
**Livelihoods and Well-Being of a
Community in Scheduled Castes**



Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS)
Begumpet, Hyderabad



Institute for Development Studies Andhra Pradesh
(IDSAP) Visakhapatnam

Livelihoods and Well-Being of a Community in Scheduled Castes

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Dedicated to



**Prof. Rokkam Radhakrishna
(1942-2022)**

Former Vice-Chancellor of
Andhra University,
Former Chairman of
National Statistical Commission,
Government of India

Contents

Preface	ix
Foreword	xiii
List of Tables	xvii
List of Figures	xix
Case Studies and Box Items	xxi
1. Introduction	1
2. Demographic Features, Family and Social Transformation	9
3. Human Development	18
4. Living Conditions	34
5. Occupation and Inter-Generation Shift	41
6. Income, Expenditure and Indebtedness	56
7. Government Intervention Programmes	67
8. Way Forward	92
References	99
List of Annexure	106

Preface

The total population of Relli group in Andhra Pradesh is about 1,47,466, spread, across several districts. Rellis sub-group population was about 1,32,583 according to the Census 2011. Of this, as much as 74 per cent is concentrated in the North Coastal Districts of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam. It comes to about 85 per cent if the Relli population of East Godavari district is included. . In view of their low incomes and of their social exclusion, the Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad launched a socio-economic study sponsored by the Government of Andhra Pradesh on Rellis in Visakhapatnam District through the Institute of Development Studies Guntur. A household survey was undertaken, choosing a total sample of 873 households of which 408 were from the rural habitations and 465 sample households were from different urban habitations including the habitations in Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation.

An analysis of demographic-social characteristics based on field data shows that this community has been under socio-economic transformation in recent times. The occupational pattern, asset structure, household income, expenditure pattern, migration and intergenerational occupational shift have been discussed in detail and observed that this community is moving towards progress and modernity, though at a slow pace. Various issues relating to banking practice, savings pattern, borrowings, interest rates paid, indebtedness and reasons for indebtedness have been critically analyzed. Human

development issues of education, health, and the living and working conditions of scavengers and sewerage workers have been discussed. Even though manual scavenging is not found in the study area, the working conditions as well as the household incomes need to be improved to keep them at least on par with majority of other Scheduled Caste people. Case Studies are presented to focus on issues of inter-generational shift of occupations and how education is playing an important role in both horizontal and vertical mobility of this vulnerable community over decades. Importantly, a modest attempt is made to examine the awareness, , satisfaction level of availing Government schemes, the problems faced by sample Relli households and the obstacles faced in the delivery mechanism. An attempt is made to analyze the overall efficacy of government intervention programmes and schemes. The Research Team has made several suggestions useful for generating more sustainable livelihood opportunities and to enhance the well-being of Relli people, particularly the sweepers, scavengers, and sewerage workers.

We express our grateful thanks to Late Prof. R. Radhakrishna, Chairman and Honorary Professor, CESS, former Chairman, Statistical Commission, GoI and former Vice-Chancellor, Andhra University for his valuable guidance, useful suggestions in the preparation of the Household Schedule, in preparing the final reports and for his constant encouragement throughout the study. Our sincere thanks are to Prof. S Galab, the then Director and Prof. E. Revathi, the present Director of CESS, Hyderabad for their useful guidance and academic support throughout the study.

We are very grateful to the Government of Andhra Pradesh particularly to the Principal Secretary, Dept. of Social Welfare for sponsoring the study and to other Officers and Staff for their cooperation. We express our thanks to Dr. C.P. Nagi Reddy, Prof. K. Hanumantha Rao, Prof. P. Purushottam, Dr. C. Ravi, Dr. P.Pruthvikara Reddy, of CESS, Hyderabad, for their valuable inputs in the preparation of the Household Schedule. We express our thanks to Prof. Seetharama Raju for his valuable

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Foreword

Scheduled Caste population which constitutes about 16.4 per cent in Andhra Pradesh consists of three major Sub-castes- Mala, Madiga and Rellis in the order of their numerical strength. These three major groups have about 59 vulnerable castes. Relli community is one such vulnerable caste living mainly in the North Coastal and East Godavari Districts. This community, being at the lower rung of the social ladder, has been reeling under poverty in spite of several initiatives by the State and Central Governments. It seems that these people are bounded by certain individual behavioral traits, distinct family and community traditions besides socio- economic constraints which come in the way of enhancing their incomes and well-being.

The present book contains analysis based on field data and information. The analysis covers wide ranging issues like the family and demographic features, human development, living conditions, occupational pattern and inter-generational issues, pattern of income, expenditure, borrowing and indebtedness of Relli households. It also presents various aspects relating to Government intervention programmes aimed at improving the livelihoods, well-being and governance of these socially and economically disadvantaged people.

Relli community is traditionally a woman dominated community having a distinct family and social practices. It is pertinent to note that almost one fifth of the sample households are headed by women. The analysis of family, demographic and social characteristics shows that this community has been under

socio-economic transformation in recent times. The transformation is visible even though undue caste discrimination still exists. It is highly deplorable that they are facing discrimination from other Scheduled caste people. The political participation and representation of Rellis is at the low ebb, may be due to their small numerical strength.

The analysis relating to human development brings out interesting facts. The literacy level of this community is higher than that of Malas but the proportion of educated people beyond higher secondary level is very low. However, recognizing the importance of education as an instrument to improve their well-being, several households are sending their children to private schools where English Medium is available by paying exorbitant tuition and other fees. It is rightly pointed out that there is a need to reduce the drop-out ratio at all levels of education. The Case studies clearly showcase the fact that livelihoods are improved because of pursuit of higher, professional and technical education. Health is a very important pre-requisite for the development of a community or of an economy. Health status and various health issues are discussed elaborately. It is to be noted that scheduled caste people including Rellis in Andhra Pradesh are at the lower rung as far as the reduction of multidimensional poverty is concerned to which health is an important factor. The nature of work and life styles make the Rellis sick and unhealthy. Due to the nature of work they are more exposed to air pollution. Consumption of liquor and smoking make them acquire certain kinds of diseases. Sanitary conditions in the Relli habitations especially in the rural habitations need to be improved. More awareness has to be created to discourage Open defecation and to encourage the use of Individual sanitary Latrines and LPG for cooking to increase the health profile and to reduce their health expenditure. The analysis on living conditions brings out a perceptible improvement in housing and housing amenities like connecting roads, drinking water, using of electricity, cooking gas and banking practices. However, a lot is to be done with regard to sanitation, the existing housing scheme and open defecation to improvise their well-being.

Data show that majority of Relli people are working in traditional occupations like fruit and vegetable vending, maid servants, street sweeping, sewerage work, scavenging, agriculture and agriculture casual labour. Non-traditional occupations are Government and Private sector employment, non-agriculture labour like painters, masons, auto drivers, khalasies etc. and self-employment in non-agriculture activities including small business. It is happy to note that there is a visible occupational shift from traditional to non-traditional jobs. The case studies presented in the volume clearly show that there is a positive inter-generational occupational shift induced by education leading to both horizontal and vertical mobility in recent times. This may be considered as an important outcome of expenditure incurred by the government on social welfare hostels and scholarships provided to these vulnerable social groups. The issues relating to sweepers, scavengers and sewerage workers especially of their salary, job security, and safety and working conditions are well brought out. It is happy to note the absence of the most mean and disgraceful job of manual scavenging and carrying of head loads of human waste which some of these people used to do in the past. The Prohibition of Employment as Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, Govt. of India needs to be implemented in its totality. It is pertinent to note that majority of households except the permanent Government employees, end up with low level of incomes, low standards of living and low level of well-being compared to other sections of the society.

The analysis relating to Household Income and Per Capita Income reveals that almost all the sample households except those with government permanent employees are all under Below Poverty Line. It may be observed that the Per capita Income of Relli people is three to four times less than that of the Average Per Capita Income in Andhra Pradesh in 2018. It is rightly observed that there is a need to increase the earnings of these people by providing better livelihood opportunities. This is possible by pursuing higher levels of education and provision of employment-based skills. The analysis of expenditure pattern suggests that these people should reduce their expenditure on alcohol, tobacco

products and other unproductive activities, so that the resources thus saved can be spent on promoting human development. There is a visible improvement in the institutional savings and borrowings, thanks to the SHG-Bank linkage and financial inclusion initiatives. But still a large number of households depend upon non-institutional sources for financial needs paying exorbitant rate of interest. This has, predominantly, led to high level of indebtedness of Rellis.

Both the State and Centre have initiated several programmes relating to livelihood opportunities, food and social security, health and nutrition, housing, education, governance etc. for SCs in general through SC Sub-Plan / SC Component under which exclusive budget allocations have been made. But there exists a gap between budget outlay and actual expenditure with regard to several programmes in the SC Component. It is necessary to reduce the gap between the budget outlay and the actual expenditure with regard to all programmes. The analysis relating to government programmes by categorizing them as Livelihood Programmes, Food and Nutrition, Social Development, Woman Development and Social Security by giving scores and ranks to examine their efficacy and usefulness. The analysis reveals that there is a need to gear up the implementation of Livelihood and woman development programmes and the delivery mechanisms to facilitate better reach to Relli people. The information relating to problems in accessing and availing of government schemes by this community reveals the necessary insights to cover up the loopholes and to improve the delivery mechanisms and governance.

The present volume brings out several socio-economic aspects relating to Rellis, the most vulnerable SC Sub-caste neglected for a long time. It has not only provided data and information based on a household survey but also makes several general and habitation-specific suggestions which are useful for policy making. The book will be useful to academics, researchers and administrators who are interested in enhancing the well-being of Relli community.

Rokkam Radhakrishna

List of Tables

Table-1	: Number of Sample Households Selected	6
Table-2	: Percentage Distribution of Relli population in the Sample districts and the state of Andhra Pradesh	10
Table-3	: Percentage Distribution of Literates of Rellis in the Sample Districts	20
Table -4	: Class wise Percentage Distribution of Drop-outs in the Sample Districts	22
Table- 5	: Details of Students Admitted in Private Schools in Savalapuram Habitations	24
Table- 6	: Details of Students Admitted in Private Schools in Chettupalli Habitation, Narsipatnam Mandal	25
Table -7	: Intergeneration Occupational Shift of Sample Households	45
Table-8	: Annul Average Household Income of Sample Households	61
Table-9	: Budget Allocation and Actual Expenditure Under SC Component	68
Table-10	: Scheduled Caste Component - Annual Plans 2015-16, 2016- 17 and 2017-18	69

Table-11 : Categorization of Programs/Schemes Basing on their Scores and Ranks Obtained in Rural and Urban Habitations	72
Table-12 : Problems faced in availing the Food and Nutrition programs in both the Habitations in the Sample Districts	74
Table-13 : Problems faced in availing the Livelihood programs in both the Habitations of Sample Districts	76
Table-14 : Problems faced in availing the Social Development programs in both the Habitations in Sample Districts	80
Table-15 : Problems faced in availing the Women Development and Welfare Schemes in both the habitations in Sample Districts	82
Table-16 : Problems faced in availing the Social Security programs in both the habitations in Sample Districts	86

List of Figures

Figure-1 : Drop-Out Scenario in the Sample Districts	21
Figure-2 : Occupation Structure in the Sample Districts	43
Figure-3 : Median Rate of Interest of Non-Institutional Agents	65
Figure-4 : Interaction with the Line Departments to Resolve the Issues by the Sample households (in percentages)	89
Figure-5 : Percentage of HHs Reporting reasons for Unresolved Issues in sample Districts	89

Case Studies & Box Items

Case Study- I	: Illiteracy to Engineering and Medical Education	27
Case Study II	: Inter-generation Occupational Shift – a Case Study	46
Box Item- 1	: Sewage Worker	52
Box Item-II	: Problems of Assigned Land	57

Annexures

Annexure-I	: District-wise percentage of Population of Relli in the Residual State of Andhra Pradesh	101
Annexure-II	: Occupational Profiles of SCs and Rellis	102
Annexure-III	: Source-Wise Household Income in Sample Districts	104
Annexure-IV	: Expenditure Patterns of Sample Households	105
Annexure - V	: Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation ACT, 2013	106

Acronyms

1	APSCFC	:	Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Caste Co-Operative Finance Corporation Ltd
2	B.C	:	Backward Class
3	BLP	:	Bank Linkage Program
4	CBOs	:	Community Based Organizations
5	CRPF	:	Central Reserve Police Force
6	FGD	:	Focus Group Discussions
7	FVC	:	Fruit and Vegetable Commission Agent
8	HHHs	:	Head of the House Hold
9	ICDS	:	Integrated Child Development Services
10	IMR	:	Infant Mortality Rate
11	ISL	:	Individual Sanitary Latrines
12	JSY	:	Janani Suraksha Yojana
13	L.I.C	:	Life Insurance Corporation
14	MEPMA	:	Mission for Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas
15	MGNREGP	:	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment guarantee Program
16	MMR	:	Maternal Mortality Rate
17	MPDO	:	Mandal Parishad Development Officer
18	MRO	:	Mandal Revenue Officer
19	M.S	:	Mandal Samakya
20	NGOs	:	Non-Governmental Organizations.
21	NSCFDC	:	National Scheduled Caste Finance and Development Corporation
22	NSKFDC	:	National Safai Karmacharis Finance and Development Corporation.
23	PDS	:	Public Distribution System
24	PHC	:	Public Health Center
25	PMJJBY	:	Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana
26	RRBs	:	Regional Rural Banks
27	SC	:	Scheduled Caste
28	SERP	:	Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty
29	SHGs	:	Self - Help Groups
30	TV	:	Tele Vision

Chapter-1

INTRODUCTION

The Scheduled Caste population in India is about 20.13 Cr constituting 16.63 per cent of total population of India (2011 Census). There are 1000 plus ethnic groups spread all over India and known by different names like Malas, Madigas, Rellis, Chamars, Bungis, Paswans, Mahas, Holiyas, Pullayas, Bairavas and Palars. (TOI, Nov. 25, 2008). Of the total population, Scheduled caste population in both rural and urban areas comprises 18.5 and 12.6 per cent respectively. Of the total scheduled caste population as much as 80 per cent lives in rural areas. Right from the days of Independence, scheduled caste population has been at the bottom of the socio-economic pyramid. This is mainly because of low level of literacy, ownership of assets and low incomes. For instance, even after sixty years of economic development in the country their literacy level was 66 per cent compared to the general literacy level of 73 per cent. Their female literacy was much worse with 56.5 per cent compared to 64.6 per cent for the general population as per 2011 Census. As a result their incomes are low and their poverty levels are very high. The decline in poverty may be largely attributed to several micro level initiatives besides the macro policies to inject social and financial inclusion and to reduce income inequalities among scheduled caste population in the last several decades. Though poverty among SCs has been reduced due to the measures initiated to ameliorate poverty among SC population, the reduction of poverty is more in the general population than among SC population. The study by the Planning Commission reveals that poverty ratio declined faster for all population than

for SCs and STs both in the rural and urban areas since 1993-94 (Report, Planning Commission, 2005). For instance, by 2004-05 at All India level, poverty ratio among SCs living in rural and urban areas was 36.8 and 39.9 per cent respectively while the same for overall population was 28.3 and 25.7 respectively (Report, Planning Commission, 2005). It is pertinent to note that mere reduction of poverty in terms of money incomes alone is not just sufficient. Reduction of multi dimensional poverty among SCs, is considered to be more relevant and assumes more significance than reduction of income inequality. According to the U N D P REPORT, 2018 while measuring the incidence of poverty, besides money income, factors such as nutrition, health, education, assets and living standards have to be taken into account. As per the UNDP Report and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)'s Global Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2018, every Scheduled Caste third person remains poor in India. This shows the need for change in the perspective of the governments and required efforts to reduce the multi- dimensional poverty among SC population.

Andhra Pradesh (Combined) is one of the major States where SC population of the State in the total population of India was about 16 per cent. In fact, Andhra Pradesh is one of the States having considerable percentage of Scheduled Castes population in the total all India SCs population like the states of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar and Tamil Nadu. As per 2011 Census, SC population of Andhra Pradesh constitutes about 16.41 per cent in the total SC population of the country. Scheduled Castes in Andhra Pradesh comprises three major Sub-castes- Malas, Madigas and Rellis in the order of their numerical strength. These three major groups have about 59 vulnerable castes/groups and a considerable number of them have been reeling under poverty. It is heartening to note that some of the sub-caste people have been facing undue discrimination from their own SC communities . One such sub-caste group in Andhra Pradesh is Relli community.

Need for the Study

As per the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe Orders (Amendment Act 1976), Relli caste stands at serial number 55. This community (Relli Group) includes 13 sub-castes having their own separate social identity. The Relli sub-caste group comprises castes like chachati, ghasi, haddi, relli chachadi, godagali, mehtar, pamidi, paky, moty, thoti, and sapru. (Thurston, Vol. II, P.313). These Rellis and the sub-caste people migrated from Odisha to Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam districts and spread to other areas of Andhra Pradesh. They initially lived in hilly habitations and later settled in plain areas. . They speak a dialect called 'Relli' which is like a language of forests/ mountain living people of Odisha indicating their migration to North Coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh (Singh, S K, 2003).

The total population of Relli group in Andhra Pradesh is about 1,47,466 spread across several districts of A.P of which only the Rellis are about 1,32,583 according to the Census 2011. This constitutes about 1.76 per cent for Relli group and 1.56 per cent exclusively for Rellis in the total Scheduled Caste population in Andhra Pradesh. Relli sub-caste population in the total population of Relli Group is about 90 per cent (Census, 2011).

While the concentration of Relli population is more in North Coastal Andhra, it is relatively less in Godavari, Krishna and Guntur Districts. Relli population in North Coastal districts is as much as 74 per cent in the total population of rellis in the state (13 Districts) and the same is about 85 per cent put together for the four districts - North Coastal districts and East Godavari. Interestingly this community is not found in Anantapur, Kadapa and Kurnool districts.

Historically the major livelihood of Relli caste was cutting and selling "rellu grass" used for the purpose of thatched roof and brooms. This is how the name Relli has emerged. As days rolled by, their primary occupation has been transformed into collection and sale of fruits, seeds and vegetables. They have also taken up other jobs such as sweeping in municipalities, petty

jobs in public and private organizations and scavenging. A few are working in government services. Being too traditional and very poor at the lowest rung in the social hierarchy, they have been doing dirty and unclean occupations like sweeping and scavenging. It is reported that they are looked down upon, not only by the dominant upper castes but also by other Scheduled Castes for a long time. Rellis had a matriarchal family structure with traditional family and social practices in the past for a long time resulting in social exclusion. Besides social exclusion, their economic resource base is very low as almost all of them are involved in low income and un-remunerative occupations like sweeping, sewerage and scavenging work, vending of fruits, vegetables and flowers, agriculture and non-agriculture wage labour etc., It appears that this community is not only relatively poorer compared to a large number of people of upper castes but also compared to other scheduled castes. Considering their meager resource and low income base, several programmes have been launched by the State as well as by the Centre to uplift this poorest of the poor community and to increase their well-being for the last several decades. But it is alleged, that a majority of benefits and opportunities are availed by malas at the cost of Rellis and other Sub-Castes of SCs. (Justice Usha Mehra Committee Report 2007). Government of Andhra Pradesh has been allocating funds to Scheduled Castes under Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan under which Rellis are also covered. In fact Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan was given a legal status by the Government of Andhra Pradesh in 2013 and presently it is known as Scheduled Castes Component (Govt of AP, 2013). There appears a kind of social transformation and improvement in economic conditions to some extent due to Governmental intervention through special programmes for SCs. But still, a large number of Rellis remain, socially and economically, as the most backward lot among SCs. Therefore, it is necessary to examine issues relating to awareness and implementation of government interventional programmes and to suggest remedial measures that help in uplifting this most backward community. The Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad commissioned a socio-economic study on Rellis.

Objectives of the Study

- 1) To examine the demographic and social profile of the selected sample households of Relli caste in Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam and East Godavari Districts.
- 2) To analyze the economic and living conditions of the sample households.
- 3) To discuss about different dimensions relating to social development of the sample households.
- 4) To analyze the issues relating to implementation of Abolition of the Manual Scavenging Act.
- 5) To assess the efficacy of Government Intervention Programs in promoting the welfare of the sample households.
- 6) To make policy suggestions to promote the socio-economic conditions of Relli community.

