

INCLUSIVE GROWTH OF SCHEDULED CASTE POPULATION IN KARNATAKA

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Abstract -The Government of India under the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) laid more emphasis on faster and more inclusive growth strategy with its planned document. Inclusive growth is a process of broad based benefits and development of fruits should be reached poorer strata or bottom of the pyramid, specially focused on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, by providing basic amenities such as health, education, sanitation, and pure drinking water facilities. Both the Central and State Governments have been implemented various welfare and developmental programmes for the sake of welfare of Scheduled Caste, ever since Independence, despite the efforts made by both the Governments, even today the Scheduled Caste population failed to get Government facilities and excluded from the development process. It is evidence from the statistical data proved that, the Socio-Economic indicators of SCs in Karnataka has shown gradually increasing trend over the independence but as compared general population there is widening gap. Hence to minimize the gap between SCs and general population there is urgent need to effectively and efficiently implement of development programmes and active participation of Scheduled caste in the process of development for sustained and more inclusive growth of Scheduled Caste in Karnataka.

The objectives of the present study are to assess the growth of Scheduled Caste population during the census period from 1981 to 2011 and to analyze the Socio-Economic Conditions of Scheduled Caste population in Karnataka. The intended study is based on the secondary data which have been gathered from various books, journals and periodicals, Economic Survey of Karnataka, Karnataka Development Report, websites, articles, and various census reports.

Keywords: Inclusive growth, Scheduled Caste population, Development, Karnataka.

1. Introduction

The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) in India laid more emphasis on faster and more inclusive growth strategy with its planned document. Inclusive growth is a process of broad based benefits and development of fruits should be reached poorer strata or bottom of the pyramid, specially focused on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, minorities, persons with disabilities and women by providing basic amenities such as health, education, sanitation, and pure drinking water without provide basic amenities among these categories the word inclusive growth is a meaningless. Since Independence both the central and State Governments have been designed various welfare and developmental programmes for the sake of welfare of these categories, but till today the Scheduled Caste failed to get Government facilities and excluded from the development process. Inclusive growth is concerned with the Pro-poor growth, growth with equity aimed at poverty reduction, human development, and universal access to health and provides opportunity to work and be creative. The allocation of resource and create more employment opportunity to the needy people, especially marginalized section of the society. The poverty reduction, universal access to education and training both these categories also to provide financial inclusion for their economic activities to create more opportunity and active participation to them in the process of development to the bottom of the pyramid. From the above back drop the intended study Inclusive Growth of Scheduled Caste population in Karnataka is attempted at.

2. Review of Literature

Many studies have been undertaken on Socio-Economic conditions of Scheduled Castes in India as well as in Karnataka. Some of the earlier studies are briefly reviewed here under for getting insight of the topic.

Krishnaiah Chetty (1991), in his study on *Scheduled Caste and Development Programmes in India* made an impact analysis of the programs on the development of Scheduled Caste in Andhra Pradesh, especially in the sectors of agriculture, animal husbandry and the tertiary occupation. He found that the development finance has played a vital role in providing increased output, increased net income and improved asset position of the Scheduled Castes.

Pushpa Kumari (1991), in her study on *Poverty Alleviation and Rural Harijans*, tried to discover the socio-economic conditions of rural Harijans. She found that higher percentage of the people belonging to nuclear family and also majority of the beneficiaries and the non-beneficiaries were living in huts or in Katcha houses. Majority of the beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries belong to agriculture labour and lower class.

Sankaran (1998), in his study on *Development of Scheduled Caste in Andhra Pradesh-Emerging Issues*, indicated that in Andhra Pradesh the Madigas are more backward and are lagging behind when compared to the Malas in terms of the space occupied in the services and in higher education and also in terms of other socio-economic indicators. Further, he explained that it was not a Mala vs Madiga issue. There is no doubt a contradiction has emerged and even led to conflict between the Madigas and Malas.

Gangadhar (2005), in his study on *Scheduled Caste Population: A Study of the Adikarnatakas Scheduled Caste Population of Mysore City* opines that the Adikarnataka, an endogamous group in Karnataka are spread all over the state. They are economically very poor. Generally they used to live outside the main village in the past. But as a result of modernization and provision of constitutional safeguards by the Government, now they are live in the neighborhood of upper castes, particularly in urban centers.

