajkot was changed to Masumabad. After that in the year of 1732 the son of the deafeated ruler Meramanji took the revenge of his father's defeat by defeating Masum Khan again and kept its name Rajkot again.

"Viksit Gujarat @ 2047"

Q. What are the inherent strengths and challenges for Gujarat to achieve this vision?

- **Strength :**

  ◦ Excellent Law and order and Policy driven Administration

  ◦ Excellent Education institutions like-IIMs, IITs, Medical Colleges, Science colleges, Universities

  ◦ Availability of excellent Infrastructure, like Surface and Water Transport

  ◦ Excellent Communication – Internet services, Mobile networks

  ◦ Excellent Electricity (Power) – 24 x7 availability of electricity supply.

  ◦ Availability of Water Supply of Drinking water throughout the year and less dependency on rain.

  ◦ Long coastal area of 1600 with all-weather Ports.

- **Challenges:**

  ◦ Rapid Urbanization may pose challenges to meet improved norms of Ease of living

  ◦ Migration of Educated youth for better Job opportunities resulting in to smaller family size could lead to Social or Emotional distress

  ◦ Over indulgence in social media and IT tools could impact eyes and ears

  ◦ Crave for material success and Reduction in Physical activities may lead to Stress and increased incidence of NCDs.

  ◦ Gaps in Education parameter like Gender gap, Dropout rate at Higher Education

  ◦ Gaps in Nutritional parameters

Q. What should be the top overall priorities for the state to achieve this vision?

1) Whole-of-the-planet approach - Participation of state institutions, civil society, market forces and citizens
2) Transcending Governance model from Dependence to Empowerment
3) Life cycle approach to health and educational services
4) Sustainable Development - Synergy of human, technology & environment
5) Promoting innovations for enhancing resource efficiency for welfare of all
6) Digital Transformation of Institutions and Digital Empowerment of
7) Citizens for a Digitally Empowered Nation
8) Ethics & Integrity - as Non-negotiable values for transparent public service

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कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन । मा कर्मफलहेतुर्भूर्मा ते सङ्गोऽस्त्वकर्मणि

"Karmanye vadhikaraste Ma Phaleshu Kadachana,Ma Karmaphalahetur bhurma Te Sangostvakarmani"

Advises "Detachment.-from the fruits or results of actions or karma performed in the course of duty and also detach yourself from the end rewards and focus on the work".

~ famous verse (Slokas) of the Bhagvad Gita

"In the AmritKaal of Independence, we are marching ahead rapidly to create transparent systems,efficient processes and smooth governance framework to make development all-round and all-inclusive. The Government is committed to strengthening good governance, that is pro-people, and pro-active governance. Guided by the 'citizen first' approach, we remain untiring in our efforts to further deepen the outreach of our service delivery mechanisms and make them more effective by creating more opportunities and removing obstacles in path of citizens."

~Prime Minister Narendra Modi (Independence Day Speech, 2022)

About

This document outlines a vision for Rajkot District in 2047, focusing on achieving good governance and sustainable development across key sectors. It identifies current challenges and opportunities, setting ambitious goals and aspirational targets for the future.

Our Vision: By 2047, Rajkot District will be a thriving hub of innovation and prosperity, offering a high quality of life for all its citizens. This will be achieved through good governance principles, sustainable development practices, and a focus on citizen-centric initiatives.

Developing RAJKOT in to a District which is Swachchh (Clean), Swastha (Healthy), Suposhit (Well-nourished), Sushikshit (Educated), Samaras (Harmoneous), Samruddha (Prosperous) and Surakshit (Safe) with Jan-Bhagidari, by the Centenary of India's Independence as dreamt by the Founding fathers of the our Nation.
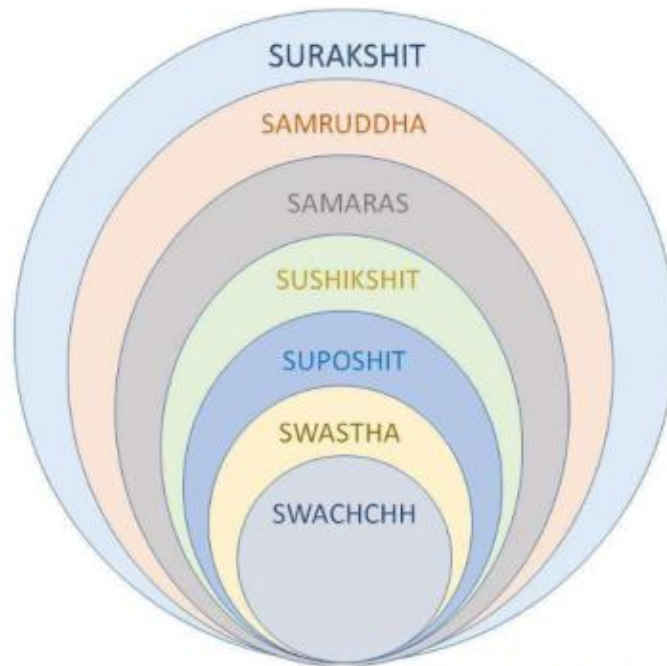
Fig. Saptamrut Sankalp for Amrut Kaal

