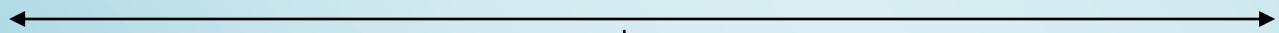


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OCCUPATIONAL MOBILITY OF SCHEDULED CASTE POPULATION IN INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SCHEDULED CASTE POPULATION IN LUCKNOW DISTRICT

DR. FALAK BUTOOL¹

¹ Post Doctoral Fellow, National P.G. College, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, INDIA

DR. P. K. SINGH²

² Head of the Department, Department of Geography, National P. G .College, Lucknow, U.P., INDIA

ABSTRACT

The present paper intended to study the occupational mobility of scheduled caste population in India with special focus on scheduled caste population of Lucknow district. The result of the study of scheduled caste occupational mobility is showing their limited upward mobility in India and Uttar Pradesh and negligible occupational mobility in case of scheduled caste of Lucknow. From the results it is also clear that in spite of reservation scheduled caste people are engaged more and more in agricultural sector and their shift to other sectors is not observable over the period of time.

KEY WORDS: Occupational Mobility, Scheduled Caste Population, India, Lucknow.

INTRODUCTION

Occupation which affect our belief, values and preferences, and thereby our choice is a vital factor for the economic progress of any community. Occupation is one of the best indicators of class, because people tend to agree on the relative prestige they attach to similar jobs (Karade, 2009:4). Those at or near the top rung of the prestige ladder usually have the highest income, the best education, and the most of the power. According to Gidden, (2009:443) a famous sociologist:

. . . occupation is the most critical factor in an individual's social standing, life chances and level of material comfort...individuals in the same occupation tend to experience similar degrees of social advantage or disadvantage, maintain comparable lifestyles, and share similar opportunities in life ...

However people tend to change their occupation to enhance economic and social return out of it and this shifting of occupation is called as occupational mobility. Occupational mobility is defined as the percentage of currently employed individuals who report a current occupation different from their most recent previous report of an occupation. In other words occupational mobility is the transition of worker from one occupation category to another. A move for one to a higher order occupation category is recorded as upward mobility (Wilson, 2004 : 46) while moving to a lower order category is recorded as downward mobility. Those who stayed at the same occupation category over the study period are recorded as immobile (Wilson, 2004: 47). Those who have changed their occupation to another category and switched back in the same year are still considered as immobile if they do not spend most of their time during the year for that second occupation regardless of the discretion of the

recorded occupation. In the inter-generational occupational mobility, an individual changes his occupation compared to the occupation of his fathers. However in Intra generational occupational mobility, one position or one point of an individual's career is compared with another position or point of his/her career (Miller, 1960: 5).

Here occupational mobility which simply means the ability of the individual to change job after the acquisition of a new skill may be useful in improving their socio-economic status as it changes the real labour earning (Parrado and Cancer, 2005). The occupational and industrial mobility in USA has been studied by Passado in 2005. The impact of occupational mobility in Albania is studied by Carletto and Kilic in 2009. Behrman and Taubman in (1985) have studied intergenerational earning mobility in the United States. Long and Ferrie in 2013 have made a comparative assessment of intergenerational occupational Mobility in Great Britain and the United States since 1980. Corak, and Heisz in 1999 have worked upon the intergenerational earning and income mobility of Canadian men. Macias, Grande, Poveda and Anton in 2014 have studied occupational mobility of immigrants. Liang and Lu in 2014 have studied occupational mobility and health and its impact on life satisfaction of Chinese residents.. Hnatkovska, Lahiri, and Paul in (2011) have worked upon the impact of caste on labour mobility. Haider, and Solon in 2006 have worked upon life-cycle variation in association between current and life time earnings. Occupational mobility in case of scheduled caste people will shift them from low paid menial jobs to well paid jobs and in turn will be helpful in improving their socio-economic status. A micro level study on occupational mobility of scheduled caste is done by Wilson in 2004. In this study, he has analysed the effect of the change of agricultural techniques, poverty, outmigration and many other factors on the occupational mobility of scheduled caste population of two selected villages. Caste wise occupational mobility in India has been studied by Majumder, in 2010. In this work he has found that only few castes among the scheduled caste people are showing upward occupational mobility. Jhilam, and Rajarshi and Majumder in 2010 have observed in their work that advance classes are showing vertical occupational mobility, whereas, excluded classes are showing much of their occupational mobility in lateral direction. But perhaps there is no such study of spatial dimension of scheduled caste population of the Lucknow district is available. So in the present study occupational mobility of scheduled caste population is studied taking Lucknow district as the study area and its blocks as units of analysis.

