

Human Development and Social Groups

“The principal source of global ethics is the idea of human vulnerability and the desire to alleviate the suffering of every individual to the extent possible. Another source is the belief in the basic moral equality of all human beings. The injunction to treat others as you would want to be treated finds explicit mention in Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Taoism and Zoroastrianism, and it is implicit in the practices of other faiths. It is on the basis of these common teachings across all cultures that states have come together to endorse the Universal Declaration of Human Rights... the UN’s Millennium Declaration, adopted by the full membership of the General Assembly in 2000, recommitted itself to human rights, fundamental freedoms and respect for equal rights to all without distinction.”

(UNDP, HDR, 2004, p. 90)

I. Introduction

1. The Approach Paper to 11th Five Year Plan ‘Towards Faster and More Inclusive Growth’ by Planning Commission (PC) clearly points out that economic growth has failed to be sufficiently inclusive in India, particularly after mid-1990s. There remain many divides in our society. These include the divide between the rich and poor, between those who have access to essential services and those who do not. This leads to large disparities in health, nutritional status, education, skills, income, availability of clean water and sanitation. The groups which have hitherto been excluded from our society such as Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), some minorities and Other Backward Castes (OBC) continue to lag behind the rest. The 11th Plan aims to restructure policies to achieve a new vision based on faster, more broad-based and inclusive growth. It seeks to reduce poverty and focus on bridging the various divides that continue to fragment our society (PC, 2006, pp.1,9).

2. The pace of human development in the state has remained slow in comparison to many progressive States of the country due to numerous social, economic and political reasons. Within overall low levels of human development indicators in the state, there exist large disparities across social groups. The disparities exist in terms of income, wealth, education, health, nutrition, sanitation, employment, infrastructural facilities, etc. Such extreme levels of disparities across social groups leave some to struggle for their next meal, while others lead opulent lives. Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes form the most vulnerable sections of the society in the state. Some sections of the Other Backward Castes, minorities, higher castes, women, children and old age persons also remain equally backward and deprived of the minimum survival needs deemed essential for a civilized living. These inequalities within the social groups hamper not only their own growth but also create hurdles

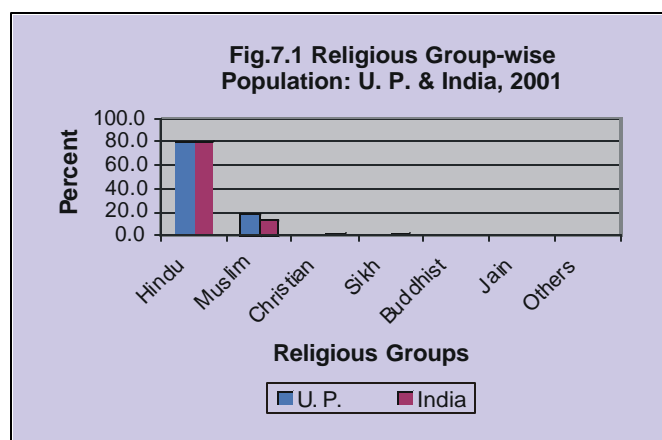
in economic, social and human development of the entire state. In fact extremely low level of human development in U.P. as a whole exists due to existing inequalities, deprivation and backwardness across its social groups.

3. Despite some improvements accomplished in the living conditions of SCs, STs, OBCs, minorities, women and children as a result of preferential treatment, these disadvantaged groups continue to remain backward due to a number of persisting problems they have been continuously facing. These complex problems still stand as a major hurdle in delivering social justice and empowerment of the weaker groups. Apart from the educational and economic backwardness, other problems are equally unfavorable to them to ensure their equal participation in the mainstream society and economy of the state. The tradition based economy of SCs and STs is facing serious threat from the liberalized market economy due to fierce competition for their traditional products. The marginalized groups remain deprived of basic amenities and services like education, health care, connecting roads to their isolated habitations, drinking water, sanitation, housing, etc. All these problems lead to a vicious cycle of negative impact on their capabilities, confidence and efforts to come out at par with the mainstream society and economy of the state (Bhatt, 2006, pp. 9-10).

4. In this chapter, we analyze the existing levels of human development among social groups. As noted above, the social group-wise data for the state as a whole is available from very limited sources as well as for limited dimensions of human development. Similar data for districts and planning regions of the state are simply not available. Based on the available information largely from the 61st round NSS data, State Planning Commission and similar other sources, the prevailing inequalities and human development scenario in Uttar Pradesh across the social groups is presented.

II. Social Composition of Population

5. Uttar Pradesh is one of the culturally most diverse States in India comprising of various castes, tribes, communities, social and religious groups. The state is predominantly inhabited by Hindus with 80.6 per cent share in its population. This ratio of Hindu population is almost similar to all India average. The population of minorities including all groups is almost similar in U.P. (19.3 per cent) and India (18.8 per cent). However, the relative share of Muslim population is significantly higher in the state in comparison to India. Muslims with a share of 18.5 per cent of the State population (which is about 5 percentage point higher than the national average) form the largest religious minorities group in Uttar Pradesh, followed by 0.4 per cent Sikh, 0.2 per cent Buddhist and an equal ratio of 0.1 per cent in case of Christian and Jain population (Table 7.1).



6. Table 7.1 also shows the religious group-wise growth of population both for India and U.P. during the decade of 1991-2001. Among religious groups, Muslim population in the country recorded the highest growth rate of 36.0 per cent followed by Jains (26.2 per cent) and Buddhists (24.5 per cent), which was far ahead of the national average. In U.P. Buddhists topped the list with 42.8 per cent decadal growth in population closely followed by Sikhs (36.0 per cent). Conversion seems to have contributed to the faster growth of Buddhist population. Population growth of Muslims in U.P. (31.4 per cent) was below the national average, but higher than that of Hindus (24.5 per cent). Population of Christians and Jains increased by 16.7 per cent and 23.5 per cent respectively.

7. Social group-wise population estimates as per Census 2001 are available only in the case of SCs and STs. The SCs and STs constitute 21.1 per cent and 0.06 per cent of the State population respectively. Table 7.2 and 7.3 show proportion of SCs and STs and total population of the state living in rural and urban areas respectively. In comparison to 79.2 per cent of the all category rural population, 87.7 per cent of SC and 88.8 per cent of ST population live in rural areas. The proportion of ST/SC population in urban areas is significantly lower. This is indicative of the limited opportunities available to them.

8. Table 7.3 shows per centage distribution of households by social groups as per 61st NSS Round. During 2004-05, only 0.5 per cent households in U.P. belonged

Table 7.1: Religious Group-wise Population and Its Decadal Growth: 1991-2001

Religious	Total Population Group(in Lakh)				% of Total Population (1991-2001 %)				Decadal Growth	
	U. P.		India		U.P.		India		U.P.	India
	1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001		
Hindu	1076.0	1340.0	6876.5	8275.8	81.5	80.6	82.0	80.5	24.5	20.3
Muslim	234.0	307.4	1016.0	1381.9	17.5	18.5	12.1	13.4	31.4	36.0
Christian	1.8	2.1	196.4	240.8	0.1	0.1	2.3	2.3	16.7	22.6
Sikh	5.0	6.8	162.6	192.2	0.4	0.4	1.9	1.9	36.0	18.2
Buddhist	2.1	3.0	63.9	79.6	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.8	42.8	24.5
Jain	1.7	2.1	33.5	42.3	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	23.5	26.2
Other	0.1	0.8	36.9	66.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.6	700.0	79.9
Total	1320.6	1662.0	8385.8	10286.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	25.9	22.7

Source : Census of India, 2001, U.P. Statistical Diary, 2003 & 2005, Economic & Statistics Division, State Planning Institute, U. P., 2003 & 2005.

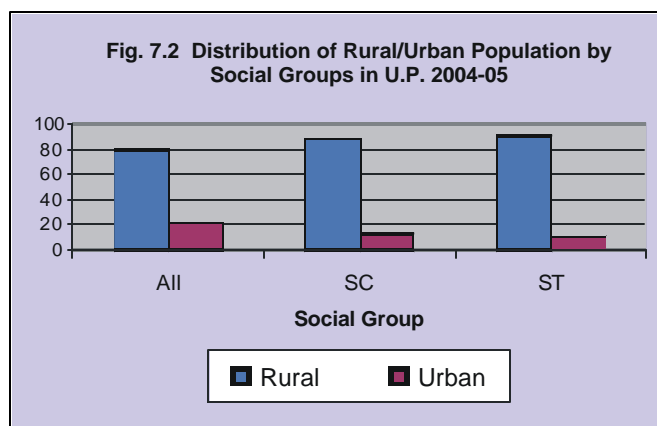
Table 7.2: Social-Group-wise Rural/Urban, Male/ Female Population: U. P., 2001 (Nos.)

Area and Sex		All	SC	ST
Rural	Persons	13,16,58,339 (79.2)	3,08,16,596 (87.7)	95,828 (88.8)
	Male	6,91,57,470 (79.0)	1,61,84,840 (87.5)	49,276 (88.3)
	Female	6,25,00,869 (79.5)	1,46,31,756 (87.9)	46,552 (89.3)
Urban	Persons	3,45,39,582 (20.8)	43,31,781 (12.3)	12,135 (11.2)
	Male	1,84,07,899 (21.0)	23,17,998 (12.5)	6,558 (11.7)
	Female	1,61,31,683 (20.5)	20,13,783 (10.1)	5,577 (10.7)
Total	Persons	16,61,97,921 (100.0)	3,51,48,377 (100.0)	1,07,963 (100.0)
	Male	8,75,65,369 (100.0)	1,85,02,838 (100.0)	55,834 (100.0)
	Female	7,86,32,552 (100.0)	1,66,45,539 (100.0)	52,129 (100.0)

Note: Figures in parentheses denote Column percentages.

Source: Census of India, 2001 as given in Statistical Abstract, U. P.: Economic & Statistics Division, State Planning Institute, U. P., 2005.

to ST against 8.6 per cent ST households in India. The proportion of SC households (23.8 per cent) in the state is relatively much higher in comparison to all India average (19.7 per cent). Similarly, 51.3 per cent of the households in U.P. belonged to OBC which is again significantly higher in relation to country's figure of 40.2 per cent. A significant difference is observed in the distribution of households over social groups between the rural and urban areas. While ST, SC and OBC population ratios are higher in rural areas compared to urban areas, others' proportion is significantly higher in urban areas.



