



The Status of Housing and Household Amenities among Scheduled Castes; with Special Reference to Different Policy Initiatives in Moradabad District of Uttar Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

Uttar Pradesh is India's most populous state, with almost three-quarters of the population living in rural areas lacking access to basic necessities such as drinking water and sanitation. Over the years, the government has concentrated on the availability of housing for all in rural and urban areas, but a considerable portion of the population remains unable to access basic amenities, particularly in micro and rural parts of the state as well as at the district level. Hence the paper is an attempt to evaluate the status of drinking water, sanitation and hygiene with basic household amenities and the widening gap between rural and urban areas of the Moradabad district of Uttar Pradesh with the help of (Census of Uttar Pradesh and District Census Handbook, 2011). Apart from this the government has initiated many social protection programs and policies to improve the condition of housing and household amenities specially for economically weaker sections of the society, Scheduled Castes households hence, this paper is also an attempt to analyses the implementation and progress of “*Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan -Gramin, Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan- Urban Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana*” among Scheduled castes in rural and urban areas of Mordabad district of Uttar Pradesh.

Keywords: *Household Amenities, Rural and Urban Gap, Programs and Policies, Census, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan, Moradabad.*



INTRODUCTION

Household amenities are important for healthy life which will ensure the overall development of the people. 'Having access to sufficient quantities of safe water, access to a private and clean place to defaecate, living in an environment free from human excreta and other harmful waste are basic requirements essential for health and dignity for all'ⁱ.

'Also, if people have accessed to the basic household amenities such as water, electricity, sanitation etc. in a proper manner, then it can have a positive impact on their health. Thus, considering their importance, the United Nations Human Rights Law in the year 1948 has recognized these basic amenities as a part of basic human rights'ⁱⁱ.

Subsequently, the international agencies gave priorities to the components of housing amenities. For example, the 'World Health Organization in this direction has suggested six principles which are related to housing and health (1989), the WHO/ UNICEF joint monitoring program for water supply and sanitation (1990), WASH((water, sanitation and hygiene) programme, Water Requirement Norms (2003), Goal 7 of the MDG (2000)'ⁱⁱⁱ and 'Goal 6 of the SDG (2015) have emphasized that everyone should get equal access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation'^{iv}.

The government of India after the independence has taken many steps for providing basic household amenities 'the Directive Principles of State Policy gives direction to the state to take necessary steps to raise the living standard of its people by providing adequate means of housing and household amenities'^v. Also, the government has formed committees and commissions from time to time and gave special attention to the household amenities. On the basis of their recommendations, many programs and schemes were introduced in both rural and urban areas under different five year plans. 'Uttar Pradesh state has also taken steps for providing better quality of household amenities to its people. Through its various committees and Acts such as Uttar Pradesh Housing Committee 1947, town Planning and Housing Act 1949, Uttar Pradesh Rural Housing Board Act 1983, the government mainly focused on constructing the houses only and little attention was paid to the household amenities'^{vi}. However, recently, the basic household amenities have gained attention in the *yojanas* like, *Swatch Bharat Abhiyan* (2014), but still much more attention is required as most of the households of this state are deprived of the basic amenities and hygiene.

In addition to the program to having appropriate policy intervention measures, the government started collecting the data through the census and National Sample Survey Organization, since 1980s.



However, ‘the quality of housing and household amenities is very poor in rural area and a large number of houses do not have even the basic amenities such as drinking water and sanitation facilities’^{vii}.

Moreover, Uttar Pradesh government introduced many committees, act, and boards during post-independence period to provide housing and household amenities for all and specifically for the economically and socially backward sections of the society, since the introduction of Minimum Needs Program (MNP) in India’s five year plans in the 1970s, housing came to be a component of MNP and for the first time housing with household amenities got importance as a basic human need’^{viii}.

In addition, issues and problems related to basic amenities have been analyzed at the macro level. However, there is a deep gap between rural and urban areas. The urban population is comparatively better in getting drinking water and sanitation facilities as compared to rural population in the state as well as in the district.

