



सत्यमेव जयते

**REPORT ON
SOCIO-ECONOMIC
CONDITIONS OF SCHEDULED
TRIBES LABOUR AT VAPI,
VALSAD, NAVSARI AND
SACHIN
(GUJARAT)
(2006-07)**

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MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LABOUR BUREAU
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PREFACE

The framers of the Constitution took note of the fact that certain communities in the country were suffering from extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of age-old practice of untouchability. Certain others suffered on account of their primitive agricultural practices, lack of infrastructure facilities and geographical isolation. All these communities which needed special consideration for safeguarding their interests and for their accelerated socio-economic development, were notified as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as per provisions contained in Clause 1 of Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution respectively.

Scheduled Tribe communities live in about 15 per cent of the country's areas in various ecological and geo-climatic conditions ranging from plains to forest, hills and inaccessible areas. These ST groups are at different stages of social, economic and educational development. The non-availability of reliable data pertaining to the working and living conditions of the ST communities caused a great hindrance in formulating appropriate welfare schemes for them.

Surveys on the Socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Tribes workers engaged in Industrial Establishments in major Industrial and Mining centres have so far been conducted at Rourkela, Ranchi, Surat, Bailadila, Nagpur, Belgaum and Barbil. Reports in respect of all these centres have since been released. Present report relates to Vapi, Valsad, Navsari and Sachin Scheduled Tribes belt in the State of Gujarat and is eighth in the series. The survey in the Scheduled Tribe belt was conducted during November, 2006 to January, 2007.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all concerned State Authorities, Industrial units, Employers, Employees for extending whole hearted co-operation and help to the field officers of Labour Bureau in collection of data. The officers and staff of the Labour Bureau, whose names feature in Annexure-V also deserve appreciation for the hard work put in by them in planning and conducting of the survey as well as in preparation of this report.

The views expressed in this report are not necessarily those of the Government of India, Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Suggestions for further improvement in the report are welcome.

**Labour Bureau
Chandigarh
June, 2008.**

**A.S Ahluwalia
Director General**

CONTENTS

	Main Findings of the Survey	1-5
CHAPTER-I	Introduction	6-11
CHAPTER-II	Research Design	12-26
2.1	Genesis of the Survey	12
2.2	Objective, Scope and Coverage of the Survey	14
2.3	Population in Navsari and Valsad Centre	15
2.4	Period of the Survey	15
2.5	Concepts & Definations	15
2.6	Methodology	18
2.7	Schedule Canvassed	20
2.8	Distribution of units by various characteristics	20
2.9	Difficulties Experienced	22
	Tables & Annexure I	23-26
CHAPTER-III	Employment & Earnings	27-65
3.1	Introduction	27
3.2	Mode of Employment, Caste & Sex	29
3.3	Scheduled Tribe workers by Category of work	29
3.4	Employment Status	31
3.5	Length of Service	32
3.6	Mode of Recruitment	32
3.7	Employment by Occupation	33
3.8	Earnings by Occupation	34
3.9	Mode of Payment & Pay Period	36
3.10	Other Cash Allowances	36
3.11	Bonus & Ex-Gratia Payments	37
3.12	Fine and deduction	37
	Tables	38-65
CHAPTER-IV	Working Conditions , Welfare, Social Security & Industrial Relations	66-87
4.1	Introduction	66
4.2	Working Conditions	68
4.3	Medical Facilities	69
4.4	Welfare Facilities	70
4.5	Social Security	70
4.6	Housing Accomodation	72
4.7	Industrial Relations	72
4.8	Impact of New Economic Policies on Industrial Units	73
	Tables	74-87

