



Process of Development and Scheduled: A Socio-political Analysis of Scheduled in Himachal Pradesh

Corresponding Author

Dr. Mohinder Kumar Slariya
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
Govt. College Chamba H.P.

Co Author

Amandeep Singh
Assistant Professor in Sociology
Department of Evening Studies
MDRC Panjab University Chandigarh, India

Abstract

Since the inception of human civilization, man has been working to make his life comfortable and in this process of development he is exploiting natural resources to benefit all segments of society equally as a democratic mandate of the government. India being a democratic country has started its first planned development regime in 1951 and completed 12 five years plan in 2017. Ideally, during these 70 years all segments should develop equally. But the reality is far-behind. Even today there is inequality, deprivations, unequal treatment in spite of being at top positions, there are some segments of society which are facing ill-treatment and also being ignored in the process of development.

The paper is an attempt to describe the developmental discourse and review the development processes and role of scheduled in the process of development. The secondary data and some case studies have been used to highlight the role of development in emancipation of scheduled in Himachal Pradesh with special reference to Chamba district. The paper will further attempt to understand the process of lagging behind of scheduled inspite of possessing political leadership and having very good economic position and good say in the job hierarchy. On the one hand they are being deprived off socially and on the other politically scheduled are being kept isolated.

Key words: Human Civilization, Planned Development, Deprivations, Scheduled, Scapegoating.

Process of Development: Theoretical Understanding

Development could be a method that makes growth, progress, positive amendment or the addition of physical, economic, environmental, social and demographic elements. The aim of development could be a rise within the level and quality of lifetime of the population, and also the creation or growth of native regional financial gain and employment opportunities, while not damaging the resources of the atmosphere. Development is visible and helpful, not essentially instantly, and includes a facet of quality amendment and also the creation of conditions for a continuation of that amendment. The international agenda began to target development starting within the half of the 20th century.

Associate degree understanding developed that economic process didn't essentially cause an increase within the level and quality of life for populations everywhere the world; there was a necessity to position a stress on specific policies that will channel resources and alter social and economic quality for varied layers of the population. Through the years, professionals and varied researchers developed variety of definitions and emphases for the term "development." Amartya Sen, as an example, developed the "capability approach," that outlined development as a tool enabling folks to succeed in the very best level of their ability, through granting freedom of action, i.e., freedom of economic, social and family actions, etc.

This approach became a basis for the measure of development by the HDI (Human Development Index), that was developed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in 1990. Martha Nussbaum developed the skills approach within the field of gender and stressed the management of ladies as a development tool. In distinction, professionals like Jeffrey Sachs and Paul Collier targeted on mechanisms that stop or oppress development in varied countries, and cause them to linger in abject financial condition for dozens of years.

These are the assorted financial condition traps, together with civil wars, natural resources and financial condition itself. The identification of those traps permits regarding political – economic – social conditions in an exceedingly country in a trial to advance development. One in every of the emphases within the work of Jeffrey Sachs is that the promotion of property development, that believes in growth and development so as to lift the quality of living for voters of the globe nowadays, through regarding the requirements of environmental resources and also the coming back generations of the voters of the globe.

The Concept of Development:

The concept of development is not uni-dimensional but multi-dimensional. The concept has been described by many scholars in different ways. The process in which someone or something grows or changes and becomes more advanced. As an event development is a recent event that is the latest in a series of related events and can be described as a process of developing something new. In relation to building, an area on which new buildings are built in order to make a profit. In context of growth, development is the process of growing or changing and becoming more advanced.

In a literary work, development is the movement from one event to another or the changes in the characters' understanding and it is recent important event that is the latest in a series of related events. Development is also the organized increase of a country's industry and wealth. Referring to creation, development is the process of coming into existence or of creating something new or more advanced.

