

Haryana
DATA HIGHLIGHTS : THE SCHEDULED CASTES
Census of India 2001

The population of Haryana, as per 2001 Census, is 21,144,564. Of this, 4,091,110 (19.3 per cent) are Scheduled Castes (SCs). The SC population constitutes 2.5 per cent of the country's SC population. This SC population is contributed by 37 SCs notified by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976.

2. The growth rate of SC population in the decade 1991-2001 at 25.8 per cent is lower than the overall growth rate of the state population (28.4 per cent). Among the major SCs, highest growth rate of 30.8 per cent is recorded in the case of Dhanak, followed by Balmiki (25.6 per cent) and Chamar (21.9 per cent).

Population- Size & Distribution

3. Of the 37 SCs, Chamar, Balmiki and Dhanak together constitute 81.6 per cent of the SC population of the state. Chamar are numerically the largest SCs with a population of 2,079,132, constituting 50.8 per cent of the state's SC population. They are followed by Balmiki 786,961 (19.2 per cent) and Dhanak 471,287 (11.5 per cent). Among the districts, Fatehabad has registered the highest proportion of SCs 27.4 per cent, followed by Sirsa (26.6 per cent) and Ambala (25.1 per cent). Gurgaon district has the lowest 11.3 per cent of SC population in its total population.

4. A majority of the SC population (78.5 per cent) of the state is residing in rural areas. Among the major SCs, Chamar have the highest (82.6 per cent) rural population, followed by Dhanak (78.5 per cent) and Balmiki (73.1 per cent).

Sex ratio

5. The overall sex ratio of the SC population is 869 females per 1000 males, which is marginally higher than 861 recorded for state population as a whole in 2001 Census. The sex ratio of the SC population has increased from 860 reported in 1991 Census. The highest sex ratio of 916 for SC population is recorded in Mahendragarh district and the lowest 847 in Kaithal district in 2001.

The Statement below shows sex ratio and child sex ratio (0-6) of the SC population at the national, state and numerically the largest three SCs in 2001 Census:

Statement - 1: Sex Ratio						
Age Groups	All SCs (India)	All SCs (Haryana)	State population (Haryana)	Chamar	Balmiki	Dhanak
All Ages	936	869	861	850	887	883
0-6	938	865	819	850	881	867

6. As may be seen the sex ratio as well as child sex ratio (0-6) of SC population of Haryana are higher when compared with the corresponding figures for the state as a whole. Among major SCs, Chamar have reported lower overall as well as child sex ratios than the other large SCs.

Literacy and educational level

7. Literacy and level of education are two basic indicators of the level of development achieved by a group/society. The literacy results in more awareness besides contributing to the overall improvement of health, hygiene and other social conditions. According to 2001 Census, percentage of literate persons (those who can read and write with understanding) aged 7 years and above, among SC population of Haryana, is 55.4 per cent, which is considerably lower than 67.9 per cent of the state population as a whole. The state has made significant headway in SC literacy during the decade 1991-2001. The literacy rate, which was 39.2 per cent in 1991 Census, has increased by 16.2 percentage points in 2001. At the district level, the highest literacy rate of 68.7 per cent has been registered in Rewari, followed by Gurgaon (64 per cent), and the lowest (41 per cent) in Fatehabad district.

8. Among the major SCs, Chamar are reported to have the highest literacy rate of 61 per cent, followed by Dhanak (51.9 per cent) and Balmiki (49.3 per cent). The female literacy rate (42.3 per cent) among the SC Population is lower as compared to 55.7 per cent for the female population of the state.