Methodology

The study was based on both primary and secondary data sources. The study area has been divided into rural and urban Relli habitations. The details of methodology followed in the sample selection, carrying out the field study in the four districts- the study area- and statistical tools used etc., are presented below

Sample Design

The sample habitations have been selected on the basis of concentration of Relli population both in faraway and nearby Mandals to the District Headquarters. While the faraway category of settlements were selected at an average distance of 50-80 km, the nearby settlements were selected within a radius of 25-30 km. from the District Headquarters. Of this, 20 per cent Vandansample households have been chosen separately both in the rural and urban habitations by using random tables. Thus, households have been chosen from the rural and urban habitations for canvassing

the pre- designed schedule. In order to get representative characteristics and facts, 50 per cent of households were chosen from the remote and faraway habitations from the district headquarters. Similarly, 50% of the households included in the sample were from the habitations closer to the district headquarters. With regard to urban sample households, all the sample households were chosen from different settlements/ habitations in the respective urban areas of the sample districts.

Initially listing of households has been carried out in 33 rural habitations and 26 urban habitations taking into account the concentration of the Relli caste. 20 per cent of the listed households which comes to about 873 were selected on the basis of stratified random sampling. Of the total sample, 408 were in rural habitation (208 from remote villages and another 200 from areas closer to district head quarters) and 465 in urban habitations have been selected. The number of sample households selected district-wise are presented in the following Table.

Table-1 District-Wise Number of Sample Households Selected

S.No	Name Of the District	Number of households		Total
		Rural	Urban	
1	Srikakulam	100	100	200
2	Vizianagaram	100	100	200
3	Vishakhapatnam	106	164	270
4	East Godavari	102	101	203
5	All Districts	408	465	873

Collection of Household Data

A well-designed Questionnaire was prepared in tune with the objectives for collecting household data. A Pilot Study was undertaken both in the rural and urban habitations and accordingly changes were incorporated in the household schedule in the light of observations of the Pilot study. The field investigators were given training by experts in the field studies

at CESS, Hyderabad both for undertaking Listing of households and for canvassing the pre-structured schedules. In order to have an effective understanding of the practical insight of the issues Focused Group Discussions (FGD) were conducted in the sample habitations with Relli household members, community leaders, SHG members and other stakeholders to elicit information on several socio-economic aspects from the Relli community leaders. The schedules were filled by the field investigators during October, 2017 and December 2017. The Principal Investigators scrutinized the filled-in schedules immediately after receiving the canvassing of schedules and looked into inconsistencies and corrected the same in the field itself.

Secondary Data

Necessary secondary data and information have been obtained from Census Reports (2011) and Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan Component, Government of Andhra Pradesh. Data and Information has been collected from the Offices of the DRDA, SC Corporation, Social Welfare Department, Velugu Offices concerned at the Mandal level of the districts concerned. With regard to urban areas, data have been obtained from the offices of Municipalities/ Municipal Corporations and also accessed from the Websites of different Government Departments concerned.

Data Analysis

The collected household data have been computerized and tabulated scientifically after thorough scrutiny. Simple statistical techniques such as percentages, averages, Median etc. have been used to make the analysis. Bar and Pie diagrams etc., statistical graphs have been used for effective presentation and for easy and better understanding.

Chapterization

The present Book is divided into eight chapters. The First Chapter presents the need for the study, objectives, methodology, data source and chapter outline of the book. The

Second Chapter discusses different aspects relating to the Relli family, demographic features of sample households and how social transformation has been taking place. Various aspects relating to education and health have been discussed in Chapter Three entitled Human Development. Chapter Four explains the living conditions of Relli people. Chapter Five is about the subject matter of the livelihoods and occupations and discusses how intergenerational shift of occupations have been taking place on the basis of empirical evidence and case studies. A modest attempt has been made in Chapter Six to estimate the incomes, analyze the expenditure pattern and to discuss about the indebtedness of the sample households. Budget allocations under SC Component for various developmental and welfare programmes are presented in Chapter Seven. Analysis has been made in this chapter about the level of awareness, accessibility and availing of governmental programmes. The delivery mechanisms of different schemes / programmes and the problems involved are also discussed. Policy suggestions based on field data and observations have been presented in Chapter Eight- "Way Forward".

Chapter-2

DEMOGRAPHIC FEATURES, FAMILY AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

In this Chapter an attempt is made to analyse several aspects of Relli caste like their family structure, demographic features, their marriage practices on the basis of field data and information. Certain observations were also made on the basis of field information as to how this community has been undergoing social transformation.

Demographic Features

Population-Rural and Urban

It may be observed that in Andhra Pradesh SC population is more concentrated in the rural areas, as majority of them are agriculture laborers. On the other hand, Relli population in AP is concentrated more in urban areas than in rural areas.

The above Table-2 shows the total population, the proportion of rural and urban and male and female in Andhra Pradesh as per the Census 2011 of Relli group in comparison with SC population. The Relli group population in sample districts is 126523 of which only Relli sub-caste are about 112945. The percentage of Relli population to the SC population in the sample districts is around 6.4. It may be observed from the table that the proportion of female population is more than that of male population both among SCs and Rellis.

**Table -2: Percentage Distribution of Relli Population in the Sample Districts and the State of Andhra Pradesh
(In Percentages)**

	<i>Population</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Sex ratio</i>
SC Population in Andhra Pradesh	8469278	80.0	20.0	49.8	50.2	1007
SC Population in Sample Districts	1778147	75.5	24.5			
Relli Population in Andhra Pradesh	132583	43.3	56.7	49.3	50.7	1029
Relli population to the total SC population in the sample district	6.4	4.0	13.6	-NA-	-NA-	1044
Relli Population in sample Districts	112945	47.6	52.4			

Source: Census 2011

Among the sample households 45.05 per cent live in rural areas and 54.95 per cent live in the urban habitations respectively.

Sex Ratio

The female population is more compared to males in both SCs and Relli community contrary to the characteristic of total general population. It may be seen from the above Table that in the case of both SCs and Relli group, the proportion of females is higher than males both in rural and urban areas. The sex ratio of SCs is 1007 while the same is 1029 for the Rellis in Andhra Pradesh as per the Census 2011. This is also in contrast to the unfavourable sex ratio (997) of total general population in Andhra Pradesh. In fact, as per the field data, the sex ratio is much higher in the case of Rellis (1044). Higher favourable sex ratio may be due to the neutral attitude of Rellis towards gender. The Relli households are opting for family planning with two children irrespective of the gender. In the Relli community the family planning is adopted voluntarily and successfully by the members. Most of the families reported adopting Tubectomy method.

Family Size

In the study area the average family size is estimated as 4.23 in rural and 4.49 in the urban. This indicates that the average family size of the selected Relli households is relatively low. For the last few decades people are preferring unitary family system to joint family. But contrary to this general trend, Relli people are still maintaining joint families. Yet this is due to lack of proper housing facilities rather than their inclination for joint family system. In some habitations it was found that more than two families are living under the same roof.

Occupational Profile of Population

It is observed from the field survey that in Relli community women are bearing higher household burden. Several households are headed by women in the study area. The

percentage of female headed households in the study area is

19.90 and 21.94 in rural and urban habitations respectively. The proportion of workers and non-workers in the total population of a community/State or of a nation assumes importance, as it will have a direct bearing on incomes, standard of living and overall well-being of the people. What follows is an analysis of structure and distribution of population by age-group of Relli population and their occupation profile. According to Census 2011, Relli population below 18 years consists of 22.26 per cent in rural habitations and 26.7 per cent in urban habitations. Similarly, the unmarried persons consist of 10.05 per cent in rural habitations and 14.99 per cent in urban habitations. In the study area the married persons consist of 55.25 per cent in rural habitations and 50.35 per cent in urban habitations. Children in the age group of 0-4 years, consist of 8.9% of the rural habitations and 7.03 per cent of the urban habitations. Children in the age group of 10-14 years constitute 7.76% of the population in the rural habitation and 8.43 per cent of the population in the urban habitations. Urban habitation recorded higher working age group (15-59 years) than the rural habitations. People above 60 years of age are more or less equal in both rural and urban areas.

A comparative analysis of occupational profile of all SCs and Rellis shows that the total workers (43 per cent) as well as main workers (34 per cent) in Relli population are comparatively less than that of All SCs. Among the scheduled castes 50 per cent of the population are workers and 42% are main workers. Of the total main workers highest percentage of all SC population are agriculture labourers (27 per cent), while the highest percentage of Rellis are engaged in non-farm activities. It is to be noted that the cultivators among Rellis are negligible while the percentage of cultivators among all SCs is about 3 per cent in the total main workers. It is pertinent to note that as much as 57 per cent of Relli people are non-workers while the same is about 50 per cent among all SCs. In the Relli community, few cases of child labour have been

reported. Poverty and lack of guidance by parents have been reported as important reasons for the prevalence of child labour.

Family & Social Transformation Caste Discrimination

Over a period of time so many changes have taken place in the socio-economic systems of SCs including Relli community throughout the country as well as in Andhra Pradesh. As expressed in the field survey by the respondents, the social stratification still exists in all the habitations. Upper castes still have their dominance and untouchability is practiced mostly in the rural habitations. However, it is not as rigorous as it was in the past. In between rural and urban habitations, the stratification in relation to upper castes is more in the rural habitations than the urban. Rellis are looked down even today by their own SC communities. It was reported that the other scheduled caste families do not have favourable social relationship with the Relli families.

The fact that in some areas other SCs do not walk through the Relli streets shows the serious nature of social stratification within the communities. There is no practice of common dining and matrimonial alliance between Rellis and other SC communities. The Research Team was surprised to see a kind of marking and boundaries in between the SC and Relli residential colonies (Golugonda Mandal, Visakhapatnam District) with an implicit understanding of non-crossing of each other's area. Occasional occurrence of violence against women and girls, was reported in the study habitation. (7.54 per cent). According to the respondents, changes in social relationships have been taking place though at a slow pace. In between rural and urban habitations, the stratification in relation to upper castes is more in the rural habitations than in the urban habitations. Further, it had a negative impact on their economic, political and educational development.

Family Structure, Practices and the Role of Women

Matriarchal practice still exists in the family structure of Relli community. However, the matriarchal system is being

replaced with patriarchal system in case of semi-urban and urban habitations in recent times. It is observed from the field survey that changes are taking place in the structure, practices and life styles in the family. The female headed households are found more in urban habitations (21.94 per cent) than in rural habitations (19.90 per cent). Female literacy has increased substantially over the last few decades and the family is managed by women. Relli caste leaders revealed that in the Relli community, the marriages among the close blood relatives are very low. This is mainly due to awareness about the adverse consequences of marriages among close blood relatives. According to the local leaders, the practice of Voli or Kanya Sulkam system, (payment of money for the bride) was prevalent previously. However, the bride's family used to bear the marriage expenditure. It was reported that slowly that Voli (kanya sulkam) practice is being replaced by the dowry system (Payment of money for the bridegroom), which is prevalent in other castes. It is observed that in Relli Community, women play a greater role in the family. Men depend on women for both household and non-household activities. Women work hard and take the responsibility of maintaining the family and managing all household activities including finances..

Social Capital

There is a sharp decline in the number of child marriages. It is interesting to note that the number of separated or divorced persons is very low. This may be attributed to the efforts made by the caste leaders who are counseling the disturbed families not to go for separation or divorce.

Generally, the family disputes or other problems are resolved by the caste panchayats, elders in the community and caste leaders.

Social Problems and Perceptions

Information has been obtained by the Research Team through the questionnaire about the Relli people's perception

on some social issues. A higher percentage of (60.10) of the rural households and urban households (47.36) are having no view about their social problems or social status. However, among the selected households, 10.59 of rural and 9.69 per cent of urban households respectively have reported to have been suffering with inferiority complex about their poor social status. This problem is noticed more in the case of rural households than the urban households. However, 27.53 per cent of urban households and 17.24 per cent of rural households have reported that their social status has improved compared to the same in the past.

Regarding the relations with their co-workers 93.58 per cent of the rural households and 92.02 per cent of urban households reported that they are maintaining friendly relations with their colleagues. Regarding the relations with the administrative staff in the work place, it is observed that 74.84 per cent of rural households and 73.79 per cent of urban households were highly co-operative. Similarly 16.67 per cent of rural and 14.71 per cent of the urban households reported that they are maintaining functional relations with the organization. However, 11.49 percent urban and 8.17 per cent of rural households reported that they are facing undue bossing and an attitude of looking down upon Rellies, by the administrative staff at work place In the study area 39.56 per cent of rural and 36.99 per cent of urban households have reported that other SC communities are willing to enter into matrimonial alliances with Relli caste. Similarly, in the study area 80.22 per cent of urban and 71.08 per cent in rural households expressed their willingness for the other SC community people as their neighbors.

In the study area no incident of violence against women or girls has taken place in recent times. Similarly, no incident of domestic violence against women was reported in Relli community. In the study area 97.30 per cent of rural households and 93.75 per cent of urban households reported that their children are not facing any discrimination in the schools.

However, 1.96 per cent of rural and 3.66 per cent of urban households reported that their children are facing discrimination occasionally. Unorganized nature of the Relli sub-castes, lack of leadership among Rellis caste may be attributed to their social backwardness besides the hierarchy.

Political Representation and Participation

There are no people representatives nor high level officers from Relli community. In this context it may be noted that only 5.46 per cent of household members in rural habitations and 7.31 per cent of urban household members are having membership in any one of the existing political parties.

Political representation of Rellis is limited to local governments only, that too very less in number. The team came across only a few Ex- sarpanches and Ex- members of panchayats and municipalities. The important political parties are ignoring this community as far as their political representation in the legislature both at the state and center levels. Similarly, according to them, they are not given any representation in any Commissions or any statutory or in non-statutory bodies. They feel that they are at a disadvantage due to lack of political representation and demand that at least they be given non statutory or nominated posts to do justice to their community. It is also observed that there is lot of in-fight among the people for their political ambitions leading to gradual decline in the unity and integrity in the community.

In the study area the Self-Help Group (SHG) programme is being organized successfully by Relli women both in rural and urban habitations. Several leaders and members of SHGs expressed satisfaction and told that these are very useful in carrying their livelihood activities and also reduced their dependence on private traders and money lenders for loans. They stated that those who invested the bank loans on productive purpose are regularly making the payments and those who diverted the bank loan for domestic sundry expenditure are becoming defaulters. The Relli people in

recent times, are slowly organizing themselves into welfare and other kinds of associations.

Relating to the participation of Rellis in different organizations, as much as 81.85 per cent of rural Relli people are members in CBOs/SHGs and 52.39 per cent of urban sample respondents are members in CBOs/SHGs. But the leadership activities both in rural and urban habitations are very low.

It is pertinent to note that in caste associations rural respondents have indicated greater associated more than the urban respondents. . This community does not play any role in NGOs. As a whole in rural habitations Relli participation in SHGs and urban habitations as members in the workers associations have increased gradually.

This analysis ultimately reveals that the Relli household members in the rural habitations are more interested in the regular activities of SHGs, Community Based Organizations and caste institutions. In the urban areas due to the existence of different problems in the labour markets they are participating widely in the workers' organizations and associations to resolve their problems relating to payment of wages and other required facilities at the workplace. Rallis are participating actively in caste associations both in rural and urban habitations. However, it appears that they are not much interested in the activities of the NGOs and other organization.

Chapter-3

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Human development leads to progress of a nation, a state, and households or of an individual.

(1) Education and ((2) Health are two important components of development. Education and health ensures better livelihoods and economic wellbeing. The Centre as well as States in India and various world organizations have been emphasizing time and again, the need for human development.

Development of education and health with all their positive externalities will help in reducing the existing economic inequalities in a country. Therefore, in view of the enormous importance of education and health, an attempt is made to analyse the status of literacy, education levels, health status and related problems of Relli community based on field data and information. First, the analysis relates to literacy and education followed by health conditions.

Educational Status

While the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) stressed the need for Universal Primary Education, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) emphasized on the quality of education. For instance, the fourth goal of the seventeen UN adopted SDGs in 2015 aims to (1) provide equal access to affordable training(2) eliminate gender disparities in education and (3) achieve universal access to quality higher education. It

means that an increase in literacy levels is not just sufficient but the level and quality of education including the skill development is important.

The Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan (Planning, Allocation and Utilisation of Financial Resources) Act, 2013 was enacted on 24th January, 2013 to ensure , accelerated development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with emphasis on achieving equality in the next ten years focusing on economic, educational and human development along with ensuring the security and social dignity and promoting equity among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Accordingly SC Sub -Plans have been providing separate budget allocations under SC Component for different sectors and department that are concerned to SCs. It may be observed that the total amount of Budget Allocation under S C Component for 2015-16 was Rs.5,470 crores for different departments. Of this an amount of Rs. 118 cr was allocated for SCs in the Departments of Higher education, Intermediate Education and Technical Education besides the budget allocation for school education. There are about 1519 Government hostels exclusively for SC students including Rellis studying in Class I - X in the 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh. Of this 501 hostels are exclusively for girl students. These hostels are maintained by the Social Welfare Department with separate budget allocation. The Centre and State Governments provide Post-Metric Scholarships and hostel facilities for students studying degree, PG and Professional courses.

Literacy Rate

The literacy rate of Relli population is relatively higher than other SC sub-castes in Andhra Pradesh, though it is far less than the literacy rate of 74 per cent for general population as per 2011 Census. This may be due to their concentration in the urban and semi-urban habitations and their access to educational institutions especially at primary and secondary levels. The All-District Average shows that the literacy level of Rellis in the sample rural habitations is 44 per cent while the same is 64 per

cent for sample urban habitations. A wide gap between the rural and urban habitations exists. However, the female literacy rate is about 44 per cent, both in the rural and urban habitations of the All-districts. High literacy levels may not ensure high educational status to any community. It may be observed that the literacy rates of Relli sample habitations of Vizianagaram and East Godavari districts are lower compared to the All District Average. High level of education at graduate, post-graduate, professional and technical will influence the occupational pattern and the levels of living., Education levels tend to change over generations. Policies focusing on equity in education can promote inter- generational improvement in earnings and reduce income inequalities' (R. Radhakrishna, 2020). Therefore, access to quality education and equity in higher education and training opportunities to socially disadvantaged sections of the society like Relli community are essential.

Table-3 Percentage Distribution of Literates of Rellis in the Sample Districts (In Percentages)

<i>Literates</i>	<i>Heads- of the households</i>		<i>Members</i>	
	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
I to Intermediate	40.54	57.3	53.53	59.85

Source: Field data, *Note:* Percentages are among literates

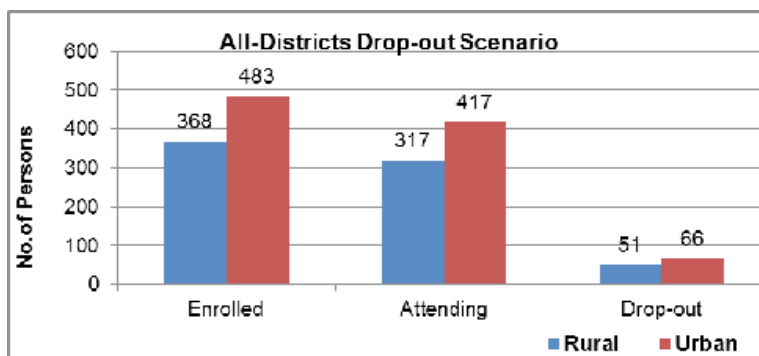
As per the All-District Average, as much as 40.54 per cent of literates are in the range of primary to higher secondary level in the rural habitations while the same is about 57.3 per cent in the urban habitations This implies that the percentage of educated heads of household above graduation is lower in the rural habitations at 5.28 per cent. 10.57 per cent in the urban habitations. Out of the 49 household heads, who achieved educational qualification above graduation, 16 are in the rural areas and 33 are in the urban areas. An analysis of education levels of household members reveals that the percentage of illiterates has sharply come down both in the rural and urban habitations indicating an increase of literacy rate over generations. It may be observed that the per cent of educated

from primary level to graduates and above both in the rural and urban habitations have increased. A comparison of education level of Head of the Households (HH) and household members shown in the Table-3 reveals that education levels of household members increased in comparison with that of the Head of the Household, implying the inter-generational effect and the importance accorded to education by Relli households in recent times.