A study entitled *Housing Problems of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Families in Karnataka: An Alternative Framework* by Mahadeva (2008), viewed that Social housing schemes, being the only avenue of meeting the housing needs have been very ineffective in terms of the coverage due to inadequate financing by the government. Further, he argued that the public expenditure has not increased correspondingly to the housing needs. During the 90s the problem of housing of these sections has emerged as a major predicament for the state of Karnataka.

3. Objectives

The following objectives have been set for the study:

1. To assess the growth of Scheduled Caste population in Karnataka during the census period from 1981 to 2011
2. To Analyze the Socio-Economic Conditions of Scheduled Caste population in Karnataka.

4. Scope

The present study geographically restricted to Karnataka. The issue related to the Inclusive Growth of Scheduled Caste population in Karnataka has been taken up for analysis.

5. Methodology

The intended study is based on the secondary data which have been gathered from various books, journals and periodicals, Economic Survey of Karnataka, Karnataka Development Report 2007, websites, articles, and various census reports and published sources.

1. Growth of Scheduled Caste Population in Karnataka

The table 1 presents the details of the growth of SC population in Karnataka.

Table1
Growth Rate of SC population in Karnataka 1981-2011

Year	SC
1981	15.07
1991	16.38
2001	16.2
2011	17.1

Source : 1. 1981,1991, 2001 and 2011, Census Reports of India, Primary Census Abstract, General Population Series-II, Karnataka, Part-B(1), Directorate of Census of Operation in Karnataka, Census Report of India. 2. Evaluation Study on Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) (2013), Planning Commission Programme, Evaluation Organization, Government of India, New Delhi, pp. 110-130.3.Census of India 2001, Reproduced in Human Development Status among Social Groups in India and Karnataka, p. 60. Data downloaded from <http://www.google.com> dated on 03.11.2014 at 10.30 p.m.

The information provided in Table1 show the growth rate of SC population in Karnataka. The growth rates of SCs were highest as per 2011 census when compared to other census reports. The SC population grew at the rate of 16.2 per cent from 1981 to 1991, and at the rate of 17.1 per cent from 2001 to 2011. The reason for this is the measures taken by the Government reduce infant mortality; provide basic health facilities and so on during various plan periods.

2. Decadal Growth Rate of SC in Karnataka

Another important indicator of demographic characters of SC and general population is the decadal growth in the State. The details of decadal growth rate have been shown in Table 2.

Table 2
Decadal Growth Rate of SC population in Karnataka, 1981-2011

Year	Decadal Growth Rate	
	SC	Total population
1981-1991	31.70	21.12
1991-2001	16.2	17.51
2001-2011	22.3	15.6

Source: 1. Registrar General of India, Census 1991 and 2001, Reproduced in Karnataka Human Development Report 2005, p. 237. 2. Economic Survey of Karnataka 2010-11, Department of Planning, Programme Monitoring and Statistics, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru, pp. 265-266 and 361.

Table 2 shows the decadal growth rate among SCs in Karnataka. The decadal growth rate was found to be 31.70 per cent between 1981 and 1991 and 16.2 per cent 1991-2001 further 22.3 per cent between 2001 and 2011 Census.

3. Sex Ratio of SC in Karnataka

Sex ratio is defined as the number of females per 1000 males. It is one of the basic demographic characteristics, which is vital for any demographic analysis. The details of sex ratio of SCs are presented in Table 3.

Table 3
Sex Ratio of SC population 1991-2011

Year	Sex Ratio (Females per 1000 Males)	
	SC	Total Population
1991	962	969
2001	973	965
2011	990	973

Source : 1. Registrar General of India, Census 1991 and 2001, Reproduced in Karnataka, Human Development Report 2005, p. 237., 2. Economic Survey of Karnataka 2010-11, Department of Planning, Programme Monitoring and Statistics, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru, p. 361. Census of India 2011 - Provisional Population Totals.p16. 3. Men and Women in Karnataka 2013-14, Government of Karnataka Publications, Training and Co-ordination Division, Directorate Economics and Statistics, Bengaluru, p. 42.

It can be observed from Table 3 that the general sex ratio in Karnataka has increased from 969 in 1991 to 973 in 2011. The sex ratio among SC has been 990 being higher than that of the general population of 973. As per the 2001 Census, it was 965. There has been apparent improvement in the sex ratio for SCs. This may be because the Government has taken several steps for improving the health status of women of SCs, safe parenthood and increased awareness.

