

Land Distribution for Scheduled Castes in Aligarh District of U.P.: An Assessment

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Abstract: - The Present study Land Distribution for Scheduled Castes in Aligarh District of U.P.: An Assessment. Stratified random sampling is used for selection of respondents. Proportionate number of respondents has been selected from each tahsil and year by using random number table. 300 respondents selected by using random number table from five tahsils namely Koil, Khair, Gabhana, Atrauli and Iglas of the study area Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh. It is found that the situation of the Scheduled Castes in terms of physical possession on allotted agricultural land reveals that majority 68.7 per cent of the respondents got physical possession while 31.3 per cent could not get physical possession on allotted land. Quality of land is very crucial; it is evident that majority 65.6 per cent of the respondents possessed fertile land while 26.7 per cent possessed fallow land. There are 3.5 per cent possessed trenched land and 1.4 per cent respondents possessed in each category namely waste land, sandy land and flood affected land.

Key Word: - Scheduled Castes, Land Distribution, Possession of Land, Cultivated Land, Irrigation Facility.

Introduction: - The form of land ownership was different in various parts of the country. There were three main systems of land tenure –the Raiyatwari in which there was no intermediary between the owner cultivator and the state; the Zamindari in which the land was cultivated by tenants, but owned by the Zamindars who functioned as an intermediary between the cultivator and the state; and Mahlwari in which the entire land, though cultivated separately by individual families, was owned jointly by the entire village community which was collectively responsible for the payment of land revenue to the state (Tomar 1990, 123). It was estimated that the time of independence the Zamindar covered 57 per cent of the area of private landholdings in nine provinces of British India; the Raiyatwari system 38 per cent and the Mahlwari system 5 per cent (Appu 1996, 49).

Land Reforms in Uttar Pradesh: - In the traditional sense land reforms is “the redistribution of property right in land for the benefit of small, agriculture laborers and landless people (Mature 2002, 235). As a consequence, land reforms became a necessary part of the national planning for the emancipation of these deprived people (Mohanty, 2001, 3859).

Objective of Land Reforms: - Right from the beginning to the present there have been two major objectives of land reforms viz. Social Justice and Economic Efficiency. The first is to remove such impediments to increase agriculture production as arise from the agrarian structure inherited from the past. And the second objective, which is to eliminate all the elements of exploitation and ensure social justice within the agrarian system to provide security for tillers of social and assure equality of status and opportunity to all the sections of the rural population (Mathur 2002, 226). For achieving these objectives, some major initiatives have been adopted under the land reforms are the following: - Abolition of Zamindari System, Consolidation of Holdings, The imposition of Ceiling on land Holdings, Redistribution of land

Abolition of Zamindari System: - Uttar Pradesh is the most populated State in the Indian Union and since the Uttar Pradesh Zamindari abolition law was often held out as a model worthy of emulation, we may as well start with a brief survey of that law. On the 8th August 1948, the Uttar Pradesh legislative assembly resolved to abolish zamindari once for all. In pursuance of this resolution, the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Bill was introduced in the assembly on July 7, 1949, and became law on 26th January 1951, and all the estates vested in the state with effect from July 1, 1952 (Singh, 1987, 164). The Act Abolished the Zamindari system and put an end to all the intermediaries and brought the cultivator indirect relationship with the state (Verma, 1997, 54). The Government of Uttar Pradesh enacted and amended various Acts. for Land Reforms.

Act related to Land Reforms in Uttar Pradesh (Ninth Scheduled Article 31 B)

- The Uttar Pradesh Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (Uttar Pradesh Act I of 1951).
- The Kumaun and Uttarakhand Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1960 (Uttar Pradesh Act XVII of 1960).
- The Uttar Pradesh Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1960 (Uttar Pradesh Act I of 1961).
- The Uttar Pradesh Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings (Amendment) Act, 1972 (Uttar Pradesh Act 18 of 1973).