Drop-out Ratio

One important transformation feature observed in education is that every girl child is sent to school which did not happen in the past. It is pertinent to note that the total number of dropouts in the age group of 5-18 years is 13.86 in the rural and 13.66 in the urban respectively. The following Figure shows the dropout status of children in the age group of 5-18 years in detail. The figure indicates enrolled, attending and dropouts both in rural and urban habitations.

Figure-1 Dropout Scenario in the Sample Districts



A perusal of the figure reveals that the All-District total number of children dropped out between 5-18 years is 117 put together in rural and urban habitations of which, 68 are boys and 49 are girls constitutes about 61 per cent and 39 per cent respectively. The drop out children are more in urban than in rural sample habitations.

Table- 4: Class-wise Percentage Distribution of Drop-outs in the Sample Districts

<i>Class</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
Drop-out in I to V	25.49	13.64
Drop-out in VI to VIII	31.37	45.45
Drop-out in IX to X	27.45	24.24
Drop-out in Intermediate/ Higher Secondary	13.73	13.64
Drop-out in Graduate	1.96	3.03
Total	100.00	100.00

Source: Field data

It may be observed from the above Table, that the percentage of drop- out ratio both in the rural and urban sample habitations is the highest in the category of VI- VIII followed by IX-X and I- V respectively. The per cent of drop-out ratio is more in the urban than in the rural for graduates (first year only). As far as the institutions are concerned, the drop outs are more in the government institutions (82 per cent) than in the private institutions (18 per cent). When reasons are ascertained, 41 per cent have reported poverty as the reason while 33 per cent stated lack of interest by parents as well as children. Assisting parents (10 per cent), health problems (8 per cent) and looking after the house (6 per cent) were also stated as other important reasons in the rural habitations. With regard to urban habitations while 39 per cent stated lack of interest, 33 per cent have reported household poverty as the main reason for dropping out, followed by health problems (12 per cent). 5 per cent responded indicated that looking after the house is the reason for drop-out and another 3 per cent stated assisting the parents as a reason for dropping out of the educational Institution. .

Shifting to Private Schools

The Research Team observed that in some sample habitations children are sent to private schools by paying

tuition fee of Rs.7000-20000 (Kerala Convent in Srikakulam district and Bhashyam School in Visakhapatnam rural habitations respectively) for admitting in Nursery and LKG in spite of free education in the Government Schools located at a distance of just one kilometer or even less than that. Government has taken a policy decision to introduce English medium at the primary school level in the Government Schools from the academic year 2020-21 onwards to abate this kind of shift. Case Studies were undertaken in order to elicit the reasons. The details of Case Studies are presented below.

In Savalapuram and Uppinivalasa, Srikakulam District and also in the urban habitations children are admitted in private convents paying huge amount of fees. The following Table shows the exorbitant amount of tuition fees Relli households are spending on children's education without availing free education with several concessions offered in the Government schools.

Similarly, in Chettupalli village, Narsipatnam Mandal, Visakhapatnam District Relli households are sending their children to Private Convent Schools paying huge amount of Tuition and other fees as shown in the following Table-6.

The reasons attributed to this are- (1) Parents feel happy to see their children singing rhymes in English (Schools with English Medium) (2) imitating the upper castes in the village in providing education to children and (3) accessibility, persuasion and provision of transport facility by the private school and (4) parents vision about the future prospects of their children.. The field survey and the Case Studies undertaken in the four districts reveal that increasing the accessibility of higher and professional education and appropriate training to Relli people may be considered as an engine of growth of Relli people. This fact is being observed and realised by several Relli households. Rellis in Savalapuram village, the Team was told that there are only three Relli students in the Primary School as children are sent to nearby private convents and all (Six) teachers except one have been transferred to other schools.

Table-5 Details of Students Admitted in Private Schools in Savalapuram Rural Habitation in Srikulam District

Sl. No.	Name of the Candidate	Father's name & Occupation	Class	Name of Private School	Amount of fee (P.A.) Rs.	*Distance from the Habitations
1	Gollapalli Vyshali	Ganesh Wage labour	Nursery	Venkata Narasimha Convent, Sarubujjili	7000	3 km
2	Pinninti Devipriya	Ramakrishna Home guard	LKG	Kerala Convent School, Rottavalasa	7000	5 km
3	Kuppili Trisha (PH)	Bhaskara Rao Wage labour	5 th	Kerala Convent School, Rottavalasa	9000	5 km
4	Kuppili Meghana	Siva Wage labour	Nursery	Venkata Narasimha Convent, Sarubujjili	7000	3 km
5	Kuppili Tharun	Bhaskara Rao Wage labour	4 th	Kerala Convent School, Rottavalasa	8500	5 km
6	Gollapalli Hemanth	Kantharao Wage labour	3 rd	Venkateswara Convent, Sarubujjili	8000	3 km
7	Gollapalli Jessika	Tulasi Rao Wage labour	Nursery	Venkata Narasimha Convent, Sarubujjili	7000	3 km

Source: Field data; Note: students belong to relli community

**Table- 6 :Details of Students Admitted in Private Schools in Chettupalli Rural Habitation
in Visakhapatnam District**

Sl. No.	Name of the Candidate	Father's name & Occupation	Class	Name of Private School	Amount of fee Rs./p.a.	Distance from the Habitation
1	Kona Jessika	Ramesh Mestry	UKG	Bhashyam School, Jogipalem, near Dharmasagaram	20,850	5 km
2	Singampalli Harshavardhan	Lova Raju Fruit vendor	1 st	St. Ann's Convent School, Pedda Boddepalli	6100	3 km
3	Bangaru Gowtham Srinivas	Balakrishan Fruit vendor	UKG	St. Ann's Convent School, Pedda Boddepalli	6100	3 km

Source: Field data

Introduction of English as medium of instruction in the Government schools may help in stopping the parents withdrawing the children from government schools to admit them into the Convent Schools. This will provide lot of financial relief to those who are paying huge amounts of tuition fees, sometimes by borrowing. Introduction of English right from primary school onwards improves the communication skills of these children and helps in competing successfully in getting admission for further studies and widens the opportunities in the job market.

Education- Engine of Growth

It appears that there is a kind of demonstration effect of education-led growth of SCs on this community and of late, Rellis are giving more importance to education. Both field data and FGDs reveal that the number of people pursuing graduation, PG and Professional courses is low in comparison to SCs. Only a handful of engineers and doctors are found in this community in the entire field area. One of the households in Pedda Relliveedhi in Srikakulam Town sent his daughter to Russia for studying medicine with the help of bank loan. Similarly, a candidate in Uppinivalasa whose parents are agriculture labourers went to Canada after obtaining an engineering degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering just by sheer hard work. Similar examples exist in other sample districts also though the number is less. A Case Study has been undertaken to show how a household of illiterates in the first generation was able to make an occupational shift, increased their earnings and social status by using education as an instrument.. The details of the Case Study are presented below.

CASE STUDY- I

Illiteracy to Engineering and Medical Education

First and Second Generations- Illiterates

Bommali Gannayya (45), an Electrical Engineer was born to Bommali Dalayya (61) and Chinnammadu (50) in Uppinivalasa Relli veedhi in Burja Mandal of Srikakulam District. Both the parents are illiterates and agriculture wage labourers. Gannayya's grandparents- Latchayya and Appamma were also illiterates and agriculture wage labourers. Dalayya told that his mother sometimes used to sell fruits and vegetables and rear pigs at home to make both ends meet. They told that they educated the children by making lot of sacrifice, sometimes foregoing a square meal.

Third Generation- Higher and Technical Education

Gannayya was hard working right from his school days. After finishing SSC in ZP High School in the same village he joined Polytechnic College in Srikakulam and later got his B. Tech. and M. Tech. in Electrical Engineering from GITAM University, Visakhapatnam where he got selected for an assignment in Mumbai. From there he had a brief stint at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant before he joined as a Lecturer in a Private Engineering college in Hyderabad. In 2003 he went to Canada to work as a Faculty Member in Electrical Engineering. Gannayya married his own niece, a Tenth class discontinued girl in 2000 and has two children studying in Canada. They expressed satisfaction saying that he is maintaining good relations with all his family members and taking care of the parents very well. His sister-in-law said that he is extending financial support to educate their children.. His younger brother by name Appayya is a science graduate. He underwent training in Physical Education and became a physical education teacher in ZP High School Rottavalasa, Amadalavalasa Mandal in Srikakulam district. He married a BC community (Devanga) girl of a nearby village and has a son and daughter.

Fourth Generation- Professional Education

While Appayya's son is studying M. Tech. in Delhi, his daughter is studying Veterinary Science Course in SV Veterinary University in



Tirupati. These children had their early education in their own village and studied in corporate colleges for Intermediate education before pursuing technical and professional courses. They expected to have a good career in the formal sector. This is a spectacular case of self-development by pursuing education successfully by accessing Government scholarships to make a good career. The success story of Gannayya reveals that higher education and hard work can bring a positive shift in the occupational structure of a family. It further reveals that a family member who attained greater heights in career can have greater positive impact on family members' education. Both the Central and State governments have been offering several schemes and programmes to promote accessibility and equity in educational opportunities to SC's and it is up to the Relli community to access and avail them. Then only this community will scale up the ladder of both social and economic status.



Health Conditions

The income poverty has declined in India as well as in the State of Andhra Pradesh over the last few decades. However, as far as multi-dimensional poverty and well-being is concerned, the State is lagging behind the Southern States, like Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. SCs (Including Rellis) are at the lower rung as far as the reduction of multi-dimensional poverty is concerned (For a detailed analysis see Radhakrishna and Mishra,2020). Factors such as malnutrition, especially of children, child mortality, maternal mortality, obesity of people especially of women etc. are crucial which have a bearing on health conditions. Health is a very important human resource which is a pre-requisite for the development of a community or an economy. Good health will lead to higher levels of productivity and work efficiency. Therefore, there is a need for health care support to these.

Government of Andhra Pradesh has been allocating budgetary resources through SC Sub-Plan specifically to cater to the needs of these communities. For instance, an amount of Rs.433 cr. for Medical and Family Welfare in the Year 2017-18 besides separate allocations for housing ,drinking water, construction of safety latrines etc. schemes which have impact on health. An attempt is made in this section to analyses the health status of this socially and economically disadvantaged people.

They are genetically healthy, look to be strong and have good stamina. But the nature of work and life styles make them sick and unhealthy. Due to the nature of work they are more exposed to air pollution and consumption of liquor and smoking make them acquire certain kinds of diseases. Sanitary conditions in the Relli habitations and surrounding habitations of Relli households especially in the rural habitations, is very bad. In the rural habitations they do not take up the mean jobs of sweeping, scavenging and sewerage work though these are done by them in the urban habitations. So their streets are filled with dirt and filth either with open or no drainage

facility. Open defecation is reported in almost all the rural habitations as well as in some settlements in urban habitations. While it is reported that ISL units are not sanctioned to them, some have declined ISLs in some habitations due to lack of space and/ or disinclination to use them. Thus, Relli people are prone to illness due to these reasons

Illness and Important Diseases

It may be noted that children in the age group of 0-5 years in the sample habitations have not reported any illness in Srikakulam District. Similarly, in the same age group no child is reported to be a physically challenged person. More or less similar situation prevails in other sample districts. This may be due to the successful implementation of immunization programmes and effective pre and post-natal care. Regarding overall illness information and data relates to general illness including chronic diseases of the total population in the three sample districts, it ranges between 20 to 28 per cent where as in Vizianagaram district, it is reported to be about 41 per cent. However, of the total persons reported illness, percentage of females is higher both in the rural and urban habitations. Similarly, the percentage of total physically challenged persons above five years of age in almost all the sample Districts is either nil or negligible.

Major diseases reported in the rural habitations in the sample districts are Malaria, Pneumonia, Asthma, Skin diseases, phylaria and kidney problems. T.B has been reported in Srikakulam District only and that too only in rural habitations. Diseases like Sugar, Asthma, Pneumonia, Heart Problems, and Kidney problems are reported in the urban habitations in all the sample districts. However, the incidence of diseases differs across sample habitations and districts.

Distress and Health Expenditure

Besides diseases and illness, these people are also getting health problems due to major distress incidents that occurred in the family. Such kind of incidents have been reported in almost

all the habitations, both rural and urban. For instance, health problems were reported due to major incidents of distress by 38 and 17 per cent in Srikakulam district. and 55 and 66 per cent in Visakhapatnam district in rural and urban habitations respectively.

Persons engaged in scavenging and sewerage work are prone to certain kinds of diseases especially skin and respiratory problems. Consequently, the health expenditure of households has become an important item of non-food expenditure. For instance, the percentage of health expenditure in non-food item expenditure is 29 per cent in rural and 19 per cent in urban habitations of Srikakulam district while the same is 25 and 8 per cent in rural and urban habitations in Visakhapatnam district. Some of the people with chronic diseases are going to corporate hospitals and are losing livelihoods due to illness resulting in heavy indebtedness.

Alcohol Consumption

In the Relli family system there is no taboo about alcohol consumption. So alcohol and smoking habits are increasing. Several households justify these two habits mainly attributing to the nature of work attended by them and to their family traditions and customs in practice. In some habitations ladies also consume liquor. Instead of alcohol the young people are accustomed to use Khaini and Gutka. During the field survey, the respondents deliberately kept **supported** the number of people consuming alcohol. In Vizianagaram District it was told that about 60-62 per cent of the people take alcohol. In other sample districts the respondents told that the percentage is about 10-20. The field data show that on an average in the four sample districts only 10.26 per cent in the rural and 8.26 per cent in the urban households consume alcohol which appears to be far from truth.

As alcohol consumption leads to health issues, data have been collected regarding the incidence of diseases. Among the total sample respondents, 36 per cent in rural and 17 per cent in

urban habitations reported that they are facing not only health problems.). The liquor addicted households stated that they are also facing health and financial problems due to consumption of alcohol.

The percentages of the household members who are having smoking habit is 53.25 per cent and 19.12 per cent in rural and urban habitations respectively. Similarly, 31 per cent of rural and 26 per cent of urban respondents suffer from respiratory problem due to smoking. Some of the smoking addicts are also facing cardio and throat problems.. Therefore, it is necessary to provide adequate health care support to these people. During the field survey it was asked to the heads of the household/respondents how to improve the existing health care facilities to cater their medical needs

Views about Sanitation and Medical Facilities

The members of the community opined that awareness camps must be conducted frequently. . . Wherever exits in area and referral hospitals at the divisional and District level in all the four districts. Some households are depending on private hospitals for treatment of prolonged and chronic diseases in spite of their awareness and accessibility to health care under Aarogyasree. Medical check-up and emergency services are also available through 104/108 facility. Lack of adequate diagnostic facilities and medicines in the government hospitals are the main reasons for going to private hospitals for treatment.

All the respondents said that persons with illness both in rural and urban habitations are approaching the government hospitals for treatment. However, of the total persons with illness, especially persons having chronic diseases, 75 per cent in urban and 58 per cent in rural habitations reported approaching private hospitals for their treatment. Most of the respondents said that the doctors are available in the PHCs., 94 per cent and 91 per cent households stated that medicines are available at the PHC s in urban and rural habitations Of the total number of patients, 79 percent in urban and 72 per

cent in rural habitations have expressed their satisfaction about the treatment given in Government hospitals. Similarly, 91 per cent of patients in the rural and 87 per cent of urban patients expressed their satisfaction about the treatment given in the private hospitals.

When asked about suggestions to improve the existing health care system, many households wanted provision of branded medicines, strengthening the labs and diagnostic facilities, regularity of Doctors, strengthening of the manpower, maintenance of clean environment, increase in the coverage of Aarogyasree, to include regular free medical check-ups.

Chapter-4

LIVING CONDITIONS

Well-being of the people depends upon the living conditions of the people besides their money incomes. The living conditions of Relli people with their low economic resource base has an important bearing upon their well-being. Therefore, a modest attempt is made in this chapter to analyze their living conditions. The living conditions are influenced by assets, income, housing amenities, savings pattern, borrowings and by outstanding loans. Since these issues are separately dealt with in the latter Chapter, an attempt is made to present the general living conditions of this vulnerable community in the present chapter.

Housing Facilities

Type of house, amenities and surrounding environment play an important role in the quality of life of the people. The data reveal that the pucca and semi-pucca houses put together are more than kutcha houses both in rural and urban habitations and the percentage of pucca and semi-pucca houses are higher in the urban habitations compared to rural habitations in all the four districts. For instance, in Srikakulam district the percentage of kutcha houses in the urban (16 per cent) habitations is relatively less compared to rural (46 per cent) habitations. In Vizianagaram district the housing situation is better as 20 per cent of the Kutcha houses are prevailing in the rural habitation while 12 per cent in urban habitations.. Some community leaders said that whenever new houses are to be sanctioned and allotted by the Government, the politically dominant castes are favoring other SCs because

of their number and proximity. On the whole, it is observed that there is shortage of houses that one or more married couples are sharing the accommodation with parents. It was told that in the rural and urban habitations several households have houses with less than two rooms. For instance, in Visakhapatnam district, 86 per cent of rural households are having houses with less than two room implies small size of the house. Only 15 per cent of rural households are having houses with 3 to 4 rooms.

Household Amenities

Type of house, amenities and surrounding environment plays an important role in the quality of life people lead. Data was obtained in the household survey regarding the type of house – pucca and kutcha, ownership status, the title deed and number of rooms in a house. The data reveal that the pucca houses are more than kutcha houses both in rural and urban habitations and the percentage of pucca houses relatively more in the urban than rural area. Data also reveal that the percentage of kutcha houses in the urban (16 per cent) habitation is relatively less compared to rural (46 per cent). In this context, it may be suggested to expand the housing scheme in the rural Relli habitations.

Regarding ownership status, majority of the houses are constructed by the households themselves, the percentage being 61 in the rural and 67 in the urban. Under the government scheme 28 per cent of respondents informed that they were given houses under the housing scheme in the rural while 19 per cent in urban. 9 per cent of respondents in rural habitations stated that they were given house sites while 5 percentage in the urban habitations. Data also reveals that 9 per cent of households are residing in rented houses while the number is negligible in the rural habitations.

Regarding the title deed, about 53 per cent of the females are having the title deed in their name in rural as against while it is 26 per cent in the urban habitations. It is pertinent to note that the recent policy of the government is to sanction houses under the housing scheme in the name of women, automatically confer the title deed in their name. 51 per cent of rural households and 44 per

cent of urban households are having houses with less than two rooms indicates the small size of the house.

It has been observed during the field survey and in the FGDs that there is a good number of kutchra houses in almost all rural habitations and in some urban habitations. It was observed that more than two families are living in the same house in both rural and urban habitations due to the shortage of houses, the problem being acute in the rural habitations.

Roads and Drinking Water

Except in very few, all habitations are having CC roads in the village, well connected to the main roads and bus routes. Regarding water supply, all the habitations are having public taps and bore wells. Data obtained from household survey reveals that as much as 56 per cent of households in the rural area and 89 per cent of households in the urban area have access to drinking water through public taps. This was supplemented by public hand pumps to 24 per cent in the rural habitations and 1 per cent in the urban. It may be noted that very few households in the rural and as well as urban have domestic tap connections. Some households are fetching their drinking water from river/ tank either protected or unprotected wells.

However, in the FGDs it was informed that the water supply is inadequate in Battili, Kotturu and Savalapuram habitations. It may be considered by the respective Gram Panchayats to provide one or two additional public tap connections or hand pump bore wells in these habitations to solve their water problem. It was brought to the notice of the Research Team that water supply through public tap in Savalapuram habitation is not safe water as they are getting body pains and orthopedic problems. The Relli community elders requested to solve this problem. It may be suggested in this context to test the drinking water supplied by the Gram Panchayat and to initiate remedial measures.

Street Lighting

There is street lighting in all the habitations without an exception and all the households are having domestic electricity

connections. In all the rural habitations the old type of bulbs of street lights are replaced by LED bulbs.

Energy use

Energy is used both for cooking and lighting purposes. While Kerosene, electricity and coal are not used for cooking purposes, a good number of households are still using firewood in the rural habitation (41 per cent) and 9 per cent in urban habitations. Households using LPG for cooking purpose is as high as 91 per cent in the urban habitations and the same is 58 per cent in the rural habitations. It is necessary to take measures by incentivizing these poor households to shift to LPG from using firewood. With regard to domestic lighting, hundred per cent households are having electricity connections.

