

Socio-economic conditions of schedule tribes of kashmir

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Abstract: Kashmir Valley is known as paradise on earth with its natural beauty. Schedule tribe is a population group mostly dominated on hilly and mountainous regions of Valley. They are economically poor, socially backward, but culturally sound. The economic poverty among schedule tribes of Kashmir is more than the general population of region. Their housing, sanitation, electricity, health care facilities are very low sub-standard than other sections of population. The literacy rate among schedule tribes of Kashmir is also very low. This paper is based on secondary sources of data and tries to analysis the magnitude of socio-economic access of different parameters.

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Introduction

Between the Pre Panjal and western end of the Great Himalayan range lies a deep asymmetrical basin called the Vale of Kashmir. The valley of Kashmir has been described as a Paradise on earth. Kashmir is the most attractive place for the tourists both Indian and foreigners. Among the popular tourists places are Phalagam, Gulmarg, Sonmarg, Dal Lake, and Amaranth Cave. The Kashmir Valley is surrounded by Leh and Kargil from West, Pakistan occupied Kashmir (Azad Kashmir) and Jammu from South West. The Kashmir valley is consisting of ten districts like Anantnag, Baramulla, Budgam, Bandipora, Ganderbal Kulgam, Kupwara, Pulwama, Srinagar and Shopian. The total population of the valley as per census 2011 was 68, 68, 000 thousand which constitutes 54.76 percent of total population of the state, while the population of state was 1,25,41,302 persons. The sex ratio of Kashmir was 899 females per thousand of males and the literacy was is 61.49 percent. The Kashmir valley is dominated by the Muslim population with 97.16 percent of the total population.

Concept of Schedule Tribe

There are various concepts and definition of schedule tribes in India. A tribe is a collection of families bearing a common name, speaking a common language, occupying a common territory and is not usually endogamous though originally it might have been so (Imperial Gazetteer of India). Majumdar and Madan (1967), commented that when one looks into the definition of various anthropologists, one is bound to be impressed by the dissimilarity of their views as regard what constitutes a tribe. Kinship ties, common territory, one language, joint ownership, one political organization, absence of internecine strife, have all been referred as the main characteristics of schedule tribes.

The preponderance of an elite and discriminatory economic and social order has ensured that certain segments of population will remain disadvantageous. This segmentation of the population in terms of their areas of social and economic opportunities and their participation in process of development is based on two factors. The first is spatial differentiation, which refers to the viability of region in terms of geographical location. For example if a region is well served by road connectivity, near to the areas of political, financial, industrial, business and entrepreneurial importance, then location enjoys better advantages in development. The second factor is the characters of population or in other words social disposition of the people. For example in Indian social system it has been found that upper castes can enjoy better life due to their caste status. As a result schedule tribes are characterized by lacking of basic amenities, which is upshot of both geographical locations and infrastructural facilities. Primitive, geographically isolated, shy and socially, educationally & economically backwardness these are the traits that distinguish Scheduled Tribes of our country from other communities.

The Constitution of India under Article 366 (25) defined "Scheduled Tribes" as "such tribes or tribal communities or parts or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this constitution".

The criterion followed for specification of a community, as scheduled tribes are indications of primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large, and backwardness. This criterion is not spelt out in the Constitution but has become well established.

In the year 1989 vide the constitution Jammu and Kashmir Schedule Tribe order, 1989 following

eight groups where declare schedule tribe in respect of our state.

1. Balti
2. Beda
3. Bot, Bota
4. Brokpa, Drokpa, Dard, Shin
5. Changpa
6. Garra
7. Mon
8. Purigpa

Following four more groups have also been included in the list of Schedule tribe in respect of our state in the year 1991 be the government of India.

