



**IMPACT OF RESERVATION POLICY ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION OF
SCHEDULED CASTES IN HARYANA**

Roop Raj

**Research Scholar, Department of Economics,
Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra (Haryana)**

Abstract:

The socio-economic condition of people from Scheduled Castes of Haryana has been studied by primary method. The plight of the Scheduled Castes is more pronounced in districts like Rohtak, Jind, Sirsa, Hisar, Bhiwani etc. where they have to depend upon landowners in particular for their survival and sustenance. The major constituents of the Scheduled Castes population in the states are Chamars, Dhanak, Sansi and Balmiki.

Key words: Scheduled Castes, Haryana, Socio-Economic status, Reservation Policy

INTRODUCTION:

In India, the Hindu society is divided into four varnas or classes. Brahmins come at the top of the varna hierarchy followed by the kshatriya or warriors. The third rank goes to the vaisyas or traders. The shudras are at the lowest rank of this ladder and they are supposed to serve the three higher groups. The untouchables are completely excluded from this system. That is why the untouchables are also described as varn. Jati or caste was a sound factor determining rank in the Hindu social hierarchy. Though such things are constitutionally prohibited and severe penalties are awarded for practicing them, schedule castes and STs continue to be shunned even today in rural areas of India. Dalits in Haryana are by and large landless persons. Dalits in Haryana are by and large landless persons. They earn, their living by pulling rickshaw by working as agricultural labour or by doing construction work as labourers or by working as petty wage earners in cottage and small scale industries.

This study has focused upon reasons attributable to the socio economic backwardness of the depressed segments of the society as compared to the conditions of the people of other categories. A comparative study on the relative position of different castes has also been

made. Thus, this study has attempted to build up a graphic picture of the socio- economic status of the scheduled castes vis-a-vis other castes in Haryana.

Materials and Methods:

The domain of the Present study is the Haryana state and the variables are the Scheduled Castes households from the different divisions of Haryana State. Presently, Haryana state has been divided into six divisions- i.e. Ambala, Karnal, Hisar, Rohtak, Gurugram and Faridabad. The geographical location of these divisions has been shown in figure no.1, and the districts covered under these divisions are shown in table no.1.



Figure No.1: Map of Haryana showing different divisions

Table No.1: Haryana: Districts covered under different divisions

Sr. No.	Name of Division	Districts included
1	Ambala	Ambala, Kurukshetra, Panchkula, Yamuna Nagar
2	Karnal	Karnal, Kaithal, Panipat
3	Hisar	Hisar, Jind, Sirsa, Fatehabad
4	Rohtak	Rohtak, Bhiwani, Jhajjar, Charkhi Dadri, Sonipat
5	Gurugram	Gurugram, Rewari, Mahendragarh
6	Faridabad	Faridabad, Palwal, Nuh

For the present study, I have selected two districts from each division for study. From each district, two study units (one urban and one rural unit) were selected. So, as shown in table no.2, the study units include 12 rural and 12 urban units (a total of 24 study units) from 12 districts of six divisions of Haryana.

Table No.4: Haryana: Names of selected sample units from different divisions

Sr. No.	Division	District	Unit No.	Study unit	Rural/ Urban	No. of Respondents
1	Ambala	Ambala	1	Naraingarh (MC)	Urban	45
			2	Shahpur	Rural	45
		Kurukshetra	3	Ladwa (MC)	Urban	45
			4	Dhurala	Rural	45
2	Karnal	Karnal	5	Nilokheri (MC)	Urban	45
			6	Nalvi par	Rural	45
		kaithal	7	Pundri (MC)	Urban	45
			8	Deoban	Rural	45
3	Rohtak	Rohtak	9	Kalanaur (MC)	Urban	45
			10	Bhali	Rural	45
		Bhiwani	11	Bawani Khera (MC)	Urban	45
			12	Riwasa	Rural	45
4	Hisar	Hisar	13	Hansi (MC)	Urban	45
			14	Alipur	Rural	45
		Jind	15	Narwana (MC)	Urban	45
			16	Radhana	Rural	45
5	Gurugram	Gurugram	17	Sohna (MC)	Urban	45
			18	Budhera	Rural	45
		Rewari	19	Bawal (MC)	Urban	45
			20	Bolni	Rural	45
6	Faridabad	Faridabad	21	Ballabgarh (MC)	Urban	45
			22	Alampur	Rural	45
		Palwal	23	Hodal (MC)	Urban	45
			24	Bela	Rural	45
Total	6	12	24	24		1080

From each unit, I have surveyed 45 households (15 households from scheduled castes people, 15 from backward castes and 15 from upper castes people) as shown in table no.2.