Development is also the building of houses, stores, or offices, esp. by a company to make a profit, on an area of land where there were none before. As a noun development can be defined as growth or changes that make something become more advanced and it is a process of creating something such as a new product or service, new plan, new idea to increase of one's or of country's industry and wealth. In human resource development means improvement of a skill, ability, quality etc. in terms of property, development of building of houses, stores, offices etc. usually by a company to make profit, usually on an area of land where there were none before. Natural resources based development means,

development of an area of land that is used for its natural resources, or the use of an area of land for its natural resources.

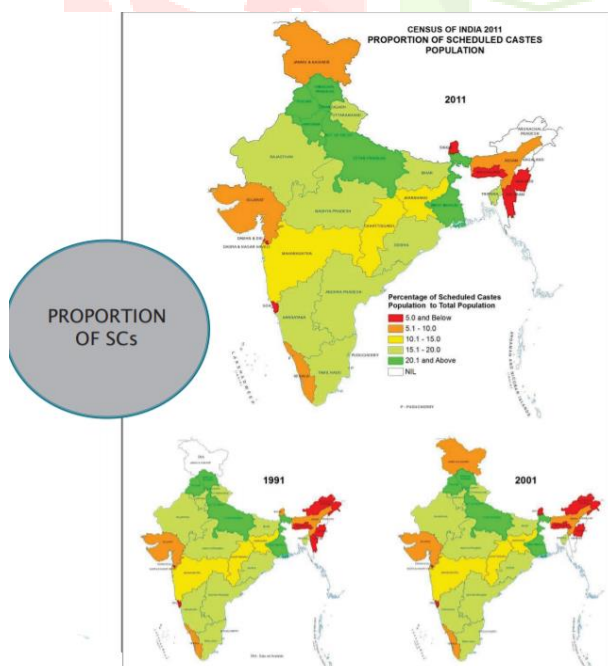
On the basis of above description, it can be stated emphatically that development is a process of “desired change” and it is a “value laden” concept. By desired change means, it is process which is being desired by someone for either himself or for someone else. By value laden means, the term development is being used independently as well as mostly as suffix. As suffix the term development denotes the meaning of earlier term like; personality development, indicates development of personality desired by the person whose personality is being discussed or if we talk about the personality development of someone else, it means we are talking about the development of personality of someone else.

Operational Definition: Development means in this chapter means the development of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the state of Himachal Pradesh. Here, development as a ‘process of desired change’ means desired by policy makers as well as individual concerned. The direct impact of policy implementation on the lives of stakeholders (Scheduled Castes). Caste as a term operates more in mind less physically. Because of many reasons, today people of scheduled castes have made considerable advancement economically, professionally and raised to higher economic, political, occupational, educational standards, but socially and psychologically they are still lagging behind and not being accepted by the people of higher castes/strata of society. The empowered people belonging to scheduled castes are being endorsed or accepted under compulsion by the higher castes.

Demographic Standing of Scheduled in Himachal Pradesh:

As per 2011 census there are 1241 ethnic groups which are notified as scheduled castes and 705 as scheduled tribes. All these ethnic groups are not uniformly considered as scheduled castes and tribes in the states, because under article 341-342 of Indian constitution, it is the President of India who declared any caste or tribe as scheduled in any state on the recommendations of Governor of that vary state, so one caste/tribe may be scheduled in one state and may not in other state. The decadal difference and proportion in India census of scheduled caste and tribe is shown as below:

Proportion of SC/ST Population India –2001 and 2011 (%)



	Proportion of SCs		Proportion of STs	
	2001	2011	2001	2011
Total	16.2	16.6	8.2	8.6
Rural	17.9	18.5	10.4	11.3
Urban	11.8	12.6	2.4	2.8