Sanitation

Sanitary conditions in the Relli habitations and surrounding areas of Relli households especially in the rural areas, are very bad. In the rural areas Rellies do not take up sweeping, scavenging and sewerage work, though these are done by them in the urban areas. The streets of Rural habitations of Rellies are filled with dirt and filth either with open or no drainage facility. The Relli habitations in the study area mostly are stinking with garbage and with unclean open drainages. It may be noted that there is no drainage facility to 69 per cent of the households in the rural habitations and 6 per cent of households in urban habitations. The open drainage facility is available only to 28 per cent in rural habitations while it is as much as 94 per cent in urban habitations. The team found children moving and playing with pigs and the pig- shelters are just beside their houses broadly in the study region. Very unhygienic conditions are prevailing in these habitations. It is necessary to create awareness about the health hazards due to unhygienic conditions. The women members of SHG, the community leaders, the youth and Voluntary Organizations active in Swatch Bharath Mission need to take a pro-active role in creating awareness among Relli households especially women. The Gram Panchayats concerned need to lay

CC Roads and provide at least open drainage facility in the rural habitations utilizing the 14th Finance Commission Funds.

Open defecation is reported in almost all the rural habitations so much so in the Relli settlements. While some reported that Individual Sanitary Latrines (ISLs) are not sanctioned to them, some have declined ISLs due to lack of space or disinclination to use them. The field data shows that as much as 96 per cent of households are having ISLs or shared latrines (ISL:90 per cent) in the urban habitations while the same is only 24 per cent in the rural habitations indicating as much as 76 per cent of households are going for Open defecation. In the case of urban habitations households reported open defecation is only 4 per cent. It implies that the ISL construction programme needs to be geared up in the rural habitations. It is observed that they have a misconception especially among old people that open defecation is better than having a latrine constructed within the premises of the house. Some elderly woman said that even if they have latrines in the house, they would never use them.

Community Halls

Very few community halls are constructed in the study area, which are also in a dilapidated condition. They reported that they do not know how to mobilize SC Sub-Plan funds or whom to approach to construct a community hall. In Srikakulam Pedda Relli Veedhi the community hall is not in a usable condition. However, they have a well maintained Rama Mandiram which is used for community meeting purposes. In a signed representation in Kotturu (Representation by B.Gummayya and other members of Relli Association requested that funds should be given for the construction of a Community Hall.

Banking Habit

Majority of Relli households have low incomes, no/low savings and often depend upon non-institutional agencies like money lenders, traders for their credit needs. They need credit both for productive and unproductive purposes. The productive purposes like fruit and vegetable vending and other business

needs besides for unproductive purposes like marriages, festivals, consumption of liquor, health expenditure, etc. The reasons for their higher dependence on non-institutional agencies to meet their credit needs are mainly due to lack of banking habits in the past. Of late, many of the households have bank accounts and especially a spurt in bank accounts took place after Prime Minister Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) (with zero balance). At present 95 per cent of households in the rural habitations and 98 per cent of households in the urban habitations have bank accounts. The field survey shows not only an increase in the financial inclusion of this community but also an increase in their transactions with institutional agencies for savings and borrowings. The field survey shows that the percentage of operating the PMJDY in the rural habitations is higher than in the urban.

Modernity

The proportion of households having the internet usage is relatively high in the urban areas (31.15 per cent) and in rural habitations it is (21.08 per cent). The households in both the habitations are giving much importance towards banking and internet operations, which are ultimately improving the extent of financial inclusion in the habitations.

In the study area the households who are using modern household gadgets and articles etc., in rural areas are 492 and the same in the urban areas are numbered as 726. Among the users of modern assets, Refrigerator is used by 13.62 per cent of rural and 25.34 per cent of households in the urban habitations. Similarly 20.53 percent of rural household members in rural areas and 22.45 per cent in urban households are using two wheelers. Among the users of modern assets the family members used four wheeler are identified as only 2 members in rural area and four members are using four wheeler in the urban habitations.. It is noticed that 57.93 per cent of rural and 40.08 per cent of urban members in the study area are using mobile phones . The study reveals that there is a change in consumption pattern in both the habitations towards possession of consumer goods, electronic goods for home needs. This indicates that the Relli people are poised for a change

in the near future once they get better employment opportunities. It is also observed that mostly women are habituated to cosmetics, perfumes apart from well-maintained dress outfit suited to the contemporary society.

Chapter-5

OCCUPATION AND INTER-GENERATION SHIFT

Section-A

Occupational structure has an important bearing on incomes of a country or of a community which again depends on several factors like proportion of main workers, female participation, literacy, levels of education, population of the working age, skills and upgradation of skills etc. Inter-generational shift of occupations in terms of vertical mobility from traditional occupations to non-traditional occupations assumes lot of significance in increasing household incomes and well-being. An attempt is made to analyse issues relating to occupations of Rellis and the inter-generational shift of occupations in this chapter, in two sections. Section-A analyses various aspects relating to occupational structure and inter-generational shift of Rellis. Issues relating to scavengers and sewerage workers are presented in Section-B.

Occupation Structure

Male and Female Work Participation

Relli people have been engaged in both traditional and non-traditional occupations. Traditional occupations are fruit and vegetable vending, work as maid servants, street sweeping, sewerage work, scavenging, agriculture, and agriculture casual labour. Non-traditional occupations are Government and Private

sector employment, non-agriculture labour like painters, masons, auto drivers, khalasies etc. and self-employment in non-agriculture activities including small business. About 96 per cent in the sample rural habitations and 88 per cent in the urban habitations are workers and mostly males in both the sample habitations. It may be observed that female work participation as a whole in the four districts is 33 per cent of the total workers in the sample habitations. The female work participation in the rural sample habitations is 38 per cent while the same is about 28 per cent in the urban habitations. The All-District percentage of women working in traditional occupations is more or less same in both the habitations, the average percentage being 76.

Traditional and Non-Traditional Occupations

As far as the occupations are concerned, the proportion of traditional occupations is more in the rural habitations compared to urban habitations. Over generations, it may lead to a reduction in traditional occupations and the change being more in the urban habitations due to increase in education and training. An analysis of All-District occupational pattern shows that about 60 per cent of sample Households in the rural habitations and 51 per cent of the households in urban habitations are engaged in the traditional occupations compared to 40 per cent and 49 per cent respectively in the non-traditional occupations. A detailed analysis of percentage distribution of heads of the household by broad category of occupation for All Districts reveals that in the rural habitations as much as 82 per cent of households are engaged as casual laborers, fruit vendors, sweepers, scavengers and sewerage workers. Regular employee-households are only 6 per cent. In the urban habitations as much as 50 per cent are sweepers, scavengers, sewerage workers, fruit vendors, while the rest are engaged in non-agriculture sector, the regular employees being 18 per cent.

Shift from Traditional Occupations

An analysis of occupational structure of household members reveals a visible shift in the occupational structure from traditional

to non-traditional occupations both among the Heads of Household and members of Households.

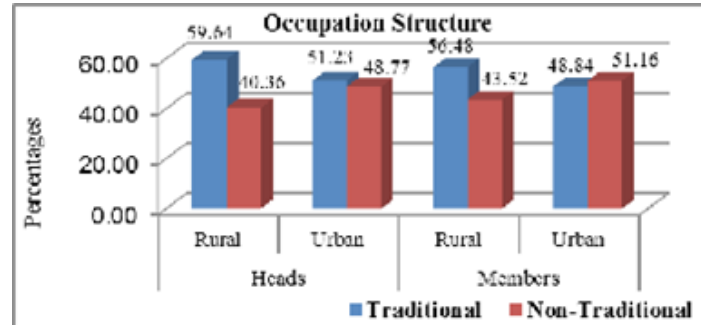


Figure-2: Occupation Structure in the Sample Districts

Note: Occupation Structure of Sample households in the select Habitations

The shift from traditional to non-traditional occupations in between the heads of household and the sample household members may be seen at a glance in the above Figure. There is a visible shift in the occupational structure from traditional to non-traditional occupations both in the rural and urban habitations. This is mainly due to their engagement in small, non-agricultural jobs like auto drivers, painters, masons, etc. There is a demand for jobs among the educated unemployed, which they expect will change the occupational structure and increase their incomes. It may further be noted that the All-District percentage of members of household in government sector is very less in both rural and urban habitations (3.66 per cent and 8.87 per cent respectively). The same has been pointed out by the Justice Usha Mehra Commission (Commission for Scheduled Castes, Government of India, 2008; pp: 71-77) that Rellis employment in the organized sector is too low compared to other SCs. This is mainly due to the fact that the household members especially the younger generation after completing their primary and secondary level education, are taking up more jobs in private-sector and self-employment in non-agriculture sector instead of pursuing higher and professional studies.

Migration

Migration, both in- and out-migration are prevalent both in rural and urban habitations. Generally, it is expected that there would be more migration from Rellis due to their lack of proper livelihood and mean jobs they are doing, but they account for only 6.77 per cent in the total sample population. Of the total migrants, the percentage of female migrants is 13.28 in the rural and 7.69 per cent in the urban sample habitations implies more female migration in the rural habitations than in the urban habitations.

Of the total migrants, in-migrants are 107 in the rural and 109 are in the urban habitations of which 51 per cent and 43 per cent are in-migrated within the district and 41 per cent and 53 per cent migrated from outside the district in the rural and urban habitations respectively. About 6 per cent each are in-migrated both in rural and urban habitations from out-side the state. The All-District number of out-migrants are only 42 constituting 16 per cent in the total migrants. No out-migrants are reported from the rural habitations of East Godavari District. It may be observed that 19 per cent of the out-migrants in the rural habitations and 24 per cent in the urban habitations are from within the district and 43 per cent and 71 per cent have migrated from outside the district. It may be noted that the out-migration to out-side the State from the rural habitations is as much as 38 per cent while it is only 5 per cent from the urban habitations.

The All-District data reveal that the main reason for migration is for better livelihood both in the rural (80 per cent) and in the urban (68 per cent) sample habitations followed by other reasons like family movement, marriage, transfer of job, education and job searching etc. in that order. This implies that Rellis are mainly migrating for getting better incomes to improve their lives. In the Focus Group Discussion, it was revealed that, some families are moving to places like Rajahmundry, Vijayawada and Hyderabad to take up the mean jobs like sweeper, scavenger and sewerage work, the

occupation which they do not want to pursue in their native village. Seasonal out-migration was also reported both in the rural and urban habitations in the FGDs. The low level of migration is mainly because Rellis do not want to take the risk of leaving their own place due to lack of contacts and guidance.

Inter-Generation Occupational Shift

An analysis of four level inter-generation occupational shift has been examined by obtaining data of household members from Grand Parents to Sons/Daughters of the heads of the household. There may be a positive or negative inter-generation occupational shift in between generations. The positive, negative and no shift across generations are presented in the following Table-7

Table -7: Intergeneration Occupational Shift of Sample Households

<i>Generation</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
Grand Parents to Parents	Positive shift	13.72	21.59
Occupational Shift	Negative shift	5.14	9.09
	No change	81.14	69.32
Sub-total		100.00	100.00
Parents to Self	Positive shift	23.99	22.17
Occupational Shift	Negative shift	9.09	11.08
	No change	66.92	66.75
Sub-total		100.00	100.00
Self to Sons/Daughters	Positive shift	31.40	23.44
Occupational Shift	Negative shift	5.23	11.96
	No change	63.37	64.59
Sub-total		100.00	100.00

Source: Field data

A change in occupation with an upward mobility is considered as positive shift. If a change leads to a downward

mobility in the occupation (less income and from non-traditional to traditional) is considered as negative shift. No information and data could be obtained in the case of Grand Parents occupational shift. For the remaining three generations, data reveal that the positive shift is relatively higher than the negative shift and it has increased from 14 per cent to 31 per cent by the third generation in the rural habitations. Similar trend is visible but the increase in the positive shift is comparatively less in the urban habitation. Another important aspect to be observed is that the percentage showing NO Change indicating no occupational shift has been declining over generations both in the rural (from 81 per cent to 63 per cent) and urban (from 69 per cent to 65 per cent) in the sample habitations implying a favourable situation to the occupational mobility. The higher percentage of positive shift in the last two generations may be attributed to the expansionary policies of government and related incentives with regard to education and training. This is also evident in the Case Studies with regard to the inter- generation occupational shift in the study area. A Case Study in one of the Relli habitations in Vizianagaram District presented below explains how inter-generational occupational shift and a consequent social transformation have taken place in a family over five generations, the main push factor being education.

Case Study II

Inter-generation Occupational Shift

The Respondent: S.Kameswara Rao

First Generation:

My (The Respondent) grand, grandfather Somu Rama Koteswara Rao was an illiterate and used to buy vegetables in the rural area and carry on his head and walk a distance of 15-20 kms and sell the same in Vizianagaram at Ganta Stambham market upto 8 pm. He used to purchase Rice, Dhal and dry fish etc. with the sale proceeds and return home at 10 pm. The next day morning again at 4 am he used to go to the villages – of Chintavalasa, Bhaiyala peta, Dharmapuri, Rellivalasa,

Kumilli, Bhogapuram and Pusapatirega to purchase vegetables and sell the same in Vizianagaram town. This was his daily routine job for his livelihood.



Second Generation

My Grandfather Somu Paidithalli had continued the same activity and made his son Seetharamaih to study up to 8th standard.

Third Generation

My father S.Ramaiah studied up to 8th standard and started Tanning business. He used to purchase Charmaalu (Cattle Skin) from the shandis of Rajam, Palakonda, Chipurupalli, Maanpuram, Achuyuthapuram, Bobbili and Parvathipuram and sell the same to saibulu (Muslim Traders) and used to make good profits. Subsequently he has shifted his business to export 20-30 lorry loads of banana to other states like Orissa, West Bengal, Bihar and Assam along with Srikakulam and Parvathipuram within the State. He was able to do this business as he developed friendly relations with the other business people from Tanku, Kandavalli, Mukkamula, Sidhatham, Ravoulapalem, Ankapalem, Vulidindi and Aatreyapuram from where he used to procure Banana and sent to other states on commission basis and emerged as a commission agent and took a shop in the main market for all his business transactions. With this economic background he educated his children.. He had three sons and two daughters



Fourth Generation The respondent Rama Koteswara Rao Studied up to B.Com and retired as a senior assistant in agricultural marketing department in Vizianagaram. He has two daughters namely P.Manimala in Medical profession (BDS) and P.Srijaya who got married to Paradesi Naidu, an employee of from other community (Inter-caste marriage from Velama Community) and he had two brothers and two sisters who's children studied up to M.Tech, M.Sc, B.Ed, and working in reputed companies like G.E. Infosys, Deloitte, Hitachi and J.K.Group. Mr. Ajay Pratap presently working in Germany got married with a Tamil Girl and Roja Rani have got married into Kaapu community.

Fifth Generation All his grandchildren both males and females are pursuing studies. While the young are at the Primary and Upper Primary level. It reveals that there is a change in occupation from vegetable vendor to a commission agent to Government employment and employment in multi-national companies, corporate sector in India and abroad. It also explains there is significant transformation from an illiterate to higher education including technical education over generations which led to change in social status as evident. Few inter-caste marriages are performed with upper caste people both within and outside the State.

Vegetable Vendor à Commission Agent à Employment in Govt à Corporate and MNC's

The above analysis and the case studies on Inter-generational Occupational Shifts unambiguously reveal that education, skill development and job-oriented training will bring a big change in the occupational pattern, vertical mobility and in the levels of living. Therefore, it is necessary to motivate and create awareness about the about education among relies to use the existing government intervention programmes specific to SCs (Rellis). The SHGs and the Caste organizations need to play a proactive role in this regard.

Section-B

Scavengers and Sewerage Workers Awareness and Compensation

Sweeping, scavenging and sewerage works are the traditional occupations of Rellis and their sub-castes. They used

to carry head-loads of human waste in the past. Manual scavenging refers to the practice of individuals manually cleaning, carrying, and disposing or handling in any manner human excreta from dry latrines and sewers. It often involves using of tools such as buckets, brooms, and baskets. The practice of manual scavenging is linked to India's caste system where the so-called lower castes were expected to perform this job. Manual scavengers are the poorest of the poor and one of the most disadvantaged communities in India. In some cases, this mean work was adopted as hereditary practice. In the past, village scavengers used to get consolidated quantity of paddy per annum by contract. In urban areas they were paid the agreed amount of money every month.

Government of India banned the employment of people as manual scavengers through the Acts of Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrine (Prohibition) Act, 1993 and Prohibition of Employment as Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (Govt. of India, 1993 and 2013). The 2013 Manual Scavengers Act seeks to reinforce the ban imposed in 1993 prohibiting manual scavenging in all forms and ensures the rehabilitation of manual scavengers to be identified through a mandatory survey. Despite considerable social and economic progress achieved by the country, manual scavenging still persists in some parts of the country. According to Census 2011, there are more than 2.6 million dry latrines, 13, 14,652 toilets where human excreta is flushed in open drains and 7, 94,390 dry latrines where the human excreta is cleaned manually. Seventy-three per cent of them are in rural habitations only. According to the House Listing and Housing Census 2011, states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal account for more than 72 per cent of the unsanitary latrines in India.

The Government of India has adopted a two-pronged strategy of eliminating unsanitary latrines through demolition and conversion into sanitary latrines, and developing a comprehensive rehabilitation package for manual scavengers

after a survey. However, while manual scavenging for many may have ended as a form of employment, the stigma and discrimination associated with it lingers on, making it difficult for former or liberated manual scavengers to secure alternate livelihoods and raising the fear that people could once again return to manual scavenging in the absence of other opportunities to support their families. The National Commission on Scheduled Castes (NCSS) also stressed the need to support financially this section of Relli community doing the mean job. The NCSS in its meeting held on 13-12-2010 recommended that “ the State Government should devise proper mechanism to empower the poorest of poor/SCs i.e. Safai Karamcharies through schemes like free-Education, residential school in every district, hostels for college boys and girls in every district, reimbursement of self-financing courses and college fees, up to 100% . Residential colony for Safai Karamcharies with ownership was recommended. Coaching centres were to be set up for their children for training them for UPSC, Railways, Banking and State Public Service Commission exams. , Working Women Hostels were to be set up. Financing the entire fee for CA/ICWA, Law, Medical and Engineering Courses and scholarships were recommended., This expected to be done by gainfully utilizing the unspent SCP of last 31 years.” (National Commission on Scheduled Castes, GoI, 2010).

But identification of manual scavengers remains a key challenge. A comprehensive rehabilitation package offered by the Union Government includes access to education for children of former manual scavengers and alternate livelihoods. In view of this, the present study focused on examining some issues relating to awareness, provision of safety equipment and its use, training, proneness to diseases and other aspects of scavengers and sewerage workers in the study area.

Regarding the awareness of these workers about the Government of India Act 2013, only 8 per cent of households in Srikakulam urban sample habitation reported that they are aware of it. In Vizianagaram rural sample habitations, none of the households are aware. The awareness is about 46 per cent

in the urban habitations. In Visakhapatnam District 67 per cent in the rural habitations and 80 per cent in urban habitations are aware of the Act. Further, it is also noticed that only 2.16 per cent of erstwhile manual scavengers have availed the compensation under the provision of the Act in Visakhapatnam urban habitations. In East Godavari only 4 per cent of the scavengers and sewerage workers expressed awareness. However, several of them are not aware of the details of the Act especially about the compensation. It is pertinent to note that in the rural habitations Relli people do not undertake these occupations. It was told that even though manual scavenging was in practice in the past, presently it is not reported in any of the sample habitations in the four districts.

