

**PROBLEMS IN THE EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
OF SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS IN KARNATAKA  
A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS**

**PROBLEMS IN THE EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
OF SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS IN KARNATAKA  
A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS**

**BHARATH RAJ MUTHU KUMAR**

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements  
for the Degree of Master of Philosophy of the School of  
Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University

**NEW DELHI  
1975**

**JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY**  
School of Social Sciences  
Centre for the Study of Social Systems

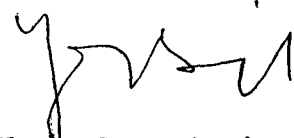
Gram—JAYENU  
Telephone :  
New Mehrauli Road,  
NEW DELHI-110057.

CERTIFICATE

The dissertation entitled "Problems in the Educational Development of Scheduled Caste Students in Karnataka: A Sociological Analysis" submitted by Shri Bharath Raj Muthu Kumar for the Degree of Master of Philosophy has not been previously submitted for any other Degree of this or any University. We recommend that this dissertation should be placed before the examiners for their consideration for the award of M.Phil. Degree.

*C. N. Venugopal*

Shri C. N. Venugopal (Adviser)  
Assistant Professor  
Centre for the Study of Social Systems  
School of Social Sciences  
Jawaharlal Nehru University



Dr Yogendra Singh  
(Co-Adviser)  
Professor & Chairman  
Centre for the Study of Social  
Systems, School of Social  
Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru  
University

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I offer my sincere thanks to Shri C. N. Venugopal and Dr Yogendra Singh at the Centre for the Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Shri N. Jaya Ram and Shri B. S. Paresh Kumar, Research Scholars at the Department of Sociology, Bangalore University, Bangalore and to the many friends whom I discussed with, who go unmentioned for the fear of forgetting names.

*Bharath Raj Muthu Kumar*

Bharath Raj Muthu Kumar

27 October 1975

New Delhi 57

## C O N T E N T S

	Preface	i-iii
Chapter I	Introduction	1-20
Chapter II	Programmes for the Upliftment of Scheduled Castes	21-43
Chapter III	Enrolment of Scheduled Caste Students - Some Facts and Figures	44-97
Chapter IV	Background of Scheduled Caste Students	98-116
Chapter V	Conclusion	117-128
	Afterword	129-130
	Appendix	131-134
	Bibliography	135-141

## **PREFACE**

## PREFACE

The ex-untouchables of India, who are now designated as the Scheduled Castes, constitute close to a fifth of the country's population. They have been and still are one of the most underprivileged and disadvantaged communities. Till the first quarter of this century there existed no schools for the untouchables in India.

The ex-untouchables experienced very many hardships, far greater than a mere lack of education. Till today, the dirtiest and most despised forms of work was and still is theirs. They are still the community that empty and clean latrines, collect and dispose of refuse and garbage, skin the dead animals, eat the carcass of dead animals, etc.

Until June 1955, the ex-untouchables or the Scheduled Castes were prohibited by custom from using many public facilities, viz., bathing places, wells, etc., used by caste-Hindus. In many parts of the country, they were refused entry in temples. It does not mean that today the ex-untouchables suffer no disabilities, as a matter of fact, it still is very prevalent. The Untouchability (Offences) Act of 1955 needs to be revamped.

With the above fact in mind, we realise that the only solution to this problem is to liberate, the Scheduled Castes through education. It is a fact that there are many serious problems in the field of education but educating the socially, economically and educationally deprived children is more urgent,

as otherwise the number of these underprivileged and disadvantaged children will grow year after year.

The Scheduled Castes are considered here as being the underprivileged and socially disadvantaged because the society has tolerated attitudes, and social practices which have restricted their access to equal opportunity and social advancement.

The vast majority of the Scheduled Castes continue to be poor and uneducated. Many do agricultural work to supplement their meagre incomes from their traditional tasks. Surprisingly, opportunities for advancement of individual untouchables was much greater under British rule, than after 1947 - India, which improved their legal status. Talking to old ex-untouchables one understands that, whatever their faults as rulers, the British had none of the prejudices against the untouchables that the caste-Hindus have in 1975.

In India, inequality is inherent and as a matter of fact is part of her tradition. Hindu dominated India allows it even though the Constitution of India disallows it. The Constitution of India allows all religious faiths to exist. Hinduism prevails, and with it prevails the caste system which means there must be untouchability and social deprivation in modern India. The brunt of this is faced by the ex-untouchables or the Scheduled Castes. The Scheduled Castes are still to be free of untouchability and are yet to get their rightful place in the Indian society.



The Scheduled Caste problem is a national problem and needs special care and understanding, because it is the shared responsibility of each one of us to see that the problem is reduced, if not solved.

# Chapter I

## INTRODUCTION

## Chapter I

### INTRODUCTION

A glance at human societies will instantly reveal that human societies are not only divided into groups but there is also inequality among groups, i.e., some groups are considered to be superior or are placed higher than others. No sociological training is required to observe this fact. There is no permanent social group in which all their members are equal.<sup>1</sup> Though the phenomenon of social stratification is ubiquitous or universal it varies from society to society. As Sorokin observes, "Social stratification means the differentiation of a given population into hierarchically superposed classes. It is manifested in the existence of upper and lower layers. Its basis and very essence consist in an unequal distribution of rights and privileges, duties and responsibilities, social values and privations, social power and influences among the members of a society".<sup>2</sup>

There is no concrete form of stratification for there is not one form. Thus a society may be stratified 'economically', 'politically', 'occupationally', and so on.<sup>3</sup>

---

1 See P.A. Sorokin, Social and Cultural Mobility, Free Press, Glencoe, Ill., 1959, pp. 11-17.

2 Ibid.

3 Ibid., and see also Tumin on "Social Stratification" in A Dictionary of Social Sciences, edited by Gould and Kolb, Free Press, 1964, pp. 695-97.

While discussing stratification, India is no exception. But stratification in India is characterised by certain unique features. The Indian social structure is characterised by the caste system.<sup>4</sup>

There have been numerous definitions of caste and we have no general definition. Thus at this moment it would seem futile seeking a definition or its origin. What is important here is the characteristic features of a caste - it is an endogamous group or a collection of groups having a common name, common origin, possessing a traditional occupation, having the same deity. One of the most important facts is that membership into a caste is only by birth and one remains so till death. Each caste stands for a way of life.<sup>5</sup> Each caste has a set of rules pertaining to endogamy, commensality and social interactions with other caste groups.

✓ The essence of the caste system is the arrangement of the various hereditary groups (or castes) in a hierarchy with a line drawn to indicate pollution and purity. Social interaction is based on this pollution-purity line. This hierarchy is clear cut at the extremes, Brahmins being at the top and the untouchables at the bottom. In between there are three main caste groups, as follows:

---

4 See N.K. Dutt, Origin and Growth of Caste in India, vol. I, Firma K.L. Mukhopadhyay, Calcutta, 1968, pp. 1-3.

5 See M.N. Srinivas, Social Structure in the Gazetteer of India, vol. I, Government of India, pp. 501-77.

- i) Brahmins - the priests,
- ii) Kshatriyas - princes and warriors,
- iii) Vaisyas - merchants,
- iv) Shudras - ordinary people, and the
- v) The Untouchables - the polluted outsiders. <sup>6</sup>

The Hindu caste system is an extreme form of stratification where social inequality is structured and given legitimacy by the values of Hindu cultural system and this makes for its uniqueness. What was cruel in this form of stratification was that a whole group of people belonging to a particular caste by virtue of their birth were considered to be impure. Their occupation, their very existence, their residence, their touch and even their shadow was impure. The group which had to live as a victim to these ideas were the Untouchables. M.K. Gandhi coined the word "Harijan" meaning 'children of God' to designate them.

The social reality in which the Harijans lived for centuries could be summed up this way: "...there is nothing which can make the Untouchables pure...they are born impure... they are impure while they live, they have the death of impure, and they give birth to children who are born with the stigma of untouchability affixed to them."<sup>7</sup> Concepts like Karma and rebirth have given cultural sanctions and philosophical

---

6 See Leach, Edmund, Caste, Class, & Slavery in Caste and Race, Ciba Foundation, pp. 8-12.

7 B.R. Ambedkar, The Untouchables, 1948, p. 21.

justification for the continuance of untouchability and a strong belief that good deeds lead to good Karma and bad action to bad Karma. This belief leads to the idea that low birth is due to bad Karma. Thus the Harijans have been relegated to a position of impurity and untouchability.

#### Who are the Scheduled Castes?

The Harijans have been called by various names. Before 1930 they were officially known as the "Depressed Classes" and the "Exterior Castes". The term "Scheduled Castes" also refers to the Harijans. The origin of the term has a very long history that it can be traced to the early twentieth century. And since that time the term went through many changes. Legislative Councils, Franchise Committees, Statutory Commission and Indian Central Committee discussed and defined and gave numerous meanings. "Scheduled Castes" were to denote the "Depressed Classes", "Exterior Castes", "Excluded Castes", and "Backward Classes". In 1916, the Depressed Classes, according to the then Indian Legislative Council, included criminal and wandering tribes, aboriginals and untouchables.

In 1917, Sir Henry Sharp, Educational Commissioner, Government of India, prepared a list of the Depressed Classes. The term Depressed Classes, according to him, denoted this: "...the depressed classes form the unclean castes whose touch or even shadow is pollution..."<sup>8</sup> The Southborough Committee,

<sup>8</sup> Quoted in the Report of the Indian Franchise Committee, vol. I, 1932, para 279, p. 109.

1919; The Statutory Commission and the Indian Central Committee took another stand - the criterion to be included in the Depressed Classes was untouchability. The Indian Franchise Committee, in its report, emphasised that aboriginal tribes or primitives should not be included in the list of Depressed Classes.<sup>9</sup>

The 1911 Census accepted untouchability as the criterion for a group to be classified under depressed classes. But the 1921 Census did not specify any criterion. Later B.R. Ambedkar found the need to do away with the term "Depressed Classes" and use some other term like "Exterior Castes" or "Excluded Castes". The reason was, that, the term "Depressed Classes",<sup>10</sup> was vague. His suggestion was accepted by the Census Commissioner in 1931. The term Exterior Castes was accepted as a term to denote the outcastes or the untouchables.

The Government of India Act of 1935 used the term "Scheduled Castes" to denote the Depressed Classes.<sup>11</sup> In April 1936, the British Government issued the Government of India (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1936, specifying certain castes, races and tribes as Scheduled Castes in the then provinces of

---

9 Ibid., para 282, p. 109.

10 Ibid., para 285, p. 110; para 14, p. 211.

11 "The Scheduled Castes means such castes, races and tribes, corresponding to the classes of persons formerly known as the 'Depressed Classes' as His Majesty in Council may specify". Act of 1935, Section 24 of First Schedule, Part I.

Assam, Bengal, Bihar, Bombay, Central Provinces and Berar, Madras, Orissa, Punjab and United Provinces. The Indian Independence Act, 1947, too, used the term "Scheduled Castes" to denote the Depressed Classes. After Independence the term "Scheduled Castes" is used in the Constitution to refer to the untouchables.<sup>12</sup>

Article 341 of the Constitution of India states:

(1) "The President may, with respect to any State or Union Territory, and where it is a State, after consultation with the Governor, thereof, by public notification specify the castes, races or tribes or parts of or groups within castes, races or tribes which shall for purposes of this constitution, be deemed to be Scheduled Castes, in relation to that State or Union Territory, as the case may be.

(ii) "Parliament may by law include in or exclude from the list of Scheduled Castes specified in a notification issued under clause (i) any caste, race or tribe, but save, as aforesaid, a notification issued under the said clause shall not be varied by any subsequent notification".

Article 366 (24) of the Constitution defines the term "Scheduled Castes" as follows: "Scheduled Castes means such castes, races or tribes as are deemed under Article 341, to be Scheduled Caste for the purpose of the constitution".

---

12      The untouchables are referred to as Scheduled Castes because the Constitution of India requires that the President list them for each State in the respective Schedules. The President of India notifies in accordance with the provisions of Article 341 of the Constitution.



The criterion for a caste to be scheduled is simple. The criteria adopted were social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of the stigma of untouchability. So, the many untouchable castes in different parts of the country were listed in a separate schedule, which, can be altered only by the President.<sup>13</sup> The term Harijan is almost universally employed as a synonym of Scheduled Caste.<sup>14</sup>

In consonance with articles 341 and 342 of the Indian Constitution the President issued the following Orders:

- (i) The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950,
- (ii) The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) (part C States) Order, 1951,
- (iii) The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Act, 1956,
- (iv) The Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1956,
- (v) The Constitution (Jammu & Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order, 1956,

---

13 Some communities were excluded from the list of Scheduled Castes on various reasons, viz., "number insignificant", "not a caste", "no evidence of untouchability", "not a socially distinguishable caste", "Muslims and cannot be treated as a scheduled caste", "not a caste, but a derogatory term" etc. And some communities have been included in the Scheduled Caste List, the reason being, "suffering from Social handicaps based on untouchability". See The Report of the Advisory Committee on the Revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes, 1967, Government of India, Department of Social Security, pp. 40-62.

14 See Beteille A., "Castes: Old & New", Ch. 3, pp. 87-102. And also see M.N. Srinivas, "Social Change in Modern India", p. 72 and Dr. C. Rajagopalan's report

- (vi) The Bombay Reorganisation Act, 1960,
- (vii) The Constitution (Dadra & Nagar Haveli) Scheduled Castes Order, 1962,
- (viii) The Constitution (Pondicherry) Scheduled Castes Order, 1964,
- (ix) The Constitution (Goa, Daman & Diu) Scheduled Castes Order, 1968.

The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, read: "In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (i) of Article 341 of the Constitution of India, the President, in consultation with the Governors and Rajpramukhs<sup>15</sup> of the States concerned, is pleased to make the following Order, viz.

- (i) This Order may be called the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950.
- (ii) Subject to the provisions of this Order, the castes, races or tribes specified in Parts I to XVI of the Schedule to this Order shall, in relation to the States<sup>16</sup> to which those parts respectively relate, be deemed to be Scheduled Castes, so far as members thereof are resident in the

---

on "Educational Progress and Problems of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribesstudents in Karnataka" (High School), Department of Sociology, Bangalore University, 1974, pp. 16-17.

- 15 The word "or Rajpramukhs" have been omitted in the Article 341 by the Constitution (Seventh Amendment) Act, 1956.
- 16 "or Union Territory" has been inserted in Article 341 by the Constitution (Seventh Amendment) Act, 1956.

localities specified in relation to them in those parts of that Schedule.

(iii) Notwithstanding anything contained in paragraph 2, no person who professes a religion different from Hinduism shall be deemed to be a member of a Scheduled Caste".

From the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, one notices another criterion for classifying an individual among the Scheduled Castes - his religion must be Hinduism. This Order does not allow the former untouchables<sup>17</sup> who have converted themselves to Christianity or Buddhism, to be classified under Scheduled Castes though they may, in reality, suffer from various disabilities. The reason for the exclusion of those converted is this that untouchability is part and parcel of the Hindu Caste System.

The people officially described as Scheduled Castes form a very significant number in the country. Their number has been growing steadily. They constitute a little over 18% of the total population according to the 1961 Census. In the State of Karnataka, too, they are in a good number, constituting almost 16% of the total State population.

The sex composition on the basis of the 1961 Census at all India level was 29,270,115 males and 28,277,554 females.

---

17 The 'former Untouchables' or 'ex-Untouchables' is used because they are no longer Untouchables by virtue of untouchability being forbidden by Article 17 of the Constitution of India, and, also by an Act passed - The Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955.

And at the State level it was 1,325,047 males and 1,283,698 females. The 1971 Census figures of the Scheduled Castes, when compared to 1951 and 1961 shows a very marked growth. See Table 1.

Table 1

YEAR	Total general Popln		Sch.Caste Popln.		% of Sch.Caste Popln. to Gen. Pln.	
	India	Karnataka	India	Karnataka	India	Karnataka
1951	360950365	19401956	55,327,021	2583142	15.32	13.31
1961	439072582	23586772	64,449,275	3117232	18.70	15.40
1971	547949809	29299014	79,995,896	3850034	14.60	13.14

Just after the Second World War many countries won their freedom from their colonial masters. Most countries immediately launched programmes for the upliftment of their people. India too followed, but, with a difference she launched, along with other programmes, a special programme to uplift a community of untouchables who were oppressed, not by the colonialists, but by her own caste Hindus who had imposed sanctions upon it through religion. What makes the untouchables unique is that they are also the weakest and poorest section of the society. The Government of India, in order to uplift them made certain

18 Surindar Suri, "New Perspectives", Seminar No. 177, The Untouchables (May 1974), pp. 32-35.

concessions for them through educational, economic and political means in accordance with the provisions in the Constitution. In spite of the privileges, concessions and protective discrimination towards the upliftment of Scheduled Castes, a large number of them, who, by law are ex-untouchables are still untouchables in their greatest mass over most of the country and has benefitted only a small section of the Scheduled Castes.<sup>19</sup>

Now for the upliftment of the Scheduled Castes, education has been given the highest priority. The reason for education to gain priority may be this, that the progress of any community or nation depends on education. Thomas I. Ribich also points out that, "In the history of economic thought, education has consistently been a favoured means of social improvement, especially that more education was required to improve the moral fibre of the lower classes."<sup>20</sup>

Thus educational upliftment would mean solving a whole lot of inherent problems. One should also take note of Whitehead's remark, that, "In the modern world, the rule is absolute that any race which does not value trained intelligence is doomed." Thus educational development is very essential for

---

19 Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes for the year 1962-63, Delhi, 1964, p. 154; and also, Rao V.K.R.V., Employment of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes in Tribal Research Institute Bulletin, vol. I, no. 1, Udaipur, October 1964, p. 9.

20 Thomas I. Ribich, Education & Poverty, The Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C., 1968, p. 2.

the all round development of any community.<sup>21</sup> The present study starts with the assumption that education is the vehicle for modernization.

### Problem and Scope

It is a quarter century now, since the various measures for the upliftment of the Scheduled Castes has been started and the programme expires on 25 January 1980. So, the authorities have taken steps to evaluate the various programmes at different intervals - viz., Annual Reports of the Commissioner of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes; Parliamentary Committee Reports, numerous studies of individuals, studies by ICSSR etc.

The results of these various studies are inconclusive and thus there is need for an evaluation of the programmes for the educational upliftment of Scheduled Castes, their responses to these programmes, and, of course, the problems they face.

It hardly needs emphasis that any government sponsored programme could be a complete success, only if the section for which it is meant is responsive. Consequently, it is necessary to analyse the response of the Scheduled Castes to the educational programmes in terms of their enrolment at different levels of education, by rural-urban and sex divisions. In

---

21 However, some scholars like, T.N. Madan & B.G. Halbar question the very idea that education will bring about modernization. See T.N. Madan & B.G. Halbar, Caste & Community in Private & Public Education in Mysore State in Rudolph & Rudolph, "Education & Politics in India", Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1972, pp. 121-47.

addition, whenever data are available the progress made in this direction can be analysed.

Reports of several committees indicate that the percentage enrolment of the Scheduled Castes in schools is very low.<sup>22</sup> In addition to this, scholars have emphasised that the rate of wastage in school education is rather high in India, and it is relatively higher for Scheduled Castes.<sup>23</sup> Since wastage is high amongst the Scheduled Castes, it may be assumed that most Scheduled Castes entering schools are likely dropouts. Consequently an analysis of the background of Scheduled Caste students who are studying in High Schools and institutions of higher education would throw some light on those who have not dropped out.

This differential response to the educational facilities provided has some implications for social change in general and for social mobility - especially of individual and families in particular.

Finally, it hardly needs emphasis, that, being

- 
- 22 See Report of the Committee on Untouchability, Economic & Educational Development of the Scheduled Castes & Connected Documents, 1969, Government of India, Department of Social Welfare, New Delhi, pp. 179-84.
- 23 Due to their poverty and ignorance, the parents of Scheduled Caste children do not take a long term view about education for their children. Children are considered to be economic units and when the parents want their meagre income to increase their family income, the parents withdraw their children from schools, thus, allowing a constant wastage in education.

disadvantaged, Scheduled Caste students have various problems, both academic and non-academic which come in the way of complete realisation of the various facilities provided. Hence, an analysis of the various problems that Scheduled Caste students face is an integral part of any study on Scheduled Castes and their education. This in turn may have some policy implications in the form of solutions.