CHAPTER-V	Structure of Scheduled Tribe Households	88-148
5.1	Introduction	88
5.2	Distribution of Households by Habitation	91
5.3	Social System	92
5.4	Ethnic Composition	92
5.5	Mother Tongue	93
5.6	Family Size	93
5.7	Distribution of Migrant Workers	94
5.8	Age, Sex & Marital Status	94
5.9	Age, Sex & Economic Status	96
5.10	Age, Sex & Activity Status	98
5.11	Sex, Literacy Level & Activity Status	100
5.12	Age, Sex & Education Level	101
5.13	Method of Recruitment	105
5.14	Details of Employment (Time-Rated)	105
5.15	Daily hours of Work, Rest Interval and Night Shift	106
5.16	Training	107
5.17	Safety Measures and Health Conditions	107
5.18	Pay Period and Mode of payment	108
5.19	Maintenance of Records (Piece Rated)	108
5.20	Deductions	109
5.21	Bonus Payments	110
5.22	Overtime Work and Rate of Payment	111
5.23	Weekly Off, Holidays and Leave with wages	112
	Tables	113-148
CHAPTER-VI	Economic Conditions	149-179
6.1	Introduction	149
6.2	Family Income & Receipts	150
6.3	Income & Family Size	151
6.4	Earning Strength and Income Class	153
6.5	Average Monthly Income	156
6.6	Household Consumption Expenditure	158
6.7	Possession of Durable Goods and Live stock	159
6.8	Possession of Assests and Valuable Goods	162
6.9	Distribution of Households by Savings	164
	Tables	166-179

CHAPTER-VII	Indebtedness and Morbidity	180-204
7.1	Introduction	180
7.2	Purpose of Loan	181
7.3	Source of Loan	183
7.4	Amount of Loan and Family Class	186
7.5	Amount of Loan and Family Size	188
7.6	Type of Surety	189
7.7	Incidence of Morbidity	190
7.8	Sickness by Type and Source of Treatment	192
7.9	Monthly Expenditure on Sickness	194
	Tables	196-204
CHAPTER-VIII	Housing	205-219
8.1	Introduction	205
8.2	Housing Conditions	207
8.3	Source of Drinking Water and Lighting	210
8.4	Distance from Work Place	212
8.5	Average Floor Area	213
	Tables	215-219
CHAPTER-IX	Welfare Schemes	220-224
	Benefits Received under different Welfare schemes	
9.1		220
CHAPTER-X	Environment in Locality/Areas Predominantly Inhabited by the Scheduled Tribes Workers	225-230
10.1	Introduction	225
10.2	Lavachha Village	225
10.3	Dulsad Village	227
10.4	Dasera-Terki	228
10.5	Sachin Village	229
List of Annexures		
II	List of Scheduled tribes of Gujarat State	231
III	Questionnaires Canvassed in the Survey	232-277
IV	Names of Officers/Officials associated with the planning and conduct of survey, tabulation of data and drafting of report	278

Main Findings of the Survey

- The main objective of the Survey was to collect the data on Socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Tribes labour working in the industrial Units in the Scheduled Tribe belt comprising Vapi, Valsad, Navsari and Sachin areas of Gujarat state with a view to study their working and living conditions. (Para 2.2)
- Only factories sector was taken for the survey. The total population, according to 2001 census, of Navsari District was 12, 29,463, of which 5,91,164 (48.08 per cent) were the Scheduled Tribes and for Valsad District (includes Vapi) out of 14,10,553 population, Scheduled Tribes were 7,72,2,405 (54.76per cent). (Para 2.3)
- The frame of industrial units which employed Scheduled Tribe workers was prepared by visiting all the units in the Scheduled Tribe belt of Gujarat under report. Accordingly, a list of 802 units employing Scheduled Tribe workers was prepared. (Para 2.6)
- A total of 627 Scheduled Tribes Households with 2836 family members were covered during the course of the survey. Total units covered were 224. The total Scheduled Tribes employment in the sample units was 2945. (Para 2.6)
- The two stage stratified systematic sampling method was adopted for the survey. The first stage unit being the industrial establishments employing Scheduled Tribes worker's in four strata viz, Vapi, Valsad, Navsari and Sachin areas and the second stage units being the Scheduled Tribe workers employed in the first stage sampled establishments. (Para 2.6)
- About 87.5 per cent units were registered under the Factories Act, 1948, 5.8 per cent under Gujarat State Shops and Commercial establishments Act and the remaining 6.7 per cent units were registered under other Acts. (Para 2.8.3)
- Majority of the units i.e. 20.98 per cent belonged to the "Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products Industry", 13.8 per cent units to the "Manufacture of Machinery and equipment Industry", 12.1 per cent units to "Manufacture of Textiles" and 9.8 per cent units belonged to "Manufacture of fabricated metal product". (Para 2.8.4)
- In the sample units, out of the total work force of 16414 workers, about 18 per cent belonged to Scheduled Tribes, 10 per cent to Scheduled Castes and the remaining about 72 per cent were from other communities. (Para 3.1)