However, even today quite a good number of Rellis are working as sweepers, scavengers and as sewerage workers. There are 78 scavenging and sewerage workers in both rural (10 heads) and urban (68 heads) sample habitations in the four districts constituting about 3 per cent in the rural and 17 per cent in the urban households. It was told that even for sweeping, scavenging and sewerage work, they are facing competition from other SCs and BC persons (Municipal Corporations, Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam). Similar feature was found in the sewerage workers in Viziawada Municipal Corporation. There are about 223 workers engaged in sewage operations in the city of Vijayawada and nearly one-third of these workers belong to SC community (83). Contrary to normal expectation, a higher proportion of workers is from OBC (98) and a few from OC (36) communities. The OBCs are like Vaddera, Mudiraj, Palle Kapu, Padmasali and Koppula velama and the OCs are from Kapu and Adi Velama. (Srinivasa Reddy and Hanumantha Rao 2018). The main reasons for opting for this mean job by non-SCs are the unemployment problem, anticipation of regularization as permanent jobs. One more important reason for competition for this work from people other than Relli and its sub-castes is due to mechanization of scavenging and sewerage work in the urban areas. The competition is more if the post is a permanent one and for

UGD work where the wages are more. It was noticed that in some habitations, even graduates are taking up these jobs, if they are permanent. However, social stigma about these works are still continuing. It was observed that the sewage workers are not disclosing the job they are doing even to their own family members mainly because of the social stigma. Instead, they are tell their family members that they are working in Departments like water works etc.(Srinivasa Reddy and Hanumantha Rao,2018).

There is wide difference in the salary/wages of people working as permanent employees and in the outsourcing categories. While the starting pay of regular worker in the municipality is about Rs.18461, the worker doing the same job in outsourcing is getting only Rs.9487 (for 26 days) (Public Health Department, Srikakulam Municipality). It may be noted that the outsourcing workers are not given any salary hike in the last three years. The house-wife of a sewerage worker told the Research Team that they are unable to make both ends meet and have been borrowing money frequently due to the low consolidated amount paid to her husband for the insecure, health- risky and mean job. Her views are presented in the following Box Item.

Sewerage Worker

Potnuru Appara Rao (37) is living with his family in a small thatched house in Dumpa Relli Veedhi in Srikakulam Town. He was born to Potnuru thriloka and Naramma who are illiterates. While naramma is a house wife, Bhuloka was a permanent sewerage worker in Srikakulam Municipality, at present a Pensioner. Appara Rao, an illiterate has been working as sewerage worker in the Srikakulam Municipal Corporation through an outsourcing agency. His grandfather was also a sweeper cum sewerage worker. He is paid a monthly salary of Rs.9500 of which he gives Rs. 9000 to his wife Rajeswari (33), house wife. She studied upto Fifth standard and manages the house. She told that the salary is not at all sufficient.

He was given only a over coat and no equipment nor any washing and cleaning liquids were given. They have a son who is studying Degree course in a private local College-Gayatri Degree College and daughter studying LKG in Maharshi Convent. She told that they are withdrawing the daughter from the convent as they are unable to pay the fees. They said that for children education, they already borrowed an amount of Rs one lakh from the money lender at exorbitant interest rate of 36 per cent per annum and paying an amount of Rs.3000 per month to the money lender. She is a SHG member in Mutyalamma group and has taken Rs.10000 as loan.

They earnestly requested for sanction of a house by the government as the place they are living belongs to a Masjid and anytime they may be asked to vacate. On probing they told they were financially supported by his father who gives Rs.2000 a month and he has no plans to change his occupation. He does not have any specific health problems. He said that his income is not sufficient but there is no better option. They are covered under Chandranna Bhima insurance.

It may be suggested that the per day wage of out-sourcing scavengers and sewerage workers need to be increased. It was said that they are not given any risk allowance. Scavengers and sewerage workers deserve some amount of money as risk allowance as the occupation is prone to health hazards. It was observed join in the municipality and also retires as a scavenger/ sewerage worker. There is no career advancement. Promotional Grades will have to be provided to these workers just like the employees in the other Government Departments, with suitable pay hike on par with other government employees.

Safety Equipment and Training

In view of health hazards, the workers need to be protected by providing necessary equipment and training so that their life is secure and health is protected. The field survey data show that at the All-District level 30 per cent in the rural and 7 per cent in the urban habitations were given first Aid Box .70 per cent workers in the rural and 59 per cent in the urban sample habitations were given face masks and 60 per cent in the rural and 29 per cent in the urban were given goggles. It may be noted that about 30 per cent in the rural and 19 per cent in the urban habitations were given liquid repellents while rubber boots were given to 40 per cent in the rural and 21 per cent in the urban habitations. When asked about using of the equipment given, the percentage of workers using ranges between 30 to 60 per cent in the rural while the same ranges from 5 to 40 per cent in the urban habitations. It was told that no equipment is provided regularly and given only when they are posted at the guest house of a VVIP on tour.

The scavengers and sewerage workers are to be provided training to use the modern equipment at the work site, preventive health measures and basic hygiene practices. Out of 78 scavenging and sewerage worker households, , one in the rural habitation and 9 in the urban habitation were given training in the use of modern equipment. While nobody was given any training in the rural habitations, 8, 9 and 14 in the urban sample habitations were given training in preventive health practices, identifying the skin diseases and basic hygiene practices respectively. At the All-District level, while nobody told in the rural habitation that the training is useful, only 8-9 per cent of the trainers stated that the training is useful, Majority of respondents stated that they are not safe at the workplace.

Diseases

These workers are prone to diseases like skin diseases, cardio vascular diseases, respiratory disorders, spinal disorders, jaundice etc., With regard to skin disease 70 per cent in the

rural and 50 per cent in the urban sample habitations stated that they get frequently/occasionally while the rest of them told that they get it rarely. Regarding Cardiovascular diseases, the scavengers in the rural habitations are more prone than in the urban habitations. It may be noted that 40 per cent in the rural and 65 per cent in the urban habitations, stated that they rarely experienced any cardiovascular disease. A majority of workers in the rural habitations said that they get respiratory problems occasionally while 68 per cent in the urban habitations said that they rarely get these problems. 50 per cent in the rural and 60 per cent in the urban habitations reported that they have spinal problems, the rest of them stated that they were affect rarely by jaundice.

As the workers are prone to diseases either occasionally or frequently, it may be suggested to make quarterly health check-up compulsory to all scavenging and sewerage workers both permanent and out-sourcing. Necessary mechanism has to be put in place by the Department of Public Health concerned. At the same time, necessary equipment and the required training to use the equipment has to be provided in view of its usefulness as stated by the trained workers. Government may consider bringing all these workers by automatic coverage under the PMJJBY. The worker Associations should create more awareness about the educational concessions offered by the government and several training, coaching and skill development programs available free of cost to the children of scavengers and sewage workers so that children need not get into this occupation.

Chapter- 6

INCOME, EXPENDITURE AND INDEBTEDNESS

Relis are at the last rung of the society not only socially but also economically. The low economic resource base of this community has an important bearing upon their levels of living and economic well-being. Household Incomes and expenditure in turn depends on the assets, occupations of household members etc.,. The level of income and the pattern of expenditure also have a close relationship with the household savings, borrowings, and indebtedness. All these financial parameters influence the well-being of these people. Therefore, an attempt is made in this chapter to make an empirical analysis of the assets, income, savings pattern, borrowings, and outstandings. .Section-A presents issues relating to assets, income and expenditure pattern. Section-B deals with savings pattern, institutional and non-institutional borrowings, and outstanding loans.

A - Asset Structure

The assets of Relli households are broadly divided into two categories as (1) immovable assets and (2) movable assets. Immovable assets are like land, house, and house sites, open well, bore well etc. Movable assets are like milch animals, cows, draught animals, sheep/goat, pigs, poultry birds, cycle, Fans, TVs, automobiles, coolers, mobiles, furniture, etc.

It is noted that 58 per cent of the rural households s do not have any agriculture land in the rural habitations in Srikakulam

district while only one household has agriculture land above 9 acres (inherited land) residing in the urban area. The extent of land owned by households is also very small. It may be noted that none of the households owned land above 5 acres. Very few Relli households are having land more than an acre. For instance, in Srikakulam district, the average land holding of sample households is 0.29 acres. This is one reason why Relli households have not emerged as cultivators in the rural habitations. They pursue other low income occupations.

Government provided (assigned) land to Relli households in different sample habitations. Besides assigning land, there is Land Purchase Scheme initiated by SC Corporation which is not effectively implemented. Only in Battili, in Srikakulam district, that SC Corporation provided loan to five persons in the sample households to purchase land. The Research Team was told that the land provided by the Government (assigned land) to Relli people is either barren or rocky land which is not arable. In some cases, the allottee's land could not be brought under the full possession due to political influence of the dominant upper castes. Important aspects relating to assigned land in Srikakulam District are presented in the following Box Item. Relli leaders in Visakhapatnam also told that the Land Purchase Scheme initiated by SC Corporation is not effectively implemented. Nobody has reported the purchase of agriculture land with the assistance of SC Corporation in Visakhapatnam District. It is suggested in the rural habitations of Chodavaram, Devarapalli, Golugonda, Natavaram and Mrippalem in Natavaram Mandal, that SC Corporation should provide short- term loans for leasing-in mango and cashew groves.

Problems of Assigned Land

In Savalapuram Relli habitation (Srikakulam District) it was reported that in 1985 Government provided D- Pattas of agriculture land to 15 Relli households. But so far they could not get the possession of the land as the land has been under the control of dominant upper caste farmers. Few years ago government provided dry land on hilly

habitations both in Savalapuram and Uppinivalasa which is not arable. Similarly, in Adapaka relli habitation 31 households were given 16 acres of dry land in 1970 which is not yielding any income to them. They expressed dissatisfaction over allotment of such a land though still inclined to possess it. An extent of 35 acres of land in the upper part of Kaminaidu Tank in Survey No. 1, part 2 in Moola Savalapuram relli habitation, Sarubujjili Mandal has been under their possession, and they have been cultivating for the last four decades. At present 70 households are growing paddy in the Kharif and pulses in the Rabi season. The Team personally visited the land and found it as good as Zirayitee land. The community leaders represented (A signed Representation, dated, 12-12-2017) that if they are given D-Pattas on the land, they would get benefits like getting crop loans and insurance coverage. They told that several times the matter was represented to officials and political leaders but not yet resolved.

House Property

The other important immovable asset of Relli people is the house or the house site. At present the people are giving utmost priority to the possession of a house of their own as their minimum requirement. In Srikakulam District there are 98 households in the rural habitations reported having houses or house sites while the number of households are 93 in the urban habitations. In Vizianagaram District almost 88 per cent in the urban habitations and 80 per cent in the rural habitations are having pucca/semi pucca houses. In Visakhapatnam District there are 100 households in rural habitations and 164 households in urban habitations reporting having houses or house sites. In East Godavari District overall about 90 per cent of households are having either Pucca/Semi-Pucca houses. It may be noted that a majority of the houses of Rellis are the Government sanctioned/financed/constructed houses decades back under Indira Awas Yojana. Under

the new Scheme NTR Gruhakalpa the beneficiary is given Rs.1.5 lakhs released at different stages of construction of the house in installments. While some are reluctant to get the House under the NTR Gruhakalpa, some who have been sanctioned are not happy as the amount provided is inadequate and undue delay in the release of funds. As a result households have to borrow money from private money lenders to complete the house and it is stated to be one of the reasons for their indebtedness.

Regarding the title deed of the house or house sites, it is observed that the title deed is in the name of both male and females. However that a higher proportion of title deeds are in the name of males both in rural and urban habitations in all the sample districts exception the rural habitations of Srikakulam district. 53 per cent of females in the rural habitations hold the title deed compared to 47 per cent of males in contrast to the rest of the study area.

The information relating to the average value of immovable assets for households reveals that in case of urban households it is recorded very high (Rs.8.91 Lakhs) when compared to the rural households (Rs.3.52 lakhs). The average value of movable assets per households as a whole were higher in case of urban households (Rs.0.59 lakhs) as against of rural households (Rs.40 lakhs). Similarly, the average value of total assets of households is recorded was Rs.9.54 lakhs in case of urban households and Rs. 3.93 lakhs among the rural households. From the field survey it is noticed that 16.57 per cent and 0.65 per cent of the households are having land in both rural and urban habitations. Field data indicates the movable and immovable assets are relatively higher in the urban habitations than in the rural habitations, primarily due to difference in the occupational structure and of urban characteristics.

B. Household Income

An analysis of sources of Income of sample households (Annexure- 1) reveals that the percentage of Income from salary is the single largest source of income in all the sample urban

habitations in all the districts and also in the rural habitations in all the sample districts except Vizianagaram district, in which only about 12 per cent of the income came from salaries.

In the rural habitations, household income from wage labour, and non-farm activities put together constitute the largest proportion of total household income in all the districts, while in the urban habitations in Srikakulam and East Godavari districts, income from salary constituted the largest proportion in the total household income. As a whole the cumulative income earnings of the households through different sources reveal that the source of salary income is recorded higher in the urban households (66.62 per cent) compared to rural (26.65 per cent) households. It is because of the reason that some of the households are working as sweepers/scavengers/ sewerage workers in the local bodies and are getting higher income by salaries. Though the number of employees is small, the proportion of household income is influenced by the incomes of these employees as some of them are permanent employees and getting higher salaries. Some are working on outsourcing basis for consolidated pay. Thus, the salary component is contributing significantly to the household income in the urban habitations. On the other hand, income from non-farm wage labour and other activities like fruit vending, marketing etc., constitute a higher proportion in case of rural households (44.79 per cent) rather than urban households (35.65 per cent). The higher non-farm incomes in the rural areas may be due to the reason that Relli are not habituated to agricultural practices. Relli households are having earnings from fruit and vegetable trading and the proportion from this source is higher in case of rural households (30.74 per cent) than of urban households (17.52 per cent) since they are engaged in formal and non-formal employment in the urban areas. The average household income, monthly per capita income, number of earners may be seen in (Annexure-II). The Annual average Household Income (AAI) and Annual Average Per Capita Income (AAPCI) of Sample households in different Districts are shown in the following Table-8.

Table-8 Annual Average Household and Per Capita Income of Sample Households**(In Rupees)**

S.No	District	Rural Habitation		Urban Habitation	
		AIHH	PCI	AAI	PCI
1	Srikakulam	118635	28382	235474	50315
2	Vizianagaram	9734	2452	16799	3810
3	Visakhapatnam	126881	29111	238856	51815
4	East Godavari	211636	48318	296402	69414

However, the average annual income of sample households in the urban habitations estimated is (Rs.2.43 lakhs). It is much higher than the rural households (Rs. 1.5 lakhs). This wide difference between rural-urban households is due to the differences in the ownership of assets, occupations and wage rates. These income estimates, gives an impression that there is no poverty among Rellis. But the fact to reckon with is that the Annual Average Household Incomes are influenced by the earnings of employees both in the rural and urban areas and will not reflect the true picture of income poverty of these people. Adopting the State Government norm of Rs. 1.5 lakhs for BPL almost all the households in the rural area and a large proportion of households in the urban habitations except the permanent Government employees are under poverty. Per Capita Income is a better criterion than the average annual household income to know about a rough estimate of their income poverty. It may be observed that the Per Capita Income of Rellis is far below the Per Capita Income of general population of the State. For instance, in Srikakulam district the Annual Average Per Capita income of Relli rural people is Rs.028 lakhs while the same in the urban habitations is Rs.50 lakhs which is far below the Per Capita income of the general population in the State of Rs. 1.2 lakhs. It implies two things- (1) there is a wide gap in the per capita incomes between the rural and urban Rellis and (2) their Per Capita income is far behind the average State Per Capita Income. It also reveals the widespread prevalence of income

poverty of Relli people in the State. Some Rellis, especially in Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam districts are engaged in the activity of leasing- in fruit bearing crops and commission agency. Evolving a policy to strengthen this economic activity by providing liberal credit facility and crop insurance scheme will sustain their incomes. Further, it may be suggested to make priority allotment of shops to Relli women in shopping complexes, wherever they are newly constructed and in Rythu Bazars. This is necessary because most of the time they are being displaced by the local administration (Kotturu and Srikkulam in Srikaulam District and Purna Market in Visakhapatnam City) to widen the roads or to streamline the traffic system. Improvement in the levels of education and provision of employment oriented skills to Rellis will bring better livelihoods and sustainable incomes.

C. Expenditure Pattern

Generally, the people with low incomes will spend a higher percentage of income on food items on the other hand the people in higher income levels allocate higher percentage income to expenditure on nonfood items. The percentage of expenditure spent on food in both rural and urban habitations is relatively small because of the government food intervention programmes under Public Distribution System where almost all the households with a few exceptions are getting staple food of rice at subsidized price

The prevailing expenditure patterns of the selected households in the entire study area (Annexure-III) indicate that, 50 per cent of their income is being spent on food items in the rural habitations, while 46 per cent in the urban habitations. In other words, the proportion of household expenditure on food would have been more in the absence of provision of subsidized rice.

The second highest expenditure is made on health, which is 11.34 per cent in rural habitations and 9.16 per cent in urban habitations. In some sample districts the health expenditure is as high as 18 per cent. The household members in the rural habitations are spending 7.53 per cent of their income on consumption of liquor. Similarly, the household members in

urban areas are spending 5.25 per cent of their income on consumption of liquor. The monthly per capita expenditure is estimated as Rs 2990.30 in urban habitations and Rs 2278.16 in rural habitations. The prevailing expenditure patterns in the study area reveals that the Relli people are spending considerable part of their incomes on unproductive consumption items like liquor, tobacco and tobacco products which in turn leads to more expenditure on health care and medicines. . Further, it may be noted that in some households, the percentage of household expenditure on liquor and pan/khaini/tobacco put together is higher than the expenditure on education. If the expenditure on liquor and tobacco can be reduced, it may lead to a reduction in health expenditure which helps them to spend more on productive non-food items like education. This applies to households both in rural and urban habitations.

Savings, Borrowings, and Indebtedness

The banking habit of Relli Sample households both in the rural and urban habitations has increased considerably in recent times as evident from the All-District field data that about 95 per cent of households are having bank accounts. As a result, their institutional saving habit has also increased. As the savings with Commercial Banks, Self Help Groups with Bank Linkage, Post Office are prevalent in the sample rural habitations, household savings with commercial banks, post offices, LIC and SHG-Bank Linkage are prevalent in the urban habitations. However, in both the sample habitations as many as 459 (197 rural + 262 urban) households invested their savings in gold and jewelry. This constitutes about 62 and 72 per cent in the total household savings in rural and urban sample habitations respectively. It may be noted that the average household savings are about Rs. 34466 and Rs. 68782 per annum in the rural and urban habitations respectively. Due to low level of household incomes, Relli sample households borrow money from both institutions and Non-institution agents for various purposes. As many as 315 borrowers in the rural and 363 borrowers in the urban sample habitations undertook loans in the four districts.

An analysis of the source of institution of borrowing reveals that as much as 77 per cent and 71 per cent of borrowings are made from non-institutional agents in the rural and urban habitations while the institutional borrowings are 23 and 29 per cent respectively. The details of sources of borrowing by the sample households are presented in Annexure- IV. It may be noted that among the institutional agencies in the rural habitations highest amount was borrowed from SHG-BLP (49 per cent) followed by commercial banks (42 per cent) and RRBs (9 per cent) while the institutional borrowings in the urban habitations are from commercial banks (58 per cent), RRBs (24 per cent), cooperatives (10 per cent) and SHG-BLP (8 per cent). It shows that still the non-institutional agents are predominant in both rural and urban sample habitations. The All-District household average borrowings per borrower are Rs. 92585 and Rs. 206409 in rural and urban sample habitations respectively. A large number of borrowers in all the four districts are having outstanding borrowings.

It may be noted that the average outstanding borrowing per household is Rs. 71656 in all-districts sample rural habitations while the same is Rs. 160786 in urban habitations. As a higher proportion of borrowings are spent for general consumption and other non-income yielding purposes most of the borrowers are becoming defaulters of repayment of debts. Besides, there is good number of reasons for indebtedness. One important reason is higher rate of interest charged by the non-institutional agents depending up on the purpose, nature of urgency and time. The median rate of interest for All-Districts estimated on the basis of field data Non-Institutional agent wise is presented in the following figure -3.

