

Empirical Study On Challenges Of Dalit Households Towards Their Economic Development

Dr. Devarajappa S
Assistant Professor
Department of Commerce
University College of Arts
Tumkur University
TUMKUR-572103

ABSTRACT

The main aim of the present study is to examine the problems among dalit families. In this study convenience sampling designs are selected. Convenience sampling is obtained by selecting convenient population being investigated which is selected neither by probability nor by judgment but by convenience. In the present study a sample size of 120 Dalit families. For this purpose statistical tools like, mean, percentage, correlation coefficient have been used. It is observed in the study that, seventy years after independence, dalits are suffering from landlessness, unemployment, Nutrition, lack of communication, therefore, in this regard governments and other welfare corporations has to make serious efforts for upliftment of dalits economically

Keywords: Dalit, Problems, Challenges, Families.

INTRODUCTION:

Dalit, once known as ‘untouchables’ or ‘out’ have faced brutal oppression on Indian subcontinent for thousands of year, they won civil rights and affirmative action provisions in the struggle for Indian independence from Britain. But now, under economic pressure of corporate globalization and resulting rise in religious fundamentalism they are under renewed attack. The National Crime Records Bureau of India (NCRBI) reports ‘every hour- Two dalits are assaulted; every day- Three dalit women are raped, two dalit houses are burnt. But inspiring support protest movement is fighting back and winning international support. Despite more access to education, better household amenities and increased incomes, the economic gap between upper castes and dalit and tribal communities continues unchanged over the years. According to latest economic

data from the NSSO, a comparison of average monthly expenditure of householders belonging to dalit communities with upper castes households showed that, the rural areas, there was a gap of about 38 percent in 1999-2000, which changed only marginally to 37 percent in 2011-12. In urban area upper castes households reported incomes that were 65 percent more than dalit households in 1999-2000, this gap reduced to a still shocking 60 percent in 2011-12. (**Subodh Varma**)

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

P Srithar, N bairani (2016)ⁱ Studied Socio Economic Status of Dalit in India. In India, as per 2011 census people belonging to various scheduled castes recorded nearly 20.14 crore which is 16.6 percent of total population. The 2001 census recorded 16.66 crore. But they are positioned at the bottom of the Indian caste society. Less than 10% of Dalit households can afford safe drinking water, electricity and toilets, which is indicative of their terrible social condition. Dalits were paid lower wages than other workers. They were also subjected to much longer working hours, delayed wages, verbal and even physical abuse. The socio- economic status of Dalits has to be improved. They have to be given equal recognition in the society.

Sobin George (2015)ⁱⁱ Caste and Care: Is Indian health Care delivery system favourable for dalit? The study examines whether the dalit castes are adequately represented in the health service system in rural India in the context of the already established caste based discrimination in service delivery. Drawing from official data, the paper shows an overall domination of non-dalits in healthcare services. The paper presents two scenarios to understand it further. First is the similarities in health disparities between SCs and non-SC/STs of Bihar and Tamil Nadu, which have huge presence of non SC/STs in significant positions of healthcare delivery. Second is the case of Andhra Pradesh (undivided), which has less intergroup disparities and better distribution of health personnel from dalit castes at all levels of health services. These cases confirm the persistence of unfavourable environments for dalits with the domination of non-dalits in health services.

Er. H R Phonsa Jammu (2015)ⁱⁱⁱ Socio Economic Status of Dalit women across Indian metropolitan, Urban and Rural Societies. The study focused on present status of Dalit women and Modern Challenges of Dalit Women. It reveals that, A dalit women is strong to face life

odds and needs level grounds to show her capabilities. Dalit women needs feeling of belongingness as per saying of Mata Savitribai Phule “Till such time we don’t understand that we are children of only one creator it will difficult to understand his grace”.