To sum up, the objectives of this study is:

(1) To present an outline of what has been done constitutionally for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes with a special reference to their educational upliftment.

(2) To analyse the response of Scheduled Castes with respect to literacy and enrolment in schools, colleges, wastage, dropout etc.

(3) Analysis of background of students enrolled and their problems pertaining to education etc.

(4) Draw a conclusion and its implications for change and social mobility.

### Methodology

Area covered in the study: The area covered in the present study is Karnataka State. <sup>24</sup> The study is based entirely on secondary information. Hence, a natural question would be the reason as to why this study is restricted to

---

24 Since 1 November 1973 the State of Mysore has been renamed as the State of Karnataka.



Karnataka, rather than be extended to an all-India level. Justification for restricting the present study to Karnataka could be stated as the following:

In the first place, enough information is available on the present study for this State itself, and this State is also considered to be one of the most progressive, as far as, the upliftment of Scheduled Castes is concerned.<sup>25</sup> In the second place, when the data are available one can give more attention to one particular State, thereby, focussing attention not only on the general problems and progress of the Scheduled Castes, but, also on certain problems which are peculiar to the region concerned. Finally, the researcher will have to bear in mind the point of convenience and the principle of parsimony. The area being the home state of the researcher, it was expected that a better perspective could be had on the problem and the necessary data to analyse the problem could be collected without much bureaucratic hurdles which is generally the case with researchers who are strange to the area of investigation.

The chief sources include the following:

(1) Census: The decennial volumes published by the Census of India for the years 1951, 1961 and 1971 have been used. It should be mentioned here, that, most detailed information is available only from 1961 since volumes of 1951 have

---

25 See Report of the Committee on Untouchability, Economic & Educational Development of the Scheduled Castes & Connected Documents, 1969, Government of India, Department of Social Welfare, New Delhi, para 1.3, p. 179.

not gone into the problem under investigation in detail and though the 1971 Census has made a detailed attempt, not all relevant volumes are published yet.

(ii) Reports of the Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes: In accordance with Article 338 of the Constitution, the Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes publishes annual reports to inform the President on matters related to the welfare of the Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes. Such reports have been published since 1951 and the relevant information therein have been included at appropriate places in this study. Secondly, the report of the Committee on Untouchability, Economic & Educational Development of the Scheduled Castes & Connected Documents-1969 has been used. Finally, the report of the Education Commission (Kothari Commission - 1964-66) contains some valuable information mainly in the form of suggestions and this has also been made use of.

(iii) Official Statistics: Some of the Government departments and offices like the Directorate of Social Welfare (Government of Karnataka) and the Directorate of Public Instruction (Government of Karnataka) collect periodic information about welfare measures and enrolment of Scheduled Castes in the State. Some of these informations are, published either in the form of booklets, or mimeographed. Some other

informations which are not published thus, are readily available in abstract form and some others will have to be abstracted from the files to be made use of as secondary data. All these official statistics have been made use of in relevant chapters of this study.

(iv) Project Reports: The ICSSR sponsored a nation wide study on "The Educational Problems and Progress of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes students" in January 1973. With reference to Karnataka this project study was bifurcated into two sections dealing with High School and College students separately. The Department of Sociology of the Bangalore University, Bangalore and the Department of Sociology, University of Mysore, Mysore, undertook the responsibility of conducting the study of High School and College students respectively.

The reports of the Project Directors were submitted to the ICSSR in September 1974. These reports contain a wealth of information on the background of students, enrolment, their academic life, their general outlook & aspirations, outlook on the status of Scheduled Castes and the facilities provided, teachers' impressions about Scheduled Caste students and the problems of Scheduled Caste students.

These reports and similar reports are of great help and as a basic source of information and a guide to those who are interested in the education of Scheduled Castes. These reports have been used in this study especially in the discussion on

the social background of Scheduled Caste students and their problems.

(v) Miscellaneous: In addition to the above noted sources of information the researcher has made use of some miscellaneous materials like the Constitution of India, Proceedings of the Parliamentary Debates, Judicial Pronouncements in All India Reports (A.I.R.) etc.

(vi) Books: Finally, the researcher has made use of the literature that is available in the form of books and articles in journals on various themes like Scheduled Castes and their education; their status etc. These books and articles are recorded in the bibliography.

Before concluding this note on methodology, it is necessary to point out certain technical difficulties that a researcher has to face in a study like the present one. The most important problem is the non-comparability of available statistics or data. This is because of various reasons. In the first place, the purpose for which the data are collected varies from office to office or department to department. In the second place, temporal comparisons or comparison on time scale are a bit difficult because the area for which the statistics are collected for different years may not be the same. The case of reorganisation of the States, especially Karnataka, in 1956 is an illustration. The second problem is one of non-availability of all types of required data of/for

certain topics or for different years, which produces certain gaps in knowledge.

#### Significance of the study

Any sociological study is considered to be worthy only if it makes theoretical contributions and has practical implications. This study is no exception.

Theoretical significance: For a study like the present one there is absolutely no need for any theoretical framework nor has the researcher one. However, when the available information is brought together it is likely, some theoretical perspectives or implications will be generated not only from the process of the organisation of the available data but also from the organised data itself. This study with its focus on Scheduled Castes and their education can contribute some knowledge to stratification and structural-functional approach in the Sociology of Education. Further it may marginally contribute to the field of Political Sociology.

Practical significance: The present study has its focus on one of the contemporary problems emphasised for social science research by ICSSR. It has policy implications in view of the fact that various plans and programmes have been carried out during the last three decades for the educational upliftment of Scheduled Castes by the Government of India and its constituent States.

All reports of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes have been unanimous in emphasising the inadequacies of the programmes and the reasons for their failure. Some scholars (both sociologists and non-sociologists) have expressed the view that the response of the Scheduled Castes to the varied programmes has been deplorable and they are unanimous in bringing out the "pathetic paradox" of the need for upliftment of the Scheduled Castes and the failure of the programmes undertaken to this end. This study tries to focus attention on some of the issues like the varied programmes undertaken to date and their deficiencies as well as successes, the response of the people for whom it is meant, the background of the people making use of that, their attitudes and problems etc. Thereby it will bridge certain gaps that exist in the knowledge of the problem under consideration and highlight certain problems and probable solutions to solve them.

Chapter II

PROGRAMMES FOR THE UPLIFTMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES

Y, 5 } DISS  
305.5122095487  
M983 Pr } N71 + N6  
G34359

**G-34359**



## Chapter II

### PROGRAMMES FOR THE UPLIFTMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES

After the Second World War, many colonies in Asia and Africa got their Independence from their colonial masters. Among the earliest nations to get their Independence from British colonialists was India.<sup>1</sup> In the wake of her Independence in 1947 India was faced with very many problems, viz., Partition, Hindu-Muslim riots and added to that the burden of general upliftment of the people to a desired standard of living. India took sometime to sort out her problems and in 1950 presented a Constitution for the Republic. Only after becoming a Republic did India launch her programmes for the upliftment of the masses who were poor and illiterate.

India's programme to uplift the masses is not a unique thing, for, any nation getting its Independence will give primacy to give a better deal to its people. An inherent problem that the British passed on to India to handle was the Untouchables and untouchability. This inherent problem was not of British making, but, a by-product of the Hindu Caste system.

The Constitution of India was put into effect on 26 January 1950. In the Preamble it proclaimed:

"We the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign Democratic Republic and to secure to all its citizens:

---

1 India got her Independence on 15 August 1947, and became a Republic on 26 January 1950.

G-34359



JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and  
worship;

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity and to promote  
among them all;

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and  
unity of the Nation..."

So these proclamations are inalienable rights of man and guaranteed by the Constitution. In accordance with this, the Constitution under Article 17 forbids untouchability and Article 15 forbids discrimination on the basis of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth etc.

The Constitution had numerous provisions that show concern for the disadvantaged or the socially deprived, especially the Scheduled Castes. In accordance with Article 17, "The Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955" was put into force on 1 June 1955. This Act immediately made the Untouchables touchables or ex-untouchables.

Just forbidding untouchability was not enough to solve the ex-untouchables' problems. It was just a beginning. In order to uplift the ex-untouchables the Constitution has provisions to guarantee this. After the Independence the community of ex-Untouchables are referred to as Scheduled Castes.

The Scheduled Castes, due to their being Untouchables, have been denied a place away from that of degradation and thereby denied educational, political and economic development. As said earlier, the Scheduled Castes are one of the most

backward communities in India. But 'backwardness' is hard to define. In the First Five Year Plan an attempt was made: "...Backwardness is expressed in lack of adequate opportunity for group and individual self development, especially in economic life and in matters of health, housing and education. It is measured in terms of the low levels of income, the extent of illiteracy and the low standards of life demonstrated by living conditions."<sup>2</sup>

Because of their backwardness, the Scheduled Castes have been given certain privileges in the Constitution in order to uplift the whole Scheduled Caste community and bring them on par with the general population.

As a part of upliftment, as said earlier, Article 17 in the Constitution forbids untouchability and alongwith it is the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955. This Act is applicable not only to Hindus but also to Christians and Muslims. Shri G.B. Pant remarked, "...It will apply not only to Christians in the South who are not allowed to enter churches by those who consider themselves as belonging to higher classes. There are certain Muslims who are treated in the same manner by the followers of Islam. They will have the benefit of this provision..."<sup>3</sup>

The basis for Article 17 is in the Preamble of the Constitution, wherein Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity

---

2 First Five Year Plan, Government of India, p. 634.

3 Lok Sabha Debates, 27 April 1955, Columns 6545 and 6672.

are thought of as being the inalienable rights of man. Article 17 is assuring the dignity of the individual. Articles 14, 15 and 16 speak of equality and forbidding any discrimination on grounds of caste, race, sex, religion etc.

Articles 15, 16, 46 and 340 make constitutional reservations of seats for Scheduled Castes for educational institutions and create special privileges for the advancement. The special provision in Article 46 states that, "The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes...and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation."

Article 29 (2) states, "Nothing in clause (2) of Article 29 shall prevent the State from making any special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes..."

#### Special Provisions: Political Reservation

Article 330 reads (1) Seats shall be reserved in the House of the people for - (a) The Scheduled Castes and clause (2) of Article 330 states the number of seats to be reserved in the Lok Sabha. According to Article 332 (1) seats shall be reserved for the Scheduled Castes...except the Scheduled Tribes in Tribal areas in the Legislative Assembly of every State.

Clause (3) of Article 332 specifies the number of seats

to be reserved in the Legislative assemblies.<sup>4</sup> These reservations were for a period of 20 years from the commencement of the Constitution.<sup>5</sup> The reservations in the first instance was for a period of 10 years, from the commencement of the Constitution, i.e., till 1960. But the time limit was extended by an amendment to the Constitution - "The Constitution (Amendment - 8th) Act, 1959." The extension was till 1970. Again on 9 December 1969 the Lok Sabha passed another Amendment (23rd) Bill which extended the time limit to "thirty years" i.e., 25 January 1980.

Reservations in Government Services and Jobs

Article 16 (4) states for the provision for reservation of appointments or posts in favour of those who are backward and inadequately represented in Services under the State.

Article 335 ensures, "The claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes...shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintainence of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State."

This article of the Constitution strikes a balance by giving the Scheduled Caste a role in the administration of the country and also maintaining efficiency and integrity of the

4. No non-Scheduled Caste person is allowed to contest from any Scheduled Caste Constituency. But a Scheduled Caste person could contest from the General Constituency too.

5 See Article 334.

Services during appointments.

In accordance with the provisions in the Constitution, viz., Article 16 (4) and Article 335, the Government of India has made reservations for the Scheduled Castes in Services. The rules governing reservations are:

12½ of vacancies filled by direct recruitment on all-India basis by open competition, i.e., through the Union Public Service Commission or by means of open competitive tests held by any other authority. Where recruitment is made otherwise than by open competition, the reservation is 16½%. Relaxations are given on age limit, i.e., the maximum age limit prescribed for appointment to a service or post is increased by 5 years<sup>6</sup> in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes.

If Scheduled Caste candidates obtain less vacancies than the number reserved for them due to their lower positions secured in the open examinations but have qualified by getting the minimum, then the appointing authority selects them at his discretion to fill the vacancy.

The appointing authorities are empowered to appoint or select Scheduled Caste candidates of a lower standard only if they have the prescribed minimum qualification be it educational or technical. Even where promotions are given the Scheduled Caste persons are considered in a sympathetic manner without

---

6 Handbook on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Government of India, Office of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, New Delhi, 1969, p. 76. And see also pp. 75-76.

applying rigid standards of suitability. All fees prescribed for open competitive examinations or selection to the services of posts are reduced to one fourth to all Scheduled Caste candidates.

Formerly, the rule that the Government of India and various State Governments used was this, that, in cases where no suitable Scheduled Caste candidates are available or no Scheduled Caste candidate came forward, the reserved vacancy should be filled in by Scheduled Tribes and vice versa. But this has been revised and where a vacancy is reserved for Scheduled Castes, it should be filled only by a Scheduled Caste person. If no candidate was available then the vacancy should be open till someone comes near to the qualification and such a candidate should be appointed and given training to take up the appointment.<sup>7</sup>

The Government of India now is using the "Carry Forward Rule" in respect of vacancies in Central Services reserved for Scheduled Castes. If sufficient number of suitable candidates do not come forward, the reserved vacancies will not be treated as unreserved but will be carried forward for subsequent occasions of recruitment. But at this juncture the carried forward vacancies should not exceed 45% of the total vacancies. If there are two vacancies, one would be reserved, but if there is only one, it would be unreserved but a Scheduled Caste

---

7 See Report of the Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Commission, vol. I, 1960-61, para 27.39, p. 340.

candidate would be considered. The various reservations in Central Services and vacancies hold good even to the State Services and vacancies also.

All Government and quasi Government firms or industries or banks have a percentage of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes.

### Economic Upliftment

The backwardness of the Scheduled Castes is generally attributed to the economic conditions. However, this is not the only cause for backwardness, because there are other causes, viz., social, educational, environmental, occupational etc., but economic conditions play a great part in backwardness or forwardness. So any upliftment programme for Scheduled Castes cannot be divorced from economic upliftment.

The reasons for economic backwardness are numerous, but there are some very significant factors, namely,

1) Dwindling cottage industries which deprived the agriculturalists of a supplementary income.<sup>8</sup>

ii) Growth of population.<sup>9</sup>

iii) Destruction of village autonomy.

iv) In the absence of cottage industries pressure on land and those problems that arose out of this pressure.

India on her Independence inherited from the British a

---

8 M.S. Gore et al in "Sociology of Education".

9 Between 1961-1971 it was 22.66% (Census Report: 1971).

faulty economic policy which did not allow maximum production,<sup>10</sup> full employment, economic equality and social justice. This we understand from the emphasis made in the First Five Year Plan - "Maximum production, full employment, the attainment of economic equality and social justice which constitute the accepted objectives of planning under present day conditions, are not really so many different ideas, but a series of related aims which the country must work for. None of these objectives can be pursued to the exclusion of others; a plan of develop-<sup>11</sup>ment must place balanced emphasis on all of these."

The dwindling of cottage industries was due to the disruption of village economy by making handicrafts to compete with cheap machine made foreign goods which flooded the market. After Independence, the disappearance of Princely States could be a factor for it meant loss of patronage and thus a factor for the dwindling cottage industries. But the main factor was the unrestricted competition of mills and factories and the import of goods which totally disrupted the once thriving rural industries and handicrafts.

Cottage industries which form the subsidiary occupations of agriculturalists are mostly traditional, hereditary in nature, professed by village artisans. And these handicrafts were pursued by a good section of Scheduled Castes.

---

10 The British colonialists need not be blamed with respect to Social Justice.

11 First Five Year Plan, Government of India, p. 28.



Thus, any programme for the upliftment of the Scheduled Castes<sup>12</sup> must include the development of cottage industries.

The cottage industries in order to revive, lacked finance, training and knowledge of modern demands. But, finance was the main drawback. So, the Government of India in order to meet the requirements, established a number of Boards to assist, viz., All-India Handloom Board; Small-scale Industries Board; Coir Board and the Silk Board.

During the Second Plan period, a sum of Rs.23,850,580 was spent on the Scheduled Castes out of an amount of Rs.54,729,150 meant for promotion of cottage industries on Backward Classes. During the Third Plan period, it was Rs.45,530,000<sup>13</sup> out of Rs.68,723,000.

The Commissioner (for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) way back in 1961 recommended the training of Scheduled Castes in Handicrafts and a follow-up programme after comple-<sup>14</sup>tion of training outright loans repayable on easy terms.

To encounter competition from cheap factory goods he recommended measures, viz., furnishing of all Rest Houses and

---

12 See The Report of the Backward Class Commission, 1956, vol. 2, which makes a statewise classification of Backward Classes. This throws ample light on their handicrafts.

13 See The Reports of the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes - 1957-58, para 48, p. 77 and also 1961-62, p. 73, para 11.14, pp. 77-78.

14 Ibid., 1961-62, para 11.14, p. 77.

Dak Bungalows with products manufactured by the Backward Classes especially the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. 15

India till today is very much an agricultural country and a little over 80% of the livelihood of the Indian population is on agriculture. Even amongst the Scheduled Castes, the percentage of dependence on agriculture is as high as the general population, if not more. <sup>16</sup> Thus the pressure on agriculture is one of the greatest economic problems. New avenues have been created by way of starting numerous industries, but the pressure on land has changed little in the occupational structure of the rural areas. The industries in India are not capable of absorbing the majority.

The Government of India and State Governments have undertaken various schemes to benefit the Scheduled Castes, who constitute the largest number amongst the Backward Classes.

A proper land policy for the economic upliftment was given importance since First Five Year Plan. The sources of land are from those cultivable-waste and other lands with the State; land released through the imposition of ceilings on land

---

15 Ibid., 1961-62, p. 78.

16 82% of Indian population in 1961 lived in villages and more so in the case of Scheduled Castes where 89.30% of them lived in villages. 16.70% of the General Population were agricultural laborers and in the case of Scheduled Castes it was 34.46% in relation to total workers. See Report of the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes, 1968-69, pp. 186-87.

holdings and Bhoodan and Gramdan lands.<sup>17</sup> Agricultural colonies were also started as a means of solving the land problem of Scheduled Castes.<sup>18</sup>

An evil which has infested especially the rural areas is money lending by unscrupulous money lenders. So, economic upliftment should also include debt redemption. To prevent Scheduled Castes from being exploited by money lenders and their unscrupulous agents, the State Governments have taken various measures. This special care has been taken because the incidence of indebtedness is very high among Scheduled Castes.<sup>19</sup> To curb this practice, co-operatives have been started to substitute the money lenders for purposes of financing the agriculturalists. Co-operative societies are the only measures to educate villagers in self-help, economy, borrowing for productive purposes and in being thrifty.

### Housing

Upliftment of a community also implies improvement of the area habitated by that community. Improvement of an area

---

17 Bhoodan & Gramdan are land gift movements started by Vinobha Bhave, where a big landlord is asked to gift a portion of his land voluntarily. The lands donated are later distributed amongst the landless laborers.

18 See Report of the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes, 1957-58, para 6, p. 62.

19 See Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes, 1957-58, para 84, p. 90.

means providing communication and transportation. In view of its importance it has been given priority in the Five Year Plans.

The living conditions of Scheduled Castes is deplorable. Hence housing is of most urgent need.<sup>20</sup> Expenditure on housing by the Government of India on the Scheduled Castes:

First Five Year Plan	Rs.21.7 million for Backward Classes
Second Five Year Plan	Rs.82.7 million for Backward Classes
Third Five Year Plan	Rs.32.0 million for Scheduled Castes
Fourth Five Year Plan	Rs.30.0 million for Scheduled Castes

The items of expenditure have been construction of houses for sweepers, granting house sites for those Scheduled Castes engaged in unclean occupations and allotment of house sites for landless labourers among Scheduled Castes. In addition to this, Scheduled Castes are given the benefit of subsidized industrial housing scheme, plantation labour housing scheme and low income group housing scheme.

