

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF SCHEDULED CASTES IN HARYANA: A DISTRICT WISE ANALYSIS

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Abstract: *Inequality in India has been the topic of debate in the development circles since independence. This debate on Indian inequality can be categorized into two types, based on whether it focuses on “vertical inequalities,” that is inequality across classes based on income or consumption expenditure, or on “horizontal inequalities” which is nothing but inequality between groups such as those between groups based on caste, religion, gender, etc. Within horizontal inequalities, the focus has been predominantly on inequalities between caste groups i.e. between scheduled groups and non-scheduled groups. It is a well-known fact that members of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes have suffered from severe discrimination- social exclusion in the case of scheduled castes and the physical exclusion in the case of scheduled tribes, since historical times. Haryana, over the last three decades, has witnessed a remarkable economic growth. The economic growth in Haryana has been highly concentrated. Districts surrounding the national capital have grown at a very high rate, while the western districts, despite their low base, have grown at a much lower rate. The present paper will mainly focus on caste inequalities in Haryana with respect to scheduled castes. The socio-economic conditions of scheduled castes vary from one district to another district due to various socio-economic and political reasons. This paper deals with the socio-economic conditions of scheduled castes across districts in Haryana.*

Key Words: *Inequality, Social exclusion, Physical exclusion, Literacy rate, Caste Inequality.*

1. OBJECTIVES:

The central theme of the study is to evaluate the socio-economic conditions of scheduled castes in Haryana. Following are the main objectives of the study;

- To study the demographic composition of scheduled castes in Haryana.
- To study the literacy rate, educational level, work participation rate and occupational structure of scheduled castes in Haryana.
- To analyze level of poverty level among scheduled castes in Haryana.
- To examine the participation of scheduled castes in MGNREGS in Haryana.

2. DATA SOURCE:

The present study is based on secondary data which has been collected from different published sources like Census reports, NSSO Reports, Human development reports, Statistical abstract of Haryana, Journal, Books and Newspapers etc.

3. INTRODUCTION:

The socio-economic conditions of scheduled castes vary from one district to another district due to various socio-economic and political reasons. This chapter deals with the socio-economic conditions of scheduled castes across districts in Haryana. Haryana has 21 districts and due to diversity of geography and nature, some of districts are developed and some are deprived of even basic infrastructure. Table 3.1 indicates the district wise share of scheduled caste population in Haryana. As per census 2011, total population of Haryana state was 2, 53, 51,462 and out of this, 20, 237847 (79.82 percent) were non-scheduled castes and 5113615 (20.17 percent) were scheduled castes. In case of scheduled castes, Fatehabad has the largest percentage share of scheduled caste population (30.20 percent) followed by Sirsa (29.91 percent) and Ambala (26.25 percent) whereas, the lowest percentage of scheduled caste population was living in Mewat (6.90) followed by Faridabad (12.36 percent) and Gurgaon (13.07 percent). It is well-known fact that a largest proportion of scheduled castes are living in rural areas. The districts Fatehabad and Sirsa are very backward and urbanization process has been very slow.

On the other hand, Gurgaon and Faridabad comes under national capital region and these districts are highly urbanized as well as developed regions of Haryana but the proportion of scheduled caste living in these districts is lower as compared to other districts. The lowest proportion of scheduled caste population is estimated in Mewat due to a large proportion of Muslim population residing in Mewat, because only Hindu, Sikh and Buddhists are given the status of scheduled caste in India. As per Census 2011, 79.29 percent Muslim population was living in Mewat district.

Table 1.1: District-Wise Share of Scheduled Castes and Non-Scheduled Castes in Haryana (2011)

Districts	Total Population	Non-Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Castes	Percentage of Scheduled Castes to total population
Ambala	1128350	832104	296246	26.25
Panchkula	561293	459463	101830	18.14
Yamunanagar	1214205	907462	306743	25.26
Kurukshetra	964655	749527	215128	22.30
Kaithal	1074304	826791	247513	23.04
Karnal	1505324	1165720	339604	22.56
Panipat	1205437	999224	206213	17.10
Sonipat	1450001	1180066	269935	18.61
Rohtak	1061204	844315	216889	20.43
Jhajjar	958405	787957	170448	17.78
Faridabad	1809733	1585934	223799	12.36
Palwal	1042708	839585	203123	19.48
Gurgaon	1514432	1316495	197937	13.07
Mewat	1089263	1014012	75251	6.90
Rewari	900332	717726	182606	20.28
Mahendragarh	922088	765774	156314	16.95
Bhiwani	1634445	1293283	341162	20.87
Jind	1334152	1051801	282351	23.16
Hisar	1743931	1335146	408785	23.45
Fatehabad	942011	657654	284357	30.20
Sirsa	1295189	907808	387381	29.91
Haryana	25351462	2,02,37,847	5113615	20.17

Source: Census of India, 2011.

Table 1.2 has presented the rural- urban distribution of scheduled castes and non-scheduled castes across districts in Haryana. In the rural areas, the percentage of scheduled castes was highest in Mahendragarh (87.20) followed by Fatehabad (83.12) and Kaithal (81.96) districts whereas the lowest percentage was in Faridabad (31.93) followed by Gurgaon (45.52) and Panchkula (50.55). In the urban areas, the highest proportion of scheduled castes was living in Faridabad (68.06 percent) followed by Gurgaon (51.57 percent) and Panchkula (49.44 percent). The results clearly indicate that a large proportion of scheduled castes are living in the rural areas as compared to non-scheduled castes. The proportion of non-scheduled castes in urban areas is larger than scheduled castes across all districts except Mewat and Palwal due to higher concentration of Muslim population in Mewat and Palwal districts.