Social Groups	U.P.(%)	India(%)
ST	0.5	8.6
SC	23.8	19.7
OBC	51.3	40.2
Others	24.2	31.4
All India	100.0	100.0

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516

III. Education

9. Education serves as a tool of social change. It leads to better bargaining power, empowerment of the deprived and weaker sections gives them the power to resist exploitation. It dismantles the historic inequalities of caste, class and gender. Empirical studies clearly reveal that people of socially and politically disadvantaged class consider education as a means of upward mobility of their children. The claim of education in scarce national resources is emphasized not only due to its direct returns, but also because of its instrumental role in capability improvement of people, improvement in nutritional level, child health, lower fertility rate, increasing freedom of choices and overall social / human

development. Level of literacy of an adult member of a household determines his / her earning level, activity pattern and standard of living, particularly in the knowledge economy of the globalized India today. Unfortunately, disadvantaged social groups of India had been denied access to education for a long time. Though

the situation has now gradually improved after independence, there still remain large gaps in educational attainments of these groups both in the country as well as in Uttar Pradesh.

10. Table 7.4, shows social group-wise distribution of households with no literate adult (15 years

Social Groups	Rural (%)		Urban (%)	
	No Literate Adult Member	No Literate Adult Female	No Literate MemberAdult Member	No Literate Adult Female Member
ST	44.3	78.9	23.3	44.9
SC	38.7	72.1	21.9	51.5
OBC	32.3	63.7	17.5	38.2
Others	18.0	40.3	8.7	16.6
All	31.3	61.5	14.4	31.0

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516

Gender/Education Level	Social Groups (%)				
	ST	SC	OBC	Others	All
Male					
Not Literate	48.5	46.3	37.2	21.1	36.2
Literate upto Primary	22.1	22.1	22.6	19.2	21.7
Middle	14.6	19.6	19.7	20.3	19.8
Secondary	4.4	5.6	10.4	16.3	10.4
Higher Secondary	4.3	3.9	6.2	12.6	6.9
Diploma / Certificate	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.3
Graduate & Above	6.1	2.3	3.5	9.7	4.5
All (incl. n.r.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female					
Not Literate	87.2	80.3	72.5	48.8	69.8
Literates up to Primary	3.3	8.9	12.3	20.2	13.0
Middle	9.0	6.7	8.2	13.2	8.8
Secondary	0.2	2.2	3.6	7.9	4.1
Higher Secondary	0.3	1.3	2.6	6.5	3.1
Diploma/Certificate	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Graduate & Above	0.0	0.4	0.6	3.4	1.1
All (incl. n.r.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Person					
Not Literate	66.2	63.2	54.9	34.7	52.9
Literate up to Primary	13.6	15.5	17.6	19.6	17.4
Middle	12.0	13.2	13.9	16.9	14.3
Secondary	2.5	3.9	7.0	12.1	7.2
Higher Secondary	2.5	2.6	4.4	9.6	5.0
Diploma/Certificate	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2
Graduate & Above	3.3	1.4	2.1	6.6	2.8
All (incl. n.r.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516

and above) members / adult female members in U.P. separately for rural and urban households. The ST rural households with no literate adult member in 44.3 per cent households and with no literate adult female member in 78.9 per cent households were found most disadvantaged. The proportion of households without any literate adult member or without any literate adult female member was relatively much higher among households belonging to ST and SC social groups as compared to the OBCs and others in both rural and urban U.P. Position of females in all categories of households was highly disadvantageous in comparison to their counterpart males.

11. Table 7.5 presents gender-wise educational level of persons of age 15 years and above belonging to different social groups in rural U.P. The data shows that

52.9 per cent of all people in 15 years and above age group in rural areas of the state were illiterate. In other words only 47.1 per cent of the people in the rural U.P. were literate who could read and write a simple sentence in any language with understanding. Levels of female illiteracy were found very high for all social groups in rural areas- 87.2 per cent for ST women followed by 80.3 per cent for SC, 72.5 per cent for OBC and 48.8 per cent in case of others. None of the ST females and only 0.4 per cent of the SC women had graduate degree or higher degree. Even for 'others' social group, only 3.4 per cent females were found at this level of education. Similar scenario of illiteracy and low educational levels could also be observed in case of urban U.P. (Table 7.6). Women's education in urban areas also suffers from very high levels of relative disadvantage for almost all social groups.

Table 7.6: Social Group-wise Distribution of Urban Persons (15 Years and above) by level of General Education: U. P., 2004-05

Gender/Education Level	Social Groups (%)				
	ST	SC	OBC	Others	All
Male					
Not Literate	22.0	28.7	27.6	10.9	20.5
Literates upto Primary	46.4	27.7	27.7	12.8	21.3
Middle	16.2	21.2	16.2	15.4	16.4
Secondary	4.9	9.1	10.3	16.2	12.7
Higher Secondary	5.2	6.7	8.2	15.8	11.3
Diploma/Certificate	0.0	0.4	1.5	2.0	1.6
Graduate & Above	5.3	6.2	8.1	27.0	16.1
All (incl. n.r.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female					
Not Literate	53.9	60.1	51.1	21.5	39.4
Literates upto Primary	15.1	17.2	19.6	14.1	16.9
Middle	18.4	11.2	13.4	12.3	12.7
Secondary	4.4	4.8	7.1	14.8	10.1
Higher Secondary	2.0	2.7	4.9	14.6	8.9
Diploma/Certificate	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.3
Graduate & Above	6.1	3.6	3.8	22.0	11.7
All (incl. n.r.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Person					
Not Literate	39.9	43.9	38.4	15.8	29.3
Literates upto Primary	28.7	22.5	24.0	13.4	19.2
Middle	17.5	16.4	14.9	14.0	14.7
Secondary	4.6	7.0	8.8	15.5	11.5
Higher Secondary	3.4	4.7	6.7	15.2	10.2
Diploma/Certificate	0.0	0.4	0.9	1.3	1.0
Graduate & Above	5.7	4.9	6.1	24.6	14.0
All (incl. n.r.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Rural + Urban Persons					
Not Literate	62.4	60.9	51.9	27.7	47.8
Literates upto Primary	15.7	16.4	18.8	17.4	17.8
Middle	12.8	13.6	14.1	15.8	14.4
Secondary	2.8	4.3	7.3	13.4	8.2
Higher Secondary	2.6	2.9	4.8	11.7	6.1
Diploma/Certificate	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.4
Graduate & Above	3.7	1.7	2.8	13.2	5.2
All (incl. n.r.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516.

Fig. 7.3 Distribution of Rural Persons (15 Years and above) by Level of General Education: U. P., 2004-05

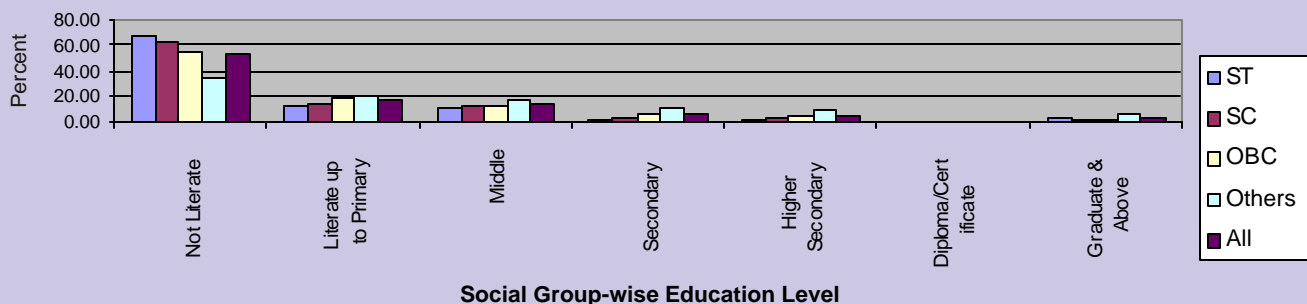
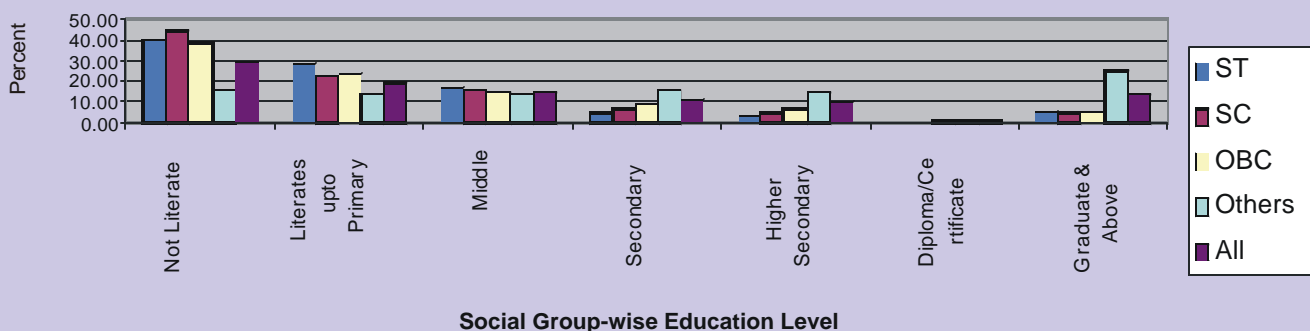


Fig. 7.4 Distribution of Urban Persons (15 Years and above) by Level of General Education: U. P., 2004-05



12. Current attendance rate of children and youth in educational institutions is one of the most crucial human development indicators. If the future citizens of any state are deprived of education and childhood is lost without developing the personality of an individual, one cannot hope to make any progress in future. Social group-wise current attendance rates of children and youth below 30 years of age in U.P. during the year 2004-2005 are presented both for rural and urban areas in Table 7.7. Despite several new educational programmes initiated by the state from early nineties in terms of 'Educational for All', 'District Primary Education Programme' and 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' for providing primary and upper primary level of education to 5-14 years children, only 79.6 per cent of all eligible children belonging to all social groups were found attending schools during 2004-2005. In other words 20.4 per cent of the 5-14 years age group children were still out of schools. The data shows wide ranging variations in case of the children and youth belonging to various social groups, male / females and rural / urban categories. Only 38.3 per cent of the ST rural female children in 5-14 years age group were attending schools. More than 70 to 100 per cent of the youth in the age group 20-24 who are expected to be studying for higher education were found not acquiring any type of education. In this category also maximum disadvantage is suffered by SC, ST in general and women in particular.