#### Educational upliftment

The researcher here is basically concerned with education. In accordance with the Government of India rules most State Governments have the following educational upliftment programmes for the Scheduled Castes through their respective Directorate

---

20 See Report of the Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, 1962-63, pp. 99-100.

of Social Welfare. The facilities range from award of tuition fees, examination fees, scholarships for Primary Education, High School Education and Post-matric Education which includes Professional Education. The Directorate of Social Welfare also provides hostel facilities through grant-in-aid private hostels or government hostels; a coaching class for I.A.S./I.F.S./I.P.S. examinations, students' overseas scholarships. Besides all these privileges the Scheduled Caste students also have 15% seats reserved for them in professional colleges viz., Engineering, Medicine, Architecture, Polytechniques, etc.

As part of the upliftment programme for the Scheduled Castes, constitutional safeguards too are provided and Government Orders or Acts passed to have an effective protective discrimination.

The importance of education in the transformation of Scheduled Castes or for that matter any socially deprived or socially disadvantaged group or community in a State, for the general welfare of the people is very well known. Importance to education is given basically to eradicate illiteracy, in order to allow development on all fronts - socially, economically and politically.

With this in view the Government of India has endowed the Scheduled Castes with privileges, preferential treatment and protective discrimination. All these are provisions guaranteed in the Constitution under Articles 29, 30, 45, 46, etc.

All State Governments have given great importance and top priority to the educational development of the people with a special importance to the Scheduled Castes.<sup>21</sup> Huge sums of money have been allocated in the Five Year Plans:

First Five Year Plan	Rs.5.46 crores
Second Five Year Plan	Rs.18.28 crores
Third Five Year Plan	Rs.31.81 crores
Fourth Five Year Plan	Rs.35.38 crores on Post-Matric Scholarships only

Besides these huge allocation of funds for education of the Scheduled Castes, the Government of India also ordered<sup>22</sup> that all children should get primary education and most States have also made it free upto Secondary Education irrespective of the caste, race, religion or class of the child in all Government institutions and Government aided institutions. State of Karnataka is one of the States which allows free education upto Secondary level and made education compulsory upto the level of primary school.

The Scheduled Caste children are exempted from all pay-<sup>23</sup>ment of fees at the primary level and secondary level in all

- 
- 21 See Report of the Committee on Untouchability, Economic & Educational Development of Scheduled Castes & Connected Documents, 1969, Government of India, Department of Social Welfare, p. 182.
- 22 Order passed under Article 45. See also M.C. Chagla's inaugural speech to the "Kothari Commission" in the Kothari Commission Report, 1964-66, Government of India.
- 23 Primary level in Karnataka is upto Standard VII, and Standards VIII-X is Secondary level.

Government institutions throughout India and also in most State aided private institutions.

All State Governments have their own pre-matric scholarships schemes for the Scheduled Castes at the Primary and Secondary level. The scholarship schemes include free supply of books, stationery, dress (uniform), mid-day meals, etc. All States do not give in cash, some do in kind. But the present position is that all State Governments provide free primary education to all and these measures are nothing but an incentive for Scheduled Caste children to join school.

At the Secondary level education for Scheduled Castes is free in all government institutions and most Government aided private Institutions. Some States give exemption to tuition fees on the basis of parents/guardians' income and scholarships too are given on the basis of parents'/gaurdians' income. In the States of Karnataka no income limit is prescribed for tuition fees, but scholarships are awarded on the basis of parents'/gaurdians' income. The pre-matric scholarships in Karnataka has no uniformity. The rate and mode of payment varies from district to district and the State also has different schemes of scholarships due to the amalgamation of certain districts in the State from neighbouring States like  
 24  
 Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

---

24 See Report of the Committee on Untouchability, Economic & Educational Development of Scheduled Castes & Connected Documents, 1969, Government of India, Department of Social Welfare, p. 190.

In most States the rate is very meagre - as meagre as  
<sup>25</sup> Rs.3/- per annum. And in most States not even one failure is  
 condoned for the award of scholarships at the pre-matric level.  
 Some liberal States like Karnataka, Kerala and others condone  
 one or two failures at the maximum.<sup>26</sup>

Rules and regulations for scholar-  
 ships in Karnataka

In Karnataka, at the VIII Standard level Rs.50/- per  
 annum is given as scholarships to Scheduled Castes and at the  
 High School level it is Rs.75/- per annum.<sup>27</sup>

Post-matric education too is free to Scheduled Caste  
 students in all Government institutions or Government aided  
 institutions in most States and Post-matric scholarships are  
 awarded to all those students whose parents/gaurdians earn  
 Rs.500/- per month and less. And if the student is employed,  
 salary should not exceed Rs.60/- per month.

The rule in Karnataka is this that those students'  
 parents/gaurdians income from all sources does not exceed  
 Rs.300/- per month, are entitled for scholarships. In case of  
 students who are employed, but have to support a family, the  
 total income of the family should not exceed Rs.360/- per month  
 including that of the student, are also entitled for full  
 scholarship. The other rule for a full scholarship is this

---

25 Ibid., p. 186.

26 Ibid., p. 194.

27 Ibid., p. 192.



that those students who are employed on a monthly income upto Rs.60/- per month but have no family to support.

For a two-third maintenance charges and full fees the rule is this that students whose parents'/gaurdians' income from all sources exceeds Rs.300/- per month are entitled to it. But if there are more than two children, the eldest is awarded two-third maintenance allowance while the others get the full amount.

In the case of students whose parents'/gaurdians' income from all sources exceeds Rs.400/- per month but not Rs.500/- per month and more than one child is receiving post-matric education then, half maintenance charges and full fees is allowed.

The other rules for the award of half maintenance charges and full fees are this: in case of students who are employed but have a family to support and the income from all sources is between Rs.360/- and Rs.475/- per month and also in cases of students who are employed and whose income from all sources is between Rs.60/- per month and Rs.175/- per month and who have no family to support.

No scholarship or allowance of any kind is allowed - if the income of parents'/gaurdians' from all sources exceeds Rs.500/- per month or if the student is the only child receiving post-matric education but parents'/gaurdians' income from all sources exceeds Rs.400/- per month or if the students are employed and have a family to support and whose total income

from all sources exceeds Rs.475/- per month or if the student is employed and has no family to support but income from all sources exceeds Rs.175/- per month.

The value of scholarship varies with the course of study. In any course of study meritorious students<sup>28</sup> get a higher rate of allowance than other students.<sup>29</sup> The scholarship includes maintenance charges, fees and expenses on approved study tours and typing/printing thesis. Fees here are such fees that are compulsorily payable by the scholar to the Institution/Board/University. Refundable deposits, students union fee or students aid fund are excluded from the scholarship. Study tour charges are upto a maximum of Rs.100/- per annum and will be paid to the scholars, provided the Head of the Institution certifies the tour essential. Thesis typing/printing charges too are given upto a maximum of Rs.100/- per annum to research scholars only on the recommendation of the Head of the Institution.

Students who are entitled to free boarding and/or lodging are given maintenance allowances.

- (a) Free Boarding & Lodging  $\frac{1}{3}$  at Hostellers' Rate.  
 (b) Free Boarding  $\frac{1}{3}$  at Hostellers' Rate plus Rs.5/- per month.

---

28 'Meritorious students' are those students who secure a first division or at least 60% in their previous examinations.

29 'Other students' here mean those students who have not secured a first division or have secured less than 60% in their previous examinations.

(c) Free Lodging                      Full at Hostellers' Rates minus  
Rs.5/- per month.

All eligible Scheduled Caste Students will be given scholarships subject to the application of means test. And, those Scheduled Caste students studying in another State will be awarded scholarships by the State to which they belong on submitting the applications to the authorities in that State. Exemption from fees and concessions will also be treated as if the students are studying in their own State.

These scholarships are payable from the 1st. April or from the date of admission, whichever is later, to the month in which the examination is completed at the end of the academic year. In case of renewals, the amount will be paid from the month following the month upto which payment was made.

It must be mentioned here that the scholarship is dependant very much on the satisfactory progress and conduct of the scholar. If any irregularities are reported by the Head of the Institution, the awarding authorities may cancel the scholarship or withhold the payment for a period it may think fit. Any false statements or change of course without informing the authorities in the State Government awarding the scholarships will enable the student to lose his scholarship. The student may also be asked to repay the amount already paid (only in cases where payment has been made) and the State Government can also demand an interest on the said amount. However, the awarding authorities allow one change in course study and also condone one failure. Otherwise, the

recommendation of the Head of the Institution is desired for the award of the scholarship.

Other privileges that the Scheduled Castes have regarding educational upliftment are seat reservations in the professional institutions <sup>30</sup> viz., Engineering, Architecture, Medicine, Nursing, Secretarial practice, etc. All States have 20% of the seats reserved for Scheduled Castes. And in these institutions they are also given concessions or relaxations regarding age, marks, etc. <sup>31</sup> And in all other Government institutions giving post-matric education other than professional education give admission to Scheduled Caste students irrespective of the number of applications, provided the student applying has secured the minimum required for a pass to a higher class.

---

30 Colleges and Polytechniques.

31 The All India Council of Technical Education recommended certain steps to increase the number of Scheduled Caste students for Technical Education because there was a very small number going in for Technical Education. The Ministry of Education accepted those recommendations and issued a circular No. 33-3/62-U-V(1) dated 28th September, 1962 to all State Governments/Union Territories' Administrations and Universities requesting them to allow the following concessions to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students.

- a) 20% of the seats in all technical institutions should be reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes with a district reservation of 15% for Scheduled Caste 5% for Scheduled Tribes. However, this reservation is interchangeable between these two communities, and if candidates are not forthcoming from both the communities these can be utilised for general.
- b) Where admissions are restricted to candidates having

(Contd. on next page)

The Government of India and most State Governments also award scholarships to Scheduled Caste students to go for higher studies abroad. And in cases where the Scheduled Caste student has obtained an overseas scholarship directly from foreign countries, their passage charges are borne by the Central Government or the scholar's State Government.

Most States maintain hostels for Scheduled Castes and also reserve seats for them in General Hostels and College/Institute/University hostels. Various State Governments also hold special coaching classes free of cost to all those Scheduled Caste students appearing/preparing for all-India Government

---

a minimum percentage of marks, a reduction of 5%...may be allowed provided that the lower percentage prescribed does not fall below the minimum required to pass the qualifying examination.

- c) If there is a maximum age limit it may be raised by 3 years...
- d) A minimum qualifying standard should be prescribed for admission to any technical institutions. Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students should be eligible for admission to the reserved seats, if they attain this minimum standard without any reference to the gap between their marks and the marks of the last person admitted to the open seats.

All Government institutions and Government aided institutions have accepted these recommendations, including the Five I.I.T's. The rules today have been more relaxed i.e. seats reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes is not interchangeable and will also not be treated as general in case of the non-availability of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students. The minimum required, in cases where minimum are laid, a reduction of 10% in the minimum marks is allowed, and also the maximum age has been raised to five years.

Services competitive examinations, viz., I.F.S./I.A.S./I.P.S., etc. Bangalore City, the capital of Karnataka, has a pre-examination training centre for those Scheduled Caste students preparing for I.A.S., etc. examination. The Government of India has also made reservations for Scheduled Caste children at the Sainik School, Industrial Technical Institutes etc. Some State Governments, viz., Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have opened Ashram Schools<sup>32</sup> for the benefit of the Scheduled Caste children who are too backward in education.

The Kothari Commission in its report (1964-66) said, "The destiny of India is now being shaped in her class rooms". This cannot be taken as being just another of those rhetoric contributions our eminent scholars, philosophers etc., have made to all our problems. In a world of today where science and technology have made their progress, education determines our prosperity, welfare and well-being. Having this in mind, we must pay special attention to the educational development of the Scheduled Castes and we must ensure that they receive their fair share in the educational development of our people.

---

32 Ashram Schools are residential schools.

## Chapter III

### ENROLMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS - SOME FACTS AND FIGURES

## Chapter III

### ENROLMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS - SOME FACTS AND FIGURES

Inspite of the increasing attention given to the Scheduled Castes since Independence, and more since 26 January 1950, the gap between their level of educational development and the average for the society is still very wide. The reason for this is that there has not been much response from the Scheduled Castes towards the numerous privileges and programmes for upliftment.

So, in this chapter, in order to analyse the response of the Scheduled Castes, their enrolment at different educational levels viz., Primary School, High School, College, Professional etc., will be discussed.

#### Literacy

According to the Census of 1971, 29.45% of the total population of the country is literate. As compared to this only 14.71% of the Scheduled Caste population in the country is literate. Thus, there is difference of 14.74% between the rate of literacy for the total population and the rate for the Scheduled Caste population.

At the state level, according to the Census of 1971, 31.52% of the total population of Karnataka is literate. As compared to this only 13.88% of the Scheduled Caste population of the state is literate, a difference of 17.64%

According to the Census of 1961, the literacy rate for



the country was 24.00%, while, the literacy rate for the Scheduled Castes was 10.27%, a difference of 13.73%. At the state level, the 1961 Census indicated that the literacy rate for Karnataka was 25.40% while the literacy rate for state Scheduled Caste population was 9.06%, a difference of 16.34%.<sup>1</sup>  
See table - 1.

Table - 1

Literacy rate for the General population  
and Scheduled Castes (in per cent)

Year	INDIA		KARNATAKA	
	Gen. Population	Sch. Castes	Gen. Population	Sch. Castes
1951	16.61	-	18.83	-
1961	24.00	10.27	25.40	9.06
1971	29.45	14.71	31.52	13.88

We notice that the percentage of literates within the Scheduled Caste population, is smaller than their percentage in the total population. The difference between the percentages of literates in the two populations is rather too high.

From the above figures we notice that there is a gap between the rate of literacy for the total population and the literacy rate for the Scheduled Castes both at the all-India

1 Analysis has been made here on the basis of 1961 Census because of the non-availability of the relevant volumes of 1971 Census.

level and at the State level.

Table - 2, shows the literacy rate of both the total and Scheduled Caste population in the State of Karnataka for the year 1961. The table also indicates the literacy rate district-wise for the years 1951 and 1961. The table also shows the percentage of Scheduled Castes to the general population, district-wise and also the disparity between the two populations with respect to their respective literacy rates.

Literacy among the Scheduled Castes has no fixed pattern (see Table - 2). The table shows that North Kanara, though having a Scheduled Caste population constituting just 4.57% of the total district population had 15.40% literates within the Scheduled Caste population in the district, thereby allowing North Kanara to have the highest level of literacy for the Scheduled Castes and next comes Dharwar with 14.90% literacy rate for the Scheduled Castes while the Scheduled Castes constitute just 5.61% of the district population. Belgaum with 13.80% of the Scheduled Castes literate comes third. Gulbarga with a literacy rate of 3.80% for the Scheduled Castes was the lowest, a little better than Gulbarga was the district of Bidar with a literacy rate of 4.10%.

Here it must be observed that Bangalore district though seating the capital of the State and a metropolitan city does not even have the highest literacy rate for the general population and the Scheduled Castes. As a matter of fact, the hilly district and coffee rich district of Coorg has the highest

Table - 2

## District-wise literacy table for the general population &amp; Sch. Castes

(in per cent)

State/Dist.	Lit. of Gen. popln. in 1951	Lit. of Gen. popln. in 1961	Lit. of S.C. popln. 1961	Dispa- rity in lit. to 1961	dispa- rity to lit. of 1951	Percentage of S.C. popln to Gen. popln in 1961
Mysore State	18.83	25.40	9.00	16.40	9.83	13.22
Bangalore	26.80	34.34	13.00	21.34	13.80	16.80
Belgaum	17.96	26.03	13.80	12.23	4.16	8.74
Bellary	12.45	20.91	6.90	14.01	5.55	13.60
Bidar	6.99	14.49	4.10	10.39	2.89	15.21
Bijapur	17.38	24.45	9.30	15.15	8.08	9.85
Chickmagalur	22.91	27.53	7.70	19.83	15.21	16.57
Chitradurga	20.56	25.09	8.80	16.29	11.76	18.63
Coorg	27.21	36.27	11.40	24.87	15.81	9.48
Dharwar	25.99	33.45	14.90	18.45	11.09	5.61
Gulbarga	7.60	14.73	3.80	10.93	3.80	15.57
Hassan	20.06	24.34	6.90	17.44	13.16	16.17
Kolar	16.48	21.29	9.60	11.69	6.88	24.73
Mandya	14.24	17.31	9.30	8.01	4.94	12.92
Mysore	17.55	21.30	7.70	13.60	9.85	17.50
North Kanara	25.64	33.44	15.40	18.04	10.24	4.57
Raichur	9.29	15.66	4.20	11.46	5.09	10.36
Shimoga	24.77	28.05	8.10	19.95	16.67	14.30
South Kanara	23.68	32.35	9.50	22.85	14.18	4.97
Tumkur	17.48	22.64	7.70	14.94	9.78	17.02

Source of data: Census 1961, vol. XI, Mysore Parts Ia and Va.

literacy rate with 36.27% literates while Bangalore comes second with 34.34%. This is so inspite of the fact that Bangalore is a seat of learning and houses two universities out of four in the state, viz., Bangalore University and the University of Agricultural Sciences.

The other districts with a University each are the districts of Mysore and Dharwar which house Mysore University and the Karnataka University respectively. Viewing these three districts, viz., Bangalore, Mysore and Dharwar, one cannot assume or come to a conclusion that all seats of learning ought to have a high literacy rate. The district of Coorg is an example here.

Another thing is that one also cannot come to a conclusion that where there is a concentration of Scheduled Castes, literacy rate for the Scheduled Castes would be poor,<sup>2</sup> for as I have said, looking at Table - 2, there is no fixed pattern. But there are indications in the table that there are districts with less number of Scheduled Castes with a comparatively higher literacy rate when compared to the districts with a large concentration of Scheduled Castes. There are also indications in the table that where there are large concentrations of Scheduled Castes, their literacy rate was higher than those

---

2      Suma Chitnis, in her book, Literacy and Educational Enrolment Among the Scheduled Castes of Maharashtra (Unit of Research in Sociology of Education, T.I.S.S., Bombay-400, 008, 1974) states that 'literacy poorer in areas with a large concentration of Scheduled Caste population', p. 2.

with small number of Scheduled Caste population. For example, the district of Kolar has nearly a quarter of its population belonging to the Scheduled Castes but has 9.60% of the Scheduled Castes as literates, while South Kanara with a much less concentration of Scheduled Castes has just 9.50% of Scheduled Castes as literates. We must also observe that Dharwar with 5.61% of the population belonging to the Scheduled Castes has 14.90% of them as literates while South Kanara with 4.97% constituting the Scheduled Castes has a mere 9.50% literacy rate. It cannot be argued here that Dharwar is a seat of learning while South Kanara is not. Mysore which has the oldest university in the state and which was also the seat of learning in the erstwhile Kingdom of Mysore has a mere 7.70% of the Scheduled Caste population as literates. The researcher's contention here is that there is no fixed pattern of literacy in the state of Karnataka.

The one pattern which is very evident in the table is that in 15 out of 19 districts, the percentage of literates within the Scheduled Caste population is less than their percentage to the general population. For example, Kolar with 24.73% of the population belonging to the Scheduled Castes has just 9.60% literates within the Scheduled Castes. Gulbarga with 15.57% of its population belonging to the Scheduled Castes has just 3.80% literates within the Scheduled Castes and so on.

Another fact evident in the table is that there is a disparity between the literacy rate of the general population

and the literacy rate of the Scheduled Caste population. The disparity ranges from a low 8.01% in Mandya to a high 24.82% in Coorg. It may be said that the disparity is least pronounced in the district of Mandya and most pronounced in the district of Coorg.

The literacy rate of the general population, district-wise, shows that it ranges from as low as 14.49% in Bidar to as high as 36.27% in Coorg. The literacy rate of the Scheduled Caste population district-wise shows that it ranges from as low as 3.80% in Gulbarga to as high as 15.40% in North Kanara.

Bidar and Gulbarga are the two districts with the lowest literacy rate though Gulbarga is just a shade better, the difference being a mere 0.24%. While, going into the Scheduled Caste literacy rate, the process is reversed, here Bidar is a shade better than Gulbarga by a mere 0.30%.

On comparing the two populations, i.e., the general population and the Scheduled Caste population within each district, one notices a consistent disparity in the literacy rate for the general and the Scheduled Caste population. It is very evident that the rate of literacy for the Scheduled Caste is always less than the rate of literacy for the general population in all the 19 districts.