OBJECTIVES

This piece of work will be meant to fulfill the following objectives

1. To study occupational mobility of scheduled caste population in India
2. To show the occupational mobility among the scheduled caste workers in different blocks of Lucknow district.

DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY

The entire study is based upon the secondary sources of data which have been collected from Zila Sankhikiya Patrika.

Z- score and Composite Z-score Technique

In order to reach standardization, the raw data for each variable has been computed into standard score. It is commonly known as Z value or 'Z' score. The scores measure the departure of individual observation from the arithmetic mean of all observations; expressed in comparable form. This means it becomes a linear transformation of original data and this method was first used by (Smith, 1973: 85) in his study on inequality in Peru. The formula is:

$$Z_{ij} = \frac{X_{ij} - \bar{X}_i}{\sigma_i}$$

Where,

Z_{ij} = Standardized value of the variable i in block j .

X_{ij} = Actual value of variable i in block j .

\bar{X}_i = Mean value of variable i in all block.

σ_i = Standard deviation of variable i in all block.

In the second step, the z-scores of all variables have been added block wise and the average has been taken out for these variables which may be called as composite score (CS) for each block and may be algebraically expressed as:

$$CS = \frac{\sum Z_{ij}}{N}$$

Where,

CS is composite score,

N refers to the number of indicators (variables),

$\sum Z_{ij}$ indicates Z-Scores of all variables i in block j .

The positive values relating to the Z-Score of blocks explain high level of development and vice versa.

DISCUSSION

Occupational Mobility of Scheduled Caste Population in India

Occupational mobility is an issue on which only few systematic studies are done in India. One of such study is done by Majumder in 2010 entitled *Intergenerational Mobility in Educational and Occupational Attainment: A Comparative Study of Social Classes in India*. In the present paper researcher has examined the extent of intergenerational mobility in both educational and occupational attainments for various social groups in India. Results indicate strong intergenerational stickiness in both educational achievement and occupational distribution among the scheduled castes and tribes who have been discriminated against historically. Lower Occupational mobility than educational level of these social groups suggest that educational progress is not being transformed to occupational improvement and bringing up the possibility of discrimination in the labour market. This also indicates the fact that historical social exclusion has had a long-run effect and the inertia is quite strong.

The other important work of this kind is “**Breaking the Caste Barrier: Intergenerational Mobility in India**” which is done by Hnatkovskay, Lahiriy, and Pauly in May 2011. The study shows that amongst the various inequalities typically associated with the caste system in India, probably one of the most debilitating is the perception that one is doomed by birth, i.e., social and economic mobility across generations is difficult among the scheduled caste population. In this study the extent and evolution of this lack of mobility by contrasting the intergenerational mobility rates of the historically disadvantaged scheduled castes and tribes (SC/ST) in India with the rest of the workforce in terms of their education attainment, occupation choices and wages. In this study household survey data from successive rounds of the National Sample Survey between 1983 and 2005 is used for analysis. Researchers found that inter-generational education and income mobility rates of SC/STs have converged to non-SC/ST levels during this period. Moreover, SC/STs have been switching occupations relative to their parents at increasing rates, matching the corresponding switch rates of non-SC/STs in the process. They concluded that the last twenty years of major structural changes in India have also coincided with a breaking down of caste-based historical barriers to socio-economic mobility. It has now been over 60 years since the constitution of India came into effect in 1950.