- The Uttar Pradesh Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings (Amendment) Act, 1972 (Uttar Pradesh Act 2 of 1975).
- Amendment made to Uttar Pradesh Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (Uttar Pradesh Act I of 1951) by the Uttar Pradesh Land Laws (Amendment) Act, 1971 (Uttar Pradesh Act 21 of 1971) and the Uttar Pradesh Land Laws (Amendment) Act, 1974 (Uttar Pradesh Act 34 of 1974).
- The Uttar Pradesh Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings (Amendment) Act, 1976 (Uttar Pradesh Act 20 of 1976).
- The Uttar Pradesh Zamindari Abolition Laws (Amendment) Act, 1978 (Uttar Pradesh Act 15 of 1978)
- The Uttar Pradesh Land Laws (Amendment) Act, 1982 (Uttar Pradesh Act 20 of 1982).

Consolidation of Holdings: - Consolidation of holdings is an important instrument of land reforms is also one of the prerequisites for successful agriculture planning. After the abolition of Zamindari, U. P. Consolidation of Holdings Act. 1953 was enacted by the state government. Since then it has extended to one tahsil after another tahsil in different districts of the state. By 1967-68, transfer of possession is affected over a total area over 200 lakh acres (80.9 lakh ha), and about three-fourths of the cultivators are allotted single *chak* (plot). By the end of February 1992, the delivery of possession was further affected up to an area of 198.89 (Verma, 1997, 54). The consolidation of holdings started in the district Aligarh in 1953 in tahsil Iglas. The main objective of the operation is the consolidation of holdings and prevention of its fragmentation, which more often resulted in upcoming holdings and loss of agricultural production.

Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings: - U.P. Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act. was passed in August 1960 and enforced in January 1961. Under this Act, the maximum area was fixed at 40 acres of average fair quality land for the five-member family. It was amended in June 1973 by the amending Act 1972. The family was redefined and a ceiling of 18 acres (7.70 hectares) irrigated land was fixed for each tenure holder. The Act was enforced in the district Aligarh in 1961. The amendment in the Act in June 1973 fixed the maximum size of holdings of a tenant in respect of irrigated land was fixed at 7.70 hectares and in case of unirrigated at 10.95 hectares. Till the end of February 1978, 2,162 hectares of involving 1,597 landholders had been declared surplus and vested in the state. The Act was further amended in January 1975 to eliminate the loopholes and ensure that enough land becomes available for allotment of landless people. As a result of the implementation of the Act, some defects were found on the surface. To do with them the Act was further amended in 1976. It was anticipated that the surplus land of 2.50 lakh acres would become available as a result of the implementation of the ceiling law. Under 20-point economic programme announced by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, detailed instruction for starting a vigorous drive for land distribution in a planned manner were issued to collectors in September 1975. As a result of this drive, a total of about 15 lakh acres of Gram Sabha land was distributed among 17,25,094 beneficiaries. At the village level, there is a statutory committee known as the land management committee, which is responsible for the management of land distribution declared surplus after enacting the ceiling Act (Verma, 1997, 63). The 'lekhpal' who is the lowest revenue officials at the village level is also secretary of LMC. Now the 'Pradhan' (chairmen of gram panchayat) and the lekhpal could give the Gram Sabha land to anyone they favored provided he did not own more than 3.12 acres (Shankar 1191, 1086).

Redistribution of land (Bhoodan Movement): - The Movement was started in October 1951 in the state by Acharya Vinoba Bhave for getting land donated and gifted in favour of Landless people. By the end of 1952 state government formally recognized the movement by passing the Bhoodan Yojna Act. According to the provision of the Act, Bhoodan Yojana Samiti was constituted in the state and all headquarters for receiving and distributing the gifted land (Verma 1997, 70). An accounted of land about 1,76,473 ha was received out of which 1,69,005 is distributed since the start of the scheme up to March 1981. In the district, the movement created an awakening among the people regarding the necessity of such measures and by march, 1978 and reaf of about 2,529 ha. of land was received as a gift for landless, of which about 2,138 ha is allotted (Singh, 1987, 165).

Land Distributed to Scheduled Castes in Uttar Pradesh: - The majority of the Scheduled Caste population depend on land for their livelihood. However, most of them work as landless agriculture labourers. Land being the most basic input for agriculture, it is very crucial for the development of the Scheduled Castes. But agricultural land is shrinking as land is required for use in the other sector also. As per the data available with the State Revenue Board, Scheduled Castes holdings area, only 16.38 per cent of the total operational holdings in the state through the area operated upon by Scheduled Castes is 10.48 per cent. The state government has declared 5,70,309 acres land as surplus land and 2,41,206 Scheduled Caste persons were allotted land. Similarly, Gram Sabha land was also distributed to the landless Scheduled Caste people. About 18 lakh Scheduled Caste people were allotted 5,98,905 hectares of Gram Sabha land.