It may be noted that the Median Rate of Interest for all Non-Institutional Agents in both rural and urban habitations is 36 per cent. In fact, the chit funds median rate of interest is as high as 50 per cent and 60 per cent in the rural and urban sample habitations respectively. Similarly, the median rate of interest charged by traders is as high as 48 per cent in the rural

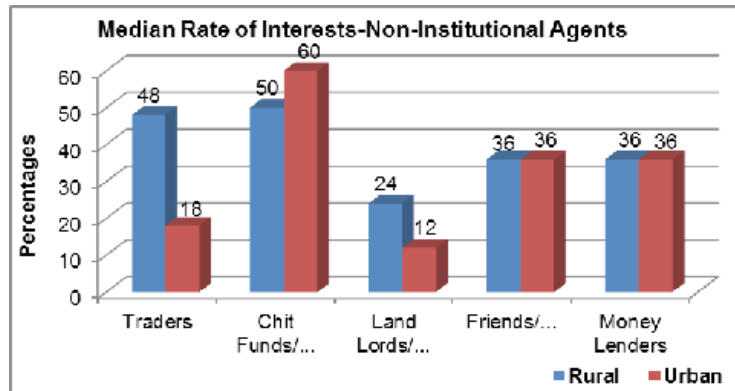


Figure-3: Median Rate of Interest in Non- Institutional Agents

habitations. It shows the predominance of high rate of interests charged by non-institutional agencies ultimately leading to indebtedness among borrowers in both the sample habitations. Another important reason for indebtedness is the health expenditure due to chronic diseases of household members and also that arise due to distress incidents. The All-District pattern of utilization of borrowings reveal that as much as 78 and 88 per cent of borrowings were utilized for non-income yielding purposes, hence leading to indebtedness. Similarly, health expenditure is another important reason for household indebtedness. For instance, the health expenditure among non-food items is as high as 28 per cent in the rural sample habitations of Srikakulam District. Similarly, health problems were reported to be the major consequences during the distress incidents caused to the households. In order to overcome the distress incidents majority of households borrow from informal sources. For instance, the borrowings from informal sources due to distress incidents in Vizianagaram are as high as 75 per cent in the rural habitations and 68 per cent in the urban habitations. Therefore, borrowing money from informal sources is one of the reasons for indebtedness. If loans are made available in such cases by formal agencies the indebtedness will be reduced.

Consumption of alcohol and tobacco products is another important reason for borrowing from informal sources at high rate of interest resulting in indebtedness. For instance, 64 per cent of alcoholics and 51 per cent of smokers and 27 per cent of alcoholics and 67 per cent of smokers in the rural and urban habitations respectively reported health problems leading to household borrowings and indebtedness. One more reason is loss of crop due to natural calamities leading to indebtedness. Children education in private schools paying exorbitant tuition fees is found to be another important reason for household indebtedness. Further expansion of SHG Bank Linkage Programs, reduction of alcohol and tobacco consumption, extending insurance coverage to mango and cashew crop of Relli households and an active role of Bank Mitras in facilitating bank loans will help in the reduction of future indebtedness.

Chapter-7

GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION PROGRAMME

Indian Constitution has provided several safeguards to protect the interests of the socially and economically disadvantaged people - Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Since the advent of Five Year Plans in India, the objective of equity has been emphasized alongside the objective of economic growth. While giving thrust to Equity aspect, Eleventh Five year Plan set inclusive growth as one of its objectives. Inclusive growth in India cannot ever be achieved without uplifting the economic status of the Scheduled Caste people. Realising this fact, the Union Government as well as the State Governments have been making several policy initiatives with suitable financial incentives for the last several decades. One such important fiscal initiative is the introduction of SC Sub-Plan by the State Governments including the Government of Andhra Pradesh, under which Budget Outlays have been proposed to benefit the SCs exclusively. The SC Sub-Plan was given statutory status by making law in 2013 by Government of Andhra Pradesh (combined) and renamed it as SC Component. An attempt is made in this chapter to examine the Budget allocation and actual expenditure under SC Component under different programmes and schemes in Andhra Pradesh. Also, the awareness, accessibility and availing of different programmes being implemented by the State and Centre and the associated problems faced by the beneficiary households are analysed. The analysis assumes importance as it is necessary to examine and understand

to what extent the Rellis- sub-caste of SCs- are able to access the benefits under different schemes/programmes for which they are equally entitled just like other SCs like Malas.

Budget under S C Component in Andhra Pradesh

Government of Andhra Pradesh made an Act in 2013 according legal status to SC Sub -Plan and have been providing separate budget allocations under SC Component for different sectors and departments that are concerned to SCs. With a view to examine whether the budget allocated under SC Component is being released and spent, a modest attempt is made to analyse the Budget Estimates and Accounts/Revised Estimates for different years depending upon the availability of data. The Budget Allocation and Actual Expenditure under Scheduled Caste Component of Government of Andhra Pradesh for four years are presented in the following table

Table-9: Budget Allocation and Actual Expenditure Under SC Component

(Rs. in Lakhs)					
Sl.No	Year	BE	Accounts & RE	Difference	Budget Allocation in %
1	2015-16	547013	523420	-23593	-4.31
2	2016-17	872426	731030	-141396	-16.21
3	2017-18*	984713	1009835	25122	2.55
4	2018-19	1122811	—	—	—

Note: *Revised Estimate

Source: Budgets. Govt. of Andhra Pradesh

It may be observed that the total amount of Budget Allocation under S C Component for 2015-16 is Rs.5,47,013 lakhs while the actual expenditure made on different heads of account is Rs.5,23,420 lakhs. The difference between the budget allocation and actual expenditure for the year 2015-16 is Rs. 23,593 lakhs

which constitutes 4.31 per cent of the total budget estimate. Similarly for the year 2016-17 the total Budget Estimate is Rs.8,72,426 lakhs and in that year the actual amount spent was Rs.7,31,030 lakhs. The amount of difference constitutes Rs 141396 which comes to about 16.21 per cent of the total Budget Estimate. This implies that the actual expenditure under S C Component compared to the Budget allocation is less by 16 per cent. The Budget Estimate for the year 2017-18 is Rs.984,713 lakhs while the revised estimate is Rs. 1009835 lakhs registering an excess expenditure of Rs.25,122 lakhs made constituting about 2.55 per cent compared to the Budget Estimate. The following Table presents Department-wise analysis of Budget Estimates as well as Accounts and Revised expenditure for the period 2014-15 to 2017-18. The three year total, of BE, Accounts, RE and Difference and its per cent for each Department have been calculated and presented in the following Table-10

**Table - 10 : Scheduled Caste Component - Annual Plans 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18
(Rs.in Lakhs)**

Sl. No	Departments	BE	Acc &	Diff- erence	Differ- ence in %
1	The Director of Medical Education, HoD	2	0	2	100.00
2	SAAPL.B. Stadium	2175	0	2175	100.00
3	Tourism	415	7	408	98.26
4	Planning, Secretariat Department	43871	4749	39122	89.18
5	Employment and Training, HoD	7894	1119	6775	85.83
6	Cultural Affairs	913	136	776	85.05
7	Chief Engineer, Minor Irrigation, HoD	23949	4121	19828	82.79
8	Technical Education, HoD	3521	1538	1983	56.32
9	Intermediate Education, HoD	12218	6000	6218	50.89
10	Industries, HoD	65200	32117	33082	50.74
11	Collegiate Education, HoD	6044	3456	2589	42.83
12	Director, Ground Water Department, HoD	570	338	232	40.79
13	Project Director, Sarva Sikha Abhiyan (Rajiv Vidya Mission)	30876	19824	11053	35.80

Sl. No	Departments	BE	Acc &	Diff- erence	Differ- ence in %
14	Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Secretariat Department	71628	46638	24990	34.89
15	Engineer-in-Chief (General & Panchayat Raj) (R&B), Administration, State Roads & RSW, HoD	4183	2780	1403	33.54
16	Registrar of Co-operatives Societies	341	246	94	27.74
17	Information Technology, Electronics & Communications, Secretariat Department	8753	6443	2309	26.38
18	Youth Services, Yuvasakti	5100	3850	1250	24.51
19	Energy, Secretariat Department	13619	10336	3284	24.11
20	Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society	150728	116807	33921	22.50
21	Fisheries, HoD	12876	10352	2523	19.60
22	Social Welfare, HoD	589822	494408	95414	16.18
23	Weaker Section Housing, HoD	142983	123244	19739	13.81
24	Agriculture, HoD	70475	66953	3523	5.00
25	Director of Public Health and Family Welfare, HoD	11106	11106	0	0.00
26	Transport, Roads and Buildings Department, Secretariat Department	1627	1627	0	0.00
27	Department of Skill Entrepreneurship and Innovation	20900	21232	-332	-1.59
28	Horticulture, HoD	34541	35162	-621	-1.80
29	Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare	43339	46922	-3583	-8.27
30	Animal Husbandry, HoD	12893	13973	-1080	-8.37
31	Rural Development, HoD	679885	762751	-82865	-12.19
32	School Education, HoD	93650	110446	-16796	-17.93
33	Women Development & Child Welfare, HoD	90451	109997	-19546	-21.61
34	Engineer-in- Chief (General & Panchayat Raj)	52918	66989	-14071	-26.59
35	Sericulture, HoD	400	616	-216	-54.06
36	Chief Engineer, Rural Water Supply	44632	98577	-53945	-120.87
37	Information & Public Relations, HoD	1000	2454	-1454	-145.44
38	Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens Welfare, HoD	272	981	-710	-261.19
39	Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, HoD	0	194	-194	
40	Public Health	0	0	0	
41	Panchayat raj, HoD	0	0	0	

Source: Budgets, government of Andhra Pradesh.

It may be observed that out of 41 Departments only two departments are able to spend the allotted full amount in their heads. They are: 1 Director of Public Health and Family Welfare and 2. Transport, Road and Buildings Department, Secretariat Department. The actual expenditure in the case of 1. Information and Public Relations, 2. Sericulture, 3. Chief Engineer, Rural Water Supply exceeded the budget allocation. It may be observed that for most of the Departments the amount spent was less than the Budget allocation, the difference in percentage ranging from 5 to 98. This implies the under allocation of budget resources defeating the very purpose and objectives of SC Sub Plan. This may be due to several reasons like non-release of funds, non-response of and non- execution of the schemes etc. which needs to be corrected to realize the set objectives.

Government Intervention Programs

Of the total Programmers/Schemes launched by the Centre and State governments, twenty one major programs were selected on the basis of their importance and coverage for the present study. They are broadly categorized in to Five Groups such as **A.** Food and Nutrition Programs, **B.** Livelihood Programs, **C.** Social Development Programs, **D.** Women and Child Welfare Schemes, **E.** Social Security Schemes basing on their nature and objectives.

These programs/schemes are ranked basing on their percentage level of performance as calculated on percentage of awareness, availing (Utilization) and satisfaction. Accordingly an analysis is made in response to the problems involved in availing and non-availing as well as for the unresolved issues of the program/scheme in rural and urban habitations in all the four districts namely Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam and East Godavari to suggest measures if any, for the effective utilization of the program/scheme for better living of Relli caste people (Annexure-2).

Table - 11 : Categorization of Programs/Schemes Basing on their Scores and Ranks obtained in Rural and Urban Habitations

Category	Scheme	Score	Rural	Scheme	Score	Urban
Very Good	PDS	36	1	Pensions	36	1
	DWCRA	42	2	37	2	2
Good	Pensions	45	3	SHGs/DWCRA	43	3
	Educational Concessions	49	4	ICDS (SNP/AAH)	48	4
	Deepam	50	5	Arogyasree	49	5
	Subsidized Interest loans	57	6	Deepam	54	6
	104/108	62	7	Educational Concessions	57	7
	ICDS (SNP/AAH)	64	8	Housing	59	8
	Housing	65	9	Subsidized Interest loans	70	9
	Arogyasree	68	10	104/108	71	10
	Janani Suraksha Yojana	76	11	Regular health check-ups	87	11
	MGNREGA	83	12	Janani Suraksha Yojana	92	12
Average	Regular health check-ups	83	12	Bima Schemes	94	13
	Bima Schemes	56	13	APSCFC Ltd.	97	14
	Maa Inti Mahalakshmi	99	14	Skill Dev. Programs	122	15
	Sthree Nidhi	127	15			
	APSCFC Ltd.	130	16	Sthree Nidhi	140	16
	Apadbandhu	130	16	Maa Inti Mahalakshmi	146	17
	NSCFDC	143	17	NSCFDC	147	18
	Skill Dev. Programs	155	18	Apadbandhu	154	19
	NSKFDC	160	19	NSKFDC	154	20
	Poor					

Note: svcores are calculated using basic field data.

It is evident from above table that as many as 10 programs out of selected 21 programs in the rural habitation are rated as Very Good (5) and Good (5) while similar number of programs are also ranked as Very Good (5) and Good (5) in the urban habitation of which 3 Very Good programs are common (PDS, SHGs/DWACRA and Pensions). In the rural habitation the utilization and satisfaction level of educational concessions is relatively high due to their inclination towards education is significant as indicated by high literacy rate. In regard to Deepam scheme also the utilization and satisfaction level is relatively high as per the consolidated score mainly due to the attitudinal change towards modernity and motivation by all the concern people.

In the urban habitation, the programs like ICDS and Aroyasree rated as very good as explained by their level of utilization and satisfaction primarily due to their access to concern institutions and infrastructure base.

Table – 12: Problems faced in availing the Food and Nutrition programs in both the Habitations in the Sample Districts (in percentages)

A. Food and Nutrition Programs				Attention/Action to be initiated by
Schemes	Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	
PDS	Weightment problems	43.0	44.8	<p>Ranking: Very Good in both Rural and Urban Habitations. The beneficiaries availed under this scheme are 92 per cent indicates the maximum reach of the program. Yet, it is associated with two major problems as expressed by the beneficiaries are with respect to weightment and discontinuation of supply of ration like Oil, Dhall, Kirosen, and sugar etc as well as lack of prompt delivery in rural habitation. In the urban habitation, the beneficiaries availed the scheme is around 73 per cent and the level of satisfaction is 82 per cent indicates the effective performance of the scheme. Yet, the similar problems like weightment and discontinuation of supply of Oil, Dhall, Kirosen, and sugar etc are found. Nevertheless, the program has been considered as very successful due to its transparency, effective delivery mechanism by introducing bio-metric and relevant advanced technology. The efficacy of the program is around 83.8 per cent. In order to further strengthening the program more rigorous monitoring mechanism is required to plug at the time of issuing ration at the respective fair price shops. Further, measures should be</p>
	Discontinuation of remaining products	17.2	31.6	
	Lack of prompt delivery	19.3	11.7	
	Bio-metric problems	20.6	12.0	

A. Food and Nutrition Programs

Schemes	Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
ICDS	Goods sold out	53.5	39.5	<p>taken to introduce the supply of entire package of goods without any interruption and create assured confidence among the stakeholders. Ranking: Good in Rural Habitation and Very Good in Urban Habitations. The level of satisfaction is 84 per cent and 95 per cent, and the utilization is only 48 per cent and 37 per cent in the rural and urban habitations respectively. The major problems confronted by the beneficiaries are selling out the products in the open market and the irregular supply of the same in the rural habitations mainly due to the relatively poor socio-economic background of Anganwadi staff. It is also observed in the urban habitations with an additional problem of staff irregularity. Therefore, this being one of the important functionary used for multi facet activities at the gross root level, concern authorities must take into view of socio-economic and educational background by nullifying the political intervention at the time of recruiting Anganwadi staff. It will also help at the time of training to digest the objectives and guidelines for effective implementation of the program, at least in future. Another glaring problem is that the beneficiaries are not visiting the center personally to receive the benefits as well as health education.</p>	<p>Department of Women Development & Child Welfare Government of Andhra Pradesh</p>
	Irregular supply	32.5	36.5		
	Staff Irregularity	14.0	22.4		
	Supply of less quality food	0.00	1.7		

***Rank 1 in both the habitations *Consolidated rank 6 in urban habitations and 8 in rural habitations.**

Table – 13: Problems faced in availing the Livelihood programs in both the Habitations of Sample Districts (in Percentages)

Schemes	Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
B. Livelihood Programs					
MGNR EGP	Less wage rate	37.4	0.0	<p>Ranking: Average in Rural Habitation.MGNREGP is applicable only in rural habitation. Around 46 per cent of the beneficiaries have availed this scheme significantly contributes as a supplementary income to the household. There are two relevant problems become hurdle for less utilization of the scheme are low wage and delay in wage payment when compared to opportunity cost. Further, respondents informed that they are unable to utilize the scheme as they are engaged in their main occupation of fruits and vegetable business during the summer, exactly the period MGNREG scheme are executed. Most of the job cards are found unutilized due to overlapping of the season. This is also endorsed in the FGD. Therefore, the satisfaction level of the beneficiaries of the scheme is only 43 per cent. Leakages are also observed in regard to attendance taken by the field assistance, evaluation of work done by technical expert and groups are forming as syndicate defeating the objective of quality asset creation.</p>	Department of Rural Development Andhra Pradesh
	Delay in wage payment	31.0	0.0		
	Work not provided	10.5	0.0		
	Non-issue of job cards	17.2	0.0		
	Bank-linkage problems	3.5	0.0		
Clashing time schedule	0.5	0.0			
Skill Development Programs	Lack of guidance	25.0	12.5	<p>Ranking: Poor in Rural Habitation and Average in Urban Habitation. Skill Development is one of the most important in the livelihood programs to provide opportunity for income generation to the household. The level of utilization is 3 per cent and 4 per cent both in rural and urban habitations respectively.</p>	
	Not interested	50.0	62.5		
	Long distance	12.5	0.00		
	Lack of Financial Capacity	0.00	6.25		

Table – 13: Contd...

Schemes Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
Not Qualitative Training	12.5	18.75	This is mainly because of the disinterest of the stakeholders coupled with poor quality training in both the habitations. The respondents in rural habitations also expressed that they have problem of long distance to the training center and lack of guidance in capturing the program. Demand side, there is significant potential eligible persons to undergo skill up gradation training which is positively reacted by the government to organize training programs in diversified fields. But the objective is not fulfilled primarily due to lack of commitment and persuasion from either side. Secondly, training must be provided as per the requirement of stakeholders (that is interested fields of beneficiaries). Thirdly, sincere effort for grounding of the Cent per cent placement after completion of training either formal or informal sector finally all-round support in regard to infrastructure base, finance, market intervention and Ranking: Good in Both the Rural and Urban Habitations. Subsidized interest rate loans scheme is intended to create productive asset in order to generate income for the better livelihood of the stakeholders. The percentage of households availed is 59 per cent and 28 per cent in rural and urban habitations respectively. A bunch of problems has expressed by the beneficiaries in the rural habitation are lack of guidance, Bankers demand for advance interest payment, lack of response from concern officials and Bankers collecting interest	Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation
Subsidized interest loans				
Lack of guidance	42.2	56.9		
Bankers demand for interest payment	31.0	27.8		
Lack of response from officials	15.8	9.8		
Bankers Collecting Interest on Subsidy	11.0	5.6		

Table – 13: Contd...

Schemes	Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
APSC CFC Ltd.	Lack of guidance from officials	19.1	32.0	on subsidy. In the urban habitation similar problems have been occurred where lack of guidance is expressed as more intensive than other problems.	Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Caste Finance Co-operative Corporation Ltd.
	Lack of response from officials	30.7	29.7	In order to make use of the scheme more effectively and productively, the concern authorities must not only concentrate on effective monitoring of the asset purchased and proper utilization but also sensitize the stakeholders to make use of the scheme. Further, bankers must be instructed to abide by the rules and regulations of the program.	
	Lack of required qualification	12.5	2.3		
	Political interference	3.6	2.3		
	Dominance of other SCs	8.3	26.7		
	Surety problem	25.8	7.0		
				Ranking. Poor in Rural Habitation and Average in Urban Habitation. The level of utilization in rural habitation is 10 per cent due to the problems of lack of response from concern officials, guidance and surety problem. In the urban habitation the beneficiaries availed the program is only 11 per cent due to lack of guidance, lack of response from officials and dominance of other SC castes. There is a need to create not only more awareness but also more sanctions of loans to Relli applicants. If a window/seat for SC Corporation is established in the Velugu office or in some Mandal level office, it will help further penetration into remote rural as well as urban habitations. It is suggested for setting apart a fixed percentage of budget allocation from SC Sub-Plan Component exclusively for them.	

Table – 13: Contd...