It may be assumed that in districts where the literacy rate is comparatively high, the disparity between the general and Scheduled Caste population will also be high, but it cannot be said that in districts where the literacy rate for the

general population is high, the literacy rate for the Scheduled Castes will also be high. A case here is the district of Coorg, where the literacy rate is as high as 36.27% (highest in Karnataka) while the Scheduled Caste literacy rate is just 11.40%, a difference of nearly 24.87% which is, as said earlier, the highest.

There are only 5 districts with literacy rate (for the general population) above 30% and out of these 5 districts, 3 districts' disparity in literacy rate between the general population and Scheduled Caste population is higher than 20%. And only one among the 5 districts, i.e., North Kanara, has a Scheduled Caste literacy rate of above 15%. (See Table - 2)

Seeing table-2, one just cannot draw conclusions with ease. But one conclusion which can be made is that the disparity between the general and Scheduled Caste population literacy rate will grow as the general population heads toward a higher literacy rate. The 1951 literacy rate for the general population and the literacy rate for the Scheduled Castes in 1961 is an indicator. The table-2, plainly tells us that, in 1961 the Scheduled Castes were not able to have the literacy rate that prevailed upon the general population in 1951. There is a disparity in the literacy rate of the general population in 1951 and the Scheduled Caste literacy rate in 1961. The disparity ranged from a high 16.67% in the district of Shimoga to a lowly 2.89% in the district of Bidar.

Thus, table-2, is a clear indication that the Scheduled Castes in Karnataka lag behind the general population in terms of literacy. With the exception of 5 districts, viz., Belgaum, Coorg, Dharwar, North Kanara and South Kanara, the percentage of literates within the Scheduled Caste population is less than the percentage they represent in terms of population and much less than the literacy rate of the general population. Coorg also indicated that, where there is a high literacy rate amongst the general population the disparity between the general population and the Scheduled Caste population will also be high.

Another glaring fact is that in 1961, the literacy rate of the Scheduled Castes could not even touch the 1951 literacy rate of the general population.

Literacy: Males/Females

Disparities in literacy rate exists not only between the general population and the Scheduled Castes but also between, males and females within the general population and also within the Scheduled Caste population. (See Table-3)

Table-3: Literacy amongst males and females within Scheduled Caste and General Population, in 1961 (in percentage)

State/District	General Population			Scheduled Castes		
	Males	Females	Dispa- rity	Males	Females	Dispa- rity
Mysore State	42.29	16.70	25.59	14.86	3.04	11.82
Bangalore	51.33	27.19	24.14	20.31	5.44	14.87
Belgaum	44.57	16.00	28.57	22.77	4.76	18.01



Bellary	37.36	10.75	26.61	12.36	1.45	10.91
Bidar	28.05	5.48	22.57	7.30	1.02	6.28
Bijapur	44.89	12.41	32.48	15.90	2.95	12.95
Chickmagalur	44.30	19.65	24.65	12.48	2.58	9.90
Chitradurga	43.05	14.87	28.18	15.17	2.22	12.95
Coorg	50.83	33.35	17.48	16.53	5.60	10.13
Dharwar	56.13	22.05	34.08	24.46	5.31	19.15
Gulbarga	28.13	6.08	22.05	7.10	0.63	6.47
Hassan	41.86	15.19	26.67	11.59	2.05	9.54
Kolar	35.78	13.20	22.58	15.48	3.49	11.99
Mandya	30.95	9.26	21.69	15.53	2.87	12.66
Mysore	34.18	14.83	19.35	12.74	2.55	10.19
North Kanara	50.98	27.18	23.80	23.16	7.22	15.94
Raichur	30.39	6.11	24.28	7.62	0.83	6.79
Shimoga	45.19	19.99	25.20	13.38	2.47	10.91
South Kanara	49.45	28.06	21.39	13.73	5.34	8.39
Tumkur	39.33	12.59	26.74	13.37	1.84	11.53

Source: Census 1961, vol. XI, Mysore, Parts Ia and Va.

In Mysore State the literacy rate of the general population, sex-wise in 1961, was 42.29% for males and 16.70% for females, a difference of nearly 25.59%. The highest literacy rate for males was in the district of Dharwar with 56.13%, and for females the highest was 33.35% in the district of Coorg.

The difference being 22.78%. The district with the lowest literacy rate for the males and females was the district of Bidar with 28.05% and 5.48% respectively, the difference being 22.57%. The disparity between males and females in their literacy rate varied from a high 34.09% in Dharwar to a low 17.48% in Coorg.

Within the Scheduled Caste population in Karnataka, in 1961, the literacy rate for the males was 14.86% and for females it was 3.04%, the disparity being 11.82%. The highest literacy rate for males was 24.46% in Dharwar district and the highest for females was 7.22% in North Kanara district. The difference between these two was 17.24%. The lowest literacy rate for Scheduled Caste males and females was in the district of Gulbarga, where it was 7.10% and 0.63% respectively. The difference being 6.47%. The disparity between the males and the females in the literacy rate within the Scheduled Caste population from a high 19.15% in Dharwar to a low 6.28% in Bidar.

Seeing table-3, one can derive this that where there is a high literacy rate among the males and females the disparity (in literacy) is high and where literacy rate is low for males and females, the disparity tends to be low.

Rural Area: Literacy among Scheduled Caste males and females

At the state level in 1961, in the rural area, the literacy rate of the general population, sex-wise, was 35.81%

for males and 10.83% for females, a difference of nearly 24.98%. The literacy rate of the general population in the rural area, sex-wise, in the districts of Mysore State show that Dharwar with 52.07% of males literate, was the highest and with respect to females Coorg was the highest with 30.68%, a difference of 21.39%. Gulbarga with 22.87% of its males as literates in the rural area was the lowest and with respect to females, Bidar had the lowest literacy rate, with 3.24%, a difference of 19.63%. See Table-4.

Table-4: Literacy rate for males and females in the rural areas, district-wise - 1961 (in per cent).

State/District	General Population			Scheduled Castes		
	Males	Females	Dispa- rity	Males	Females	Dispa- rity
MYSORE State	35.81	10.83	24.98	11.44	1.70	8.74
Bangalore	31.63	8.49	23.14	10.79	1.16	9.63
Belgaum	39.16	11.06	28.10	20.64	3.95	16.69
Bellary	32.68	6.50	26.18	10.81	1.10	9.71
Bidar	24.37	3.24	21.13	6.45	0.67	5.78
Bijapur	40.23	9.42	30.81	13.84	2.32	11.52
Chickmagalur	40.70	15.72	24.98	13.02	2.14	10.88
Chitradurga	38.05	10.27	27.78	13.69	1.68	12.01
Coorg	47.65	30.68	16.97	15.14	4.84	10.30
Dharwar	52.07	16.84	35.23	19.81	3.50	16.31
Gulbarga	22.87	3.42	19.45	5.08	0.39	4.69
Hassan	38.18	11.17	27.01	10.39	1.67	8.72

Kolar	28.76	7.44	21.32	9.03	0.80	8.23
Mandya	26.74	6.19	20.55	13.22	1.83	11.39
Mysore	24.43	6.11	18.32	9.98	1.62	8.36
North Kanara	47.26	23.09	24.17	20.42	5.55	14.87
Raichur	27.02	3.89	23.13	5.73	0.44	5.29
Shimoga	41.05	15.01	26.04	12.29	1.88	10.41
South Kanara	44.75	23.16	21.59	10.68	3.86	6.82
Tumkur	35.94	9.23	26.71	11.12	1.40	9.72

---

Source: Census 1961, vol. XI, Mysore, Parts Ia and Va.

Within the Scheduled Caste population, the rural literacy rate, at the state level in 1961 was 11.44% for males and 1.70% for females, a difference of 8.74%. Belgaum with 20.64% of the Scheduled Caste males as literates, stands to be the highest in the state and, with respect to the literacy rate of the Scheduled Caste females, North Kanara was the highest with 5.55%, a difference of 15.09%. Gulbarga had the lowest rate of literacy for males as well as females with 5.08% and 0.39%, a difference of 4.69%.

The disparity in literacy rate for the males and females within the general population in the rural area varies from a high 35.23% in Dharwar to a low 16.97% in Coorg. The disparity in the literacy rate within the Scheduled Caste population varies from a high 16.69% in Belgaum to a low 4.69% in Gulbarga.

Urban Area: Literacy among Scheduled  
Caste males and females

The literacy rate for males in the urban general population at the state level was 63.80% and for females it was 37.64%, a difference of 26.16%. The literacy rate for the males within the urban Scheduled Caste population at the state level was 32.23% and for females it was 10.01%, a difference of 22.22%. See Table-5.

Now if one goes at the district level, we notice that the literacy rate of 70.45% for the males in Coorg was the highest within the general population. With respect to the literacy rate for females, Coorg again had the highest with 51.53%, a difference of 18.92%. Raichur with 49.55% of the male population as literates was the lowest and it also had the lowest literacy rate for females with 19.43%, a difference of 30.12%.

Within the Scheduled Caste population, the literacy rate for males and females at the district level indicates that Belgaum, with 40.33% for males, was the highest. And, with respect to females, the district of South Kanara had the highest literacy rate with 16.87%, a difference of 23.46%. Raichur with 19.83% of its Scheduled Caste males literate was the lowest, while Gulbarga had the lowest literacy rate for Scheduled Caste females with a mere 2.93%, a difference of 16.90%.

Table-5: Literacy rate for males and females in the urban areas, district-wise - 1961 (in per cent).

State/District	General Population			Scheduled Castes		
	Males	Females	Dispa- rity	Males	Females	Dispa- rity
MYSORE State	63.80	37.64	26.16	32.23	10.01	22.22
Bangalore	67.08	43.76	23.32	33.52	11.44	22.08
Belgaum	68.25	38.53	29.72	40.33	11.48	28.85
Bellary	52.84	25.76	27.08	21.20	3.49	17.71
Bidar	53.62	21.94	31.68	22.36	6.50	15.86
Bijapur	64.22	25.47	38.75	31.81	7.96	23.86
Chickmagalur	64.14	41.72	22.42	27.87	8.10	19.77
Chitradurga	65.84	37.77	28.07	28.08	8.14	19.94
Coorg	70.45	51.53	18.92	31.38	13.09	18.29
Dharwar	66.66	36.28	30.38	37.39	10.65	26.74
Gulbarga	54.75	20.14	34.56	26.66	2.93	23.73
Hassan	66.39	45.43	20.96	27.50	7.40	20.10
Kolar	59.84	33.12	26.62	35.80	13.56	22.24
Mandya	58.64	34.71	20.93	35.68	12.00	23.68
Mysore	62.70	41.50	21.20	27.55	7.81	19.74
North Kanara	68.21	45.89	22.32	38.98	16.67	22.31
Raichur	49.55	19.43	30.12	19.83	3.41	16.42
Shimoga	56.38	34.85	21.53	20.16	6.24	13.92
South Kanara	69.36	50.84	18.52	37.34	16.87	20.47
Tumkur	68.28	43.42	24.86	37.67	10.82	26.85

Source: Census 1961, vol. XI, Mysore, Parts Ia and Va.

From the present analysis we notice that, where literacy rate for both the sexes is high, the disparity is high, but where literacy rate is low for both the sexes, the disparity tends to be low.

One also notices that women always fare very low in terms of literacy rate. The reason could be summed up this way, that, the age old importance given to males is still prevalent both in the rural and urban areas of all districts in the State. See Table-6.

Table-6, not only indicates the disparity that exists between males and females but also the disparity that exists between the rural and urban population itself but also the disparity between the Scheduled Castes and the general population. The table above clearly shows the disparity that exists between the general population and Scheduled Caste population at its extremes.

One fact which is very glaring is that the highest literacy rate for the Scheduled Caste males in all areas (i.e., Total; Rural; Urban) is less than the lowest literacy rate of males within the general population. There also exists a wide disparity between the high female literacy rate within the general population and the highest Scheduled Caste male literacy rate (see, Table-6). The Scheduled Caste female literacy rate is as deplorable as the male literacy rate, only thing it is worse.

Now, if one looks at, Table-7, we notice the disparity

Table-6 : Literacy rate (Highest and Lowest) for males and females - 1961  
(in per cent)

	Highest				Lowest			
	Gen. Population		Sch. Castes		Gen. Population		Sch. Castes	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total	56.13	33.35	24.46	7.22	28.05	5.48	7.10	0.63
District	Dharwar	Coorg	Dharwar	N.Kanara	Bidar	Bidar	Gulbarga	Gulbarga
Rural	52.07	30.68	20.64	5.55	22.87	3.23	5.08	0.39
District	Dharwar	Coorg	Belgaum	N.Kanara	Gulbarga	Bidar	Gulbarga	Gulbarga
Urban	70.45	51.53	40.33	16.87	49.55	19.43	19.83	2.93
District	Coorg	Coorg	Belgaum	S.Kanara	Raichur	Raichur	Raichur	Gulbarga

Source: Census 1961, vol. XI, Mysore, Parts  
Ia and Va.



that exists in the literacy rate between the males within the general population and Scheduled Caste males within the Scheduled Caste population and also the disparity that exists between the females within the general population and Scheduled Caste population, in the rural and urban areas of all the districts.

Table-7: Disparities in literacy (Sex-wise), 1961. (In per cent)

State/Dists	Total		Rural		Urban	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Mysore State	27.43	13.66	24.37	9.13	31.57	27.63
Bangalore	31.02	21.75	20.84	7.33	33.56	32.32
Belgaum	21.80	11.24	18.52	7.11	27.92	27.05
Bellary	25.00	9.30	21.87	5.40	31.64	22.27
Bidar	20.75	4.46	17.92	2.57	31.26	15.44
Bijapur	28.99	9.46	26.39	7.10	32.41	17.51
Chickmagalur	31.82	17.07	27.68	13.58	36.27	33.62
Chitradurga	27.88	12.65	24.36	8.59	37.76	29.63
Coorg	34.30	27.75	32.51	25.84	39.07	38.44
Dharwar	31.67	16.74	32.26	13.34	29.27	25.63
Gulbarga	21.03	5.45	17.79	3.03	28.09	17.26
Hassan	30.27	13.14	27.79	9.50	38.89	38.03
Kolar	20.30	9.71	19.73	6.64	24.04	19.56
Mandya	15.42	6.37	13.52	4.36	22.96	22.71
Mysore	21.44	12.32	14.45	4.49	35.15	33.70
North Kanara	27.82	19.96	26.84	17.54	29.23	29.22

Raichur	22.77	5.28	21.29	3.45	29.72	16.02
Shimoga	31.81	17.52	28.76	13.13	36.22	28.61
South Kanara	35.72	22.72	34.07	19.30	32.02	33.97
Tumkur	25.96	10.75	24.82	7.83	30.61	32.60

---

Source: Census 1961, vol. XI, Mysore, Parts Ia and Va.

At the state level the disparity between the males and females within the general population and Scheduled Caste population was 27.43% and 13.66% respectively.

At the district level the disparity between the males in both the populations indicate that in South Kanara there exists the highest disparity, the disparity being as high as 35.72%. For the females, the highest disparity was in Coorg where it was 27.75%. The lowest disparity between the males within the general population and Scheduled Caste population was 15.42% in the district of Mandya and, for the females, the lowest disparity existed in the district of Bidar where the disparity was as low as 4.46%.

The analysis just made was in terms of the disparity that exists between the total general population and total Scheduled Caste population. Now if we examine the rural population we notice that the disparity for males within the two populations (i.e., general population and Scheduled Caste population) is highest in the district of South Kanara where the disparity was as high as 34.07% while the disparity at the

state level was 24.37%. And in the case of females, the disparity was highest in the district of Coorg where it was 25.84% while the disparity at the state level it was a mere 9.13%.

The lowest disparity between the males within both the populations was 13.52% in the district of Mandya and the lowest for females was 2.57% in the district of Bidar.

Examining the disparity that exists between the males within both the populations, show that disparity is highest in the district of Coorg where it was 39.07% and the highest disparity for females was also in the district of Coorg where it was 38.44%, while the disparity at the state level for males was just 31.57% and for females it was 27.63%. The lowest disparity for males within both the urban populations existed in the district of Mandya where it was 22.96% while, the lowest disparity for females existed in the district of Bidar, where it was 15.44%

From the analysis made, we notice that there exists a wide disparity in the literacy rate between the males within the general and Scheduled Caste population both in the rural and urban areas of all districts of Karnataka. There also exists a disparity in literacy rate between the females within the general population and males within the Scheduled Caste population. The analysis also indicates that where there is a high literacy rate for the general population, it need not necessarily follow that the Scheduled Caste population in

those areas will also have a high literacy rate.

Primary Education

3

Primary education is the foundation for any higher education. The Constitution of India guarantees free and compulsory education upto the age of 14. The State Government of Karnataka has made it compulsory for all children who are 14 and below to have primary education.

Enrolment for primary education at the all-India level for the Scheduled Castes has not been satisfactory. Enrolment to primary schools in 1960-61 was 3,196,538 students and in 1965-66 it was 4,800,628. At the middle school level in 1960-61 it was 920,429 and in 1965-66 it was 1,576,507. (See Table-8).

Table-8 : Enrolment of Scheduled Castes at the Primary level  
1960-61 and 1965-66

Year	Primary	Middle
1960-61	3,196,538	920,429
1965-66	4,800,628	1,576,507
Increase	1,604,090	656,078

Source: ICSSR, OM-6, pp. 34-37, J.P. Naik.

The increase in terms of number seems impressive but in reality the number is very insignificant. It is said that

3 Primary Education here is thought to also include Middle School Education, i.e., Education upto Seventh Standard.

the progress of elementary education among the Scheduled Caste children is not satisfactory in most states. <sup>4</sup> Enrolment of Scheduled Caste children in the various states show a clearer picture of this. On the basis of 1960-61 data (see Table-9), Rajasthan at the primary school had only 4.4% students from the Scheduled Castes and 3.6% at the middle school. The total percentage of Scheduled Caste students at the primary educational level boils down to 4.2% only. The table is a clear indication of the very unimpressive rate of enrolment. West Bengal and Madras (Tamil Nadu) show a satisfactory trend.

Table-9 : Enrolement of Scheduled Castes - 1960-61

States	% of SC to total population	Primary Schools		Middle Schools		Total	
		Enrolment	% to total	Enrolment	% to total	Enrolment	% to total
Andhra Pradesh	13.80	428,119	16.00	32,325	9.20	460,444	15.20
Bihar	14.10	266,396	9.80	61,423	7.60	327,819	9.30
Gujarat	5.70	43,379	6.10	104,234	6.80	147,613	6.60
Kerala	8.40	196,212	10.90	65,235	8.50	261,447	10.20
Madhya Pradesh	13.10	157,087	9.30	39,446	8.10	196,533	9.10
Madras	18.00	424,175	17.00	129,037	11.60	553,212	15.30

4. See "Report of the Committee on Untouchability, Economic and Educational Development of the Scheduled Castes & Connected Documents, 1969, Government of India, Department of Social Welfare, New Delhi, p. 185.

Maharashtra	5.60	178,086	10.00	248,196	10.20	426,282	10.10
Mysore	13.20	134,326	10.50	73,305	6.30	207,631	8.50
Punjab	20.40	122,004	12.30	29,297	9.20	151,301	11.60
Rajasthan	16.70	38,659	4.40	11,248	3.60	49,907	4.20
Uttar Pradesh	20.90	565,822	14.30	67,197	12.20	633,019	14.00
West Bengal	19.90	459,803	17.40	27,490	12.20	487,293	17.00

Source: "Education of Backward Classes", L.M. Shrikant, The II Indian Year Book of Education: Elementary Education, NCERT, New Delhi, p. 181.

In Mysore State enrolment has been very low. Talking in terms of numbers and the increase since 1960-61 and 1965-66 it has been remarkable. In 1960-61 enrolment for primary education (i.e., primary school and middle school) was 207,631 and during 1965-66 it was 338,481, an increase of 120,880, i.e., an increase of well over 60% (see Table-10). But the enrolment in 1961 for Mysore State has been very low, it was just 8.50% to the total. The Scheduled Caste enrolment in primary schools (Class I-VII) in 1968-69, 1970-71 has been nowhere near being impressive.