Subodh Varmal (2015)^{iv} Examined Economic gap between Upper castes and Dalit Perists. Despite more access to education, better household amenities increased incomes, the economic gap between upper castes, Dalit and Tribal Communities continues unchanged over the years. The researcher used the latest economic data from NSSO for the study. The study identified that, there is no direct survey of income in India; monthly household expenditure is seen as a proxy measure of monthly income for most households except the very rich.

Anek Lal Barman (1962)^v, Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Caste people in Kamrup District of Assam. The Indian society is based on a caste system with vast inequalities in social, political, economic and educational spheres. The constitution of India is enriched with several provisions for scheduled castes to safeguard and promote their cultural, social, educational, and economic Interests in order to bring them in the mainstream of the society. This paper attempts the Socio-economic status of the scheduled caste people in Kamrup district of Assam. The present study has been conducted on a purposive sampling of 100 scheduled caste people. The data has been collected through field survey. The results revealed that the socio-economic status of scheduled caste people is low.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

1. To understand the present socio economic status of the dalit families.
2. To examine the problems among dalits households towards their economic development.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY:

Based on the objectives of the study, examine the problems among dalits households towards their economic development, the following hypothesis has been formulated;

H₀: there is no significant variation in perception of Dalits towards challenges to their economic development.

H₁: there is a significant variation in perception of Dalits towards challenges to their economic development.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

In this study convenience sampling designs are selected. Convenience sampling is obtained by selecting convenient population being investigated which is selected neither by probability nor by judgment but by convenience. In the present study a sample size of 120 Dalit families was taken from various villages viz. T N Kote, Ivarahalli, Nagenahalli, Thimmalapura, Y N Hoskote, Thimmammanahalli of Pavagada Taluk, Tumkur District. For this purpose statistical tools like, mean, percentage, correlation coefficient have been used and to test the hypothesis of the study chi-square test has been employed. The value of chi square calculated by using the following formula;

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{i=1}^c \frac{(A_{ij} - E_{ij})^2}{E_{ij}}$$

ANALYSIS AND INTREPRETATION:

Part-A: Analysis Of Demographic Profile Of The Respondent Families

In this section, Age of the respondent, Nature of the family, Size of the family, Numbers of children's in the family and Educational status have been studied. These demographic factors directly or indirectly related to economic conditions of dalit families.

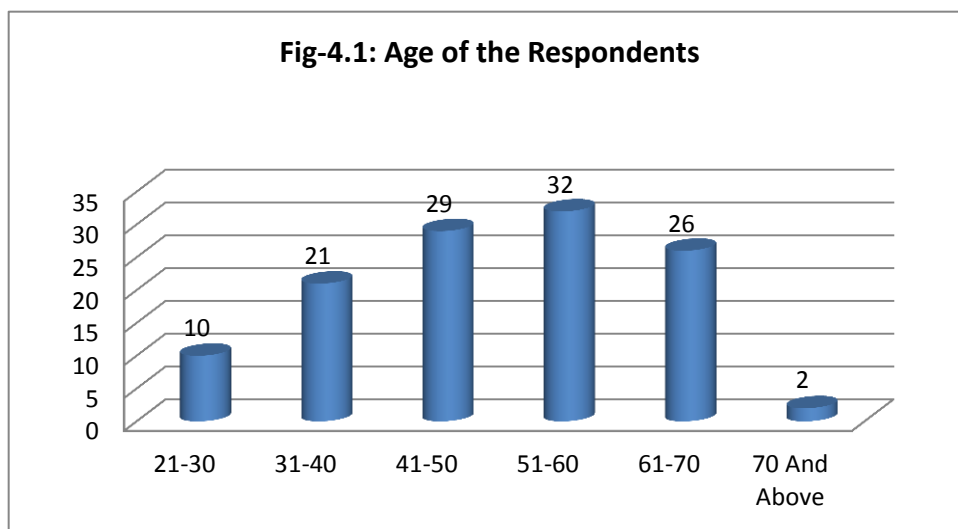
Age of the respondent family:

Age is one of the important biological traits and also indicator of social status, of which various stages of individual's life are differentiated for education, occupation, marriage, maturity etc. and it also play very important role in the determination of lifestyle and attitudes. It can be seen from table-1, majority of the respondents belonging to the 51-60 years (i.e., 26.67%) followed by 41-50 and 61-70 age holders with share of 24.1% and 21.67% respectively. Very less numbers of respondents found in above 70 years (i.e., 1.67%). To measure the degree of variation, standard deviation have been employed, SD is 11.71%, which indicates that less various in the age of respondent among dalit families. Fig-4, represents the age of the respondent families.

Table-1: Age of the Respondent

Respondents	Total	Percentage
21-30	10	8.33
31-40	21	17.50
41-50	29	24.17
51-60	32	26.67
61-70	26	21.67
70 And Above	2	1.67
Sub Total	120	100.00
St. Devi	11.71	

Source: Field survey



Nature of the family:

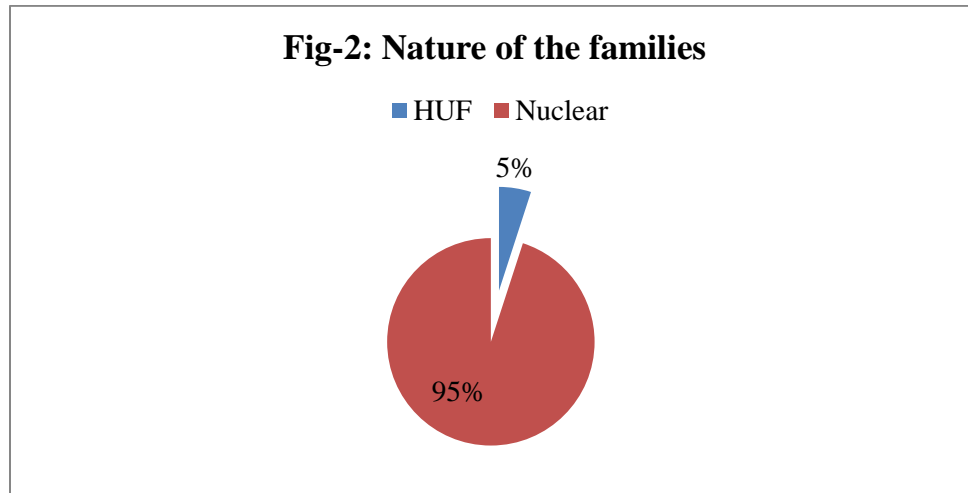
In India, types of

families and their forms are based on various parameters. Families can be classified on the basis of marriage, the nature of residence, ancestry or descent family, size or structure, the nature of relationship etc., in the present study the researcher has classified the families of dalit on the basis of size or structure, of which families are classified into Hindu Undivided Families (HUF) and Nuclear Families, this classification is more relevant indicator of economic conditions, the same is presented in table -2, it is observed in the study that, 95 percent of the respondents' families are nuclear families and only 5 percent of the families are Hindu Undivided families. The calculated SD is 76.37 percent, therefore, it can be concluded that, there is a high degree of variation between the nature of the families, which also directly play a vital role on economic conditions among dalit families.

Table-2: Nature of the family

Nature	F	Percentage
HUF	6	5
Nuclear	114	95
Sub Total	120	100
St. Dev	76.37	

Source: Field Survey



Size of the family member:

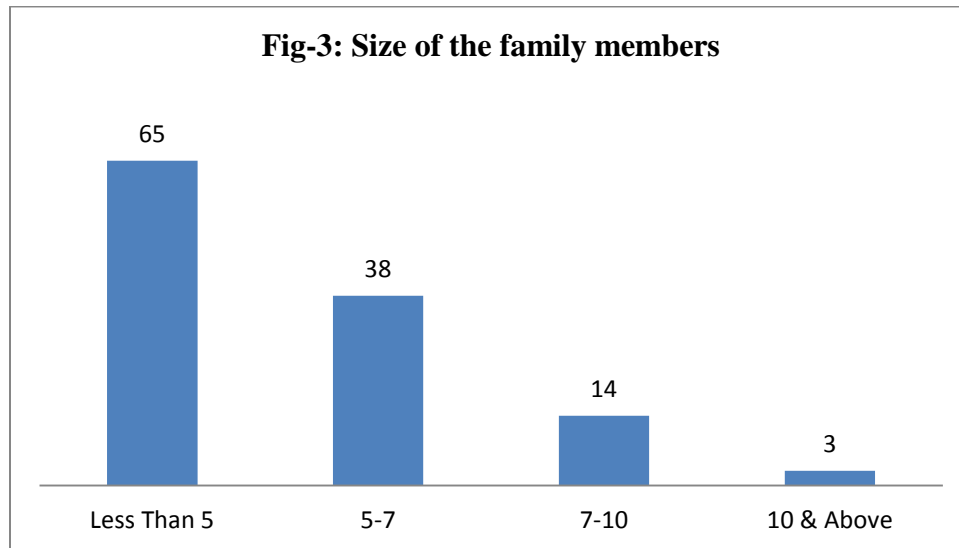
Family income is in many respects a better measure of economic competence than individual income. In our economy, considerable proportions of women and minor children are compelled to work in order to supplement the inadequate wages of low wage family head and these cases, economic calculations are probably more influenced by combined income of the family members than they are by the earnings of head of the family. In this context, family size is directly influenced the economic conditions of families. From the table -3, it is observed that, 54.17% of the families consists less than 5 members in the family and 31.67% of the respondent dalit families have 5-7 people in their family and only 2.5% of families have more than 10 members in the families. From this analysis, it is clear that, most of the respondent families are belonging to nuclear family.

Table-3: Size of the family members

Particular	f	Percentage
Less Than 5	65	54.17
5-7	38	31.67

7-10	14	11.67
10 & Above	3	2.50
Sub Total	120	100
St. Dev	27.53	

Source: Field Survey



Number of children’s in the family:

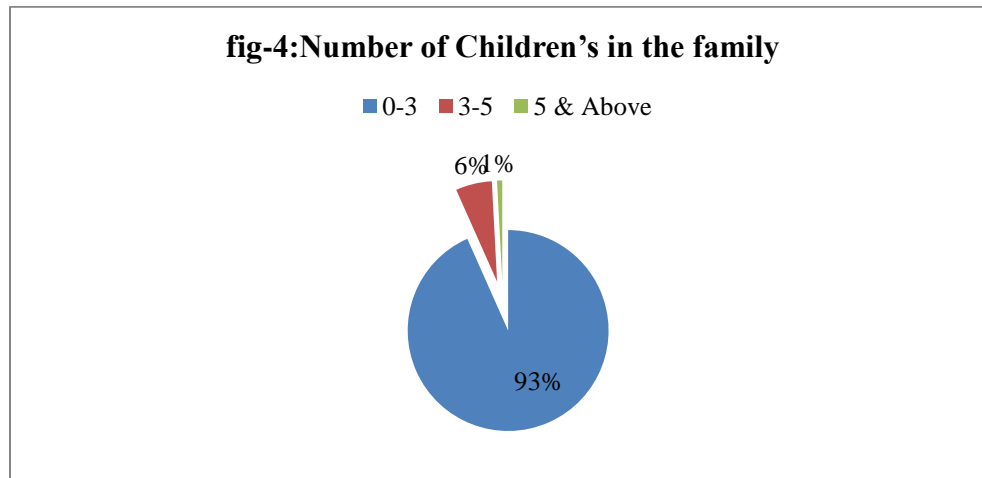
Children’s and family income are directly correlated, because children’s are very unevenly distributed among the families, their opportunities for developments are unequal. According to Thomas J Woofter “on a comparable unit basis, income of families without children’s averages more than the twice that of families with three or more children’s”. in this context, there is a high degree of positive association between children’s and families. in the present study size of the children’s are classified into three categories, viz., less than 3, 3-5 and 5 and above. It can be seen from the table-4 is that, 93.33% of families have less than 3 children’s, 5.33% of respondent dalit families have 3-5 children’s and only one family has more 5 children’s. from this it can be concluded that, majority of the respondent families are nuclear families.