Guiding Principles:
- **Good Governance:** Transparency, accountability, participation, and efficiency in all government processes.
- **Sustainability:** Balancing economic growth with environmental protection and social equity.
- **Inclusiveness:** Ensuring equal opportunities and access to services for all citizens, regardless of their background.
- **Innovation:** Embracing new technologies and approaches to address challenges and unlock potential.

Key Sectors:

1. **Education:**
- **Challenges:** Low literacy rates in certain demographics, lack of access to quality education in rural areas, skills gap between education and industry needs.
- **Opportunities:** Leveraging technology for enhanced learning, promoting vocational training and skill development, attracting and retaining qualified teachers, fostering a culture of lifelong learning.
- **Goals:** Achieve 100% literacy rate, ensure universal access to quality education from early childhood to higher education, develop a skilled workforce aligned with future market demands.

2. **Healthcare:**
- **Challenges**: Shortage of qualified medical professionals, inadequate infrastructure in rural areas, high prevalence of preventable diseases, limited access to specialized healthcare services.
- **Opportunities**: Telemedicine and digital health platforms, public-private partnerships for healthcare delivery, preventative healthcare and awareness campaigns, strengthening primary healthcare infrastructure.
- **Goals**: Ensure universal access to affordable and quality healthcare, reduce the burden of preventable diseases, improve maternal and child health indicators, establish Rajkot as a regional healthcare hub.

3. Infrastructure:

- **Challenges**: Inadequate road and transport network, limited access to clean water and sanitation in some areas, insufficient power supply, underdeveloped digital infrastructure.
- **Opportunities**: Smart city initiatives, renewable energy projects, public-private partnerships for infrastructure development, sustainable urban planning, focus on water conservation and management.
- **Goals:** Develop a modern and efficient transport network, ensure universal access to clean water and sanitation, transition towards renewable energy sources, create a digitally connected and smart Rajkot District.

4. Agriculture:

- **Challenges**: Climate change impacts on agriculture, low productivity and profitability, limited access to modern technology and market information, water scarcity.
- **Opportunities**: Promoting climate-resilient agriculture practices, precision farming technologies, efficient water management techniques, strengthening agricultural value chains, developing organic farming and high-value crops.
- **Goals**: Increase agricultural productivity and profitability, enhance farmers' resilience to climate change, promote sustainable farming practices, ensure food security and nutritional needs of the population.

5. Tourism:

- **Challenges**: Limited awareness of Rajkot's tourism potential, lack of adequate infrastructure and facilities, insufficient marketing and promotion.
- **Opportunities**: Developing heritage tourism circuits, promoting eco-tourism and rural tourism, leveraging digital platforms for tourism promotion, improving tourist infrastructure and hospitality services.
- **Goals**: Establish Rajkot as a prominent tourist destination, attract both domestic and international tourists, create employment opportunities in the tourism sector, promote sustainable tourism practices.

6. Technology:

- **Challenges**: Digital divide between urban and rural areas, limited digital literacy, lack of investment in research and development, cybersecurity concerns.
- **Opportunities**: Fostering a start-up ecosystem, promoting digital literacy and skills development, leveraging technology for good governance and public service delivery, attracting investments in technology-driven industries.
- **Goals**: Bridge the digital divide, establish Rajkot as a technology hub, promote innovation and entrepreneurship, utilize technology for social and economic development.

* Vision for Good Governance Practices using eGovernance & IT :

- **Industry-Relevant, High-Demand Skill Development:**
  - Introduce programs that teach entrepreneurship and new age topics such as AI, robotics, and digital marketing.
  - Develop vocational training programs in high-demand sectors of IT & ITeS.
  - Expand vocational training programs to 1000 trainees, incorporating advanced topics like AI, & blockchain.
  - Use of AI in e-Commerce & Market Products.
- **Service Delivery:**
  - Assure on Issues of Digital Signed Docts & Certificates.
  - Online & Faceless Services Delivery.
  - Covering more services in DBT mechanism.

