

BOOK YOUR TICKETS

2nd ANNOUNCEMENT from the RIGHT TO FOOD CAMPAIGN

5th NATIONAL CONVENTION

ON THE RIGHT TO FOOD AND WORK

1-3 MARCH 2014

DALIT SHAKTI KENDRA, SANAND, GUJARAT

Dear friends,

BOOK YOUR TICKETS FOR THE FIFTH NATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE RIGHT TO FOOD AND WORK 1-3 MARCH 2014, at Sanand near Ahmedabad, Gujarat

The Steering group of the Right to Food Campaign^[1] invites you and your organization to the Fifth National Convention on the Right to Food and Work in Ahmedabad from 1-3 March 2014.

The last convention was organized in Rourkela, Odisha, in July 2010 where more than 2500 people from 18 States participated. The context of the last convention was to push for a comprehensive food security law. It also consisted of discussions on issues of agricultural production, procurement and storage of food along with other determinants of food security. The discussions also dwelled on critiquing the reforms in food governance systems, particularly the Public Distribution System being linked with UID and cash transfers. Public action at local, state and national level was also planned.

The forthcoming Convention in March 2014, aims to consolidate the gains of people's campaigns on issues of survival and build broad alliances in preparation to ensure the centrality of eliminating hunger, the right to food and livelihoods, and social protection as a political priority for the 2014 general elections and beyond.

This Convention comes on the heels of the passage of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013 by the Indian Parliament in September 2013. The NFSA falls short of the framework and provisions proposed by the Campaign for a food law. The proposed convention will strategise to press for a comprehensive food security law. At the same time, it will also review the implementation of the law, as monitored by the campaign, since its passage.

The context of the 2014 convention is also to debate the dominant market-led development models with growing socio-economic disparities and their impact on hunger in the light of increasing food inflation. This convention will also analyse the international trade treaties, the recently concluded WTO Ministerial meet at Bali and their impact on farmers and the poor. The strengthening of the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005, the Forests Rights Act, challenging state policy of coercive change in land use, the introduction of GM foods and ensuring the right to food of children, women, Dalits, Tribals, the Minorities and the Disabled will also be important priorities.

This event convened by the Right to Food Campaign in Gujarat aims to chart the campaign priorities in 2014 and beyond.

Attached is a proposed programme based on the discussions held at the first programme committee meeting on January 7th. This will be finalised based on responses received. We request you all to please send in your comments and suggestions for the plenary sessions, parallel workshops, speakers and co-ordinators within a week. A programme committee meeting is planned in Ahmedabad on 27th January 2014. On that date we would like to finalise the programme and plenary speakers and begin circulating the details. We therefore request you to send in all your suggestions by the 20th at the latest.

As planned in the meeting organized on the 19th and 20th December 2013, all constituents of the campaign, including state campaigns would organize their conventions latest by mid-February 2014 in order to facilitate better involvement of local groups and grassroots organisations at the national convention.

The venue of the convention has now been confirmed as

**Dalit Shakti Kendra,
Nani Devati, Sanand-Bavla Road,
Sanand, District. Gujarat State Highway 144,
Gujarat 382213, India**

Maps with directions to the venue are enclosed (Appendix 2):

Nearest train station: Ahmedabad main railway station (32 km away)

Nearest bus station: Paldi bus station (28 kms away)

Nearest airport: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport (41 kms away)

Participating organisations are also invited to bring their campaign material (e.g. reports, posters, exhibitions, etc.) for circulation or display at the Gujarat convention.

The cost of this convention will be met through voluntary donations and registration fees. Thus any donations that you can send will be most helpful.

A minimum of Rs. 200 per participant for three days, including food and accommodation, has been kept as registration fee, although the actual cost is working out to be Rs. 500 per participant for lodging, boarding, local transport and food.

Kindly, intimate us about the number of participants who will come from your organisation as it will help us plan for the convention.

All participants are expected to make their own travel arrangements. Kindly book your tickets well in advance.

Participants are also expected to bring their own eating utensils (plate, bowl, glass, spoon etc), as required. The weather is expected to be warm. The local organisers will provide durries for all to sleep in, but sheets, pillows, mattresses may be hired on a cost basis (Rs 30-50 per night).

We request you to share news of this convention within your organization and with other interested organizations/individuals as well. The same letter in Hindi is attached.

For further information, please send a line to righttofoodindia@gmail.com, check the campaign website (righttofoodindia.org) or contact the Right to Food Campaign secretariat at 011-29849563.

In solidarity,

Steering group of the Right to Food Campaign

We are,

Annie Raja (National Federation for Indian Women), Anuradha Talwar and Gautam Modi (New Trade Union Initiative), Arun Gupta and Radha Holla (Breast Feeding Promotion Network of India), Arundhati Dhuru and Ulka Mahajan (National Alliance of People's Movements), Asha Mishra (Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti), Aruna Roy, Anjali Bharadwaj and Nikhil Dey (National Campaign for People's Right to Information), Ashok Bharti (National Conference of Dalit Organizations), Colin Gonsalves (Human Rights Law Network), Kiran Vissa and Kavitha Kuruganthi (Alliance for Sustainable and Holistic Agriculture), Kavita Srivastava and Binayak Sen (People's Union for Civil Liberties), Lali Dhakar, Sarawasti Singh, Shilpa Dey and Radha Raghwal (National Forum for Single Women's Rights), Mira Shiva and Vandana Prasad (Jan Swasthya Abhiyan), Paul Divakar and Asha Kowtal (National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights), Praveen, Prahlad Ray and Anand Malakar (Rashtriya Viklang Manch), Subhash Bhatnagar (National Campaign Committee for Unorganized Sector workers), Jean Drèze and Vidya Bhushan Rawat (Former Support Group for the Right to Food campaign)

Veena Shatrugna, M Kodandram and Rama Melkote (Andhra Pradesh), Saito Basumaatary and Sunil Kaul (Assam), Rupesh (Bihar), Gangabhai and Sameer Garg (Chhattisgarh), Pushpa, Amrita, Vimla and Sarita (Delhi), Sejal Dand and Neeta Hardikar (Gujarat), Sharada Gopal, Abhay Kumar and Clifton (Karnataka), Balram, Gurjeet Singh and James Herenj (Jharkhand), Sachin Jain (Madhya Pradesh), Mukta Srivastava and Suresh Sawant (Maharashtra), Tarun Bharatiya (Meghalaya), Bidyut Mohanty, Raj Kishore Mishra, Vidhya Das (Orissa), Ashok Khandelwal, Bhanwar Singh and Vijay Lakshmi (Rajasthan), V Suresh (Tamil Nadu), Bindu Singh (Uttar Pradesh), Fr. Jothi SJ and Mr. Saradindu Biswas (West Bengal)

For more information, please contact

Kavita Srivastava (0141-2594131 or [09351562965](tel:09351562965)),
Dipa Sinha (09650434777)
Sejal Dand (08130200062)
Neeta Hardikar (09428512745)

Secretariat: c/o PHRN, E-39, First floor, Lajpat Nagar - III, New Delhi – 110024, India Website: www.righttofoodindia.org, Email: righttofoodindia@gmail.com, Phone: +91-11 29849563

[1] The "Right to Food Campaign" is an informal network of organisations and individuals committed to the realisation of the right to food in India. We consider that everyone has a fundamental right to be free from hunger. For a brief account of the campaign's activities so far, please visit our website righttofoodindia.org

Appendix 1: Proposed Programme

NFSA and Beyond: From Food Security to Food Sovereignty 5th National Convention on the Right to Food 1st to 3rd March 2014

