



JAT AGITATION: AN OVERVIEW

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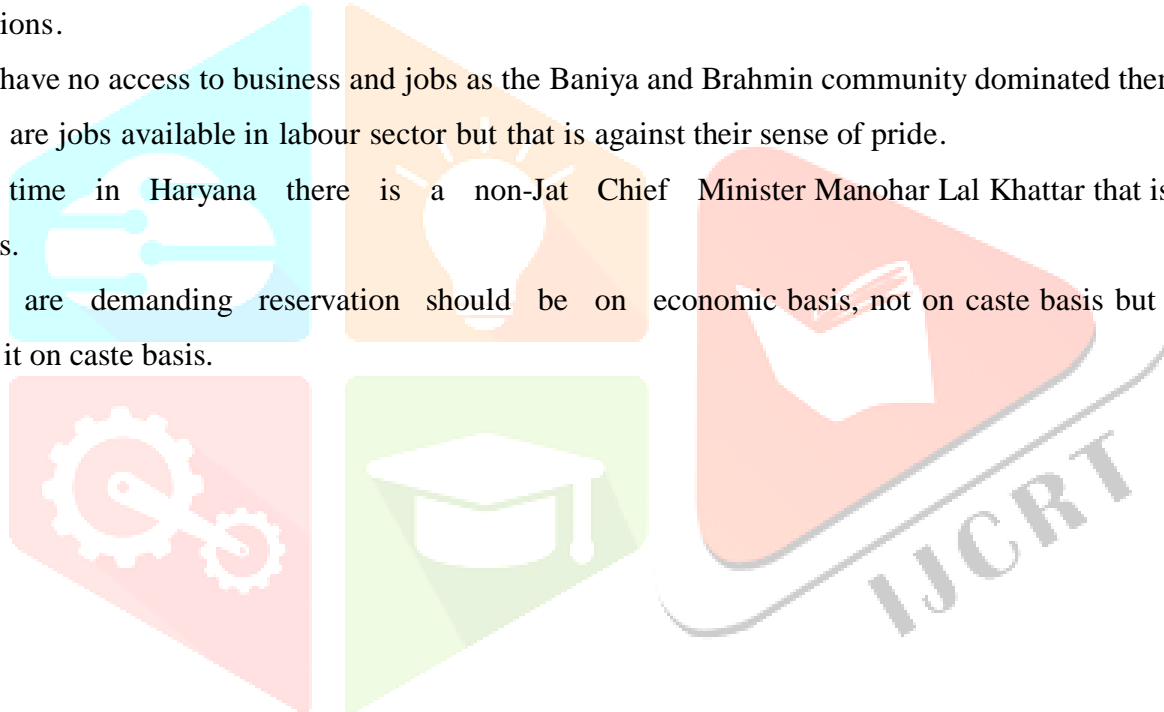
Bharat Ganrajya (India) is the land of saints, scholars, warriors, agriculturalists, politicians etc. having different set of tradition, cultures, social and religious identities and norms. It consists of 29 states and 07 union territories mainly made on lingual basis. Haryana is one of them in northern region also called as Haritanka, Bahu Dhana (land of riches), Bahudhanak (land of plentiful grains) etc. Haryana consists of 44,212 km/sq. area and its population is 18th largest according to census report of 2011. Haryana is an agriculturalist state and recently in news for the Jat agitation going on for reservation under OBC quota. Jats are mainly in north India from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab and Delhi. In Haryana, Jats consists of nearly 29% of total population. So, we can say that jats have largest population in Haryana. They are basically pastoralists in ancient time, then with time they became as agriculturalists and later during British period they also served in army also, now jats are there in almost every office of Haryana.

Composition of Population in Haryana

castes	Population in percentage
Jat's	29
Jat Sikh	4
Ahirs	10
Gujjars	2.8
Rajput's	3
Saini's	2.5
Ror's	1
Aggarwal's	5
Brahmin's	7
Khatri/Arora	8
Chamar	10
Valmiki	4
Dhanak	2
Meo	2
Bishnoi	7

Causes of Agitation

- Firstly, we can say that jats are mainly the peasant class and now days the condition of agriculture is worst.
- Secondly jats who owned big area of land in the past are now remained to a small area because of population increase and sharing of land among the next generations. This is having negative impact, so they have to search for new options.
- Thirdly they have no access to business and jobs as the Baniya and Brahmin community dominated them respectively.
- Fourth, there are jobs available in labour sector but that is against their sense of pride.
- Fifth, this time in Haryana there is a non-Jat Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar that is non-acceptable fact for arrogant jats.
- Sixth, they are demanding reservation should be on economic basis, not on caste basis but for themselves they are demanding it on caste basis.