Schemes Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
Lack of response from officials	57.14	20.83	Both the Habitations. There is no single beneficiary utilized the program in the rural habitation. The main constraint is non-response from concern officials associated with political interference and non-compliance of required qualification. In the urban habitation only one person availed the program mainly due to non-compliance of required qualification as there is heavy dropout before 10 th class and engaged in informal sector. In addition to lack of response from officials and political interference also contributed largely for not utilizing the program. Ranking: Poor in Both the Habitations. The level of utilization of the scheme is 3 per cent mainly due to lack of response from officials and non-release of funds. Where as in the urban habitation the scheme only 3 per cent of the beneficiaries have availed the program majority due to political interference followed by indifferent attitude of officials and dominance of other SC castes. Therefore, in order to improve the performance of the above said schemes (NSCFDC and NSKFDC) to achieve the targets requires wholehearted commitment of concern officials in creating awareness, monitoring and execution among the stakeholders by utilizing the services of village functionaries and various organizations at the gross root level. Further, the interference of political leaders and the role of Janmabhoomi Committee in identifying the beneficiaries should be done away forth with as indicated in the PGIDs. It is necessary to create more awareness among sweeper, Scavengers and Sewerage workers about the opportunities available to them.	National Scheduled Caste Finance and Development Corporation
Lack of Required Qualification Political	14.28	45.83		
Interference	14.28	45.83		
Dominance of	14.28	20.83		
Other SCs	14.28	20.83		
NSKFDC Lack of Response from Officials	0.00	26.7	Ranking: Poor in Both the Habitations. The level of utilization of the scheme is 3 per cent mainly due to lack of response from officials and non-release of funds. Where as in the urban habitation the scheme only 3 per cent of the beneficiaries have availed the program majority due to political interference followed by indifferent attitude of officials and dominance of other SC castes. Therefore, in order to improve the performance of the above said schemes (NSCFDC and NSKFDC) to achieve the targets requires wholehearted commitment of concern officials in creating awareness, monitoring and execution among the stakeholders by utilizing the services of village functionaries and various organizations at the gross root level. Further, the interference of political leaders and the role of Janmabhoomi Committee in identifying the beneficiaries should be done away forth with as indicated in the PGIDs. It is necessary to create more awareness among sweeper, Scavengers and Sewerage workers about the opportunities available to them.	National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation
Dominance of other SCs	100.00	26.7		
Insufficient Funds	0.00	15.9		
Non release of funds	0.00	22.9		

* Rank 5 in both the habitations,

*Consolidated rank 76 in urban habitation and 88 in rural habitation.

Table - 14: Problems faced in availing the Social Development programs in both the Habitations in Sample Districts (%)

Schemes	Problems in availing		Analysis by		Attention/Action to be initiated by
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	
C. Social Development					
Educational Con-cessions Scheme	26.2	60.4	26.2	60.4	Ranking: Very Good in Rural Habitation and Good in Urban Habitation. The availing of the scheme by the households are 57 per cent and 50 per cent in the respective habitations. The satisfaction level expressed by the beneficiary household is 96 per cent and 92 per cent in rural and urban habitations respectively. However, the problem is mainly due to lack of guidance and non-receipt of scholarships in both the habitations needs counseling of concerned teachers and the officials to resolve the issues for effective utilization and capturing of the scheme. Ranking: Good in Rural Habitation and Very Good in Urban Habitation. Although the program is highly popularized and effective, the beneficiaries are of the opinion that they are not aware of the diseases covered under the scheme in the rural habitation (91.7 per cent). In the urban habitation the problems as expressed by the beneficiaries is with respect to lack of awareness of diseases covered 53.8 per cent and financial capacity 46.2 per cent. Therefore, the concern authorities may give a thought to bring all diseases with no financial commitment under the umbrella Arogyasree.
Lack of guidance	46.4	37.5	46.4	37.5	
Non-receipt of scholarships	27.4	2.1	27.4	2.1	
Competition from other SCs (Res)					
Arogyasree					
Lack of awareness of diseases covered	91.7	53.8	91.7	53.8	Ranking: Good in Rural Habitation and Very Good in Urban Habitation. Although the program is highly popularized and effective, the beneficiaries are of the opinion that they are not aware of the diseases covered under the scheme in the rural habitation (91.7 per cent). In the urban habitation the problems as expressed by the beneficiaries is with respect to lack of awareness of diseases covered 53.8 per cent and financial capacity 46.2 per cent. Therefore, the concern authorities may give a thought to bring all diseases with no financial commitment under the umbrella Arogyasree.
Lack of financial capacity	8.3	46.2	8.3	46.2	
Coverage of all diseases under Arogyasree	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Payment of advance cash	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

Table – 14: Contd...

Schemes	Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
Regular Health Check-ups	Medicines not supplied	55.3	33.8	<p>Ranking: Average in Both Rural and Urban Habitations The percentage of beneficiaries availed the scheme is 35 per cent and 30 per cent in the rural and urban habitations respectively. Further, it is found that they are not supplied with proper medicines (55.3) and irregularity of staff visits (27.3) in the rural habitation.</p> <p>Where as in the urban habitation it is observed that non-supply of proper medicine (33.8) and irregularity of staff (25.7) and limited treatment (35.4) are the main constraints in availing the program, because of their pre occupations with private clinics and corporate hospitals. The district medical and public department needs to gear up its monitoring mechanism to see that staff visits makes regularly and proper medicines are supplied.</p>	Directorate of Medical and Health
	Irregular of staff visits	27.3	25.7		
	Time constraint	6.7	5.1		
	Limited treatment	10.7	35.4		
104/108 Services	Delay in reaching staff	35.4	77.8	<p>Ranking: Good in Both Rural and Urban Habitations. Yet, they are also not free from the problems like delay in reaching to the incident spot both in rural habitation (35.4) and urban habitation (77.8) associated with demanding oil charges by the ambulance staff in rural habitation (45.8) and (22.2) per cent urban habitation. However, 104 is not as regular as that of 108 as per the opinion of beneficiaries in the rural habitation (18.7). Directorate of Medical and Health</p>	
	Demanding oil charges by ambulance staff	45.8	22.2		
	104 Irregular	18.7	0.00		

*Rank 2 in both the habitations; consolidated rank 33 each in both the habitations.

Table-15: Problems faced in availing the Women Development and Welfare Schemes in both the habitations in Sample Districts (in Percentages)

Schemes Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
D. Women Development and Child Welfare				
SHGs/ DWCRA coordination	69.5	71.9	Ranking: Very Good in Rural as well as Urban Habitations. According to field survey availing of members of SHGs is 75 per cent and 42 percent in the rural and urban habitations respectively. The satisfaction level of members is 85 per cent and 94 per cent in the respective habitations. Yet, there are two important problems become hurdle for the strengthening and development of members of the SHGs like lack of group coordination and misappropriation of group leaders in the rural habitations.	SERP Andhra Pradesh
Loan waiver anticipation	0.00	15.6		
Misappropriation by group leader	3.6	3.2		
Untimely repayment	16.9	2.7		
			In the urban habitations, they expressed categorically that announcement of loan waiver has distorted the smooth functioning of the group and made them defunct, in addition to the problem related to lack of group coordination and misappropriation of group leader. By and large, the Relli women are active and utilizing opportunity of subsidized loan and efficacy level of SHG program in the rural habitations is very good. With the given structure of SHGs they	

Table-15: Contd...

Schemes Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
Janani suraksha yojana				
Inadequate funds	55.6	42.0	may be made more diversified to undertake certain activities especially creating more awareness among Relli households to enhance their well being.	Directorate of Health & Family Welfare
Lack of guidance	44.5	58.0	Ranking: Average in Both the Habitations. The objective of this scheme is to encourage institutional deliveries and to decrease IMR & MMR. Relli women along with SC women are availing this facility. Government has allocated an amount of 179 crores during 2017-18 for this purpose. As far as utilization is concerned, the level of availing is 32 per cent and 62 per cent in the rural and urban habitations respectively. The major problem associated in availing scheme is lack of guidance 44.5 per cent and inadequate funds 55.6 per cent in the rural habitation while in the urban habitation lack of guidance 58 per cent and inadequate funds 42 per cent. In this context SHG members and group leaders must be sensitized about the schemes by concern authorities to make use of it effectively for the empowerment of women.	

Table-15: Contd...

Schemes	Problems in availing		Rural		Urban		Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
	Lack of guidance	Not Relevant	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00		
Maa inti Mahalakshmi							Ranking: Average in Rural Habitation and Poor in Urban Habitation. The State Government has enacted Andhra Prades Maa Inti Mahalakshmi Girl Child Promotion and Empowerment Act, 2013 which provides incentive for achieving certain milestones to the girl child born after 1st May, 2013 till she reaches the age of 21 years to prevent gender discrimination by empowering and protecting the girls children and catalyzing their all round growth. The field survey shows that the availing level is 6 per cent in rural habitation and 3 per cent in urban habitation. The satisfaction level is 85 per cent and 66 per cent in rural and urban habitations respectively. Almost all beneficiaries stated that they do not have proper guidance for availing the program in the rural habitation. In this context, Anganwadi Teachers can play an important role in creating awareness as well as guiding the eligible household to access the benefit.	SERP and MEPMA Andhra Pradesh
Sthree Nidhi	Lack of guidance		73.3		0.00		Ranking: Average in Rural Habitation, Poor in Urban Habitation.	
	Lack of group coordination		10.0		100.00		The major problem of this program is lack of guidance	
	Fear of Repayment		16.7		0.00		ance 73 per cent and in ability to repay 16.7 per cent in the rural habitation.	

Table-15: Contd...

Schemes Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
Deepam scheme				
Lack of guidance	33.4	70.2	<p>Where as in the urban habitation the whole problem lies with formation of group coordination. Therefore, it is necessary to create awareness among all the SHG members that the loan under Stree Nidhi is interest free so that its utilization can be increased. SERP, Andhra Pradesh Ranking: Very Good in Rural Habitation and Good in Urban Habitation.</p> <p>In regard to rural habitation there are twin problems such as lack of response from officials (51.6 per cent) and lack of guidance (33.4 per cent) become hurdle for the effective use of the scheme. In the urban habitation lack of guidance (70 per cent) and indifferent attitude of officials (22 per cent) are the main problems.</p> <p>Hence the utilization of the scheme in the rural habitation is 35 per cent and in the urban habitation is only 25 per cent. In this context, there is a need to create motivation among the stakeholders about the importance of the scheme as well as the repercussions of pollution problems, opportunity cost involved in collecting the firewood/charcoal as an alternative use in both the habitations.</p>	SERP Andhra Pradesh
Lack of response from officials	51.6	22.2		Food and Civil Supplies Department Andhra Pradesh.
Lack of money	15.0	7.6		

* Rank 4 in both the habitations

* consolidated rank 54 in urban habitation and 47 in rural habitation. Conti...

Table-16 : Problems faced in availing the Social Security programs in both the habitations in Sample Districts (in percentages)

Schemes Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
E. Social Security Programs				
Pensions	46.7	50.4	<p>Ranking: Very Good in Both the Habitations. Being a welfare state, the intervention of government is inevitable to provide social security to the deprived and vulnerable sections. As a result the schemes like Pensions, Housing, Apaadhbandhu, and Bhima Schemes are initiated, but they are also not free from the problems in availing due to lack of proper guidance, political intervention and non response from officials in both the habitations.</p> <p>In regard to pensions scheme though it is one of the popular and successful scheme the problems like Bio-metric and non-response of the officials concern and the political interference are the major hurdles in the rural habitation and urban habitation.</p>	<p>Department of Panchayat Raj and Rural Development.</p>
Insufficient funds	52.0	39.8		
No house sites	9.9	28.4		
Non-release of funds	3.3	20.5		
Lack of response from officials	17.1	8.0		
Housing Scheme	17.7	3.4	<p>Ranking: Good in Both the Habitations. In regard to housing scheme the major hurdle for availing is political interference and lack of house sites and insufficient funds. The activity is less in urban habitation due to the non availability of individual house sites, dominance of upper caste and other SC castes.</p>	<p>Andhra Pradesh State Housing Corporation.</p>

Table-16 :Contd...

Schemes	Problems in availing	Rural	Urban	Analysis by	Attention/Action to be initiated by
Apad- bandhu	Lack of guidance	50.0	0.00	However, as housing is a continuous process due to emerging of new family units and budgetary constraint could not able to meet the requirement at fuller extent in both the habitations. Ranking: Poor in Both Habitations. The awareness level of this scheme is only 39 per cent and 35 per cent in rural and urban habitations respectively indicates the average reach, despite of the popularity in general in the recent past. However, the scheme would be highly successful if the problems like lack of guidance and response from concern officials is tackled with the help of SHG women, Velugu and caste associations.	District Administrative Service (Collector)
	No incident	16.7	0.00		
	Lack of Response from officials	16.7	0.00		
	Delay in Payment	16.7	0.00		
Bhima scheme (Chand- ranna)	Excess premium collection	33.8	35.4	Ranking: Average in Rural Habitation and Poor in Urban Habitation. As far as awareness of this scheme is concern it is 81 per cent and 64 per cent while the utilization is only 39 per cent and 9 percent in rural and urban habitation, respectively. The field data explains problems in both rural and urban habitation are mainly due to lack of guidance, motivation. They also inform that they are unaware of the risk coverage and premium to be paid etc in the rural habitation specifically.	SERP, Andhra Pradesh
	Lack of guidance	16.4	35.5		
	Lack of motivation	15.1	29.2		
	Unaware of the Procedure	34.7	0.00		

*Rank 3in both the habitations

*Consolidated rank 41 in each in rural and urban habitations.

Habitation. As far as awareness of this scheme is concern it is 81 per cent and 64 per cent while the utilization is only 39 per cent and 9 percent in rural and urban habitation respectively. The field data explains problems in both rural and urban habitation are mainly due to lack of guidance, motivation. They also inform that they are unaware of the risk coverage and premium to be paid etc in the rural habitation specifically.

It is very pertinent to note that the performance of livelihood programs secured last rank among the five groups as per the consolidated rank value of 164 (Rural habitation -88 and Urban Habitation-76). The programs/schemes are MGNREGP, Skill Development Scheme, Subsidised Interest loans, APSCCFC Ltd., NSCFDC, and NSKFDC is relatively low and lagging behind in both the habitations due to lack of awareness, lack of transparency in identifying the beneficiaries, monitoring and execution. Unless the government streamlines and rectify the bottlenecks to reach to the stakeholders/beneficiaries, the very purpose of introducing above said programs/schemes will be defeated. However, the performance of the programs/schemes is relatively better in urban habitation due to the advantage of urban characteristics.

Having examined all the five groups it is found that livelihood programs as well as women development programs/schemes performance is comparatively low (Rank 5 and 4 respectively in the both the habitations) infers that the economic empowerment and women empowerment are not significant notwithstanding the fact that urban habitation is relatively better.

Interaction with the Line Departments:

Further the field data explains interaction of respondents with the line departments to resolve the issues in both the habitations (Figure-1).

Figure - 4: Interaction with the Line Departments to resolve the issues by the Sample households (in percentages)

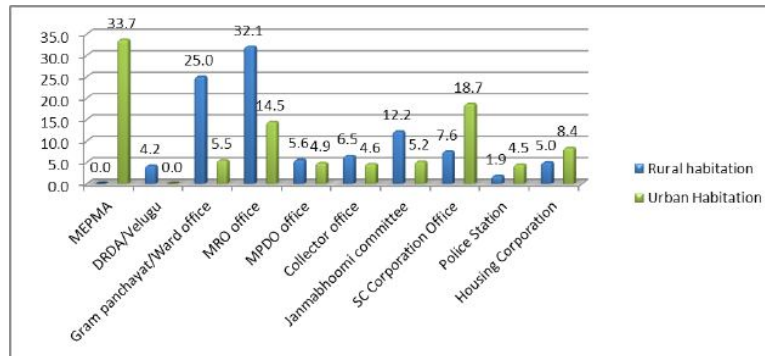
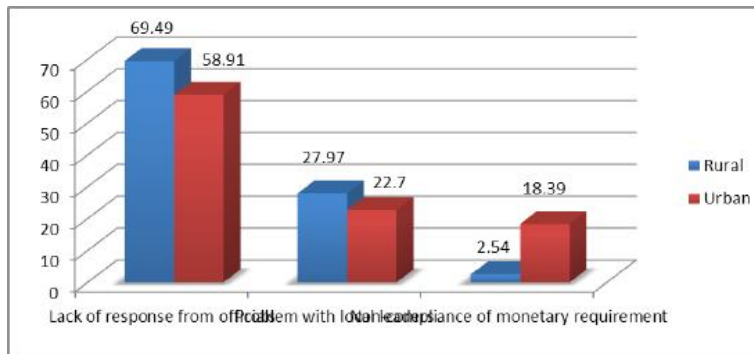


Figure - 5: Percentage of HHs Response/ Reasons for Unresolved Issues in Sample Districts



In the urban habitation it is observed that 36 per cent of the respondents have interacted with government departments mainly MEPMA (33.7), SC Corporation (18.7) and Mandal Revenue Office (14.5) to resolve the issues related to housing (26.47), loans (22.94), and issue of certificates (14.7). The issues were resolved to the extent of 31 per cent and unresolved issues 69 per cent are mainly due to lack of response from officials (58.91), problems with local leaders (22.7) and non-compliance of monetary requirements (18.39).

In the rural habitation it is observed that 40 per cent of the respondents have interacted with various departments mostly like Mandal Revenue Office (32.1), Garma Panchayat/Ward Office (25.0) and Janmabhoomi Committee (12.2) indicates lower level and middle level institutions unlike the respondents in urban habitation to seek redresal for housing (32.72), loans (17.28) and Pensions (12.96). Data shows that the 35 per cent of the issues were resolved while the unresolved issues 65 per cent are attributed to lack of response from officials (69.49), problems with local leaders (27.97) and non-acceptance of monitory requirement (2.54).

On the whole the major problems expressed by the respondents with respect to availed and non-availed as well as unresolved issues are mainly due to lack of guidance, Janmabhoomi committee, lack of response of the concern officials, and political interference. Henceforth, full pledged utilization of digital technology for more transparency, accuracy and elimination of middlemen is indispensable.

In this context, having convinced the attitude of Relli caste in terms of their nature of inhibition, introvert, lethargic and not too ambitious, invariably requires sensitization. Therefore, it may be appropriate to establish Habitation Development Committee (Non-Political and Non-Governmental) at three levels i.e. Habitation, Mandal and District exclusively for Relli caste. The members should be drafted from youth associations, caste associations, SHGs/CBO/MS, workers associations and village functionaries with reasonable educational background (Technical and non-technical as per the availability) who has zeal, enthusiasm and commitment. This platform is essentially required to prepare data base, monitoring and execution in the areas of government intervention program/schemes, Infrastructural and General Development of the habitation without any bias, what-so-ever.

The members must be either trained or take the help of resource persons in Digital technology, Banking, Computer Operations, Rythumitra, Mudra, Health and Nutrition, Sanitation and Hygienic etc.

The committee must be provided with an identity and recognition at the concern departments for liasoning and authenticity to represent the issues. This will help the Relli group to capture the benefits from the government for their comprehensive development and better living.

By and large, it is to be concluded that the Relli caste in urban habitation are relatively in a better position in respect of infrastructure and in most of the parameters of socio-economic profile when compared to rural habitation. Unfortunately, government programs with respect to livelihood improvement and Women Development have not been captured by the stakeholders/beneficiaries as expected primarily due to their indifferent attitude, inertia and by their nature of 'not too-ambitiou's. However, they are in the process of development and pick-up momentum in all respects subject to the political will and the cooperation as well as the judicious commitment of the concerned officials.

Chapter- 8

Way Forward

Relli people in Andhra Pradesh are under socio-economic transformation in recent times. The levels of living is low as a higher proportion of Relli households are still in the traditional occupations such as fruit and vegetable vending, agriculture casual laborers, servant maids besides the mean jobs of sweeping, scavenging and sewerage work. In spite of the on-going transformation, Relli people are facing several economic constraints besides behavioral and attitudinal problems. Low percentage of workers in the non-traditional occupation, low female work participation, low asset base, small proportion of government jobs, low level of higher and professional education, lack of skills, low level of savings and high level of indebtedness, predominance of non-institutional agents charging high rates of interest, consumption of alcohol and tobacco products and low level of political participation and representation are some of the problems. At the same time they have some advantages like a high proportion of working population, active women SHGs and worker organizations and the location advantage of living in and around urban and semi-urban areas. There is a need to integrate Relli people with the development process to overcome the problems mentioned above by making administrative and policy initiatives using their own built-in advantages. The study on socio-economic conditions of Relli Caste in North Coastal Andhra and East Godavari Districts by undertaking an extensive sample household survey in both rural and urban habitations and on the basis of several Focus Group Discussions in the study

area, the following suggestions are made which may help in improving the livelihoods and well-being of Relli people in Andhra Pradesh.

