

## Comparative study of traditional and present occupational structure of scheduled caste in Chamoli district

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### Abstract

Occupational structure refers working population in various types of jobs in a particular geographical area, region, block, district, state, country etc. Generally according to census there are three major type of occupation level which is primary, secondary and tertiary but according to study area we categorized occupational structure in six parts which is agriculture, labour, self trade, government job, animal husbandry and all other work. Occupational structure is affected by geographical location, economy, market location, technology, commercial education, traditional pattern etc. Scheduled Castes are a constitutionally declared collection of castes that are differentiated on the basis of certain criteria such as primitive traits, distinct culture, geographical isolation and general backwardness. Uttarakhand has various types of SC people groups that are known as Tamta, Kol, Shilpkar, Dom, Agariya, Badhik, Baiga, Bajgi, Balmiki, Patari etc. According to census 1991 the percentage of SC population in total population of Chamoli is 17.52%, in 2001 18.24% and 2011 is 20.25% only. Generally SC people are poor in economy due to various reasons like occupation selection, health, social reasons etc. Here we try to understand SC traditional and present occupational structure and its modification in Chamoli district.

**Keywords:** SC, occupational structure, Chamoli

### Introduction

Chamoli district come under Greater and lesser Himalaya. District Chamoli came into existence on 20th Feb 1960, before as a district it was part of the dsistrict Garhwal, as subdivision Chamoli. In 1997 some parts of Chamoli district converge in Ruderprayag district. Extension of Chamoli district 29° 55' 00" to 31° 03' 45" longitude and 79° 02' 39" to

80° 03' 29" latitude, total geographical area has 7820 km<sup>2</sup>. Chamoli district has 9 block and 1244 village according to 2011 census. According to Chamoli district Ruderprayag district existence in southern part, Bageshwar and Pithoragarh in eastern part. Geographically most northern part of study area come under Greater Himalaya and lower area come in lesser and outer Himalaya.

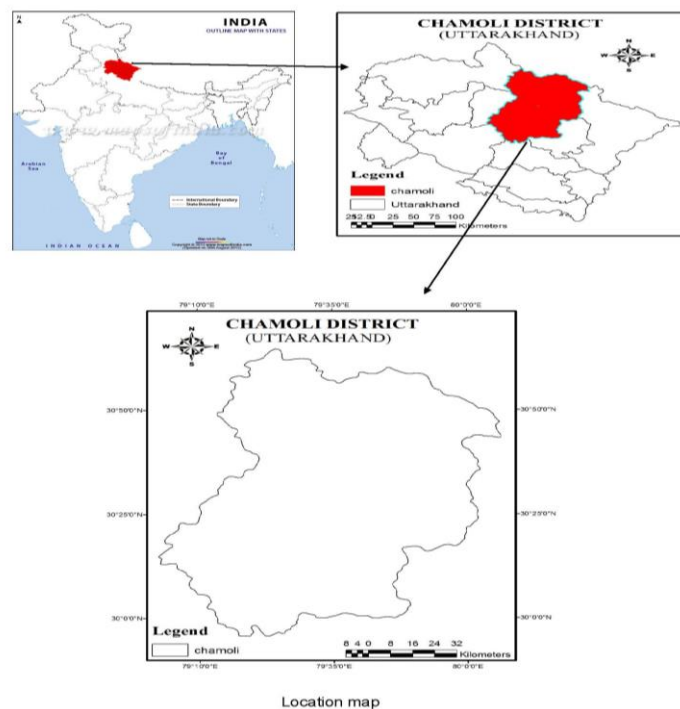


Fig 1

**Methodology**

Present study based on primary and secondary data of Chamoli district. In Chamoli district, study for occupational structure of SC at first select four villages in every block and as well as in nine blocks. We select total 36 village for sampling based on random sampling. We have take 20 sample of each village and 720 sample of whole district to study. Generally there are three main occupational structures which is primary, secondary and tertiary, but in Chamoli district seeing the occupations which is adopted by SC people, we create six categories that is agriculture, labour, self trade, government job, animal husbandry and other work.

