

Chandigarh

DATA HIGHLIGHTS: THE SCHEDULED CASTES Census of India 2001

The Union Territory (UT) of Chandigarh holds 8th rank among all the States and UTs in term of the proportion of the Scheduled Caste (SC) population to the total population. The SC population of Chandigarh is 157,597 as per census 2001, constituting 17.5 per cent of the total population (900,635). The decennial growth of SC population has been 48.7 per cent which is 8.4 per cent higher than the growth of the total population (40.3 per cent) during 1991-2001. The UT has a total of thirty six (36) Scheduled Castes and all of them have been enumerated at 2001 census.

2. As Chandigarh is an urban territory, 90.6 per cent of the Scheduled Caste population resides in urban areas.

Population - Size & Distribution

3. Out of thirty six SCs, Balmiki is the most populous caste with a population of 68,666, constituting 43.6 per cent of all SC population. Chamar is the second largest caste having a population of 48,159. These two major castes together constitute 74.1 per cent of all SC population. Three other SCs in the descending order are Pasi, Kori, and Kabirpanthi. Alongwith Balmiki and Chamar, the five SCs constitute 85 per cent of all SC population. Ad Dharmi, Sansi, Mazhabi, Dhanak, Khatik and Bazigar have a population in the range of 2982 down to 1736 together form another 9.4 per cent; remaining twenty five SCs, each having less than 500 population along with the generic castes constitute the residual 5.6 per cent. Out of these twenty five SCs, twelve castes, namely, Sansoi, Gagra, Sanhai, Dhogri, Od etc. are very small groups, each having below 100 population.

Sex Ratio

4. The overall sex ratio of the SC population in Chandigarh is 829 females' per 1000 males which is much below the national average of 936 for all SCs.

5. All the major SCs have registered the overall sex ratio considerably lower than that of the national average.

6. The sex ratio in the age group 0-6 years (887) is also lower than the national average (938). Among the larger groups, Pasi have shown

the higher child sex ratio than the national average. Other four castes have recorded child sex ratio below the national average.

Statement - 1 : Sex Ratio

Age group	All SCs (India)	All SCs (UT)	Balmiki	Kabirpanthi	Pasi	Chamar	Kori
All ages	936	829	886	846	799	767	725
0 - 6	938	887	891	926	998	847	916

Literacy & Educational Level

7.The overall literacy rate of the SCs has increased from 55.4 per cent at 1991 census to 67.7 per cent at 2001 census. This is significantly higher than the national average of 54.7 per cent aggregated for all SCs. Male literacy has gone up to 76.2 per cent from 64.7 per cent while female literacy has increased from 43.5 per cent to 57.2 per cent during the decade 1991-2001.

8.Individually, except Pasi, other four SCs have registered higher literacy if compared to that of all SCs at the national level. Similar trend has been noted in respect of female literacy also.

Statement - 2 : Literacy Rate

Literacy rate	All SCs	Kabirpanthi	Chamar	Balmiki	Kori	Pasi
Persons	67.7	77.3	75.8	64.3	64.4	42.1
Females	57.2	70.0	66.5	53.4	50.4	27.0

9. Among the total SC literates, 23.4 per cent among are either without any educational level or have attained below primary level of education. The primary level literates constitute 28.3 per cent. Literates up to middle school level have a share of 18.2 per cent whereas 23.2 per cent literates have attained education upto matric/ secondary/ higher secondary etc. It implies that every 4th literate person is a matriculate. Graduates & above are 6.2 per cent. Non-technical & technical diploma holders form 0.7 per cent only.

10. Among the major SCs, Chamar and Kabirpanthi have every 3rd literate, a matriculate whereas Balmiki have every 6th literate, a matriculate. Chamar also have the highest proportion of graduates followed by Kabirpanthi.

11. The data depict that there is sharp decline in the percentage of literates from higher secondary level onwards. This trend has been seen among the major SCs.

Statement – 3: Educational levels among the major Scheduled Castes

Names of SCs	Literate without educational level	Below Primary	Educational levels attained				
			Primary	Middle	Matric/Secondary/Higher Secondary/Intermediate etc.	Technical & Non-technical diploma etc.	Graduate and above
All SCs	1.4	22.0	28.3	18.2	23.2	0.7	6.2
Balmiki	1.8	25.9	33.5	19.4	17.0	0.2	2.2
Chamar	1.1	17.8	23.9	17.5	29.1	1.1	9.5
Pasi	1.8	34.9	29.8	18.1	12.8	0.2	2.3
Kori	1.4	22.4	31.7	20.9	20.3	0.3	3.1
Kabirpanthi	1.3	14.8	23.6	17.4	33.6	1.3	8.1

12. As many as 73.6 per cent children in the age group of 5 -14 years have been attending school. At the level of individual caste, Chamar have 80 per cent school going children followed by Kabirpanthi, Balmiki and Kori. Pasi have less than 50 per cent of total children in the corresponding age group attending school.

Statement - 4: Percentage of school going children in the age group 5-14 years

Age group	All SCs	Chamar	Kabirpanthi	Balmiki	Kori	Pasi
5 -14 yrs.	73.6	80.1	78.5	74.0	71.8	48.2

Work Participation Rate (WPR)

13. The Work Participation Rate (WPR) of the SC population is 35.3 per cent which is lower than that of the national level (40.4 per cent). Male work participation rate (51.8 per cent) has increased marginally by one per cent whereas female WPR (15.5 per cent) has shown an increase of 6 per cent during 1991-2001. Among the total workers, 95 per cent are main workers. This proportion is higher than that recorded for all SCs at the national level (73 per cent).

14. Among the five larger SCs, Pasi has registered the highest WPR (40.7 per cent) which is marginally higher if compared to that of all SCs at the national level. Other four, namely, Kori, Kabirpanthi, Balmiki and Chamar have registered WPR lower than the national average.

Category of Workers

15. 'Other Workers' constitute 98.8 per cent of the total SC workers of the UT. This figure is more than three times higher than that recorded by all SCs at the national level in this category (30.5 per cent). 'Cultivators' and 'Agricultural Labourers' together constitute only half per cent whereas workers involved in 'Household Industry' form one per cent only.

Statement- 5 : Percentage distribution of Workers in four Economic Categories

Economic category	All SCs	Chamar	Balmiki	Pasi	Kori	Kabirpanthi
Cultivators	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3
Agricultural Labourers	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
HHI Workers	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.9
Other Workers	98.8	98.3	99.2	99.1	99.3	98.7

Marital Status

16.The data on marital status show that the proportion of 'never married' persons (52.4 per cent) exceeds the proportion of 'married' persons (45.1) in the total SC population. 'Widowed' are 2.3 per cent while 'divorced & separated' persons constitute a negligible 0.2 per cent only.

17.Cases of the marriage of girls and boys below the legal age for each are rare among the SCs of Chandigarh. The proportions of married girls below 18 yrs. (1.2 per cent) and married boys below 21 yrs. (2.3 per cent) are lower than those recorded at the national level (2.8 per cent and 3.1 per cent respectively)

18.The mean number of children ever born per ever married woman in the age group of the 45-49 yrs. is 4. This is same as that of all SCs at the national level.

Religion

19.Hinduism is the predominant religion of the Scheduled Castes of Chandigarh. The SCs professing Hinduism constitute 86.5 per cent. Sikh SCs are 13.4 per cent while those professing Buddhism constitute 0.1 per cent.