REVIEW LITERATURE

Many studies have focused on this issues at the macro level as per the study by the S Jetley (1969), This paper examines occupational mobility among *koiris*, a scheduled caste community in a village in eastern Uttar Pradesh, which has used its educational attainments in a variety of ways to gain entry into diverse occupations, accept the application of new scientific knowledge in agriculture, and, finally, as a complementing factor to maintain its political and social influence. The presented analysis is based on research conducted in the village of Seon, Chiriagaon block, Varanasi district. The goal was to investigate structure in relation to the trajectory of change in rural society as a result of currently running development projects’^{ix}.

K. Sundaram and Suresh D. Tendulkar (1990), analyses basic household amenities on the basis of comparative study of 1981 and 1991 census data in which they draws attention on deprivation of the basic amenities in both areas is that drinking water and toilet facilities are as a key factor to good health status of the population. They also pointed out that toilet facilities within the residence are heavily conditioned by socio- cultural norms. In 1981 census the question access to toilet was not even canvassed among rural households reflecting the ground reality of such facilities within the house being rare in rural India’^x.

According to another study by Amitabh Kundu (1991), the 20 percent of the population in states like Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Orissa, and Uttar Pradesh that receive tap water is significantly less than the national average. According to the Census, the proportion of people in these states who fall into the bottom 40 percent of those serviced by tap water is significantly lower than the state average,



particularly in rural areas'^{xi}. Further the other study by Therese Mahon and Maria Fernandes, 2010, highlighted the interdependence of three major areas: water, sanitation, and hygiene. For instance, water sources may be susceptible to microbiological contamination in the absence of adequate sanitation; many sanitation systems depend on water for the transportation and cleaning of human waste; and the health benefits of access to sanitation will be diminished in the absence of better hygiene practices, such as washing your hands before eating and after defecating'^{xii}. Another study by Alka Malhotra, Srinivas Goli, Sue Coates and Mario Mosquera Vasquez, 2016, they talked about the 'relation between water, sanitation toilet facilities and hygiene during the menstruation and non-menstruation period because girls faces constraints in terms of lack of private spaces, lack of facilities including safe water, clean and private toilets within the premises'^{xiii}.

Noor Mohammad (2006), The author provides a critical analysis of the socio-economic change of scheduled castes, focusing on significant social factors like as education, marriage, religion, social mobility, family planning programs, family size, political awareness and activity, and income level. Standard of living, housing conditions, modes of transportation, and mass media'^{xiv}. It also evaluates differences in the socio-economic transformation of scheduled and non-scheduled castes in rural and urban population of Uttar Pradesh.

V. Upadhyay, Shakti Kak, Kustuva Barik & T. Ravi Kumar (2009), from this edited book chapter by Archana Prasad; On the Margins of Planning, she has given the light on 'the welfare model in the different five-year plans for the upliftment of the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and other backward caste, occupational structure, literacy school dropout, employment, pattern, public services, and progress of different schemes for the scheduled caste population in both rural and urban areas'^{xv}

C. Gangaiah and G. Rajesh Kumar (2012), evaluates the rural housing challenge. Rural and urban sectors play important roles in the Indian economy; there is a need to improve the living conditions of the poor, with a focus on the weaker sections of society. Housing has been part of planned economic growth since 1951. The government implemented a number of social housing initiatives at the central or state level.^{xvi}

In addition, Shahidur. R. Khandker, Hussain. A. Samad, Rubba. Ali, Douglas. F. Barnes (2014) have focused on the household amenities including water and sanitation are important for healthy life, similarly electricity is also the basic need for the development of human. The gap between rural and urban areas is much more in providing electricity. Rural electrification is expected to improve rural people's quality of life and socio- economic growth'^{xvii}. In the same direction Arjun Kumar (2015), has analyses that access to basic amenities drinking water, sanitation, electricity, are crucial for the



