

Economic Condition of Scheduled Castes (SC) - A Case Study on Suryapet, Nalgonda District

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Abstract: *The present paper is concerned with Socio-Economic background of Scheduled Castes (SCs) population in Nalgonda District of Telangana state and its major focus is to analyze the main obstacles on the way to socio-economic development. The basic information has been collected through the well prepared questionnaire and supplemented by relevant secondary data. An in-depth study was run over 370 sample household and the result was shown in the tabulated form. The outcome of the study reveals that 39.5 percentage sample population belong to Scheduled Castes community and the percentage of men and women is 33.78 and 5.72 respectively. Education and Employment is the most important instrument of Socio-Economic Development. The educational level of the study area is not so good among the people of Scheduled Castes community except the present generation and in terms of higher education the level is very poor. The rate of literacy among women is far behind than men although the number of women is more than men. A large number of people of the Scheduled Castes community are unemployed and the main economic activities are based on agriculture. They usually live in mud house, although there are several concrete houses built with the help of the various Government schemes. So as a whole it is observed from the present study that, the socio economic condition of Scheduled Castes community is poor and Government should pay attention to socio-economic backwardness and find requisite steps for sustainable development.*

Keywords: Socio Economic, Scheduled caste, Education

1. Introduction

Education and Employment is the most important instruments of the Economic growth of the country. For every US\$1 spent on education, as much as US\$10 to US\$15 can be generated in economic growth (UNESCO 2012). The word 'Caste' has been derived from the Portuguese term 'Casta' meaning race, family or lineage. M. N. Srinivas defined 'caste' as heredity usually localized group, having a traditional association with an occupational and particular position in the local hierarchy of castes.

British listed the lowest ranking Hindu castes in a schedule (GoI Act 1935). According to the Constitution order, 1950 lists, there are 1108 castes across 29 States in its first schedule in India. The Scheduled Castes (SC) occupies the bottom most rung of the social ladder. They form the majority of the depressed classes. Scheduled Caste signifies those groups of people who were out of the caste system or varna hierarchy in the past. The population of the Scheduled Castes has been steadily increasing. According to the 1941 Census Report, their population was about 48 million and it increased to 1, 028, 610, 328 as per 2011 Census Report. This would constitute 16.6 per cent of the total population of India. They have very few assets and are generally dependent on agricultural labour, leather work and other lower-income occupations. About 71 per cent of Scheduled Caste farmers are agricultural labourers-they work for wages on land they do not own. That figure is much lower among other groups: 47 per cent for Scheduled Tribe farmers and 41 per cent for non-SC/ST farmers (*Hindustan Times*, 2018).

Literacy rate is an important indicator of human development achieved by a society. The progress of any country depends on the nature of education imparted. Article 46 of the Constitution states that, 'The State shall promote, with special care, the education and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of social

exploitation' (Basu, 2012). Even though, Scheduled Castes have lack of access to education. When those education resources are in non-Dalit areas, they are attacked for attempting to use them. When it comes to infrastructure and resources in Dalit communities, the government often overlooks those areas and does not allocate the necessary funds to ensure equality of access to resources. The literacy rate of the Scheduled Castes is 66.1% (Census, 2011). The workforce participation rate of the Scheduled Castes males is 52.8% and that of SC females is 28.3%.

In India, Punjab has the highest proportion of Scheduled Castes (31.90%) and Mizoram has the lowest proportion of Scheduled Castes (0.10%). Scheduled Castes have faced deprivation and social isolation on accounts of their perceived low social status in India. They also suffered from educational backwardness and many economic problems such as poverty, low property ownership, limited selection of occupation and landlessness. The aforesaid issues are no exception in Suryapet, Nalgonda.

In this present paper will discuss about the Economic conditions of Scheduled Castes in suryapet, Nalgonda district by conduct empirical study on selected sample survey.

2. Objectives

- To asses and analyze the Economic conditions of Scheduled Castes population of the study area
- To find out the obstacles of Economic conditions and eradication of economic barriers of Scheduled Castes population of the study area
- To give suggestions to improve the Economic conditions of Scheduled Castes

3. Data Analysis and Methodology

The study has been conducted on the basis of primary as well as secondary data. The primary data regarding

Population, educational and occupational conditions of Scheduled Castes obtained with the help of well prepared questionnaire. The secondary data have been collected from various sources like published records of the government, published and unpublished records.