Venue: Dalit Shakti Kendra, Sanand, near Ahmedabad

Proposals for Plenary Sessions:

| Session Title and Time | Session Description |
|--|--|
| Inaugural Plenary (Day 1 opening, morning): NFSA and beyond: From Food Security to Food Sovereignty | This plenary session will include speakers who will address the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persisting hunger (history of campaign, case, current context and so on), • NFSA – gains, unfinished agenda • WTO – international trade and food security question, • Agriculture policy (GM included), • Changing Land Use, • Displacement, • linkages with Urbanisation and urban food security, • Case study of Gujarat (Gujarat development paradigm, in relation to food sovereignty) • |
| Plenary II (Day 1 evening): Dialogue with the farmers organisations – dialogue with peasants for sustainable food security | This plenary is to be in a panel discussion format. A conversation between farmers groups (different kinds) and RTF campaign – where different points of view, if exist can be put forward. To include issues related to production, procurement and PDS, support for farmers, TRIPs, GMOs |
| Plenary III (Day 2 morning) Part I: Unpacking Nutrition: Food Diversity and Malnutrition | This session to include issues related to Nutritional Security, Water, Sanitation, Health, Millets, Commercialisation, fortification issues, children's right to food, gujarat presentation on their malnutrition survey |
| Plenary III (Day 2 morning) Part II: Implementation and Empowerment – NFSA, NREGA and Pensions | Governance issues in nrega, pds, pensions, icds, mdms, grievance redressal, inclusion |
| Plenary IV (Day 2 evening): Organisational Issues and General Body | To discuss state campaigns, steering committee, and other issues that came up in 19 th – 20 th meeting. Also reporting of work and finances |
| Plenary V (Day 3 morning): Building Alliances to Strengthen Democracy/ to eliminate Hunger and Inequality | To invite representatives of friendly campaigns/networks. If any international right to food people come, they can also be included in this session |
| Public Meeting (Day 3 evening in Ahmedabad after/before rally): Ending Persistent Hunger and Inequalities: Vision Forward Ahmedabad Declaration | Modi's Development Vs People's Development and the Ahmedabad Declaration on the Right to Food or Elimination of hunger and persistent inequalities. |

Proposed Workshop Themes

Proposed Workshops (based on workshops held during Rourkela Convention and some additional proposals that have come in. This is list needs to be reviewed and finalised. Two or more workshops maybe combined if there is a lot of overlap. Workshops can also be conducted in two parts over the two days)

1. Agriculture – Enhancing Production and Decentralised Procurement (including GM, seed bill etc.)
2. International Trade Treaties, WTO and its impact on Indian Agriculture policies and farmers and Food Security
3. Forest land rights
4. Displacement
5. Right to Work (Wages and Employment)
6. Labour laws (marginalisation and casualisation of labour, getting in trade unions)
7. NREGA
8. Urban issues: Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme, Homeless
9. Distress Migration
10. Implementation of PDS entitlements under NFSA – criteria for identification
11. (Women’s) unpaid work, child care and maternity entitlements
12. Children’s Right to Food – monitoring schemes for addressing malnutrition (including growth monitoring)
13. Commercialisation, Conflict of interest in food policy and provision of food through public programmes
14. Social Security of Vulnerable groups: Looking at Pensions, Community Kitchens and other social support
15. Exclusion – dalit issues
16. Exclusion – tribal issues
17. Implementation and Governance Issues (including legal action, grievance redressal)
18. RTI
19. Changing land use for industrialisation and other non-agriculture purpose like, Mining, Urbanisation, Tourism, Military and other (public) purpose: Impact on livelihoods, food security and food safety
20. Water Use
21. Women Farmers: Entitlements, livelihoods and Food security
22. Linkages and dimensions of Violence against women and Food security - Trafficking Sex slavery in labour camps, Survivors of violence and entitlements,
23. Maternal Health, Nutrition and Rights

Included in Rourkela but undecided on repetition

24. Microfinance
25. Hunger and starvation
26. Rights of Fishing Communities
27. Rights to Forest Produce
28. Women and Food Security (*the unpaid work workshop is expected to address this as well*)

Appendix 2: Maps with Directions to the Venue

Ahmedabad Railway Station to Dalit Shakti Kendra

Paldi Bus Station to Dalit Shakti Kendra

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport to Dalit Shakti Kendra



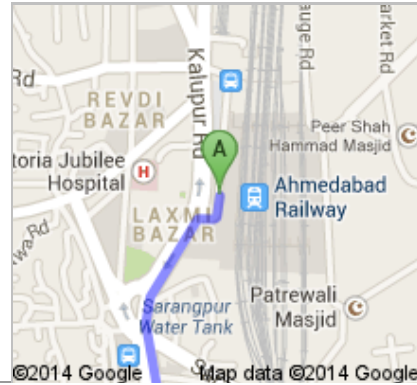
Directions to Dalit Shakti Kendra

Nani Devati, Sanand-Bavla Road, Sanand, Dist., Gujarat State Highway 144, Gujarat 382213, India

32.6 km – about **48 mins**

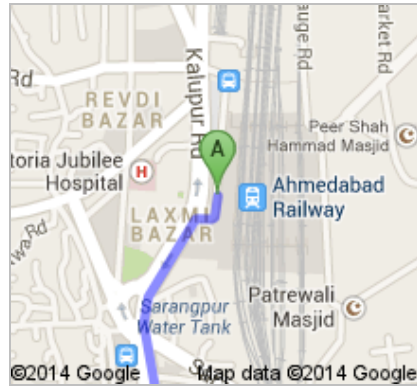


A Ahmedabad Railway Station
 Laxmi Bazar, Saraspur, Ahmedabad, GJ 380002,
 India



1. Head toward **Kalupur Rd**
 south on Unknow n road

go 97 m
 total 97 m



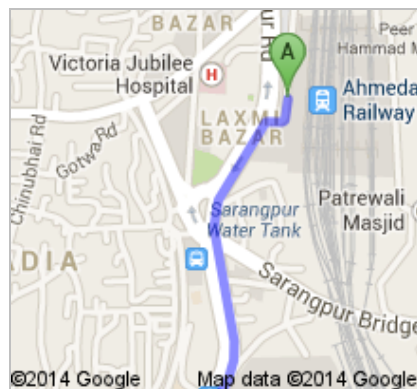
2. Turn left onto **Kalupur Rd**

go 210 m
 total 300 m



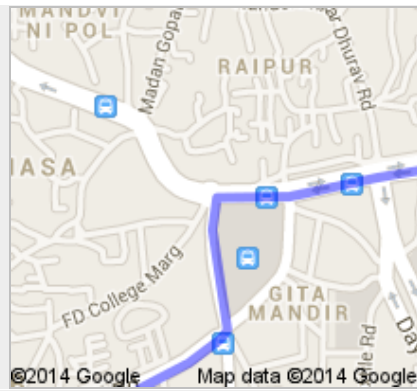
3. At the roundabout, take the **2nd exit**
 onto Sw ami Vivekananda Rd


go 1.4 km
 total 1.7 km



4. At **Astodia Gate Cir**, take the **1st exit**
 onto Gita Mandir Rd


go 300 m
 total 2.0 km



 5. Turn right onto **Jagannathji Rd**

go 800 m
total 2.8 km



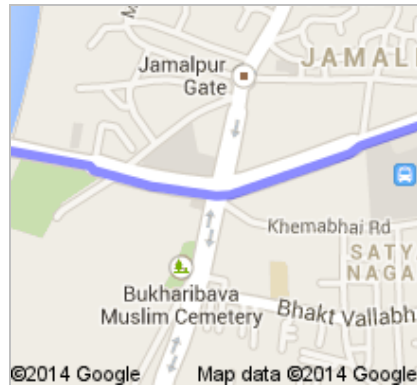
 6. Slight left to stay on **Jagannathji Rd**


go 350 m
total 3.1 km



7. Continue onto **Bhagtacharya Rd**

go 1.7 km
total 4.8 km



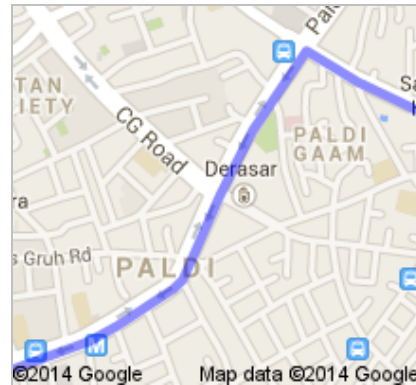
 8. Turn left onto **Paldi Rd**

go 400 m
total 5.2 km



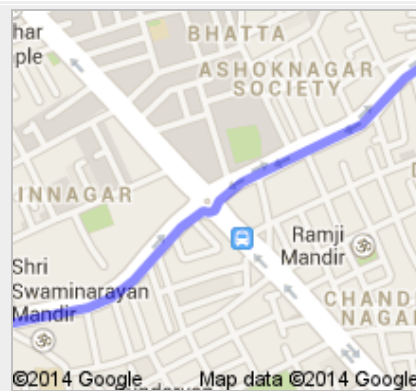
9. Continue onto **Freniben Desai Marg**
Pass by **Sahjanand Plaza** (on the right in 1.0 km)