Table-10: Enrolment of Scheduled Castes (1960-61 and 1965-66)

STAGES	INDIA			MYSORE STATE		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
<u>1960-61:</u>						
Pre-Primary	6452	3601	2851	506	282	224

Primary/Junior- Basic Schools	3196538	2367391	829147	134326	92231	42095
Middle/Senior- Basic Schools	920429	684035	236394	73305	49146	24159
Sec.Schools	532620	458134	74486	13419	10969	2450

---

1965-66:

Pre-Primary	11530	6333	5197	1725	996	729
Primary/Junior- Basic Schools	4800628	3509376	1391252	162871	96008	66863
Middle/Senior- Basic Schools	1576507	1124397	452110	175610	112049	63651
Sec.Schools	956867	777355	179512	25896	21357	4539

---

Source: ICSSR, OM-6, pp. 34-37, J.P. Naik.

In 1968-69 the total intake was 3,752,237 students, and the Scheduled Castes enrolled then numbered just 308014, a mere 8.20% and, in 1970-71 the total intake was 4,064,470 and in this the Scheduled Castes constituted a mere 8.43% (See Table-11). Now looking back at the 1961 figures, the 1968-69 and 1970-71 figures indicate no progress at all. One whole decade was not enough to even make a 1% increase in enrolment, but, as a matter of fact enrolment dropped by 0.07% (See Table-11 and also Table-9).

Table-11 : Percentage of progress achieved in intake of Scheduled Caste students in Primary stage - 1968-69 and 1970-71

Stage	Year	Total intake	Number of Sch.Castes	% of Sch. Castes
PRIMARY (Std. I-VII)	1968-69	3,752,237	308014	8.20%
	1970-71	4,064,470	352861	8.43%

Source: From the Office of the Director of Social Welfare, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.

Scheduled Caste enrolment at primary school will be quite telling if one goes into the district-wise break-up. There are 19 Districts in the State of Karnataka. Bangalore District is the capital of the State and has the <sup>largest</sup> number of Scheduled Caste students enrolled with 48,262, constituting 14.07%, Kolar came next with a number of 39997 students constituting 11.66% and Mysore district with 32106 students constituting 9.36% was third (see Table-12). The district with the least enrolment has been North Kanara district with 3276 students constituting 0.95%, a little better than North Kanara was the district of Coorg with 3998 students constituting 1.16%.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Earlier in the chapter, table-2 indicates that the Scheduled Castes in North Kanara district had the highest literacy rate in Karnataka. This may be attributed to their number being very small in the district. Had the number been more, it might have presented a different picture.

It may also be noted that the percentage is calculated in terms of the total Scheduled Caste population at the primary school level in the State.



The reasons for this may be that Bangalore being the capital and a metropolitan city attracts the downtrodden seeking a better future when compared to the other districts which are still rural like. Another reason may be that Bangalore being the seat of the State Government has better facilities for education, transportation, communication etc. The reasons for such a low enrolment in North Kanara and Coorg is this that educational facilities there are not as in Bangalore and it may also be said that the Scheduled Caste community in North Kanara represented 4.57% of the population in 1961 and, 4.10% of the population in 1971. In Coorg, the low enrolment could be reasoned out this way that there is a lack of educational facilities and it may also be said that the parents of Scheduled Caste children are ignorant of the long term benefit from education.

Table-12 : Enrolment of Scheduled Castes at the Primary Level (District-wise) - 1970-71

Districts	Total Sch.Caste students	% of students at primary level
Bangalore	48262	14.07
Belgaum	26648	7.77
Bellary	16136	4.76
Bidar	7399	2.15
Bijapur	18665	5.44
Chickmagalur	8316	2.42

Chitradurga	22872	6.27
Coorg	3998	1.16
Dharwar	15706	4.58
Gulbarga	15442	4.53
Hassan	12142	3.54
Kolar	39997	11.66
Mandya	12799	3.73
Mysore	32106	9.36
Raichur	9192	2.68
Shimoga	17896	5.21
Tumkur	22872	6.27
North Kanara	3276	0.95
South Kanara	9114	2.65

---

Source: Data from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instruction, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.

A good number of the Scheduled Castes live in rural areas though many rush towards the urban areas for better education and better future. Since we find the Scheduled Castes living in the rural as well as urban areas, it would be helpful to study Scheduled Caste response in the rural and urban areas.

<sup>6</sup>  
In 1961, of the 3,117,232 Scheduled Caste in Karnataka

<sup>6</sup> This is the only Census figures that is being widely used here because, of the delay in releasing the relevant volumes of the 1971-Census Reports.

State, 2,608,745 lived in rural areas and 508,487 in urban areas. Of the rural population 93.35% are illiterates and 0.62% are with a Primary or Junior Basic education. In the urban area 78.56% are illiterates and 4.84% are with a Primary or Junior Basic education (see Table-13). When compared with the general population, the differences are very wide, for example, in the rural area only 80.01% are illiterates and 2.03% have at least primary or junior basic education and in the urban areas 55.78% are illiterates and 11.65% have at least Primary or Junior Basic education.

Table-13 : Educational level of Scheduled Castes-1961  
(in per cent)

<u>Educational Level</u>	<u>General Population</u>	<u>Scheduled Castes</u>
<u>RURAL</u>		
Illiterate	80.01	93.35
Literate (without educational level)	17.41	5.90
Primary or Junior Basic	2.03	0.62
Matriculation & above	0.55	0.13
<u>URBAN</u>		
Illiterate	55.78	78.56
Literate (without educational level)	25.95	15.16
Primary or Junior Basic	11.65	4.84
Matriculation & above	5.39	1.33

These differences could be interpreted in a number of ways. One of them could be this that though a majority of the Scheduled Castes live in rural areas, attention is not being paid there, thus, little response from the rural Scheduled Caste to the various upliftment programmes. Another reason would be that all programmes are better received in the urban areas because the respondents to the programme are nearer to all the happenings thus contributing to greater response from the urbanites when compared to the ruralites.

In 1960-61, in Mysore State, of the 207631 Scheduled Caste students at the Primary level 141377 were boys and 66254 girls. And in 1965-66 the Scheduled Caste students at the Primary level numbered 338481 of which 208057 were boys and 130424 girls (see Table-10). In 1970-71 at the Primary level the total number of Scheduled Caste students was 352861 of which 213792 are boys and 139069 girls. The break-up on 31-8-'72 indicates 216405 boys and 131422 girls. The sex-wise distribution in the various classes indicates that the boys always outnumbered the girls (see Table-14).

Table-14: Scheduled Caste Population at the Primary level as on 31-8-'72

Standard	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary: Std. I	71987	49966	121953

7 Figures were made available at the Office of the Directorate of Public Instruction, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

Std. II	47178	28592	75770
Std. III	33317	19532	52849
Std. IV	23930	13772	37702
Std. V	15718	7739	23457
Std. VI	12434	6246	18680
Std. VII	11841	5575	17416

-----

Source: Figures from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instruction, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

The district-wise distribution of boys and girls at primary level, i.e. Standard I-VII, according to the 1970-71 figures, it was indicated that Bangalore District had the largest number of boys and girls enrolled at the primary level. Mysore came next with respect to the enrolment of boys, while Kolar was next with respect to the enrolment of girls. It must be mentioned here that Kolar had girls outnumbering boys (see Table-15).

Table-15 : Enrolment of Students at the Primary level  
(Scheduled Castes) - 1970-71

Districts	Total	Boys	Girls
Bangalore	48262	28111	20151
Belgaum	26648	17129	9519
Bellary	16136	10027	6114
Bidar	7399	5731	1668

Bijapur	18665	12545	6120
Chickmagalur	8316	4907	3409
Chitradurga	22872	14223	8672
Coorg	3998	2514	1484
Dharwar	15706	9588	6118
Gulbarga	15442	10613	4829
Hassan	12142	7177	4965
Kolar	39997	13582	16415
Mandya	12799	7547	5252
Mysore	32106	19636	12470
Raichur	9192	6524	2668
Shimoga	17896	11100	6796
Tumkur	22872	14151	8721
North Kanara	3276	2048	1228
South Kanara	9114	5644	3470

---

Source: Data from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instruction, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

North Kanara district had the least number of boys and girls. Coorg was just a shade better than North Kanara.

The sex-wise distribution is also an indication that the girls have still not emerged out of their bondage, being the weaker sex. The lot of the women-folk must avail themselves of the privileges meant for all, irrespective of their sex.

With the numerous analysis made one could also examine the progress made in the enrolment of Scheduled Caste students at the primary school level. Way back in 1960-61 the enrolment of Scheduled Castes was 8.50% in Mysore State, and in 1968-69 it was 8.20%, and in 1970-71 it rose to 8.43%. Now if one examines, we notice that in 1968-69 the enrolment dropped by 0.30%, and in 1970-71, though an improvement on the 1968-69 figures, it dropped by 0.07% when compared to the 1960-61 figures. The indication is this, that, in one whole decade there had been absolutely no progress (see Table-16).

Table-16 : Enrolment at the primary level (Scheduled Caste)-  
1960-61; 1968-69 and 1970-71

Year	Total Enrolment	Sch.Caste Enrolment	Sch.Caste%
1960-61	2,442,718	207,631	8.50%
1968-69	3,752,237	308,014	8.20%
1970-71	4,064,470	352,861	8.43%

Source: The 1960-61 figures have been extracted from: L.M. Shrikant's - "Education of - Backward Classes" in the The Second Indian Year Book of Education: Elementary Education (NCERT, 1964), p. 181.

The 1968-69 and 1970-71 figures have been received from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instruction, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

### Secondary Education

Progress in secondary education of the Scheduled Castes

at the all-India level has been anything but impressive. It is very slow in most of the States and wastage is very conspicuous. According to the information from the Ministry of Education, Government of India, in 1963-64 the percentage of enrolment of Scheduled Castes at the primary level was 12.60%, middle school stage it was 10.60% and at the secondary stage it was a mere 6.90%.<sup>8</sup> The reason for this are numerous, but the reasons that are obvious are lack of schooling facilities near the villages, lack of hostel facilities and also inadequate scholarships.

The total Scheduled Castes enrolled at the High School level in India in 1960-61 was 532,620 and in 1965-66 it was 956,867. A remarkable increase in terms of number and very much above 75% (see Table-10).

In Mysore State the enrolment of Scheduled Caste students at the high school level in 1960-61 was 13,419 and in 1965-66 it was 25,896. The increase has been remarkable, i.e., about 90%.

The increase in enrolment loses its impressiveness the moment we compare it to the general population of the secondary school students. Now let us examine this. The total intake of students in 1968-69 at the secondary level in Karnataka was

---

8 Report of the Committee on Untouchability, Economic and Educational Development of the Scheduled Castes and connected Documents-1969, Government of India, Department of Social Welfare, p. 189.



437351 and the total Scheduled Castes enrolled was 28,507 constituting a mere 6.51%. The total intake for the general population at the secondary level was 453,945 and the Scheduled Caste intake was 29,831 constituting just 6.57%, an increase of a mere 0.06% (see Table-17). Seeing these figures it is obvious that Scheduled Caste intake has lost its intensity. Now if we examine the above mentioned figures along with the Scheduled Caste population, the high school level as on 31-8-1971 (for the academic year 1971-72), we notice that there has been a drastic drop in the enrolment. The figures of the Scheduled Caste students at the high school level on 31-8-1971 was 23277.<sup>9</sup> There is also a clear indication of wastage. As mentioned earlier, the enrolment in 1960-61 of the Scheduled Caste students at the primary level was 207,631. Now, assuming that the general pattern of schooling in Karnataka lasts for ten years, we notice that in 1970-71 the Scheduled Caste students number a mere 29,831. This is a clear indicator of wastage and dropout amongst the Scheduled Caste students.

Table-17: Scheduled Castes enrolled at the High School level

Year	Total intake	Sch.Castes	% of Sch.Castes
1968-69	437,351	28,507	6.51%
1970-71	453,945	29,831	6.57%

<sup>9</sup> Figures were made available at the Office of the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

Source: Figures from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

A district-wise distribution of Scheduled Caste students at the secondary level in 1970-71 indicates that Bangalore district, with 7794 students was the highest and constituting almost 25.07% of the total Scheduled Caste population at the secondary level in Karnataka. Kolar comes next to Bangalore with 3787 students, constituting almost 12.18%, and Mysore a close third with 3279 students, constituting 10.55%. The district with the least number of Scheduled Caste students was Coorg, with 243 students, constituting 0.78% and North Kanara was a little better than Coorg, with 362 students constituting almost 1.16% of the total Scheduled Caste population at the secondary level (see Table-18).

Table-18: District-wise distribution of Scheduled Castes at the High School level - 1970-71 (in per cent)

Districts	% of Sch.Castes to total student population	No. of Sch. Castes at the High School level	% of Sch.Caste students at the H.S. level
Bangalore	15.12	7794	25.07
Belgaum	7.61	1813	5.83
Bellary	4.45	698	2.24
Bidar	2.25	1024	3.29
Bijapur	5.44	1639	5.26
Chickmagalur	2.33	551	1.77

Chitradurga	6.51	1412	4.54
Coorg	1.11	243	0.78
Dharwar	4.61	1426	4.58
Gulbarga	4.48	1359	4.37
Hassan	3.37	529	1.73
Kolar	11.69	3787	12.18
Mandya	3.81	1579	5.08
Mysore	9.55	3279	10.55
North Kanara	0.97	362	1.16
Raichur	2.58	541	1.74
Shimoga	5.00	1043	3.35
South Kanara	2.54	564	1.81
Tumkur	6.51	1435	4.61

Source: Figures from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

All data indicate that there has been a constant increase in the number of boys and girls enrolling, and the boys almost everytime outnumbering the girls. In 1965-66, the number of Scheduled Caste boys was 20,271 and the Scheduled Caste girls was 6210 and, in 1970-71 the break-up of boys and girls was 23,094 and 7984 respectively (see Table-19).

Table-19: Number of Scheduled Castes at the High School level in Karnataka

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
1965-66	20,271	6,210	26,481
1970-71	23,094	7,984	31,078

Source: Data from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

Standard-wise distribution on 31-8-1971 indicates that higher the class lesser the number of girls (see Table-20).

Table-20: Number of Scheduled Castes, standard-wise at the High School level

Standard	Boys	Girls	Total
VIII	8,833	3,152	11,985
IX	7,375	2,595	9,969
X	5,908	1,852	7,760
XI	1,161	170	1,331

A district-wise break-up of the Scheduled Caste boys and girls at the secondary level in 1970-71 indicates that, as expected, Bangalore had the highest number of boys and girls enrolled - 5029 boys and 2756 girls. Mysore and Kolar came next with 2595 boys and 1458 girls respectively. Coorg and Hassan have enrolled the least number of boys and girls (see Table-21), respectively.

Rural-urban breakdown of the Scheduled Caste students according to their sex is not possible for, relevant data are not available. Thus, it may be mentioned that the background of the Scheduled Caste students in the School Study conducted

10 "Educational Progress and Problems of Scheduled Caste

by Dr. C. Rajagopalan for the ICSSR, to be an indicator on this.

Table-21: Enrolment of Students at High School Level 1970-71  
(Scheduled Castes)

Districts	General Student Popln.			Scheduled Castes		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Bangalore	50902	31637	82539	5029	2765	7794
Belgaum	27861	9443	37304	1547	266	1813
Bellary	9765	2858	12623	575	123	698
Bidar	8675	1160	9835	919	105	1024
Bijapur	23858	5688	29546	1403	236	1639
Chickmagalur	8572	4053	12625	408	143	551
Chitradurga	13465	5049	18514	1239	173	1412
Coorg	6142	5016	11158	163	80	243
Dharwar	30637	11027	41664	1131	295	1426
Gulbarga	14476	2416	16892	1007	352	1359
Hassan	11890	4851	16741	479	50	529
Kolar	15947	7551	23498	2329	1458	3787
Mandya	11534	3034	14568	1277	302	1579
Mysore	20266	9674	29940	2595	684	3279
North Kanara	11374	7597	18971	267	95	362
Raichur	10204	1833	12037	469	72	541
Shimoga	16683	7599	24282	775	268	1043

and Scheduled Tribe Students in Karnataka" (High School (study sponsored by ICSSR): Dr. C. Rajagopalan, Department of Sociology, Bangalore University, Bangalore-560009; 1974.

South Kanara	25977	16228	42205	362	202	564
Tumkur	21181	6467	27648	1120	315	1435

-----

Source: Figures from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

The Director of Social Welfare, Government of Karnataka, conducted a small study, "PILOT SCHEME", wherein it studied the examination results of those Scheduled Caste students residing in Hostels. The study was conducted for the years 1968-69, 1969-70, and 1970-71. The study indicated the progress and regress, but there is more of the progress being indicated. The percentage of hostellers passing shows an increase for every year (see Table-22).

Table-22: Examination Results in the Hostels covered under 'PILOT SCHEME'

Hostel	Number of Hostellers & Class						Number of Passes					
	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X
<u>1968-69:- Boys</u>												
i) N.R. Hostel, Bangalore	4	8	12	27	30	28	3	3	5	22	25	5
ii) Govt. Gen. Hostel, Belgaum	2	4	2	10	7	3	1	3	2	10	6	3
iii) S.C.S.B. Hostel, Gulbarga	25	25	46	58	41	37	23	25	44	58	40	11
iv) A.K. Boarding Home, Mysore	22	22	31	20	25	13	17	21	14	12	19	4
<u>Girls</u>												
Sch. Caste Girls Hostel, Basavangudi, Bangalore	9	20	26	31	9	15	8	17	18	21	5	1

Girls Hostel, Gulbarga	5	12	6	10	10	8	5	10	1	4	6	5
Sch.Caste Girls Hostel, Belgaum	2	5	3	4	3	7	2	8	2	2	2	2

A.K.Boarding Home, Mysore	17	11	20	37	34	16	17	5	9	21	27	2
---------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	---	---	----	----	---

TOTAL	84	107	146	197	159	127	76	92	95	150	130	33
-------	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----	----	----	-----	-----	----

1969-70: Boys

N.R.Hostel, Bangalore	9	14	14	25	22	25	8	13	9	23	10	7
Govt.Gen.Hostel, Belgaum	5	4	2	10	17	8	4	3	1	9	15	4
S.C.S.B.Hostel, Gulbarga	30	23	35	70	58	39	30	23	33	69	55	10
A.K.Boarding Home, Mysore	24	22	26	26	15	17	23	22	9	19	15	-

Girls

Sch.Caste Girls Hostel, Bangalore	6	8	28	24	22	13	6	7	16	22	22	3
Girls Hostel, Gulbarga	6	3	8	7	5	5	4	1	6	4	5	3
A.K.Boarding Home, Mysore	12	23	19	24	25	30	10	23	11	18	19	14
Sch.Caste Girls Hostel, Belgaum	5	1	6	4	5	5	5	1	6	3	3	1

TOTAL	97	98	138	190	169	142	90	93	91	167	142	42
-------	----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----	----	----	-----	-----	----

1970-71: Boys

N.R.Hostel, Bangalore	16	9	15	20	25	17	16	9	3	18	22	4
Govt.Gen.Hostel, Belgaum	3	11	6	11	16	23	3	10	5	9	16	11
S.C.S.B.Hostel, Gulbarga	29	24	32	63	64	47	25	23	14	53	64	28
A.K.Boarding Home, Mysore	12	24	27	26	23	20	12	21	9	19	21	7

(Table-22 contd.)

Girls

Sch.Caste Girls Hostel, Bangalore	10	11	24	18	23	11	10	10	12	14	20	1
Girls Hostel, Gulbarga	11	6	2	7	6	6	10	5	2	6	6	-
Sch.Caste Girls Hostel, Belgaum	5	5	3	9	3	2	5	4	3	8	3	nil
A.K.Boarding Home, Mysore	6	15	27	24	22	19	6	14	13	22	22	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>59</b>

Table-22(i) : Percentage of passes in the Hostel (Scheduled Castes)

Standard	Total % of passes in 1968-69	% of passes in 1969-70	% of passes in 1970-71
V	90.00	90.30	94.50
VI	86.00	95.00	91.40
VII	65.00	66.00	44.90
VIII	76.00	88.00	84.00
IX	81.00	85.00	93.00
X	26.00	30.00	40.70

Source: Figures from the Office of the Director of Social Welfare, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

College Education

Enrolment for college education has vastly increased among the general population and also among the Scheduled Caste since 1961. In 1961, the number of Scheduled Castes



with University degree or Post-Graduate degree, Technical Degree etc., at the all-India level was only 6307.<sup>11</sup> (The researcher will not discuss professional education alongside college education as the topic is being dealt with separately.)