overall well-being of a household. In India widespread deprivation in access to basic amenities and services among Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and lower strata of consumption expenditure classes in rural areas^{xviii}. The other important aspect like relationship between water, sanitation and hygiene among women the studies has examined by the work of Apoorva Jadhav, Abigail Weitzman and Emily Smith- Greenaway (2016), the connection between women's risk of non-partner sexual violence (NPSV), the poor sanitation is still a serious public health concern and is linked to a number of infectious diseases, particularly among children, according to the Total Sanitation Campaign and more recently the Swachh Bharat Mission^{xix}. “Open defecation may increase the risk of non-partner sexual violence for women in addition to certain diseases^{xx}. The majority of teenage girls and young women in the Indian state of Orissa, particularly those who live in the nearby slum, are sexually abused when trying to obtain sanitary facilities. Because they lack adequate sanitary facilities in their homes, particularly in rural areas, sanitary facilities in the home are relevant for women's safety and children's health, and there is a correlation between them and non-partner sexual violence^{xxi}.

In addition, ‘the book “*The Right to Sanitation in India: Critical Perspectives*, by Philippe Cullet, Sujith Koonan and Lovleen Bhullar, ed., (2019), reviewed by Nida (2022) in the Sage publication, has pointed out the contribution of the law and policy framework towards the realization of its specific relevance in the Indian context for getting the advantages of sanitary policies with special reference to manual scavenging. The book analyses the role of the *Swachh Bharat* Mission, its institutional aspects, infrastructure dimensions, wastewater treatment and reuse, manual scavenging and rights of sanitation workers, gender and inequality and the initiatives taken by *Swachh Bharat* Mission to foster community participation. The relative neglect of sanitation in the general discourse, and in law and policy discourse in particular, does not mean that the issue was completely outside the purview of law and policies. The authors cover an important issue of contemporary times and provides the legal as well as policy initiatives related to sanitation and explain the importance and fragmented nature of the legal and policy framework about sanitation law and policy in India^{xxii}.

OBJECTIVES

To examine the Status of Housing and household amenities in both rural and urban areas of Moradabad district of Uttar Pradesh on the basis of Census of Uttar Pradesh and District Census Handbook, 2011.

To analyse the implementation and progress of “*Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swachha Bharat Abhiyan -Gramin, Swachha Bharat Abhiyan- Urban Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, Deen Dayal*



Upadhayaya Gram Jyoti Yojana. among Scheduled castes in rural and urban areas of Mordabad district of Uttar Pradesh.

METHODOLOGY

The present study is based on both primary and secondary sources of data. The primary sources of data collection through survey method.

For the purpose of primary study and data collection the convenience sampling method is adopted. For field visit, the stratified sampling method is used and 200 households for the survey on the basis of Census data of Uttar Pradesh, District Census Handbook 2011 and Statistical Abstract Uttar Pradesh 2021, largest population in Moradabad Municipal Corporation out of 70 wards the Ward-1 known as *Shahpur Tigri* 100 households is selected on the basis largest Scheduled Castes population under this ward as urban areas. For the study of rural areas the *tehsil Bilari* within *Bilari* block the *Asalatpur* Village 100 households is selected again on the basis of largest Scheduled Castes population to analyse the implementation and progress of “*Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan - Gramin, Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan- Urban Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, Deen Dayal Upadhayaya Gram Jyoti Yojana*. among Scheduled castes in rural and urban areas of Mordabad district of Uttar Pradesh. A systematic questionnaire was created in both Hindi and English, with basic and clear language to reach a wide range of responses. The survey was done in the year 2022.

Secondary data collecting sources include books, articles, journals, gazetteers, and reports produced by the Indian government, as well as the District Census Handbook book and the Census 2011 in India. Both primary and secondary data have been analyzed using qualitative and quantitative methodologies. The quantitative data are analyzed using simple frequency, graph, and tabulation methods, while the qualitative data are descriptive in character.