go 1.3 km
total 6.5 km



10. At the roundabout, take the **2nd exit**
onto Vasna Rd

go 2.3 km
total 8.9 km



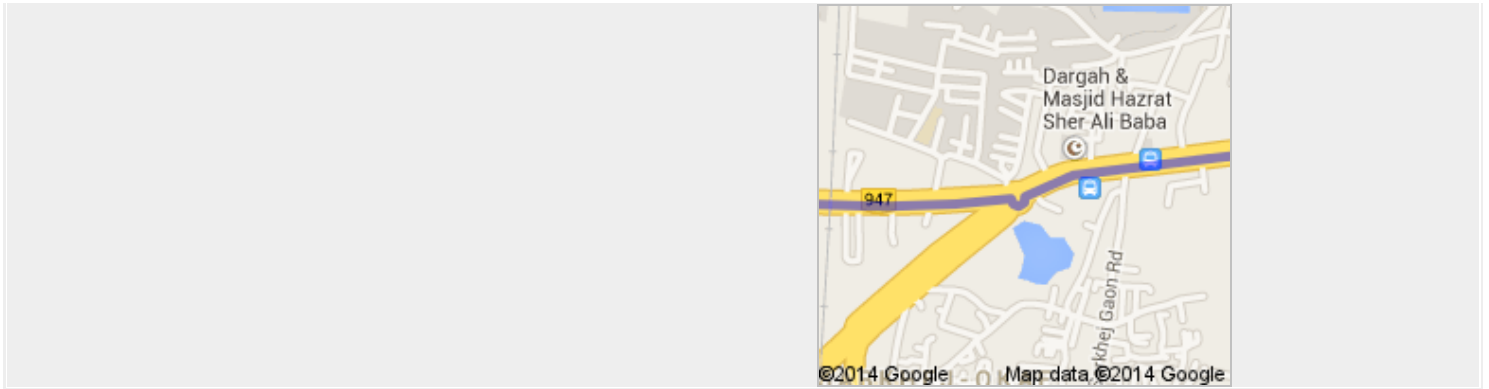
11. Continue onto **Jawaharlal Nehru Rd**
Pass by **Royal Akbar** (on the right in 900 m)

go 3.4 km
total 12.2 km



12. At the roundabout, take the **2nd exit**
onto GJ SH 17/NH 947
Go through 2 roundabouts

go 12.5 km
total 24.8 km



13. Turn left onto **GJ SH 144**
Destination will be on the left

go 7.8 km
total 32.6 km



B Dalit Shakti Kendra
Nani Devati, Sanand-Bavla Road, Sanand, Dist.,
Gujarat State Highway 144, Gujarat 382213, India



These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather, or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly. You must obey all signs or notices regarding your route.
Map data ©2014 Google

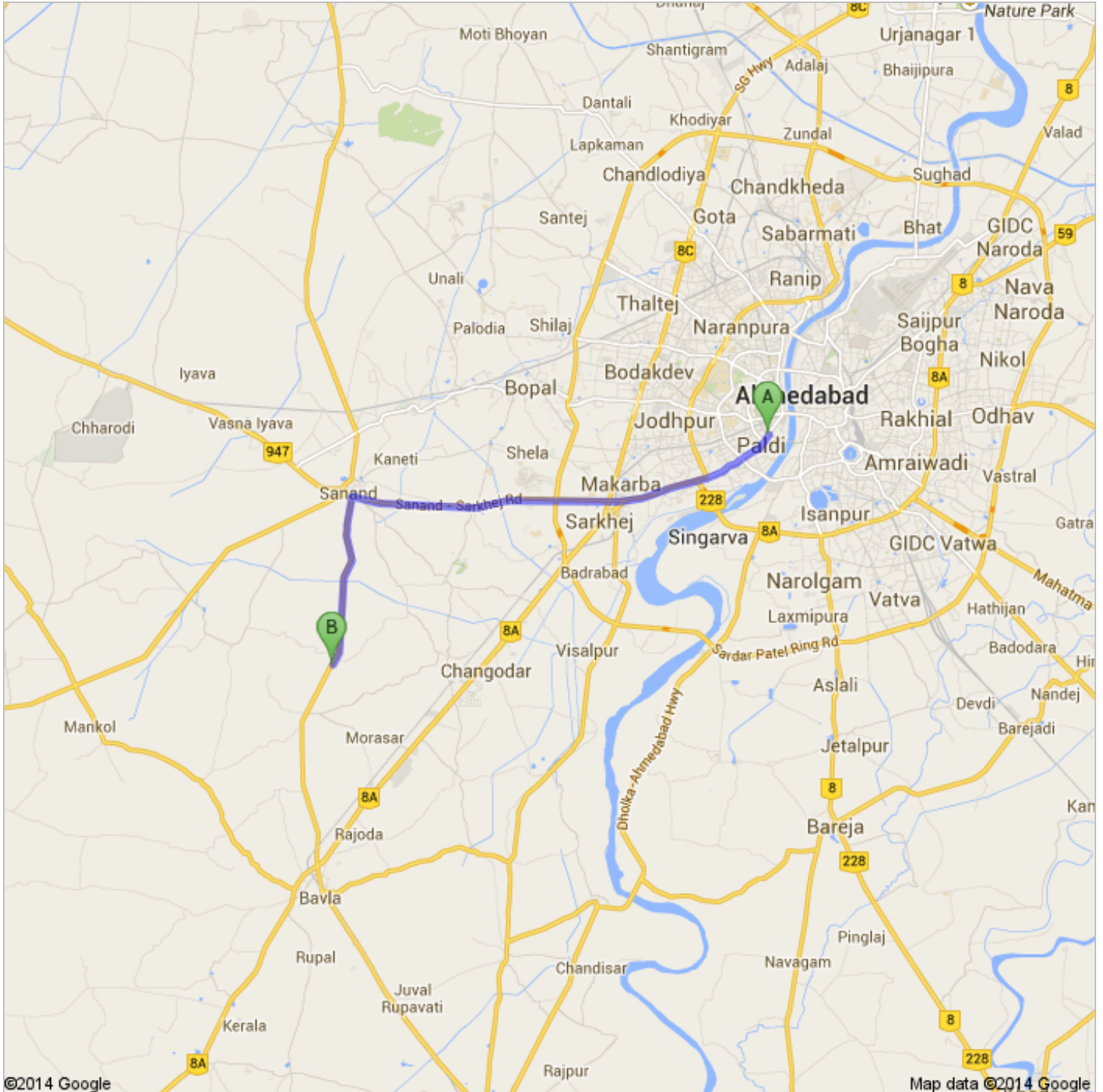
Directions weren't right? Please find your route on maps.google.com and click "Report a problem" at the bottom left.



Directions to Dalit Shakti Kendra

Nani Devati, Sanand-Bavla Road, Sanand, Dist., Gujarat State Highway 144, Gujarat 382213, India

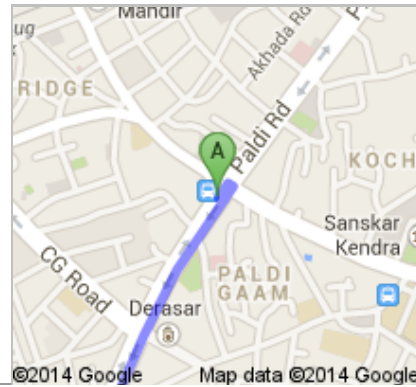
27.8 km – about 38 mins





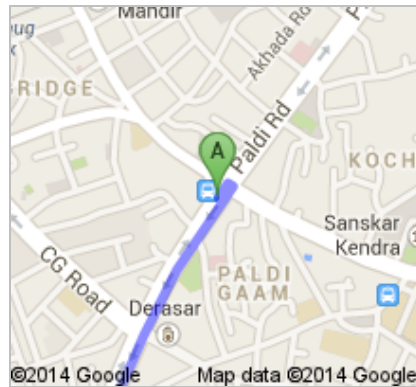
Paldi Bus Station

Paldi Rd, Paldi, Ahmedabad, GJ 380007, India



1. Head toward **Bhagtacharya Rd/Netaji Rd**
northeast on Paldi Rd

go 41 m
total 41 m



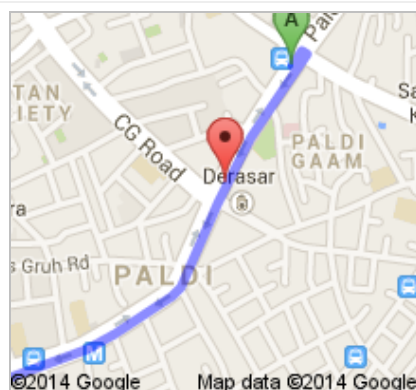
2. Make a U-turn at **Bhagtacharya Rd/Netaji Rd**