4. Literacy Rate among SC and General population

Article 46 of the Constitution of India ensures the promotion of educational and economic interests of the weaker sections, in particular of the SC and STs and protects them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. The details about literacy rate among the SC are presented in Table 4.

Table 4
Literacy Rate of SC and general population (1981-2011)

Year	Particulars		Literacy Gap SCs and General
	Scheduled Castes	General Population	
1981	27.62	46.21	18.59
1991	38.02	56.04	18.02
2001	52.9	66.64	13.74
2011	65.33	75.60	10.27

Note: Literacy rates for 1951, 1961 and 1971 related to population aged five years and above. The literacy rates for the years 1981 to 2011 related to the population aged seven years and above.

Source : 1. Registrar General of India, Census 1961,1971and 1981,1991 and 2001, Reproduced in Karnataka Human Development Report 2005, p. 237., 2.Economic Survey of Karnataka 2010-11, Department of Planning, Programme Monitoring and Statistics, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore pp. 265-266., 3.Statistical Profile of Scheduled Tribes in India 2013, p. 158.,4.Mohammed Ashfaq Ahamed (2014), Disparities in Literacy Rate of Dalits in Karnataka – An Inter-district Level Analysis, An International Peer Reviewed Scholarly Research Journal for Interdisciplinary Studies, Vol. II/XIII, p. 1735. Census of India 2011 - Provisional Population Totals.p 28

The literacy rate of SCs has increased from 27.62 per cent in 1981 to 65.33 per cent in 2011, registering an increase of 37.71 percentage points in three decades. The literacy rate for the general population increased from 46.21 per cent to 75.60 per cent in the same period. It is observed that the literacy gap between the general population and SC population is narrowing down. This is due to the steps taken by both the central and state governments for the improvement of literacy.

5. School Drop-out Rates of SC population in Karnataka

The drop-out rate is another indicator of educational condition among the children belonging to SC in Karnataka. The details of the drop-out in Karnataka State are presented in Table 5.

Table 5.
Drop-out Rates in Lower Primary and Higher Primary Level for SCs in Karnataka (2012-13)

(In percentage)

Stages	All Children	All Boys	All Girls	SC All	SC Boys	SC Girls
Lower Primary	1.19	1.21	1.17	0.55	0.38	0.74
Higher Primary	4.35	4.08	4.64	4.56	4.56	4.94
Total	5.54	5.29	5.81	5.11	4.94	5.68

Source : 1. Economic Survey of Karnataka 2012-13, Department of Planning, Programme Monitoring and Statistics, Government of Karnataka Bengaluru, p. 559., 2. Education in Karnataka State, 2011-12, A State-Level and District-wise Analytical Report, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Karnataka Office of the State Project Director, New Public Offices, Nrupathunga Road, K.R. Circle, Bengaluru, p. 23.

The statistical data provided in Table 5 about drop-out rates of SCs in lower primary and higher primary level in Karnataka. The drop-out rate for SCs at lower primary level was 0.55 per cent and at higher primary level it was 4.56 per cent as against 1.19 percent at lower primary level and 4.35 per cent at higher primary level for the total population. This may be due to the parent ignorance about the need for education and due to poverty.

6. Health and Nutrition of SCs in Karnataka

Health is an important human development indicator and has a great significance in the overall development of the state. Achieving and maintaining health is an important and ongoing process. The Government of Karnataka has given due importance to the health sector during the last few years. The SC and STs are the disadvantaged sections in the State of Karnataka. They are deprived of health and nutrition facilities in the state. The National Family Health Survey (NFHS III) data reveals that, 75 per cent of SCs children and 52.3 per cent women are anemic. In addition to these, the percentage of institutional deliveries at 54.1 per cent is also low and needs attention. The analysis of Body Mass Index (BMI) figures for women highlights that SCs women had high prevalence of acute under-nutrition at 40.6 per cent.

7. Work Participation Rate (WPR) and Economic Status of SCs in Karnataka

The Work Participation Rate (WPR) is defined as the proportion of total workers i.e., percentage of main and marginal workers to total population. The details of Work Participation Rate of SCs and general population are presented in Table 6.

Table 6
Gender-wise Occupational Distribution of SCs in Karnataka (2011)

(In percentage)

Particulars	All Population		SC	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total workers	65.55	34.45	50.26	49.74
Main workers	69.88	30.12	64.01	35.99
Marginal workers	42.91	57.09	43.63	56.37

Source: Statistical Profile of Scheduled Tribes in India (2013), p.158 ; Census of India Reproduced in Statistical Profile of Scheduled Tribes in India, 2013, Ministry of Tribal Affairs Statistics Division Government of India, New Delhi, pp. 251-253.