MAJOR FINDINGS

According to the 2011 Census, Uttar Pradesh has the greatest Scheduled Castes population (41,357,608), accounting for 20.70 percent of the country's State and Union Territories. The State has 66 Scheduled Castes. The Scheduled Castes are largely rural, with 87.7% of them living in villages. Of the 66 Scheduled Castes, *Jatav (Chamar)* has the biggest number, accounting for 54.3% of the total Scheduled Caste population^{xxiii}. The first enumeration of the population was done in '1808 when the Moradabad district, included in Bijnor and Badaun districts, parts of Rampur, Bareilly and Nainital Tarai had a population of 14,21,000^{xxiv}. This enumeration was undertaken by a police agency between



1847 and 1848. The population of Moradabad has grown significantly during the previous two decades since independence. Between 2001 and 2011, the population of the region grew by 25.22 percent, with both the urban and rural regions growing at 20.82 and 35.23 percent, respectively.^{'xxv}. The district's both urban and rural sections have various levels of home amenities. The majority of household amenities are negligible in rural areas when compared to cities.

Sources of Drinking Water

The district's safe drinking water situation is dire, with a large number of inhabitants not having access to treated tap water and relying on conventional sources such as tube wells, wells, and hand pumps. Overall, households in urban as well as rural regions obtain drinking water from a variety of sources such as tanks, ponds, boreholes, rivers, canals, and so on. Only 41.17 percent of urban households have access to treated tap water, while only 20.25 percent of rural households do. In rural areas, approximately 0.23 percent of households obtain water from boreholes and tube-wells, while 72.83 percent obtain water from hand pumps^{'xxvi}. At the same time '4.54 percent of urban households uses tube-wells and boreholes for drinking water facility while 47. 18 percent of the households are dependent on hand-pumps^{'xxvii}, see figure- 1.

Sources of Lighting

The majority of families in Moradabad district do not have access to electricity. According to the 2011 Census, just 36.9% of all households have access to electricity. While 79.46 percent of urban families have access to electricity, just 15.34 percent of rural households have as well. The majority of houses in the district rely on kerosene oil for lighting. Around 83.48 percent of rural homes and 20.57 percent of urban households use kerosene oil for illumination, with a negligible number of houses using solar energy and other oil, and 0.06 percent of households in the district do not have lighting provision^{'xxviii}. see figure 1.

Toilet Facilities

Despite houses, power and drinking water, toilet facilities is also quite poor in Moradabad. A lack of proper bathroom arrangement not only causes personal discomfort, but it also poses a significant health risk and may contribute to the spread of various diseases. According to the 2011 Census, 10, 734 houses in the district do not have a toilet facility on their premises, and 277,898 of the



total household use open defecation as a toilet. Toilet facilities are quite poor in rural areas, where 52.99 percent of households use open ground but as on the basis of primary study it has been improved as compared to census 2011 data.^{'xxix} kindly refer figure-1.

Impact of different policy initiatives

According to the census, Uttar Pradesh has the highest total population and Scheduled Castes population in India, while ranking second in terms of geographical area. Uttar Pradesh comprises 75 districts. According to the 2011 census, Allahabad (Prayagraj) is the most populous district, followed by Moradabad, which has a population of 4,772,006^{xxx}. Furthermore, during the pre- independence period, urbanization was much higher in Indo Gengatic Plain West than in other geographical divisions, resulting in socioeconomic changes in the district among rural and urban populations. In 1901, Moradabad had a population of 75,128 and expanded to 82,671 by 1921^{'xxxi}.

subsequently Indian census in 1991, the population size around 5 million and above identify as the mega city, for the aim of inclusion in the Centrally Introduced Scheme for infrastructure development in Mega-cities, the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, Department of Urban Development adopted the criteria of 4 million and above population as of 1991.Census of Mega Cities^{'xxxii}. In the 2001 census, cities with ten million or more people were classified as mega-cities, and the same population criteria were used in the 2011 census. As consequently, according to the Statistical Abstract, Uttar Pradesh 2021, within Moradabad Municipal Corporation, ward 1 known as *Shahpur Tigri* was chosen for Smart City development based on population.^{'xxxiii}. Furthermore, within the district Moradabad, the village of *Asalatpur* from *Bilari tehsil* has been chosen to conduct an analysis of the work's performance.