13. All the indicators discussed above clearly reflect the low status of access and quality of primary education being provided in the state. Almost similar conclusion about the quality of primary education, physical facilities available in primary schools, retention of children in schools and satisfaction of students / households with the quality of education emerge out of the studies conducted by other analysts. A study conducted in 11 villages of Hastinapur and Mawana Blocks of Meerut district, revealed that nearly 51 per cent children, despite having access to and enrolled in a government primary school, were actually studying in private schools by paying exorbitantly high fees. Each household on an average spent about 16 per cent of its total monthly expenditure on their children's education. About 38 per cent children and 68 per cent of the households indicated their dissatisfaction with the quality of primary education in government schools. Groups of villages low in educational development category had the maximum population of the disadvantaged caste-groups, including SCs and minorities. These villages also add to the highest proportion of 32.8 per cent illiterate population of SCs and 31.3 per cent Minorities. SC females (47.0 per cent) and minority females (40.3 per cent) were having the maximum proportion of illiterates (Tripathi, Majumder and Bhatt, pp. 70, 103).

14. In brief, wide gaps exist in educational attainments of ST, SC, and rest of population.

Educationally most disadvantaged are ST, SC, OBC women both in rural and urban areas of the state. At secondary and higher levels of education, abysmally low progress could be clearly noticed across all social groups, particularly in case of ST, SC, OBC and women. With existing physical facilities in primary schools and teaching-learning processes in class rooms, the issue of

providing quality education appears a distant dream. There is a dialectical social relationship between educational progress and social change as the spread of education helps to overcome the traditional inequalities of caste, class and gender, just as the removal of these inequalities contribute to the spread of education. An illiterate person is hardly equipped to participate in the

Table 7.7: Social Group wise current Attendance rates in Education Institutions for Different Age Groups: U. P., 2004-05

Gender/Age Groups	Social Groups (%)				
	ST	SC	OBC	Others	All
Rural					
Male					
5 - 14	67.8	78.6	80.2	85.4	80.6
15 - 19	80.3	41.9	50.1	60.7	50.5
20 - 24	12.1	10.0	13.8	15.0	13.2
0 - 29	44.9	43.7	46.3	50.2	46.3
Female					
5 - 14	38.3	72.7	71.5	79.0	73.0
15 - 19	9.4	31.9	31.1	43.2	33.6
20 - 24	0.0	2.1	3.3	7.6	3.8
0 - 29	19.2	34.5	36.0	40.6	36.4
Person					
5 - 14	52.5	75.9	76.2	82.4	77.1
15 - 19	45.8	37.4	41.0	53.0	42.6
20 - 24	8.9	5.8	8.3	11.3	8.3
0 - 29	32.2	39.2	41.3	45.6	41.5
Urban					
Male					
5 - 14	58.7	72.5	74.1	87.5	78.9
15 - 19	70.4	48.8	40.8	61.6	50.3
20 - 24	0.0	15.2	12.3	29.1	19.9
0 - 29	41.6	39.3	40.1	51.4	44.4
Female					
5 - 14	91.9	71.3	75.7	88.9	80.3
15 - 19	47.6	35.3	41.0	68.9	51.7
20 - 24	16.0	7.0	5.0	21.4	13.2
0 - 29	54.9	35.1	42.2	54.3	46.2
Person					
5 - 14	77.7	72.0	74.9	88.2	79.6
15 - 19	57.2	42.0	40.9	64.9	50.9
20 - 24	8.8	11.1	9.1	25.6	16.8
0 - 29	49.3	37.4	41.1	52.8	45.3

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516.

modern economy and society. Therefore, the state needs to look upon education as a foundation stone of its strategy for the liberation and empowerment of these deprived social groups and communities.

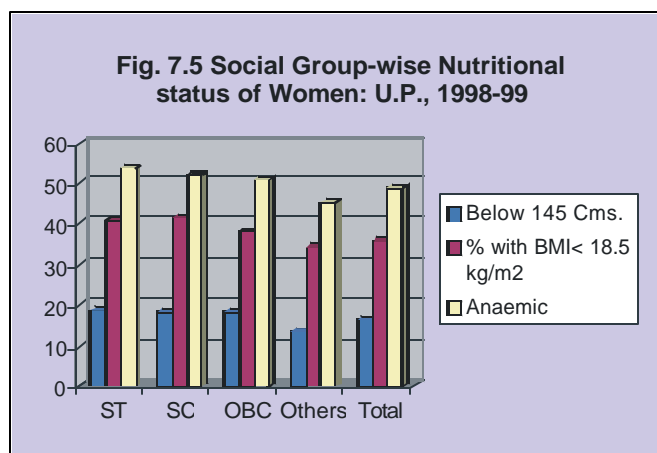
N. Nutrition and Health

15. Nutrition and health play a decisive role in enhancing human capabilities. Relatively few indicators are available to demonstrate the existing nutrition and health status of various social groups separately in the State. In this section, we have made use of National Family Health Survey-II (NFHS-II) data. The available evidence shows that there remain considerable disparities across social groups in terms of nutrition and health. The burden of low nutritional intake, ill health, poor access to health care facilities falls disproportionately on women and children.

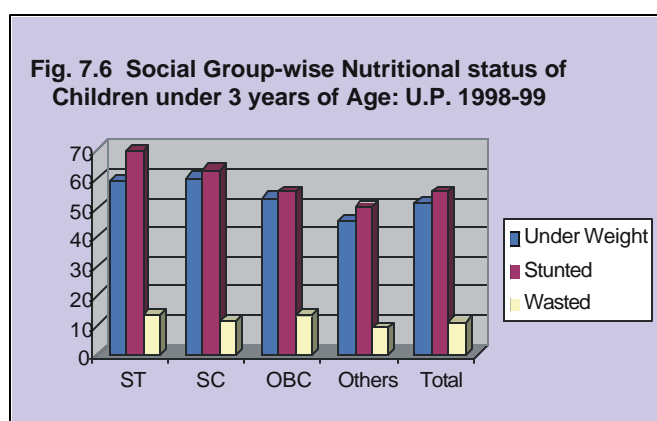
16. The mean height and weight of an individual are taken as the indicators of nutritional status. A woman below mean height of 145 cms. is considered as under-nourished and stunted; and body mass index (BMI) below 18.5 kg. per meter of height squared is taken as under-weight. Similarly, child mal-nutrition is based on three indices including weight for age termed as 'under-weight', height for age called 'stunted' and weight for height called 'wasted'. All these three indicators below 2 standard deviation from the means of their population under reference, are considered as indicators of mal-nourished children. Women's nutritional status is critical in determining the nutritional status of their children as under-nourished women are more likely to give birth to low weight babies, who suffer from life-long disadvantage and greater probability of dying before age of one (Mehrotra, 2006, p. 4265).

17. Table 7.8 depicts social group-wise comparative nutritional status of women in U. P. and India for the reference year 1998-99. About half of all women in U. P. were anaemic, 35.8 per cent suffered from under-weight and 16.4 per cent were stunted. Almost equal disadvantage could be observed in case of ST, SC and OBC women relative to a slightly better condition of

women belonging to 'Others' category. These nutritional indicators for the state are found almost at par with national scenario, except in case of significantly higher ratio of stunted women in U.P.



18. Similarly, more than half of U.P.'s children below 3 years of age are under weight and stunted and 11.1 per cent were wasted. Highest proportions of ST, SC and OBC children were suffering from these problems. Relative condition of children belonging to 'others' category was slightly better (Table-7.9, Fig.-7.6)



Social Group	U.P. (%)			India (%)		
	Below 145 cms.	with BMI < 18.5 kg/m ²	Anaemic	Below 145 cms.	with BMI < 18.5 kg/m ²	Anaemic
ST	18.9	40.8	53.6	13.5	46.3	64.9
SC	18.4	41.6	51.9	17.0	42.1	56.0
OBC	18.5	38.1	51.0	13.5	35.8	50.7
Others	13.5	34.2	45.2	10.9	30.5	47.6
Total	16.4	35.8	48.7	3.2	35.8	51.8

Source: National Family Health Survey-II, 1998-99, Reported in Mehrotra, 2006, p. 4265.

Table 7.9: Social Group-wise Nutritional Status of Children under 3 years of Age: U.P. & India, 1998-99

Social Group	U.P. (%)			India (%)		
	Under weight	Stunted	Wasted	Under weight	Stunted	Wasted
ST	59.4	69.3	13.7	55.9	52.8	21.8
SC	60.3	63.1	11.5	53.5	51.7	16.0
OBC	53.3	55.7	13.6	47.3	44.8	16.6
Others	45.9	50.3	9.3	41.1	40.7	12.8
Total	51.7	55.5	11.1	47.0	45.5	15.5

Source: National Family Health Survey-II, 1998-99.

19. In Table 7.10 social group-wise total fertility rates (TFR) in U.P. and India are presented. These rates show the number of children born to women of 15-49 years reproductive age group. Any level of fertility rate above 2.1 (considered as replacement level of existing population) cannot be considered well for any state, particularly for a state like U.P. which is already facing the burden of over population. Unfortunately, TFR for total population of U.P. is still very high at the level of 3.99 children born per woman in comparison to all India level of 2.85. Highest TFR was observed among ST women (4.83) followed by SC (4.44), OBC (4.12) and others

(3.77). The poor condition of reproductive and child health (RCH) services is one of the main factors responsible for such high TFR across all social groups, apart from numerous other socio-economic factors. This can be observed from the data presented in Table 7.11 showing use of family planning methods for married women in 15-49 age-group. In comparison to 48.2 per cent of India's women in reproductive age group using some method of family planning, only 28.1 per cent of the women in U.P. were making use of these methods. Least proportion of only 15.1 per cent ST women followed by 24.8 per cent SC and 24.2 per cent OBC women adopted such methods.

Fig. 7.7 Social Group-wise Total Fertility Rate in U.P. and India- 1998-99

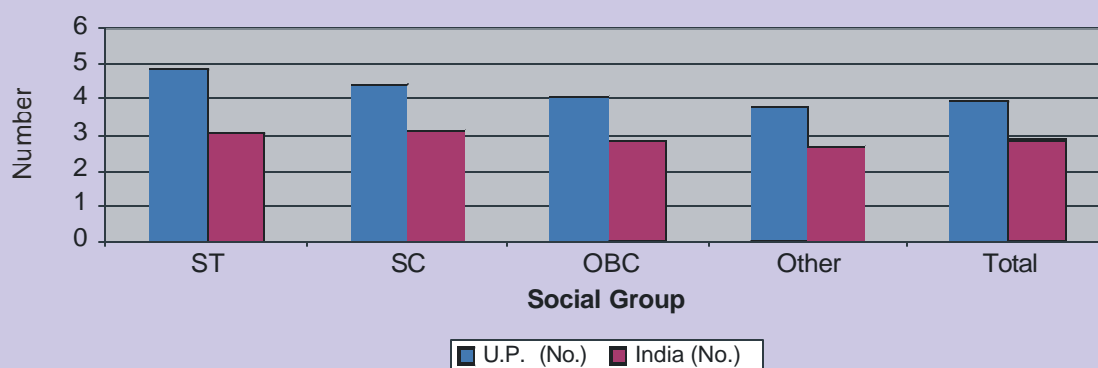


Table-7.10: Social Group-wise Total Fertility Rate: U.P. & India, 1998-99

Social Group	U.P. (No.)	India (No.)
ST	4.83	3.06
SC	4.44	3.15
OBC	4.12	2.83
Other	3.77	2.66
Total	3.99	2.85

Source: National Family Health Survey-II, 1998-99, Reproduced from Mehrotra, 2006, p. 4263.