The present paper has been accomplished with quantitative as well as qualitative techniques. Primary and secondary data have been classified, computed and tabulated for different cartographic and statistical techniques which are used to access, analyze and represent the data.

4. Study Area

The sample survey was conducted from different villages of Suryapet, Nalgonda district.

Socio-Economic Status of Scheduled Caste Population in Selected Villages of Suryapet, Nalgonda

Sample of household and Population of selected localities of Suryapet, Nalgonda.

Localities	Sample of Total Householders	Sample of Total Population	Sample of SCs Total Householders	Sample of SCs Total Population	Percentage of SCs Population
Ramachandra puram	477	1858	125	488	26.26
Endlapally	1196	4196	272	954	22.7
Kasarabad	708	2750	156	609	22.1
Laxmapur	302	1198	69	273	22.7
Karivirala	734	2868	163	636	22.1
Thungathurthy	1677	8379	393	1964	23.4
Konduru	807	3187	191	753	23.6
Adivemula	457	1801	98	389	21.5
Thimmapuram	742	2928	162	638	21.7

(Source from survey 2019)

A sample survey have been conducted from selected areas as Nine localities namely Ramachandrapuram, Endlapally, Kasarabad, Laxmapur, karivirala, Thungathurthy, Kondur, Adivemula and Thimmapuram in Suryapet, Nalgonda. It shows Scheduled Castes population area was high in Ramachandra puram and lowest population area was Adivemula. Population is also effect the economic

Conditions. In the study area inequalities was observed in economic and social status between Scheduled Castes and General category pepole.

Frequency distribution of selected demographic variables Scheduled Castes Community respondents like Community Vs Education

Sl. No	Education	Gen/OC		BC		SC		TOTAL	
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
1	Illiterate	10	52.6%	103	50.5%	65	44.5%	178	48.2%
2	Read & Write	3	15.8%	45	21.8%	37	25.3%	85	22.9%
3	Primary	2	10.5%	14	6.8%	17	11.6%	33	8.9%
4	Secondary	2	10.5%	26	12.6%	14	9.6%	42	11.3%
5	10+2	1	5.3%	3	1.5%	3	2.1%	7	1.9%
6	Degree	1	5.3%	12	5.8%	9	6.2%	22	5.9%
7	PG	0	0.0%	2	1.0%	1	.7%	3	.8%
	Total	19	100.0%	205	100.0%	146	100.0%	370	100.0%

when the respondents were asked whether the various Community people, Out of 370 respondents, 52.6% were Gen/OC, 50.5% were BC, 44.5% were Scheduled Castes were belonging to Illiterate, 15.8% were Gen/OC, 21.8% were BC, and 25.3% were Scheduled Castes were belonging to Read & write, 10.5% were Gen/OC, 6.8% were BC, 11.6% were Scheduled Castes were belonging to Primary, 10.5% were Gen/OC, 12.6% were BC, and 9.6% were Scheduled Castes were belonging to Secondary, 5.3% were Gen/OC, 1.5% were BC, 2.1% were Scheduled Castes were belonging to 10+2, 5.3% were Gen/OC, 5.8% were BC, and 6.2% were Scheduled Castes were belonging to Degree,

0.0% were Gen/OC, 1.0% were BC, 0.7% were Scheduled Castes were belonging to PG.

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.284	12	.901

From the above table we observe that chi square calculated value is 6.284, DF=12, $p=0.901 < 0.05$ and table value at 12 degrees of freedom is 18.307. Hence reject hypothesis and conclude that, there is no a significance between caste and Education.

S. No	Occupation	Gen/OC		BC		SC		Total	
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
1	Labour	12	63.2%	92	44.7%	98	67.1%	202	54.4%
2	Farming	5	26.3%	81	39.8%	36	24.7%	122	33.2%
3	Artisian/Caste Occupation	0	0.0%	22	10.7%	2	1.4%	24	6.5%
4	Trade/Business	0	0.0%	4	1.9%	2	1.4%	6	1.6%
5	Services (Govt.)	1	5.3%	0	0.0%	1	.7%	2	.5%
6	Services (Pvt.)	1	5.3%	6	2.9%	7	4.8%	14	3.8%
Total		19	100.0%	205	100.0%	146	100.0%	370	100.0%

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	37.587	10	.000

102

http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/94652/11/11_chapter%205.pdf

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