On the basis of above table it

can be stated that there is a bit increase in the population proportion of scheduled castes and scheduled tribe in Indian population. As per data shown in the table, there is a bit difference of .4% in decadal population growth of scheduled caste and same is with scheduled tribe population. The difference in rural area in a bit more 0.6 % in scheduled castes and 0.9 in scheduled tribe. In urban population the difference a bit high i.e. 0.8 in scheduled castes and 0.9 in scheduled tribe. This overall shows that the population of scheduled caste as well as tribe has

been controlled and there is no much increase. It may be impact of the outreach of family planning policies of the government at state as well as national level. Such trends show the ranking of scheduled castes and tribes. Rank-wise the maximum and minimum concentration of scheduled castes in India is shown in the table below:

States/UTs Ranked by Proportion of SCs - 2011 (in %)

Top 5 States/UTs		Bottom 5 States/UTs	
Punjab	31.9%	Mizoram	0.1%
Himachal Pradesh	25.2%	Meghalaya	0.6%
West Bengal	23.5%	Goa	1.7%
Uttar Pradesh	20.7%	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.8%
Haryana	20.2%	Daman & Diu	2.5%

Himachal Pradesh: Scheduled Perspective

The word 'Himachal' literally means 'the land of the snow', situated in the lap of the Himalayas. The State is bounded in the north by Jammu and Kashmir, in the south - east by Uttar Pradesh, Haryana in the south and Punjab in the west. The State holds 2nd rank among all States and UTs in terms of proportion of SC population to total population.

The Scheduled Caste (SC) population of Himachal Pradesh is 1,502,170 as per 2001 census, constituting 24.7 per cent of the total population (6,077,900) of the State. The State has a total of fifty-six (56) Scheduled Castes and all of them have been enumerated at the census 2001. The decennial growth of the SC population has been 14.6 per cent which is 2.9 per cent lower than the growth of total population (17.5 per cent) in 1991-2001.

The Scheduled Castes are predominantly rural as 93.4 per cent of them reside in villages. Among all the districts, Sirmaur district has returned the highest proportion (29.6 per cent) of the SC population to total population followed by Mandi (29.0 per cent) and Kullu (28.3 per cent) districts. Lahul & Spiti district has registered the lowest proportion of the SC population (7.8 per cent) preceded by Kinnaur (9.7 per cent).

Population - Size & Distribution: Out of fifty-six Scheduled Castes, Kori/Koli is the most populous community with a population of 442,784 forming 29.5 per cent of the total SC population of the State. Chamar is the second largest SC, having a population of 414,669 which accounts for 27.6 per cent of the SC population. Lohar and Julaha with a population of 153,519 and 139,286 respectively along with Kori and Chamar constitute 76.6 per cent of the total SC population.

Three other SCs, Balmiki, Hali and Doom having population in the range of 29,141 to 75,678. Together they form 9.3 per cent of the SC population; seven castes, namely Sarde, Batwal, Chhimbe up to Sipi with population ranging from 13,742 to 23,266 constitute another 8.4 per cent and the remaining forty-two (42) SCs in addition to generic castes constitute the balance 5.8 per cent of total SC population of the State.

Seventeen SCs have below 500 populations. Of them, eight castes are very small, each having less than 100 in number. District - wise distribution of the individual SC shows that Kori have the highest concentration in Shimla district, followed by Mandi, Sirmaur, Kullu districts. Chamar have their major concentration in Kangra, Mandi and Una districts. Lohar are primarily concentrated in Mandi district, Julaha and Doom have their maximum concentration in Kangra district.

Sex Ratio of Scheduled Caste: The overall sex ratio of the SC population in Himachal Pradesh is 968 females per 1000 males which is higher than the national average of 936 recorded for all SCs. All the numerically larger groups have recorded overall sex ratio higher than the national average with Julaha having a preponderance of females.

Sex Ratio of Scheduled Caste

Age Group	All SCs (India)	All SCs (Himachal Pradesh)	Julaha	Lohar	Kori/Koli	Chamar	Doom
All ages	936	968	1008	971	967	964	955
0 - 6 yrs.	938	936	896	926	969	917	940

The sex ratio in the age group 0-6 years (936) is marginally lower than that of the SCs at the national level (938). Among the larger groups, Kori have the highest (969) and Julaha have the lowest (896) child sex ratio. The other three castes have shown the child sex ratio lower than the national average.