To carry out the survey, a questionnaire was prepared and one person (preferably head of the family) from each household was interviewed. Based on the responses of the respondents, socio-economic and educational status was studied, and it was enquired into how they look advantage of the reservation policies framed under the constitution of India for the advancement of the down trodden people in the Indian geographical atmosphere, An attempt was made to assess whether they were aware of the reservation policies designed for them and how much benefit they have reaped from such policies and whether these policies have helped raise their socio-economic status and how the community as a whole has progressed in the wake of the affirmative actions stemming from the reservation policy.

Results and Discussion:

The sample units represent the different areas of the divisions. So it becomes important to study such settlements which are taken in such a way that they represent the different segments of caste groups. The present study deals with the educational and occupational patterns along with the per capita income and the type of the houses of different caste groups (the Scheduled Castes in particular) in the area under study.

a. LEVEL OF EDUCATION AND LITERACY RATE

Education plays a vital role in the overall growth of our personality. It sharpens our physical & mental abilities and refines our attitude and behavior in our social dealings where we live. Education is one of the most important requirement through which a society progresses and brings about desirable changes in the social and personal life of its people.

Table No.3: Educational status of respondents in different sample units

Unit No.	Study unit	Primary (%)	Middle (%)	Sec./ Sr. Sec. (%)	Graduation (%)	Post-Graduation (%)	Other (%)	Total (%)
1	Naraingarh (MC)	17.7	15.5	11.1	8.8	4.4	4.4	61.9
2	Shahpur	22.2	13.3	6.6	4.4	2.2	8.8	57.5
3	Ladwa (MC)	12.0	17.7	18.3	9.6	6.6	2.2	66.4
4	Dhurala	15.5	17.7	13.3	6.6	6.6	2.0	66.2
5	Nilokheri (MC)	3.3	13.5	28.5	7.8	3.5	15.6	62.2
6	Jalmana	10.5	18.6	23.3	2.3	1.2	2.3	58.2
7	Pundri (MC)	22.4	13.4	13.6	4.8	1.6	6.5	62.3
8	Deoban	22.2	12.8	10.5	1.5	1.5	3.5	52.0
9	Kalanaur (MC)	22.2	13.3	11.1	8.8	2.2	4.4	62.0
10	Bhali	20.0	11.1	13.3	4.4	6.6	4.4	59.8
11	Bawani Khera (MC)	16.0	8.9	20.5	6.7	2.6	5.0	59.7
12	Riwasa	22.5	12.8	10.8	2.1	3.2	4.5	55.9
13	Hansi (MC)	11.1	15.5	13.3	11.1	8.8	2.2	62.0
14	Alipur	16.5	9.1	20.5	3.0	1.6	5.0	55.7
15	Narwana (MC)	14.8	10.5	20.5	7.5	10.0	4.0	67.3
16	Radhana	25.5	12.0	9.5	4.0	1.0	5.0	57.0
17	Sohna (MC)	6.6	8.8	17.7	11.1	13.3	6.6	64.4
18	Budhera	12.7	15.5	14.5	3.5	2.3	6.3	54.8
19	Bawal (MC)	4.0	6.5	20.5	9.5	16.0	4.0	60.5
20	Bolni	3.6	18.5	10.8	5.0	2.4	10.5	50.8
21	Tilpat (MC)	13.3	13.3	6.6	11.7	10.5	5.0	60.4
22	Alampur	16.4	8.5	14.5	0.8	1.0	3.0	44.2
23	Hodal (MC)	2.2	9.0	22.3	13.0	9.5	3.7	59.7
24	Bela	15.0	12.8	11.1	2.5	6.7	4.4	52.5

Table No.3 shows educational status of respondents. When we compare the overall educational status of respondents in the last column, the Narwana unit tops in terms of

educated respondents with (67.3%), followed by Ladwa (66.4%) and Dhurala (66.2%) respectively.