**Table 1:** List of Sample sites in Chamoli district

SN	Block	Village name	SN	Block	Village name
1	Dasholi	Gona	21	Karanprayag	Gaucher
2		Irani	22		Gandhinagar
3		Durmi	23		Nakot
4		Bola	24		Nauti
5	Dewal	Swad	25	N.Bgur	Mailana
6		Lesri			Ased
7		Talor			26
8	Gairsain	Palwara	27	Pokhri	Dungri
9		Mailana	28		Sakri
10		Langatai	29		Dewar valla
11		Kheti	30		Jorasi
12	Ghat	Jungal Chatti	31	Tharali	Simkholi
13		Mathkot	32		Jhola
14		Kumjung	33		Chidhga state
15		Jakhani	34		Lolti
16	Joshimath	Mokh malla	35		Ratgaw
17		Helang	36		
18		Sloor dungra			
19		Palla			
20		Tangni			

**Objects of study**

The study of occupational structure is a major key of development of people group in India because on this base we make development plan for peoples group. So we trying to understand SC people traditional and present occupation structure and changing pattern.

**Traditional occupational structure of Scheduled Caste in Chamoli district**

Census authority classified occupational structure mainly in

main and marginal worker. Cultivators, agriculture labour, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities, mining and quarrying, manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs, construction, trade and commerce, transport, storage communication and other services come under the main and marginal workers. Table 2 is showing traditional occupation; in table there are six types of occupation which is agriculture, labour, self-trade, govt. job, animal husbandry and other work. India has agriculture dominated country and its lifeline of villagers. Table 2 show that more than 68.89% SC population mainly engaged in agriculture. Chamoli district has nine blocks and in these block in term of agriculture Gairsain block has 1<sup>st</sup> rank in district which is 90%. According to percentage Joshimath has 86.25%, N.bgur 77.5%, Dewal 75%, Ghat 70%, Tharali 67.5%, Karanprayag 66.3%, Dasholi 51.25% and Pokhri 36.3%. These show that Scheduled Caste population directly involve in agriculture work.

Labour work has second rank according to percentage in district which is 18.13%. In blocks according to labour work percentage Pokhari has 1<sup>st</sup> rank which is 47.5%. In other blocks Joshimath 7.5%, Dhsholi 20%, Ghat 22.5%, Karanprayag 10%, N.Bgur 16.25%, Tharali 23.8%, Dewal 11.3%, Gairsain 6.25% only. Government job is also one of the third most occupation groups of SC in district which is total 7.36%. Seeing the table 1 in Chamoli district Dasholi block has highest percentage of Government job which is 13.75%. District other block According to percentage of government job is Pokhri 12.5%, Karanprayag 11.2%, Ghat and N.bgur 6.25%, Tharali 6.20%, Dewal 5%, Gairsain 3.75%, and Joshimath 1.25% only.

Present time is era of Self occupation, in district its fourth rank in term of percentage which is 4.44% only. According to percentage of Self occupation in block is Dasholi 15%, Karanprayag 10%, Dewal 6.20%, Pokhri 3.70%, Tharali 2.5%, Joshimath and Ghat 1.25%. On the other hand N.bhur and Gairsain has zero percentage. Animal husbandry is basic and life line work of SC people in district but mainly animal use for milk and few of agriculture work only. In district Joshimath block has 1<sup>st</sup> rank in animal husbandry because it has grassland for animal which is known in local term Payar and Bugyal. In other blocks percentage of Animal husbandry is Karanprayag 5.2%, Dewal 1.25%, besides these two blocks in district other has zero percentage. In district we see various types of occupations which come under to other work. In district it has only 0.14%.