9. Gujjar
10. Bakerwal
11. Gaddi
12. Sippi

Special Census of Schedule Tribes in Kashmir (1987)

There was a first special census of schedule tribes of Jammu and Kashmir in 1987 conducted by Directorate of Census of India. According to given census about 2, 30, 325 persons of schedule tribe population which constitutes 11.5 percent of total population of state. As per the given statistics major concentration of tribal population was found in the districts of Baramulla (27.0 percent), followed by Anantnag (21.78 percent) and Kupwara 20.21 percent of the total schedule tribe population. The lowest schedule tribe population has been found in Badgam and Pulwama with 4.3 percent and 7.8 percent respectively. Among various schedule tribe groups Gujjars are found in highest number in the Kashmir with 83.95 percent followed by Brokpa 7.40 percent, Bot 4.10 percent and Bakerwal 3.08 percent, while the lowest schedule tribe groups are Beda, Changpa and Purigpa whose contribution is less than 0.5 percent in the total schedule tribe population. Remaining groups like Beda, Gaddi, Garra, Mon and Sippi are not found in Kashmir Valley.

Table 1.1: Schedule Tribe Population in Kashmir based on the Mini Survey Conducted by Registrar General of India in 1987

District	Total Population	Percentage of total ST Population	Bakerwal	Balti	Beda	Bot	Brokpa	Changpa	Gaddi	Garra	Gujjar	Mon	Purigpa	Sippi
Kupwara	46552	20.21	335	-	-	3	20	-	-	-	46194	-	-	-
Baramullah	62034	26.93	2289	40	-	-	16933	-	-	-	42768	-	-	-
Srinagar	43440	18.86	286	1266	-	11237	213	-	-	-	30438	-	-	-
Budgam	9971	4.3	38	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	9873	-	52	-
Pulwama	18156	7.8	311	-	1	4	37	1	-	-	17802	-	-	-
Anantnag	50172	21.78	3848	7	-	4	1	-	-	-	46289	-	23	-
Total	230325	100	7127 (3.9)	1320 (0.57)	1 (0.00043)	11,248 (4.14)	17,205 (7.46)	1 (0.00043)			193,364 (83.96)		75 (0.032)	

Source : Mini Survey constructed by Registered General of India in 1987

Schedule Tribe Population of Kashmir (Census 2001)

Table (1.2) presents the district wise distribution of various schedule tribe groups of the population of Kashmir division. The total schedule tribe population of Kashmir division was 3, 18, 265 which compromises 5.63 percent of total population of the state. The highest concentration of schedule tribe population was in district Anantnag with 8.63 percent followed by Kupwara 7.96 percent, Baramulla 7.17 percent and the lowest concentration

in Budgam 2.31 percent followed by Srinagar 3.78 percent. Among various schedule tribe groups Gujjars are in highest number which constitutes 67.8 percent followed by Brokpa 8.85 percent, Bakerwal 7.61 percent.. The district Anantnag contributes 31.85 percent to the total schedule tribe population of Kashmir division followed by Baramulla 25.29 percent and Kupwara 16.19 percent. The lowest contribution to total schedule tribe population of Kashmir was by district Budgam and Pulwama.

Table 1.2: District wise Distribution of Schedule Tribe Population of Kashmir

District	Total Population	Percentage	Bakerwal	Balti	Beda	Bot	Brokpa	Changpa	Gaddi	Garra	Gujjar	Mon	Purigpa	Sippi
Kupwara	51537 (16.19)	7.96	1766 (7.2)	-	-	57	68 (0.24)	106		-	49576 (19.15)	-	-	
Baramullah	82495 (25.29)	7.17	3744 (15.45)	51	-	453	26066 (95.35)	-		-	52170 (20.15)	-	-	11
Srinagar	43,733 (13.74)	3.78	3115 (12.85)	575	-	55	1199 (4.38)	-		-	38788 (14.98)	-	1	-
Budgam	15,398 (4.83)	2.31	252 (1.04)	757	-	2	1	-		-	14108 (5.45)	-	-	5
Pulwama	21496 (6.75)	3.2	548 (2.26)	35	-	4	-	-		-	20445 (7.89)	-	-	-
Anantnag	101377 (31.85)	8.63	14798 (6.10)	11	-	7	1	-	35	-	83732 (32.35)	-	-	5
Total	318265	5.50	24223 (7.61)	1429 (0.44)		578 (0.18)	27335 (8.58)	106 (0.033)	35 (0.010)		258819 (67.18)		-	21 (0.006)

Source: Census of India 2001

District Wise Population Trend of Schedule Tribes from 1987-2001

Table (1.3) shows that total population of schedule tribes of Kashmir division in census 1987 was 200.32 thousand which increased to 318.24 thousand in 2001, with an increase of 58.86 percent.