Agriculture Land Holdings of Scheduled Castes: - The last four decades have witnessed a sharp decline in the average size of operational land holdings in India. It reflects the immense population pressure on the limited land resources available for cultivation (Mehrotra 2014). Changes in operational holdings of Scheduled Castes is

declining from last four decades at all India level and at state and district level too. The estimated total area owned by the households in rural India during the year 2013 was 92.36 million hectares with an average size of 0.592 hectares land per ownership holdings.

The highest per cent of rural households 75.41 per cent fall in the marginal ownership category, owning 29.75 per cent of the total area owned. The share of land ownership in rural India by different social groups was 13.06 per cent for Scheduled Tribe, 9.23 per cent for Scheduled Castes, 45.68 per cent for Other Backward Class, and 32.03 per cent for others. The average area of land ownership per household was 0.650 hectares for Scheduled Tribe, 0.272 hectares for Scheduled Castes, 0.603 hectares for Other Backward Class, and 0.816 hectares for others.

Average Size of Holdings of Scheduled Castes: - The data presented in Table 1.1 reveals that the total number of operational holdings of Scheduled Castes in the country has increased from 10.05 million hectares in 1980-81 to 17.09 million hectares in 2010-11 i.e. an increase of 7.04 per cent. The operated area has also increased from 11.52 million hectares in 1980-81 to 13.72 million hectares in 2010-11. The average size of operational holdings has declined from 1.15 hectares in 1980-81 to 0.80 hectares in 2010-11.

Table 1.1

Number of Holdings of Scheduled Castes in India (in '000)

Number of Holdings in India (in '000)							
Size Groups	1980-81	1985-86	1990-91	1995-96	2000-01	2005-06	2010-11
Marginal (less than 1 ha.)	6923	8508	9689	10844	11385	12233	13247
Small (1 to 2 ha)	1644	1923	2130	2275	2318	2445	2464
Semi-Medium (2 to 4 ha.)	952	1067	1092	1099	1019	1014	1005
Medium (4 to10 ha)	438	456	432	400	357	326	330
Large (10 ha and Above)	95	87	79	71	62	56	52
All Size	10052	12041	13422	14688	15140	16073	17099
Operated Area in India (in '000)							
Size Groups	1980-81	1985-86	1990-91	1995-96	2000-01	2005-06	2010-11
Marginal (less than 1 ha.)	2510	3000	3409	3835	4074	4494	4867
Small (1 to 2 ha)	2324	2713	3010	3176	3237	3364	3455
Semi-Medium (2 to 4 ha.)	2576	3878	2944	2939	2716	2693	2678
Medium (4 to10 ha)	2554	2636	2492	2291	2040	1865	1885
Large (10 ha and Above)	1557	1413	1319	1164	1009	883	836
All Size	11521	12639	13173	13406	13077	13300	13721
Average Size of Holdings in India (in ha.)							
Size Groups	1980-81	1985-86	1990-91	1995-96	2000-01	2005-06	2010-11
Marginal (less than 1 ha.)	0.36	0.37	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.37	0.37
Small (1 to 2 ha)	1.41	1.41	1.41	1.40	1.40	1.38	1.40
Semi-Medium (2 to 4 ha.)	2.71	2.70	2.70	2.67	2.67	2.66	2.66
Medium (4 to10 ha)	5.84	5.78	5.77	5.73	5.72	5.72	5.70
Large (10 ha and Above)	16.44	16.24	16.70	16.48	1.27	15.91	15.99
All Size	1.15	1.05	0.98	0.91	0.86	0.83	0.80

Source: Agriculture Census, 2010-11

The small and marginal holdings taken together constituted 91.9 per cent in 2010-11 against 85.23 per cent in 1980-81 and operated area at 60.65 per cent in 2010-11 as against corresponding figures of 41.96 per cent in 1980-81. Consequently, the number of landholdings in the marginal and small categories has increased by 63 lakhs and 8.2 lakh respectively.

