

## N.C.T. DELHI

### DATA HIGHLIGHTS: THE SCHEDULED CASTES Census of India 2001

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Delhi was named as National Capital Territory of Delhi (N.C.T of Delhi) on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 1992 following the Sixty Ninth Amendment to the Constitution. Delhi an uni -district territory till 1991 census, was divided into nine districts in 1997. The Scheduled Caste (SC) population of N.C.T Delhi is 2,343,255, as per 2001 census. This constitutes 16.9 per cent of the total population (13,850,507) of the UT. The decennial growth of SC population has been 30.6 per cent, which is 16.4 per cent lower than the growth of total population (47 per cent). The N.C.T of Delhi has a total of thirty six (36) Scheduled Castes, and all of them have been enumerated at 2001 Census. No Scheduled Tribe has been notified for N.C.T. Delhi.

2.The Scheduled Castes are predominantly urban as 92 per cent of them reside in urban areas. Among the nine districts, SCs have highest concentration in Central district (23.3 per cent), followed by New Delhi (22.2 per cent), and North West district (19.3 per cent). South-West and West districts have the lowest proportion of SCs (14.7 per cent).

#### **Population - Size & Distribution**

3. Of the thirty six (36) SCs, Chamar is the most populous caste having a number of 893,384 constituting 38.1 per cent of the total SC population. Chuhra (Balmiki) is the second largest caste, having a number of 500,221. Three other SCs in the descending order are Koli, Khatik and Dhobi. Along with Chamar and Chuhra, the five SCs constitute 79.2 per cent of the total SC population. Pasi, Julaha, Dhanak, Mallah and Balai have a population ranging from 40,074 to 90,010. Together, they form 14 per cent of the total population. Seven SCs, namely Bawaria, Kanjar, Bhangi ....up to Sansi having population in the range of 10,164 to 18,975, constitute another 4 per cent of the total SC population; the remaining nineteen SCs along with generic castes constitute the balance 2.8 per cent. Smaller groups, who have below 5,000 population, are sixteen in number. Of them, five castes, namely Kachhandha, Madari, Bazigar, Gharrami and Lalbegi are very small, each having population less than 1000.

4.District wise distribution of the individual SC shows that Chamar, Chuhra (Balmiki), Koli, Dhobi and Balai have the highest number in North - West district whereas Khatik have the maximum population in West district followed by North-East district. In terms of percentage, Chamar constitute 44 - 50.8 per cent of the total SC population of East, Central, South and North-East districts whereas Chuhra (Balmiki) in New Delhi (52.4 per cent).

## Sex Ratio

5. The over all sex ratio of the SC population in Delhi is 852 females per 1000 males which is lower than the national average of 936 for all SCs.

6. All the major SCs have registered the overall sex ratio lower than the national average. Except Chuhra (Balmiki), other five SCs have shown the overall sex ratio below 900.

**Statement - 1 : Sex Ratio**

Age groups	All SCs (India)	All SCs (N.C.T)	Chuhra (Balmiki)	Khatik	Balai	Koli	Dhobi	Chamar
All ages	936	852	906	895	883	872	844	821
0 - 6yrs.	938	901	917	877	902	927	900	887

7. The sex ratio in the age group 0-6 years (901) is lower than that of all SCs at the national level. All the major SCs have shown the child sex ratio lower than the national average.

## Literacy & Educational Level

8. The over all literacy rate of the SCs is 70.8 per cent at 2001 census. This is higher if compared to 57.6 per cent recorded at 1991 census. This is higher than the national average of 54.7 per cent aggregated for all SCs. Male literacy has increased from 68.8 per cent to 80.8 per cent while female literacy has gone up from 43.8 per cent to 59.1 per cent during 1991-2001.

**Statement - 2: Literacy Rate**

Literacy rate	All SCs	Chamar	Balai	Khatik	Koli	Dhobi	Chuhra (Balmiki)
Persons	70.8	74.1	74.0	73.4	70.7	69.7	68.5
Females	59.1	62.3	61.4	61.9	58.9	57.7	56.8

9. All the major SCs have registered higher over all literacy rate as well as female literacy rate than those recorded at the national level (54.7 per cent and 41.9 per cent). Chamar have registered the highest literacy rate.