At the district level highest change has been measured in district Srinagar with 255.37 times increase followed by district Anantnag 101.59 times increase and Budgam 45.93 times increase. The lowest changes have been occurred in the districts of Kupwara and Pulwama.

Table 1.3: District wise Distribution of Schedule Tribe Population of Kashmir (unit 000)

State/ District	1987	Estd 1991	2001	Change from 1987-2001
Kupwara	46.55 (23.00)	51.93 (20.20)	51.75 (16.26)	5.2 (11.17)
Baramullah	62.03 (31.10)	69.23 (26.93)	83.89 (26.36)	21.88 (35.23)
Srinagar	13.44 (6.70)	48.47 (18.18)	43.73 (13.74)	31.98 (225.37)
Budgam	9.97 (4.97)	11.12 (4.30)	14.55 (4.57)	4.58 (45.93)
Pulwama	18.16 (9.06)	20.25 (7.87)	21.49 (6.75)	3.33 (18.33)
Anantnag	50.17 25.04	56.01 (21.79)	101.14 (31.78)	50.97 (101.59)
Kashmir	200.32 100	257.01 (100)	318.24 (100)	117.92 (58.86)

Source: Various Issues of Census of India

Figures in Parentheses indicate the percentage from total Schedule tribes

Population Trend of Schedule Tribes from 2001-2011

In 2007-08 there was bifurcation of districts and four new districts were carved out from six districts of Kashmir valley and total number of districts reached ten. The new carved districts are Kulgam, Shopian, Bandipora and Ganderbal. Due to division of districts into new districts, there was also a change in the distribution of population of the district and population of original districts got reduced. There was 71.14 percent change in the total schedule tribe

population of Kashmir, with highest change has been measured in the districts of Srinagar with 156.96 percent, followed by Pulwama 114.24 percent, Shupiyani 99.37 percent. The lowest change has been found in the district of Barmulla, Bandipora, Kupwara and Kulgam.

Table (1.4) also indicates that after bifurcation of districts again districts Anantnag contributes highest to concentration of schedule tribe total population of Kashmir valley with 25.40 percent in 2001 census and

21.25 percent in 2011 census, followed by Bandipora and Kupwara.

Table 1.4: Change in Population of Schedule Tribe in Kashmir

State / District	2011	2001	Percentage Change	Percentage share in total population 2011
Baramula	37.70 (6.92)	28.88 (9.07)	30.53	3.7
Bandipore	75.37 (13.83)	54.99 (17.28)	37.05	19.2
Kupwara	70.35 (12.91)	51.75 (16.26)	35.93	8.1
Badgam	23.91 (4.38)	14.54 (4.56)	64.37	3.2
Srinagar	89.35 (16.40)	3.485 (1.07)	156.38	0.7
Ganderbal	61.07 (11.21)	41.95 (13.18)	45.54	20.5
Pulwama	22.60 (4.14)	10.55 (3.31)	114.24	4.0
Shopian	21.82 (4.00)	10.94 (3.43)	99.37	8.2
Anantnag	116.00 (21.29)	80.85 (25.40)	43.47	10.8
Kulgam	26.52 (4.86)	20.28 (6.37)	30.74	6.2
Kashmir	544.69 (100)	318.26 (100)	71.14	7.90

Source: Census of India 2011

Figures in Parentheses indicate the percentage from total Schedule tribe Population

Sex Ratio of Schedule Tribes in Kashmir

Table (1.5) shows that sex ratio of schedule tribes of Kashmir is 921 females per 1000 of males. The highest among the schedule tribes of Kashmir was found in district Budgam with (931) followed by

Shopian (929), Anantnag (920) and lowest sex ratio in district Srinagar (779), followed by Baramulla 863 females per 1000 of males. Lowest schedule tribe sex ratio in Srinagar may due to immigration of male schedule population for employment purpose.