The semi-medium and medium operational holdings in 2010-11 were 7.8 per cent with the operated area of 33.25 per cent. The corresponding figures of 1980-81 were 13.8 per cent and the operated area was 44.52 per cent. The large holdings were 0.30 per cent of the total number of holdings in 2010-11 with the share of 6.1 per cent in the operated area as against 0.95 per cent and 13.5 per cent respectively in 1980-81.

Number, Area and Average Size of Holdings of Scheduled Castes in Uttar Pradesh: - The data presented in the table 1.2 and 1.3 highlights the fact that the total number of operational holdings of Scheduled Castes in Uttar Pradesh has increased from 3.6 million in 2000-01 to 4 million in 2010-11 i.e. an increase of 0.6 per cent. The operated area has also increased from 1.95 million hectares in 2000-01 to 1.96 million hectares in 2010-11.

The average size of operational holdings has declined from 0.53 hectares in 1980-81 to 0.49 hectares in 2010-11. The small and marginal holdings taken together constituted 97.3 per cent in 2010-11 against 96.4 per cent in 2000-01 and operated area at 82.87 per cent in 2010-11 as against corresponding figures of 72.35 per cent in 2000-01. The semi-medium and medium operational holdings in 2010-11 were 2.68 per cent with the operated area of 16.7 per cent.

Table 1.2

Number and Area of Holdings of Scheduled Castes by Size Group in Uttar Pradesh (in ha.)

Size in Groups	2000-01			2005-6			2010-11		
	Number	%	Area	Number	%	Area	Number	%	Area
Marginal	3203521	86.9	1069027	3394026	88.28	3565969	3565969	88.69	1164541
Small	357425	9.7	483692	343963	8.95	345842	345842	8.6	467437
Semi-medium	103995	2.82	275794	90950	2.37	92862	92862	2.3	245754
Medium	20221	0.55	108248	15258	0.4	15466	15466	0.38	82818
Large	1077	0.03	16169	622	0.02	585	585	0.01	8716
Total	3686239	100.0	1952930	3844819	100.0	4020724	4020724	100.0	1969267

Source: Agriculture Census, 2000-01, 2005-6, 2010-11

The corresponding figures of 2000-01 were 3.37 per cent and the operated area was 19.66 per cent. The large holdings were 0.01 per cent of the total number of holdings in 2010-11 with the share of 0.44 per cent in the operated area as against 0.03 per cent and 0.82 per cent respectively in 2000-01.

Table 1.3

Average Size of Holdings of Scheduled Castes in Uttar Pradesh (in ha.)

Size Groups	2000-01	2005-06	2010-11
Marginal	0.33	0.34	0.33
Small	1.35	1.35	1.35
Semi-Medium	2.65	2.64	2.65
Medium	5.35	5.40	5.35
Large	15.01	15.28	14.90
All Size	0.53	0.51	0.49

Source: Agriculture Census, 2000-01, 2005-6, 2010-11

Number, Area and Average Size of Holdings of Scheduled Castes in Aligarh: - The data presented in table 1.4 and 1.5 shows that the total number of operational holdings of Scheduled Castes in district Aligarh has increased from 45640 in 2000-01 to 46025 in 2010-11 i.e. an increase of 385 number of holdings. The operated area has decreased from 28367 hectares in 2000-01 to 27152 million hectares in 2010-11. The average size of operational holdings has also declined from 0.62 hectares in 2000-01 to 0.59 hectares in 2010-11.

The small and marginal holdings taken together constituted 95.1 per cent in 2010-11 against 94.52 per cent in 2000-01 and operated area at 74.4 per cent in 2010-11 as against corresponding figures of 65.5 per cent in 2000-01. The semi-medium and medium operational holdings in 2010-11 were 4.85 per cent with the operated area of 25.2 per cent. The corresponding figures of 1980-81 were 5.46 per cent and the operated area was 27.75 per cent. The large holdings were 0.02 per cent of the total number of holdings in 2010-11 with the share of 0.41 per cent in the operated area as against 0.03 per cent and 0.57 per cent respectively in 1980-81.

Table 1.4

Number and Area of Holdings of Scheduled Castes by Size Group in Aligarh (in ha.)