In Karnataka there has been signs of progress in terms of the number of Scheduled Castes being enrolled. A point of consideration here would be that in 1961, there were only 392 Scheduled Castes with degrees or post-graduate degree, Technical degree etc. In 1970-71, at the college level alone there were 6068 Scheduled Caste students. This is an indicator of the increase for a decade because, the relevant volumes of the 1971-Census Reports are yet to come (see Table-23).

In 1970-71, the district-wise distribution of the Scheduled Caste students at the college level showed that Bangalore had the biggest Scheduled Caste population and also had the biggest number enrolled at the college level with 917 Scheduled Caste students, but this number does not even constitute 1% of the district population, as a matter of fact they constitute a mere 0.18%. Another fact to be mentioned is this, that, though Bangalore having the biggest number of Scheduled Caste students, it surely does not rank the highest but fifth. Belgaum having a Scheduled Caste population constituting 9.20% of the district population had 560 students enrolled, representing a mere 0.25% of the district population, which

---

11 1961-Census, vol. I, Part V a(i), pp. 326-27.

incidentally is the highest. Chickmagalur had the fourth largest number of Scheduled Caste students enrolled at the college level, but had the least percentage of Scheduled Caste students enrolled in relation to the district population (see Table-23).

Table-23: Scheduled Caste students at the College level  
(District-wise) - 1970-71

Districts	Total Sch. Caste population	% to District population	Number of Sch.Caste college students	% to District population
Bangalore	505644	15.02	917	0.18
Bellary	167378	14.90	173	0.10
Belgaum	222952	9.20	560	0.25
Bidar	123963	15.04	177	0.14
Bijapur	200000	10.02	454	0.22
Chitradurga	254290	18.19	407	0.16
Chickmagalur	119733	16.25	23	0.01
Coorg	36971	9.77	16	0.04
Dharwar	186358	7.95	364	0.19
Gulbarga	261922	15.05	257	0.09
Hassan	169594	15.38	200	0.11
Kolar	363092	23.94	836	0.23
Mandya	141439	12.25	180	0.12
Mysore	356466	17.16	778	0.21
North Kanara	34863	4.10	89	0.02

Raichur	152328	10.75	73	0.04
Shimoga	185465	14.25	134	0.07
South Kanara	99687	5.14	17	-
Tumkur	267889	16.45	413	0.15

-----

Source: Figures from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

Seeing table-23, one arrives to a conclusion that enrolment of Scheduled Caste students at the college level has been low if not very low. One also notices that, the Scheduled Caste students represent (in relation to District population) from a very low 0.01% to another 'high' low dive of 0.25%.

It has not been possible to get statistical facts regarding the break-up of enrolment in caste-wise. But, a sex-wise break-up was available. Bangalore district had the highest number of girls enrolled, i.e., 310 and Mysore had the highest number of boys enrolled with 673 at the college level. Bangalore came second to Mysore in the enrolment of boys with 607 students while Kolar had the second largest number of girls, i.e., 185 at the college level. The districts with the least enrolment of boys and girls were South Kanara with 10 and Coorg 3, respectively (see Table-24).

Table-24: Enrolment of Scheduled Castes at the College level - 1970-71

Districts	Total	Boys	Girls
Bangalore	917	607	310

Tumkur	413	388	25
Kolar	836	651	185
Mysore	778	673	105
South Kanara	17	10	7
Mandya	180	162	18
Coorg	16	13	3
Chitradurga	407	375	32
Chickmagalur	23	19	4
Hassan	200	190	10
Shimoga	134	118	16
Dharwar	364	317	47
Belgaum	560	515	45
Bijapur	454	436	18
North Kanara	89	82	7
Gulbarga	257	247	10
Raichur	73	65	8
Bidar	177	168	9
Bellary	173	169	4
-----			
Total	6046	5225	821
-----			

Source: Figures from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

### Professional Education

Professional education in India like elsewhere in the world is not easily accessible and there is a very big rush

for seats in professional colleges. It is an education for which many aspire. The Scheduled Castes who are one of the most backward communities were given privileges so as to ease their admission problem. In 1965-66 at the all-India level there were 29,851 Scheduled Caste students enrolled in various professional courses in the numerous colleges and institutions. Teaching profession had the highest number of students enrolled, next came engineering and technology and surprisingly medicine was fourth.

In the State of Karnataka in 1965-66, there were 2,074 Scheduled Caste students enrolled in the professional colleges and other institutions. In Karnataka engineering seemed very popular and medicine was second in popularity (see Table-25).

Table-25: Enrolment of Scheduled Castes in Professional Courses - 1965-66

COLLEGE	MYSORE STATE	INDIA
Agriculture	65	956
Commerce	78	3476
Engineering & Technology	1019	9659
Teacher Training	361	11004
Law	69	1139
Allopathic Medicine	447	2331
Other Medicine	2	327
Nursing & Midwifery	25	244
Others	8	711
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2074</b>	<b>29851</b>

Source: "Education of the Scheduled Castes (1965-66)", J.P. Naik (ICSSR Occasional Monographs: no.6), p. 39.

In 1970-71 the enrolment at the professional education level indicates a decline for, there are only 1487 Scheduled Caste students enrolled. This decline may be due to the high number of engineers, doctors and teachers who are unemployed causing an unpopular trend for the various courses. Another explanation may be that some professional courses may have been deleted from the list and included elsewhere.

Table-26: Number of Scheduled Caste students getting professional education in Karnataka - 1970-71

Boys	Girls	Total
1365	122	1487

Source: Figures from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

In 1970-71, the district-wise distribution of the Scheduled Castes at the professional educational level shows that Bangalore with 733 Scheduled Caste students stands highest. This number accounts for almost 59.29% of the total Scheduled Caste students enrolled. Mysore comes second with 291 students constituting 19.56%, Mandya with only one student accounts for 0.06% (see Table-27).

In the state, the sex-wise distribution or break-up (for 1970-71) was 1365 boys and 122 girls (see Table-26). In

the districts, the sex-wise distribution was, Bangalore had the highest number of boys and girls enrolled, i.e., 656 and 77 respectively. Mysore had the next highest with 257 boys and 34 girls and Tumkur was next to Mysore in the enrolment of boys with 132. Mandya had just one boy and Belgaum had just one girl (see Table-27).

Table-27: Enrolment of students at Professional Education level (Engineering, Medical, Agricultural, B.Ed., Commerce etc.) - Scheduled Castes: 1970-71

Districts	Total Strength			Scheduled Castes			% of Sch. Castes
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	
Bangalore	12708	11686	1022	733	656	77	59.29
Kolar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chitradurga	1724	1622	102	42	42	-	2.82
Tumkur	3067	3064	3	132	132	-	8.87
Shimoga	336	319	17	6	6	-	0.40
Mysore	7203	6096	1107	291	257	34	19.56
Mandya	670	670	-	1	1	-	0.06
South Kanara	5011	4491	520	18	18	-	1.21
Coorg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hassan	411	411	-	-	-	-	-
Chickmagalur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dharwar	4772	4462	310	117	111	6	7.86
Belgaum	2810	2661	149	50	49	1	3.36
Bijapur	737	686	51	2	2	-	0.13
Gulbarga	2375	2292	83	46	46	-	3.09

Raichur	734	722	12	47	43	4	3.16
Bidar	69	67	2	2	2	-	0.13
Bellary	1001	912	89	-	-	-	-
North Kanara	137	137	-	-	-	-	-
-----							
TOTAL	43765	40298	3467	1487	1365	122	100.00
-----							

Source: Figures from the Office of the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

An obvious feature here is this that girls dont even constitute 10% of the total Scheduled Caste enrolment at the professional educational level. The reasons for this are many. One glaring reason would be this that men are most suited for professional courses and then enter a profession after the course. Another reason would be the secondary importance that, a woman has in the Hindu society, i.e., the position of the women itself.

Two out of three learning centres and seats of University, viz., Bangalore and Mysore (and the third, Dharwar) have the biggest number of Scheduled Caste students at the professional educational level. In the case of Bangalore it may be said that all professional colleges, be it Engineering, Medicine etc., are all situated in Bangalore unlike, in Mysore University where the Colleges are all dispersed all over the State, except for the university colleges. Having this in mind, one may say that, thus there is a rush towards Bangalore



for professional education.

In the State of Karnataka the minimum age for a child to be admitted at the primary school level is five years. Primary School education lasts for seven years. Now it can be assumed that the minimum age when completing primary education (i.e. Class I-VII) would be 12 years (see Table-28).

Table-28: Number of children eligible for primary education

	<u>Dropouts and Wastage</u>						
	0-14 yrs	5-12 yrs eligible for P.S.	% of 5-12 yrs	Number enrolled in 1960-61	% to students eligible	No. receiving H.S. education 1970-71	% to 1960-61 figures
General Population	9,939,328	5,645,883	56.80%	2,508,000	44.42%	482,590	19.24%
Sch. Castes	1,310,641	744,407	56.80%	207,631	27.89%	31,078	14.96%

Source: Table constructed on the basis of figures from Census 1961, vol. XI, Part Ia, p. 331; vol. XI, Part Va, p. 129; Figures from Review of Education in India (1947-61), NCERT, Ministry of Education, Government of India, New Delhi; ICSSR, OM-6, J.P. Naik; and also from the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

In the range of 0-14 years, the age group of 5-12 years within the general population represents 56.80%. Assuming that the range of 5-12 years within the Scheduled Caste population would also be the same, an analysis is made (see figures below).

	0-14 years	5-12 years	% of 5-12 years
General Population	9,939,328	5,645,883	56.80%
Scheduled Caste Population	1,310,641	744,407	56.80%

From the above figures it may be assumed that the number of children in the 5-12 years range are all eligible for enrolment to primary schools. The number of eligible students may be compared to the number of students actually enrolled in 1960-61. When this is compared we notice that the number enrolled represents only 44.42% of those eligible. This is so in the case of children within the general population. In the case of Scheduled Caste children only 27.89% are enrolled.

The schooling in Karnataka lasts for 10 years (see Table-29). Now, one should examine the number of students receiving high school education in 1970-71. The figures should tally with the 1960-61 figures if not more. What we notice is that only 19.24% of those enrolled in 1960-61 receive high school education. This is so with respect to students from general population. Now with respect to the Scheduled Caste students 14.96% are receiving high school education. The wastage or the number of students dropped out is anywhere between 80-85% respectively. What is evident is 'wastage'<sup>12</sup>

<sup>12</sup> 'Wastage' comes from the language of economists. It is

Table-29: Comparative Dropouts (Karnataka)

Level of education	Year	Total	Boys	Girls	Category
Enrolment at the primary school level	1960-61	2,508,000	1,630,000	878,000	General
		207,631	141,377	66,254	Scheduled Caste
Number of students (Scheduled Castes) receiving primary education	1965-66	339,621	210,139	129,482	
Number of students receiving high school education	1970-71	482,590	339,409	143,181	General
		31,078	23,094	7,984	Scheduled Caste
Percentage of students receiving high school education	1970-71	19.24%	20.82%	16.30%	General
		14.96%	16.33%	12.05%	Scheduled Caste
Number of students receiving college education	1970-71	177,242	-	-	General
		6,046	5,225	821	Scheduled Caste
Number of students receiving professional education	1970-71	43,765	40,298	3,467	General
		1,487	1,365	122	Scheduled Caste

Source: ICSSR, OM-6, J.P. Naik and also the Directorate of Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

The figures for 1960-61 was extracted from the Review of Education in India (1947-1961), NCERT, Ministry of Education, Government of India, New Delhi, 1961, pp. 148-50.

and we know wastage has occurred when we notice the failure (of the programme, the government etc.) to achieve the 'educational objectives'. The most glaring thing is that, the Scheduled Castes are yet to respond favourably to the privileges provided for their educational development. 80-85% of the students causing wastage cannot contribute towards educational development as desired.

A government which fails to check wastage and get all its child population educated is wasting its human resources by leaving a very significant section of the population undeveloped. The high percentage of wastage amongst the Scheduled Castes indicates that the educational development programme is a failure and it needs an immediate, total examination in order to eradicate wastage. If this is not checked, it may be noticed in table-1 that, as the general population literacy grows the disparity that exists between the general population and the Scheduled Castes will also increase. For example, in 1961, 24% of the country was literate while only 10.27% were literates amongst the Scheduled Castes. A difference of 13.73%. In 1971, 29.45% were literates in the country while 14.71% of Scheduled Castes were literates. A difference of 14.74%.

---

used in education when one equates education to industry, i.e., similarities to 'capital invested', 'raw materials being processed' into 'finished products'. Wastage in education actually means stagnation in a class, failures and dropouts. It could be stressed further by saying that human learning, buildings, labour of teachers and state funds are being wasted.

At the state level it is noticed that in 1961 in the State of Karnataka (formerly Mysore) 25.40% were literates, while only 9.06% of the Scheduled Castes were literates. A difference of 16.34%. In 1971, 31.52% of the population in Karnataka were literates, while only 13.88% of the Scheduled Castes were literates. A difference of 17.64%.

In 1951, the percentage of literates in Karnataka was 18.83%. The percentage of Scheduled Caste literates in Karnataka in 1971 was 13.88%. So there still exists a disparity! Having these facts in view, any programme for the development of Scheduled Castes needs a careful planning in order to overcome the trend of increasing disparities. A trend desirable at this point would be that of decreasing disparities and finally have no disparity.

## Chapter IV

### BACKGROUND OF SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS

## Chapter IV

### BACKGROUND OF SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS

Despite the numerous provisions in the Constitution, and Government Orders regarding educational upliftment of Scheduled Castes, there has been no satisfactory response from them.<sup>1</sup> Not all those who enter the school or college continue to the end, in other words, there is wastage. Now, the reasons for this are many and varied. Keeping this in view, we can go into the background of students at high school and college level.<sup>2</sup>

In the attempt to analyse their background:- demographic, familial and economic characteristics have been taken account of. The demographic characteristics refer to sex, age and marital status of students. When dealing with the family-caste, religion, education of parents, siblings, occupation of

- 
- 1 The researcher says so because the reservations made for Scheduled Castes has been extended twice due to lack of response to the upliftment programme. This, to the researcher is an indication that, there is lack of response to the privileges given to them. This extension is upto 25 January 1980.
  - 2 The researcher has chosen only the Scheduled Caste students at High School level and College level because there was no material available with regard to the background of Scheduled Caste students at the lower levels of education. The researcher here has profusely used the project reports of the two studies conducted for the ICSSR on 'Educational Progress and Problems of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in Karnataka' (High School and College levels), conducted by Dr. C. Rajagopalan and Dr. C. Parvathamma, respectively. The researcher has also used other data available.

parents, character of residence (i.e., whether rural or urban) are considered. The economic characteristics include financial condition, nature of employment, place of employment and income of the Scheduled Caste families.

### High School Students

In the study conducted by Dr. C. Rajagopalan, the sex-wise composition of the sample indicated that as usual boys outnumbered girls, 64% were boys and 37% were girls. But, in actual the boys constituted 74% of the total high school Scheduled Caste students in Karnataka, while girls were a mere 26%.<sup>3</sup>

The High School study indicated that 44.38% were in the age group of 13-15 while the age group of "16 or more" constituted 55%.<sup>4</sup> (see Table-1). 98.46% were unmarried and only 3 students were married, two of these married were girls and the other a boy. One of the married girls was just fifteen while the other two were "16 or more".<sup>5</sup>

Table-1: Age Composition

Age	Frequency	Percentage
10 years	0	0

<sup>3</sup> Educational Progress and Problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe Students in Karnataka (High School) (A national study sponsored by the ICSSR, New Delhi) - by Dr. C. Rajagopalan, Department of Sociology, Bangalore University, Bangalore, 1974, p. 13.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., p. 14.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.



11	0	0
12	1	0.51
13	6	3.06
14	32	16.32
15	49	25.00
16 or more	108	55.10

---

In the state of Karnataka there are over 90 castes and sub-castes which fall within the fold of Scheduled Castes. In the study conducted by Dr. C. Rajagopalan, his sample indicated that the "Adi-Karnatakas", "Adi-Dravidas", "Holeyas" were three prominent groups, but this also is true within the universe.

The criterion for a caste to be included in the Schedule, as said earlier, was the stigma of untouchability, and the religion professed should be Hinduism or Sikhism, for it is accepted that untouchability is practised only in these two societies. But, the study showed that some students claimed they were "Christians" and "Neo-Buddhists".

An old method of analysing people was to know their family background for, it is very true that, in India the family has a lot to say in determining an individual's career,

6 Ibid., pp. 16-17.

7 Ibid., p. 18 and also 'Handbook on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes' (Government of India, Office of the Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, 1969), p. 4.

personality and his aspirations (educational and occupational). Family background here simply means the social and economic status of his family, caste, education, occupation and income of his parents.

In the total Scheduled Caste population in Karnataka 85% of the males and 97% of the females are illiterates. But, Dr. C. Rajagopalan's study sample showed that 47.95% and 66.32% of the fathers and mothers respectively were illiterates. The study also indicated that 20% of the fathers and 6.12% of the mothers had an education upto High School level and only one<sup>8</sup> case of a mother having studied above the High School level.

From the fact mentioned it can be observed that the students are better educated than their parents. This is likely to be interpreted in numerous ways. In order to understand this better, it would be very meaningful to study after a generation the educated respondents children itself.

The vast majority of the Scheduled Castes in Karnataka live in the rural areas, i.e., 83.18% live in the rural while 16.82% live in the urban areas. Their main occupation is farming and a large number of them work as agricultural labourers and very few of them are cultivators who either own land or houses taken it on lease. Dr. C. Rajagopalan's study too indicated a similar picture wherein, 40.81% of the students' fathers worked in the village, and many students'

---

8 Ibid., p. 19.

fathers were dead or retired. 67.34% of the students' mothers had no occupation while 29.59% of the mothers worked as land labourers or maid servants. Surprisingly or not so, the study indicated that no one worked on their own land.<sup>9</sup> From the study one understands that most of the parents of Scheduled Caste students worked in the rural area.

A great deal of importance is stressed towards education for social change and social mobility. This is also very true amongst the Scheduled Castes. This factor could be understood by seeing the lengths at which parents strive to get their children educated. For example, Dr. C. Rajagopalan's study indicated that 30.10% of the students in his sample lived in hostels away from home, while 66% lived with their parents.<sup>10</sup> Most of the parents lived in the village.

Another important criterion to assess an individual's background has been the economic condition. The economic condition of the Scheduled Castes is that of "poverty" or "difficult". The High School study indicated that 48.46% of the students found the financial situation at home "difficult", 44.89% thought it to be tolerable and only 6.63% indicated being comfortable. What one understands from Dr. C. Rajagopalan's study is that 93.35% were not comfortable.<sup>11</sup> This is

---

9 Ibid., p. 22.

10 Ibid., p. 23.

11 Ibid., p. 24.

mainly due to the very rural background where income may be very meagre or vague or small or irregular.

In every student community there are some very enterprising students who also have a simple philosophy - "self-help" or those who are aware and understand the hardships at home. These enterprising and conscious students sought jobs (permanent or part-time) while studying. Now amongst the Scheduled Caste students, such cases are not rare. In the sample drawn by Dr. C. Rajagopalan, 13.26% of the Scheduled Caste students were employed though there was only one case of a student who was a full-time employee. The total number of employed students in the sample was 26. And of these, 16 students disclosed their income. Of this 16, only 2 earned Rs.200/- or more while the rest earned less than Rs.100/-. The reason for this low income being declared and 10 employed students not declaring their income could be interpreted this way, that, it may be detrimental to their scholarship or some such other privileges. A majority of them are not inclined on taking up a job while studying, or there were no jobs for the rest of them.

Most of the students who are employed were supplementing the family income. Of those employed, 87% give  $\frac{3}{4}$  of their income to their parents. The rest give less than  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

---

12 Ibid., p. 25.

13 Ibid., p. 26.

When enquiries were made in the High School study regarding the financing of education, 51.53% expressed that their parents and relatives financed their education. Only 13.26% financed their education through scholarships or free-ships. 29.08% had their education partly financed by scholarship and freeship. 4.08% through self-earnings. 1.53% financed their education partly by scholarship or free-ship and also by their 'self-earnings'. From this we understand that the scholarship of Rs.75/- per annum is insufficient or the school fees are too high or both in spite of the Order of the Government of Mysore (i.e. Karnataka) that education upto High School level is free for all irrespective of their caste, sex, class or religion. It is very surprising that 51.53% are financing their education while others are supplementing it by way of scholarships, earnings, etc.<sup>14</sup>

Earlier it was also said that the education of a little over 51% of the students in the sample got their parents to finance their education. It may also be said that 57% of students also indicated that the parents had to finance others, too, for education other than the respondent himself/herself.<sup>15</sup>

---

14 Only private schools that do not get Government aid charge tuition fees from Scheduled Castes and the general students, while all Government aided private schools accept a token amount as fees. For example, St. Aloysius Higher Secondary School, Cox Town, Bangalore, a Government aided Catholic school charges its Scheduled Caste students a token sum of Rs.1/50 per month.