Another systematic work of this nature entitled ‘**Educational and occupational mobility across generations in India: social and regional dimensions**’ is done by Ray, Jhiliam and Majumder. According to the findings of their work occupational mobility is much sticky across generations, with very limited upward mobility. Mobility among excluded classes was lower than that for advanced classes, indicating greater intergenerational stickiness for them. This gap is higher at the broad occupational levels as compared to the detailed occupational levels. The present study also explains the regional pattern of occupational mobility of scheduled caste population in India. The occupational mobility of the SCs was again sluggish across most of the states during both the periods. J &K, Kerala, Haryana, and Punjab are the states wherein a relatively larger number of children had higher occupation classes as compared to those of their parents whereas in Bihar, MP, Rajasthan and Gujarat, the upward occupational mobility is very poor. When we look at the occupational mobility of children as compared to that of their parents in terms of the broad occupational grades (White-Pink-Blue), it is found that the mobility is much

lower and occupational grades are very sticky in most of the states. While at the national level, only 11.4 per cent of the children had higher occupational grades than those of their parents in 2004, at the state level only Kerala, J & K, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, and Orissa has mobility figures above the national average. The poor performing states in this regard are Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, MP, Delhi, and Karnataka, where the upward mobility is less than 10 per cent (Jhilmam and Majumder, Rajarshi, 2010:9-10)

Blok wise Occupational Mobility among the Scheduled Caste Population, Lucknow, 2014

Occupational mobility which simply means the ability of the individual to change job after the acquisition of a new skill (Maythew, 2005: 358) may be useful in improving their socio-economic status. Occupational mobility in case of scheduled caste people will shift them from low paid menial jobs to well paid jobs and in turn will be helpful in improving their socio-economic status.

Table: 1 Sector wise Distribution of Scheduled Caste Total Main Workers in Lucknow, 2012-13

Year	Block wise Percentage of Main Workers to the Total Population								Block wise Percentage of Agricultural Workers to Total Main Workers								Block wise Percentage of Household Industry Workers to Total Main Workers							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1995-2000	26.9	23.9	23.8	24.8	24.8	24.1	25.7	24.2	73.3	60.3	73.7	58.6	74.2	83.7	72.6	72.8	2.2	3.6	5.5	3.1	3.4	4.2	2.8	7.1
2004-05	26.9	23.9	23.8	24.8	24.8	24.1	25.7	24.2	73.3	60.3	73.7	58.6	74.2	83.7	72.6	72.8	2.2	3.6	5.5	3.1	3.4	4.2	2.8	7.1
2009-10	26.9	23.9	23.8	24.8	24.8	24.1	25.7	24.2	73.3	60.3	73.7	58.6	74.2	83.7	72.6	72.8	2.2	3.6	5.5	3.1	3.4	4.2	2.8	7.1
2012-13	26.9	23.9	23.8	24.8	24.8	24.1	25.7	24.2	73.3	60.3	73.7	58.6	74.2	83.7	72.6	72.8	2.2	3.6	5.5	3.1	3.4	4.2	2.8	7.1

Source; Zila Sankhikya Patrika, Tab 3B, 1995-2000, 2004-05, 2009-10, 2012-13

1. Gosaigang 2. Sarojnagar 3. Kakori 4. Chinhath 5. Mohanlalgang 6. Mal 7. Bahkshi ka Talab 8. Malihabad

From the tab.1 it is clear that occupational distribution of scheduled caste population in different blocks of Lucknow district is same over the period of time. The percentage of main workers, agricultural workers and household industry workers remains the same. This means that occupational mobility is not visible at block level in case of scheduled caste population of state capital i.e., Lucknow.

Socio-Economic Status of Scheduled Caste Population in Lucknow, 2012-13

The concept of development may be taken to imply an improvement in the material and cultural well being of the people in a region. The development of a region can be identified with an increase in the employment opportunities, availability of infrastructural facilities, amenities and services, proper distribution of resources, increase in production, and investment in consumption and so on. Thus, the development refers to an improvement of all the sectors of economic, social and cultural pursuits (Verma, 1993). The level of socio-economic development is the aggregate