Size Group	2000-01			2005-6			2010-11		
	Number	%	Area	Number	%	Area	Number	%	Area
Marginal	37862	82.96	13186	39345	83.47	13437	38572	83.81	13223
Small	5276	11.56	7149	5404	11.47	7255	5209	11.32	6967
Semi-Medium	2053	4.5	5535	2000	4.24	5325	1893	4.11	5031
Medium	436	0.96	2342	374	0.79	2011	342	0.74	1821
Large	13	0.03	164	11	0.02	130	9	0.02	110
Total	45640	100.0	28376	47134	100.0	28158	46025	100.0	27152

Source: Agriculture Census, 2000-01, 2005-6, 2010-11

Table 1.5

Average Size of Holdings of Scheduled Castes in Aligarh (in ha.)

Size Group	2000-01	2005-06	2010-11
Marginal	0.35	0.34	0.34
Small	1.35	1.34	1.34
Semi-Medium	2.72	2.66	2.66
Medium	5.37	5.38	5.32
Large	12.65	11.82	12.20
All Size	0.62	0.60	0.59

Source: Agriculture Census, 2000-01, 2005-6, 2010-11

Land and land reforms are under the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the States as provided in Entry No.18 of List-II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Indian Constitution. However, the central government is playing an advisory and coordinating role in the field of land reforms since the First Five Year Plan. Since land is not only the main factor of production in agriculture but also the primary source of income and wealth in rural areas, so the distribution of land has become very important for policy formulation. The observed pattern of land distribution exhibits an unequal distribution of landholdings that needs to be reduced to achieve an egalitarian society. To establish an egalitarian society various land reforms legislation have been conceived and implemented by the government to transform the agrarian structure with a more equal distribution of land. The reduction in the inequality of land distribution is considered a prerequisite to increase agriculture productivity and to achieve economic and social justice for the rural poor. Land reforms have been a major item of the programme of socio-economic reform of the government in post-independence India, beginning with the abolition of Zamindari in the early fifties, down to the imposition of land ceiling and redistribution of surplus land, protection of share-croppers, etc. The actual impact of all these measures on the life and living of weaker sections of the rural community, typified by the agricultural labours and small and marginal farmers has yet to be properly assessed. Because as discussed above land especially agricultural land in India has not only been a matter of better economic status but also of pride, prestige, and owner. Therefore, it becomes necessary to assess the “Land Distribution for Scheduled Castes in Aligarh District of U.P.: An Assessment”.

Selection of the research problem: - In India possession of a plot of agricultural land, howsoever small, carries with it high psychological and social value. It helps to raise the status of the weaker sections of the society and give them a sense of belonging to the hub of social life. Thus, the land reform programme is rightly viewed as not only an economic development but also as a measure of social uplift. The main Socio-Economic problems affecting the bulks of the SC population are landlessness; lack of education; forced labour; lack of employment; low wages and the problem of child labour. In the above circumstances, the present study is mainly concentrated to Assessment of Land Distribution for Emancipation of Scheduled Castes in study area.

Objective of the Study: - To assess the land distribution for Scheduled Castes.

Universe of the study: - The total 1072 number of Scheduled Castes households were allotted a piece of land (patta) during 2007-2012 under land reforms programme in Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh is considered as universe of the study.

Unit of analysis: - The individual (male and female) member of Scheduled Caste families who got allotment of land (patta) during 2007-2012 under land reforms constituted the unit of analysis.

Sampling frame of the Study: - The data of allotted agriculture land to Scheduled Caste's beneficiaries collected from the office of Registrar kanungo from each tahsil viz. Koil, Atrauli, Khair, Gabhana and Iglas of the district Aligarh. Collected data arranged and computed for drawing the sample size as under: -

Table 1.6

District Aligarh: Agriculture Land Allotment to Scheduled Castes (2007-2012)

Years	Tahsils					Total
	Koil	Atrauli	Khair	Gabhana	Iglas	
2007-08	121	101	21	98	46	387
2008-09	23	15	20	26	28	112
2009-10	106	65	25	56	51	303
2010-11	33	23	24	37	30	147
2011-12	38	9	18	36	22	123
Total	321	213	108	253	177	1072

Source- District Land Record and Registrar Kanoongo Office, Tahsil Koil, Gabhana, Atrauli, Kahir, Iglas, Aligarh district, 2015

Tahsil wise and year wise distribution of the beneficiaries of Scheduled Castes received piece of land (patta) under land reform programme in Aligarh have been presented in Table 1.6. This is considered as sampling frame. From the total 1072 beneficiaries sample size is decided as under: -