Table-4: Number of Children’s in the family

Particulars	f	Percentage
0-3	112	93.33
3-5	7	5.83

5 & Above	1	0.83
Sub Total	120	100
St. Dev	62.43	

Source: primary data



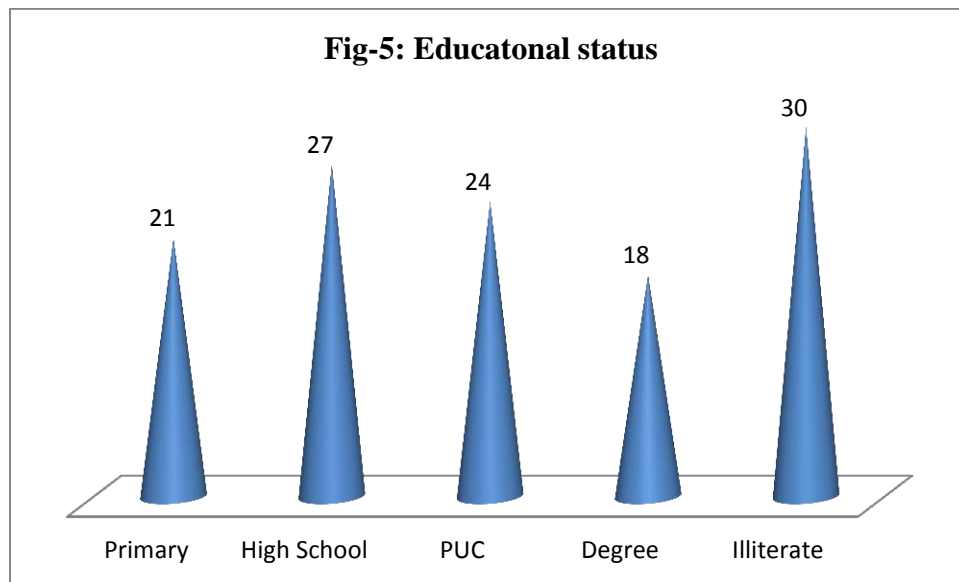
Educational Status of the respondent:

Education is powerful driver of development and one of the strongest instruments for reducing the poverty and improving health, gender equality, peace, economic condition and stability. In the study educational status of the respondents have been classified into five categories, which are presented in table-5, it is observed in the study that, 25% of the respondent of dalit families are illiterate and 17.5% of the are studies only primary education and 22.5% of the respondents below high school, 20% are studied PUC and 15% of the respondent have Degree. It is clear in the study that, majority of the dalit still has low education.

Table-5: Educational Status of the respondents

Particulars	f	percentage
Primary	21	17.5
High School	27	22.5
PUC	24	20
Degree	18	15
Illiterate	30	25
Sub Total	120	100
St. dev	4.74341649	

Source: Field Survey



Part-B: Challenges among Dalit Families With Respect to Their Economic Development

