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**SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEDULED  
CASTES WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO AGRICULTURAL  
LANDLESS BABOORS IN AMRAVATI DIVISION**

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**ABSTRACT:-**Economist's tend to define growth as an annual increase in NNP – i.e. GNP-Depreciation whereas they denote development as an increase in per capita increase in output of labour without a commensuration fall in the level of employment 70% of India's population in 1947 lived off the agricultural sector and in 2008 the percentage figure had fallen to a mere 69%. This is what makes a study of rural economies so important. In India moreover the concept of farmer and peasant is blurred due to the joint family system and country that speaker of Secularism in one breathe and talks of an SC-ST class in another commits a grave contradiction A country with a 1.2 billion strong population is among the G-12 countries and yet the number of people living below the poverty line remains highest in the world nevertheless this fuzziners is the social environment give rise to conditions wherein appropriation of surplus value and the accompanying exploitation of labour is made so much easy. This paper attempts a liberal solution to landless labour, oppressed social classes and exploited means of production it opines that it is the state that must intervene and bring about an equalitarian solution to this equality and pass such laws as may be necessary to achieve this goal.The scheduled caste for historical reasons emained Socially and economically backward since ancient period they faced problems such as untouchability social and economic discrimination , mequality and poverty. Thus, this deprived social group do not have enough economic opportunities to earn for livelihood though gain full employment and do not have social, educational and political status in society. In absence of this they become dependent on the better of sections of society particularly rural landowning clites, Vislandlords, Zamindars and remain neglected in the economic and social spheres. In the rural economy, land is the pivotal property both in terms in income and employment, around which the Socio-economic Privileges and deprivations revolve poor land ownership position of the scheduled castes, it accounts largely for their soci-economic backwardness.

Dalit agricultural labours had been exploited socially and economically on a large scale by Jamindars, landlords, rich farmers. Thus, land reform became a necessary part of the National playning for the emancipation of scheduled cast. In order to improve detiorable conditions of schedule cast landless agricultural idea of

distributing uncultivated land for cultivation to landless agricultural labour was put forward by social reforms in India, and as a result of entering efforts movement led down by social reformers the historical government resolution was passed of down by social reformers the historical government resolution was passed of distribution of land of landless agricultural labour on dated 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1978 July 1979, 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1991. Thus present study is an attempt to assess the impact of State Govt. policy regarding changes brought out in the socio-economic conditions schedule caste landless agricultural labour in Amravati Division.

**Origin of Schedule Caste:-**While understanding the origin of schedule caste we find evidences of it pre-historic period i.e. stone age, metal age and after this Sindhu culture had been invented and in ancient period Sindhu culture had been extended to all over Singhu, Punjab and upto Baluchistan and it had been evidently said that Dravidians were the inventors of Sindhu culture and some scholars had said that Dravidians, who were non-aryans i.e. schedule caste may be the inventors of Sindhu culture. In Rigveda period these people were known by the name Dasu / das and in the same period, they had been classified as Shudra and allotted the work of providing service to all people. Thus in ancient period three types of Varna were present. Viz. “Kshatriya, Brahamin and Vaishya” and were recognized on the basis of occupation besides this in Vedic period schedule caste were recognized on the basis of colour i.e. black. Caste system was developed on the basis of hierarchy and schedule caste were regarded as lowest caste in the rank of caste system following the religious rules regarded schedule caste as backward caste.

**Historical background of landless agricultural labours :-**In India majority of population lives in rural area out of total population 70% people livelihood depends upon agricultural occupations. Thus majority of Indians basic occupation is farming. In ancient period proportion of land was equal one and comparatively to its population as less due to this situation problem of land holding totally absent during that period and every individual as equal rights on the land but gradually as the population increases problems related to land merged. Later due to socio-political implication yet to common property right on land was changed to individual property rights. Agricultural landless labour percentage in India has increased from 1981 to 1991 in 1971 it was 54.67% in 1981 it was 46.84% in 1991 it was 48.08%. The schedule castes account for nearly 17% of total population in India. Over 45% of working population of this group are agricultural labours. About 81% of schedule caste population resides in rural areas. In Maharashtra 79% of schedule caste are landless. According to 1961 census the incidence of illiteracy among the SC's is more than other social groups. As per below poverty line survey conducted in Maharashtra in the year 1999 below poverty line percentage in general population was 36% as against that the percentage of scheduled caste is high as 54% and thus it is obvious that there exists a wide gap of poverty status between general population and the schedule caste's population.