Overall Socio-political Standing of Scheduled Caste at Present

As published in United News of India (UNI) on dated 7th of January, 2020, based on the report of special session of Himachal Pradesh state assembly at Shimla, all political parties in one voice stated that discrimination on basis of caste still persists. They said even after many years of independence, “Caste Based Discrimination” is still continue such as denial entry into temples, caste based segregation of school students and disproportional share of land. One of MLA stated that “we still have to hang our heads in shame when we hear that dalit students in a school are still forced to sit separately.” Even FIR denied to be lodged as it already happened in Mandi district, where students were forced to sit in separate queues during Mid-day meal because of being dalit.



As per 2011 censuses SCs and STs comprises in state is 25 percent, out of which 14 percent of total population are scheduled castes and having 23 percent land holdings asserted by one of member of state vidhan sabha. Even the leader of opposition asserted that in some cases, on the basis of caste people fought over cremation of body. Height of political isolation is in 68 membered vidhan sabha, there are 17 SCs members from all parties and 3 members from STs. There is only one cabinet minister representing 17 MLAs which itself revealed the fact that even in the house, there is caste based discrimination. That cabinet minister stated in the house that even he was denied to enter into the temple. Alongwith him, other members of state assembly also stated that they also observed the same in many cases, though since they in power now and they are now being welcomed everywhere but people of upper castes are welcoming them under the influence of power,

not from the heart. One of the member stated while interacting with him, that whatever is being given to you, enjoy that and don't try to be smart and don't intervene and try to pressurized him. Later chief minister asserted that change has been observed over the period of time and situation has changed, but we need some more steps in future for better inclusion.

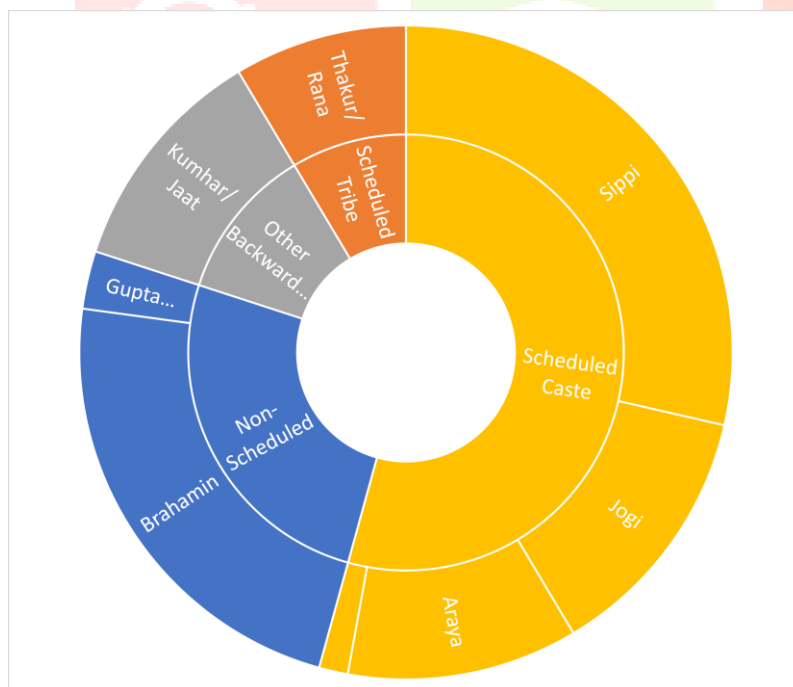
On the basis of above description, it can be stated that even the people who are enjoying highest political positions in the state are facing isolation on the basis of caste and caste discrimination still persists and one can easily anticipate what may be the position of the masses. It is being said that they don't deserve to occupy the top positions, therefore top position cannot be given to them. But, the reality is such false allegations has no meaning, people of scheduled caste are doing well in the every sphere of life and presently they are contributing at top positions and enjoying very good economic position comparatively.