go 400 m
total 450 m



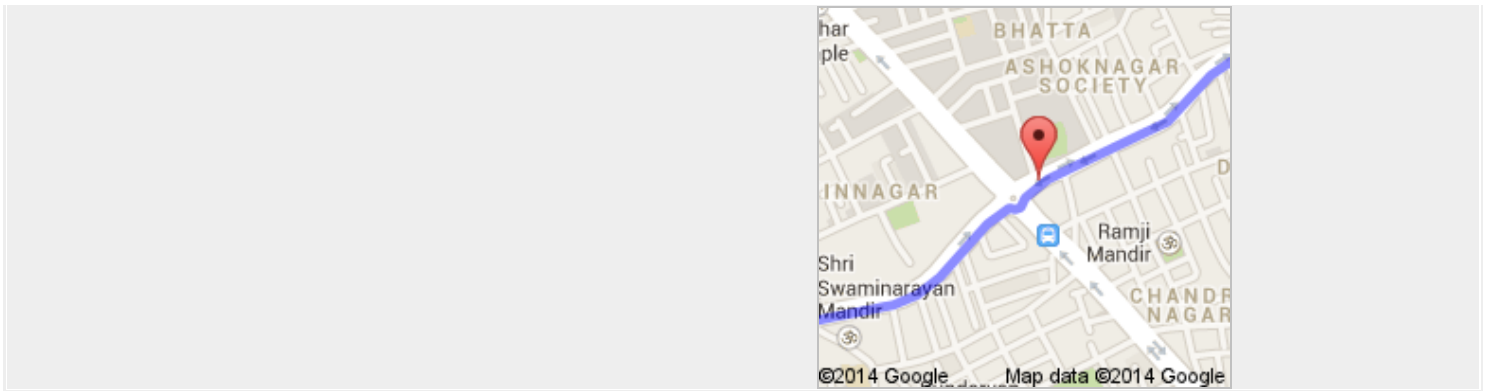
3. Continue onto **Freniben Desai Marg**
Pass by **Sahjanand Plaza** (on the right in 1.0 km)

go 1.3 km
total 1.7 km



4. At the roundabout, take the **2nd** exit
onto Vasna Rd

go 2.3 km
total 4.1 km



5. Continue onto **Jawaharlal Nehru Rd**
Pass by **Royal Akbar** (on the right in 900 m)

go 3.4 km
total 7.5 km



6. At the roundabout, take the **2nd exit**
onto GJ SH 17/NH 947
Go through 2 roundabouts

go 12.5 km
total 20.0 km



7. Turn left onto **GJ SH 144**
Destination will be on the left

go 7.8 km
total 27.8 km



B **Dalit Shakti Kendra**
Nani Devati, Sanand-Bavla Road, Sanand, Dist., Gujarat State Highway 144,
Gujarat 382213, India



These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather, or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly. You must obey all signs or notices regarding your route.

Map data ©2014 Google

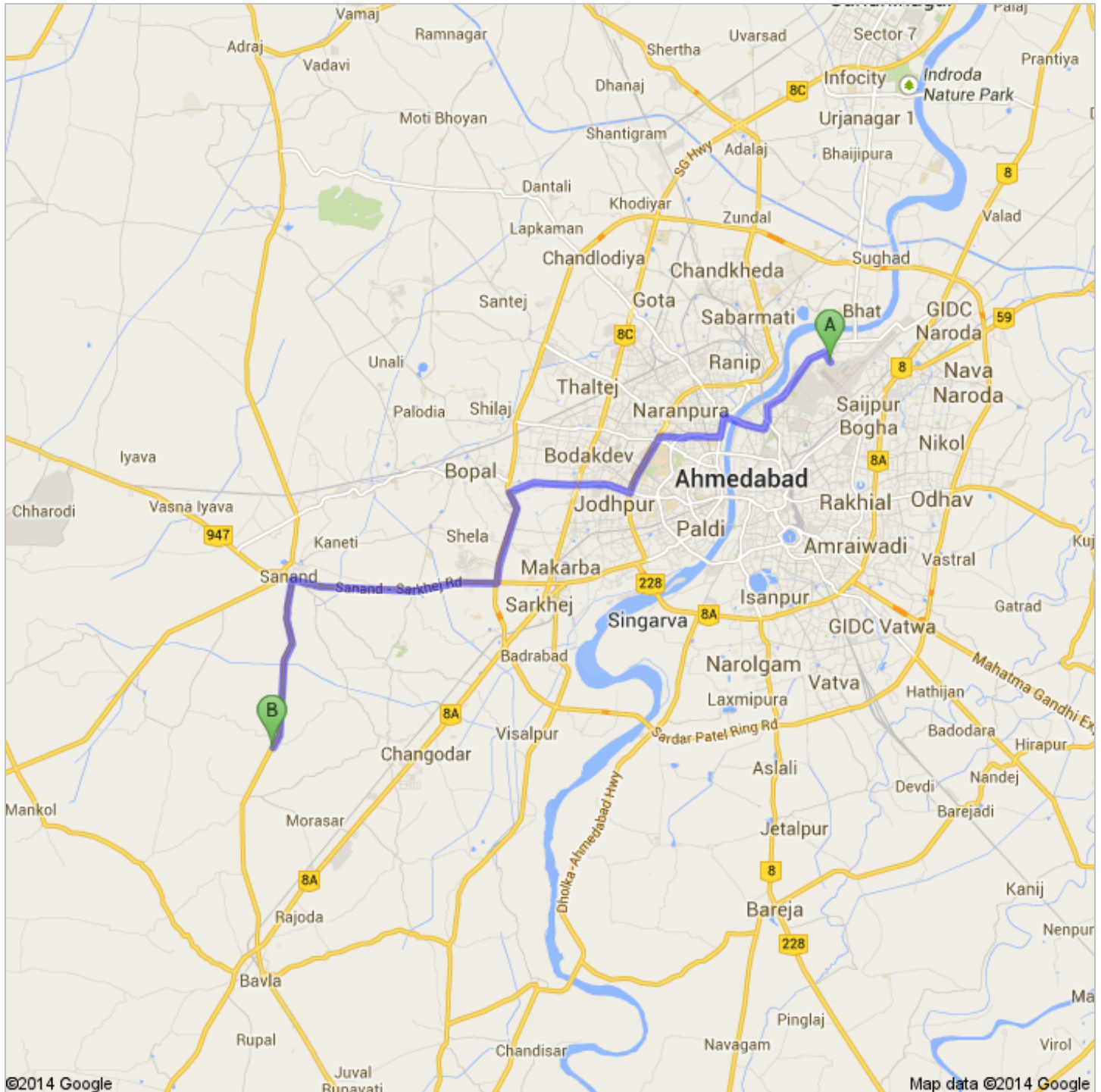
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Directions to Dalit Shakti Kendra

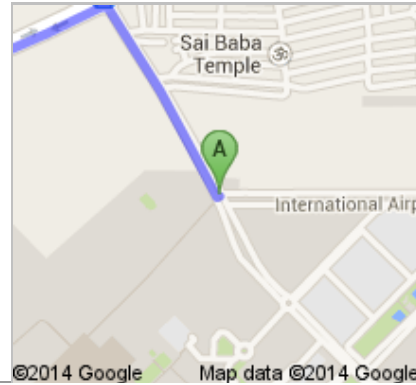
Nani Devati, Sanand-Bavla Road, Sanand, Dist., Gujarat State Highway 144, Gujarat 382213, India