Table 1.2: District-Wise Rural Urban Distribution of Scheduled Castes in Haryana (2011) (in percent)

Districts	Scheduled Caste Population		Non-Scheduled Caste Population	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Ambala	70.28	29.71	50.40	49.60
Bhiwani	80.57	19.42	80.28	19.72
Faridabad	31.93	68.06	18.88	83.12
Fatehabad	83.12	15.87	79.56	20.44
Gurgaon	45.52	51.47	29.02	70.98
Hisar	74.01	25.98	66.50	33.50
Jhajjar	76.81	23.19	73.14	25.86
Jind	81.03	18.96	76.04	23.96
Kaithal	81.96	18.03	76.85	23.15
Karnal	76.41	23.58	67.85	32.15
Kurukshetra	80.67	19.32	68.29	31.71
Mahendragarh	87.21	12.79	85.26	11.74
Mewat	76.06	23.93	89.54	10.46
Palwal	73.31	26.69	78.29	21.71
Panchkula	50.55	49.44	42.78	57.22
Panipat	63.14	36.85	52.05	47.95
Rewari	77.01	22.98	73.32	26.68

Rohtak	62.21	37.78	56.86	43.14
Sirsa	80.55	19.44	73.13	26.87
Sonipat	71.38	28.61	68.13	31.87
Yamunanagar	76.12	23.87	55.97	44.03
Haryana	72.74	27.25	63.19	36.81

Source: Census of India, 2011

The district wise Sex ratio among different social groups in Haryana has been shown in Table 1.3. As per census 2011, overall sex ratio of Haryana was estimated 879. Scheduled castes sex ratio was 887 and it was marginally better than non-scheduled castes (876). In the case of scheduled caste population, the sex ratio was the highest in Sirsa (914) followed by Rewari (911) and Fatehabad (907) whereas the lowest sex ratio was recorded in Jind (871) followed by Faridabad (873) and Jhajjar (876). The sex ratio of non-scheduled castes was recorded the highest in Mewat (908) followed by Fatehabad (899) and Rewari (895) whereas the lowest sex ratio was recorded in Gurgaon (848) followed by Sonipat (853) and Jhajjar (859). Fatehabad, Sirsa and Rewari are backward/underdeveloped districts of Haryana. Poverty, illiteracy and unemployment are generally faced by scheduled castes in these districts. It is a general fact that people with low literacy rate have high sex ratio as compared to well educated people due to lack of awareness regarding medical facilities and family planning programmes.

Table: 1.3 District Wise Sex Ratio among Different Social Groups in Haryana.

Districts	Total	Non-Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Castes
Ambala	885	883	888
Panchkula	873	869	890
Yamunanagar	877	877	880
Kurukshetra	888	885	899
Kaithal	881	881	882
Karnal	887	886	890
Panipat	864	860	880
Sonipat	856	853	868
Rohtak	867	864	877
Jhajjar	862	859	876
Faridabad	873	873	873
Palwal	880	879	885
Gurgaon	854	848	897
Mewat	907	908	893
Rewari	898	895	911
Mahendragarh	895	894	897
Bhiwani	886	887	880
Jind	871	871	871
Hisar	872	869	881
Fatehabad	902	899	907
Sirsa	897	891	914
Haryana	879	876	887

Source: Primary Census Abstract- 2011 Haryana

At state level, the highest sex ratio was recorded in Mewat (907) followed by Fatehabad (902) and Rewari (898) whereas the lowest sex ratio was recorded in Gurgaon (854) followed by Sonipat (856) and Jhajjar (862). It is a general fact that despite being lower literacy, sex ratio of scheduled caste is always better than other social groups because children are considered as source of income in these families. They are also less aware of family planning techniques. So sex ratio is higher among scheduled caste population as compared to other groups.

The data related to literacy rate among different social groups in Haryana has been presented in Table 1.5. As per census 2011, literacy rate in Haryana has been estimated 75.55 percent whereas it was the lowest (66.85 percent) among scheduled castes as compared to non-scheduled castes (77.70 percent). In the case of scheduled castes, literacy rate was the highest in Gurgaon (76.31 percent) followed by Rewari (76.03 percent) and Jhajjar (71.26 percent) whereas it was the lowest in Sirsa (55.08 percent) followed by Fatehabad (55.78 percent) and Kaithal (59.24 percent). Among non-scheduled castes, literacy rate was the highest in Gurgaon (85.94 percent), followed by Ambala (81.64 percent) and Panchkula (83.16 percent) whereas it was recorded lowest in the districts of Mewat (53.01 percent) followed by Palwal (70.07 percent) and Kaithal (72.00 percent) in Haryana. At district level, overall literacy rate was recorded the highest in Gurgaon (81.70 percent) followed by Panchkula (81.88 percent) and Ambala (81.75 percent)

and it was the lowest in Mewat (54.08 percent) followed by Fatehabad (67.92 percent) and Sirsa(68.82 percent). Among scheduled castes, the literacy rate among female was highest in Gurgaon (66.09 percent) whereas male literacy rate was the highest in Rewari (87.46 percent) whereas it was the lowest in Sirsa i.e. 62.45 percent for males and 47.02 percent for females. On the other hand, among non-scheduled castes, male literacy rate was the highest in Rewari (92.41 percent) and it was recorded the lowest in Mewat (69.23 percent) whereas literacy rate among female was the highest in Gurgaon (79.79 percent) whereas it was the lowest in Mewat (35.16 percent). It is important to mention here that the literacy rate of scheduled caste population is lower than non-scheduled caste population across all districts except Mewat district in Haryana because as per census 2011, 79.20 percent Muslim population is estimated in Mewat and their literacy rate is lower than scheduled castes due to their own socio-economic backwardness. It is a well-known fact that literacy rate of scheduled castes has been always lower than that of non-scheduled castes because of their low level of income and poverty. They cannot afford the cost of higher education due to low level of income. District wise analysis of literacy rate shows that Gurgaon district recorded the highest literacy rate because it is a more developed region of Haryana and more education opportunities are available in the surrounding areas as compared to other districts. On the other hand, Sirsa and Fatehabad districts recorded the lowest literacy rate because they are very backward regions less urbanised and educational opportunities are not properly available. These poor people don't understand the importance of education also due to higher illiteracy.