Fig. 7.8 Social Group-wise Use of Any Method of Family Planning for Ever Married Women 15-49: U.P. & India (%), 1998-99

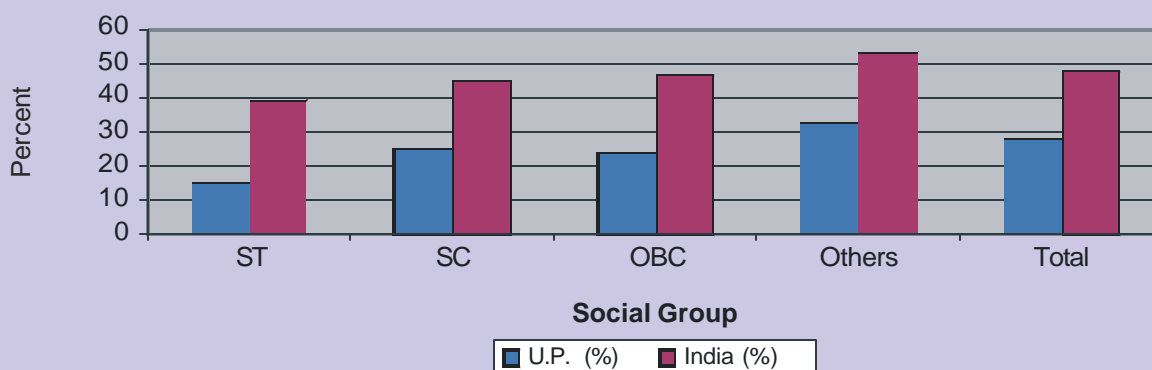


Table 7.11: Social Group-wise Use of Any Method of Family Planning for Ever-Married Women 15-49 Years: U.P. & India, 1998-99

Social Group	U.P. (%)	India (%)
ST	15.1	39.1
SC	24.8	44.6
OBC	24.2	46.8
Others	32.7	53.5
Total	28.1	48.2

Source: National Family Health Survey-II, 1998-99.

20. Table 7.12 depicts social group-wise birth of babies whose mothers were assisted at the time of delivery in U.P. and India. Delivery time assistance is expected from any qualified doctor, nurse or midwife in order to safeguard the good health and life of both mother and baby. Traditional birth attendants (TBA) or Dai are untrained and considered not qualified for such

crucial life caring work. In U.P., only 22.0 per cent of the total births are assisted by any health professional, 35.0 per cent by TBA and 43.0 per cent by others. Access level of the mothers belonging to ST, SC, and OBC to any health professional is still lower. The situation of the state in comparison to India is worst in this aspect of the health care services.

Fig.7.9 Births Whose Mothers were Assisted at the Time of Delivery: U.P., 1998-99

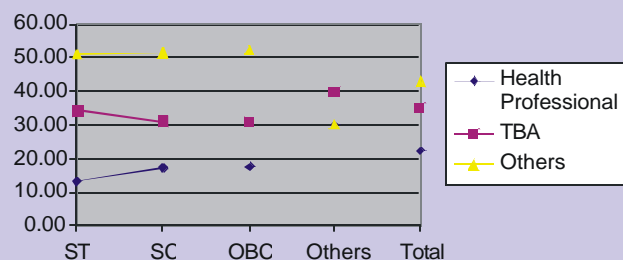


Fig.7.10 Place of Child Delivery: U.P., 1998-99

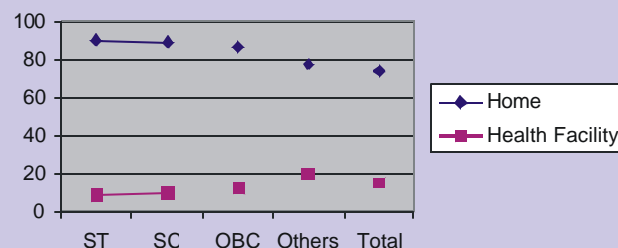


Table 7.12: Social Group-wise Births who's Mothers were assisted at the Time of Delivery : U.P. & India, 1998-99

Social Group	U.P. (%)			India (%)		
	Health Professional	TBA (Dai)	Others	Health Professional	TBA (Dai)	Others
ST	13.1	34.4	51.2	23.0	44.4	32.2
SC	17.1	31.1	51.6	38.8	37.7	25.1
OBC	17.7	30.9	52.3	44.9	34.9	19.9
Others	29.7	39.5	30.3	48.9	31.4	19.5
Total	22.0	35.0	43.0	42.0	35.0	22.0

Source: National Family Health Survey-II, 1998-99, Reported in Mehrotra, 2006, p. 4265.

21. Similarly, 73.8 per cent of the child deliveries take place at home in U.P. These proportions are significantly higher in case of ST, SC and OBC. Health facility for delivery is available to only 8.0 per cent to 12 per cent of the mothers belonging to these groups. Clearly, U.P. significantly lacks in providing health facilities in comparison to India (Table 7.13, Fig. 7.10).

22. Infant mortality rate (the number of babies that die per thousand live births during first year of their birth) is very high in comparison to India across all social groups. Highest level of disadvantage is faced by SC followed by OBC and ST with alarmingly high IMR of 110, 106 and 83 for each social group respectively (Table-7.14, Fig.7.11).

Table 7.13: Social Group-wise Place of Child Delivery in U.P. and India, 1998-99

Social Group	U.P. (%)		India (%)	
	Home	Health facility	Home	Health facility
ST	89.8	8.8	81.8	17.1
SC	88.9	10.2	72.1	26.8
OBC	86.6	12.8	62.8	36.1
Others	77.7	20.0	59.0	40.1
Total	73.8	15.4	64.4	34.0

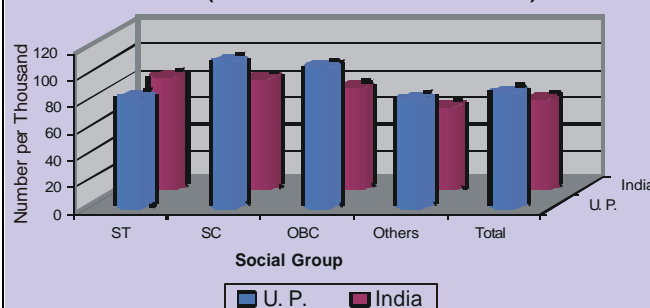
Source: National Family Health Survey-II, 1998-99.

Table 7.14: Social Group-wise Infant Mortality Rate s: U.P. & India, 1998-99

Social Group	U.P.	India
ST	83	84
SC	110	83
OBC	106	76
Others	82	62
Total	87	68

Source: National Family Health Survey-II, 1998-99.

Fig.7.11 Infant and Child Mortality Rates in U.P. and India, 1998-99 (No. of mothers 1000 live of birth)



23. To sum up, the overall scenario of nutrition and health in U.P. appears to be in a pitiable condition. Under such situation, ST, SC and OBC groups face further disadvantage. Women and children especially in case of *dalits* are the worst sufferers. Access to the public health system remains very poor for women belonging to ST and OBC women, who have far worse health indicators as compared to the upper castes. The programmes aimed at the lower castes of U.P., do not address the issue of health or nutrition, in terms of which they are the worst sufferers (Cf. Mehrotra, 2006, p.4269).

V. Livelihood, Employment and Assets

24. The issue relating to livelihoods and assets is primarily concerned with the practical means of development including an improvement in the level and reliability of household entitlements to material goods and services. It also requires opportunities available in future and prioritizes efforts to obtain rights for poor social groups (Conway et. al, 2002, pp. 1-2). Unemployment is one of the major factors responsible for poverty as both are closely interrelated. In addition, low level of income generating assets owned by the households belonging to disadvantaged social groups and poorest sections of even higher caste groups and their consequent low earnings / returns are the main causes of their poverty. These poorest groups possess no land, lack education, efficiency, skills, good health, have no community infrastructure and are deprived of basic facilities. The only possession of the poor persons is their physical labour which they can sell in return for daily wages. When even the physical labour of a poor individual remains unsold due to non-availability of any kind of work, it gives birth to frustration, dissatisfaction and demoralization. Such a situation not only hurts the moral and human values but also affects the socio-economic fabric of the entire society.

25. Studies based on NSS data show that poverty ratios for ST, SC and OBC population are much higher as compared to other social groups. This aspect has been discussed in Chapter 5. It needs to be added that poverty levels have declined in the case of all the social groups though inter-group differences still remain.

26. The NSS 61st round data provides latest estimates on various dimensions of livelihood issues for 2004-05, such as, income sources, monthly per capita expenditure (MPCE), land owned and cultivated, working population and employment scenario. Table 7.15 shows distribution of households of different social groups by type of employment in 2004-05. In the rural areas of the state, proportion of self employed households was highest in 'others' category (74.8 per cent) closely followed by OBC (74.3 per cent). As compared to this only 50.1 per cent SC households and 41.6 per cent ST households were self employed.

Fig.7.12 Distribution of Rural Households by Household Type: U.P., 2004-05

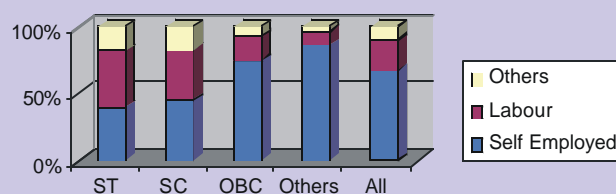
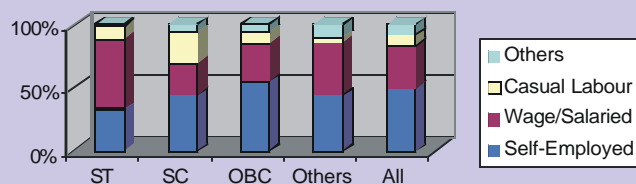


Fig. 7.13 Distribution of Urban Households by Household Type: U. P., 2004-05



The ratio of rural labour households was found very high among ST (45.5 per cent) and SC (42.3 per cent) against relatively lower share of OBC (18.0 per cent) and others (9.0 per cent). In urban areas the highest proportion of 55.3 per cent self employed households belonged to OBC followed by 44.3 per cent SC, 44.0 per cent others and 32.5 per cent ST. Highest proportion of 55.9 per cent ST households depended on regular wage / salaried employment. These ratios were 40.9 per cent, 29.8 per cent and 25.6 per cent for Others, OBC and SC households respectively. Households' depending on casual labour was highest in case of SC (24.6 per cent) followed by ST (11.3 per cent), OBC (8.8 per cent) and Others (only 3.8 per cent).

