

A STUDY ON WORKING POPULATION IN HARYANA DURING 2012-2018

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Abstract:

The working population is classified as main workers and marginal workers. Both these workers include cultivators, agricultural labourers, household industrial workers and other workers. Workers are the backbone of the economy as they create necessary infrastructure essential for the growth of a nation. As per the Govt. of India, the construction sector contributes 9% in the GDP. According to the Economic Survey (2018-19), 93% of the total workforce in India is from the unorganised sector. The present study has been conducted to analyse the working population in Haryana. The study concludes that according to census 2011, the number of total workers were 89,16,508 in Haryana who was 35.17 per cent of total population. The Scheduled castes workers were 20.14 per cent of the total workers. Thus only 15.03 per cent workers are other castes. The Literate Scheduled Castes to total Scheduled Castes were 56.91 per cent only.

Keywords: *Workers, Scheduled castes, Government*

Introduction:

Workers are the backbone of the economy as they create necessary infrastructure essential for the growth of a nation. They build the residential buildings, roads, bridges, highways, rivers, dams, malls, parks, etc. In the area of globalisation and modernisation, it is they who generate the new economic zones by fabricating the smart cities, the IT centres, multiplexes, metros, telecommunication system, etc. Workers can also be termed as the builder of the nation. In India workers involved in the construction sector constitute one of the largest segments of the workforce after agriculture. Although, these workers shape the foundation of a nation, yet being a part of the unorganised workforce. They remain deprived of fair wages and good

living standards. As per the Govt. of India, the construction sector contributes 9% in the GDP. According to the Economic Survey (2018-19), 93% of the total workforce in India is from the unorganised sector. All these workers have not been able to organise themselves in pursuit of their common interest due to certain constraints like casual nature of employment, ignorance and illiteracy, small and scattered size of establishments, etc. Due to casual nature of construction activity, dispersed nature of operational processes and lack of employer-employee relationship construction workers remained totally unorganised. These characteristics reduce the bargaining power of workers and their ability to take full benefits from the various legislations enacted for them. The workers have a great role not only in the national economic development but it also contributes significantly to the overall economic growth of Haryana.

Literature Review:

Anand (1998) presented a paper about the characteristics of workers who were migrant workers and the intervention strategies that NIRMAN (an NGO) had adopted for these workers. The study found that our Constitution gives every citizen right to vote but these workers did not get this right due their migratory factor and temporary nature of stay. For the same reason they did not get various public distribution services. Overall, 27 labour laws were applicable to the construction industry but none was implemented. Various efforts and interventions had been tried out by NIRMAN for the upgradation of the construction workers. They concluded that construction workers need to be brought out of their helpless, isolated state and to be able to think independently.

Sauni, et al, (2003) studied about the risk of asthma among the Finnish construction workers. They concluded that the construction work especially dusty tasks were associated with an elevated risk of asthma. Thus, the effect of exposure to irritant agents may have a role in the development of asthma among construction workers. For the most part, these cases of asthma did not meet the criteria for occupational asthma because the specific reasons could not be defined. So the reasons of asthma in construction works and their preventive measures should be clarified.

Adler (2007) attempted to study the profile, working conditions and prevailing wage law on workers in New York City. He showed that wages were substantially higher in the wholesale and retail industry as compared to construction industry and substantially high wages in information, financial services and public administration industries.

McLeod (2007) analysed socio-economic background of families on Mumbai Mobile Creches construction sites. He collected the data from seven MMC centres at various locations around Mumbai. He explored the living and working conditions of construction site workers in Mumbai. The main constraint for improving the conditions for construction workers was that there was not large-scale statistical representation of these conditions. The study concluded that the vast majority of families had between 1 and 3 children with majority ages of 6 to 10 years. The majority of families had been in Mumbai between 1 and 5 years. Pay and working conditions vary greatly between sites and construction companies.

Singh (2007) studied the working conditions and problems of unorganised labour, especially in the building construction sector and found that due to the casual nature of construction activity, construction workers did not find employment throughout the year. Adding to it, lack of information on availability of construction work further complicated the problem. Though construction agencies were quite organised, the work was actually executed by sub-contractors under a principal contractor. Besides low level of wages, delayed payments, inadequate social security measures, unhygienic working conditions, bondedness, frequent changes in their work place and instability of their work were the major problems faced by construction workers.

