Incidence of Poverty in Scheduled Caste in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh

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Abstract:

The main objectives of the paper are to analyse the status of Scheduled Castes in Andhra Pradesh and to analyse the poverty levels in Guntur district among the caste categories. The paper is based on the primary data. 100 sample respondents are selected from the two regions of Palnadu and gunture region of Andhra Pradesh. The data only related to income and expenditure of the sample households. As per census 2011, Prakasam District stood first (23.14%) in concentration of Scheduled Castes to total population follows Nellore and West Godavari Districts whereas least SCs found in Visakapatnam (8%) Srikakulam and Viziayanagaram. The data revealed that according to 2011 census in SCs the highest literacy rate was found in west Godavari (71.43%) Krishna and Visakapatnam Districts whereas least were in Kurnool (55.26%) Kadapa and Vizianagaram. Generally, employment (Main, Marginal workers) generates income to the people. Among SCs to total population, Guntur stood first with 54%, follows Prakasam and Kurnool. The least employment was found in Visakapatnam (42%) follows East Godavari and Srikakulam Districts.

The incidence of persons living below poverty in Palnadu region is 69.50 and 52.27per cent in Guntur region. The incidence poverty among the caste category analysis is clearly shows that, it is found to be very high in deprived caste groups like SC and STs. It is clearly shows that the poverty is 82 per cent of STs a, 78 per cent of SC, 60 per cent of the BCs and 58 per cent of General respondents are below poverty line in Palnadu region. Whereas in Guntur region 67 per cent of STs, 57 per cent of SCs, 45 per cent of BCs and 40 per cent of the OC respondents are under the below poverty line. It clearly shows that the poverty is high in Palnadu region when compared to Guntur region among the all the caste categories**n?**

Keywords: Poverty, Scheduled Caste, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

1. Introduction:

Poverty is a state where a person is unable to maintain a minimum socially accepted level of standard of living. It is regarded as the root cause for low levels of health and educational outcomes, poor access to clean water and sanitation, inadequate physical security, lack of voice, and insufficient capacity and opportunity for mobility. Poverty and Inequality The performance of Andhra Pradesh in reducing income poverty has been impressive, particularly in rural areas. Estimates based on NSS household consumption data indicate that poverty in AP has always been lower than the national average and its pace of reduction is faster than that of all India. The poverty head count ratio declined from 44.6% to 29.6 % during 1993 -94 to 2004 -05. There has been acceleration in the pace of reduction of poverty in the state especially between 2004 -05 and 2009 - 10. Estimates for 2009 - 10 indicate a further decline in poverty to 21.1 % in the state from 29.6% in 2004 - 05 in AP while it fell to 29.8 % from 37% at all India level during the same period. A noteworthy feature is that the faster rate of poverty reduction has led to a fall in absolute number of poor in the state. The total number of poor in the state has declined by nearly half from 15.39 million in 1993 - 94 to 17.66 million in 2009 -10. During 2004 -05 to

2009-10, the inequalities in state increased marginally to 0.28 (from 0.27 in 2004-05) in rural areas and remained stable in urban areas. In addition, the growth differential in rural and urban consumption has come down. These factors have contributed to rise in the elasticity of poverty for the state to nearly one. If the current elasticity and growth rate continue, the state has a good prospect of reducing poverty by another 8-10 percentage points by 2017.

2. Objectives

The main objective of the paper is to analyse the status of Scheduled Castes in Andhra Pradesh and to analyse the poverty levels in Guntur district among the caste categories

3. Methodology

The paper is based on the primary data. 100 sample respondents are selected from the two regions of Palnadu and Guntur region of Andhra Pradesh. The data only related to income and expenditure of the sample households. The present paper dividing two sections, section-1 deals the status of scheduled castes in Andhra Pradesh and section –II deals the incidence of poverty in Guntur district

Section - I

The Scheduled Caste Population constituted 16.2 per cent of the total population in census 2001 and has increased marginally around 16.9 per cent in census 2011. People belonging to SC Communities, by and large are spread all over Country, with about 80 per cent of them living in the rural areas. Around half of the SC population is concentrated in the five States of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar.

The study will be focused on Andhra Pradesh State Development, especially SCs and STs with reference to 2011 census. Due to this in last 70 years, complexity of Caste system within religions were raised their hydra head, to enjoy the benefit. The Country moved from early socialism to capitalism and to crony capitalism. In India, 1 per cent own 58 per cent of the total wealth. Infact, the wealth of 57 Indian billionaires, at $248 billion is higher than the total $216 billions of 70 % of the Country's 1.3 billion population

Status of Scheduled Castes in Andhra Pradesh

The table 1 have been highlighted that as per census 2011, Prakasam District stood first (23.14%) in concentration of Scheduled Castes to total population follows Nellore and West Godavari Districts whereas least SCs found in Visakapatnam (8%) Srikakulam and Viziayanagaram. The table 2 has been revealed that according to 2011 census in SCs the highest literacy rate was found in west Godavari (71.43%) Krishna and Visakapatnam Districts whereas least were in Kurnool (55.26%) Kadapa and Vizianagaram.   Generally, employment (Main, Marginal workers) generates income to the people. Among SCs to total population, Guntur stood first with 54%, follows Prakasam and Kurnool. The least employment was found in Visakapatnam (42%) follows East Godavari and Srikakulam Districts.