Table 1.5: District Wise Sex ratio of Schedule Tribes of Kashmir

S. No	District	Sex Raio
1	Kupwara	905
2	Badgam	931
3	Baramulla	863
4	Bandipora	913
5	Srinagar	779
6	Ganderbal	875
7	Pulwama	909
8	Shopian	929
9	Anantag	920
10	Kulgam	909
Total	Kashmir	921

Source: Census of India 2011

District wise poverty of Schedule Tribes in Kashmir:

Table (1.6) presents district wise poverty rate of schedule tribes in Kashmir both for rural as well as urban areas, which shows that the total

poverty of Schedule tribes of Kashmir division was 49.81 percent with the distribution of 49.89 percent in rural areas and 16.75 percent in urban areas. At the district level highest poverty among schedule tribes

was found in district Badgam with 99.9 percent followed by Pulwama 80.69 percent, Baramulla 77.82 percent.

Table 1.6: District wise Poverty of Schedule Tribes of Kashmir

S.No	District	Rural	Urban	Total
1	Anantnag	44.86	0.00	44.86
2	Baramulla	80.09	15.00	77.82
3	Badgam	99.99	0.00	99.99
4	Bandipora	41.92	0.00	41.92
5	Ganderbal	53.37	0.00	53.37
6	Kulgam	58.47	0.00	58.47
7	Kupwara	36.24	0.00	36.24
8	Pulwama	80.69	0.00	80.69
9	Shopian	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Srinagar	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	Kashmir	49.89	16.75	49.81

Source: BPL survey of Jammu and Kashmir 2008

Housing Quality of Schedule Tribes in Kashmir

Table (1.7) shows the percentage of schedule tribe households with quality of house. In Kashmir 36.35 percent of households have Pucca houses and 63.65 percent of households with Khucha houses. In Budgam district 78.47 percent of

households have Pucca houses followed by district Anantnag 44.58 percent, Kulgam 44.58 percent. In district Kupwara 89.62 percent of households have Khucha houses (made of mud, un-brunt bricks, grass thatch, Polythene etc.) followed by Baramulla 82.91 and Bandipora, 76.23 percent.

Table 1.7: Percentage of Schedule Tribe Households with Quality of House

District	Pucca**	Khucha
Kupwara	10.37	89.62
Budgam	78.47	21.32
Bandipora	23.76	76.23
Srinagar	70.00	29.99
Ganderbal	18.17	81.82
Pulwama	24.96	75.03
Shopian	32.21	67.78
Anantnag	45.77	54.22
Kulgam	44.58	55.51
Baramulla	17.01	82.91
Kashmir Division	36.35	63.65

Source: Census of India

** Pucca House Includes Burnt Bricks and Concrete.

*** Kucha House made of Mud, Un-Brunt bricks, Grass thatch

Quality of Water:

The below table (1.8) shows the percentage of households with quality of water, which depicts that on an average only 28.29 percent of households of have water facility from treated sources and 71.71 percent of households have water facility from un-

treated sources. Highest deprivation interms of treated water is in the district Bandipora with 94.85 percent followed by Pulwama with 87.80 percent, Kulgam with 83.48 percent, Anantnag 81.09 percent and 79.74 percent in Kupwara district.