HISTORY OF RESERVATION

- This was the basic background of jats. Now let's move to their agitation but before that we would like to discuss about reservation and Indian constitution. First of all, reservation was given Shahu Maharaj of Kolhapur to the non-Brahmins against Brahmin domination on all the posts. 50% was reserved for non-Brahmin on 16th July 1902. This was the first-time reservation was given. Then this also happened in Mysore princely state. Then reservation was given to Muslims as minority in the Morley-Minto reforms of 1909. Then in June 1932 after round table conference Ramsey MacDonald purposed the communal award, which provide separate representation for Muslims, Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo Indians, Europeans, and depressed classes also. This was the major step in Indian politics. Then the forming father of Indian constitution gave reservation (purposed) to various scheduled casts and tribes. Some seats in the jobs, government institutions, universities etc. got reserved for those who had suffered from a long time but here is one point to be stressed upon that it was not given for forever but only for twenty years and then to be reviewed and if needed renewed for ten years. This was near about 22.5%. Then after emergency (1975) when Janta party government came into power in 1977 it formed a commission called Mandal Commission under B.P. Mandal in 1979 to give reports on the inclusion of backward classes in reserved category which was prevalent in south India but not in north India and demand was raised firstly by Bihar government. Then Mandal commission gave its report and national front government in 1993 provided 27% reservation to other backward classes in government jobs, universities and other government institutions. Some petitions went to Supreme Court against this but got rejected by court. So, we can conclude here total 49.5% of reservation is given to SC's, ST's and OBC's, which is a big number.

➤ **Educational (2 points for each of the three indicator- total 6 points)**

5. Castes/ classes where the number of children in the age group 5-15 years who never attended school is at least 25% above the State average;
6. Castes/ classes where the rate of student drop out in the age group of 5-15 years is at least 25% above the State average;
7. Castes/ classes amongst whom the proportion of matriculation is at least 25% below the State average.

➤ **Economic (1 point for each of 4 indicators- total 4 points)**

8. Castes/ classes where the average value of family assets is at least 25% below the State average.
9. Castes/ classes where the number of families living in kuccha houses is at least 25% above the State average;
10. Castes/ classes where the source of drinking water is beyond half a kilometer for more than 50% of the households;
11. Castes/ classes where the number of households, having taken consumption loan in at least 25% above the State average.

Thus you can see that the three groups i.e. Social, Educational and Economic are not of equal importance. Separate weightage was given to indicators in each group. All social indicators were given 3 points. Educational indicators- 2 points each and Economic indicators – 1 point each. Total points come to 22. Whoever community obtained 11 points out of total 22 was considered as “Socially and Educationally backward Class” (now known as OBC)

The commission adopted multiple approaches for the preparation of comprehensive list of Other Backward Classes for all the States and UTs. The main sources for preparation of these lists are:

- Socio-educational field Survey;
- Census Report of 1961;
- Public evidence through interaction with people of the country;
- Lists of OBCs notified by various State Governments.

The OBC for the purpose of the reservations introduced by the Government of India in civil posts and services, in the first phase would

