

CHAPTER 18

WELFARE OF SC/ST/OBC

1. As per the 2001 Census, the total population of Delhi was 1,38,50,507 person. The Scheduled Castes (SC) population of Delhi was 23.43 lakh, which was 16.92% of Delhi's total population of 138.50 lakh. At the national level, the SC population comprises 16.90% of the total population. According to census records, there is no Scheduled Tribe (ST) population in Delhi, as none of the tribes are notified as Scheduled Tribes in the city. So far, the Delhi Backward Classes (DBC) Commission of Delhi has notified 54 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 8.04% lives in the rural areas. This gels with the rural-urban population ratio of Delhi. While the rural SC population as a percentage of the total rural population of Delhi in 2001 was 19.94%, the urban SC population as a percentage of the total urban population of Delhi was 16.70%. The rural-urban SC population vis-à-vis the total population of Delhi between 1961 to 2001 is given in Table 18.3. The growth rate of Delhi's population remained between 47% and 53% during 1961-01 while the growth rate of the SC population in Delhi during this period was between 31% and 86%.
3. The literacy rate of the SC population vis-à-vis the total literacy rate in Delhi is shown in Table 18.4. The data reveals that the literacy rate of the SC population has steadily increased from 20.86% in 1961 to 70.85% in 2001. Although the literacy rate of SC population in 2001 was below Delhi's literacy rate of 81.67%, however, it remains above the national literacy rate of 64.80%.
4. The workforce of 45.45 lakh people in 2001 in Delhi included 7.10 lakh SC persons, which is 15.62% of the total workforce. In Delhi, 33% of the total population is employed and out of SC population of 23.43 lakh, 30% is employed.

SPECIAL COMPONENT PLAN

5. The concept of Special Component Plan for the welfare of SCs (SCP) was that all the department shall take specific schemes for socio-economic development of SCs. Its essence was that the schemes should be based on their developmental needs. The size of SCP in 10th Five Year Plan and Annual Plan 2002-03 to 2005-06 is given hereunder:-

(Rs. in lakh)

| S.No. | Five Year/ Annual Plans | Approved Outlay for GNCT of Delhi | Flow for SCP | Percentage |
|-------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| 1. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Xthe Five Year Plan (2002-07) | 2300000.00 | 163184.91 | 7.10 |
| 2. | Annual Plan (2002-03) | 470000.00 | 26552.17 | 5.64 |
| 3. | Annual Plan (2003-04) | 502500.00 | 29074.58 | 5.79 |
| 4. | Annual Plan (2004-05) | 500000.00 | 31193.60 | 6.24 |
| 5. | Annual Plan (2005-06) | 510000.00 | 31709.29 | 6.22 |

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

6. Various educational schemes have been introduced for the benefit of SC/ST students in Delhi. The Book Bank Scheme has been merged with Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Post Matric Scholarship to SC students" w.e.f. Annual Plan 2004-05. 388 and 755 students were benefited under this scheme during the year 2004-05 and 2005-06. Hostel facilities were given to 101 boys and 32 girls during 2004-2005 and 96 boys and 28 girls during 2005-06. To assess the impact of the implementation of schemes like "Free Supply of Books and Stationery to SC/ST students, Merit Scholarship to Colleges / Professional Institutions Students belonging to SC/ST", a study was entrusted to Delhi School of Social Work, Delhi University. The recommendations of the study conducted during 2002-03 regarding periodical revision of the amount of scholarship, income limit enhancement and wide publicity of the schemes have since been implemented. During 2003-04, an amount of Rs. 480.00 lakh was released to the Directorate of Education for Free Supply of Books and Stationery to 74,000 SC students. The implementation of this scheme was taken up by the Department for the Welfare of SC/ST/OBC/Minorities w.e.f. 2004-05. Modification was made in the scheme and accordingly Books were provided by Education Department and Financial Assistance for purpose of stationery is provided by Department for Welfare of SC/ST/OBC/Min. 49361 students were benefited during 2004-05 and 88313 students were benefited during year 2005-06 under this scheme. During the year 2004-05 & 2005-06, an expenditure of Rs. 27.86 lakh and Rs. 61.31 lakh was incurred for granting Scholarship to 7814 & 14558, SC/ST/OBC students respectively studying in class VIth to VIIIth.
7. During the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 Merit scholarships to the students belonging to SC/ST/OBC/Min. communities studying in class IX to XII & college/professional institutions were disbursed by the Department for the Welfare of SC/ST/OBC/Minorities. In all 490 and 403 students of College & Professional institutions and 6474 and 931 students were benefited.