Statement - 2: Educational levels attained by major SCs							
Category	Literate without educational level	Below primary	Primary	Middle	Matric/ Secondary/ Higher Secondary/ etc.	Technical & Non-technical diploma	Graduate & above
All Scheduled Castes	1.8	32.1	33.6	14.9	15.2	0.6	1.9
Chamar	1.4	28.7	32.8	16.1	17.7	0.7	2.4
Balmiki	2.2	37.4	35.8	13.0	10.4	0.2	1.0
Dhanak	2.1	37.0	33.8	12.8	12.5	0.5	1.3

9. Out of the total literates, 33.9 per cent are literates without any educational level or have attained below Primary level. The literates, who have attained education up to Primary and Middle levels, are 33.6 per cent and 14.9 per cent respectively. This together forms the largest chunk of 48.5 per cent literates. Only 15.2 per cent are having educational level up to Matric/Higher Secondary levels, implying that every 7th SC literate is a Matriculate. Literates with educational level of Graduation and above are only 1.9 per cent. Among the major SCs, Chamar have the highest percentage (2.4 per cent) of Graduation & above educational level.

10. From the educational level table, it also emerges that the drop out is conspicuous after the primary level and again after Matric/Secondary levels. This pattern is consistent among all the major SCs.

11. Population in the age group 5-14 years are the potential students. 64.7 per cent of the SC population in this age group is attending various educational institutions.

Economic activity

Work Participation Rate (WPR)

12. The work participation rate (WPR) is the percentage of workers to the total population. The WPR of the SC population is 38.7 per cent in 2001, which is almost equal to the state population as a whole (39.6 per cent). The WPR has increased considerably from 31.0 per cent recorded in 1991 Census. The WPR at 48.5 per cent for SC males is higher than their female counterparts (27.4 per cent), as reported in 2001 Census.

13. At the individual caste level, the highest WPR of 40.2 per cent is reported for Dhanak, followed by Chamar (38.6 per cent) and Balmiki (37.7 per cent). The same trend has been seen in case of WPR for females. Dhanak have the highest 30.9 per cent female WPR.

Category of Workers

14. There has been a decline in the main workers from 92.5 per cent in 1991 Census to 65.6 per cent in 2001 Census, which in turn, has resulted in increase in the marginal workers from 7.5 per cent in 1991 to 34.4 per cent in 2001. Out of total workers, 'other workers' constitute 47.5 per cent, which is higher when compared to 30.5 per cent reported for SC population at national level. 'Agricultural Labourer' accounts for 42.2 per cent and only 8 per cent have been returned as 'cultivators'. Remaining 2.4 per cent have been workers in 'household industry'. The percentage of workers in agricultural sector (cultivators plus agricultural labourers) has been declined to 50.2 in 2001, in comparison to 65.5 per cent in 1991. This makes it a shift in the economic activities from agricultural sector towards non-agricultural sector during the decade.

15. At the individual caste level, the highest percentage of 'agricultural labourers' is reported among Dhanak (46.4 per cent). Balmiki have the highest number of 'other workers' (51.9 per cent) and Chamar have highest percentages of 'cultivators' (10.4 per cent) and 'household industry' (2.5 per cent) workers.

Marital status

16. Marital status is one of the important determinants of fertility and growth of a population. The 2001 Census data on marital status show that 53.3 per cent persons among the SCs of Haryana are 'never married'. The 'currently married' constitute 43.1 per cent while 3.5 per cent are 'widowed'. Only 0.1 per cent is 'divorced and separated'.

17. Majority of girls and boys among SCs in Haryana are getting married after attaining the legal age of marriage. Marriages of SC girls below 18 years (2.7 per cent) and boys below 21 years (3 per cent) are almost equal to the corresponding figures of 2.8 per cent and 3.1 per cent respectively among SC population at the national level.

18. The mean number of children ever born per ever married SC woman of all ages is 3.7, which is higher than 3.2 reported for SC population at national level. In the age group 45-49 years, it is 4.9 as compared to 4.2 for the Country's SC population.

Religion

19. As per the 2001 Census, the Hindus constitute 96 per cent of the SC population of the state, followed by Sikhs 158,352 (3.9 per cent) and Buddhists 4,867 (0.1 per cent).