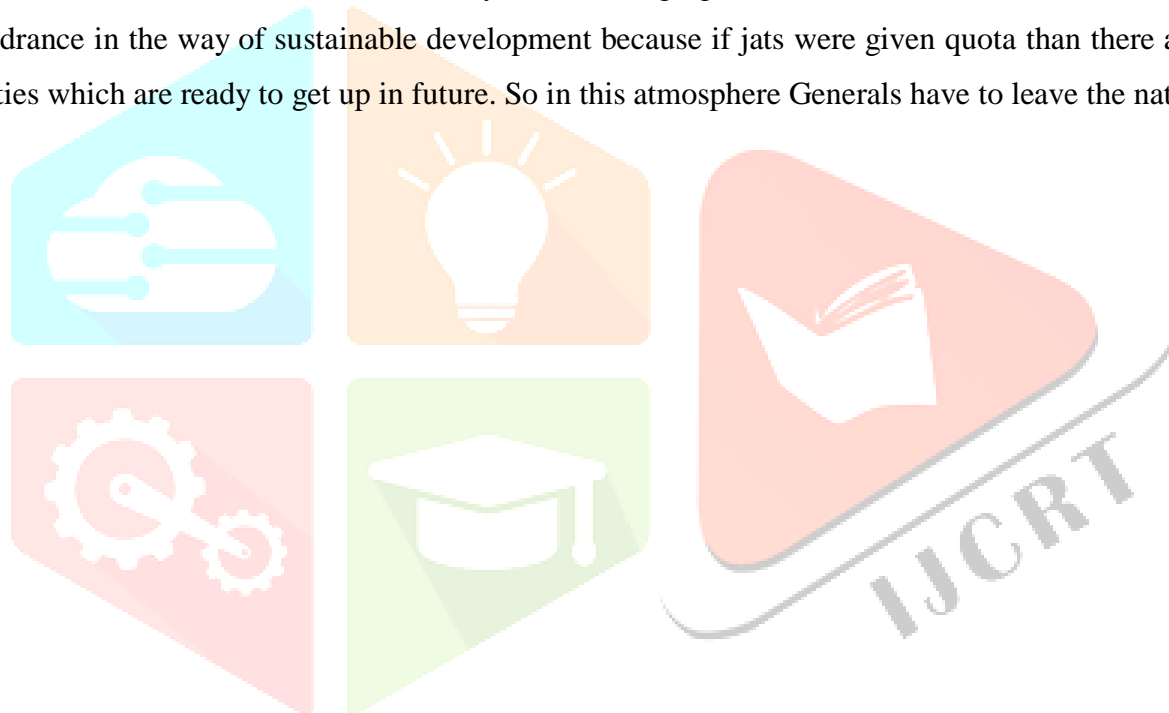
AGITATION

- Now let's start with Jat agitation in context of Haryana. It was started firstly in Jind in March 2008 where at convention All India Jat Mahasabha raises demand for quota. It was this place from where this thing all started. Then in September 2010 All India Jat Arakshan Sangrash Samiti led by Hawa Singh Sangwan at village Mayyar in Hisar district started agitation again and turned to be major leader and blocked the rails and roads.
- In this all a youth named Sunil Kumar of Jat community died in police firing and major riots broke out in Haryana and till this time nothing was done to this matter, in March 2011 this agitation resumed again and same means like blockade of railways and buses. On the assurance of then Haryana chief minister Bhupender Singh Hooda this agitation got quit.
- Now the government of Haryana had approved the Haryana Backward Classes (reservation in services and admission in educational institutions) bill on March 29, 2016. Under this 10% reservation in class 3 and 4, and 6% reservation in class 1 and 2 jobs to five casts including jats, Jat Sikhs, Rors, Tyagi, and Bishnoi was provided in the state of Haryana. And as the jats of seven other states named Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh were already in the list of center's other backward class list now the jats and these other casts were also granted the status of OBC by UPA lead government in March 04, 2014.
- But this happiness was short lived for jats as the honorable Supreme Court of India on March 17, 2015 set aside the notification of granting OBC status to jats in the central list. And on May 26, 2016 the Punjab And Haryana high court ruled out against the billed passed by Haryana congress government saying that reservation cannot be more than 50%.
- On March 26, 2015 Sir Narendra Modi meets representatives of Khaap Panchayat and Jat leaders for sports quota demands.
- After these decisions of court All India Jat Arakshan Sangrash Samiti resumes the agitation for inclusion of jats in OBC. This was a major this time and their means were destructive as they were not in mood to withdraw this time without reservation. They put the entire state machinery into standstill for weeks and destruction was more this time. The destruction of lives and properties was much more than earlier times. On the assurance of government somehow, they stopped it but it got started in January 2017 and the matter is yet to be decided.