The table also indicates that there is wide gap between male and female literacy ratio for both scheduled caste and non-scheduled castes due to orthodox mentality as well male dominance society where more importance is given to boys as compared to girls.

Table 1.6 deals with education level of scheduled castes across districts in Haryana. The proportion of persons literate without educational level was the highest in Ambala (3.99 percent) followed by Panipat (3.29 percent) and Mewat (3.26 percent) and it was the lowest in Mahendragarh (1.38 percent) followed by Kaithal (1.70 percent) and Gurgaon (1.79 percent). In case of below primary, proportion was recorded the highest in Panipat (38.40 percent) followed by Sirsa (30.02 percent) and Fatehabad (29.82 percent) whereas it was the lowest in Ambala (11.50 percent) followed by Gurgaon (16.35 percent) and Yamunanagar (16.68 percent). The proportion of persons having primary level of education was the highest in Kaithal (35.59 percent) followed by Fatehabad (35.15 percent) and Mewat (31.80 percent) and it was the lowest in Faridabad (28.05 percent) Gurgaon (28.27 percent) and Jhajjar (29.08 percent).

The proportion of persons having middle level of education was the highest in Ambala (20.67 percent) followed by Gurgaon (20.34 percent) and Yamunanagar (20.22 percent) and it was the lowest in Sirsa (13.19 percent) followed by Fatehabad (11.36 percent) and Jind (11.53 percent). On the other hand, the highest proportion of persons at matric level was the highest in Jhajjar (17.67 percent) followed by Gurgaon (17.28 percent) and Sonipat (16.86 percent) whereas it was the lowest in Sirsa (9.95 percent) followed by Fatehabad (9.99 percent) and Mewat (10.65 percent). At higher education level; the proportion was the highest in Gurgaon (9.15 percent) followed by Jhajjar (9.13 percent) and Sonipat (8.81 percent) and it was the lowest in Mewat (1.99 percent) followed by Fatehabad (5.09 percent) and Sirsa (5.18 percent).The proportion of persons having non-technical and technical diploma is very low among scheduled castes across all districts in Haryana due to low level of income and lack of knowledge and scheduled castes are unable to provide technical education to their children. The proportion of graduates and above was the highest in Panchkula (6.36 percent) followed by Gurgaon (5.73 percent) and Mahendragarh (5.36 percent) whereas it was the lowest in Fatehabad (2.14 percent) followed by Sirsa (2.34 percent) and Mewat (2.38 percent). This is because Panchkula and Gurgaon districts are fully urbanized, forward and education opportunities are available at large scale in their near cities namely Chandigarh and Delhi respectively. Whereas, Fatehabad and Sirsa districts are most backward districts of Haryana and educational status of scheduled castes is low in these districts and Mewat has largest proportion of Muslim population and their educational status is poor due to their own socio-economic backwardness.

Table 1.5: District-Wise Literacy Rate among Different Social Groups in Haryana (in percent)

Districts	Total			Scheduled Castes			Non-Scheduled Castes		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Panchkula	87.04	75.99	81.88	78.24	63.60	71.35	88.92	78.69	83.16
Ambala	87.34	75.50	81.75	80.74	65.28	73.44	89.63	79.06	81.64
Yamunanagar	83.84	71.38	77.99	79.70	61.58	72.61	85.23	73.65	79.79
Kurukshetra	83.02	68.84	76.31	75.07	58.64	67.29	85.22	71.66	78.81
Kaithal	77.98	59.24	69.15	68.37	48.94	59.24	80.74	62.19	72.00
Karnal	81.82	66.82	71.73	72.92	55.78	61.84	81.35	69.93	77.53
Panipat	83.71	67.00	75.94	77.81	57.91	68.50	81.89	68.84	77.44
Sonipat	87.18	69.80	79.12	80.65	60.45	71.26	88.63	71.89	80.87
Jind	80.81	60.76	71.44	71.47	51.89	62.36	83.23	63.05	73.80
Fatehabad	76.14	58.87	67.92	63.15	46.62	55.78	83.10	63.96	72.95
Sirsa	76.43	60.40	68.82	62.45	47.02	55.08	82.07	65.90	71.42

Hisar	82.20	62.25	72.89	72.16	51.98	62.70	85.15	65.30	75.90
Bhiwani	85.65	63.54	75.21	77.49	56.00	67.43	87.76	65.45	77.21
Rohtak	87.65	71.72	80.22	78.51	60.00	69.87	89.91	71.62	82.78
Jhajjar	89.31	70.73	80.65	83.77	63.47	71.26	90.47	72.26	81.98
Mahendragarh	89.72	61.57	77.72	86.26	60.43	74.00	90.41	65.39	78.46
Rewari	91.44	69.57	80.99	87.46	63.53	76.03	92.43	71.07	82.22
Gurgaon	90.46	77.98	81.70	85.51	66.09	76.31	93.18	79.79	85.94
Mewat	69.94	36.60	54.08	78.77	51.87	67.49	69.23	35.16	53.01
Faridabad	88.61	73.84	81.70	79.64	57.92	69.52	89.85	76.02	83.38
Palwal	82.66	51.23	69.32	79.37	51.36	66.22	83.45	51.93	70.07
Haryana	84.05	65.94	75.55	75.92	56.64	66.85	86.06	68.25	77.70

Source: Census of India, 2011

The analysis of educational level of scheduled castes reveals that as the level of education increases the percentage share of scheduled castes decreases across all districts in Haryana. Thus, scheduled castes are the most deprived in the case of higher education and their enrolment in technical diplomas has been very low due to higher rate of drop-outs at higher and secondary levels of education. It happens mainly due to the reason that majority of children are working as labourers and wage workers for helping their parents to contribute in their family household income.