- Aadhaar e-KYC in Service delivery
- More use of Mobile e-Governance platforms
- With BigData & AI shall introduce Blockchain in services which incorporates inheritance in the order or are dependents on Parent-Child nodes information chains.
- AI Chatbots for a personalised services.
- AI voice for live text to speech and language conversion (local language chat)

- **Education:**
  - Use of AI-based tools to track student performance and provide personalized learning experiences
  - AI based learning and outcome approach.
- **Expansion in the use of AI in G2G, G2C & G2E Services.**

Focus Areas (Next 2 years vision)

1. 24x7 Government Services
   - E-Governance Platforms: Develop comprehensive e-governance platforms where citizens can access all government services online, available 24x7.
   - Mobile Accessibility: Ensure that all services are accessible via mobile devices, with dedicated apps and mobile-friendly websites.
2. Digitized Paperless Offices
   - Complete Digitization: Convert all government offices to paperless operations by digitizing records, communications, and workflows.
   - Secure Digital Archives: Create secure digital archives using blockchain technology to store and manage government documents and records.
3. Citizen Accessibility from Remote Locations
   - Rural Connectivity: Invest in robust internet infrastructure to ensure highspeed connectivity
   - Service Kiosks: Establish digital service kiosks in remote villages where citizens can access e-governance services
4. Accountable and Empowered Government Employees
   - Digital Training Programs: Implement continuous digital literacy and government employees to ensure proficiency with new technologies.
   - Performance Monitoring Systems: Use AI-based performance monitoring systems to track and appraise employee performance, ensuring accountability and empowerment.
5. Continuous Assessment and Improvement
   - Feedback Mechanisms: Establish robust feedback mechanisms where citizens can rate services and provide suggestions for improvement.
   - AI and Data Analytics: Utilize AI and data analytics to analyze feedback and operational data for continuous process improvements.
6. Saturation of All Key Government Schemes
   - Automated Scheme Monitoring: Develop automated systems to monitor the implementation and impact of government schemes, ensuring complete saturation and efficient resource allocation.
   - Blockchain for Transparency: Implement blockchain technology to track and manage scheme disbursements, ensuring transparency and preventing fraud.

Transitioning to a fully digital government can significantly enhance the efficiency, transparency, and accessibility of public services. For a rural and geographically challenging district like Rajkot, digitization ensures that all citizens, including those in remote areas, can access government services seamlessly and efficiently.

Rajkot will leverage digital technologies to improve governance, ensuring that every citizen,

regardless of their location, can access government services quickly and efficiently. This will involve the implementation of advanced digital infrastructure, continuous training for government employees, and the use of AI and blockchain for secure and transparent operations.

*Aspirations and Goals for the Future:
- **Improved Quality of Life:** Access to quality education, healthcare, housing, and basic amenities for all citizens. Clean and green environment, safe and secure communities, vibrant cultural and recreational opportunities.
- **Ease of Living:** Efficient public transportation, seamless digital connectivity, streamlined government services, accessible and affordable housing options.
- **Economic Growth:** Diversified economy, creation of high-value jobs, thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem, attracting investments across various sectors.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Transition to renewable energy sources, efficient water management, sustainable waste management practices, preservation of natural resources and biodiversity.

Implementation:
Achieving this vision requires a collaborative effort from all stakeholders. The government will play a key role in setting policies, providing infrastructure, and creating an enabling environment for development.
The private sector will contribute through investments, innovation, and job creation.
Civil society will play a crucial role in advocacy, awareness raising, and promoting citizen participation.
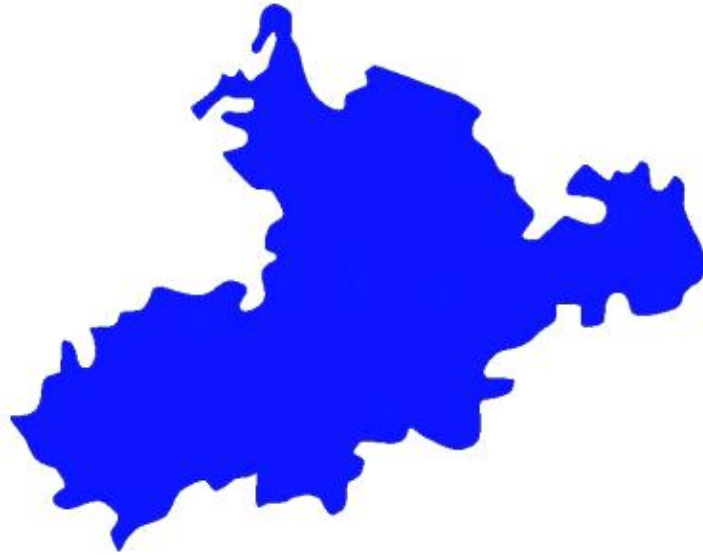
Monitoring and Evaluation:
Regular monitoring and evaluation of progress will be essential to ensure we stay on track towards achieving our goals.

Conclusion:
Vision 2047 charts a course for a brighter future for Rajkot District, built on the foundations of good governance, sustainable development, and a focus on improving the lives of all citizens. This vision calls for collective action and a commitment to building a prosperous, equitable, and sustainable Rajkot District for generations to come.