Critique

- Jat agitation of Haryana is not a bad thing at all asking concession to some poor fellows of one's caste is not a bad thing at all but methods adopted by the jats are apt? The violence, casualties, property destruction, road blockage etc. are means by which one can put forward one's demands? There was destruction of property approx. 35,000 Crores and by April 30, 2016, 2122 cases were registered, 520 arrests were there, 2082 are still under investigation and 40 are put in court. There was burning of buses, civilians died, army personnel died, trade get stopped not only in Haryana but also in other states due to route which goes through Haryana. The government machinery for months came into standstill. Haryana before agitation was at second number in GDP after Goa but after this she lost her dominant position and reputation was also lost in all this.
- There is another event or we can say that rumor which is still not proven is Murthal Rape Controversy. Anything in this regard has not yet been proven but if anything like this came true after investigation it will be biggest spot on not only Haryana but also on India.
- 23.4% of jats of Haryana have 62% of caste income in hand out of which 21% are having 4% of this. So if they are fighting for a common cause they should divide it in themselves instead of agitation if you have that much unity and care for your fellow poor's.
- There are lots of poor in India but they even don't dare to protest, have better works to do instead of agitation but jats in their superiority and caste pride are revolting to show their dominance. If jobs are less and agriculture is got congested there are jobs in labor sector but they refused to do that in sense of superiority and the way government machinery failed to stop this agitation and the problems civilians had to face Kartar Singh RSS chief of Haryana has opined to media that had he been the state chief minister he would have ordered shooting of Jat protesters.

- Jat's in Haryana, Marathas in Maharashtra, Patel's in Gujarat etc. are agitating for reservation may be right or wrong we don't want to comment on it. But if there is already 49.5% reservation is prevalent giving 10% more to any other community will leave the general in such a condition which Dalit's were having in past. All this is making India a backward country because socially, politically and economically strong people here are fighting to get in reserved categories not for development. This leads to anti nation tendency and challenging the constitution and makers of Indian constitution and it is also a hindrance in the way of sustainable development because if jats were given quota than there are many other states and communities which are ready to get up in future. So in this atmosphere Generals have to leave the nation we must say.



Annexure II

Cases Registered/Progress in Investigations (till 30 April, 2016)

Sr. No.	District	Cases Registered	Arrests (upto 23 April)	Status of Case (UI/PC/Cancelled/UT)			
				UI	PC	Cancelled	UT
1	Rohtak	1210	131	1210	--	--	--
2	Jhajjar	166	45	163	03	--	--
3	Jind	65	30	65	--	--	--
4	Hisar	155	47	155	--	--	--
5	Kaithal	88	20	87	01	--	--
6	Bhiwani	61	23	61	--	--	--
7	Sonepat	192	43	165	27	--	--
8	Panipat	23	10	23	--	--	--
9	Gurgaon	29	--	29	--	--	--
10	Faridabad	02	--	02	--	--	--
11	Ambala (R)	02	--	02	--	--	--
12	Ambala (U)	04	01	04	--	--	--
13	Panchkula	01	07	01	--	--	--
14	Karnal	09	28	08	01	--	--
15	Kurukshetra	10	101	10	--	--	--
16	Yamunanagar	06	--	06	--	--	--
17	Sirsa	09	02	01	08	--	--
18	Fatehabad	09	07	09	--	--	--
19	Rewari	12	04	12	--	--	--
20	Namau	10	21	10	--	--	--
21	Palwal	09	--	09	--	--	--
22	Mewat	--	--	--	--	--	--
	GRP	26	(23)*	26	--	--	--
	RPF	24	--	24	--	--	--
	Total	2122	520	2082	40	--	--

*Note: Those arrested by GRP (23) are already included in the figures of district police

Explanation of Abbreviations:

UI – Under Investigation
 PC – Put in Court
 UT – Untraced

Annexure III

Damage to Private Property

Sl. No.	Details	Rohtak	Hisar	Panipat	Kaithal	Jind	Bhiwani	Jhajjar	Sonepat	Total
2	Vehicles	153	29	23	17	09	51	20	67	371
3	Mandir/Aashram/Dharamshalas	04	00	00	01	02	01	06	01	15
4	School/College/Edu. Institutes	24	03	00	00	00	01	00	02	30
5	Offices/Companies	12	03	00	01	02	01	03	01	23
6	Dhabas/Restaurant	01	01	00	04	00	00	01	06	13
7	Farm Houses	02	03	00	00	00	00	00	00	05
8	Houses	29	35	00	01	02	04	04	00	75
9	Sheep/Goats	40	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	40
10	Transformers/Wires/Generators	03	02	00	09	00	03	00	00	17
11	Godowns	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01
12	Hotel/Marriage Palaces	43	06	00	02	01	00	00	01	53
13	Petrol Pumps/Filling Machine/Oil drums	10	00	01	00	00	09	01	02	23
14	Hospitals	07	02	00	00	01	00	00	01	11
15	Malls	06	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	06
16	ATMs	02	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	02
17	Toll Plazas	00	01	01	00	00	00	01	00	03
18	Agriculture Equipments	00	06	00	00	00	00	00	00	06
19	Electronic Gazettes	00	00	00	00	00	24	01	06	31
20	Statues	01	00	00	00	00	00	03	00	04

Annexure IV**Damage to Government Property**

Sl. No.	Districts	Total Number of Departments	Moveable Property Damaged	Immoveable Property Damaged	Loot	Stolen	Vehicles Burnt	Building & Other material burnt	Trees Cut down and Stolen
1	Rohtak	30	52	12	03	00	15	117	448
2	Hissar	03	00	02	00	00	01	00	00
3	Panipat	01	00	00	00	00	00	01	00
4	Kaithal	02	01	00	00	00	08	00	00
5	Jind	24	03	23	00	00	02	76	1676
6	Bhiwani	09	364	10	00	00	13	06	3123
7	Jhajjar	37	14	12	02	02	41	394	939
8	Sonepat	09	32	05	01	00	04	01	1046
Total		115	466	64	06	02	84	595	7232

Annexure V**Damage to Police Property**

Sl. No.	Details	Rohtak	Hissar	Panipat	Kaithal	Jind	Bhiwani	Jhajjar	Sonepat	Total
1	Buildings Damaged/Burnt	14	00	00	00	05	04	05	01	29
2	Vehicles Damaged	14	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	15
3	Vehicles burnt	15	00	00	00	06	05	02	00	28
4	Vehicles of case property damaged/burnt	01	00	00	00	41	12	109	01	164
5	Case Property looted									
	a. Gun	00	00	00	00	04	00	00	00	04
	b. Cartridge	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
	c. Revolver/Pistol	00	00	00	00	21	00	00	00	21
6	Weapons/Ammunition looted									
	a. Rifle/Carbine	04	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	05
	b. Cartridge	45	00	00	00	144	10	00	00	199
	c. Revolver/Pistol	00	00	00	00	03	00	00	00	03
7	Deposited Private Arms looted									
	a. Gun	82	00	00	00	18	00	00	00	100
	b. Cartridge	2055	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	2055
	c. Revolver/Pistol	26	00	00	00	13	00	00	00	39



LOCK THE RAILWAY TRACK IN MAYYAR VILLAGE OF HISAR ON FRIDAY. PHOTO: MANOJ C



he Jat stir in Rohtak. FILE PH



of a bus in Rohtak. PTI FILE PHOTO

Block cut off, Jat stir spirals out of control; 3 die, Army

positions central forces to get pro-quota block, Bhiwani, Jhajjar as arson spreads; Haryana minister's house torched, IGP's of



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second day today, with protesters continuing blocking the track at Ismaila village on the outskirts of Rohtak town. The police, who have booked more than 1,000 persons for causing inconvenience, did not take any action