In our society scheduled castes and scheduled tribes constitute deprived sections. They are denied their due rights and freedom. Dalits are facing several challenges with respect to their economic development. In this section researcher has examined various challenges or problems facing among dalits. Some of the challenges or problems like material deprivation, landlessness, educational background, employment and government services, indebtedness and bonded labour, health and nutrition, lack of communication and atrocities have been taken in the study. It can be observed in the study that (see table 1), majority of the respondent very strongly agreed that, landlessness (i.e 70.83%), Employment and government services (i.e. 54.17%), Health and Nutrition (i.e. 69.17%), Lack of communication (i.e. 52..50%) are major problems of dalits with respect to their economic development. 33.33% of the respondent said that, material deprivation is minor problem, 53.33% of people strongly agreed that, atrocities is the major challenge among dalits. Majority of the dalits considered indebtedness and bondedlabour are major problems with percentage of 75. Further to know significant variation in various challenges among dalit families chi square test has been employed. The calculated χ^2 value is greater than critical value (2567.05 > 41.33) at 5% level of significance. In this case null hypothesis should not be rejected, therefore, it can be concluded that, there is a significant difference in challenges among dalit

families. Further, to find the significance association among various challenges correlation coefficient is calculated, from the table-2, it can be seen that, there is high degree of positive association between landlessness with educational background, employment and government services, indebtedness and bonded labour, health and nutrition, lack of communication and atrocities (i.e. r, 0.896, 0.632, 0.992, 0.961) and also high degree of positive correlation between educational background with employment and government service, Indebtedness, health and nutrition, lack of communication atrocities with r 0.795, 0.878, 0.694, 0.805, 0.681. therefore it is proved that, landlessness, Educational background, Indebtedness, health and nutrition, lack of communication, atrocities are the major challenges of dalit with respect their economic development.

Table-1: Problems with respect to economic development among dalit families

Particulars	Very Strongly	Strongly	Moderately	Minor	Not a Problem	Total
material deprivation	10	15	20	40	35	120
	8.33	12.50	16.67	33.33	29.17	100
Landlessness	85	20	5	5	5	120
	70.83	16.67	4.17	4.17	4.17	100
Educational Background	40	32	33	15	0	120
	33.33	26.67	27.50	12.50	0.00	100
Employment and Government Services	65	42	12	1	0	120
	54.17	35.00	10.00	0.83	0.00	100
Indebtedness and bonded labour	43	48	23	6	0	120
	35.83	40.00	19.17	5.00	0.00	100
Health and nutrition	83	27	6	4	0	120
	69.17	22.50	5.00	3.33	0.00	100
Lack of communication	63	26	20	7	4	120
	52.50	21.67	16.67	5.83	3.33	100

Atrocities	25	64	28	3	0	120
	20.83	53.33	23.33	2.50	0.00	100

Source: primary data

χ^2	2563.055
Df	28
Sig($\alpha=0.05$)	

Table-2: Correlation matrix:

Particulars	material deprivation	Landlessness	Educational Background	Employment and Government Services	Indebtedness and bonded labour	Health and nutrition	Lack of communication	Atrocities
material deprivation	1.000							
Landlessness	-0.698	1.000						
Educational Background	-0.879	0.620	1.000					
Employment and Government Services	-0.894	0.896	0.795	1.000				
Indebtedness and bonded labour	-0.928	0.632	0.878	0.905	1.000			
Health and nutrition	-0.762	0.992	0.694	0.944	0.724	1.000		
Lack of communication	-0.851	0.961	0.805	0.948	0.780	0.979	1.000	
Atrocities	-0.745	0.191	0.681	0.605	0.877	0.311	0.388	1

Source: Compiled from Table-32

CONCLUSION:

Dalits are entitled to constitutional safeguards, reservation benefits and welfare benefits and welfare opportunities. They are also fully entitled to certain rights and privileges, which were denied to them in the past on the ground of the caste system and practice of untouchability. Both central and state governments, through social welfare departments, formulated various programmes and schemes for the upliftment of schedule castes and schedule tribes especially for their integrated development since 1956. It is observed in the study that, seventy years after independence, dalits are suffering from landlessness, unemployment, Nutrition, lack of communication, therefore, in this regard governments and other welfare corporations has to make serious efforts for upliftment of dalits economically

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