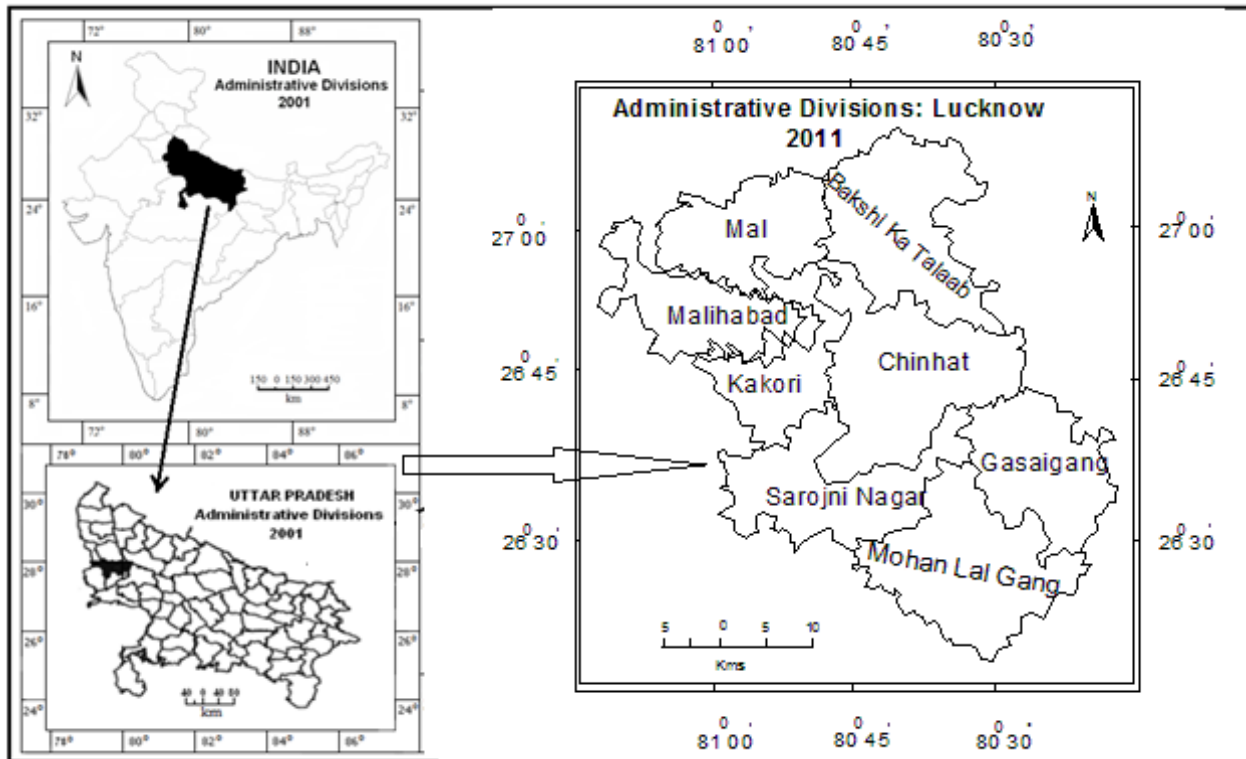


Fig.1

output of the attainment of the various selected socio-economic indicators. To measure the overall level of socio-economic development, z-score of all sixteen selected variables (as shown in tab 2) have been calculated and they are added block wise to find out the composite index of the socio-economic development as expressed in tab 3.

Table: 2 Socio-Economic Development of Scheduled Caste Population in Lucknow, 2012-13