**Table 2:** Traditional occupational structure of Scheduled Caste in Chamoli District

SN	N.O.W.	Joshimath	Dasholi	Pokhri	Ghat	Karanprayag	N.Bgur	Tharali	Dewal	Gairsain	Chamoli total
1	Agriculture	86.25	51.25	36.3	70	66.3	77.5	67.5	75	90	68.89
2	Labour	7.5	20	47.5	22.5	10	16.25	23.8	11.3	6.25	18.33
3	Self-Occupation	1.25	15	3.70	1.25	10	0	2.5	6.20	0	4.44
4	Government Job	1.25	13.75	12.5	6.25	11.2	6.25	6.20	5	3.75	7.36
5	Animal husbandry	3.75	0	0	0	2.5	0	0	1.25	0	0.84
6	Other Job	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.25	0	0.14
7	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Self collected (2017)

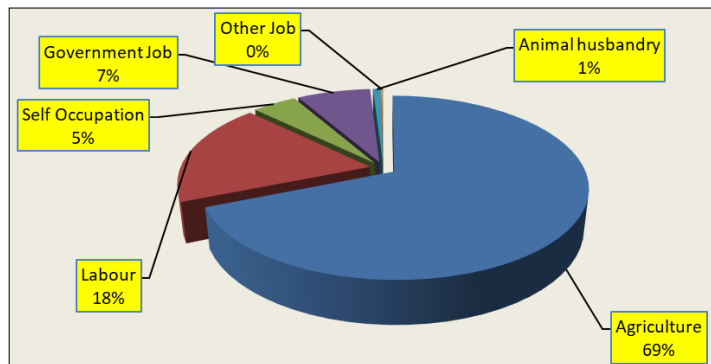


Fig 2: Traditional occupational structure of Scheduled Caste in Chamoli District

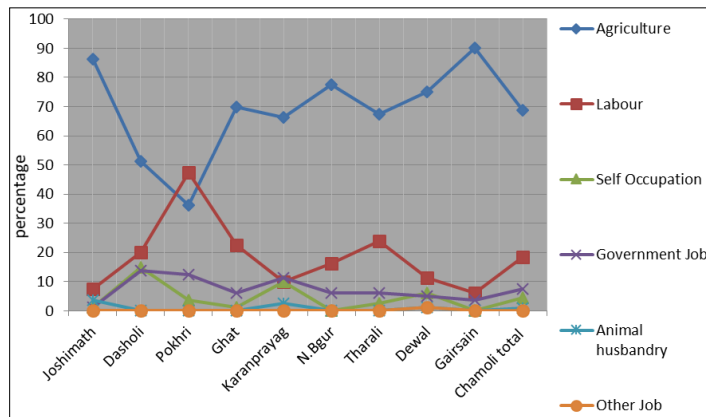


Fig 3: Traditional occupational structure of Scheduled Caste in Chamoli District

**Present occupational structure of Scheduled Caste in Chamoli district**

Table 3 showing present occupational structure of SC in Chamoli district. According to table 3 in present SC population mainly involved in labour work which is almost half of total occupation percentage. In present time SC 48.33% population are engaged in labour work. In blocks according to labour population Gairsain has 81.25%, Pokhri 56.3%, Ghat 54%, Joshimath 53.8%, Dewal 43.75%, Tharali 43.8%, Dasholi 35%, and Karanprayag 25%.

In present time SC 32.36% percentage population involve in agriculture work. In study area Joshimath 42.2%, Dasholi 32.5%, Pokhri 30%, Ghat 35%, Karanprayag 31.25%, N.bgur 26.25%, Tharali 43.8%, Dewal 45% and Gairsain only 5% population involve in agriculture work. In this way Chamoli district three block agriculture work population under district agriculture percentage and six blocks above. Government job

