

CHAPTER 18

WELFARE OF SC/ST/OBC

1. According to the 1991 census, the scheduled caste (SC) population of Delhi was 17.95 lakh, which is 19.05% of Delhi's total population of 94.21 lakh. At the national level, the SC population comprises 16.48% of the total population (Table 18.1). According to census records, there is no scheduled tribe (ST) population in Delhi, as none of the tribes are notified in the city. So far, the Delhi Backward Classes (DBC) Commission of Delhi has notified 53 castes as Other Backward Classes (OBC) in Delhi but no authentic estimate is available regarding the OBC population in Delhi.

2. The SC population of Delhi is predominantly urban and only 11.58% lives in the rural areas. This coincides with the rural-urban population ratio of Delhi. While the rural SC population as a percentage of the total rural population of Delhi in 1991 was 21.89%, the urban SC population as a percentage of the total urban population of Delhi was 18.73%. The rural-urban SC population vis-a-vis the total population of Delhi between 1951 and 1991 is given in Table 18.2 and the decennial growth rate of Delhi's population vis-a-vis the SC population from 1961 to 1991 is given in Table 18.3. The growth rate of Delhi's population remained between 51% and 53% during 1961-91 while the growth rate of the SC population in Delhi during this period was between 60% and 86%.

3. The literacy rate of the SC population versus the Delhi literacy rate is shown in Table 18.4. The data reveal that the literacy rate of the SC population has steadily increased from 20.86% in 1961 to 57.60% in 1991. Although the SC literacy rate in 1991 was below Delhi's literacy rate of 75.29%, it remains above the national literacy rate of 52.11%.

4. The Delhi workforce of 29.80 lakh people in 1991 includes 5.22 lakh SC persons, which is 17.49% of the total workforce. In Delhi, 31.64% of the population is employed; of the SC population of 17.95 lakh, 29% is employed. Table 18.5 shows the sectoral distribution of SC workers. According to the 1991 census, 60% were engaged in the tertiary sector, 37% in the secondary sector and only 3% in the primary sector.

Education Programmes

5. Various educational schemes have been introduced for the benefit of SC students in Delhi. 2900 students were benefited under various scholarship schemes in 1998-99. About 40,000 school students were provided free books and stationery and 406 medical and engineering students studying in professional colleges benefited through Book Bank Scheme in 1998-99. Tuition fees were reimbursed to about 1,700 polytechnic students. Hostel facilities were also given to 100 boys and 36 girls during 1998-99.

Economic Upliftment Programmes

6. The Delhi Scheduled Caste Financial and Development Corporation (DSCFDC) has been set up to promote self-employment opportunities for the SC population. In 1998-99, about 1,798 SC people were provided financial assistance in the form of margin money loans at 4% interest per annum. Unemployed SC youths are being given three months training in various ITIs as gas welders, plumbers and scooter mechanics to help them to start their own ventures. A Computerized Footwear Design Centre, established in collaboration with UNDP, provides assistance to leather artisans.

Rehabilitation Programmes

7. According to a survey conducted by the Delhi School of Social Work in 1997, there are about 1.39 lakh dry latrines in Delhi with 7,961 scavengers engaged in the profession. In 1998-99, under the Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers scheme, 203 scavengers were rehabilitated through training and 1,786 scavengers were given financial assistance for self-employment.

General Welfare Programmes

8. There are several other schemes for the benefit of the SC population. Widows are given a financial grant of Rs. 5,000 for their daughter's marriage. Dhobi ghats are being developed through the MCD and NDMC. Financial assistance is given to orphaned girls for their marriage, to economically poor SC parents on the birth of a daughter and to OBCs for their upliftment through DSCFDC. In addition, SCs in rural and urban areas receive housing subsidies.