27. Monthly per capita consumer expenditure (MPCE) serves as a proxy to household monthly income and also demonstrates the standards of living of the household members. The distribution of persons by household's MPCE class intervals is presented in Table 7.16 and 7.17 for different social groups in rural and urban areas separately. MPCE of 23.4 per cent of all people in rural areas of the state was found less than Rs.365 per month belonging to the lowest four MPCE classes. 10.8 per cent of ST households were bracketed in the lowest MPCE class of less than Rs.235 per month which may be seen living on the verge of starvation. None of the ST household members was found in the highest MPCE class who spent Rs.1155 or more per month. Highest proportion of 9.3 per cent 'others' category households followed by 3.3 per cent OBC and 1.5 per

Table 7.15: Social Group Wise Distribution of Rural / Urban Households by Household Type: U.P., 2004-05

Type of Employment	Social Groups (%)				
	ST	SC	OBC	Others	All
Rural Self Employed in					
Agriculture	26.3	33.8	53.9	58.1	49.2
Non-Agriculture	15.3	16.3	20.4	16.7	18.5
All	41.6	50.1	74.3	74.8	67.8
Rural Labour					
Agricultural Labour	27.4	23.9	11.0	6.5	13.7
Other Labour	18.1	18.4	7.0	2.4	9.2
All	45.5	42.3	18.0	9.0	22.8
Other	12.8	7.6	7.7	16.2	9.3
All (Including n.r.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban					
Self-Employed	32.5	44.3	55.3	44.0	49.2
Wage/Salaried	55.9	25.6	29.8	40.9	33.9
Casual Labour	11.3	24.6	8.8	3.8	8.7
Others	0.4	5.6	5.8	10.9	7.9
All (including n.r.)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516.

cent SC belonged to this MPCE class. Similarly, in urban U.P., 24.1 per cent of all households were spending less than Rs.485 per month belonging to the three lowest MPCE classes. Highest proportion of 51.9 per cent ST households followed by 37.1 per cent SC, 29.0 per cent OBC and 24.1 per cent others were bracketed in these

MPCE classes. A substantially high ratio of 26.8 per cent ST households were in the lowest MPCE class spending less than Rs.335 per month, barely sufficient for meeting two square meals per day. Highest MPCE class was enjoyed by 7.4 per cent of the 'others', 1.6 per cent OBC, 1.5 per cent SC and none of the ST households.

Fig.7.14 : Distribution of Rural Household MPCE Class: U. P., 2004-05

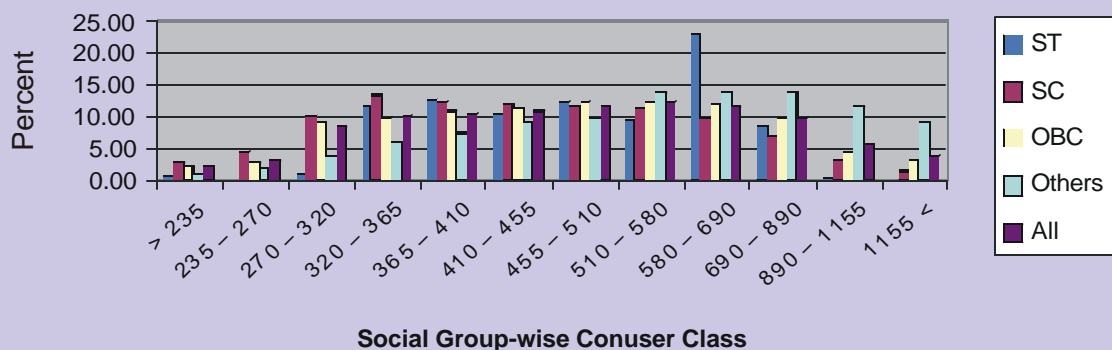


Fig.7.15 Distribution of Urban Household MPCE Class: U. P., 2004-05

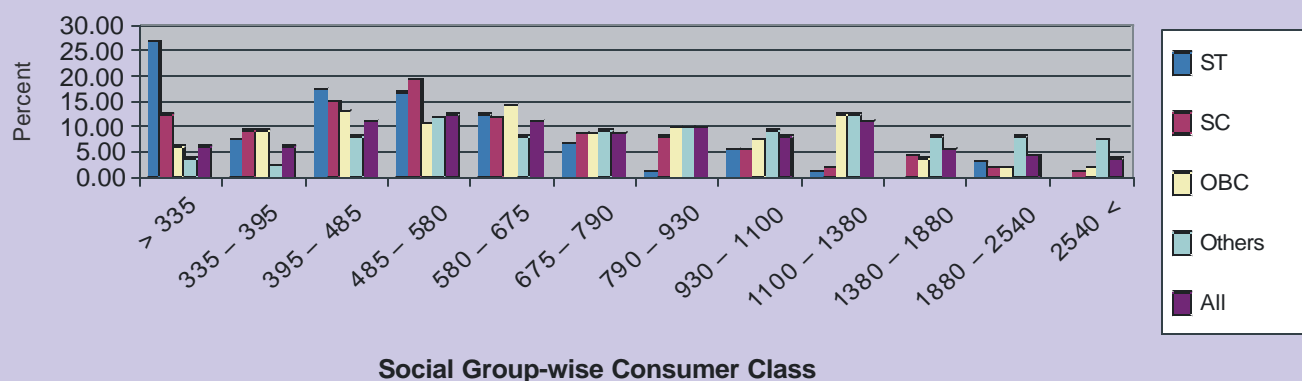


Table 7.16: Social Group Wise Distribution of Household Monthly Per Capita Consumer Expenditure Class, Rural U.P., 2004-05

Monthly Per Capita Consumer Expenditure (Rs.)	Social Groups (%)				
	ST	SC	OBC	Others	All
Rural					
Less than 235	10.8	2.7	2.0	0.9	2.0
235 - 270	0.0	4.5	2.8	1.6	3.0
270 - 320	1.0	10.3	9.0	3.8	8.3
320 - 365	11.7	13.4	9.8	5.9	10.1
365 - 410	12.6	12.5	10.8	7.3	10.5
410 - 455	10.6	12.1	11.2	9.0	11.0
455 - 510	12.2	11.7	12.2	9.7	11.6
510 - 580	9.4	11.3	12.3	13.6	12.3
580 - 690	22.8	9.7	12.0	13.6	11.7
690 - 890	8.5	7.0	9.9	13.6	9.8
890 - 1155	0.5	3.3	4.7	11.7	5.7
1155 & Above	0.0	1.5	3.3	9.3	4.0
All Classes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516.

28. Table 7.18 depicts data relating to labour force participation rate (LFPR), worker population ratio (WPR) and proportion unemployed (PU) for various social groups. WPR as per NSS data is defined according to usual status denoted as PS + SS (Principal and subsidiary activity). It includes persons who either worked for a

relatively larger part of the 365 days in any economic activity preceding the date of survey and also those persons from among the remaining population who had worked at least for 30 days during the reference period of 365 days preceding the date of survey for any type of economic returns. Similarly, the labour force or

Table 7.17: Social Group Wise Distribution of Household Monthly Per Capita Consumer Expenditure Class, Urban U.P., 2004-05

Monthly Per Capita Consumer Expenditure (Rs.)	Social Groups (%)				
	ST	SC	OBC	Others	All
Less than 335	26.8	12.7	6.2	3.6	6.1
335 - 395	7.7	9.2	9.5	2.4	6.5
395 - 485	17.4	15.2	13.3	8.4	11.5
485 - 580	17.0	19.2	10.9	12.0	12.4
580 - 675	12.8	11.6	14.3	8.2	11.4
675 - 790	6.6	8.7	8.7	9.5	9.0
790 - 930	1.4	8.2	10.3	10.2	9.9
930 - 1100	5.8	5.5	7.6	9.3	8.0
1100 - 1380	1.4	2.0	12.2	12.4	11.0
1380 - 1880	0.0	4.5	3.6	8.4	5.7
1880 - 2540	2.9	1.7	1.7	8.2	4.4
2540 & Above	0.0	1.5	1.6	7.4	4.0
All Classes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516.

economically active persons refer to that section of the population who supply or seek to supply labour for production activities. This includes both categories of workers, i.e. employed and the unemployed. LFPR is also worked out as per the usual status considering both the principal and subsidiary works.

29. In rural U.P., the proportion of economically active persons was highest in case of ST followed by SC, OBC and others. The LFPRs for these groups were 47.8 per cent, 39.9 per cent, 37.1 per cent and 34.0 per cent respectively. The relative position in urban U.P. was

highest for OBC (35.8 per cent) closely followed by SC (34.6 per cent), others (32.3 per cent) and ST (30.2 per cent). The significantly high LFPR proportions of ST/OBC and OBC women reflect their dual work burden to sustain meager household incomes. WPR as per the usual status (PS + SS) was 45.6 per cent in case of

ST rural persons, 39.8 per cent in case of SC, 36.9 per cent for OBC and 33.7 per cent for others. These ratios in case of urban persons were 34.8 per cent for OBC, 32.7 per cent SC, 31.3 per cent others and the lowest 30.2 per cent for ST.