- No Scheduled Tribe woman workers was employed in the Managerial, Administrative and Executive staff. Amongst the Scheduled Tribes clerical and peon staff, 12.5 per cent were women. In the production related directly employed category, Scheduled Tribes women constituted 11.3 per cent whereas 11.7 per cent women Scheduled Tribes were employed through contractors. (Para 3.2.1)
- No child labour was employed in any of the sample units. (Para 3.1)
- About 28 per cent of total workers employed through contractors belonged to Scheduled Tribes. (Para 3.1.1)
- Majority of the male ST workers, i.e. about 77 per cent in the directly employed production workers category, were working in four occupations viz, Diamond worker, Driver, Helper and Machine operator. In the 'employed through contractors' category, a large number of ST male workers, i.e. about 87 per cent, were working in four occupations of Fitter, Helper, Packer and Supervisor. (Table 3.6)
- Majority of the female Scheduled Tribe workers i.e. about 89 per cent, were working in the occupations of diamond worker, helper, packer and tailor under the category of directly employed, whereas 91 per cent of women 'employed through contractor' were working as Diamond worker. In the staff category, female workers were employed in three occupations viz, Clerk (20 per cent), Peon (30 per cent) and Sweeper (50 per cent). (Table 3.6)
- Taking all the categories of workers together, average daily earnings of male workers were the highest (Rs.467) in occupation of Artist followed by Jobber (Rs.392) and Cutting Master (Rs.360). (Table 3.7 ©)
- Taking all the categories of workers together, for female workers the highest average daily earnings (Rs.204) were in the occupation of Clerk followed by Rs.201 in the occupation of Pressman and Rs.199 in the occupations of Thread Cutter and Sweeper. (Table 3.7©)
- For time-rated category of workers, monthly pay period was popular in most of the units. For piece-rated category of workers, monthly mode of payment was popular among 98 per cent of the units. Remaining 2 per cent of the units, workers were being paid on fortnightly basis. Other cash allowances were being paid by 12.5 per cent of the units. In majority of the occupations, house rent allowance and transport allowance was being paid to the workers. (Para 3.8 & 3.9)
- About 88 per cent of the units were paying statutory annual bonus as per the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965. (Para 3.10)
- In 80.8 percent units, normal daily hours of work were 8 and Only 1.8 per cent of the sample units had more than 8 hours of work. Rest interval

between half to one hour was in 79 per cent of the units, one hour to 1.5 hour in 17.4 per cent of the units and more than 1.5 hour in 2.2 per cent of units. About 63 per cent units worked in only one shift. About 26 per cent of the units reported night shift working. (Para 4.2.1)