Table 1.8: Percentage of Schedule Tribe Households with Quality of Water

District	Treated source	Untreated source
Kupwara	20.25	79.74
Budgam	29.87	70.12
Bandipora	5.10	94.85
Srinagar	87.92	12.07
Ganderbal	34.26	65.73
Pulwama	12.19	87.80
Shopian	21.78	78.21
Anantnag	18.90	81.09
Kulgam	16.52	83.48
Baramulla	28.29	71.70
Kashmir Division	28.29	71.71

Source: Census of India 2011

Electricity and Bathroom Facility

Table (1.9) reveals that 49.13 percent of schedule tribe households in Kashmir Valley have electricity as a main source of light with the distribution of 93.80 percent in district Srinagar, 69.99 percent in Ganderbal, 59.03 percent in Budgam. The lowest percentage of households with electricity has been in district Kulgam district (12.93 percent), Shopian (23.20 percent) and district

Anantnag (25.6 percent). Table also depicts that 39.73 percent of schedule tribe households in Kashmir have bathroom facility with the distribution of 70.05 percent in Srinagar, 61.35 percent in Budgam and 54.1 percent in Bandipora. The lowest bathroom facility among schedule tribe households of Kashmir Valley was found in district Kulgam with 13.04 percent followed by Pulwama 15.18 percent and 21.71 percent in Anantnag.

Table 1.9: Percentage of Schedule Tribe Households in Kashmir with Electricity and Bathroom Facility

District	Electricity	Bathroom Facility
Kupwara	52.7	40.9
Budgam	59.03	61.35
Bandipora	42.04	54.1
Srinagar	93.80	70.05
Ganderbal	69.99	40.22
Pulwama	37.95	15.18
Shopian	23.20	35.79
Anantnag	25.61	21.71
Kulgam	12.93	13.04
Baramulla	74.13	45.0
Kashmir	49.13	39.73

Source: Census of India 2011

Basic Household Amenities

Since the focus of the study is to analysis the deprivation and access to special household assets like radio, television, car, motorbike, mobile phone, banking facility etc. There is a low probability of access of schedule tribe households to these assets. If any household has no access to these given assets he is considered multidimensionally poor. Table (1.10) reveals that out of four basic household amenities maximum schedule tribes of Kashmir valley have an access to radio with 52.62 percent followed by mobile phone and only 1.25 percent of households

have access to car and motor bike. Only 30.84 percent of households have access to banking facility. At the district level only 15.89 percent of households have access to all these household amenities in district Kulgam followed by Kupwara district (19.55 percent) and Anantnag (19.66 percent). In district Srinagar highest percentage of households (48.45 percent) have access to these basic amenities like radio T.V, Car, Motor Bike followed by the Baramulla (30.15 percent) households. Among the given amenities lowest availability was found in vehicle and motor bike followed by T.V.

Table 1.10: Percentage of Schedule Tribe Households of Kashmir with Basic Household Amenities

District	Radio	T.V	Mobile	Car/ Motor Bike	Banking Facility	Mean \bar{x}
Kupwara	45.49	6.30	21.01	0.21	24.77	19.55
Budgam	50.85	13.87	26.08	0.68	28.27	23.95
Bandipora	59.37	18.68	18.55	0.83	32.06	25.89
Srinagar	60.12	60.93	68.69	7.46	45.08	48.45
Ganderbal	62.19	10.32	25.42	0.67	38.80	27.48
Pulwama	46.89	4.94	27.69	0.36	36.04	23.18
Shopian	45.53	4.64	27.95	0.87	16.17	19.03
Anantnag	53.85	3.2	22.27	0.21	28.79	21.66
Kulgam	47.86	2.03	21.68	0.15	7.76	15.89
Baramulla	54.10	13.39	33.23	1.14	50.72	30.15
Kashmir	52.62	13.83	29.25	1.25	30.84	25.55

Source: Census of India 2011

Conclusion:

On the whole it has been observed from the given analysis that Kashmir division has the rugged topography, due to which it gives the habitation to maximum number schedule tribes of the state. The Kashmir Valley is mostly concentrated with Gujjars, Bakerwal and Brokpa. All these schedule tribe groups are socially and economically deprived and have not basic amenities of life. The poverty rates of schedule tribes in Kashmir valley are more as compared to the rate of general population of the state.

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