15 Ibid., p. 28.

This sample study gives an impression of the Scheduled Caste students' background in Karnataka at the High School level. Now, before drawing conclusions the researcher would also like to go into the background of Scheduled Caste college students in Karnataka.

#### Scheduled Caste College Students

Like in the schools, the percentage of boys at the college level, is much higher than that of girls. Dr. C. Parvathamma, in her College Study had 83.40% boys and 16.50% girls in her sample.

The age composition of the Scheduled Caste boys in the college showed that nearly 74% were 20 years or above, and nearly 25% below 20 years, while amongst the girls the study indicated that 81% of them were below 20 years. <sup>16</sup> 94.20% students in the sample were unmarried while 4.90% were married or were engaged.

Another similar picture is presented in the college study too. The study shows that Adi-Dravidas, Adi-Karnatakas, Holeyas and Lambanis constitute 85% of Scheduled Caste college students. <sup>17</sup> The study also showed that nearly 98.80% were Hindus, two Christians (0.70%) and one student (0.30%) who

---

16 "Educational Problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Karnataka (college students), Dr. C. Parvathamma, p. 60.

17 Ibid., p. 61.

claimed he belonged to no religion.<sup>18</sup>

With respect to educational background of parents, Dr. C. Parvathamma's study strengthens the fact that most Scheduled Castes are still illiterate. Her college study indicated that 55.70% of students' fathers and nearly 75% of the mothers were illiterates while only 8.80 and 1.5% had high school level education respectively. With respect to education above high school, it was 2% and 0.30% respectively.<sup>19</sup>

With respect to economic condition the picture is no different from that of the High School study. The college study makes it very evident that the Scheduled Caste students have a strong rural background. The study indicated that 67% found the economic situation at home 'difficult', 26% declared 'manageable' while 5.8% indicated 'comfortable'.<sup>20</sup> From this it follows that 93% of the students' economic condition at home

---

18 The Government of Karnataka, by an order on 9 December 1974, had extended scholarship and fee concessions granted to students of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to students belonging to families converted to Christianity from Scheduled Castes and Tribes. See also Deccan Herald (Bangalore), 10 December 1974, vol. XXVII, no. 335, p. 1.

The Study of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in Karnataka (sponsored by the ICSSR) - Dr. C. Parvathamma, Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Sociology, University of Mysore, Mysore, p. 62.

19 Ibid., p. 63.

20 Ibid., p. 64.

was not comfortable. Dr. C. Parvathamma also found that those students who declared their economic situation difficult had their parents who were "less educated" or "without education".

The college study also indicated that most of the respondents, nearly 73.80% of them considered themselves to be highly educated when compared to their brothers and when compared to their sisters, 83.80% considered themselves to be highly qualified. The study also showed the respondents admitted that they did have brothers and sisters who were more qualified than themselves, i.e., 13.40% and 5% respectively.<sup>21</sup>

The rural base of the Scheduled Castes is further indicated in the college study. The study showed that 57.30% of the fathers worked in villages, while 16.5% of the fathers were in service, and it may be assumed that they may not be holding high offices because of their educational level indicated. 81.1% of the mothers held no occupation while 8% indicated that their mothers worked as land labourers or maid servants.<sup>22</sup> Their residence also indicated their rural background. The study showed that 58% of the students lived in villages and a negligible percent (1.1% and 5.7%) lived in the city and towns, respectively. The study also shows that 62.31% live in hostels away from home while most girls lived with their parents. This fact indicates the importance of

---

21 Ibid., p. 65.

22 Ibid., p. 66.



education and the lengths at which one goes in spite of it being not available near their residence.

As mentioned earlier the idea of earn while you learn is not unique among any student. It is universal. Amongst the Scheduled Caste students 98% of the respondents in Dr. Parvathamma's sample, were not employed. Only 1.1% or 3 students were fully employed, while two of them worked as teachers in primary schools. There were only 5 in the whole sample that were employed, 3 full-time and 2 part-time. Four of them earn less than Rs.200/-, while the fifth made no mention of his income. Regarding family obligations, it was indicated that 98% were unemployed. Of the 5 employed only <sup>3</sup> gave more than half their earnings to the family.

Education is not free at the college level, though students belonging to Scheduled Castes are exempted from paying all tuition fees in all Government Colleges and private Government aided colleges. With these special privileges in view, the study indicated that 68.4% were being financed by their parents for education. 26.1% depended solely on scholarships or freeships. 3% indicated that they were being helped by their parents and relatives. 59.2% of the respondents also

---

23 Ibid., p. 67

24 Ibid., p. 68.

25 Ibid.

26 Ibid., p. 69.

indicated that their parents had to spend on other members of the family also towards their education. 40.7% indicated, surprisingly, "that in spite of education being subsidised through scholarships, their parents need not spend any amount for others' education in the family."<sup>27</sup>

One of the incentives for higher education to any student has been his scholarship. Since all Scheduled Caste students within an income bracket are entitled for scholarship/freeship, it was found (in Dr. Parvathamma's study) that 97.6% of the respondents were scholarship holders. 1.5% or 4 students had only a free-ship and two of them were Christians, and thus, not eligible, and the other two may not be in the income bracket. One respondent indicated that "he may get it", the other one did not indicate, but, belongs to a private college.<sup>28</sup>

Thus the researcher has reviewed the background of a sample of High School and College Scheduled Caste students in Karnataka drawn by Dr. C. Rajagopalan and Dr. C. Parvathamma respectively. An analysis of the findings would serve to inform the background of Scheduled Caste students.

A review of Dr. C. Rajagopalan's and Dr. C. Parvathamma has revealed certain facts. An analysis of the review tells us that the main problems a Scheduled Caste student finds while

---

27 Ibid., p. 55 and also p. 70.

28 Ibid., p. 70

pursuing his study are financial inadequacies at home and having illiterate or less-educated parents. These problems have affected many aspiring Scheduled Caste students who have succumbed to the needs at home, i.e. giving financial assistance. It must be stressed that every child is an economic unit and must contribute to the financial needs at home rather than indulge in an activity - education which is considered as time-consuming and luxurious.

Therefore when discussing the Scheduled Castes' problems one has to know their poverty, which, in turn gives rise to inequality. Thus, one must go into other related problems of Scheduled Castes.

#### Problems of the Scheduled Caste Students

It should be very clear here that it is not the purpose of the researcher to describe the unhappy happenings. The researcher's intention is to understand the problems of the Scheduled Castes. It has been 28 years since India got her Independence from the British, and 25 years since it declared itself to be a Republic, with a working Constitution. The intention of the Government of India and all its State Governments was the general upliftment of the people - educationally, socially and economically, with a special preferential treatment

---

29      There is the possibility that bonded labour system ("jeeta") in several parts of Karnataka might have contributed to the lack of enrolment and the heavy incidence of dropping out.

meted out to the Scheduled Castes, Tribes and other Backward Classes. (The researcher here is interested only in the Scheduled Castes.)

The Scheduled Castes till today are not on par with the general population educationally, socially and economically. They suffer from three main problems:

- i) Lack of Education
- ii) Poverty
- iii) Stigma of Untouchability

#### Lack of Education

The educational needs of the children are simple and very fundamental, in order to promote a progressive nation. It must also be admitted here, that, upliftment of Scheduled Castes depends a lot in the field of education. In spite of the advances made since 26 January 1950, "it must be confessed that the progress registered is too small with what should have been."<sup>30</sup>

In Karnataka, the Scheduled Castes constitute 15.40%, but, the literacy rate is a mere 9.06%, according to the 1961 Census figures, while the general population literacy rate was 25.4% (for the same year). This is an indication for the lack of education among the Scheduled Castes.

---

30 See Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, 1968-69, Government of India, New Delhi, p. 1.

Another problem which contributes to this general lack of education amongst the Scheduled Castes is this, that, those who join or enroll themselves in the schools, soon drop-out as early as possible or they are a constant failure in academics and thereby forced to quit. The problem of wastage and stagnation in education is very acute in India, more so in the case of Scheduled Castes. The Kothari Commission has made pointed reference to this aspect of Indian education.<sup>31</sup> In 1968-69, it was reported that stagnation is highest at the primary stage, though it is reduced at the 'Higher Primary Stage'.<sup>32</sup>

Regarding wastage, it was reported that wastage was very high, for example, 56% for boys and 62% for girls and wastage occurs mostly at the lower primary stage, especially at Class-I stage where wastage was about two-third. It was also claimed that wastage was much less at the Higher primary stage, about 24% for boys and 34% for girls.<sup>33</sup> NCERT reported that, the total rate of wastage and stagnation was 65.30% by the time the children reach V-Standard and 78.35% by the time they reach VIII Standard. The incidence of stagnation and

---

31 See Report of the Education Commission (1964-66), Ministry of Education, Government of India, 1966, pp. 154-58.

32 See Report of the Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, 1968-69, p. 159.

33 Ibid.

wastage lessens as the students move from lower to higher  
<sup>34</sup>  
 classes.

The above figures include children belonging to Scheduled Castes along with others, but, if separate figures were available the figures would be higher for Scheduled Castes, than for the rest of the population. The biggest cause for lack of education are drop-outs and failures, thereby, wastage and stagnation. But the problem is not isolated and may be related to poverty or economic backwardness.

#### Economic Backwardness

The Reports of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes indicated that agriculture was the mainstay of the rural folk in India, and more so in the case of the Scheduled Castes. The 1961 Census reported that there were 3.15 crore agricultural labourers in India, out of which 1.04 crore belonged to Scheduled Castes, contributing almost 33.16% of the labour. As one-third of the labouring force in agriculture is formed by the Scheduled Castes, it is very evident that their lot is economically backward. Thus, it may be assumed that the parents of the Scheduled Caste children are very reluctant to send their children to schools because, every member of the family is an economic unit and productive, in terms of helping the day-to-day activities of the household.

---

34      See Wastage and Stagnation in Primary and Middle Schools in India, NCERT, Delhi, 1969.

Thus, the lack of education amongst the Scheduled Caste can be related to this fact.

One of the incentives for higher education to any student has been his scholarship/freeship. The scholarships/freeships awarded to Scheduled Caste students have been very inadequate. In the study conducted by Dr. C. Parvathamma (the college study for the ICSSR), she indicated that 85% of the students she studied complained that the scholarship was not adequate while, 15% claimed adequacy.<sup>35</sup> In the study conducted by Dr. C. Rajagopalan (the High School study for the ICSSR), 79.59% expressed the inadequacy of the scholarships while, 17.34% indicated its adequacy.<sup>36</sup> The inadequacy in the scholarship is another reason for the students to drop-out and take up some job that is more paying than the scholarship. This is done because of the financial need at home. It is wrong to assume here that, the researcher is recommending the enhancement of scholarships, in order to help the student to give a part of it to the family. The inadequacy is only in terms of

---

35 The Study of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe College Students in Karnataka (Sponsored by the ICSSR) - Dr. C. Parvathamma, Department of Post Graduate and Research in Sociology, University of Mysore, Mysore, p. 70.

36 Educational Progress and Problems of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students in Karnataka: High School (Sponsored by the ICSSR) - Dr. C. Rajagopalan, Department of Sociology, Bangalore University, Bangalore-560001, 1974, p. 29.

the student still being a dependent of his family, in spite of the scholarship he receives.

### The Stigma of Untouchability

In spite of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, the practice of untouchability and discrimination against Scheduled Castes is still prevalent. The Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes still receives complaints relating to this evil. The Committee on Untouchability, Economic and Educational Development of Scheduled Castes, appointed by the Government of India, under the Chairmanship of Shri Elaya Perumal, quoted a large number of cases involving practice of untouchability from all parts of the country. Dr. C. Parvathamma in her study (the College student study) also indicated, how the Principal of a Women's College (Government) in Bangalore expressed her prejudiced opinion regarding the Scheduled Castes, who, she thought of being anything but human beings.<sup>37</sup> In October-December 1973, Scheduled Caste students all over Karnataka, especially in Bangalore were being badly beaten up by Caste Hindus because, a Scheduled Caste Minister from the Devaraj Urs Ministry expressed to the Scheduled Caste students in a gathering, the orthodoxy of the Kannada literature and its caste orientation, and advised the Scheduled Caste students to open their minds to literature beyond this (Kannada)

---

37 The study of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe College students in Karnataka (Sponsored by ICSSR) - Dr. C. Parvathamma, Department of Post-Graduate and Research in Sociology, University of Mysore, Mysore, 1974; pp. 12-13.



even if it meant to read Western philosophy and literature.

As long as such discriminations and attacks are practised, not many Scheduled Caste students would like to go beyond their home for education and, thereby, contribute further to the already low literacy rate.

Another reason for the lack of education is this, that, the Scheduled Caste students are disadvantaged before joining school, for the absence of motivating factors, lack of awareness regarding the long-term benefits of education. When he enters school he is again disadvantaged because he has to compete with those students who are already advantaged. The shadow of being an untouchable follows him wherever he goes, thereby making the Scheduled Caste students doubly disadvantaged.

## Chapter V

## CONCLUSION

## Chapter V

### CONCLUSION

The Constitution had this objective of delivering compulsory education for all children upto the age of 14 by 1960. But this task was too big to fulfil, due to the very many difficulties. The Education Commission (1964-66) hoped that this objective of the Constitution could be achieved by 1986. The 35th Meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education discussed the very slow progress being made at the Primary education itself, and had a great desire to examine the whole problem and derive some means of providing free and compulsory education upto the age of 14. The problem was more acute in the case of Scheduled Castes. Because of the problem being very acute in the case of Scheduled Castes, the Government of India sanctioned some privileges in order to promote their education.

Education was given prime importance for the all-round development of Scheduled Castes, because, it was assumed, that only education could cross all obstacles that hinder the development of any community, caste or country.

Now, if we look back at the achievements regarding the upliftment of Scheduled Castes, it must be confessed that since 26 January 1950, very little progress has been registered or is too small when compared to, the general population, or to what could have been done in the past 25 years. We notice in the study that, there has been consistently a differential

response to the privileges provided for their educational development. For example, we find that boys account for better response. And, amongst the boys, urban boys account for better response. As a whole, boys and girls from urban areas respond better to the privileges, when compared to their counterparts in the rural areas. There is a consistent disparity between the urban Scheduled Caste children and rural Scheduled Caste children.

The percentage of literates within the Scheduled Caste population is less than their percentage in the total population, and the disparity between the general population and Scheduled Caste population is rather high. According to the 1961 Census figures, the literacy rate for the country was 24%, while the literacy rate for the all-India Scheduled Caste population was 10.27%. In Karnataka, the literacy rate for the general population, according to the 1961 Census report, was 25.40%, while it was a mere 9.06% for the Scheduled Castes in Karnataka. Thus a disparity exists both at the national level and at the state level.

North Kanara district of Karnataka had the highest literacy rate for the Scheduled Caste in Karnataka, it was 15.40%. The least was in the district of Gulbarga where it was a mere 3.80%. Bangalore, though being the capital of the state, was fourth, with 13.00%.

There is no fixed pattern in the literacy rate for the Scheduled Castes. For example, one cannot conclude that where

there is concentration of Scheduled Castes, their literacy rate would be low but, it has been indicated that, where there is less concentration of Scheduled Castes, literacy rate has been high as well as low.

In the State of Karnataka, it has been noticed that in 15 out of 19 districts, the percentage of literates within the Scheduled Castes was less than their percentage to the general population. For example, in Kolar district the Scheduled Castes constituted 24.73% of the district population, but had a mere 9.60% literacy rate. In Gulbarga, the Scheduled Castes represented 15.57%, and their literacy rate was a mere 3.80%.

The disparity between the general population literacy rate and the Scheduled Caste population literacy rate ranged from a low 8.01% in Mandya to a high 24.82% in Coorg, i.e., disparity was least pronounced in Mandya and most pronounced in Coorg.

It may be said that there is high literacy rate amongst the general population, it is not so in the case of Scheduled Castes in the same area. A case here is the district of Coorg, which has the highest literacy rate in the State, but was not so in the case of the Scheduled Castes, whose literacy was a mere 11.40%, a disparity of 24.87%.

A glaring fact was this that, in 1961, the literacy rate of the Scheduled Castes could not touch the 1951 literacy rate of the general population. There also exists a disparity between the 1961 literacy rate of the Scheduled Castes and the

literacy rate of general population in 1951.

The literacy rate for males in Karnataka, according to 1961 Census, was 42.29% and for females it was 16.70%, a difference of nearly 25.59%. Dharwar had highest literacy rate for males, with 56.13%, and Coorg had the highest literacy rate for females, with 33.35%. Bidar had the lowest literacy rate for males and females with, 28.05% and 5.48% respectively.

Among the Scheduled Castes in Karnataka, in 1961, the literacy rate for males was 14.86%, and for females it was 3.04%. Dharwar had the highest literacy for males with 24.46% and North Kanara had the highest for females, with 7.22%. Gulbarga had the least for males and females, with 7.10% and 0.63% respectively.

As said earlier, there has been a consistent disparity between the rural and urban areas. At the state level, in 1961, the literacy rate for the Scheduled Caste population was 11.44% for males and 1.70% for females. Belgaum had the highest literacy rate for males, with 20.64%, while North Kanara had the highest for females, with 5.55%. Gulbarga had the lowest for males and females, with 5.08% and 0.39% respectively.

In the urban area, the literacy rate for the Scheduled Caste population was 40.33% for males in Belgaum and South Kanara had the highest for females, with 16.87%. Raichur had the lowest literacy rate for males, with 19.83% and for females, it was 2.93% in the district of Gulbarga.

One notices that women fared very low in terms of literacy. The reason could be that, the age old importance given to males is still prevalent both in the rural and urban areas of all districts in Karnataka.

Another fact was this, that, there is a consistent disparity between the males and females within the general population and their counterparts within the Scheduled Castes, both in the urban and rural areas.

Primary education is the foundation for any higher education. Enrolment for primary education at the all-India level for the Scheduled Castes has not been satisfactory and it is so even in most other states. In Karnataka the situation is this, that, if one looks back at the 1961 figures, and compares it to the 1971 figures, there is no indication of progress at all. One whole decade was not enough to make even a 1% increase in enrolment, but, as a matter of fact, enrolment dropped by 0.07%.

Progress in Secondary education is no better. At the all-India level it was anything but impressive. Wastage was very conspicuous.

At the state-level, the figures indicate that the intake of Scheduled Castes at the secondary level lacked intensity. Wastage was at its peak.

Enrolment for college education vastly increased among the general population, and also among the Scheduled Castes since 1961. In Karnataka, it was reported (in 1961) that there

were only 392 Scheduled Castes with degrees or post-graduate degree, Technical degree etc. In 1970-71 there were 6068 Scheduled Caste students at the college level. As usual, boys consistently outnumbered the girls.

Professional education in India, like elsewhere in the world, is not easily available, and there are too many aspiring for it. Even among the Scheduled Caste population this aspiration was there.

In Karnataka, the number of Scheduled Castes in the Professional Courses in 1965-66 was 2074, but in 1970-71, the number had declined to 1487. This decline could be due to the large number of Engineers, Doctors, technicians, teachers etc., being unemployed. Engineering, Medicine and Teaching was most popular amongst the Scheduled Castes in Karnataka. And the sex-wise break-up indicates that the boys outnumber the girls.

Now, if one goes into the background of the Scheduled Caste students in Karnataka, one notices that, most of the students have a rural background. The 1961 Census reports indicate that a majority of the Scheduled Castes live in rural areas and thus it may be assumed that most of the students belong to rural areas. It has also been noticed that their general background is poor, educationally as well as economically. When in school, the Scheduled Caste children are doubly disadvantaged, i.e., they are disadvantaged at home for not having the motivating factors desired, for they are first generation literates. When the Scheduled Caste child enters school, he is disadvantaged



again, because he has to compete with the already advantaged.