has third position in district according to percentage which is 11.95% only. In district blocks government job involve percentage is Karanprayag 36.25%, Dasholi and Pokhri 15%, Ghat 8.8%, Tharali and Dewal 7.5%, Gairsain 5%, Joshimath 2.5% only. In present time SC 5.98% percentage population involve in Self occupation. In blocks Dasholi 17.5%, N.bgur and Gairsain 7.5%, Karanprayag 6.25%, Tharali 5%, Pokhri and Dewal 3.75%, Joshimath 1.25%, Ghat 1.3% only. In district 1.38% population are engaged in animal husbandry. The percentage of animal husbandry in blocks is N.bgur 8.75%, Karanprayag and Gairsain 1.25%, Ghat 1.3%. On the other hand other five blocks has zero percentage in animal husbandry. In ancient time SC people was working various type of unclassified job which come under the category of other job but in present no one doing such type of job so that the parentage of other job is zero in study area. These all data show in table 3 and figure 3A and 3B.

Table 3: Present occupational structure of Scheduled caste in Chamoli district

SN	N.O.W.	Joshimath	Dasholi	Pokhri	Ghat	Karanprayag	N.Bgur	Tharali	Dewal	Gairsain	Chamoli total
1	Agriculture	42.5	32.5	30	35	31.25	26.25	43.8	45	5	32.36
2	Labour	53.8	35	56.3	54	25	42.5	43.8	43.75	81.25	48.33
3	Self-Occupation	1.25	17.5	3.75	1.3	6.25	7.5	5	3.75	7.5	5.98
4	Government Job	2.5	15	10	8.8	36.25	15	7.5	7.5	5	11.95
5	Animal husbandry	0	0	0	1.3	1.25	8.75	0	0	1.25	1.38
6	Other Job	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Self collected (2017)

