

Uttaranchal

DATA HIGHLIGHTS: THE SCHEDULED TRIBES Census of India 2001

The total population of Uttaranchal in 2001 Census has been 8,489,349. Of these, 256,129 persons are Scheduled Tribes (STs) which constitutes 3 per cent of the total population of the state. The state has registered 20.9 per cent decadal growth of ST population in 1991-2001. There are total of five (5) notified STs in the state, and all of them have been enumerated in 2001 Census.

Population: Size & Distribution

2.Tharu is the largest of the five STs of Uttaranchal. They account for 33.4 per cent ST population of the state, followed by Jannsari (32.5 per cent), Buksa (18.3 per cent), and Bhotia (14.2 per cent). Raji is small in number (Statement-1).

Statement-1: Population and Proportion of STs, 2001 Census

| SL. No. | Name of the Scheduled Tribe | Total population | Proportion to the total ST population |
|---------|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | All Scheduled Tribes | 256,129 | 100 |
| 6 | Tharu | 85,665 | 33.4 |
| 4 | Jannsari | 83,262 | 32.5 |
| 3 | Buksa | 46,771 | 18.3 |
| 2 | Bhotia | 36,438 | 14.2 |
| 5 | Raji | 517 | 0.2 |

3.The STs in Uttaranchal are predominantly living in rural areas with 93.8 per cent rural and only 6.2 per cent urban. Bhotia have recorded a high of 25.8 per cent urban population among them. Raji with 8.9 per cent urban dwellers among them come next. On the other hand Buksa and Tharu are predominantly living in rural areas with only 0.8 per cent and 1.9 per cent urban population respectively.

4.A majority of the ST population is concentrated in four districts, namely, Udham Singh Nagar (43 per cent), Dehradun (38.8 per cent), Pithoragarh (7.5 per cent), and Chamoli (4.1 per cent).

Sex Ratio

5.The overall sex ratio among the STs is 950, which is below the aggregated national figure for STs (978). Bhotia (1049) have registered more females in their population. On the other hand very low sex ratio of 833 has been recorded among Raji.

6.The child sex ratio (0-6 age group) of 955 among the STs is also low as compared to the national average (973) for STs. The Raji also have registered low child sex ratio (757).

Literacy & Educational Level

7.Among STs, 63.2 per cent of the population has been recorded as literate, which is well above the national average (47.1 per cent). The male and female literacy rate of 76.4 per cent and 49.4 per cent respectively suggest for wider gender gap in literacy. Bhotia with 79.9 per cent literacy rate are well ahead of other STs. The female literacy rate (69.1 per cent) among Bhotia is also the highest among the five STs of the state. Raji have recorded the lowest literacy rate of just 35.8 per cent, Statement-2

| Statement-2 Literacy Rate | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------|--------|
| SL. No | Name of the Scheduled Tribe | Literate Rate (7+ years and above) | | |
| | | Total | Male | Female |
| 1 | All Scheduled Tribes | 63.2 | 76.4 | 49.4 |
| 2 | Bhotia | 79.9 | 91.5 | 69.1 |
| 3 | Buksa | 49.9 | 66.0 | 32.4 |
| 4 | Jannsari | 58.9 | 71.7 | 44.8 |
| 5 | Raji | 35.8 | 47.2 | 22.5 |
| 6 | Tharu | 67.0 | 80.4 | 53.1 |

8.As per 2001 Census, 76.6 per cent of the ST population of age group 5-14 years has been attending educational institutions. Bhotia have recorded the highest percentage (86.4 per cent) of school attending population, closely followed by Tharu (82.3 per cent). On the other hand Raji have recorded the lowest of 50 per cent. The Jannsari (75.1 per cent) and Buksa (63.7 per cent), the remaining two STs, also have recorded below the state average.

9.Merely 4.3 per cent of total literates among STs are having educational level graduate and above. Bhotia with 11.6 per cent of their literate population as graduate or having higher level of education are on the top among STs. On the other hand Buksa have recorded a low of just 0.7 per cent.

Work Participation Rate (WPR)

10.In 2001 Census, 41.1 per cent of the STs have been recorded as workers, which is below the aggregated national level for STs (49.1 per cent). Of the total workers 73.1 per cent have been recorded as main workers and 26.9 per cent as marginal workers. The female WPR of 31.9 per cent is just lower than male (49.9 per cent), Statement-3.

Statement-3: Distribution of Total, Main & Marginal Workers among STs

| T/M/F | Percentage of Workers | | |
|--------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| | Total Workers | Main Workers | Marginal Workers |
| Total | 105,300 (41.1%) | 76,961 (73.1%) | 28,339 (26.9%) |
| Male | 65,502 (49.9%) | 55,597 (84.9%) | 9,905 (15.1%) |
| Female | 39,798 (31.9%) | 21,364 (53.7%) | 18,434 (46.3%) |

11. Bhotia have recorded the highest WPR of 41.1 per cent, while it is lowest among Buksa (34.9 per cent).

Category of Workers

12. Industrial category wise of the total ST main workers, a high of 67.9 per cent has been recorded as cultivators, 7.7 per cent as agricultural laborers, 5.2 per cent in the category of household industry, and the remaining 19.2 per cent as 'other workers'.

13. Jannasari and Tharu are predominantly cultivators. Of their total main workers, 80.6 per cent among Jannasari and 78.5 per cent among Tharu have been recorded as cultivators. Buksa have recorded 54.1 per cent of their main workers as cultivators. However, a high of 28.3 per cent as agricultural labourers among recorded among Buksa speaks for their greater dependency on primary agricultural sector.

Marital Status

14. As regard marital status, 53.8 per cent of the ST population is never married, 41.9 per cent currently married, 4.1 per cent widowed, and 0.2 per cent divorced /separated.

15. The child marriage is not common among the STs of Uttaranchal. Merely 1.9 per cent of total female population among STs of below 18 years – the minimum legal age for marriage – has been recorded as ever married. Raji have recorded the highest percentage of marriage below the stipulated age (3.9 per cent), while the same is the lowest among Buksa (0.8 per cent).

16. The ever married males below 21 years – the minimum legal age for marriage – constitute 2.7 per cent of the total population. Tharu have recorded the highest 3.4 per cent of their population of this stipulated age as ever married, closely followed by Jannasari (3.1 per cent).

Religion

17. The STs in Uttaranchal are predominantly Hindus constituting 99.1 per cent of the population. Besides, a total of 1,344 persons have been returned as Budhists.