The Scheduled Castes are not only disadvantaged educationally, but the other factors which contribute to their being backward are the effects of the Hindu tradition, the evil of untouchability and poverty.

As we analyse the reasons for their backwardness, wastage and stagnation in education, we notice that the Scheduled Castes cannot wait indefinitely to gain better advantages of education, but, are rather impatient to derive the immediate benefit from their education.<sup>1</sup> Knowing their background one also understands that education, for the sake of education, is unproductive and a luxurious pastime. The objective of receiving education is to secure a job and, to escape the traditional occupation or manual labour. But, the increase of educated unemployed has also overtaken the Scheduled Castes and the parents are reluctant to send their children to schools. Another reason for reluctance is that every member of the family is an economic unit and a productive one. Sending their children to school means one productive unit not functioning.

The reason for children being considered as productive economic units in the family is due to poverty giving rise to inequality. It is a fact that economic growth would overwhelm poverty and thereby inequality also. This confidence that

---

1 See Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, 1970-71, Government of India, Delhi, p. 4.

economic growth would benefit the poor and social problems would succumb to this has proved contrary to the expectations. Till today, the problems of the Scheduled Castes have not yet been eradicated. The poverty, the inequality that the Scheduled Caste suffers from, does not assure him housing, jobs and also access to jobs and education for his children. The privileges that the government gives does not give them access to jobs and education. The privileges hold good only within institutions that come under government control or supervision. It is hard to think that all Scheduled Castes will be enrolled only in government run schools and colleges and get employed only in government offices and firms.

It must be admitted that, the problem is difficult but an analysis of the Scheduled Caste problem leads to social policies that would overcome the inequalities generated by poverty. One must be reminded here that the Scheduled Caste's position of inequality is not only due to economic factor but also due to a traditional factor, i.e., the Hindu Caste system which gives rise to untouchability. (This would be dealt with as we go along.)

Schools in rural areas are mostly situated or located near Taluk Headquarters and students have to come from far off villages. Due to no proper communication facilities and good roads, it is rather difficult to attend regularly. This factor is discouraging and overtakes the students interest to study.

To sum up the causes of low literacy rate amongst the

Scheduled Castes is that

i) The extreme poverty of the Scheduled Castes makes the outlay for education difficult even for the state governments, in their attempt to support education required for progress.

ii) The Indian economy till today is agricultural in character and the Scheduled Castes contribute the largest labour force and this makes education itself of less value.

iii) Besides this, parents see it as being non-profitable by sending their children to school while they can add more income to the family.

iv) Another problem which is an added burden to education is the large number of children belonging to the school-going age. This is due to the growth of population.

v) It must be accepted that there are grave disparities between different states/districts with respect to providing educational facilities to the Scheduled Castes. The educational facilities are not properly distributed between urban and rural areas and is always disadvantageous to the latter thereby creating a consistent disparity with respect to literacy.

vi) Another major reason for lack of education amongst Scheduled Caste children is wastage and dropping out. Wastage occurs in the first few years at the primary stage of education because parents withdraw their children from schools to help in cultivation, shepherding etc. This problem could be solved, to a large extent, if the school vacation and school hours are

synchronised to agricultural seasons of harvesting and sowing in order to accommodate children who mostly come from a household, that is dependent on agriculture.<sup>2</sup>

In order to develop the lot of Scheduled Castes, the privileges must be reviewed and more must be given because the privileges are most inadequate. The 'privileges' or 'concessions' as such are actually not privileges simply because, the disadvantaged Scheduled Caste has to compete with the already advantaged.

Untouchability is now illegal and a few ex-untouchables hold very responsible positions. A large number of Scheduled Castes are still 'untouchables' and are repressed or humiliated. It must be reminded here that legal changes do not necessarily effect changes in attitudes or economic status.

In spite of "The Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955", reports in the press gives a lot of evidence on the still rampant problem of untouchability. The Economic and Political Weekly, dated 19 January 1974 (pp. 51-52) reported attacks on Dalit Panthers - a group of militant Scheduled Castes who started a movement in Bombay and other parts of Maharashtra to uplift the Scheduled Castes. The Times of India, dated 14 February 1975 (p. 4) reported that, in Dhakli village in Maharashtra, a gang of "seven or eight persons gouged out the eyes of two neo-Buddhists..." (Mahar community) all because they were

---

2 It may be recalled that during Hanumanthiah's Chief Ministership, this was attempted. The experiment did not succeed because of certain administrative problems and also due to the difficulty of accommodating this

Scheduled Castes. The paper also reported a section of the study conducted by Dr. Gare of the Gokhale Institute of Economics wherein he showed that "over 90% of the members of Scheduled Castes still stay outside the precincts of the village. Only 50% can draw water from public wells while 25% are still denied entry into public eating places. Even where entry is permitted they are made to sit on separate benches and served in different utensils."<sup>3</sup>

One of the glaring contradictions in the Constitution is outlawing or forbidding discrimination based on caste, while the caste-system itself has not been banned.

All Reports of the Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have indicated that "socio-economic" achievements of Scheduled Castes are far behind the goal to claim "Scheduled Castes have been uplifted!" One cannot question the various measures taken by the Government to improve their lot but, the fact remains that they have not yet been uplifted, and no progress has reached an appreciable extent and the gap between the Scheduled Castes and the general population

---

system to all-India educational pattern. So the new facility was withdrawn after two or three years of its inception.

3 Dr. Gare's study is based on a survey of 4475 families conducted in 206 villages in Maharashtra. The communities covered in the study included, neo-Buddhists, Mahars, Chamaars, Dhors, Bhangis, Holars, Ramoshis, Wadars etc.).

has consistently widened.<sup>4</sup>

Now, unless and until radical measures are taken, the lot of Scheduled Castes will get bad to worse. Priorities have to be maintained. Constitutional amendments have to be made with respect to caste system.

To sum up, all-out efforts must be made in the right direction for the development of Scheduled Castes before the problem takes the form of a crisis. For this, there must be a change in thinking in all policy matters. Right thinking cannot be explained, but the researcher wishes to quote Smt. Indira Gandhi:

As in family, the parents look upon their children with equal affection but a sick child get additional attention, similarly, in society the weaker sections have to be nursed by giving some preferential treatment and the privileged sections should make sacrifices willingly for the welfare of the have-nots. All sections of people, including the intelligentsia, youth and women should work to this end.

---

4 See Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, 1970-71, Government of India, Delhi, p. 1.

## AFTERWORD

We are living in an age of restlessness, confusion and petty-mindedness. Everywhere we see restless youth, agitated students, revolutionary movements, sermons for justice and the rest of them. Our age, the twentieth century, is an age of protest and movements against oppression, exploitation and social misery that have dominated the world for years. The age of Enlightenment and the French Revolution gave us all the ideas of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, and till today, these ideas have not yet been put to practice, be it in a Socialistic or a Communistic state or for that matter even in a country that pledges Democracy.

In India, inequality is inherent. It is a part of her tradition. Now it is very true that society itself is a group of unequal beings. It is also a fact that in any reproducing creatures, equality of individuals is anything but a possibility. It is a natural impossibility. But can inequality be based upon genetically determined castes? This can be allowed among insects but not on human beings. What about equality of opportunity? Every man must be granted equal opportunity to display his genius or to make a fool of himself.

We know, and it is a fact that, a society of equals is a natural impossibility, but a just society is very much a realizable goal. Isn't it so? The just society, to be clear, is one in which sufficient order protects members of the society

irrespective of their caste, class, colour or religion. The order also provides every individual with full opportunity to develop his full self, whatever that may be.

Indian society is ailing. At one time it was believed that the spreading of learning all over the country would root out the darkness of the mind and heart, but despite the promotion of knowledge, there are vast patches of twilight and even gloom in the being of men and the growing number of heinous crimes, the vicious epidemic of parochiality, casteism and dishonesty are its constant blundering companions.

Perfection is a myth but, striving for perfection is surely a reality.



**APPENDIX**

APPENDIX

List of Castes in Karnataka

Caste	Synonym	Sub-caste
Adi Andhra		
Adi Dravida	Balagai	
Adi Karnataka	Yedagai	
Ager		
Ajila		
Baira		
Baked		
Bakuda		
Bathada		
Beda Jangam	Budga Jangam	
Bellara		
Bhangi	Halalkhor; Mehtar; Thoti; Zadmali	
Bhovi (of the districts of Bangalore, Bellary, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore - except Kollegal Taluk, Shimoga & Tumkur)	Bovi	
Dakkaliga		
Dhor	Kakkayya	
GHANTI CHORE (of the districts of Bangalore, Bellary, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore - except Kollegal Taluk, Shimoga & Tumkur)		
Godda		

HANDI JOGI (of the districts of Bangalore, Bellary, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore - except Kollegal Taluk, Shimoga & Tumkur)

Hasla

Holeya

Holaya; Holer

Byagara; Chalvadi; Halasvar or Hulasvar; Holeyadasar; Kukkaholeya; Mundala; Nalakadaya; Nalakeyava

Jambuvulu

Kalladi

KEPMARI (of the districts of Bangalore, Bellary, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore - except Kollegal Taluk, Shimoga & Tumkur)

Koosa

KORACHA (of the districts of Bangalore, Bellary, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore - except Kollegal Taluk, Shimoga & Tumkur)

KORAMA (of the districts of Bangalore, Bellary, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore - except Kollegal Taluk, Shimoga & Tumkur)

Kudumban

Pallan

Kotegar

Metri

Kuravan

Machala

Korar

Madiga	Madar; Mang; Matang; Mini- madiga	Adi Jambava; Baindla; Channayya; Chennadasar; Chindhollu or Sindhollu; Mang Garodi or Mang Garudi; Yellammala- wandlu or Yellammala- waru
Mahar		
Maila		
Mala		Aray Mala; Arwa Mala; Maladasari; Malahannai; Malajangam; Malamasti; Mala Sale or Netkani; Mala Sanyasi
Masthi		
Meghval	Menghvar	
Moger		
Mukri	Haller	
Pale		
Pambada		
Panniandi		
Paravan	Parava; Paraya; Parayan	
Raney ar		
Samagara	Chakkiliyan; Chamar; Cham- bagar; Cham- bhar; Machigar; Madari; Mochi; Mochigar; Muchi; Muchigar; Rohi- das	Arya; Samagara; Haralayya-Samagara; Lingawant Samagara

SILLEKYATHA (of the districts of Bangalore, Bellary, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore - except Kollegal Taluk, Shimoga & Tumkur)

SUDUGADU SIDHA (of the districts of Bangalore, Bellary, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore - except Kollegal Taluk, Shimoga & Tumkur)

Tirgar

Tirbanda

---

Source: The Report of the Advisory Committee on the Revision of the Lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Government of India, Department of Social Security, Delhi, 1967, pp. 76-79.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Ambedkar, B.R., What Congress and Gandhi have done to the Untouchables, Thacker & Co., Bombay, 1925.
- 
- , Gandhi and emancipation of the Untouchables, Bheem Patrika Publications, Jullundur, 1943.
- 
- , The Untouchables: Who are they and why they became untouchables, Amrit Book Co., New Delhi, 1948.
- 
- , Annihilation of Caste (with a reply to Mahatma Gandhi), Bheem Patrika Publications, Jullundur, 1971.
- Anant, Santosh Singh, Changing Concept of Caste in India, Vikas Publications, New Delhi, 1971.
- "Attack on Dalit Panthers", Economic and Political Weekly, 19 January 1974.
- Beeby, C.E., The Quality of Education in Developing Countries, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1966.
- Beck, Carlton E., Perspectives on World Education, Worn C. Brown Co. Publishers, 1970 (Chapter INDIA), pp. 152-64.
- Beteille, Andre, ed., Social Inequality, Penguin Books Ltd., Middlesex, 1969.
- Biswas, Arabinda and Agarwal, Suren (Editors), Indian Educational Documents since Independence, The Academic Publishers (India), New Delhi, 1971.
- Blackham, H.J., Humanism, Penguin Books Ltd., Middlesex, 1968.
- Bose, Devabarta, Problems of Indian Society, Popular Publishing House, Bombay, 1968.
- Brimer, M.A., and Pauli, L., Wastage in Education: A World Problem, UNESCO-IBE, Paris-Geneva, 1971.
- Burman, B.K. Roy, Social Mobility Movements among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in India, Registrar General of India, Home Ministry, New Delhi, 1970.

- Census - 1951, vol. 14, Part I, Census Commissioner, Government of Mysore, Bangalore, 1954.
- Census - 1961, vols. I (Part - V-A(1) and XI (Part V-A), Registrar General of India, Government of India, New Delhi.
- Chitnis, Suma, Literacy and Educational Enrolment among Scheduled Castes in Maharashtra, Unit of Research in Sociology of Education, T.I.S.S., Bombay, 1974.
- Constitution of India (Commemorative Edition), Government of India, Ministry of Law and Justice, New Delhi, 1973.
- "Dalit Panthers: Another View", Economic and Political Weekly, 4 May 1974, pp. 715-16.
- Das, Amal Kumar, "Occupations and Literacy among Scheduled Castes in West Bengal", Mainstream: Annual 1971, pp. 37-40.
- Dumont, Louis, Homohierarchicus, Weidenfeld and Nicolson Ltd., 1970.
- Dushkin L., "Removal of Disabilities", Economic Weekly, vol. XIII, 1961, pp. 1695-1709.
- \_\_\_\_\_, "Future of Special Treatment", Economic Weekly, November 1961-B, pp. 1729-38.
- \_\_\_\_\_, "Special Treatment Policy", Economic Weekly, vol. XIII, 1961, pp. 1965-66.
- Education Development in Fourth Plan (1969-74), Government of India, New Delhi, 1968.
- Education and National Development (Education Commission Report, 1964-66), NCERT, New Delhi, 1971.
- Education in Developing countries of the Commonwealth - Reports of Research in Education, Education in Commonwealth - No. 6, Commonwealth Secretariat, London, 1973, Part-1, Chapter 1, pp. 1-12.
- Education in India (vol. I), 1964-65, Government of India, Ministry of Education and Youth Services, New Delhi, 1970.



- Freire, Paulo, Pedagogy of the Oppressed, Penguin Books Ltd., Middlesex, 1970.
- Galanter, Marc, "Equality and 'Protective Discrimination' in India", Rutgers Law Review, XVI, 1-Fall, 1961, pp. 42-74.
- Gould, Harold A., "Castes and Outcastes and the Sociology of Stratification", International Journal of Comparative Sociology, September 1960, pp. 220-30.
- Goodman, Paul, Compulsory Miseducation, Penguin Books Ltd., Middlesex, 1973.
- Griffin, Willis H., and Pareek, Udai, The Process of Planned Change in Education, Somaiya Publications Pvt. Ltd., Bombay, 1970.
- Handbook on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Government of India, Office of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, New Delhi, 1969.
- Handbook of Scholarships and Educational Concessions for Students in Mysore State - 1969, Department of Education, Bangalore, Mysore State (Karnataka).
- Harrison, Selig S., India: The most dangerous decades, Princeton University Press, 1960.
- Hutton, J.H., Caste in India, Oxford Press, London, 1969 (4th Edition).
- Illich, Ivan, Celebration of Awareness, Penguin Books Ltd., Middlesex, 1969.
- \_\_\_\_\_, Deschooling Society, Penguin Books Ltd., Middlesex, 1970.
- India (1951-1974), Publications Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, New Delhi.
- Isaacs, Harold R., India's ex-Untouchables, Asia Publishing House, Bombay, 1965.
- Kneller, George F., ed., Foundations of Education (Chapter V: "Education for Minorities" - Simon Gonzalez), Wiley, New York, 1971.

- Krishnamurti, J., Aims of Education and the Significance of Life, Victor Gollancz Ltd., London, 1968.
- "Law and Caste in Modern India", Asian Survey, vol. III, 11 November 1963.
- Leach, Edmund, "Caste, Class and Slavery", in Caste and Race, Ciba Foundation, Zurich.
- Madan, T.N., and Halbar, B.G., "Caste and Community in the private and public education of Mysore State", in Education and Politics in India, Rudolph and Rudolph, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 1972, pp. 121-47.
- Mahar, Michael J., ed., Untouchables in Contemporary India, Tucson, Arizona, 1972.
- Murthy, B.S., Depressed and Oppressed: Forever in agony, S. Chand Publications, New Delhi, 1971.
- Naik, J.P., Education in Fourth Plan: Review and Perspective, Nachiketa Publication, Bombay, 1968.
- \_\_\_\_\_, Education of the Scheduled Castes (1965-66), Occasional Monographs: 6, ICSSR, New Delhi, 1971.
- Narayan, Shriman, Toward a Better Education, Navajivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad, 1969.
- Oommen, T.K., "Strategy for Social Change: A Study of Untouchability", Economic and Political Weekly, 22 June 1968, pp. 933-36.
- Padmanabha, P., Portrait of Population - Mysore, Government of India, New Delhi, 1971.
- Parvathamma, C., "Social Stratification, Traditional Values and Forces in Contemporary India", Social Democracy (1970), New Delhi.
- \_\_\_\_\_, Social Equality in India: Caste and Untouchability, ICSSR Seminar, Hyderabad, 1971.
- \_\_\_\_\_, The Case for Indian Untouchables, United Asia, Bombay.

Parvathamma, C., The Problems of Inequality and Social Justice in relation to development, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, 1972.

\_\_\_\_\_, The Study of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students in Karnataka (College Students), Department of Post-Graduate Studies and Research in Sociology, University of Mysore, Mysore, 1974.

Pickering, George, The Challenge to Education, Penguin Books Ltd., Middlesex, 1967.

Pannikar, K.M., Hindu Society at Cross Roads, Asia Publishing House, New Delhi, 1967.

Rajagopalan, C., Educational Progress and Problems of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students in Karnataka (High School), Department of Sociology, Bangalore University, Bangalore, 1974.

Rao, V.K.R.V., "Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes", Tribal Research Institute Bulletin, vol. I, No. 1, Udaipur, October 1964.

Report(s) of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Annual Reports, 1957-73), Government of India, New Delhi.

· Report of the Advisory Committee on the Revision of the Lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Government of India, Department of Social Security, New Delhi.

· Report of the Backward Class Commission (vol. II), Government of India, New Delhi, 1956.

· Report of the Committee of MP's on Education - 1967: National Policy on Education, Government of India, New Delhi, 1956.

Report of the Committee on Untouchability Economic and Educational Development of Scheduled Castes and Connected Documents - 1969, Government of India, Department of Social Welfare, New Delhi.

- ✓ Ribich, Thomas I., Education and Poverty, The Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C., 1968.
- ✓ Russell, Bertrand, Education and the Good Life, Avon Book Division, New York, 1926.
- Saiyidin, K.G., The Humanist Tradition in Indian Educational Thought, Asia Publishing House, Bombay, 1966.
- Second all-India Educational Survey, NCERT, New Delhi, 1967.
- Schermerhorn, R.A., "Scheduled Caste Welfare: Public Priorities in States", in Economic and Political Weekly, 22 February 1969, pp. 397-401.
- ✓ Shrikant, L.M., "Education of Backward Classes", in The Second Indian Year Book of Education - Elementary Education, NCERT, New Delhi, 1964.
- Sorokin, P.A., Social and Cultural Mobility, Free Press, Glencoe, Illinois, 1959.
- ✓ Singh, Yogendra, Modernization of Indian Tradition, Thomson Press, New Delhi, 1973.
- Srinivas, M.N., ed., Seminar on Casteism and Untouchability, Indian Conference of Social Work, New Delhi.
- \_\_\_\_\_, "Social Structure", The Gazetteer of India, vol. I, Government of India, New Delhi, pp. 501-77.
- \_\_\_\_\_, Caste in Modern India (and other essays), Asia Publishing House, Bombay, 1970.
- "The Problem of group membership: Some Reflections on Judicial View of Indian Society", The Journal of Indian Law Institute, vol. IV, no. 3, July-September 1962.
- Tumin, M.M., "Social Stratification", in A Dictionary of Social Sciences, edited by Gould and Kolb, Free Press, Glencoe, Illinois, 1964, pp. 695-97.

Tumin, M.M., Social Stratification, Prentice Hall of India Pvt., Ltd., New Delhi, 1969.

Wastage and Stagnation in Primary and Middle Schools in India, NCERT, New Delhi, 1969.

Whitehead, A.N., The Aims of Education, The Macmillan Co., New York, 1929.