Due to low level of income, their children discontinue education and they are not in the position of getting higher education as well as professional and technical education which is costly and out of the reach of these marginalized people of the society.

Table 1.6: District-Wise Education Level of Scheduled Castes in Haryana (2011) (in percent)

Districts	Illiterate	L.W.E.L.*	B.P.**	Primary	Middle	Matric/Secondary	Higher Education	Non-Technical Diploma*	Technical Diploma*	Graduate & Above	Unclassified
Panchkula	28.65	2.15	17.75	29.56	18.14	16.25	8.20	0.14	1.27	6.36	0.18
Ambala	26.56	3.99	11.50	33.18	20.67	16.41	7.84	0.09	0.81	1.27	0.20
Yamunanagar	27.39	2.88	16.68	32.39	20.22	11.88	7.78	0.07	0.94	3.99	0.16
Kurukshetra	32.71	2.48	19.19	33.56	17.71	13.69	7.37	0.06	0.96	1.80	0.15
Kaithal	40.76	1.70	25.31	35.59	15.97	11.23	6.29	0.08	0.69	2.95	0.18
Karnal	35.16	2.12	21.63	33.88	17.85	13.05	6.79	0.09	0.96	3.43	0.18
Panipat	31.50	3.29	38.40	31.48	17.78	13.12	7.14	0.09	0.91	3.39	0.18
Sonapat	28.74	1.84	19.22	29.73	18.13	16.89	8.81	0.08	0.88	1.21	0.19
Jind	37.64	2.57	25.39	33.66	11.93	12.35	6.63	0.07	0.89	3.22	0.28
Fatehabad	41.22	2.43	29.82	35.15	11.36	9.99	5.09	0.06	0.57	2.14	0.36
Sirsa	41.91	2.74	30.02	31.43	13.19	9.95	5.18	0.07	0.69	2.34	0.35
Hisar	37.30	2.41	21.95	32.43	15.32	12.73	7.14	0.09	0.91	3.67	0.31
Bhiwani	32.57	1.84	21.23	31.78	16.60	11.94	7.86	0.08	0.72	1.74	0.18
Rohtak	30.13	1.92	20.94	30.71	17.00	11.98	7.99	0.08	0.81	5.33	0.19
Jhajjar	25.74	2.73	17.22	29.08	18.20	17.67	9.13	0.10	0.88	1.77	0.20
Mahendragarh	25.99	1.38	18.26	31.39	18.42	15.58	8.42	0.08	0.94	5.36	0.13
Rewari	23.97	2.01	16.79	30.19	19.58	16.34	8.76	0.06	0.97	5.16	0.11
Gurgaon	23.69	1.79	16.35	28.27	20.34	17.28	9.15	0.07	0.79	5.73	0.23
Mewat	32.51	3.26	26.41	31.80	16.45	10.65	1.99	0.05	0.77	2.38	0.22
Faridabad	30.47	3.12	20.17	28.05	19.66	15.24	8.08	0.12	0.55	1.69	0.32
Palwal	33.78	2.03	21.25	31.99	18.09	12.79	6.47	0.13	0.92	3.13	0.19
Haryana	33.15	2.43	21.35	31.95	17.56	13.12	7.40	0.08	0.84	4.04	0.22

Source: Census of India, 2011

L.W.E.L.* Literate without educational level

B.P.** Below Primary

Technical diploma*** not equal to degree

Non-technical diploma**** not equal to degree

Table 1.7 shows the work participation rate among different social groups in Haryana. In case of scheduled castes, work participation rate was the highest in Sirsa (39.4 percent) followed by Fatehabad (39.2 percent) and Hisar

(38.8 percent) whereas the lowest work participation rate was estimated in Mewat (28.4 percent) followed by Palwal (29.0 percent) and Faridabad (20.9 percent). The highest work participation rate among non-scheduled castes was found in Hisar (39.9 percent) followed by Jind (39.6 percent) and Fatehabad (39.2 percent) and the lowest work participation rate of non-scheduled castes was estimated in Mewat (26.5 percent) followed by Palwal (29.8 percent) and Yamunanagar (32.1 percent).

Table 1.7: Work Participation Rate among Different Social Groups in Haryana. (District-Wise)
(in percent)

Districts	Total	Non-Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Castes
Ambala	33.0	33.2	32.4
Panchkula	37.7	38.0	36.1
Yamunanagar	32.1	32.1	31.9
Kurukshetra	31.9	31.2	37.3
Kaithal	31.8	31.3	36.4
Karnal	31.3	33.8	35.8
Panipat	31.2	31.2	31.4
Sonipat	36.1	36.1	35.8
Rohtak	32.6	32.9	31.3
Jhajjar	33.1	31.4	32.6
Faridabad	32.0	32.2	30.9
Palwal	29.7	29.8	29.0
Gurgaon	36.0	36.6	31.5
Mewat	26.6	26.5	28.4
Rewari	37.5	38.2	31.8
Mahendragarh	36.7	37.3	33.7
Bhiwani	38.1	38.5	36.8
Jind	39.2	39.6	37.8
Hisar	39.7	39.9	38.8
Fatehabad	39.2	39.2	39.2
Sirsa	38.8	38.5	39.4
Haryana	35.2	35.2	35.1

Source: Primary Census Abstract-2011 Haryana

At state level, overall work participation rate was recorded the highest in Hisar (39.7 percent) followed by Fatehabad (39.2 percent) and Jind (39.2 percent) whereas the lowest overall work participation rate was found in Mewat (26.6 percent) followed by Palwal (29.7 percent) and Faridabad (32.0 percent). The table clarifies that work participation rate of non-scheduled castes has been almost equal to that of scheduled castes in all districts. Overall work participation rate in Haryana was 35.2 percent for non-scheduled caste (35.2 percent) whereas it was 35.1 percent for scheduled castes. As per table work participation rate of scheduled castes is almost equal to that of non-scheduled castes.