		Gosaigang	Sarojnin -agat	Kakori	Chinhat	Mohanlal gang	Mal	Bakhshi ka Talab	Malihabad
X ₁	Population density	603	640	658	789	573	571	646	696
X ₂	% of Scheduled Caste Population to the Total Population	44.8	37.8	40.7	26.5	45.5	45.9	36.2	38.8
X ₃	Literacy Rate	53.6	58.3	50.3	47.2	55.5	47.2	55.4	51.2
X ₄	% of area under main crops to gross sown area	186.7	149.3	146.3	148.5	158.2	138.1	164.5	136.4
X ₅	% of area under food crops to gross sown area	81.7	80.6	59.6	94.1	86.5	51.9	78.6	48.9
X ₆	Fertilizers consumption per hectare of gross area	160.9	187.9	161.4	390.2	135	131.2	148.3	158.4
X ₇	% of Net irrigated area to the net sown area	210.1	121.6	122.1	142.9	173.2	136.3	145.5	133
X ₈	No of biogas plants per 100 inhabited villages	737.9	1065.6	511	893	672.6	577	406.9	516.3
X ₉	% of electrified villages on total inhabited villages	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
X ₁₀	Total pakka roads length per lakh population	191.2	217.8	178.9	262.6	145.3	188.5	229.6	222.6
X ₁₁	No. of health care services per lakh population	2	1.8	1.9	1.5	2.4	1.7	1.7	1.7
X ₁₂	No. of beds available in the hospitals per lakh population	21.4	7.1	24.6	5.9	20.1	22	6.7	6.7
X ₁₃	No. of primary schools per lakh population	93.6	109.8	112.1	103.8	100.6	100.6	115.9	113.5
X ₁₄	No. of upper primary schools per lakh population	35.6	37	45.4	33.4	34.6	34.7	43.8	37.3
X ₁₅	No. of higher secondary schools per lakh population	2.5	5.4	3.2	4.5	6.4	5.8	4.2	2.4
X ₁₆	Population per commertial bank	39327	22404	51424	44940	27612	24707	34277	29946

Source; Zila Sankhikya Patrika, Tab 3B, 2012-13

The composite mean Z score of socio-economic development is showing only a slight regional variation. It varies from 0.4681 in Sarojninagar to 0.4999 Bakhshi ka Talab. These blocks are grouped in to three categories namely High (>0.4777), Medium (0.4777-0.4682) and Low (<0.4682). High level of socio-economic development is recorded in are Bahsshi ka talab, Mal and Mohan Lal Gang (0.4852), whereas, medium level of scheduled caste socio-economic.

Tab.3 Regional Distribution of Socio-economic Development in Lucknow District, 2012-134

Blocks	Gosaigang	Sarojninagar	Kakori	Mohanlal gang	Mal	Chinhat	Bakshi Ka Talab	Malihabad
Composite Mean Z Score of Socio-economic development	0.4686	0.4681	0.4687	0.4852	0.4855	0.4687	0.4999	0.4687

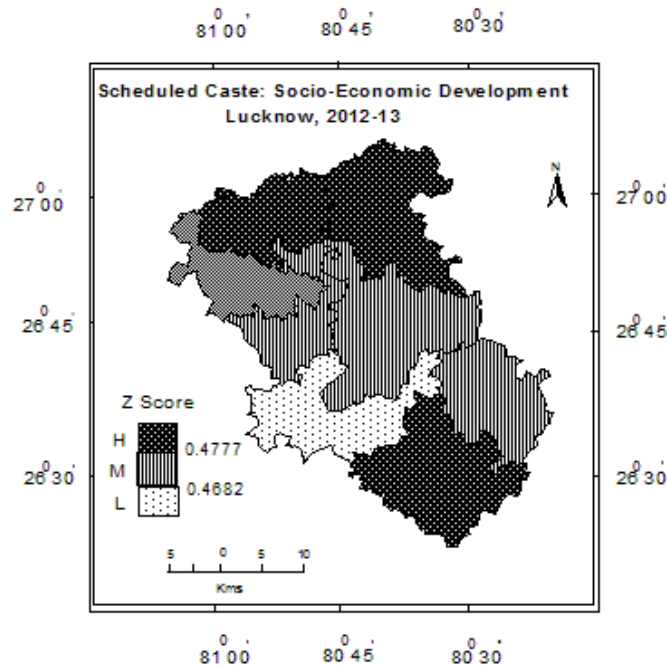


Fig.2

development is observed in Malihabad, Kakori, Chinhat and Gosaigang. However, Sarojninagar is showing low level of scheduled caste development.

CONCLUSIONS

From the results it is clear that scheduled caste people are showing only limited occupational mobility at national level. In spite of reservation scheduled caste people are engaged more and more in agricultural sector and their shift to other sectors is not observable over the period of time (tab 1). Apart from it scheduled caste socio-economic development is showing only slight regional variation ranging from 0.4999 in Sarojninaragar to 0.4681 in Bakhshi ka Talab (tab.3)

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