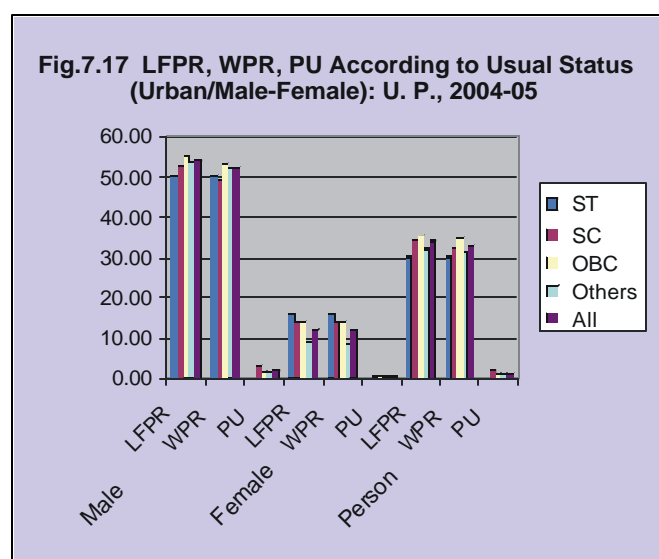
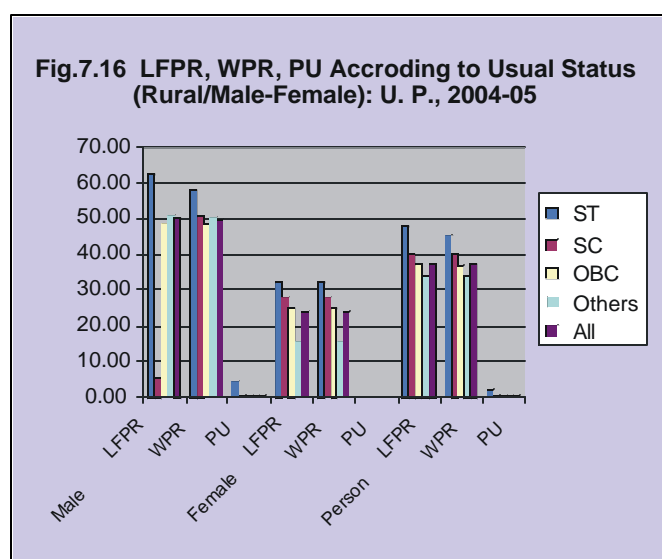


Table 7.18: Social Group-wise Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR) and Proportion Unemployed (PU) According to Usual Status: U.P., 2004-05

Particulars		Social Group (%)				
		ST	SC	OBC	Others	All
RURAL						
Male	LFPR	62.5	51.0	48.9	51.1	49.9
	WPR	58.0	50.8	48.5	50.6	49.6
	PU	4.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Female	LFPR	32.4	28.4	24.8	15.9	24.1
	WPR	32.4	28.3	24.7	15.8	24.0
	PU	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Person	LFPR	47.8	39.9	37.1	34.0	37.3
	WPR	45.6	39.8	36.9	33.7	37.1
	PU	2.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
URBAN						
Male	LFPR	50.7	52.9	55.2	53.6	54.2
	WPR	50.7	49.5	53.4	52.2	52.4
	PU	0.0	3.3	1.7	1.4	1.9
Female	LFPR	15.6	13.8	14.1	9.1	12.0
	WPR	15.6	13.6	14.0	8.6	11.7
	PU	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3
Person	LFPR	30.2	34.6	35.8	32.3	34.2
	WPR	30.2	32.7	34.8	31.3	33.1
	PU	0.0	1.9	1.0	1.0	1.1
RURAL + URBAN						
Male	LFPR	60.9	51.2	50.0	52.0	50.8
	WPR	57.0	50.6	49.4	51.2	50.1
	PU	3.8	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7
Female	LFPR	29.3	26.9	23.0	13.6	21.7
	WPR	29.3	26.8	22.9	13.3	21.6
	PU	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Person	LFPR	45.0	39.4	36.9	33.4	36.7
	WPR	43.1	39.0	36.5	32.9	36.3
	PU	1.9	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516.

30. Unemployment rates are low in U.P. Highest unemployment in rural areas was reported for ST rural persons (2.3 per cent), while it was as low as 0.3 per cent for 'others' and 0.2 per cent for SC and OBC groups. These ratios for urban U.P. were 1.9 per cent for SC, 1.0 per cent for OBC and 1.00 per cent for others.

31. Table 7.19 shows social group-wise combined (rural + urban) WPRs for different levels of general education among persons of age 15 years and above in U.P. WPR for illiterate males was higher for SC (92.1 per cent) and ST (91.3 per cent) as compared to OBC (88.1 per cent) and 'Others' (88.0 per cent). However, for educated males above secondary level of general education, WPR for all social groups came down to 75.3 per cent recording highest for OBC (77.9 per cent), Others (74.8 per cent) in comparison to 72.3 per cent for SC

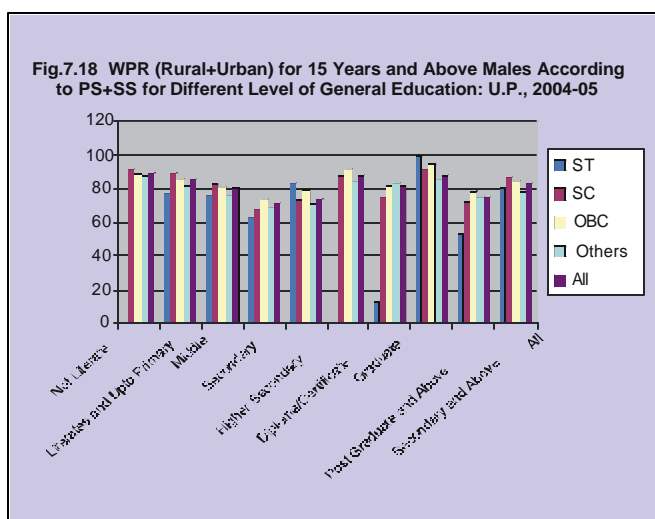
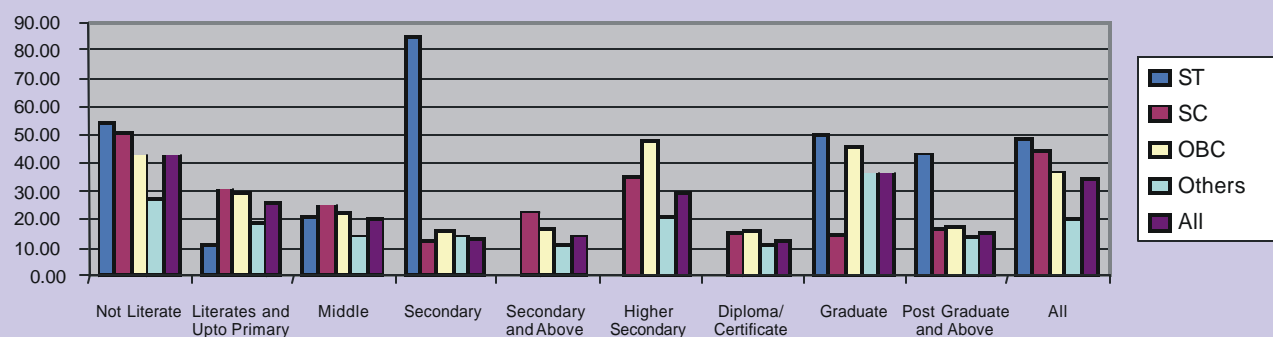


Fig.7.19 WPR (Rural +Urban) for 15 Yeas and above Females According to PS+SS for Different Level of General Education: U.P. 2004-05



and 52.5 per cent for ST. This clearly shows the perpetual state of unemployment / no work for about 20 per cent to 30 per cent of the educated working age population. The findings also reveal that the benefits of education could be realized in lesser proportion by SC and ST groups

than OBCs and Others. WPRs for illiterate females varied between 26.9 per cent to 54.5 per cent for all social groups. It once again reveals that significantly high proportions of women are forced to share dual work burden of household works as well as wage earning activities.

Table 7.19: WPR (Rural + Urban) in U.P. for Persons of Age 15 Years and Above According to Usual Status (PS+SS) for Different Level of General Education: U.P., 2004-2005

Gender/Education Level	Social Group (%)				
	ST	SC	OBC	Others	All
Male					
Not Literate	91.3	92.1	88.1	88.0	89.3
Literates and Upto Primary	77.1	89.3	86.2	81.4	85.9
Middle	76.4	82.4	80.5	76.9	80.0
Secondary	62.8	67.8	73.8	68.7	71.1
Higher Secondary	83.6	73.3	78.9	70.4	74.4
Diploma/Certificate	0	87.9	91.6	84.3	87.8
Graduate	12.7	75.1	81.3	83.4	81.7
Post Graduate and Above	100.0	91.8	94.4	85.8	87.3
Secondary and Above	52.5	72.3	77.9	74.8	75.3
All	79.8	86.9	84.0	78.6	83.2
Female					
Not Literate	54.5	50.3	42.8	26.9	42.5
Literates and Upto Primary	10.7	30.4	28.9	19.0	25.8
Middle	21.0	24.8	21.7	14.5	19.8
Secondary	84.7	12.2	16.5	14.5	13.2
Higher Secondary	0	22.9	16.8	11.0	14.3
Diploma/Certificate	0	35.2	47.6	20.6	28.9
Graduate	0	15.5	16.2	11.2	12.5
Post Graduate and Above	50.1	15.0	45.8	36.2	36.5
Secondary and Above	43.5	16.6	17.4	13.6	15.3
All	48.3	44.8	36.9	19.9	34.5

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516.

32. Land is one of the main indicators of economic status and principal capital asset for livelihood security in rural areas. Table 7.20 shows the distribution of households by size, class of land possessed by different social groups in rural U.P. Data clearly reveal that the highest proportion of 28.2 per cent ST households were found to be almost landless - possessing land area between zero to 0.004 hectare. Similar disadvantage can be observed in case of SC households (13.2 per cent) belonging to the same land size class. Interestingly a larger proportion of 10.3 per cent households from 'Others' social group in comparison to only 8.3 per cent OBC households were found in this minimum land size class. The ratio of households possessing land size 2.01 hectare and above was maximum for 'others' (14.8 per

cent) followed by ST (8.3 per cent), OBC (7.7 per cent) with the most disadvantaged group being SC households (only 2.1 per cent). These results clearly reveal that the poorest households in the 'Others' social group also suffer similar disadvantage with their counterpart SCs, STs and OBCs in terms of ownership of land which is the main capital asset for the people belonging to agrarian economy of rural areas in the state.