8. In order to provide "Pre Exam Coaching for Engineering, Medical & Civil Services", to the students of SC/ST/OBC/Minorities communities a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Coaching & Allied Assistance for Weaker sections including SC/ST/OBC/Minority students" is being implemented w.e.f. Annual Plan 2003-04. Pre Exam Coaching to 38 students for Medical and 29 students for Engineering was provided during 2005-06 under the scheme.

ECONOMIC UPLIFTMENT PROGRAMMES

9. The Delhi Scheduled Caste Financial and Development Corporation (DSCFDC) was set up to promote self-employment opportunities for the SC population.

During the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 loan was provided to 1 person and 3 persons respectively for purchase of DLY/LCV. General Loan has been provided to 30 persons in 2004-05.

During 2004-05 interest free loan was given to 8 students for getting higher technical education.

The DSCFDC granted composite loan upto Rs.50,000/- per beneficiary, to 158 & 240 beneficiaries during the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 without involving banks. Now the scope of the Corporation has been extended to promote self employment opportunities for OBC and minorities also and it has been declared the state channelising agency for receiving funds from the National Financial & Development Corporations for these categories at the Central level. As such new schemes for self-employment for OBC, Minorities and Safai Karamcharies were included in the Annual Plan which were implemented by DSCFDC w.e.f. 2002-03. DSCFDC has incurred an expenditure of Rs.15.09 lakh and Rs.2.38 lakh to provide loan to 31 persons and 22 persons belonging to OBC communities for self-employment during 2004-05 & 2005-06 respectively.

An expenditure of Rs. 66.62 lakh and Rs.92.87 lakh was incurred to provide loan to 154 persons and 12 persons belonging to Minority community and Rs. 50.10 lakh and Rs.5.00 lakh to benefit 107 and 3 Safai Karamcharies during 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively for self employment. 23 SC Bus Operators have been released a sum of Rs. 31.26 lakh by DSCFDC to convert their diesel buses into CNG during 2004-05. This assistance was made to have eco-friendly fuel system for buses that run in the city scheme.

10. To improve the living conditions of people living in Scheduled Castes Basties, improvement work such as providing kharnja, construction of road, side drains and construction of chaupals etc., are being carried out. During 2004-05, the implementation of the scheme was held up due to CAG observation and as such an expenditure of Rs. 11.26 crore was incurred for carrying out the improvement works of 61 SC Basties. An amount of Rs.66.85 lakh has been incurred during 2005-06.

GENERAL WELFARE PROGRAMMES

11. There are several other schemes for the benefit of the SC/ ST/OBC/Economically weaker sections of

the population. Poor widows are given a financial grant of Rs. 10,000 for their daughter's marriages. Enhanced financial assistance of Rs.20,000/- has been provided to 1414, 1109 and 1240 widows for marriage of their daughters during 2003-04, 2004-05 & 2005-06, respectively. Financial assistance was also given to 44 orphan girls for their marriage during the year 2005-06 and 66 orphan girls during 2005-06. The scheme, "Financial assistance to lactating and nourishing mothers of weaker section and SC/ST", was transferred to Social Welfare Department w.e.f. 2004-05. Financial assistance on birth of girl child to economically weaker SC/ST/OBC/Minority parents was provided to 68 and 13 parents during 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively @ Rs.5000/- per girl child.