The government of India has set up many programs, policies, and *yojana* for the the development of economically disadvantaged groups and to improve the housing and household amenities among weaker sections of the population at the Centre, State, and grass roots level under the different Five-Year Plans in the state^{'xxxiv}. Throughout the twelfth (2012-17) five-year plan, we observe significant progress in the government's provision of household utilities through various *yojanas* around the state. 'The first is the Swach Bharat *Abhiyan*, which began in 2014 with simply 35.20 percent sanitation coverage and has now increased to 97.82 percent. According to the official portal statistics Swach Bharat mission (*Gramin*), 1.7 crore (1,67,96,324) individual family toilets have been installed in rural regions, and 58,982 villages, 29,295 gram *panchayats*, 116 blocks, and 10 districts have proclaimed open defecation free^{'xxxv}. Another *yojana* is named *Deen Dayal Upadhyaya*



Gram Jyoti Yojana, which came in 2014 to offer rural electrification to roughly 1143.15 rural homes. 9.48 unelectrified villages have been electrified.^{xxxvi}

Thus, data were collected from 200 households from men and women between the age group of 18-55 to examine the progress of the housing and household amenities related policy initiatives among scheduled castes in rural and urban areas of Moradabad district of Uttar Pradesh, with special attention to the implementation of the different policy initiatives known as; *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana*, *Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan-Gramin*, *Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan-Urban Pradhan Mantri*

a) Impact of *Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan*

The *Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan* is the government's most significant initiative. This scheme is the most popular scheme in the study area, and some groups benefit from it, but the amount given by the *Nagar Palika* Parishad and *Panchayats* is insufficient to meet the needs of the respondents because, according to the scheme's objectives, 15,000 rupees should be given to the beneficiaries, but this amount is not given to the respondents. Kindly refer to table-1.

b) Impact of *Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana*

The *Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana* is also the popular plan in the Moradabad district of Uttar Pradesh. Some respondents are receiving benefits from this scheme, especially from SC households, and are covered by the *Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana* phase one in 2016, whereas the majority of the population has their own LPG gas connection. The majority of responses are from SC communities, and others from other communities have applied for connections over the past year but have not received them due to incomplete paperwork. See table-2.

c) Impact of *Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana*

The *Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana* is not covered in the study area because most households have their own electricity connection, so most people are unaware and do not need this *yojana* in the urban, especially in the *Shahpur Tigri* ward of the district Moradabad. In the urban, most households have their own meter connection for the last 8 to 9 years and pay a monthly bill.. Some of the households using illegal wire connection in new *abadi* of the ward in *Dhanshah ki Milak* area for lighting in their households in the district among all the communities. Kindly refer table-3.

d) Impact of *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana*

The most popular and essential scheme has implemented by the central government is known as the *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana*. This is the most popular scheme in the study area since it helps the vast



majority of Scheduled Castes. Furthermore, many respondents in the study area were informed that a good house may be built for little less than two lakh fifty thousand rupees; it is also advised that the cost for house construction be increased. Another concerned aspect has been noted by respondents when households survey to improve the procedure of delivering amount to construct a house under the scheme should be directly supplied to the beneficiaries and not through the mediators because many beneficiaries are complaining that they had to pay fifty thousand rupees to these mediators to get benefit of the scheme. The number of the beneficiaries can be Seen in table-4.