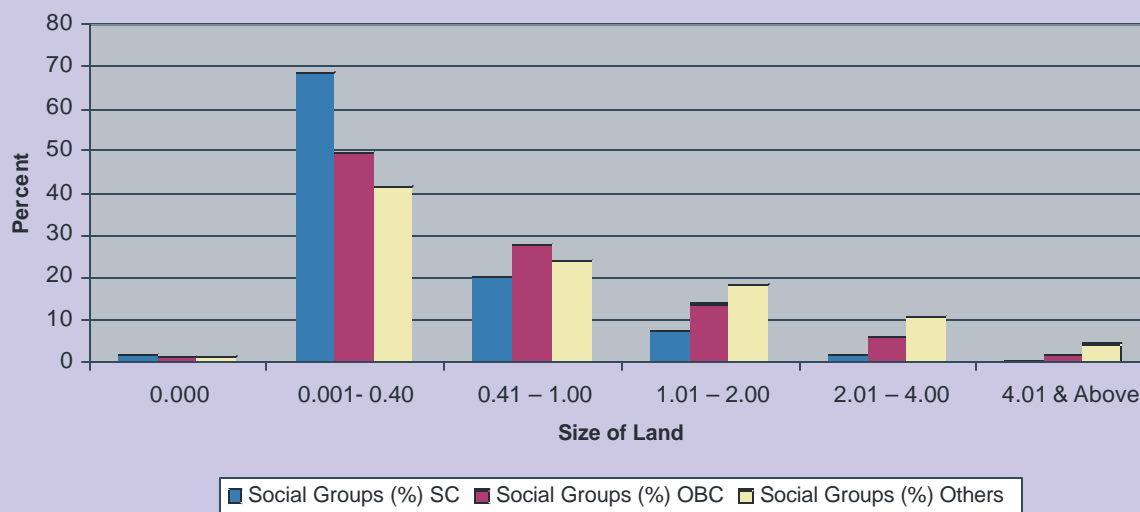
33. The distribution of rural households in U.P. by size of land actually cultivated during the agricultural year 2004-2005 is depicted in Table 7.21. A significantly high proportion of 28.2 per cent of rural households did not have cultivated land. The corresponding ratios for ST, SC, Others and OBC were 50.4 per cent, 36.4 per

Table 7.20: Social Group Wise Distribution of Rural Households by Size Class of Land Possessed: U. P., 2004-05

Size Class of Land Possessed (Hectare)	Social Group (%)				
	ST	SC	OBC	Others	All
0.000	0.0	1.9	1.3	1.4	1.5
0.001-0.004	28.2	11.3	7.1	8.9	8.7
0.005- 0.40	37.8	57.5	42.5	32.8	44.7
0.41 - 1.00	8.6	20.1	27.9	24.0	24.9
1.01 - 2.00	17.1	7.1	13.5	18.2	12.7
2.01 - 4.00	6.3	1.8	6.0	10.6	5.8
4.01 & Above	2.0	0.3	1.7	4.2	1.8
All Classes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516.

Fig.7.20 Distribution of Rural Households by Social Groups and Size Class of Land in U.P.- 2004-05



cent, 27.0 per cent and 24.3 per cent. This scenario once again points to the relative disadvantage of people belonging to the poorest sections of the higher caste groups in comparison to OBC category. However, the rich among the 'others' group once again show their relative advantage in terms of cultivated land by having the highest proportion of 13.4 per cent in 2.01 hectare and above size class of land followed by ST (7.7 per cent) and OBC (7.0 per cent). Most disadvantaged in this category again was SC group with a share of only 2.0 per cent.

34. Availability of water and sanitation, electricity and accessible roads also play a pivotal role in improving the quality of life and livelihoods of the people. In order to meet the needs of drinking water, cooking, bathing, washing of utensils and house and ablution, Government of India (GOI) fixed 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) norm while implementing the Rural Water Supply (RWS) Scheme after 1986. One source of drinking water for 250 persons has also been adopted as a norm. In 1991-92, GOUP conducted a survey to identify the rural habitations and provide access to drinking water supply in each habitation as per the GOI norms under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM). The survey data identified a total number of 2,43,633 rural habitation out of which 2,43,508 habitations spread over 97,134 villages were found inhabited and available for coverage. Another survey conducted in 2004 identified 2,60,110 habitations out of which 7,993 habitations were found not covered (NC) 18,776 partially covered (PC) and 2,33,341 fully covered (FC) in terms of safe drinking water facilities as per norms. GOUP envisaged providing water to all these habitations not so far covered fully during the years 2005-2007. It is clearly noticed that U.P. is affected by acute water scarcity during summer months with 30 per cent habitations receiving water less

than the basic service level of 40 lpcd. Almost one third of traditional and modern mixture of RWS schemes remain out of operation at any given time. Similarly, sanitation level in the state is also below the national average with only 2.5 per cent of the population using latrines / water carriage system (SPC, 2005, pp. 194-210). Therefore, access to improved water supply and environmental sanitation remain high priority items for ensuring better level of human development in the state.

Box 7.1: SWAJALDHARA PROGRAMME

In order to provide sustainable health and hygiene benefits to the rural population through improvements in water supply services and better environmental sanitation conditions, GOUP implemented a project called 'SWAJALDHARA PROGRAMME' in seven districts of Bundelkhand during 1996-2002. The project envisaged to promote the long term sustainability of the RWS and Sanitation Sector and identify policy framework under strategic future plans for implementation. This programme has been funded by the World Bank upto 84% of its total cost with 16% to be shared by both the State Government and the Community. It is expected to be managed with full participation of the villagers. In order to ensure this, a Village Water and Sanitation Committee was formed in each village as a sub-Committee of the Gram Panchayat. The Committee was made responsible for the project planning, implementation, operation and maintenance at the Community level (SPC, 2005, pp.205-207). Lessons learned from this programme may be of far reaching nature for the future planning of water supply and sanitation services in the state on self-sustainable basis.

Table 7.21: Social Group Wise Distribution of Rural Households by Size Class of Land Cultivated: U. P., 2004-05

Size class of Land Cultivated (Hectare)	Social Group (%)				
	ST	SC	OBC	Others	All
0.000	50.4	36.4	24.3	27.0	28.2
0.001-0.004	6.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3
0.005-0.40	13.4	36.1	28.8	17.5	28.5
0.41 - 1.00	6.3	19.1	26.9	23.1	23.9
1.01 - 2.00	15.8	6.3	12.8	18.8	12.2
2.01 - 4.00	5.7	1.7	5.4	9.8	5.2
4.01 & Above	2.0	0.3	1.6	3.6	1.6
All Classes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source : NSS 61st Round, Report No. 516.

35. Electricity is another important component of quality of life, as its consumption level is treated as a basic social development indicator. Overall U.P.'s annual per capita power consumption was 188.33 KWH against all India average of 390.0 KWH in 2003-2004. The power system of the state is very complex as most of the power generating stations are located far away from load centers leading to huge transmission losses. Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), under the state government is supposed to carry out the work of electrification of villages. As per the changed village electrification definition by GOI in February, 2004, all villages in only five districts of U.P. out of its 70 districts were declared electrified. In remaining 65 districts, 30,852 villages were un-electrified where electrification work has been proposed. Provision was also made in the scheme for providing electricity connection to all BPL families. In 2004-05 a centrally sponsored scheme called *Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikarn Yojana* was launched by GOI through REC. G.O.P. proposed to electrify remaining villages under this scheme by 2007. The state declared a Power Policy in 2003 aimed to fulfill the overall need for universal access and providing reliable, quality and affordable power for social upliftment and economic development of its people (SPC, 2005, pp. 167-194).

36. A network of good quality roads is considered as the nerve centre of economic, social and infrastructural development of a state. As per the Road Development Plan (1981-2000) of U. P. (also known as Lucknow Plan), all villages were required to be connected by the road network by the year 2001 with the target of 1,96,496 km. length. However only 54 per cent of the state's target could be achieved with 1,05,794 km. length of rural roads. The state has set ambitious targets under the National Road Development Plan - Vision 2021 for connecting the villages by roads having pre-dominant population of Scheduled Castes called Ambedkar Gram. This *Ambedkar Gram Vikas Yojana* was launched in the state in 2002-2003 for construction of rural roads. The scheme was implemented by convergence of resources of different departments engaged in road construction activity. Similarly, *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana* (PMGSY), 2004-2005, Phase-IV was started for construction of 2595 km. of roads in 40 districts connecting 1,652 habitations. Another scheme called *Samagra Gram Vikas Yojana* was launched in January, 2004 aimed at convergence of various developmental activities for providing all round facilities in the villages including construction of village link roads (SPC, 2005, pp. 156-166).

VI. Crimes and Atrocities

37. The deprived groups are not only socially, economically and politically backward but also vulnerable to various kinds of social exclusion and

atrocities. Any social intervention initiated to improve their status leads to disequilibrium and resentment in other sections. It also leads to more atrocities against them. Caste system by birth in India involves social hierarchy. The erstwhile untouchables or polluting castes termed as *dalits*, continue to suffer humiliation. Within the discriminatory social order of caste and gender, *dalit* women, who are mostly living in rural areas in the absence of their migratory male family members, become the most disadvantaged and an easy target for several forms of exploitation and violence. Seeking justice becomes extremely difficult for disadvantaged groups under these ubiquitous social conditions of caste, class, religion and gender biases. Common knowledge suggests that these victims of injustice face problems in even approaching police and filing complaints against the offenders. However, the Constitution of India upholds the right to equality before law under Article 14 and prohibits discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. Article 17 states that the practice of untouchability is abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden. Under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, SC, ST, women and children are all entitled to legal services. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 prevents the commission of offences of atrocities against the members of SC/ST, provides for special courts for the trial of such offences for their relief and rehabilitation. The SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995 provide for reactive, preventive and promotional measures that can be taken in an effort to ensure that there is redress for violations of rights of these groups and that such violations do not recur.

38. Data relating to crimes and atrocities committed against socially disadvantaged groups are available only in case of ST and SC. As per the latest report of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), on an average 30,000 incidents of atrocities against SC are committed in India annually, with U.P. being at the top in the list. Out of the 669 *dalits* killed in the country during the year, 288 *dalits* had been killed in U.P. alone, which is about half of the national total. Similar situation emerges in case of the rape cases against *dalit* women. These cases during the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 stood at 188, 245, 222 and 212 respectively. Whereas the total number of crimes committed against *dalits* was 1,559 in 2003, 2,983 in 2004, 3,211 in 2005 and 4,104 in 2006 (Table 7.22). Almost similar conclusions are drawn in a report of the Amnesty International which comments on overall situation of crimes and atrocities against *dalits* in Uttar Pradesh. It says that Uttar Pradesh alone accounted for 25.4 per cent of the crimes committed against *dalits* in India during 1998. Similarly, the State accounted for 26 per cent of the total crimes committed against *adivasis* (although, *adivasi* population in the State is significantly smaller) in the country during the same period (AI, 2001, p. 5).