District-wise occupational structure of different social groups has been presented in the Table 1.8. In case of scheduled caste, the largest percentage of cultivators was estimated in Bhiwani (12.7) followed by Sirsa (8.5) and Hisar (8.0) whereas the lowest percentage was estimated in Faridabad (2.4) followed by Gurgaon (2.9) and Kurukshetra (3.1). In the case of agricultural labourers, largest percentage was estimated in Sirsa (59.9) followed by Fatehabad (51.2) and Kaithal (51.7) whereas, the lowest percentage was estimated in Faridabad (8.4) followed by Panchkula (11.5) and Gurgaon (16.7).

Table 1.8: District-Wise Occupational Structure of Different Social Groups in Haryana
(in percent)

Districts	Scheduled Castes				Non-Scheduled Castes				Total			
	Cultivators	Agricultural Labourers	Household Industry Workers	Other Workers	Cultivators	Agricultural Labourers	Household Industry Workers	Other Workers	Cultivators	Agriculture Labourers	Household Industry worker	Other worker

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Ambala	3.6	31.2	2.3	62.9	17.9	9.9	1.9	67.3	11.2	15.4	1.2	66.2
Panchkula	5.1	11.5	2.8	80.7	11.2	1.9	5.1	75.8	12.6	6.1	1.7	76.7
Yamunanagar	3.4	37.3	1.8	57.5	20.0	12.6	3.6	63.8	15.8	18.8	3.2	62.2
Kurukshetra	3.1	48.3	1.2	47.4	25.9	18.4	2.2	53.5	20.5	25.5	2.0	52.0
Kaithal	3.7	51.7	2.1	42.4	43.9	13.8	2.7	39.7	31.2	22.9	2.5	40.3
Karnal	1.7	47.9	2.5	41.9	27.0	19.1	3.1	50.7	21.8	25.9	3.0	49.4
Panipat	3.1	31.3	2.6	63.0	20.5	11.8	3.1	63.7	17.5	15.1	3.8	63.5
Sonipat	3.3	43.0	2.2	51.5	32.6	13.1	3.8	49.5	27.2	19.4	3.5	49.9
Rohtak	3.4	28.1	1.7	66.9	33.6	6.3	2.7	57.4	27.7	10.6	2.5	59.3
Jhajjar	1.5	39.6	1.9	54.0	40.6	8.4	3.0	48.0	31.4	13.7	2.8	49.0
Faridabad	2.4	8.4	3.9	85.3	5.1	1.6	5.8	81.5	35.8	5.1	5.6	81.6
Palwal	6.5	31.4	2.3	59.8	35.0	16.8	2.9	45.3	29.6	19.6	2.8	48.1
Gurgaon	2.9	16.7	2.6	77.8	11.3	3.5	3.4	81.9	10.3	5.0	3.3	81.4
Mewat	1.9	26.6	2.0	66.5	38.4	18.5	2.1	41.0	35.9	19.1	2.1	42.9
Rewari	3.4	22.0	2.2	72.3	36.7	5.2	3.0	55.1	30.4	8.4	2.9	58.3
Mahendragarh	5.3	29.8	1.4	63.4	51.2	7.9	2.4	38.5	44.0	11.3	2.3	42.4
Bhiwani	12.7	41.4	1.9	41.0	51.8	9.7	2.5	33.0	46.3	16.7	2.4	31.6
Jind	5.1	52.4	1.4	43.1	54.0	13.1	1.8	33.1	44.0	19.5	1.7	31.7
Hisar	8.0	51.5	1.7	38.8	46.6	11.8	2.5	39.1	37.8	20.9	2.3	39.1
Fatehabad	8.0	51.2	3.1	36.7	47.9	11.6	2.1	35.5	35.8	26.6	1.8	35.8
Sirsa	8.5	59.9	1.4	30.2	43.3	15.9	2.8	37.9	32.7	29.3	2.4	35.6
Haryana	5.5	40.9	2.0	51.6	33.4	11.2	3.2	52.2	27.8	17.1	2.9	52.1

Source: Primary Census Abstract-2011 Haryana

The percentage of household industry workers was highest in Faridabad (3.9) followed by Panchkula (2.8) and Gurgaon (2.6) districts whereas the lowest percentage was recorded in Fatehabad (3.1) followed by Sirsa and Mahendragarh (1.4). The percentage share of other workers was the highest in Faridabad (85.3) followed by Panchkula (80.7) and Gurgaon (77.8) whereas it was the lowest in Sirsa (30.2) followed by Fatehabad (36.7) and Hisar (38.8). On the other hand, among non-scheduled castes, the percentage share of cultivators was the highest in Bhiwani (51.8) followed by Jind (54.0) and Mahendragarh (51.2) whereas it was the lowest in Faridabad (5.1) followed by Gurgaon (11.3) and Panchkula (11.2). The percentage share of agricultural labourers was the highest in Karnal (19.1) followed by Mewat (18.5) and Kurukshetra (18.4) whereas it was the lowest in Gurgaon (3.5) followed by Faridabad (1.6) and Panchkula (1.9) districts. In the case of household industry workers, the percentage share of non-scheduled caste households was the highest in Faridabad (5.8) followed by Panchkula (5.1) and Ambala (1.9) whereas it was the lowest in Jind (1.8) followed by Fatehabad (2.1) and Mewat (2.1) districts. The percentage share of other workers was the highest in Faridabad (81.5) followed by Gurgaon (81.9) and Panchkula (75.8) due to the higher level of urbanization and industrialization in these regions whereas the lowest percentage share was estimated in Bhiwani (33.0) followed by Jind (33.1) and Fatehabad (35.5) because these districts are backward districts of Haryana.