- Majority of units i.e. 68.9 per cent and 84.4 per cent respectively were allowing weekly off with out wages to their directly employed workers and workers employed through contractors. About 92 per cent and 88 per cent of units respectively allowed National Holidays and Festival holidays to their workers with wages. (Para 4.2.2)
- First aid boxes were maintained by 96 per cent of the units. For medical treatment, 50.9 per cent units had reportedly arranged with ESI Hospital and 16.1 private Medical practitioners, while 25 per cent of the units had no arrangement for medical treatment of their workers. (Para 4.3)
- Drinking water facility was provided by all the units while conservancy arrangement and washing facilities existed in 98.7 per cent of the units. Rest shelter, canteen and transport facilities were being provided by 57 per cent, 7 per cent and 3 per cent of the units respectively. Crèche facility was being provided only by 0.4 per cent units. (Para 4.4)
- Employees Provident Fund Scheme was in operation in 54.9 per cent of the units and about 77.4 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes workers were covered under the scheme. (Para 4.5)
- About 21 per cent of the units were providing housing accommodation to their workers. Total numbers of workers benefited by the facility were 366 of which about 15 per cent were Scheduled Tribes. (Para 4.6)
- There were 5 registered trade unions in the units covered with a total membership of 1133, of which about 14 per cent members were Scheduled Tribes. (Para 4.7.1)
- Workers participation in management was reported in 1.3 per cent of the units. Grievances redressal machinery was reported in about 20 per cent of the units. (Para 4.7.1 & 4.7.2)
- About 20 per cent of the workers were residing in urban areas and the remaining 80 per cent resided in rural areas. (Para 5.2)
- About 98 per cent households adopted Patriarchal System of living while only 2 per cent preferred Matriarchal system. (Para 5.3)
- Taking all the strata together, around 45 per cent of household families were Dhodia, around 25 per cent were Halpati and about 11 per cent belonged to Nayaka Scheduled Tribe. (Para 5.4)
- All the strata taken together, the average size of family worked out to 4.5 members. (Para 5.6)

- Of the total Scheduled Tribes workers covered, only 2.55 per cent were migrants. Further, of total migrants around 13 per cent workers migrated in Sachin. Cent per cent migrated workers in Vapi and Valsad had migrated due to non-availability of work and drought. (Para 5.7)
- At aggregate level about 16.6 per cent males and 29.3 per cent females were illiterate, whereas the percentage of males and females above matric was 7.1 per cent and 4.7 per cent respectively. (Para 5.12)
- Of total family members 34.4 per cent were earners, 3.6 percent were earning dependents and the remaining 62.0 per cent were non earning dependents. None of the family workers surveyed was working as employer. Further of the total family members, only 36.43 per cent were working as workers. The percentage of family members not in labour force was around 68 per cent. (Para 5.9)
- The study reveals that the maximum number of families i.e. about 30 per cent had monthly income ranging between Rs.2500 to less than Rs.4000, followed by 23 per cent families having monthly income ranging between Rs.4000 to less than Rs 6000. Only around 11 per cent families had monthly income of Rs.8000 and above. (Para 6.3)
- Taking all the strata together, 35.3 per cent of the households had a single earner. (Para 6.3)
- Taking all the strata together, average monthly family income per household worked out to be Rs.7022 out of which Rs.4400.1 accrued from paid employment, Rs.91.5 from Self employment and Rs.2530.5 from Family Enterprises and other family receipts. (Para 6.3)
- At aggregate level the average monthly expenditure per family worked out to be Rs.5020.50 and the per capita expenditure comes to Rs.1110.00. (Para 6.6)
- Taking all the strata together, about 30 per cent of households possessed land with an average value per reporting family of Rs.152096.8, while about 85 per cent of household families had building/house with an average value of Rs.60223.7 per reporting family. (Para 6.8)
- About 12 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes families under study were reported to be under debt. Highest proportion of the indebted families belonged to monthly family income class of Rs.2500 to less than Rs.4000. (Para 7.2)
- The foremost reason for raising debt was marriage ceremony of the family members as 28 per cent of the families had raised debt on this score only. (Para 7.2)

- About 50.6 per cent of the indebted families had raised loan from employers. Further, about 69 per cent of the families under debt had been able to raise loan without offering any security. (Para 7.3)
- At aggregate level, about 56 per cent of the households reported sickness. About 93.5 per cent of the families reporting sickness amongst family members, underwent allopathic form of treatment. (Para 7.7)
- About 87 per cent of the sampled Scheduled Tribe families were living in their own houses. (Para 8.2)
- About 16 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribe families covered, only 16 per cent had the drinking water source within their dwellings. (Para 8.3)
- About 96 percent of the sampled Scheduled Tribe households reported by used electricity. Remaining 4 per cent were reported to be using Kerosene oil for lighting purpose. (Para 8.3)

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