Thus stating the real situation of schedule caste landless agricultural labour class. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar stated that Dalit landless agricultural labour has been exploited by Jamindars socially on a large scale and most of the people in society has to live their life as slave and thus we must say that in 'India land holding system is against democracy and socialism if proper planning in land holding system is not done. The rich farmer will exploit the poor farmer and capitalist farming system will develop' The redistribution and for cultivation to landless agricultural labour was put forward by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Mahatma Phule, Punjabrao Deshmukh, Vinoba Bhave and Dadasaheb Gaikwad as thousand of area land was kept aside uncultivated and thus demand for utilization of such land was put forward by social reformers and National leaders in India. This system gave birth to tenant exploitation and was responsible for farmer's deteriorable condition's. Besides this during British period at the end of 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Britishers gave right to jamindars to collect taxes of land and system of collecting land taxes from the landless and poor farmer was started along with this Kayamdhara system was who started by Lord Cornwallis due to this system farmers has pay fixed taxes though land had not been cultivated this gave rise to indebtedness and farmers who were owners of their land were came to know as landless farmer's.

**Major land Reformation in Post-Independence period:-** During Vedic, Mughal and British period the legislation made for farmer's has not been fruitfully utilized for the benefit of farmer's and thus in order to make land reformation stop exploitations in tenant's act to remove social inequalities to follow the policy such as those who cultivate will hold the land and to develop the uncultivated land major land reformations were made. Among them prominently were irradiation's of land holding system. Impact of such land reformation system was that the relationship between tenants and Govt. becomes more strong and healthy and thus they started to pay their taxes to the govt. According to tenant property right Act 16.10 lakh tenants get's on 77.87 lakh hectare land and many such acts has been passed out for the irradiation of landlord system.

Besides this tenancy act had been passed and with the help of tenancy reforms about 20 million tenants had vested with property rights and brought out into direct contact with the State Govt. In Maharashtra 1.492 million tenants were declared owners of land on 2.512 million hectare land. Again in order to make ceiling's on land holding and thereby to give social justice by minimizing exploitation made by landlord and to make limitation on their land holding govt. has passed and implemented ceiling on land holding act in 1961. The New ceiling law was given retrospective effect from 24<sup>th</sup> January 1971. Due to improper implementation of such act by the govt. of the landless agricultural labour didn't get land holding right and it fail to gave them social justice in true sense. In British period movements of agricultural labour begins in India, many social reformers had made revolutions for getting land ownership right to landless agricultural labour among them Vinoba Bhave, Mahatma Phule were prominent one

besides this Mopala revolt in Kerala, Gomang movement in Bangal. Armed revolt in Telangaana act were undertaken by farmers against landlords and mediators and thus the idea of making utilization of uncultivated land came into true sense by passing an resolution during the period of ministry of Govt. of Vasantdada Patil, Sharad Pawar this historical resolution to meet their basic livelihood need was passed of distribution land to landless agricultural labour.

**Significance of the study:-**The importance of the subject, under study is that, thought land has been distributed to the S.C.S. landless agricultural labours by Govt. resolution their problems have not been solved. Yet at present, also problems of landless agricultural labours are prevailing in our society cattle grazing land berthan, Gavthan all such lands were under the ownership of rich farmers, but such land was not in use. It was totally barren; neglected and encroached and thus, there was not peace in villages and quarrels always take place for the cause of land .And for the sake of landless agricultural labour; Dalits and backward class labour and for their livelihood govt resoulution of land distribution was took place. Thus in the present study, such subject has been selected to study and evaluate types of change occurs in the life of landless agricultural labours by State govt. resolution.

**Objectives of study:-**

- 1) To study the social and economic conditions of schedule caste landless agricultural labours.
- 2) To study the changes occurred in the life of scheduled caste landless agricultural labours.
- 3) To evaluate the results of Govt. resolution land distribution policy.