Table 18.1
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES POPULATION
1991 CENSUS - India & States

S.No.	States/ Union Territories	Scheduled Caste(SC) (Lakh)	% S.C. Population to total Population	Scheduled Tribe (ST) (Lakh)	% ST Population to total Population
1	2	3	4	5	6
	INDIA(*)	1382.23	16.48	677.58	8.08
States:					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	105.92	15.93	41.99	6.31
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.04	0.47	5.50	63.66
3.	Assam	16.59	7.40	28.74	12.83
4.	Bihar	125.72	14.56	66.17	7.66
5.	Goa	0.24	2.08	N	0.03
6.	Gujarat	30.60	7.41	61.62	14.92
7.	Haryana	32.51	19.75	-	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	13.10	25.34	2.18	4.22
9.	Karnataka	73.69	16.38	19.16	4.26
10.	Kerala	28.87	9.92	3.21	1.10
11.	Madhya Pradesh	96.27	14.54	153.99	23.27
12.	Maharashtra	87.58	11.10	73.18	9.27
13.	Manipur	0.37	2.02	6.32	34.41
14.	Meghalaya	0.09	0.51	15.18	85.53
15.	Mizoram	0.01	0.10	6.54	94.75
16.	Nagaland	-	0.00	10.61	87.70
17.	Orissa	51.29	16.20	70.32	22.21
18.	Punjab	57.43	28.31	-	0.00
19.	Rajasthan	76.08	17.29	54.75	12.44
20.	Sikkam	0.24	5.93	0.91	22.36
21.	Tamil Nadu	107.12	19.18	5.74	1.03
22.	Tripura	4.51	16.36	8.53	30.95
23.	Uttar Pradesh	292.76	21.04	2.88	0.21
24.	West Bengal	160.81	23.62	38.09	5.60

Union Territories:					
1.	A & N Islands	-	0.00	0.27	9.54
2.	Chandigarh	1.06	16.51	-	0.00
3.	D & N Haveli	0.03	1.97	1.09	78.99
4.	Daman and Diu	0.04	3.83	0.12	11.54
5.	Delhi	17.95	19.05	-	0.00
6.	Lakshadweep	-	0.00	0.48	93.15
7.	Pondicherry	1.31	16.25	-	0.00
	N = Negligible.				
(*) = Excludes Jammu & Kashmir as the 1991 Census has not been conducted.					
Source: Census of India, 1991, Series - 1 Final Population Totals, Paper-1 of 1992 Vol-1, Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India.					

Table 18.2
RURAL-URBAN SC POPULATION OF DELHI

S.No.	Year	Total Population			SC Population		
		Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	1951	306938	1437134	1744072	63993	144619	208612
2.	1961	299204	2359408	2658612	69312	272243	341555
3.	1971	418675	3647023	4065698	104999	530699	635698
4.	1981	452206	5768200	6220406	104012	1017631	1121643
5.	1991	949019	8471625	9420644	207709	1587127	1794836
Source: Census Hand Book - 1991, Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India.							

Table 18.3
DECENNIAL GROWTH OF SC POPULATION IN DELHI

(Per cent)

Year	Total Population	SC Population
1	2	3
1961	52.44	63.73
1971	52.93	86.12
1981	52.99	76.44
1991	51.45	60.00

Source : Census Hand Book - 1991, Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India.

Table 18.4
LITERACY RATE OF SC POPULATION IN DELHI

(Figures in Percentage)

Sl.No.	Year	Literacy rate of Delhi			Literacy rate of SC Population in Delhi		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	1951	42.99	32.33	38.36			
2.	1961	60.75	42.55	52.75	32.15	6.80	20.86
3.	1971	63.71	47.75	56.61	39.22	14.32	28.15
4.	1981	68.40	53.07	61.54	50.21	25.89	39.30
5.	1991	82.01	66.99	75.29	68.77	43.82	57.60

Source : Census Hand Book - 1991, Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India.

Table 18.5
DISTRIBUTION OF SC WORKFORCE - 1991 CENSUS

Sl.No	Industry	Number of SC workers	Percentage to total SC Workers	Total number of Workers	Percentage to total Workers
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Primary Sector				
	Cultivators, Agriculture				
	Labourers, Animal Husbandry,				
	Forestry, Fishing & Mining	16023	3	84557	3
2.	Secondary Sector				
	Manufacturing, Electricity,				
	Gas, Water supply, Construction	192889	37	730951	25
3.	Tertiary Sector Trade and				
	Commerce, Transport, Storage,				
	Communication & Other Services	312601	60	2152869	72
`	Total	521513	100	2968377	100
		(29)		(32)	

	Total SC Population	1794836		9420644	
		(100)		(100)	
Source : Census Hand Book - 1991, Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India.					