Whereas, the Alampur sample unit is at the lowest level with 44.2% of educated respondents. Radhana study unit of Hisar division showed maximum percentage of lowest educated respondents with a value of 25.5%, followed by Rewasa unit of Rohtak division 22.5%.

Table No. 4: Literacy rate of different castes of SCs in the sample units

Unit No.	Study unit	Population %					
		Chamar	Dhanak	Balmiki	Sansi	Khatik	Others
1	Naraingarh (MC)	62.3	59.4	58.2	52.3	42.2	25.2
2	Shahpur	58.2	-	56.5	-	-	-
3	Ladwa (MC)	61.2	55.1	51.7	53.0	-	-
4	Dhurala	57.9	52.2	-	-	-	-
5	Nilokheri (MC)	65.5	58.7	55.8	-	-	-
6	Jalmana	55.3	54.3	54.2	-	-	-
7	Pundri (MC)	63.9	60.9	54.9	-	-	-
8	Deoban	53.5	57.4	-	-	-	-
9	Kalanaur (MC)	64.8	61.5	60.1	-	50.0	-
10	Bhali	58.5	52.8	51.3	-	-	38.0
11	Bawani Khera (MC)	59.3	60.5	52.7	50.0	-	-
12	Riwasa	54.7	53.7	52.7	-	-	-
13	Hansi (MC)	60.2	58.4	60.9	35.0	-	42.2
14	Alipur	56.6	54.3	-	-	36.0	-
15	Narwana (MC)	66.0	61.5	59.2	40.1	-	-
16	Radhana	59.2	48.9	59.1	-	-	-
17	Sohna (MC)	67.1	62.7	58.5	-	-	-
18	Budhera	60.3	49.5	56.1	-	-	58.3
19	Bawal (MC)	59.6	61.6	61.7	-	-	-
20	Bolni	61.5	51.4	58.3	-	45.0	-
21	Tilpat (MC)	61.5	59.5	57.2	-	-	-
22	Alampur	59.8	54.6	57.0	-	-	-
23	Hodal (MC)	65.1	61.5	52.5	-	-	-
24	Bela	51.9	52.1	-	-	-	50.7

Table no. 4 shows the literacy rate of different castes of SCs in the sample unit. In most of the sample units, the literacy rate of people from Chamar caste is highest among SCs. In the units like Deoban, Bawani khera (MC), Bawal (MC) and Bela the literacy rate of Dhanak caste is noted more than that of Chamar's. Sansi of Hansi (MC) has a literacy rate of 35.0%. The Balmikis have the literacy rate equal to the combined literacy rate of Scheduled Castes

in most of the units. Most of the sample units have the literacy rate of more than (50.0%) which is a good sign of growing literacy rate among the SCs people.

Table No. 5: Level of education in different caste groups of sample units

Unit No.	Caste	Level of education (%)						Literacy rate (%)
		Primary	Middle	Sec./Sr. Sec.	Graduation	Post-Graduation	Other	
1	SC	18.4	12.7	21.1	2.1	0.7	2.1	57.1
2	Chamar	21.5	10.6	22.4	2.4	1.7	4.5	61.1
3	Dhanak	23.8	11.6	11.4	2.9	0.8	2.4	51.4
4	Balmiki	21.5	10.2	10.0	-	1.0	3.1	49.8
5	Sansi	16.6	12.0	10.7	1.3	-	7.2	47.8
6	Khatik	20.1	6.4	-	1.0	-	4.5	30.1
7	Others	25.1	9.9	-	-	-	7.7	42.7
8	BC	23.9	16.8	8.7	2.6	0.5	6.8	59.3
9	Carpenter	32.2	7.8	9.4	4.7	-	5.4	59.5
10	Nai	20.1	15.6	9.8	2.1	-	2.4	50.0
11	Lohar	23.1	11.6	11.4	-	-	6.4	52.5
12	Kumhar	21.5	9.5	8.3	2.5	1.0	5.6	48.4
13	Jhinwar	10.2	25.4	17.3	-	-	-	51.9
14	Kamboj	22.0	16.4	13.6	3.0	3.5	6.7	65.2
15	Others	21.6	9.1	11.4	5.1	-	10.2	57.4
16	UC	16.9	13.9	19.3	5.2	2.3	6.4	63.0
17	Jat	14.8	15.5	20.4	5.8	2.6	6.2	62.3
18	Brahman	16.6	19.8	16.8	9.5	2.0	8.5	73.1
19	Rajput	20.5	13.4	19.5	5.5	2.0	3.5	64.4
20	Baniya	12.1	15.9	39.9	3.8	1.0	4.9	77.6
21	Other	20.5	19.3	9.6	4.9	2.8	5.9	62.8