41.6 km – about 57 mins



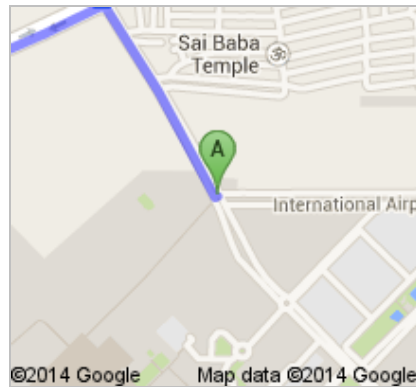


Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport
 एरपोर्ट रोड, हन्सोल, अहमदाबाद, गुजरात 380003, India



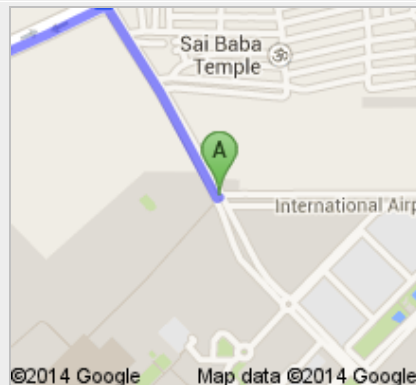
1. Head toward **International Airport Rd**
 southwest on Unknown road

go 6 m
 total 6 m



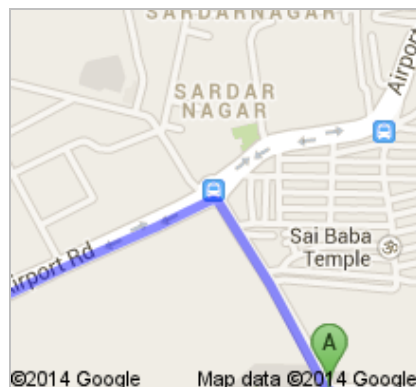
2. Turn right onto **International Airport Rd**

go 500 m
 total 500 m



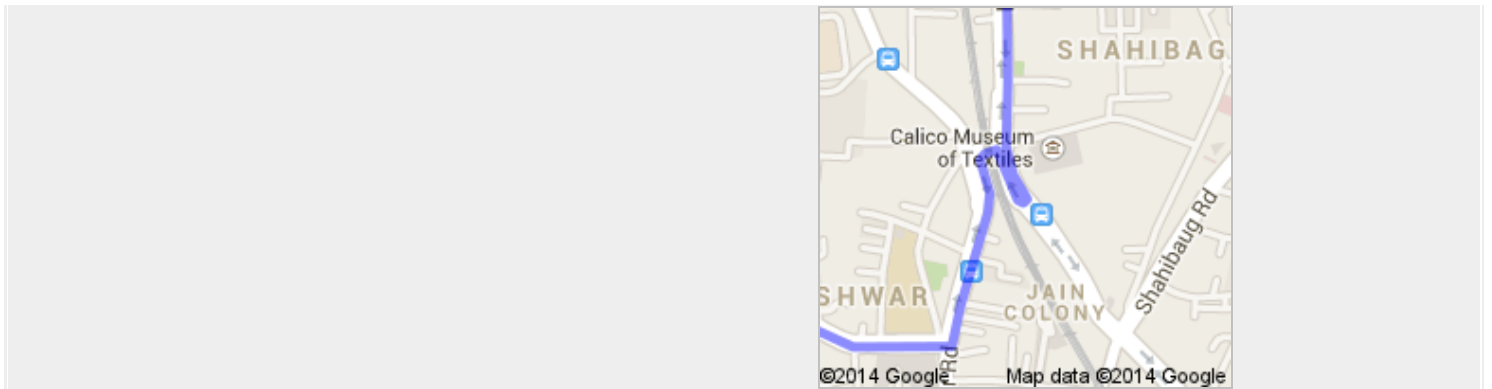
3. At the roundabout, take the **1st** exit
 onto Airport Rd

go 4.4 km
 total 4.9 km



4. Turn right
 toward Shahibaug Underpass


go 12 m
 total 4.9 km



 5. Turn right onto **Shahibaug Underpass**


go 140 m
total 5.1 km



 6. Turn left to stay on **Shahibaug Underpass**

go 150 m
total 5.2 km



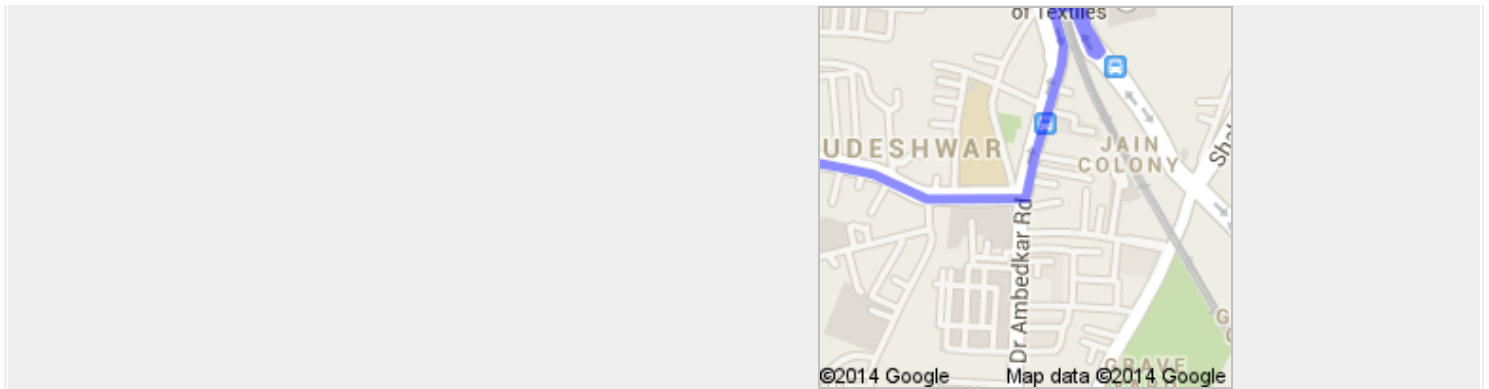
 7. At the roundabout, take the **1st** exit
onto Dr Ambedkar Rd

go 350 m
total 5.6 km



 8. Turn right onto **Charansingh Gurusingh Mangat Marg**

go 900 m
total 6.5 km



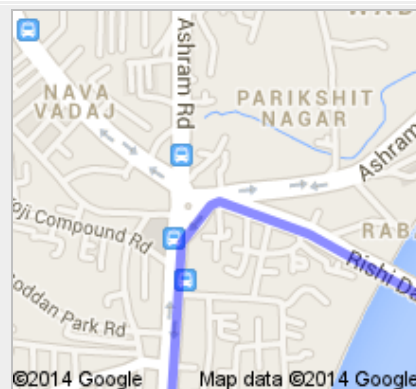
9. At the roundabout, take the **2nd** exit
onto Rishi Dadhichi Bridge

go 1.0 km
total 7.5 km



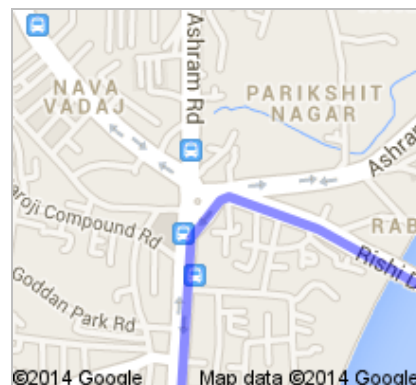
10. Turn left onto **Ashram Rd**

go 22 m
total 7.5 km



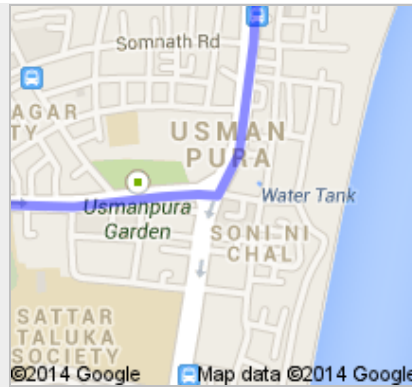
11. Take the 1st left
to stay on Ashram Rd
Pass by **Shupath-2** (on the left)

go 1.0 km
total 8.5 km



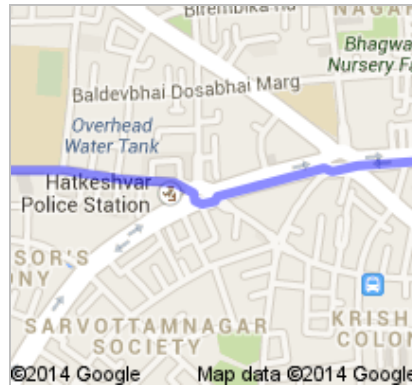
12. Turn right onto **120 Feet Ring Rd**
Go through 1 roundabout