Overall percentage share of cultivators was recorded the highest in Bhiwani (46.3) followed by Mahendragarh (44.0) and Jind (44.0) whereas it was the lowest in Gurgaon (10.3) followed by Panchkula (12.6) and Ambala (11.2). The highest percentage share of agricultural labourers was in Sirsa (29.3) followed by Fatehabad (26.6) and Karnal (25.9). On the other hand, the lowest percentage share was estimated in Gurgaon (5.0) followed by Faridabad (5.1) and Panchkula (6.1) districts. In case of household industry workers, the highest proportion was estimated in Jhajjar (5.6) followed by Panchkula (1.7) and Ambala (1.2) because these districts are industrialised and people are involved in non-farm activities whereas this percentage share was estimated lowest in Bhiwani (1.7) followed by Fatehabad (1.8) and Mewat (2.1). The Percentage share of other workers was recorded the highest in Faridabad (81.6) followed by Gurgaon (81.4) and Panchkula (76.7) districts and whereas the lowest proportion was estimated in Bhiwani (31.6) followed by Jind (31.7) and Sirsa (35.6).

The analysis of occupational structure of different social groups indicates that percentage share of cultivators was lowest among scheduled castes as compared to non-scheduled castes across all districts because majority of the scheduled castes are landless and very few having small size of land holdings. Therefore percentage share of agriculture labourers was highest among scheduled castes as compared to non-scheduled castes. On the other hand, proportion of household industry workers was also lowest among scheduled castes as compared to non-scheduled castes because of higher incidence of illiteracy, low level of skills and lack of technical education among scheduled castes.

Table 1.10 indicates the district wise incidence of poverty among different social groups in the rural areas of Haryana. The percentage share of households living below poverty line among scheduled castes was the highest in

Sirsa (65.09) followed by Hisar (63.27) and Fatehabad (61.92) whereas it was lowest in Mewat (16.81) followed by Panchkula (38.8) and Panipat (43.84) districts. The highest percentage of below poverty line households among backward classes was in Kurukshetra (42.31) followed by Panipat (38.58) and Karnal (37.28). On the other hand, the lowest percentage of below poverty line households among backward classes was in Gurgaon (20.72) followed by Mahendragarh (23.74) and Hisar (21.81). Overall Percentage of total households below poverty line households was recorded the highest in Fatehabad (35.51) followed by Jind (33.45) and Kurukshetra (33.08) and it was lowest in Mahendragarh (18.64), Rohtak (18.64) followed by Faridabad (21.71). The results indicate that the percentage of households below poverty line was the highest among scheduled castes as compared to non-scheduled castes.

Table 1.10: District-wise Incidence of Poverty among Different Social Groups in the Rural Areas of Haryana (2007)

Districts	Total number of rural households	%age of BPL	Out of BPL households			
			Scheduled Castes	%age of Scheduled Castes with total BPL	Backward Classes	%age of Backward Classes with total BPL
Ambala	145934	30.28	24912	56.38	14043	31.78
Panchkula	41340	32.69	5216	38.60	4708	31.84
Yamunanagar	160315	28.28	24901	51.93	14690	32.41
Kurukshetra	140532	33.08	22448	48.28	19671	42.31
Kaithal	173186	30.45	25498	48.35	17136	32.50
Karnal	195597	26.77	25703	49.09	19518	37.28
Panipat	135938	21.57	14644	43.84	12888	38.58
Sonapat	183377	26.40	21275	43.95	18260	37.72
Rohtak	120308	18.64	13249	59.08	5320	23.72
Jhajjar	130747	22.35	14974	51.24	7907	27.06
Faridabad	160314	21.71	15626	41.89	11315	32.51
Gurgaon	93130	23.35	10780	48.53	4606	20.74
Mewat	192388	27.69	8956	16.81	16718	31.38
Rewari	136008	25.53	19349	55.71	10351	29.81
Mahendragarh	120308	18.64	13249	59.08	5320	23.72
Bhiwani	260951	26.83	34059	48.65	18321	26.17
Jind	183976	33.45	31551	51.27	17122	27.82
Hisar	237925	21.69	37163	63.27	14573	21.81
Fatehabad	137193	35.51	30168	61.92	13670	28.06
Sirsa	184637	25.80	31008	65.09	12947	27.18
Haryana	3159222	27.17	430905	50.20	267567	33.17

Source: www.haryanarural.gov.in

The households living below poverty line are the highest among scheduled castes in Fatehabad and Sirsa districts due to lack of gainful employment opportunities and low level of industrialization. On the other hand, Panipat, Panchkula and Mewat are developed districts of Haryana and the population living below poverty line is lower among the scheduled castes in these regions.

District wise participation of scheduled castes under MGNREGS in Haryana has been shown in Table 1.11. The Percentage of scheduled castes workers in MGNREGS was the highest in Fatehabad (65.58) followed by Jind (56.12) and Sirsa (55.13) whereas it was the lowest in Mahendragarh (21.55) followed by Palwal (21.42) and Panipat (25.1). Percentage of active workers was recorded the highest in Fatehabad (73.12) followed by Sirsa (60.45) and Hisar (59.5) whereas it was the lowest in Mewat (5.97) followed by Mahendragarh (16.34) and Palwal (20.98).