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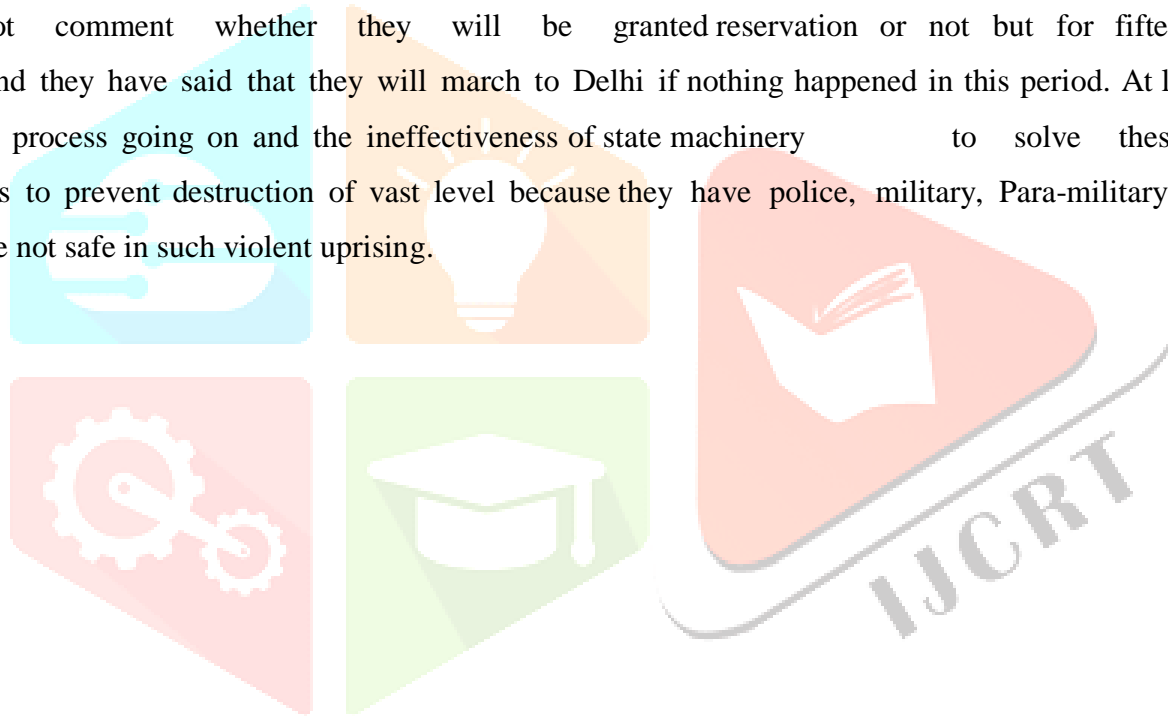
the situation. Reports the agitation kept throughout the day with blocking roads and rail in several districts. In several mobs set the house of Finance Capt. Abhimanyu in several vehicles. Over 100, when the police opened fire after policemen, including a DSP, were taken hostage and the office and house of the DC, Rohtak Range, was attacked. Two of the deceased were identified as Ajay of Gadhohri village and Harinder of Ghansala village. Over 100, were injured. In Bhiwani, a demonstrator was set afire after a clash between Jats and those opposing the sit. The Jats are demanding CIRC status to smelt of reservation in jobs and educational institutions. State police chief Singhal said their priority was to rest



in the mobs in Rohtak. He said Police Lines in Rohtak was abandoned threat and senior IAS officer A.C. Singh and IPS officer S.G. Sinha had been asked to coordinate between the Army and the district administration. Security for ministers and MLAs had been raised. Sinha said internet services off. With the situation getting out of hand this morning, internet and SMS services were suspended in six districts to prevent further trouble. The DSP said orders had been issued to join social networking sites. "As and when the situation improves, the internet will be restored," he said. "In a quantum leap, if there was an improvement in law and order, we will consider imposing a curfew in the entire state." Following numerous social media that Jats had been beaten up by police

Conclusion

- Agitation of jats was the major event in Haryana history and even in the history of India. The matter is yet not solved although Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar promised them to take the matter into consideration but we cannot comment whether they will be granted reservation or not but for fifteen days they are out of action and they have said that they will march to Delhi if nothing happened in this period. At last we can say that it is a shameful process going on and the ineffectiveness of state machinery to solve these issues and their helplessness to prevent destruction of vast level because they have police, military, Para-military forces and even then, civilians are not safe in such violent uprising.



Reference Readings

- Prakash Singh committee report • Newspaper, articles and debates • Wikipedia, Encyclopaedia
- Mandal commission report • Constitution of India
- Videos on YouTube
- Discussions with Jat students • Jatland.com
- Personal experience