Sample Size of the Study: - Sample size is drawn by using **Taro Yamane's** formula $n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$. Where n is the sample size, N is population size, and e is level of precision. According to the formula $n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$ the sample size for the above sampling frame came 291.3. Therefore, as per the calculation of the formula, 300 beneficiaries of Scheduled Castes have been selected as frame of sample size for the study and this is 27.98 per cent of the sampling frame i.e. of 1072 beneficiaries of district. The year and tahsil wise proportionate number of beneficiaries have been selected as follows: -

Table 1.7

District Aligarh: Sample size of the study (2007-2012)

Years	Tahsils					Total
	Koil	Atrauli	Khair	Gabhana	Iglas	
2007-08	34	28	6	27	13	108
2008-09	6	4	6	7	8	31
2009-10	30	18	7	16	14	85
2010-11	9	6	7	11	8	41
2011-12	11	3	5	10	6	35
Total	90	59	31	71	49	300

Source: Computed from the table 1.6

Selection of the Respondents: - Stratified random sampling is used for selection of respondents. Proportionate number of respondents has been selected from each tahsil and year by using random number table.

Sources of Data Collection: - Primary data is collected directly from study area through direct interview with respondents, and also enacted field observation and group discussion with respondents. The secondary data is collected from the concerned agencies, documented literature, research reports, statistical documents (Census based upon 2011, National sample survey book, Annual Reports of public organizations), gazetteers, newspaper, magazines, books, journals, internet and visited various libraries.

Analysis of data and Interpretation: - The collected data is processed, tabulated and analysed. Keeping the objective in view a list of cross and simple tables prepared for analysis.

Table 1.8

Agriculture Land Allotted to the Respondents

Sub-Castes	Area (in ha)					Total
	< 0.08	0.08-0.16	0.16-0.25	0.25-0.36	>0.36	
Jatav	14 (8.7)	80 (49.7)	54 (33.5)	5 (3.1)	8 (5.0)	161 (100.0)
Dhobi	3 (7.1)	21 (50.0)	17 (40.5)	1 (2.4)	0 (0.0)	42 (100.0)
Valmiki	8 (12.3)	31 (47.7)	22 (33.8)	1 (1.5)	3 (4.6)	65 (100.0)
Khatik	1 (6.2)	6 (37.5)	7 (43.8)	1 (6.2)	1 (6.2)	16 (100.0)
Kori	0 (0.0)	12 (80.0)	3 (20.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	15 (100.0)
Nat	0 (0.0)	1 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100.0)
Total	26 (8.7)	151 (50.3)	103 (34.3)	8 (2.7)	12 (4.0)	300 (100.0)

Primary Source- Field Survey of Study Area 2015, Note: The figure in bracket indicate Percentage

The data presented in table 1.8 reflects facts about allotted agriculture land to the Scheduled Caste respondents of the study area. It is found that majority 50.3 per cent respondents got allotment of land in a range of 0.08-0.16 hectare while 8.7 per cent got 0.08 hectare or less land. The respondents who got allotment in a range of 0.16-0.25 hectare comprised 34.3 per cent. It is evident that a small number 2.7 per cent got allotment of land in a range of 0.25-0.36 hectare and 4 per cent got 0.36-hectare and above. Average size of allotted land found 0.17 hectare in the study area.

It highlights the fact that majority of the respondents got allotment of land equal to or less than 0.17 hectare. It is quite evident that a small number of respondents could get more than 0.17 hectare of agriculture land. The actual size of allotted land found very small especially for the Scheduled Castes.

Table 1.9

Status of Physical Possession of Allotted Agriculture Land

Sub-Castes	Physical Possession		Total
	Yes	No	
Jatav	118 (73.3)	43 (26.7)	161 (100.0)
Dhobi	31 (73.8)	11 (26.2)	42 (100.0)
Valmiki	36 (55.4)	29 (44.6)	65 (100.0)
Khatik	13 (81.2)	3 (18.8)	16 (100.0)
Kori	8 (53.3)	7 (46.7)	15 (100.0)
Nat	0 (0.0)	1 (100.0)	1 (100.0)
Total	206 (68.7)	94 (31.3)	300 (100.0)

Primary Source- Field Survey of Study Area 2015, Note: The figure in bracket indicate Percentage