Case of My Village

My village named Chima is one of the small villages situated at Udaipur Panchayat just 8 KM from Chamba city at National Highway 154-A in the state of Himachal Pradesh. This village is comprising of almost all caste groups of Indian Varna based model of caste i.e. Brahamin, Kashtriye, Vaishya and Shudras. Brahamins, Thakurs, Ranas, Kumhar and Jaat (OBC in Himachal Pradesh), Guptas (Mahajan) and scheduled castes (Jogi, Arya, Sippi). There are 70 households in the village and following is the description:

Social Category	Caste/Varna	No. of Households
Non-scheduled	Brahamin	16
	Gupta/Mahajan	02
Scheduled Tribe	Thakur/Rana	06
Other Backward Classes	Kumhar/Jaat	08
Scheduled Caste	Jogi	09
	Sippi	20
	Araya	08
	Lohar	01
	Total	70

Figure Showing Social Category-wise Distribution



As it is clear from the table as well as figure, that village is dominated by scheduled caste, followed by Brahamin, then OBCs and then by scheduled tribe. Brahamins, Kumhar, Jaat, Guptas, Jogi, Sippi and Aryas are native of this village whereas Thakur and Ranas are migratory and migrated from Pangri tehsil of chamba district. They migrated to this village about two-decades ago and now they are as local habitant of this village and male married to local female and settled here whereas some tribal families settled here some 5 years ago.

Socio-economic Mobility: About 40 years ago, there were very less employee or working population in the village. There were only one (01) scheduled tribe person in para-military force (SSB), one (01) scheduled in HP Govt. (class-IV), one (01) Kumhar (OBC) in HP Govt. (Class-IV), one (01) scheduled in military and one (01) was scheduled was teacher (JBT). But gradually, the scenario has changed, now whole village has experienced lot of mobility and almost from every section of society, people are in good jobs and earning good amount of money. They are in govt. as well as private jobs. At present they are class-I officers to class-IV in government sector as well as they are doing private jobs, running their own business, they are in semi-govt. jobs as well as they are daily wage-earners. Following table is the detailed description of the village:

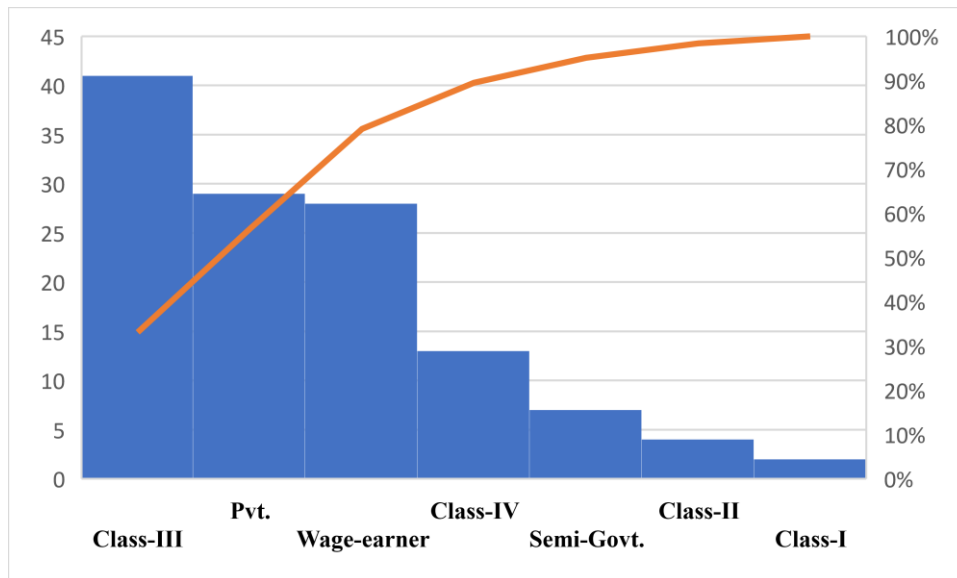
Present Primary Occupation

Social Category	Caste/Varna	Govt. Jobs				Private			
		Class-I	Class-II	Class-III	Class-IV	Pvt.	Semi-Govt.	Wage-earner	Total
Non-scheduled	Brahamin	-	-	06	03	05	02	05	21
	Gupta/Mahajan	-	-	03	01	02	01	-	07
Scheduled Tribe	Thakur/Rana		02	01	01	01	01	01	07
Other Backward Classes	Kumhar/Jaat	-	-	09	03	02	-	03	17
Scheduled Caste	Jogi	01	01	11	01	06	01	02	23
	Sippi	01	-	07	03	09	02	15	37
	Araya	-	01	04	01	04	-	02	12
	Total	02	04	41	13	29	07	28	124

As it is clear from above table that there is huge occupational mobility in all social segments and there is huge difference between the situation 40 years ago and at present. Almost all social categories, scheduled, non-scheduled as well as other backward classes experienced mobility. This mobility is because of increase in the educational standard of the people in the village, but inspite of having very good educational background, the orthodoxical nature of the people still persists.

People of higher castes accepting this mobility under compulsion as they cannot do anything, because people of scheduled castes moved a lot by obtaining very good education, at present they have good houses, very good life opportunities, very good amenities in their household etc. Earlier, somewhere 30 years ago there was only one jeep (purchased by Brahmin ex-service man after retirement) and everyone in the village was dependent on him. At present on and average every household is having two-three vehicles (four wheelers and two wheelers) and people of scheduled caste has edge as they are having more and costly vehicles as compared to non-scheduled.

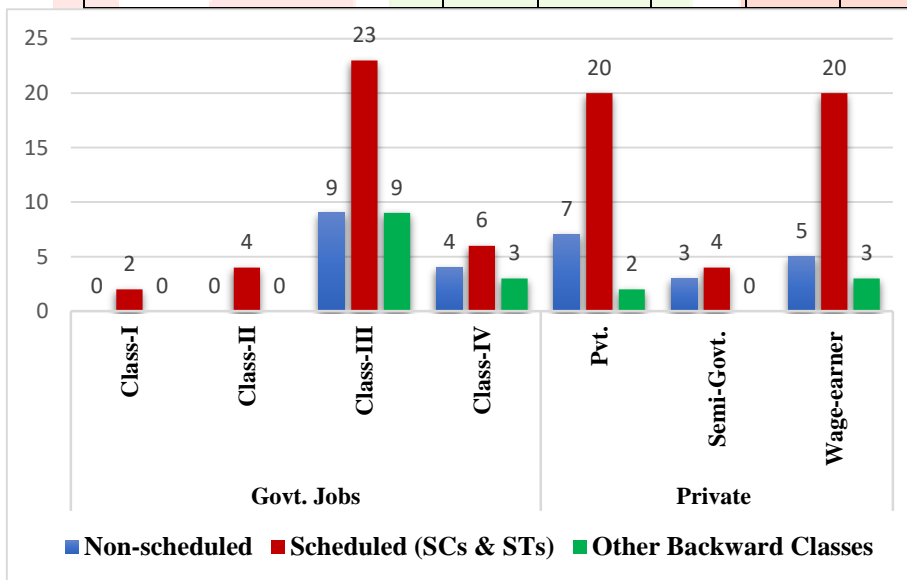
Overall Occupational Mobility at Present



As it is clear for the above figure that overall there is huge occupational mobility in the village. People have moved from 10 percent to 90 percent and presently giving their services in all sectors; govt. as well as private on different positions, starting from class-I to class-IV from own business to wage earners.