The information given in Table 6 shows that 65.55 per cent of male and 34.45 per cent of female population in Karnataka are workers. About 69.88 per cent of male and 30.12 per cent female are main workers and 42.91 per cent of male and 57.09 per cent of female are marginal workers. In case of SCs 50.26 per cent of male and 49.74 per cent of female are workers of which 64.01 per cent male and 35.99 per cent female are main workers and 43.63 per cent male and 56.37 per cent female are marginal workers.

8. Distribution of Marginal Workers of SCs and Total population

The details of distribution of marginal workers of SC and total population in the State are presented in Table 7.

Table 7
Distribution of Marginal Workers of SCs in Karnataka during 2011

(In percentage)

Particulars	Total Population	SC
Cultivators	12.12	6.80
Agriculture Labourers	37.53	6.80
Household workers	3.90	32.58
Other workers	61.01	3.66

Source: Census of India 2011 Reproduced in Statistical Profile of Scheduled Tribes in India (2013), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Statistics Division, Government of India, New Delhi, p. 254.

The statistics provided in Table 7 shows that about 6.80 per cent of SCs are Cultivators in the State as per 2011 census which was 12.12 per cent for the total population in the State. Further, 6.80 per cent of SCs are agricultural labourers as against 37.53 per cent for the entire population. 3.66 per cent of SCs and 61.01 per cent of all are other workers.

9. Poverty Ratio of Scheduled Castes

The Economic Survey of Karnataka 2013-14 reveal that the poverty in Karnataka has been 20.91 per cent. The Economic Survey concluded that "nearly half of these two (SC and ST) social categories are poor whereas it is only a sixth for all other households. Table 8 provides the details of the poverty among SCs in Karnataka.

Table 8
Poverty Ratio of SCs in Karnataka, 2004-05, 2009-10 and 2011-12
(In percentage)

Year	SCs		All	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
2004-05	57.4	41.2	37.5	25.9
2009-10	35.6	29.5	26.1	19.5
2011-12	37.1	25.0	24.5	15.3

Source: Planning Commission and Authors' Calculations. Data Compiled from Aravind Panagariya (2013), Poverty by Social, Religious and Economic Groups in India and its Largest State 1993-94 to 2011-12, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy (ISERP), Working Paper No. 2013-02, pp. 37-38.

It can be observed from the Table 8 that, both rural and urban poverty of SCs and all groups has declined between 2004-05 and 2011-12. The rural poverty for SCs declined from 57.4 per cent in 2004-05 to 37.1 per cent in 2011-12 and the urban poverty declined from 41.2 per cent to 25.0 per cent in the same period. It is clear from the above that the poverty ratios are declining during the above said period of SCs and general population in the State.

10. Housing Condition of SC

The details of housing condition of SCs are presented in Table 9.

Table 9
Housing Condition of SCs in Karnataka as per 2001 Census

(In percentage)

Condition of House	SC	General
Permanent	51.09	54.94
Semi-permanent	36.65	35.52
Temporary	12.02	9.51
Un- classified	0.04	0.02

Source: Census of India 2001, Register General of India, Reproduced in Human Development Status among Social Groups in India and Karnataka, p. 65. Data downloaded from <http://www.google.com> dated on 11.03.2014 at 10.31 p.m.

It can be seen from the Table 9 that, Housing Condition of SCs in Karnataka. About 51.09 per cent of SCs permanent houses and 36.65 per cent of SCs dwell in semi-permanent house compared with all household 35.52 per cent. SCs are the higher per cent live in semi-permanent house than total. About temporary house SCs 12.2 per cent is higher than 9.51 per cent total household. Completely, we can say that 12.2 per cent of SCs live in temporary houses.

11. Sources of Drinking Water to SC Households

As per 2001 census 90 percent of SC households in Karnataka have access to safe drinking water of which 88.44 per cent of the SC households in rural and 94.6 per cent in urban Karnataka have access to safe drinking water. Around 27 per cent rural house holds 14 per cent urban households do not have access to drinking water nearer to their premises.

Tap water constitutes the main source of drinking water about 58.39 for all households. Access to drinking water by tap within the premises is high for all households 24.1 than for SCs 12.6 per cent.