Table 1.11: District wise Participation of Scheduled Castes under MGNREGS in Haryana (2015-16)

Districts	Percentage of Scheduled Caste worker	Percentage of Scheduled Caste Active	Persons days generated (in lakhs)	Percentage of Scheduled Caste person	Average days of employment provided per HH	Average days of Scheduled Caste person days	Total HH* worked (in lakhs)	Percentage of Scheduled Caste worked	Total No. of HH completed 100 days of
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	s	workers		days					wage employ ment
Ambala	53.53	50.9	0.56	51.55	21.08	20.35	0.03	57.25	8
Panchkula	25.18	22.37	1	23.54	32.75	33.14	0.03	23.7	39
Yamunanagar	43.16	43.23	1.56	41.05	29.59	29.43	0.05	41.71	89
Kurukshetra	36.64	35.11	1.4	37.69	21.73	26.32	0.06	36.03	105
Kaithal	47.07	52.97	1.57	51.9	25.5	21.66	0.06	57.21	26
Karnal	51.51	56.87	3.78	51.2	31.06	28.75	0.12	59.14	425
Panipat	47.04	45.66	1.35	49.57	40.41	38.85	0.03	50.39	257
Sonipat	45.51	39.57	0.89	31.35	35.23	30.54	0.03	40.08	147
Rohtak	51.41	46.58	1.62	51.06	39.78	40.16	0.04	51.55	225
Jhajjar	38.88	38.06	0.62	45.36	26.54	27.22	0.02	46.92	47
Faridabad	31.79	31.47	0.18	49.58	30.71	32.94	0.01	48.02	9
Palwal	21.42	20.98	1.83	22.05	43.66	40.65	0.04	23.82	195
Gurgaon	49.61	46.49	0.46	52.24	48.89	49.18	0.01	54.03	41
Mewat	9.61	5.97	4.03	5.55	56.88	58.86	0.07	5.1	764
Rewari	51.65	41.92	0.22	40.01	18.99	19.62	0.01	37.77	0
Mahendragarh	21.55	16.34	1.34	21.93	30.27	29.03	0.04	26.13	98
Bhiwani	42.14	43.89	3.49	50.24	23.57	22.67	0.15	51.35	93
Jind	56.12	59.5	3.35	62.13	28.74	28.39	0.12	63.98	192
Hisar	51.63	58.85	8.78	55.97	28.9	28.24	0.3	56.71	411
Fatehabad	65.58	73.12	5.68	71.44	21.69	25.14	0.23	73.99	297
Sirsa	55.13	60.54	1.78	63.14	20.56	19.81	0.23	62.77	129
Haryana	45.98	47.08	48.48	49.49	28.73	26.47	1.69	52.62	3597

Source: www.mgnrega.nic.in

HH*Households

Overall person days generated was the highest in Hisar (8.78 Lakhs) followed by Fatehabad (5.68 lakhs) and Sirsa (1.78 lakhs) whereas it was the lowest in Faridabad (0.18 lakhs) followed by Rewari (0.22 lakhs) and Gurgaon (0.46 lakhs). The percentage of person days generated of scheduled castes was the highest in Fatehabad (71.44) followed by Jind (62.13) and Sirsa (63.14). Average days of employment provided per household was the highest in Mewat (56.88) followed by Gurgaon (48.89) and Palwal (43.66) whereas it was recorded the lowest in Rewari (18.99) followed by Sirsa (20.56) and Ambala (21.08). The percentage of total scheduled castes worked was the highest in Fatehabad (73.99) followed by Jind (63.98) and Sirsa (62.77) whereas it was recorded the lowest in Mewat (5.1) followed by Panipat (23.7) and Palwal (23.82). The performance of MGNREGS depends on its implementation and employment demanded by people. Therefore, Fatehabad, Jind and Sirsa are backward regions economically as well as socially and more people have shown their interest under this scheme. On the other hand, participation of scheduled castes was poor in Mewat, Panipat and Palwal districts due to poor implementation of the scheme.

4. SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

The district wise demographic analysis of scheduled castes in Haryana reveals that Fatehabad (30.20 percent) and Sirsa (29.91 percent) districts have the largest proportion of scheduled castes whereas Mewat (6.90 percent), Faridabad (12.36) and Gurgaon (13.07 percent) districts have the lowest proportion. The rural urban distribution of scheduled castes indicates that a larger proportion of scheduled castes are living in the rural areas. The proportion of non-scheduled castes in urban areas is larger than scheduled castes across all districts except Mewat and Palwal due to higher concentration of Muslim population in these regions.

In the case of scheduled caste population, the sex ratio was the highest in Sirsa, Rewari and Fatehabad districts whereas the lowest sex ratio was in Jind, Faridabad and Jhajjar. The sex ratio of scheduled castes was higher than non-scheduled castes across all districts except Mewat. Fatehabad, Sirsa and Rewari are backward districts of Haryana and sex ratio is higher as compare to other districts. Poverty, illiteracy and unemployment are generally faced by scheduled castes in these districts. It is a general fact that people with low literacy rate have higher sex ratio as compared to highly educated people due to lack of awareness regarding medical facilities and family planning programmes.

In the case of literacy rate, the proportion of scheduled castes has been always lower than that of non-scheduled castes because of their low level of income and poverty. It is important to mention here that the literacy rate of scheduled caste population is lower than non-scheduled caste population across all districts except Mewat district in Haryana because, 79.20 percent population belonged to Muslim community in Mewat district and their literacy rate is

lower than scheduled castes due to their socio-economic backwardness. District wise analysis shows that Gurgaon recorded the highest literacy rate because it is a developed region of Haryana and more education opportunities are available in nearby city Delhi. On the other hand, Sirsa and Fatehabad districts recorded the lowest literacy rate because these districts are very backward and educational opportunities are not available properly. The analysis indicates that there is wide gap between male and female literacy ratio for both scheduled caste and non-scheduled castes due to their orthodox mentality and male dominant society. The analysis of educational level of scheduled castes reveals that as the level of education increases the percentage share of scheduled castes decreases across all districts in Haryana. Thus, scheduled castes are the most deprived in case of higher education due to higher rate of drop-outs at the middle and higher level of education. It happens mainly due to the reason that majority of them have to work as labourers in agriculture and non-agriculture sector. Due to low level of income their children discontinue the education and are not in the position of getting higher education.

The analysis reveals that the proportion of cultivators is also lower among scheduled castes across all districts due to higher incidence of landlessness. On the other hand, proportion of household industry workers among scheduled castes is also lower because of higher incidence of illiteracy and low level of skills and technical education etc.