Abrol, et al, (2008) conducted a study on maternal health indicators among the migrant construction workers employed at Gian Sagar Medical College and hospital construction site, Banur district Patiala. They studied the utilization of antenatal care services along with breastfeeding practices among migrant women construction workers as an indicator of their health status. They explored that majority of females were illiterate. A few had consumed tablets for iron and folic acid and the majority were unprotected against tetanus.

A report by Labour Bureau (2009) revealed that the unorganised sector workers suffer from cycles of excessive seasonality of employment, no formal employer-employee

relationship and lack of social security protection. As per the survey carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in the year 1999- 2000, the total employment in both organised and unorganised sector in the country was of the order of 39.7 crore. Out of this, about 2.8 crore were in the organised sector and the balance 36.9 crore in the unorganised sector. Out of 36.9 crore workers in the unorganised sector, 23.7 crore workers were employed in agriculture sector, 1.7 crore in construction sector, 4.1 crore in manufacturing activities, 3.7 crore in trade and transport and 3.7 crore in communication & services sector.

Barnabas, et al, (2009) highlighted that there was an inherent gender bias against women and also the shared general belief that women workers were unfit to be trained informally like men in the construction sector even though they had the necessary skills, capability and desire to become masons. Vast disparity in wages between women and men construction workers had been noticed. The actual wages of women studied range from Rs. 51 to Rs. 160 whereas the wages that men receive range from Rs. 71 to more than Rs. 250. This study showed that there was disparity in wages and promotion opportunities between men and women in the construction sector. The study also showed that women were found to use their income profitably for the welfare of the family and they are capable of doing masonry work. They had the competency, capability, ability, skills and work culture to become masons. Most of the women wanted to become masons and they had tried and were already doing some of the tasks carried out by men masons, which showed that women had the potential to become masons.

Saxena (2009) in his study analysed the extent of 200 construction labour's problems in Indore (M.P) living in poor conditions. He found that the construction workers live in tin sheeted and rubber sheeted houses. The construction company was not making provision of facilities for sanitation and toilets. There was limited provision of drinking water and the labourers had to depend on bore well, tanker water and public water supply. Labourers had to depend on open bath, from where water was available. Health of labourers was not at all matter to construction companies. The wage structure of the construction labour was also unsatisfactory. Leave facilities were not available for the construction labourers. No one was

there to look after the children of the women workers and ensure their better health, education and care in their tender age.

Geetika, et al, (2011) presented a paper on women working in the informal sector in India. A study was conducted on 240 workers including 65 domestic workers, 50 construction workers, 42 sales girls, 40 petty traders and 43 garment workers in Uttar Pradesh. The study concluded that women workers did not have a choice to work or not to work due to the dire need of income. The limited opportunities available to women were mostly low paid, low status jobs in the informal sector; jobs which did not have any possibilities of betterment, advancement of efficiency or training to enable them to enter better jobs at a later stage. In the overall state of unemployment and lack of opportunities, women hold a secondary place to men in the race of employment.

Pandit, et al, (2011) attempted to study on the maternal and child health issues among migratory construction workers in Vadodara district. They reflected that the conditions of the group were more vulnerable. Women and children had always featured as associated migrants with the main decision to migrate being taken by the male of the household. The mean age of the studied women was 26 years and the majority got married before the legal age of marriage. Early marriage and early pregnancy add to the vulnerability, mortality and morbidity along with the high number of pregnancy. Though the Government of India has been spending a lot of money for maternal and child health, but the results were not very encouraging.

Kumar (2013) conducted a study on construction workers in Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh), to identify gender discrimination among construction workers and identify the means of empowering women construction workers. The findings of the study showed that many women construction workers were illiterate, widows, only earning members of the family, from depressed class and low-income families. Women construction workers faced harassment at home and work place and they were discriminated in wages and promotion. The findings of the study also showed that the important reasons why women were not promoted as masons is the gender bias. The women construction workers were not given an opportunity to be trained informally like men in the construction industry. The study also

revealed that women construction workers were competent enough to be trained to become masons.