go 1.7 km
total 10.3 km



13. At **Darpan Cir**, take the **4th exit** onto Shree Bapalal Dandwala Marg

go 1.0 km
total 11.3 km



14. Turn left onto **132 Feet Ring Rd**

go 2.7 km
total 14.0 km



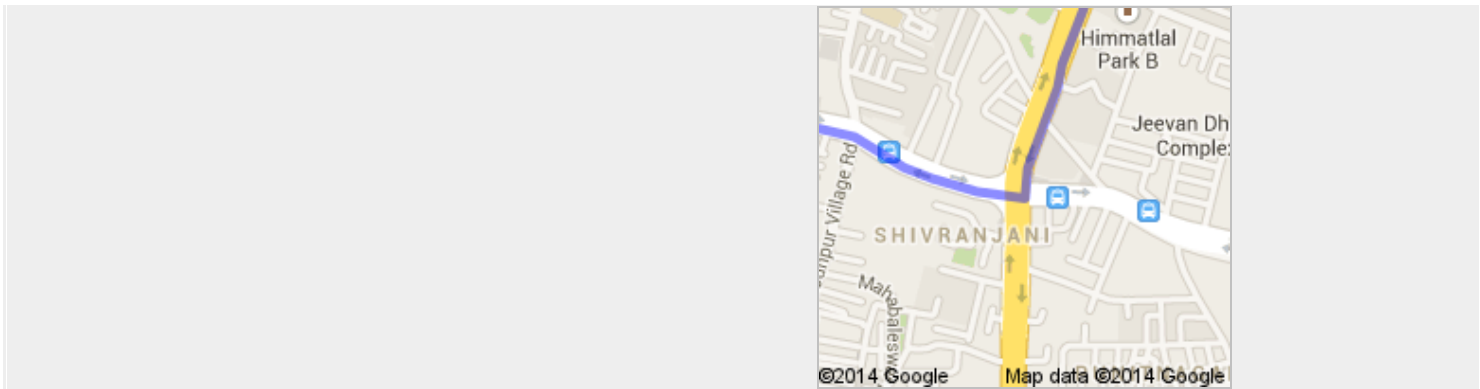
15. Slight left toward **Satellite Rd**

go 350 m
total 14.3 km



16. Turn right onto **Satellite Rd**

go 2.5 km
total 16.8 km



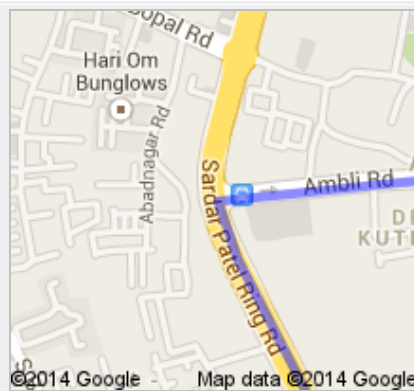
17. Continue onto **Ambli Rd**
 Pass by **Swagat Plaza 2** (on the left in 2.6 km)

go 3.2 km
 total 20.0 km



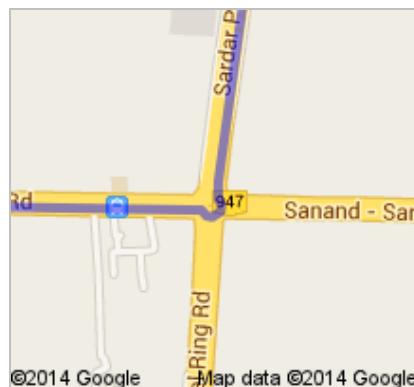
⬅️ 18. Turn left onto **Sardar Patel Ring Rd**

go 4.4 km
 total 24.4 km



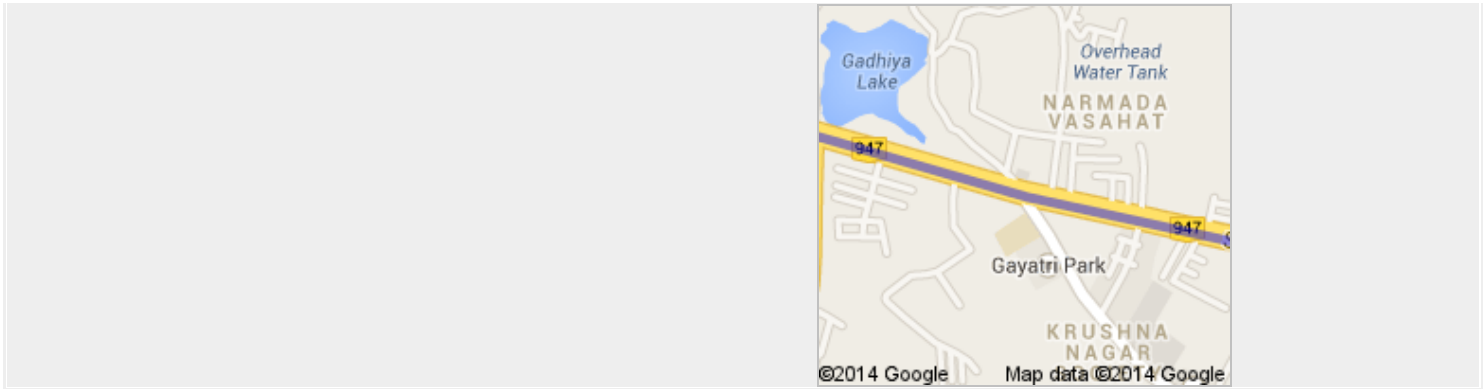
⬅️ 19. At the roundabout, take the **3rd** exit
 onto Sanand - Sarkhej Rd


go 8.9 km
 total 33.3 km



20. Continue onto **GJ SH 17/NH 947**


go 500 m
 total 33.8 km




 21. Turn left onto **GJ SH 144**
 Destination will be on the left

go 7.8 km
 total 41.6 km




Dalit Shakti Kendra
 Nani Devati, Sanand-Bavla Road, Sanand, Dist.,
 Gujarat State Highway 144, Gujarat 382213, India



These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather, or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly. You must obey all signs or notices regarding your route.
 Map data ©2014 Google