Table-1 Scheduled Caste Population, Literacy and Main Workers in Andhra Pradesh

S.NO	District	Persons	SCs	% of SC Population to total Population	% o SC Literacy	% of Main, marginal Workers to total SCs
1	Srikakulam	27,03,114	2,55,664	9.46	60.78	49.09
2	Vizianagaram	23,44,474	2,47,728	10.57	58.64	50.17
3	Visakapatnam	42,90,589	3,29,486	7.68	69.99	42.10
4	East Godavari	51,54,296	9,45,269	18.34	69.33	46.77
5	West Godavari	39,36,966	8,11,698	20.62	71.43	51.86
6	Krishna	45,17,398	8,71,063	19.28	70.46	51.81

7	Guntur	48,87,813	9,57,407	19.59	64.12	53.62
8	Prakasam	33,97,448	7,87,861	23.19	59.75	53.19
9	SPS Nellore	29,63,557	6,66,588	22.44	65.29	48.25
10	Chittoor	41,74,064	7,85,760	18.82	66.28	48.87
11	YSR Kadapa	28,82,469	4,65,794	16.16	61.20	50.07
12	Anantapur	40,81,148	5,83,135	14.29	56.29	52.34
13	Kurnool	40,81,148	7,37,945	18.21	55.26	52.72

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics of Andhra Pradesh 2011

Section -II

The 100 sample respondents are selected simple random method, and the paper followed the $ 1.25 on the World Bank Criterion, i.e., Extreme Poverty Line: In the most recent literature on the incidence of poverty World Bank (2008) suggested two measures. Following the World Bank's methodology (GoI, 2010, Sukhvir Kaur, 2013) of $ 1.25 per day, the poverty line was worked out as under: This paper highlights the income based and consumption-based poverty lines on export group methodology. In the previous section the paper discussed the status of Scheduled Caste in Andhra Pradesh. In this section –II discussed the income-based poverty levels in the Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh according to the world bank criteria.

Annual per capita income = Rs. 24,765/- per annum, per person All the caste group households having per capita income or per capita consumption expenditure below Rs.24,765/- have been considered as poor households

Table -1 Region wise poverty levels in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh

Castes	Palanadu	Guntur
General	58.00	40.00
Backward Caste	60.00	45.00
Scheduled Caste	78.00	56.85
Scheduled Tribes	82.00	67.25
Total	69.5	52.275

By using the 1.25 dollars per day method, the region wise percentage of persons living below the poverty are presented in the Table-1. It reveals that the incidence of persons living below poverty in Palnadu region is 69.50 and 52.27per cent in Guntur region. The incidence poverty among the caste category analysis is clearly shows that, it is found to be very high in deprived caste groups like SC and STs. It is clearly shows that the poverty is 82 per cent of STs a, 78 per cent of SC, 60 per cent of the BCs and 58 per cent of General respondents are below poverty line in Palnadu region. Whereas in Guntur region 67 per cent of STs, 57 per cent of SCs, 45 per cent of BCs and 40 per cent of the OC respondents are under the below poverty line. It clearly shows that the poverty is high in Palnadu region when compared to Guntur region among the all the caste categories.

4. Suggestions

There is need to increase the literacy rate. So, the government to implement the education development schemes effectively.

There is need to quality of education not for the quantity of education. The persons are not obtained degrees but obtained skills only

There is need to increase the working day of MGNREGA 100-man days to 150-man day in drought region of Palnadu and other regions of Andhra Pradesh. And there is need to interlink of agricultural sector

Effectively implementation of Poverty elevation programmes in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

To effectively work of SC sub plan. Majority of the beneficiaries are belonging to the ruling party members. Lack of effective monitoring to ensure that the ministries and department levels earmark funds under SCP received are underutilized.

To provide basic civic amenities not only rural but also in urban areas in Andhra Pradesh

5. Conclusion

The main objective of the paper is to analyse the status of Scheduled Castes in Andhra Pradesh and to analyse the poverty levels in Guntur district among the caste categories. The paper is based on the primary data. 100 sample respondents are selected from the two regions of Palnadu and Guntur region of Andhra Pradesh. The data only related to income and expenditure of the sample households.

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