Table no. 5 shows caste-wise level of education of the sample units. The table reveals that 57.1 percent of the total population of Scheduled Castes in all the sample units is literate. Chamars with 61.1 percent of literacy rate are at the top among SCs. They are followed by Dhanak and Balmiki with 51.4% and 49.8% respectively. The lowest literacy rate (30.1) is seen found among Khatik. Among Backward Castes - Carpenter, Kamboj, Others and Jhinwar have more than 50 percent of literacy rate. Kumhars with 48.4 percent of literacy rate are found a lower level.

On the basis of the above analysis about literacy, a few things are conspicuous. The Upper Castes have higher educational status than the lower castes. Secondly, Chamars among Scheduled Castes have the highest literacy rate and educational level.

b. Occupational structure of scheduled Castes

Table No. 6: Sex –wise distribution of working population in the sample unit

Unit No.	Study unit	Working Population (%)	
		Male	Female
1	Naraingarh (MC)	90.5	9.5
2	Shahpur	89.2	10.8
3	Ladwa (MC)	87.9	12.1
4	Dhurala	93.9	6.1
5	Nilokheri (MC)	79.8	20.2
6	Jalmana	88.6	11.4
7	Pundri (MC)	63.5	36.5
8	Deoban	71.3	28.7
9	Kalanaur (MC)	92.8	7.2
10	Bhali	77.7	22.3
11	Bawani Khera (MC)	91.3	8.7
12	Riwasa	62.8	37.2
13	Hansi (MC)	65.5	34.5
14	Alipur	78.8	21.2
15	Narwana (MC)	67.5	32.5
16	Radhana	89.4	10.6
17	Sohna (MC)	90.3	9.7
18	Budhera	76.6	23.4
19	Bawal (MC)	93.9	6.1
20	Bolni	84.9	15.1
21	Tilpat (MC)	76.9	23.1
22	Alampur	63.7	36.3
23	Hodal (MC)	78.3	21.7
24	Bela	86.5	13.5

Table no. 6 shows the sex-wise distribution of working population in the sample units based on 2011 census data. The table reveals that Bawal (MC) (93.9) male working population is at the top and is followed by Dhurala (93.9), Bawani khera (MC) (91.3), and Naraingarh (90.5) when viewed from the lowest side, the first position goes to Riwasa (62.8%) and is followed by Alampur (63.7%). Among females, Pundri (MC) with 36.3% working population comes at the top and is closely followed by Alampur with 36.3% working population Kalanaur (MC) is at the lowest level with just 7.2% female working population.