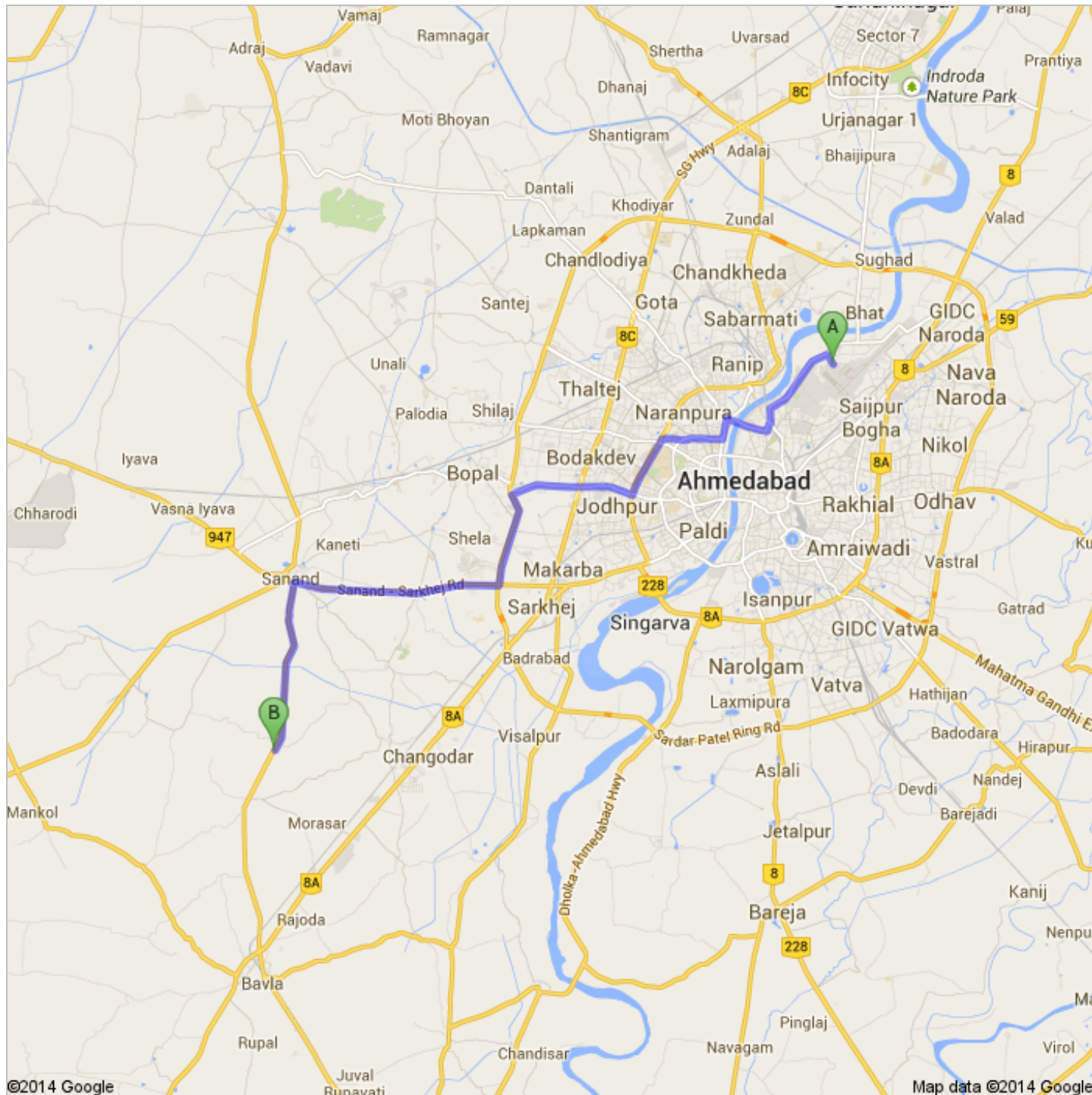
Directions weren't right? Please find your route on maps.google.com and click "Report a problem" at the bottom left.



Directions to Dalit Shakti Kendra

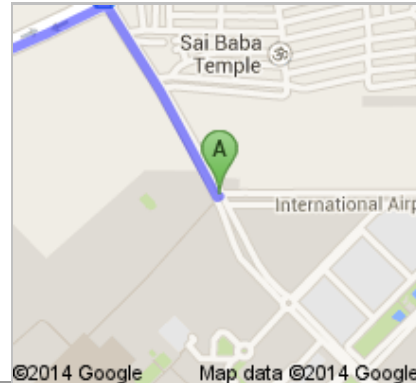
Nani Devati, Sanand-Bavla Road, Sanand, Dist., Gujarat State Highway 144, Gujarat 382213, India

41.6 km – about 57 mins



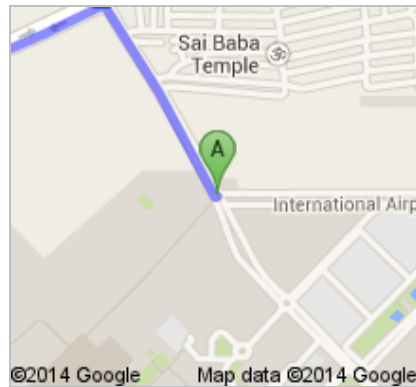


Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport
 एरपोर्ट रोड, हन्सोल, अहमदाबाद, गुजरात 380003, India



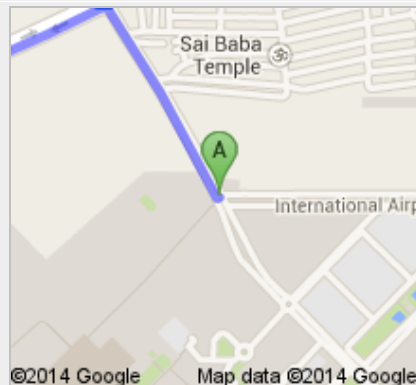
1. Head toward **International Airport Rd**
 southwest on Unknown road

go 6 m
 total 6 m



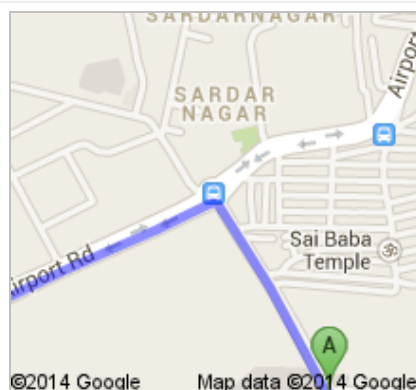
2. Turn right onto **International Airport Rd**

go 500 m
 total 500 m



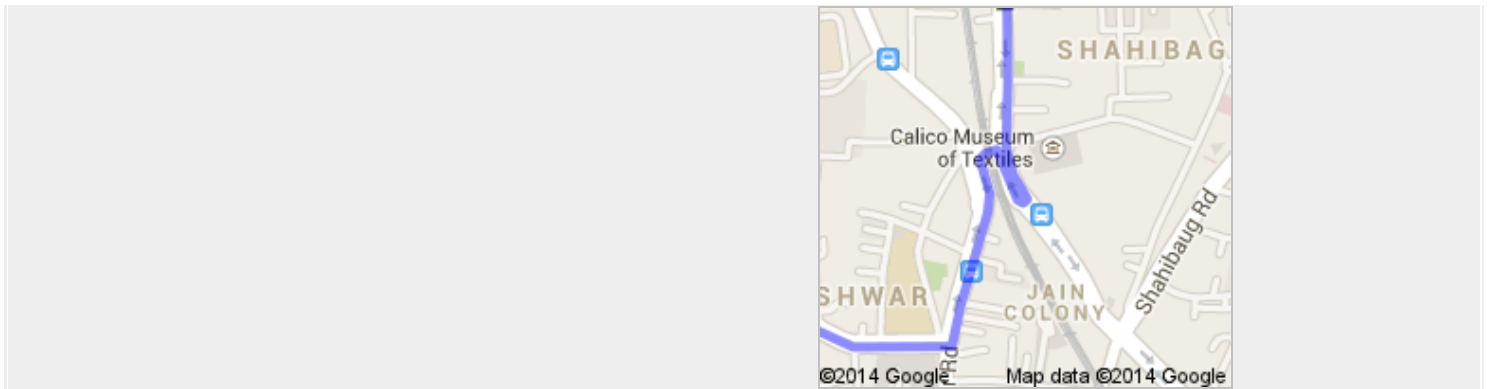
3. At the roundabout, take the **1st** exit
 onto Airport Rd

go 4.4 km
 total 4.9 km



4. Turn right
 toward Shahibaug Underpass


go 12 m
 total 4.9 km



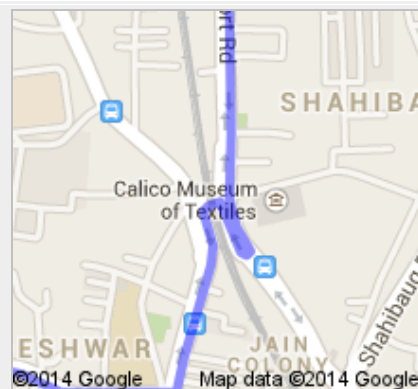
 5. Turn right onto **Shahibaug Underpass**