The situation of the Scheduled Castes in terms of physical possession on allotted agricultural land reveals that majority 68.7 per cent of the respondents got physical possession while 31.3 per cent could not get physical possession on allotted land. There are 73.3 per cent Jatav Sub-caste, 73.8 per cent Dhobi sub-caste, 55.4 per cent Valmiki Sub-caste, 81.2 per cent Khatik sub-caste and 53.3 per cent Kori Sub-caste's respondents are found to have physical possession on allotted agriculture land. There are 26.7 per cent respondents from Jatav sub-caste, 26.2 per cent respondents from Dhobi sub-caste, 44.6 per cent respondents from Valmiki sub-caste, 18.8 percent respondents from Khatik sub-caste and 46.7 per cent respondents from Kori sub-caste who are found without physical possession on allotted agriculture land of the study area.

Table 1.10

Time Gap in Physical Possession of Land

Sub-Castes	Time Gap				Total
	< 1 Year	1 - 2 Year	2 - 3Year	No-possession yet	
Jatav	117 (72.7)	3 (1.9)	0 (0.0)	41 (25.5)	161 (100.0)
Dhobi	29 (69.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (2.4)	12 (28.6)	42 (100.0)
Valmiki	34 (52.3)	1 (1.5)	0 (0.0)	30 (46.2)	65 (100.0)
Khatik	11 (68.8)	0 (0.0)	2 (12.5)	3 (18.8)	16 (100.0)
Kori	8 (53.3)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	7 (46.7)	15 (100.0)
Nat	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100.0)	1 (100.0)
Total	199 (66.3)	4 (1.3)	3 (1.0)	94 (31.3)	300 (100.0)

Primary Source- Field Survey of Study Area 2015, Note: The figure in bracket indicate Percentage

The table 1.10 reflects the facts about time gap in physical possession on land. For time gap in getting physical possession on land, it is found that majority 66.3 per cent of the respondents reported that they got possession within a year. The respondents who got possession in more than one to three years accounted for 2.3 per cent. It is revealed that there are 31.3 per cent who could not get possession yet. Thus, it shows that physical possession of land is a time consuming and lengthy process.

Table 1.11

Status of the Agriculture Land Allotted to the Respondents

Sub-Castes	Status Land		Total
	Cultivable	Uncultivable	
Jatav	83 (70.3)	35 (29.7)	161 (100.0)
Dhobi	22 (70.9)	9 (29.1)	42 (100.0)
Valmiki	22 (61.1)	14 (38.9)	65 (100.0)
Khatik	11 (84.6)	2 (15.4)	16 (100.0)
Kori	6 (75.0)	2 (25.0)	15 (100.0)
Total	144 (69.9)	62 (30.1)	1 (100.0)

Primary Source- Field Survey of Study Area 2015, Note: The figure in bracket indicate Percentage

The data shown in table 1.11 reflects facts about status of agriculture land allotted to respondents of the study area. It is evident from the study that there are 69.9 per cent reported to possess cultivable land. Rest of the respondents 30.1 per cent are reported to possess uncultivable land allotted to Scheduled Castes.

Table 1.12
Status of Irrigation on Agriculture Land Allotted to Respondents

Sub-Castes	Irrigation			Total
	<i>Irrigated</i>	<i>Unirrigated</i>	<i>Semi Irrigated</i>	
Jatav	41 (34.7)	7 (5.9)	70 (59.4)	161 (100.0)
Dhobi	16 (51.6)	3 (9.7)	12 (38.7)	42 (100.0)
Valmiki	10 (27.7)	2 (5.6)	24 (66.7)	65 (100.0)
Khatik	6 (46.1)	0 (0.0)	7 (53.9)	16 (100.0)
Kori	1 (12.5)	2 (25.0)	5 (62.5)	15 (100.0)
Total	74 (35.9)	14 (6.8)	118 (57.3)	1 (100.0)

Primary Source- Field Survey of Study Area 2015, Note: The figure in bracket indicate Percentage

The data shown above table 1.12 reflects facts about status of irrigation on allotted agriculture land of the study area. There are 35.9 per cent respondents who said that they got irrigated land while 57.3 per cent respondents said that they got semi-irrigated land allotted to respondents. There are 6.8 respondents of the total respondents who said that they did not have irrigation facility on allotted land so that their allotted land still unirrigated. It is found that large number of respondents having semi-irrigation facility on their allotted agriculture land. They depend on their neighbour's tube well and government tube well for irrigation on their allotted agriculture land. They are still not able to access the irrigation facility.