Table No. 7: Classification of workers in study units

Unit No.	Study unit	Main workers %	Industrial category %									Marginal workers %	Non-workers %
			I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX		
1	Naraingarh (MC)	32.2	24.1	40.5	2.3	-	3.7	2.9	12.3	3.1	11.1	2.3	65.5
2	Shahpur	30.4	43.2	21.3	7.7	-	4.8	2.9	3.5	1.3	15.3	7.1	62.5
3	Ladwa (MC)	36.4	36.1	32.3	6.7	-	2.1	7.6	3.2	2.1	9.9	2.5	61.1
4	Dhurala	28.9	37.1	32.3	6.5	-	3.7	5.8	7.5	3.1	8.1	3.2	67.9
5	Nilokheri (MC)	28.5	35.5	34.7	2.7	-	5.3	3.5	2.7	6.1	9.5	4.3	67.2
6	Jalmana	29.3	32.3	37.1	2.8	-	2.5	1.7	5.3	7.1	11.2	5.1	65.6
7	Pundri (MC)	37.2	27.5	31.8	3.4	-	3.7	7.9	5.1	7.1	13.5	1.8	62.0
8	Deoban	34.3	29.8	38.5	5.5	-	2.3	8.9	1.5	5.7	7.8	3.7	62.0
9	Kalanaur (MC)	41.5	37.5	32.1	8.1	-	5.3	7.2	1.2	3.4	5.2	3.9	45.4
10	Bhali	39.3	39.1	28.3	3.1	-	7.5	6.3	3.4	4.2	8.1	--	60.7
11	Bawani Khera (MC)	38.0	20.5	33.3	6.7	-	5.1	8.7	7.3	7.1	11.3	1.5	60.5
12	Riwasa	33.4	31.1	32.3	4.3	-	5.6	5.4	8.3	6.8	5.2	5.2	61.4
13	Hansi (MC)	37.3	33.7	35.9	1.3	-	4.5	7.3	3.1	2.1	12.1	4.5	58.2
14	Alipur	39.5	34.2	31.7	4.5	-	8.3	2.2	5.7	6.1	7.2	3.7	56.8
15	Narwana (MC)	28.3	38.7	29.9	4.1	-	6.7	5.5	-	-	-	2.9	68.8
16	Radhana	37.7	41.1	34.5	6.3	-	5.9	2.4	6.7	3.1	-	9.8	62.3
17	Sohna (MC)	38.9	26.7	30.9	3.4	-	5.3	8.7	2.9	10.0	12.1	3.7	57.4
18	Budhera	32.3	29.5	31.2	2.8	-	6.4	2.5	8.3	9.1	10.2	--	67.7
19	Bawal (MC)	34.8	34.2	34.3	2.3	-	3.7	2.9	5.5	9.1	9.0	8.1	57.1
20	Bolni	38.3	41.0	31.0	3.5	-	5.0	2.5	2.0	7.0	8.0	-	61.7
21	Tilpat (MC)	41.3	25.2	30.3	4.1	-	5.0	4.1	7.2	10.1	14.0	-	58.7
22	Alampur	31.2	31.0	38.0	5.1	-	6.0	3.1	2.0	1.0	10.0	3.8	65.0
23	Hodal (MC)	43.2	37.2	31.2	2.3	-	8.3	4.4	3.1	2.1	11.4	5.1	51.7
24	Bela	37.7	32.1	34.2	1.4	-	9.1	4.3	3.2	5.1	10.2	2.7	59.6

Table no. 7 shows the classification of workers in the sample units. Accordingly, it has been noted that in most of units, the primary activities are dominating: In Radhana, 81.9 percent of the total working population is engaged in primary occupations. The lowest (59.6) is noted in Tilpat (MC) unit. Here, the tertiary activities are found more (31.3) among the working population. Only a few units have marginal workers. And they are less than 9 percent in each of the unit.

Table No. 8: Sector wise occupational structure of households

Unit No.	Study unit	Population %			
		Primary Sector	Secondary Sector	Tertiary Sector	Main workers
1	Naraingarh (MC)	71.6	16.3	12.1	30.5
2	Shahpur	67.1	13.9	19.0	30.7
3	Ladwa (MC)	61.7	20.0	20.3	39.5
4	Dhurala	62.6	12.6	24.8	32.9
5	Nilokheri (MC)	55.4	12.3	34.8	31.1
6	Jalmana	70.7	3.6	25.7	34.3
7	Pundri (MC)	66.4	10.0	23.7	33.4
8	Deoban	59.6	20.4	20.0	37.2
9	Kalanaur (MC)	66.5	12.6	20.9	38.2
10	Bhali	63.9	18.5	17.6	33.7
11	Bawani Khera (MC)	76.7	11.0	12.3	22.5
12	Riwasa	85.7	8.6	5.7	31.1
13	Hansi (MC)	72.5	10.5	19.2	35.2
14	Alipur	66.7	10.1	23.2	33.5
15	Narwana (MC)	83.2	5.3	11.5	39.6
16	Radhana	75.5	9.9	14.6	39.8
17	Sohna (MC)	65.6	7.7	26.7	30.5
18	Budhera	74.9	12.6	12.5	39.1
19	Bawal (MC)	69.9	15.5	14.6	33.5
20	Bolni	66.2	14.3	12.5	29.3
21	Tilpat (MC)	58.3	10.1	31.6	39.4
22	Alampur	75.4	6.0	18.6	29.5
23	Hodal (MC)	68.1	9.3	22.6	27.2
24	Bela	81.3	12.1	6.6	30.5