Objective of the study:

- (1) To know the number of workers in Haryana from the financial year 2012 to 2018.
- (2) To show that Scheduled castes population, Literacy and workers in Haryana.

Data and Methodology:

The present study is based on secondary source of data. The secondary data have been used in this study. The secondary data have been collected from the various issues like- Statistical Abstracts of Haryana, Labour Department, Internet and other published reports of Government, etc. The appropriate method has been used for data analysis such as- Bar Graph or bar diagram and Pie Chart.

RESULTS:

The results related to number of workers in Haryana through tables and bar diagram are presented as follows:

Table-1. Number of workers in Haryana from financial year 2012 to 2018

Year	Number of Workers
2012	4,36,930
2013	4,31,430
2014	4,67,740
2015	5,80,930
2016	5,59,430
2017	6,50,050
2018	6,74,370

(Source- [www. statista.com](http://www.statista.com))

Bar Diagram:

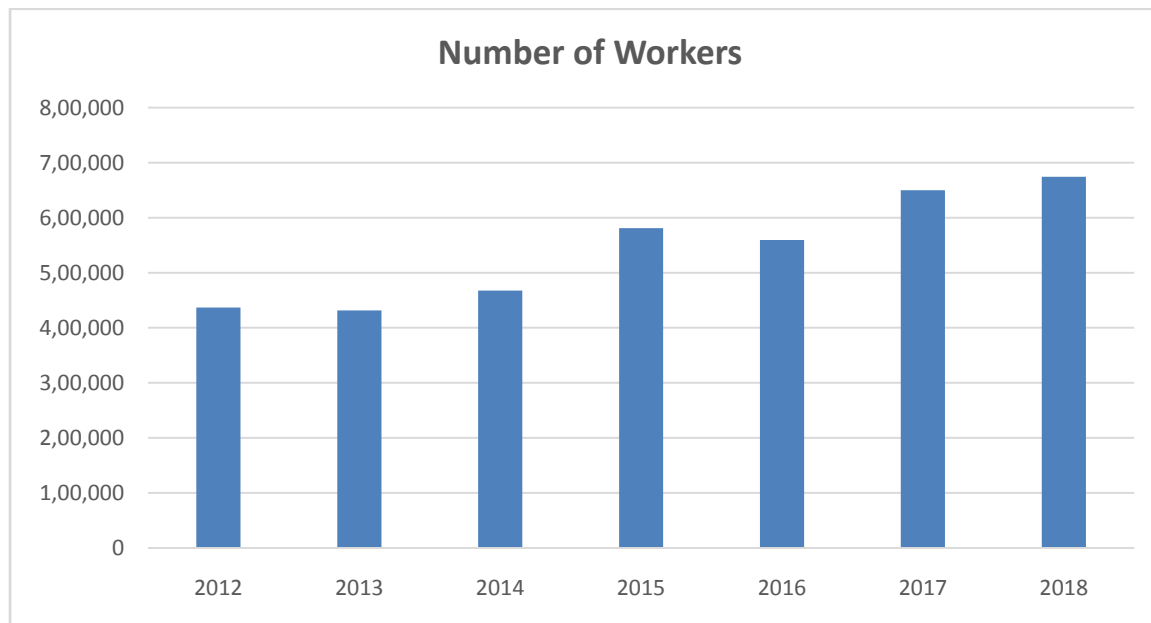


Table- 1 and Bar diagram shows that the number of workers were in Haryana from financial year 2012 to 2018. The number of workers were 4,36,930 in 2012. But these working population had increase time to time. In 2018, the number of workers in Haryana were 6,74,370.