Table 1.13
Use of Allotted Agriculture Land

Sub-Castes	Land Use				Total
	<i>self-cultivated</i>	<i>Leased out</i>	<i>not cultivated</i>	<i>Sold out</i>	
Jatav	102 (86.4)	9 (7.6)	6 (5.1)	1 (0.9)	118 (57.2)
Dhobi	29 (93.5)	2 (6.5)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	31 (15.1)
Valmiki	30 (83.3)	5 (13.9)	1 (2.8)	0 (0.0)	36 (17.5)
Khatik	13 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	13 (6.3)
Kori	5 (62.5)	0 (0.0)	2 (20.0)	1 (12.5)	8 (3.9)
Total	179 (86.9)	16 (7.8)	9 (4.4)	2 (0.9)	206 (100.0)

Primary Source- Field Survey of Study Area 2015, Note: The figure in bracket indicate Percentage

The study highlights the fact that majority 86.9 per cent of the respondents cultivated and 7.8 per cent leased out their allotted land. The respondents who did not cultivate their allotted land accounted for 4.4 per cent and 0.9 per cent sold out the land allotted to them. Analysing the data sub-caste wise reflects that large number 91.7 per cent respondents of the sub-caste Dhobi are cultivating allotted agriculture land while 88.88 per cent from the sub-caste Jatav are cultivating allotted land and 63.63 per cent Valmiki sub-caste respondents are cultivating allotted agriculture land. It is accounted that Khatik sub-caste respondents are cultivating 100 per cent allotted agriculture land. There are 36.37 per cent from the sub-caste Valmiki, 11.12 per cent from Jatav sub-caste and 8.3 per cent from the sub-caste Dhobi who are leased out allotted agriculture land of the study area.

The situation of cultivation reflects that large number of respondents cultivating their allotted agriculture land in all sub-castes of the study area. It is found that large number of respondents cultivating their allotted land either single crop or double crop but they are gaining production on allotted agriculture land.

Finding and Conclusion: -

- ❖ Among the respondents, it was accounted that khatik Sub-caste male having high allotment of land and female for the sub-caste Balmiki having a high per cent of land allotment in the study area.
- ❖ The average size of allotted agriculture land found 2.14 beegah of the study area. It reflects that majority of the respondents got allotment of agriculture land equal to 2 beegah and less than 2 beegah.
- ❖ It was found that very few respondents of the Scheduled Castes could get more than 2 beegah and above allotment of agriculture land. This means the actual size of allotted agriculture land found very small especially for the Scheduled Castes.
- ❖ It was found that there were 77.1 per cent respondents got physical possession and 22.9 per cent respondents could not get physical possession.
- ❖ It was found that there were 12.5 per cent respondents of the total 16 respondents who said that the physical possession not provided by patwari (revenue officer).
- ❖ It was found that on a large number allotment made on agriculture land either unfertile land or fallow land so that respondents could not able to develop allotted land for agriculture propose. That's why most of the respondents depend on other source of income for their livelihood.

- ❖ It was found that large number of respondents having semi-irrigation facility on their allotted agriculture land. Mainly they depend on their neighbor's and government tube well and also canal water was far from their reach for irrigation on their allotted agriculture land. They are still not able to access the irrigation facility.
- ❖ The situation of cultivation reflects that large number of respondents cultivating their allotted agriculture land in all sub-caste of the study area.
- ❖ It was found that large number of respondents cultivating their allotted land either single crop or mixed crop but they were gaining production on allotted agriculture land.

Suggestions

- Most of the respondents engaged in unskilled labour so that there is a need to training and skill development for Scheduled Castes population of the study area.
- Before allotment of agricultural land, development of land should be ensured by the government. That agricultural land made cultivable before its distribution. There is a need to all declared land should be taken into possession by state government without any delay
- There is a need to facilitate irrigation on a large scale for small famers having 2 beegah or less piece of land so that they could be able to use their allotted land for the agriculture propose of the study area.
- There is need to enforcement of the law relating to the land and land reforms would be continued to be the primary responsibility of the state.

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