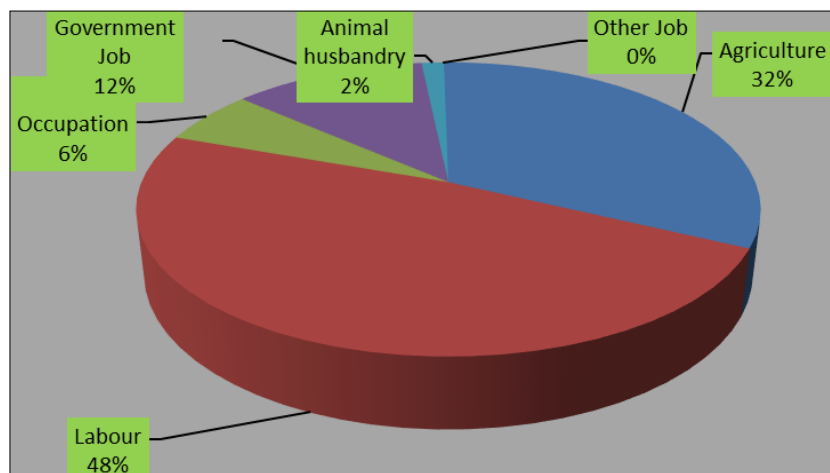


Fig 3A: Present occupational structure of Scheduled Caste in Chamoli district

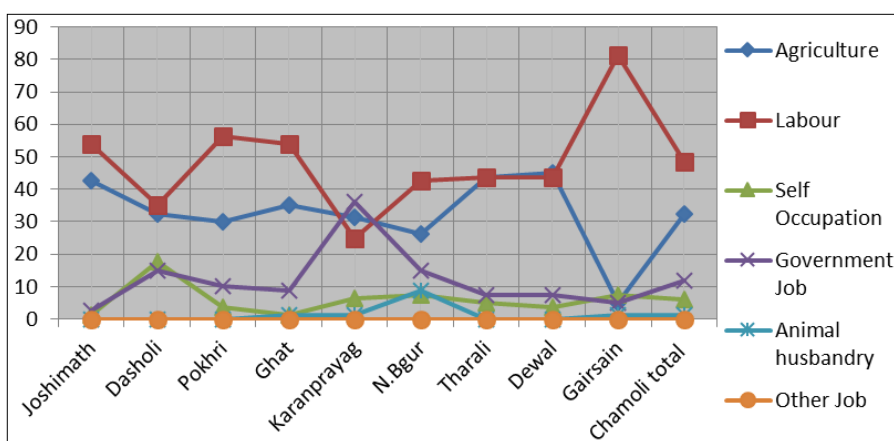


Fig 3B: Present occupational structure of Scheduled Caste in Chamoli district

**Comparative analysis of traditional and present occupational structure of SC in Chamoli district**

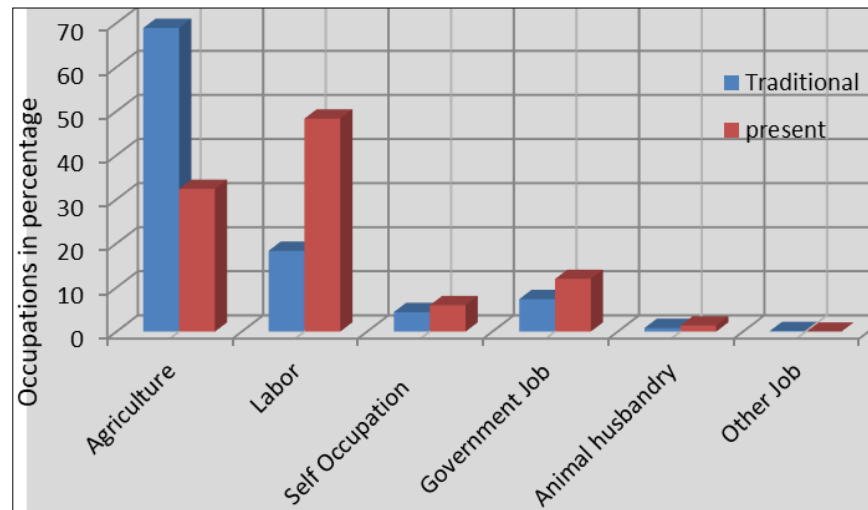
Here table 3 showing SC traditional and present occupational structures in Chamoli district. In ancient time SC 68.89% population engaged in agriculture work but in present time only 32.36% population remain in agriculture work. The main reason of downward growth of agriculture population is climate change, low annual production, agriculture land convert to house, urbanization, unbarred land and other types etc. On the other hand in district SC labour work population parentage increase due to lankness of technical and professional education. In ancient time SC 18.33% population engaged in labour work but it increase in present time and reached 48.33% which is almost half of whole occupational structure. Self-occupation parentage in ancient time was 4.44% which is increased 1.54% and reached 5.95%. In this way we says that SC population are becoming self-depend. The percentage of government job is also increasing its 7.36%

in ancient time but at present its 11.95%. Animal husbandry population involving perscentage increased due to various government schemes in district. Other job SC population percentage is decreasing due to urbanization, and other factor. All these data show in table 4 and figure 4.

Table 4: Comparative analysis of traditional and present occupational structure of SC in Chamoli district

S. No	N.O.W.	traditional	Present
1	Agriculture	68.89	32.36
2	Labour	18.33	48.33
3	Self Occupation	4.44	5.98
4	Government Job	7.36	11.95
5	Animal husbandry	0.84	1.38
6	Other Job	0.14	0
7	Total	100	100

Source: Self collected (2017)



**Fig 4:** Comparative analysis of traditional and present occupational structure of SC in Chamoli district

### Conclusion

Occupational structure is aggregate distribution of occupations in society, classified according to skill level, economic function or social status. According to census 2011, 24.6% population in agriculture work, 30% in agriculture labour, 3.8% in small industry, and 41.6% in involve other work. In this way result come out that SC population traditional occupation is mainly agriculture work but with time it change into labour work. There are number of reason to change it like low agriculture production, agriculture land change with time in unbarred land, house land, urbanization etc. Other hand in district labour work population percentage increased due to lackness of technical and professional education. As regarding to study area self-occupation and government job percentage of SC population has also increased. In this way finally see that SC population occupational structure mainly transform agriculture work into labour work.

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