**Table 7.22: Incidence of Crimes and Atrocities against SC, ST Social Groups :
U.P., 2003-2006 (1st January-31st December)**

Crime	Years (No.)			
	2003	2004	2005	2006
Murder	275	301	288	312
Rape	188	245	222	212
Arson	11	325	45	58
Serious Injury	168	311	333	302
Other IPC Crimes	577	1,123	1,443	1,908
Crimes under SC/ST Act	340	678	880	1,320
Total	1,559	2,983	3,211	4,104

Source: NCRB, New Delhi

39. Thus, the cases of crimes committed against *dalits* in U.P. have substantially increased over the past four years. The most disadvantaged victims of crimes are the *dalit* women within the overall discriminatory social hierarchy of caste and gender. *Dalits* are killed, seriously injured, their women raped and numerous other types of atrocities and crimes are committed against these socially vulnerable groups, mostly as a result of reactionary treatment meted out by the land / asset owning higher sections of the society.

VII. State Government Initiatives

40. The process of planning in India was initiated with the basic guiding principle of 'growth with social justice'. It aimed to rectify the distributional disorders and bring the most vulnerable and marginalized social groups at par with the mainstream society and economy of the Nation. SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities were considered to be the most disadvantaged groups and accorded highest priority. The concept of Special Component Plan (SCP) was introduced in the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85) for the development of SC/ST groups. Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) came in operation since Fifth Five Year Plan with a view to ensure rapid socio-economic development of STs. Efforts were made by the State to remove human deprivation on priority basis to improve its relatively low position in terms of human development Index (HDI) among Indian states. Some of the important schemes initiated by GoUP during recent years for the development of vulnerable social groups are described in the following paragraphs. This section draws most of the information from Annual Plan, 2006-2007 of U.P.

41. Family and individual beneficiary oriented development schemes within the general framework of socio-economic development programmes were specially designed in U.P. for the development of SCs under SCP

and STs under TSP. The flow of funds under SCP/TSP was substantially increased over the years in order to ensure accelerated development of these classes. In addition to the general plan schemes, State Scheduled Caste Finance and Development Corporation (SCFDC) was set up during the Seventh Plan to act as a catalytic agent as well as supplementing agency for providing financial support to SCs for the projects relating to employment generation and creation of assets for economic activities. The allocations of outlays under SCP/TSP were made in proportion to SC/ST population to total population of the state from 1996-97 onwards in order to provide further impetus to SCP/TSP. Apart from the SCP/TSP components of the State Plan, Special Central Assistance (SCA) was used by the State Government in a number of income generating programmes. The task of monitoring of expenditure and proper utilization of the quantified budget allocations under SCP/TSP has been assigned to Social Welfare Department of the state. A Committee consisting of Principal Secretaries of Finance, Social Welfare and Planning ensures proper co-ordination in the implementation of the development programmes for SC/ST.

42. As a result of all these initiatives, some encouraging results have been clearly noticed in the development status of SC / ST. Between 1971-2001, the literacy rate of SC increased by 36 per cent approximately (from 10.2 per cent to 46.3 per cent) whereas the corresponding increase of total population was 35 per cent (from 21.7 per cent to 56.3 per cent). SC female literacy rate has also improved substantially over this period (from 2.5 per cent in 1971 to 30.5 per cent in 2001). Decadal growth of SC population during 1991-2001 was recorded at 25.33 per cent which was little less than corresponding growth of 25.85 per cent in the U.P.'s total population. This again may be taken as an encouraging trend.

43. Similarly, the State has committed itself for providing assistance and support to OBCs so that they can be protected from social injustice and exploitation. Top priority has been accorded to increase the literacy status of these social groups. Accordingly, all OBC students up to class VIII are given scholarships on the same terms and conditions as applied in the case of SC/ST children in order to enhance their enrolment at primary level. To reduce the dropout rates, scholarship is also given to OBC students studying in class 9th and 10th whose parents' annual income is up to Rs.30,000.

44. The OBC students in post matric classes are also given scholarships to encourage their higher education. Hostel facility in main educational centres is being provided to these students. Uttar Pradesh Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (UPBCFDC) provides economic assistance by way of margin money, educational loan, micro finance for their economic development and self-reliance. The State Commission for Backward Classes of Uttar Pradesh has been assigned the task of attending to complaints regarding reservation in services, inclusion / exclusion of castes in OBC lists, atrocities and exploitation. GOUP has included 16 more backward castes in the lists of SCs for their development in a specific manner.

45. All minorities' students up to class 10 are provided scholarships under a reasonable income criterion. This facility is extended to the students of these groups in post graduate classes with a certain income limit. *Arbi / Farsi Madarsas* are provided grant for salary of teaching and non-teaching staff. These institutions under grant-in-aid, are proposed for running mini ITIs for skill development. The Madarsas are modernized by providing assistance for kits and teachers of Science and Mathematics. Girls' hostels and school buildings are also constructed under the scheme. U.P. Minority Finance and Development Corporation (UPMFDC) provides assistance by way of term loans, margin money loans, interest free loans, skill improvement and coaching. Haj houses are being constructed in Lucknow and Ghaziabad to provide facilities to Haj Pilgrimage.

46. Persons with disabilities are provided educational, vocational and institutional facilities for their development and rehabilitation so that they can participate in every field of human activity. All persons with 40 per cent or more disability are entitled to get benefits of the State Government Schemes. For different types of handicapped children, 12 residential schools and 7 workshop cum production centres for vocational training with free boarding and lodging facilities are being run. Assistance is also given to the handicapped in terms of grant for purchase / maintenance of aids and construction of shops for self-employment. Through mass awareness campaign, efforts are being made to minimize

the incidence of disability. Another radical step has been taken by the State Government to eliminate discrimination among the poor by providing scholarships to all those general category children whose guardians are living below the poverty line. This indeed is a step in the direction of attaining social cohesion and integration.

47. In brief, GOUP has made sincere efforts to remove the relative deprivation of marginalized social groups over the years to improve its relative low position in terms of HDI among Indian states. The allocations under plan outlays for SCP and TSP were made in proportion to SC/ST population from 1996-97 onwards in order to provide further impetus to the development of these groups. Encouraging results have been noticed in the development status of all deprived sections of the population, particularly in terms of their literacy levels, reduced fertility rates of SC population, poverty levels, etc. Poor students belonging to all social groups have been given scholarships and free text books at par with SC/ST children. Special development schemes were launched for the development of minorities, persons with disabilities, women and children.

VIII. Recent Changes

48. The two rounds of NSS Surveys conducted within a gap of five years duration focus on employment and unemployment situation among social groups. This enables us to record the progress over the period of past five years with the help of data collected for the NSS 55th (1900-2000) and 61st Round (2004-05). However, the comparison is constrained by the fact that many of variables between the two rounds have been changed, new variables added and also because the social groups for which data is reported also differ between two surveys.

49. One may broadly compare the two social categories of Hindu SC/ST and Hindu OBC of 55th Round and ST+SC and OBC of 61st Round, which are comparable to some extent, to judge the progress attained over the period 1999-2000 to 2004-05. As shown in Table 7.23, illiteracy rates of SC/ST population has gone down by 5.4 percentage points during the five year period. The proportion of school going children does not show an improvement. In case of OBC group also illiteracy has gone down by 4.6 percentage points, while persons with higher educational attainment show an increase. School attendance has gone up by about 3 percentage points.

50. While indicative of the improving human development status of the deprived sections belong to the SC, ST and OBC groups, these data underline the fact that the progress in this direction is somewhat slow. More vigorous efforts need to be made in this regard in the coming years.

Table 7.23: Indicators of Educational Progress of SC/ST and OBC Groups between 55th and 61st NSS Rounds

Particulars	NSS 55 th Round		NSS 61 st Round		Change	
	Hindu SC+ST	Hindu OBC	ST+SC	OBC	Col. 4-2 ST/SC	Col.5-3 OBC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Illiterate	67.1	56.5	61.7	51.9	-5.4	-4.6
Literate upto Primary	13.4	16.6	16.1	18.8	+2.7	+2.2
Middle	10.5	13.6	13.2	14.1	+2.7	+0.5
Secondary	4.3	6.7	3.6	7.3	-0.7	+0.6
Higher Secondary	2.8	4.4	2.7	4.8	-0.1	+0.4
Graduate and Above	2.0	2.2	2.7	2.8	+0.7	+0.6
Children Attending Schools	68.6	72.9	66.4	76.0	-2.2	3.1

Source: NSS 55th and 61st Rounds

IX. Conclusion

51. The economic growth process in the State, as in the country as a whole, has failed to be sufficiently inclusive and there remain many divides in the society. U.P. has a much higher share of the deprived population belonging to SC, OBC and Muslims, which depresses the overall attainment of the state in human development. Despite some improvements in the living conditions of SC,ST, OBC and minorities as a result of preferential treatment, the pace of human development in U.P. has remained slow in comparison to many progressive states of the country. Large disparities across social groups continue to exist in terms of income, assets, education, health, nutrition, sanitation, employment and access to infrastructural facilities. Due to non-availability of social group-wise data for the state, there are numerous relative dimensions of human development which remain to be further explored.

52. The state has initiated over the years numerous development programmes to remove human deprivation on a priority basis and improve its relatively low position in HDI among Indian states. Financial allocations under SCP and TSP have been substantially increased over the years. Encouraging results have been noticed in the development status of deprived communities, particularly in terms of increased literacy rates. *Complete computerization of pre-metric and post metric scholarships has been introduced in the state to bring about transparency in the process.* Efforts are being made to ensure welfare of minorities, disabled persons,

women and children. Despite all these sincere efforts of Go UP, much still remains to be done. The implementation of these schemes need to be streamlined to ensure that the benefit of the schemes reach the target beneficiary groups and various leakages and misappropriation of funds are minimized.

53. The issues of backwardness and marginalization of deprived groups is tied up with socio-economic development and changes in social structure of any society. What obstructs the compensatory provisions earmarked for these groups in U.P. are growing caste consciousness, social divides, alienation and socio-economic deprivation. Both, the development interventions by the State Government and public pressures are required to bring about real change in the condition of these groups. The development process needs a central role of politics, particularly for the expansion of social security measures for the marginalized sections. In order to promote basic equality and ensure minimum social security, local public services, good quality basic education, health-care services, employment generating public works, income generating capital assets, drinking water, food supplies and connecting roads and other such facilities are required. Only real transfer of power to the institutions of local self-governance can ensure participatory democracy and development. Development from below, ownership and management of resources at the grassroots level may bring about a more equitable social order and give people their just and composite 'Right to Development'.