Table no.8 shows unit-wise occupational structure of the households of the sample units. The highest work force rate recorded in the Tilpat (MC) unit is 39.9 percent. The lowest working population is noted in Bawani khera which is 22.5% More than 60 percent of the total working population of all units is engaged in primary sector. As compared to the primary sector, the percentage of population engaged in secondary and tertiary sectors is far less 20.4% of population engaged in secondary sector in Deoban represents the highest workforce while the lowest workforce 3.6% in the secondary sector is engaged in Jalmana. Nilokheri is at the top with 34.8% of population being engaged in tertiary sector, while Bela has the lowest work force 6.6% in the tertiary sector.

Table no. 9: working population of sub-constituents of Scheduled Castes

Unit No.	Study unit	Population %					
		Chamar	Dhanak	Balmiki	Sans i	Khatik	Others
1	Naraingarh (MC)	29.3	35.2	29.6	-	-	-
2	Shahpur	31.2	27.2	31.3	-	-	-
3	Ladwa (MC)	37.5	31.5	28.2	-	-	37.3
4	Dhurala	32.1	30.1	35.1	-	-	-
5	Nilokheri (MC)	39.3	33.3	37.1	-	31.2	-
6	Jalmana	38.2	28.9	31.2	-	-	-
7	Pundri (MC)	40.1	30.9	32.8	-	-	39.3
8	Deoban	33.5	34.8	35.3	-	-	-
9	Kalanaur (MC)	40.0	39.5	30.5	27.3	-	-
10	Bhali	32.0	41.2	37.2	-	-	-
11	Bawani Khera (MC)	37.1	30.1	29.3	37.5	-	-
12	Riwasa	29.5	31.3	38.5	32.5	-	-
13	Hansi (MC)	40.5	37.2	29.5	41.1	-	-
14	Alipur	38.3	37.1	32.9	39.3	-	-
15	Narwana (MC)	39.3	37.5	38.4	-	-	-
16	Radhana	41.2	35.7	36.4	-	-	38.5
17	Sohna (MC)	43.1	44.5	41.3	-	38.9	-
18	Budhera	36.1	41.2	42.4	-	-	-
19	Bawal (MC)	29.2	31.1	28.2	-	-	-
20	Bolni	37.5	38.3	35.7	-	-	41.1
21	Tilpat (MC)	41.7	37.8	38.2	-	38.1	-
22	Alampur	37.1	39.2	37.3	-	-	-
23	Hodal (MC)	29.5	31.2	37.1	-	-	-
24	Bela	38.5	33.9	32.7	-	-	-

Table no.9 provides detailed information about the working population of the sub-constituents of Scheduled Castes in the sample unit. Chamars (41.7) of Tilpat (MC), Dhanak (44.5) of Sohna (MC) and Balmiki (42.4) of Budhera represent the maximum working population. The lowest working population among Chamars is 29.2% is in Bawal (MC) while among Dhanaks it is in Shahpur with 27.2% work force, Balmikis have the lowest work force at 28.2% in Ladwa.

This table enables us to form an opinion about the economic conditions of the sub constituents of SCs in various regions under study. The greater the work force of a subconstituent in a particular area, the better the economic condition of the people in that area.

Summary and conclusion:

There is a difference of degrees in terms of dependence of the Scheduled Castes on the upper castes who live in areas near Delhi, Chandigarh and Gurugram and in those cities which are located along the Highways and from Delhi to Chandigarh in particular. Proximity to cities enables them to find alternative avenues of livelihood. The plight of the Scheduled Castes is more pronounced in districts like Rohtak, Jind, Sirsa, Hisar, Bhiwani etc. where they have to depend upon landowners in particular for their survival and sustenance. The major constituents of the Scheduled Castes population in the states are Chamars, Dhanak, Sansi and Balmiki. The slight improvement in the socio-economic condition of these people is only due to the reservation policy, which government has to follow for the upliftment of the state.

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