Social Category wise Occupational Mobility

Social Category	Govt. Jobs				Private			Total
	Class -I	Class- II	Class -III	Class -IV	Pvt.	Semi-Govt.	Wage-earner	
Non-scheduled	0	0	09	04	07	03	05	28
Scheduled (SCs & STs)	02	04	23	06	20	04	20	79
Other Backward Classes	0	0	09	03	02	0	03	17



As it is depicted in the table as well as in the figure that there is a huge occupational shift. To compare the shift, all three social categories, i.e. non-scheduled, scheduled and other backward classes have been considered. There is no class-I and II officers in non-scheduled and OBC categories, whereas the number of employees in other categories is also less as compared to scheduled caste, which is clear indicator that

because of many reasons the children of scheduled caste work hard and put their 100 percent to obtain job in all sectors.

Social Awakening: Earlier people of scheduled caste never question the existing system and follow, whatever was asked to follow them. I still remember the scenario of my village as well as of surrounding villages, in my childhood we were used to go for social feast (Dhaam) and at the time of serving *daam* (food) there is call and against first call only non-scheduled castes can sit and have *daam* (food). The second call was for scheduled and in that call first of all will be invited Jogi, then after Megh, then Arya, then Sippi and at last cobbler (*chamaar*). Until last call (*chamaar*) it turned dark, though the invitation was for lunch.

Reasons were many, which needs more intensive investigation. But, nowadays people are aware. The people of scheduled caste have complete knowledge about atrocity act and they use it on many occasions.

Two years ago, youth of scheduled were eating social feast (Dhaam), some illiterate man of upper caste asks them to leave the place where they were eating. The young man refused to leave the place and he said that the household invited him and his family for the feast and he will eat first then go. Suddenly, all upper caste people come together and there were hot-words among them, finally the scheduled boy went to police and registered case under atrocity act and that upper caste man along with his supporters have to go the court and say sorry for what they did in front of police in charge. This incident creates tension and then onwards the member of non-scheduled caste never invite scheduled for any feast and it was a type of social –boycott from scheduled side also. After one year another meeting was called to re-establish social cohesion and finally publically everyone say sorry and cold-war type psychological tension resolved.

This happened only because of the fact that the member of scheduled castes was in good govt. jobs and they were capable to plead their case at every front, sociologically they were dominant economically, politically and socially also.

In this way it can be concluded that politically even after decades of our independence we are still psychologically bankrupt and not accepting the realities that this modern era is an era of skill and talent, there is no place for such caste based considerations. Candidate of scheduled caste is not given separate question paper for their any academic as well as competitive examination. It is a bit merit that matters which is in some case may be lower but alongwith this the fact cannot be denied that in some cases merit of scheduled is higher than non-scheduled. So, in the process of development, whatsoever the provisions are there in the Indian constitution, those are being followed to raise the standard of living by providing reservation, but the time has come now to throw away this caste based hatred psyche and work together for the national as well as personal development on every fronts.

Final Comments: Finally, I am of the view that if you have skill to run the system, the system will appoint you irrespective of any other consideration. Whatsoever your social segment is, hardly matters, what matters your skill and capability to run the system. At both fronts, i.e. social as well as political urgent need is to create awareness, to obtain real education not literacy and develop skill and capabilities to that extent that there will be no choice expect you. We all have to educate, agitate and not stop till the last goal achieve.

Brief Bio:



Dr. Mohinder Kumar Slariya presently working in Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh as Associate Professor and posted at Govt. College Chamba, Himachal Pradesh, affiliated to Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla. Dr. Slariya has been in many international and national conferences in different capacities in many countries including Australia, USA, Germany, Finland, South Korea, Nepal etc. He published 13 research papers in different national and international research journals, published 30 books, organized 4 conferences, participated as resource persons in 18 conferences, presented 19 papers, published 6 chapters, organized 4 international lectures and competed 4 research projects. Dr. Slariya also worked as international team in Finnish Science Academy as Post-doc fellow (2011-2015) and Asia Centre for Climate Change Education, South Korea (2015-2018) and imparted consultancy to Jeju National Government, South Korea.