State	Scheduled Castes Population	% of Scheduled Castes Population to total Population	% of Literate Scheduled Castes to total Scheduled Castes	% of total Scheduled Castes Workers to total Scheduled Castes Population
Haryana	51,13,615	20.17	56.91	35.12

Table-2 Scheduled Castes Population, Literacy and workers in Haryana: 2011 Census

(Source: Directorate of census operation, Haryana)

Pie Chart:

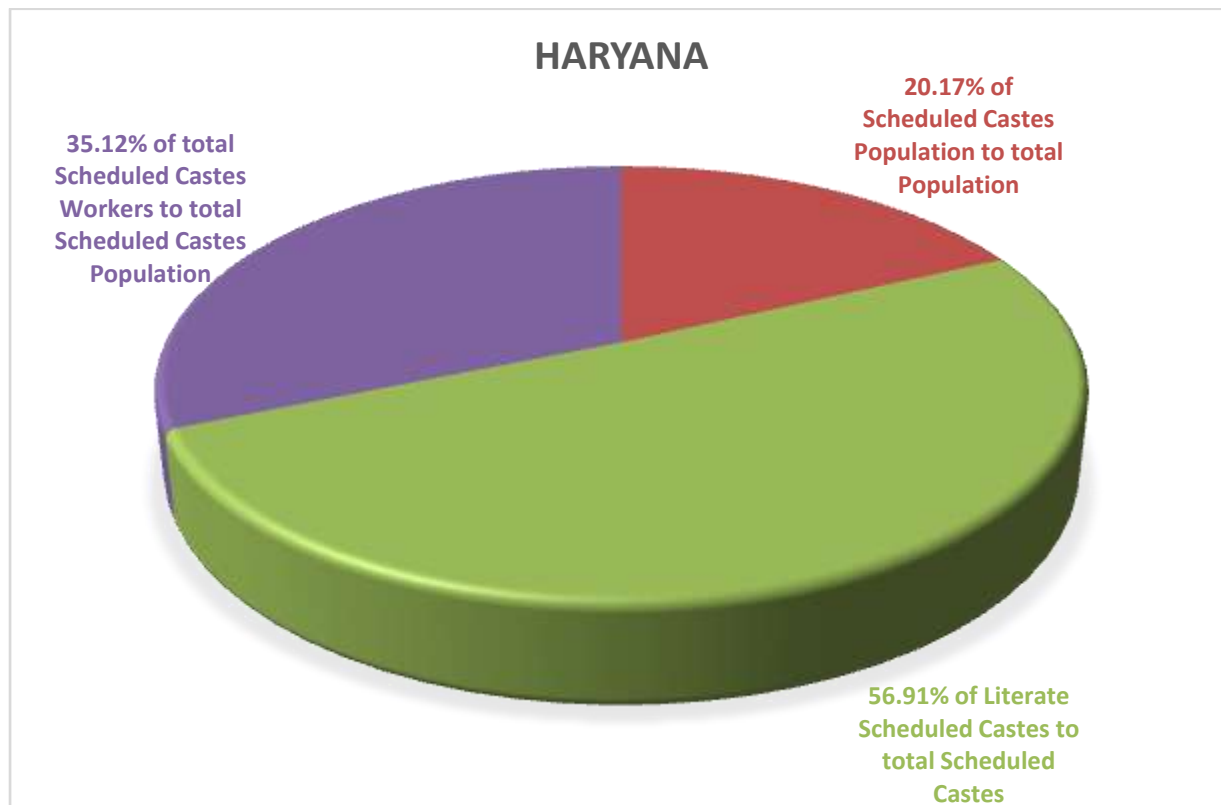


Table-2 and Pie chart shows that According to Census 2011, The scheduled castes population in Haryana was 51,13,615 and 20.17 per cent of Scheduled Castes Population to total Population. The Literate Scheduled Castes to total Scheduled Castes were 56.91 per cent. The total Scheduled Castes Workers to total Scheduled Castes Population were 35.12 per cent.

Conclusion:

The working population is classified as main workers and marginal workers. Both these workers include cultivators, agricultural labourers, household industrial workers and other workers. Main workers were those who engaged in any economically productive activity for 183 days or more than six months or more during the reference period of one year. Marginal workers are those who worked at any time but did not work for a major part of the year. Those who worked for less than 183 days or 6 months. The study concludes that According to census 2011, the number of total workers were 89,16,508 in Haryana who was 35.17 per cent

of total population. The Scheduled castes workers were 20.14 per cent of the total workers. Thus only 15.03 per cent workers are other castes. The Literate Scheduled Castes to total Scheduled Castes were 56.91 per cent only.

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