10. Among SC literates, 23.3 per cent are either without any educational level or have attained below primary level of education. The primary level literates constitute 30.8 per cent of total literates. Literates up to middle school level constitute 20.9 per cent whereas 19.5 per cent literates have attained education up to matric / higher secondary level. This implies that every 5<sup>th</sup> SC literate is a matriculate. Graduates & above are 5.2 per cent.

11. There is a sharp decline in the percentage of literates from higher secondary level onwards. The proportion of literates in higher secondary level

(6.3 per cent) is half that of matriculates (13.2) and proportion of graduates and above is less than half of the secondary level literates.

**Statement - 3 : Levels of Education 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	1.0	22.3	30.8	20.9	19.5	0.2	5.2
Chamar	0.9	20.4	27.3	20.6	22.8	0.3	7.6
Chuhra (Balmiki)	1.2	24.2	35.9	21.2	15.1	0.1	2.3
Koli	1.0	23.2	34.5	22.1	16.0	0.1	3.1
Khatik	0.9	22.8	31.2	21.0	19.3	0.1	4.6
Dhobi	1.1	22.2	29.1	21.6	21.1	0.1	4.8
Balai	0.8	21.2	34.1	22.9	16.9	0.1	3.9

12. Among the major castes, Chamar have registered the highest proportion of matriculates followed by Dhobi, Khatik, Balai whereas Chuhra (Balmiki) have the lowest proportion of matriculates. Chamar also have the highest proportion of graduates.

**Statement - 4 : Percentage of school going children in the age group 5-14 yrs.**

Age Group	All SCs	Chamar	Chuhra (Balmiki)	Koli	Khatik	Dhobi	Balai
5-14 yrs.	74.6	77.3	73.0	74.3	78.0	76.1	80.1

13. Out of the total 6.1 lakh SC children in the age group 5 - 14 years, 4.5 lakh attend school, constituting 74.6 per cent. As many as 1.5 lakh children in the corresponding age group do not go to school. Among the major SCs, Balai have the highest proportion of school going children closely followed by Khatik, Chamar and Dhobi and Koli.

### **Work Participation Rate (WPR)**

14. The work participation rate (WPR) of the SC population is 30.3 per cent which is lower than that of total SCs at the national level (40.4 per cent). The female WPR has gone up by 2.5 points from 7.5 per cent to 10 per cent in 1991-2001; the corresponding increase in male WPR (47.6 per cent) has been 0.2 per cent only. Among the total workers, 91.4 per cent workers are main workers which are higher than the national average recorded for all SCs (73 per cent).

15. Individually, Chamar, Chuhra, Koli, Khatik and Balai have shown WPR lower than that of the national average. Similar trend has been registered by these castes in respect of female WPR also.

### Category of workers

16. Being predominantly urban, 96.3 per cent SC workers of Delhi belongs to the category of 'Other Workers' and this proportion is more than three times higher than that of the national average (30.5 per cent) for all SCs. 'Cultivators' and 'Agricultural Labourers' together constitute 0.9 per cent only. Workers engaged in 'Household Industry' (HHI) form 2.8 per cent which is comparable with the national average of 3.9 per cent.

17. All the major SCs have more than 90 per cent of total workers belong to 'Other Workers' category. Dhobi, Koli and Khatik have registered the proportion of HHI workers higher than that of the national average.

**Statement- 5 : Percentage Distribution of Workers in four Economic Categories**

Economic category	All SCs	Chamar	Chuhra (Balmiki)	Koli	Khatik	Dhobi	Balai
Cultivators	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Agricultural Labourers	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
HHI Workers	2.8	2.9	0.5	4.4	4.0	6.8	1.9
Other Workers	96.3	96.0	98.9	95.3	95.8	92.9	97.9

### Marital Status

18. The data show that 54.3 per cent SC population is 'never married' whereas 'married' persons constitute 42.5 per cent. 'Widowed' persons form 3.1 per cent and a negligible 0.2 per cent is 'divorced & separated'.

19. Marriages of girls and boys below the legal age for each are rare among the SCs of Delhi. Proportions of married girls below 18 years (1.2 per cent) and married boys below 21 years (2.2 per cent) are lower than those at the national level (2.8 per cent & 3.1 per cent).

20. The mean number of children ever born per ever married SC woman (age-group 45-49 yrs.) is 5 which is higher than that of all SCs at the national level (4).

### Religion

21. Hinduism (98.7 per cent) is the predominant religion of the Scheduled Castes of the UT. The SCs professing Sikhism (19,966) and Buddhism (10,625) together constitute 1.3 per cent.