12. Percentage of SC Households having Access to Electricity

As far as access to electricity connection is concerned Karnataka state has performed well in the providing electricity to SCs. As per 2001 census about 68.50 per cent of SCs household's households had access to electricity in Karnataka. According to the 2001 Census, a total 68.5 per cent of SC households in Karnataka had electricity as a source of lighting, compared with 78.5 per cent for all households.

13. Access to Sanitation Facilities to SC

Insanitary surroundings contribute to the propagation of illness, leading to high morbidity rates, which decrease the output. As per 2011 census, 68 per cent of SCs households' do not have access to toilets and 24.5 per cent of SC households had no bathroom facility within their premises. About 37.6 per cent of SC households had waste water outlets connected to open drainage systems while 46.8 per cent of SC households had no drainage system connections for waste water disposal. Thus, there is a need to improve the hygiene and sanitation situation among vulnerable groups in Karnataka.

14. Findings:

Based on the above analysis some of the useful findings have been made as under:

- The growth rates and sex ratio of SC population was found higher when compared to general population in the State.
- It is found that the literacy rate of SCs has increased to 65.33 per cent from 27.62 per cent during the census period from 1981 to 2011 but there is gap as compares to general population in the state.
- The drop-out rates of SCs at higher primary level was higher than general population in the State.
- The data reveals that, 75 per cent SCs children and 52.3 per cent women are anemic. The analysis of Body Mass Index (BMI) figures for women indicates that SC women had high prevalence of acute under-nutrition at 40.6 per cent in Karnataka.
- It is found that, workers and the main workers of SCs male lesser than and higher than marginal workers, in the case of female higher than female SCs and lower than marginal female workers of SCs as compared to general population in the State.
- It is clear from the analysis as compare to total population SCs are lower cultivators, agricultural labourers, other workers and higher household workers in the State.
- It is evidence from the analysis that, both rural and urban poverty of SCs has declined between 2004-05 and 2011-12.
- The analysis found that, SCs is higher per cent live in semi-permanent house than the total. About temporary house SCs 12.2 per cent is highest than 9.51 per cent total household.
- Around 27 per cent rural house holds 14 per cent urban households do not have access to drinking water nearer to their premises as per 2001 Census in Karnataka and Tap water constitutes the main source of drinking water about 58.39 for all households. Access to drinking water by tap within the premises is high for all households 24.1 than for SC 12.6 per cent.
- It is reveals from the analysis that, 68 per cent of SC households' do not have access to toilets and 24.5 per cent of SC households had no bathroom facility within their premises as per 2011 census. About 37.6 per cent of SC households had waste water outlets connected to open drainage systems while 46.8 per cent of SC households had no drainage system connections for waste water disposal.

15. Suggestions:

Based on the findings some useful suggestions have been enlisted below:

1. There is need to proper implementation of family planning to control the growing population of SCs in Karnataka.
2. Government should implement the effectively educational schemes for minimize the gap between SCs and general population in the State.
3. There is urgent need to effective implementation of health programmes in the state for better access the health facilities of SCs in Karnataka.
4. Government should implement effectively employment generation and poverty alleviation schemes for better standard of living of SCs in the State.
5. There is an urgent need to proper implementation of housing schemes for better access to housing needs of SCs in the state
6. There is urgent need to improve the hygiene and sanitation situation of Scheduled Caste in Karnataka for their inclusive growth.

16. Conclusion

The Government of India under the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) laid more emphasis on faster and more inclusive growth strategy with its planned document. Inclusive growth is a process of broad based benefits and development of fruits should be reached poorer strata or bottom of the pyramid, specially focused on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, minorities, persons with disabilities and women by providing basic amenities such as health, education, sanitation, and pure drinking water without provide basic amenities among these categories there is no meaning of inclusive growth. Since Independence both the central and State Governments have been designed various welfare and developmental programmes for the sake of welfare of these both categories, but till today the Scheduled Castes failed to get Government facilities and excluded from the development process. The Government of Karnataka has also implemented several innovative programmes for the welfare of SCs to improve their social and economic status, and prevent them from exploitation. Yet, the benefits of the development progrmmes did not reach Scheduled Caste communities. As discussed in the above analysis socio economic status of SCs has been slowly improving, but as compared to the general population in Karnataka, there is gap between SCs and the general population. Hence to minimize the gap between SCs and general population there is urgent need to effectively and efficiently implement of development programmes and active participation of Scheduled caste in the process of development for sustained and more inclusive growth of Scheduled Caste in Karnataka.

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