The results further indicate that percentage of households below poverty line was the highest among scheduled castes as compared to non-scheduled castes. The households living below poverty line are the highest among scheduled castes in Fatehabad and Sirsa districts because people in these districts are deprived of gainful employment opportunities and their level of income is very low due to lack of urbanisation and industrialization. On the other hand, in Panipat and Panchkula population living below poverty line is lower among the scheduled castes.

The performance of MGNREGS depends on its implementation and employment demanded by people. Therefore, Fatehabad, Jind and Sirsa are backward regions economically as well as socially and more people have shown their interest under this scheme. The person days generated was highest among scheduled castes in Fatehabad, Jind and Sirsa because they are suffering from higher incidence of poverty and unemployment. On the other hand, scheduled caste person days generated was lowest in Palwal and Mewat which reveals poor implementation whereas Panchkula is a developed district of Haryana and people are getting employment in their surrounding areas due to industrialization and getting higher wages than MGNREGS. In nutshell there are large variations in the socio-economic conditions of scheduled castes across districts in Haryana. Thus more emphasis should be given to raising the socio-economic conditions of scheduled castes in Sirsa, Fatehabad, Kaithal, Jind, Hisar and Bhiwani Districts in order to reduce the inter-district disparities in socio-economic conditions of scheduled caste households in Haryana.

On the basis of the result of the present study, following measures may be suggested for improving the socio-economic conditions of scheduled castes in Haryana:

The results of the study reveal that the percentage of illiteracy is highest among scheduled castes as compared to non-scheduled castes in Haryana across almost all districts because of low level of income, irregular sources of income, ignorance of parents, social environment etc.. As per 2011 census, about 33 per cent of scheduled caste population is illiterate. At the higher education level dropout rates are higher among scheduled castes in Haryana. As the level of education increases, the percentage share of students from scheduled caste communities decreases and their share in technical education/ professional education are very low. At primary level, their participation was satisfactory but at higher education their performance was worst. The most dominating factor behind meager participation was the poverty and economic hardship of their parents which compel them to engage their child power in domestic services or in gainful employment. Inability to meet the educational expenses and helplessness with regard to the provision of basic physical needs are the main indicators of educational backwardness of the scheduled caste families. Therefore, Govt. should not provide only free education but also bear the other expenses and financial help should be provided to their parents for increasing their enrolment and primary, secondary and tertiary levels of education.

The gap between the educational level of male and female is large for both scheduled castes and non-scheduled castes due their orthodox mentality and male dominant society. Therefore, appropriate measures should be taken to eliminate this gap. The literacy rate of scheduled caste population is lower than non-scheduled caste population across all districts except Mewat district in Haryana because as per census 2011, 79.20 percent population belonged to Muslim community in Mewat district and their literacy rate is lower than scheduled castes due to their socio-economic backwardness. This analysis shows that Gurgaon recorded the highest literacy rate because it is a developed region of Haryana and more education opportunities are available there as compared to other districts. On the other hand, Sirsa, Fatehabad and recorded the lowest literacy rate because they are very backward and educational opportunities are not available properly. Thus, special emphasis should be given to increase the literacy rate of scheduled caste in these districts.

The study clearly shows that work participation rate of scheduled castes was higher as compared to general caste households because they have to accept any type of work irrespective of nature of work for their livelihood security due to higher incidence of poverty and landlessness among these poor households. In the case of occupational structure; the percentage share of self-employed and regular wage workers was highest among others

(non-SC/ST/OBCs) followed by other backward classes, scheduled castes and scheduled castes in Haryana. The percentage share of regular wage earners and self-employed was lowest among scheduled caste due to poverty, lack of skills and technical education. On the other hand, the percentage share of casual labourers was highest among scheduled castes as compared to other social groups except scheduled tribes. The district wise analysis of occupational structure of indicates that share of main workers was the lowest among scheduled castes as compared to non-scheduled castes across all districts because majority of the scheduled castes are landless and they are mainly engaged in low paid activities. The proportion of cultivators is also low among scheduled castes due to higher incidence of landlessness. Thus, government should implement land reforms strictly in favour these marginalized people on the one hand and special financial assistance should be given for starting self-employment activities and by developing subsidiary occupations like piggy, Fishery, dairying and poultry on the other end.

The study further reveals that poverty is higher among scheduled castes than other sections of the society in Haryana. The households living below poverty line are the highest among scheduled castes in Fatehabad and Sirsa districts because people in these districts are deprived of gainful employment opportunities and their level of income is very low due to less industrialization. They have been unable to break this vicious circle of poverty. Poverty affects their education, health as well as personality development. It further affects their income because due to lack of skills, they are not able to get gainful employment. Thus, anti-poverty programmers mainly MGNREGS should be implemented properly for generating gainful employment in general and special component plan for scheduled castes should be implements with true spirit in particular.

As per findings, a large proportion of scheduled caste people are landless farmers or agriculture labourers. A large proportion of scheduled castes are living in rural areas in Haryana. The agro-based industries should be established in rural areas on priority basis which will provide gainful employment opportunities at the district-level. This would facilitate increase in women participation too and restrict the migration from rural to urban areas for low paid jobs.

In the case of MGNREGS, scheduled castes participation has been decreasing in the recent times. Delayed payment of wages is the main factor working behind decreasing person days. Delaying payment of wages is a matter of debate at national as well as at state level. Distressed workers are moving towards other jobs because most of scheduled castes are casual workers and they don't have permanent source of income. Direct benefit transfer is a good initiative to transfer payments to real workers directly but mere transfer is not important, it is the timely transfer of wages which is much required in present scenario. On the other hand, implementation process has been slow in some districts such as Mewat, Palwal and Mahendragarh. Therefore, required measures should be taken by state government to improve implementation in these districts.

The welfare schemes initiated by government for the scheduled castes need to be implemented in their true spirit with enthusiasm. Increase in the plan allocation and enlarging the scope of rural specific schemes to cover large proportion of scheduled caste population can go a long way in improving the social and economic conditions of scheduled castes in Haryana.

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