go 140 m
total 5.1 km



 6. Turn left to stay on **Shahibaug Underpass**

go 150 m
total 5.2 km



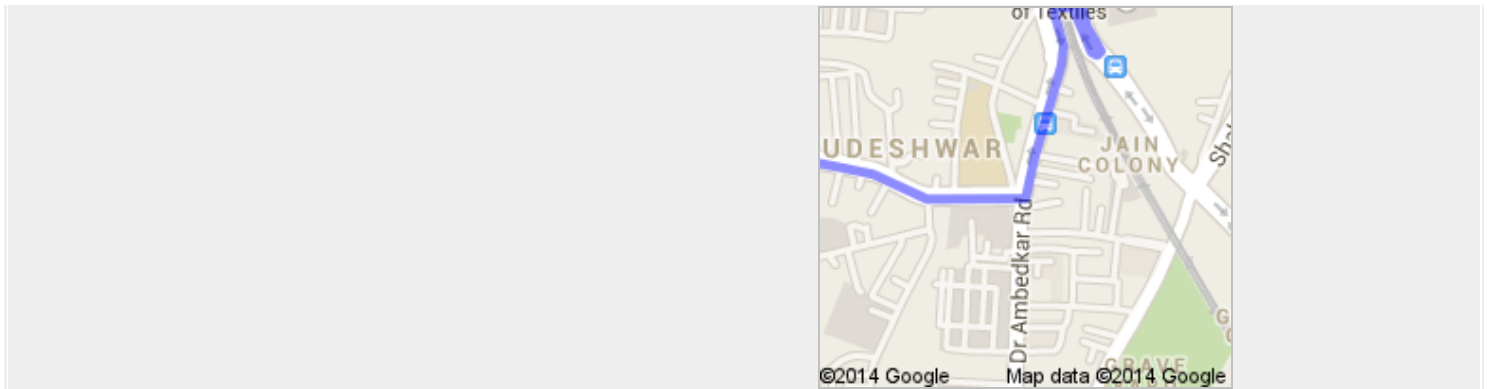
 7. At the roundabout, take the **1st** exit
onto Dr Ambedkar Rd

go 350 m
total 5.6 km



 8. Turn right onto **Charansingh Gurusingh Mangat Marg**

go 900 m
total 6.5 km



9. At the roundabout, take the **2nd** exit
onto Rishi Dadhichi Bridge

go 1.0 km
total 7.5 km



10. Turn left onto **Ashram Rd**

go 22 m
total 7.5 km



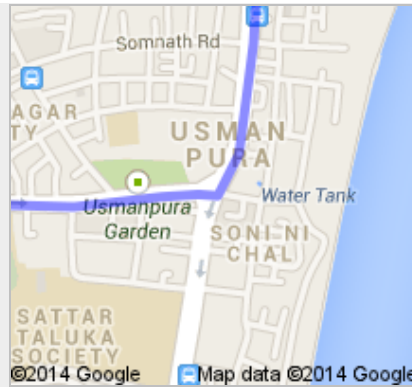
11. Take the 1st left
to stay on Ashram Rd
Pass by **Shupath-2** (on the left)

go 1.0 km
total 8.5 km



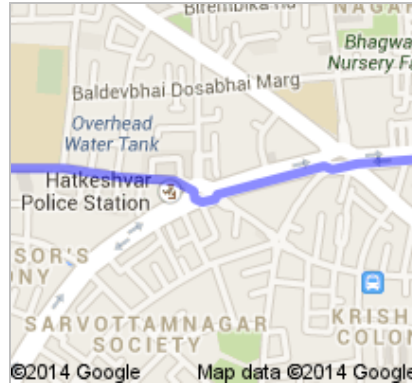
12. Turn right onto **120 Feet Ring Rd**
Go through 1 roundabout

go 1.7 km
total 10.3 km



13. At **Darpan Cir**, take the **4th exit** onto Shree Bapalal Dandwala Marg

go 1.0 km
total 11.3 km



14. Turn left onto **132 Feet Ring Rd**

go 2.7 km
total 14.0 km



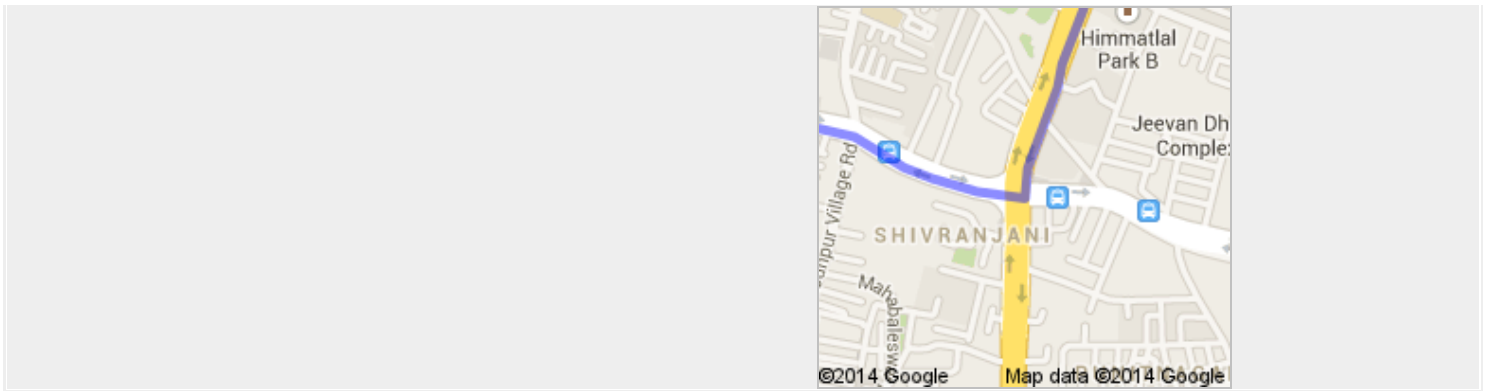
15. Slight left toward **Satellite Rd**

go 350 m
total 14.3 km



16. Turn right onto **Satellite Rd**


go 2.5 km
total 16.8 km




17. Continue onto **Ambli Rd**
 Pass by **Swagat Plaza 2** (on the left in 2.6 km)


go 3.2 km
 total 20.0 km





 18. Turn left onto **Sardar Patel Ring Rd**

go 4.4 km
 total 24.4 km


 A map segment showing the route turning left onto Sardar Patel Ring Rd. The path is highlighted in blue, passing by Hari Om Bunglows and Abadinagar Rd. It then turns right onto Ambli Rd. The map is credited to ©2014 Google.

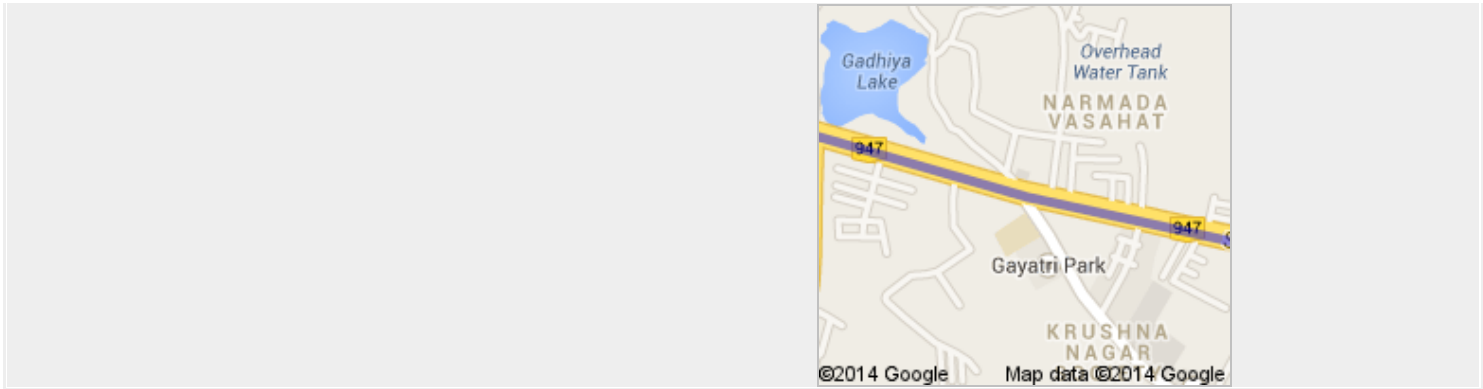

 19. At the roundabout, take the **3rd** exit
 onto Sanand - Sarkhej Rd


go 8.9 km
 total 33.3 km


 A map segment showing a roundabout where Sardar Patel Ring Rd meets Sanand - Sarkhej Rd. The path is highlighted in blue, taking the 3rd exit onto Sanand - Sarkhej Rd. The map is credited to ©2014 Google.

20. Continue onto **GJ SH 17/NH 947**


go 500 m
 total 33.8 km




 21. Turn left onto **GJ SH 144**
 Destination will be on the left

go 7.8 km
 total 41.6 km




Dalit Shakti Kendra
 Nani Devati, Sanand-Bavla Road, Sanand, Dist.,
 Gujarat State Highway 144, Gujarat 382213, India



These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather, or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly. You must obey all signs or notices regarding your route.
 Map data ©2014 Google

Directions weren't right? Please find your route on maps.google.com and click "Report a problem" at the bottom left.