**Hypothesis:-**

- 1) Whether change occur in life of scheduled caste landless agricultural labours.
- 2) Whether changes occur in economic, educational and social condition of S.C. landless labour an to ownership of land.
- 3) Scheduled caste landless labour might have been benefited by State Govt.Policy.

**Methodology:-**In Amravati region land was distributed to the S.C.s landless agricultural labour by Govt. resolution policy. In present research project such beneficiaries will selected as sample for the study in Amravati region there are total 14 Talukas and in every taluka beneficiaries were got benefited by such Govt. resolution but out of 14 total talukas03 taluka has been selected by using probability sampling

method and lottery technique. By using lottery technique 05 village has been selected from each taluka and again 06 samples has been selected from each village in this way 90 sample has been selected for the study. To evaluate and compare of conditions and change occur in the life of beneficiaries by land distribution policy comparative, analytical and descriptive research design well be used. In the present research project, primary and secondary source will be used in the collection of data. Secondary source such as list of land distributed beneficiaries forms tahsil office of concerned talukas and observation. Interview schedule as primary source will be used for collection.

**Scope of the study:-**The Present study covers the economic change brought in the life of landless agricultural labour by the govt. land distribution resolution policy it analyze change brought out in their role as on slave, landless to land owner and migrant to settled. The study highlights how landless make use of govt. distributed land for cultivation and hereby fulfilling their livelihood needs it assesses the results of govt. land distribution resolution policy in the context of economic changes. Its effects on their life i.e. living standard livelihood needs and their roles.

**Conclusion:-**India had been called as a agricultural country majority i.e. 70% of people in India depend upon agriculture and agricultural occupations in spite of this the hard worker know as agricultural labour, farmer landless agricultural labour as important asset since ancient period they has been deprived from many important and basic need and right scheduled caste landless agricultural people accounts in large proportion. Since ancient period they remain dependent on the better of sections of society particularly on the landowning viz. landlords, Zamindars rich farmers and remain neglected in the economic and social spheres. Due to their poor land ownership position scheduled caste accounts largely for their Socio-economic backwardness. Thus, with the object of promoting their educational and economic interests and removing their social disabilities constitution of India under article 14, 15 and 16 provides certain protective measures and safeguards for scheduled caste. Thus in order to improve the desirable conditions of scheduled caste landless agricultural labour revolution decision had been taken by Govt. of Maharashtra passed a govt. resolution policy on dated 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1968, 27<sup>th</sup> June 1979, 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1978, 1<sup>st</sup> Feb. 1983 and in the year 28<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1991. This decision had been taken to give social justice to landless agricultural labour by providing land ownership rights to meet their basic and livelihood needs. Thus present research study in an attempt to study an assess the impact of govt. Land distribution policy. The changes brought out in Socio-economic and educational conditions of scheduled caste landless agricultural labour. Thus at the end of present research study it has been concluded that, before getting benefits of govt. land ownership they were deprived of land holding right's to met their livelihood need's they had to remain dependent on rich farmers. Out to total 90 respondents 88% landless agricultural labours livelihood need were not meted though the annual income they generate, they living a life with low social status and denied dignity, and worth to migrant nature of life in search of work. There was no access to education along with this they had very limited participation in local self got. i.e. out of total 90 respondent 94% of S.C. landless agricultural labour didn't had participation : After getting govt. land and

ownership right drastic changes has been brought out of Socio-economic political and educational sphere of life of S.C. landless agricultural labour. They got land ownership right's they started to cultivate their own land and how 39% of respondents are able to meet their livelihood need adequately. They used to take winter season (Rabi crops) along with case and monsoon crops by using own irrigation facilities such as canal, bore well etc. They started to live a life having social status dignity and worth their relationship with other villages are built-up due to land ownership right they have active participation in local self govt. and hold position such as Sarpanch, member of gram panchayat, women's participation in political sphere of life and, in self help group also had been seen to some extent changes has been seen in their house structure, waste land has been brought out under cultivation of the effort of landless labour and they have been living a stable and settled life.

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