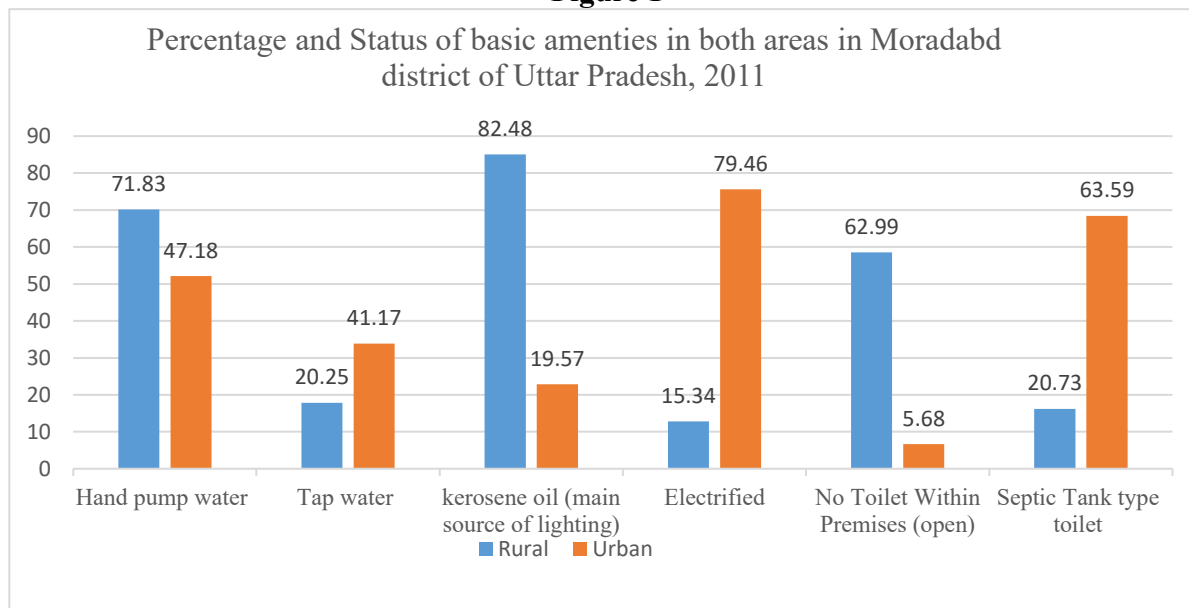
CONCLUSION

In brief, a lack of drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene has been identified as a major concern in both rural and urban settings for human development. Besides from that, improving the economic and social conditions of society is dependent on the availability of domestic amenities, which contribute to national income, wealth, and employment.

It is also suggested that when preparing and maintaining lists or records to provide benefits of policies such as *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana*, *Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan-Gramin*, *Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan-Urban Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana*, and *Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana*, an adequate case be made to ensure that the beneficiaries are truly in need of these. Aside from that, if something is to be accomplished on a wide scale, it must be done by the people. The government can only provide initiatives and direction; people need to aware and make contributions at the remote level.

Moreover, drinking water, electricity and sanitation are important for the overall development of the citizen basic amenities have been analyzed at the macro level as well as at micro level and in present days access to basic amenities is regarded as one of the basic necessity for an individual's development and for the healthy life of the people that is why government is focusing on this concerning issue and implementing programs and *yojanas* to solve the deprivation of basic needs in the state but regional variation and disparities are common in providing basic household amenities in some region of Uttar Pradesh but still need some more attention to improve the basic amenities and sanitation facilities at grass root level and as well as for the development of the nation.

Figure 1



Source: District census handbook, Moradabad, 2011; District wise Development Indicators, Economics and Statistical Division, Planning Dept. Uttar Pradesh, 2021

Table-1 Beneficiaries of Swatcha Bharat Abhiyan

Categories	Sample size	Frequency of respondents (get benefited from policy)	Percentage (%)
SCs Rural	100	64	32.0
SCs Urban	100	42	21.0
Total	200	106	53.0

Source: Primary Field Survey

Table-2 Beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana

Categories	Sample size	Frequency of respondents (get benefited from policy)	Percentage(%)
SCs Rural	100	48	24.0
SCs Urban	100	30	15.0
Total	200	78	39.0

Source: Primary Field Survey



Table-3 Beneficiaries of *Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana*

Categories	Sample size	Frequency of respondents (get benefited from policy)	Percentage (%)
SCs Rural	100	38	19.0
SCs Urban	100	10	5.0
Total	200	48	24.0

Source: Primary Field Survey

Table-4 Beneficiaries of *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana*

Categories	Sample size	Frequency of respondents (get benefited from policy)	Percentage (%)
SCs Rural	100	35	17.5
SCs Urban	100	28	14.0
Total	200	63	31.5

Source: Primary Field Survey

SCs; Scheduled Caste

NOTES

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