There is a visible shift in the occupational structure from traditional to non-traditional occupations both in the rural and urban habitations. This is mainly due to their engagement in small, non-agricultural jobs like auto drivers, painters, masons, etc. It is noticed that there is an occupational displacement due to the emergence of super markets and malls in addition to the entry of commission agents from upper and intermediary communities.

It is necessary to motivate and encourage Relli people to pursue higher, technical and professional education courses, to undergo skill development and job-oriented training programs which are already available under Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan. Such an effort will increase the job potential and will lead to an improvement in the standard of living of these people. For instance, those who have finished or drop-out of secondary level may be given job oriented training under Skill Development Program of State for trades like Mason, Electrician, Plumber, Painter, Rod bender, Welder cum fabricator, Motor mechanic, Driver, TV, Mobile mechanic, Digital Operator etc. Further, there are sufficient Number of enthusiastic youth with all physical parameters suitable for Army, CRPF, Physical Education and sports activity (Kabadi and Volleyball) and Civil Police thriving hard to capture the positions, needs a qualitative training both for written and physical exclusively, because of their inhibition to mingle with others as opined by them. These skill development programs can be organized by the proposed ASTA (Ambedkar Skill and Training Academy) at the District Headquarters. Similarly those who have passed out Intermediate and graduates (Biological Sciences) may be motivated to study Medical Lab Technician (MLT) courses to become Lab Technicians and radiographers. Such a course is being offered by Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam and also by some Government Degree Colleges.

Graduates and Post Graduates, who are less in number, can prepare for State and Central Service Competitive Examinations under the Government programs for providing training for Competitive Examinations. Those who wish to pursue higher studies abroad may avail the Scheme Ambedkar Overseas Vidyanidhi. Such kind of effort will facilitate upward mobility of these people.

Several Relli leaders in FGDs told that they are being discriminated in the allotment of economic support schemes, admissions in educational institutions and in Government jobs. There are several non-statutory benefits mainly related to economic support schemes in the SC Component. In view of the objectives of SC Sub-Plan to ensure equity and social justice, it may be considered to provide the economic support schemes (non-statutory benefits) to the people of Relli Group in proportion to their population in the total population of the SCs of the district. The population of Census 2011 shall be taken for apportioning the percentage of benefits and schemes. Such an arrangement will help in improving the levels of living of Relli Group. In this context it is suggested that the Government intervention is sought to establish exclusive Residential Schools for this community on par with SC, ST, and BC Welfare Residential Schools.

In some Relli habitations dry land was assigned by the Government. At present the beneficiaries are growing plantation crops individually. These beneficiaries may be motivated to undertake cooperative farming. The SC Corporation may consider providing Short-term loans to needy Relli households during mango and cashew crops season which helps them to avoid borrowings from informal agencies at high rate of interest or may offer interest free loans. Further, it may also consider constructing storage facilities to provide them exclusively to Rellis to keep their products on rental basis to enjoy the remunerative prices. At this juncture, it is more appropriate to support those people in providing necessary upgradation of skills in food processing, food technology and

Regarding sanitation in the habitations, it is necessary to create awareness about the health hazards due to unhygienic conditions. The Gram Panchayats concerned need to lay Cement Concrete Roads and provide at least open drainage facility in the rural habitations. Open defecation is very much prevalent (Rural 60 per cent Urban 40 per cent) despite the best efforts. This could be improved only when there is a change in the attitudes of the people and relentless effort of village functionaries and various basic organizations to create awareness among the people as well as proper monitoring. The local government may consider imposing penalties, discontinuation and disqualifying from the benefits of welfare schemes to the people as applicable. Further, formation of solid waste management groups at the gross root level may also bring desired results in this regard.

There is a feeling that the response from line departments was not up to the mark. It is true that all problems/issues referred to Departments or officials may not be genuine and technicalities may be involved which the petitioners are not aware. But the level of governance will be improved if time lines are fixed for resolving the issues as well as for responding to the petitioners.

It is necessary to increase the advances through SHG Bank Linkage Program. More and more Women need to form SHG groups and Bank Mitras can take a lead to increase in the volume of loans provided through institutional sources. The women SHGs can expand their activities from finance to small entrepreneurial activities by starting small enterprises. The District Industries Centre and Velugu may make necessary initiatives.

It may be noted that T.B, Malaria and High Fever as Phylaria are very much prevalent in the sample districts more specifically in rural habitations needs immediate attention of the concerned authorities for the prevention and cure. With regard to medical care at PHCs and sub-Centers it may be suggested to supply disease specific branded medicines as well as. strengthen the lab facilities in the hospitals at grass root level.

It may be suggested to introduce English Language at the Primary Level and introduction of English as a medium of in-

struction in the Government schools. This may help in stopping the parents withdrawing the children from government schools for admitting them in the convents. This will provide lot of financial relief to those who are paying huge amounts of tuition fees, sometimes by borrowing from money lenders. Introduction of English right from primary school onwards improves the communication skills of these children and helps in competing successfully in getting admission for further studies and widens their scope in the job market. Dropouts may be reduced in general and among female in particular if English Medium Schools are established in Relli habitations exclusively.

The per day wage of the scavengers and sewerage workers working by out-sourcing need to be increased. It was told that they are not given any risk allowance. Scavengers and sewerage workers deserve some amount of money as risk allowance as the occupation is prone to health hazards. It is brought to the notice of the Research Team that a scavenger/sewerage worker joins in the municipality and also retires as a scavenger/sewerage worker. It may be considered to provide promotional Grades with suitable pay hike on par with government employees Quarterly health check-up to all scavenging and sewage workers both permanent and out sourcing, may be made compulsory and necessary mechanism has to be put in place by the Public Health Department. At the same time, necessary equipment and the required training to use the equipment has to be provided in view of its usefulness to workers. Government may consider bringing all these workers under the PMJJBY-Chandranna Bima by deducting the annual premium amount from their salary at source enabling automatic insurance coverage. It is necessary to create more awareness by worker Associations about the educational concessions; coaching and skill development programs available free of cost to the children of scavengers and sewerage workers so that children need not get into this occupation. Further, proper training shall be initiated to upgrade themselves for the utilization of modern mechanization in this field for not to be displaced by other communities.

It is very pertinent to note that the performance of livelihood programs secured last rank among the Five Groups as per the consolidated rank value of 164 (Rural habitation -88 and Urban Habitation-76). They are MGNREGP, Skill Development Scheme, Subsidized Interest loans, APSCCFC Ltd., NSCFDC, and NSKFDC, lagging behind in both the habitations due to lack of awareness, lack of transparency in identifying the beneficiaries, monitoring and execution. Unless the government streamlines and rectifies the bottlenecks to reach to the stakeholders/beneficiaries, the very purpose of launching above said programs/schemes will be defeated. However, the performance of the programs/schemes is relatively better in urban habitation due to the advantage of urban characteristics.

Having examined all the Five Groups, it is found that livelihood as well as women development programs/schemes performance is comparatively low (Rank 5 and 4 respectively in both the habitations). It may be inferred that the economic empowerment and women empowerment are not significant among Rellis though the urban habitation is relatively better. Therefore, the shifts needs to be strengthened further by providing linkages with the main stream in social and economic aspects, create awareness through higher education.

It was reported by almost all households, Associations and in the FGDs that other SCs are cornering most of the benefits in the form of Programmes/Schemes at the cost of Relli people and demanded for a separate Relli Corporation similar to SC Corporation. It may be suggested to ear mark certain percentage of funds/schemes exclusively for Relli community and also the Government can explore the possibility of establishing a separate Corporation for Rellis.

Rellis in general have the personal traits of being inhibitive, introvert, and unambitious and requires sensitization. Therefore, it may be appropriate to establish Habitation Development Committee (Non-Political and Non-Governmental) at three levels i.e. Habitation, Mandal and District exclusively for Relli caste. The members should be drafted from youth associations, caste

associations, SHGs/CBO/MS, workers associations and village functionaries with reasonable educational background (Technical and non-technical as per the availability) who has the necessary zeal, enthusiasm and commitment. This platform is essentially required to prepare data base, monitoring and execution in the areas of government intervention program/schemes, Infrastructural and General Development of the habitation without any bias, what-so-ever. The members must be either trained or take the help of resource persons in Digital technology, Banking, Computer Operations, Rythumitra, Mudra, Health and Nutrition, Sanitation and Hygienic etc. The committee must be provided with an identity and recognition at the concerned departments for liasoning and authenticity to represent the issues. This will help the Relli group to capture the benefits from the government for their comprehensive development and better living.

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Annexure

Annexure -1: District-Wise Percentage of Population of Rellis in the Residual State of Andhra Pradesh

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>% to total</i>
1	Visakhapatnam	27.36	37.08	32.82
2	Vizianagaram	26.94	18.75	22.34
3	Srikakulam	30.68	12.89	19.9
4	East Godavari	8.41	11.50	10.93
5	Krishna	1.62	9.59	6.1
6	West Godavari	3.69	5.77	4.86
7	Guntur	0.56	4.21	2.61
8	Chittoor	0.51	0.09	0.27
9	Y.S.R. Kadapa	0.5	0.06	0.22
10	Anantapur	0.08	0.03	0.05
11	Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore	0.08	0.02	0.05
12	Kurnool	0.02	0.01	0.04
13	Prakasam	0.05	0.01	0.03
	Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Census 2011

Annexure-II: Occupational Profiles of SCs and Relis

Sl. No	Details	Occupation	All Schedule Castes		Relis	
			Total Population	%	Total Population	%
1	Number of households		3,619,543	3.83	34,906	3.88
2	Total Population		13,878,078	100.00	135,608	100.00
3	Population in the age-group 0-6		1,549,880	11.17	15,426	11.38
4	Literate		7,678,259	55.33	76,237	56.22
5	Illiterate		6,199,819	44.67	59,371	43.78
6	Total Workers		7,006,817	50.49	58,120	42.86
7	Main Workers		5,758,892	41.50	46,223	34.09
8	Industrial category of main workers	Cultivators	457,624	3.30	523	0.39
		Agricultural labourers	3,706,380	26.71	13,451	9.92
		Household industry	80,447	0.58	514	0.38
		Other Work	1,514,441	10.91	31,735	23.40
9	Total Marginal workers		1,247,925	8.99	11,897	8.77
10	Total Industrial category of marginal workers	Cultivators	33,298	0.24	225	0.17
		Agricultural Labourers	940,370	6.78	5,875	4.33
		Household industry	23,714	0.17	245	0.18
		Other work	250,543	1.81	5,552	4.09
11	Marginal workers(3:6 Months)		1,084,756	7.82	10,237	7.55

Annexure-II: Contd..

Sl. No	Details	Occupation	All Schedule Castes		Reli	
			Total Population	%	Total Population	%
12	Industrial category of marginal workers(3:6 Months)	Cultivators	28,971	0.21	204	0.15
		Agricultural Labourers	824,242	5.94	5,273	3.89
		Household industry	18,132	0.13	180	0.13
		Other work	213,411	1.54	4,580	3.38
13	Marginal workers(0:3 Months)		163,169	1.18	1,660	1.22
14	Industrial category of marginal workers(0:3 Months)	Cultivators	4,327	0.03	21	0.02
0.44		Agricultural Labourers		116,128	0.84	602
		Household industry	5,582	0.04	65	0.05
		Other work	37,132	0.27	972	0.72
15	Non Workers		6,871,261	49.51	77,488	57.14

Source: Census 2011

Annexure III: Source-Wise House Hold Income in Sample Districts

In percentages

Percentage Distribution of Household Income by Source in Srikakulam District

<i>Source</i>	<i>Rural Habitations</i>	<i>Urban Habitations</i>
Agriculture	1.21	0.00
Wage Labour	24.93	3.10
Fruit and Vegetable Vendors	11.26	2.83
Salary	31.88	72.97
Non-agriculture Wage Labour	25.51	11.02
Pension	5.21	10.08
Total	100.00	100.00

Annexure -III. Contd...

Percentage distributions of Household income by source in Vizianagaram District(%)

	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
Agr wage labour	25.5	0.0
Agri.and allied activities	7.2	0.0
non-Agr wage labour	31.9	31.3
FVC (Fruits and Vegetables		
Commission agents)	23.8	21.6
Salary	11.5	47.1
Total	100	100

Note : Income source relates to earners.

Annexure -III. Cont...

Percentage Distribution of Household Income by Source in Visakhapatnam District(In percentages)

<i>Source</i>	<i>Rural Habitations</i>	<i>Urban Habitations</i>
Agriculture	1.14	0.00
Horticulture	0.13	0.00
Trading	0.00	0.30
Wage Labour	27.58	0.90
Fruit and Vegetable Vendors	14.36	3.89
Salary	28.31	47.90
Artisan work	0.00	0.90
Home Based Work	0.00	0.90
Non-agriculture Wage Labour	23.66	32.04
Pension	4.82	12.87
Son's Help	0.00	0.30
Total	100.00	100.00

Source: Field data

Annexure -III. Cont...

Distribution of Household Income by Source in East Godavari (in %)

In percentages

<i>Source of income</i>	<i>Rural Habitations</i>	<i>Urban Habitations</i>
Wage Labour	7.92	0.00
Fruit and vegetable commission agents (FVC)	17.82	13.73
Salary (Govt. and Private Employees)	44.09	67.45
Artisan work	0.99	0.00
Domestic Servants	1.98	0.98
Non Agrl. Wage Labour	22.57	12.52
Sons help	0.99	1.96
Avg. No of sources per HH	1.45	1.39
Avg. No of earners per HH	2.19	1.97
Total	100.00	100.00

Source: Field Data

Annexure IV: Expenditure Pattern of House Holds in the Sample Districts

<i>Item</i>	<i>Rural Habitations</i>	<i>Urban Habitations</i>
Food	48.32	46.05
House Rent	1.02	1.72
Liquor	7.52	5.55
Pan/Tobacco products	3.28	0.83
Dish/Entertainment	1.68	2.19
Mobile Recharge	2.30	3.30
Transport Charges	4.02	7.9
Electricity bill	2.96	4.69
Gas for cooking	4.44	5.19
Health	12.44	7.36
Education Expenses	4.15	7.76
Clothing	6.93	5.98
Festivals	0.94	1.48
Total	100.00	100.00

**Annexure – V: Prohibition of Employment as Manual
Scavengers and their Rehabilitation ACT, 2013**



EXTRAORDINARY PART II – Section 1

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

**No. 35] NEW DELHI, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19,
2013/ BHADRA 28, 1935 (SAKA)**

**Separate paging is given to this Part in order that it may be
filed as a separate compilation.**

MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(Legislative Department)

New Delhi, the 19th September, 2013/Bhadra 28, 1935 (Saka)
The following Act of Parliament received the assent of the President
on the 18th September, 2013, and is hereby published for general
information: –

**THE PROHIBITION OF EMPLOYMENT AS MANUAL
SCAVENGERS AND THEIR REHABILITATION ACT, 2013
NO. 25 OF 2013 [18th September,2013.]**

An Act to provide for the prohibition of employment as manual
scavengers, rehabilitation of manual scavengers and their families,
and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

WHEREAS promoting among the citizens fraternity assuring
the dignity of the individual is enshrined as one of the goals in

the Preamble to the Constitution;

AND WHEREAS the right to live with dignity is also implicit in the Fundamental Rights guaranteed in Part III of the Constitution;

AND WHEREAS article 46 of the Constitution, inter alia, provides that the State shall protect the weaker sections, and, particularly, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes from social injustice and all forms of exploitation;

AND WHEREAS the dehumanising practice of manual scavenging, arising from the continuing existence of insanitary latrines and a highly iniquitous caste system, still persists in various parts of the country, and the existing laws have not proved adequate in eliminating the twin evils of insanitary latrines and manual scavenging;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to correct the historical injustice and indignity suffered by the manual scavengers, and to rehabilitate them to a life of dignity. BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

1. (1) This Act may be called the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013.

(2) It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint:

Provided that the date so notified shall not be earlier than sixty days after the date of publication of the notification in the Official Gazette.

2. (1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) “agency” means any agency, other than a local authority,

which may undertake sanitation facilities in an area and includes a contractor or a firm or a company which engages in development and maintenance of real estate;

(b) “appropriate government”, in relation to Cantonment Boards, railway lands, and lands and buildings owned by the Central Government, a Central Public Sector

Undertaking or an autonomous body wholly or substantially funded by the Central Government, means the Central Government and in all other cases, the State Government;

(c) “Chief Executive Officer”, in relation to a Municipality or Panchayat, means, its senior-most executive officer, by whatever name called;

(d) “hazardous cleaning” by an employee, in relation to a sewer or septic tank, means its manual cleaning by such employee without the employer fulfilling his obligations to provide protective gear and other cleaning devices and ensuring observance of safety precautions, as may be prescribed or provided in any other law, for the time being in force or rules made thereunder;

(e) “insanitary latrine” means a latrine which requires human excreta to be cleaned or otherwise handled manually, either in situ, or in an open drain or pit into which the excreta is discharged or flushed out, before the excreta fully decomposes in such manner as may be prescribed:

Provided that a water flush latrine in a railway passenger coach, when cleaned by an employee with the help of such devices and using such protective gear, as the Central Government may notify in this behalf, shall not be deemed to be an insanitary latrine.

(f) “local authority” means,—

(i) a Municipality or a Panchayat, as defined in clause (e) and clause (f) of article 243P of the Constitution, which is responsible for sanitation in its area of jurisdiction;

(ii) a Cantonment Board constituted under section 10 of the Cantonments Act, 2006; and

(iii) a railway authority;

(g) “manual scavenger” means a person engaged or employed, at the commencement of this Act or at any time thereafter, by an individual or a local authority or an agency or a contractor, for manually cleaning, carrying, disposing of, or otherwise handling in any manner, human excreta in an insanitary latrine or in an open drain or pit into which the human excreta from the insanitary latrines is disposed of, or on a railway track or in such other spaces or premises, as the Central Government or a State Government may notify, before the excreta fully decomposes in such manner as may be prescribed, and the expression “manual scavenging” shall be construed accordingly.

Explanation. – For the purpose of this clause, –

(a) “engaged or employed” means being engaged or employed on a regular or contract basis;

(b) a person engaged or employed to clean excreta with the help of such devices and using such protective gear, as the Central Government may notify in this behalf, shall not be deemed to be a ‘manual scavenger’;

(h) “National Commission for Safai Karmacharis” means the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis constituted under section 3 of the National Commission for Safai Karmacharis Act, 1993 and continued by Resolution of the Government of India in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment vide No.17015/18/2003-SCD-VI, dated 24th February, 2004 and as amended from time to time;

(i) “notification” means a notification published in the Official Gazette and the expression “notify” shall be construed accordingly;

(j) “occupier”, in relation to the premises where an insanitary latrine exists, or someone is employed as a manual scavenger, means the person who, for the time being, is in occupation of such premises;

(k) “owner”, in relation to the premises where an insanitary

latrine exists or someone is employed as a manual scavenger, means, the person who, for the time being has legal title to such premises;

(l) "prescribed" means prescribed by the rules made under this Act;

(m) "railway authority" means an authority administering railway land, as may be notified by the Central Government in this behalf;

(n) "railway land" shall have the meaning assigned to it in clause (32A) of section 2 of the Railways Act, 1989;

(o) "sanitary latrine" means a latrine which is not an 'insanitary latrine';

(p) "septic tank" means a water-tight settling tank or chamber, normally located underground, which is used to receive and hold human excreta, allowing it to decompose through bacterial activity;

(q) "sewer" means an underground conduit or pipe for carrying off human excreta, besides other waste matter and drainage wastes;

(r) "State Government", in relation to a Union territory, means the Administrator thereof appointed under article 239 of the Constitution;

(s) "survey" means a survey of manual scavengers undertaken in pursuance of section 11 or section 14.

(2) Words and expressions used and not defined in this Act, but defined in the Cantonments Act, 2006, shall have the same meanings respectively assigned to them in that Act.

(3) The reference to a Municipality under Chapters IV to VIII of this Act shall include a reference to, as the case may be, the Cantonment Board or the railway authority, in respect of areas included within the jurisdiction of the Cantonment Board and the railway land, respectively.

Local authorities to survey insanitary latrines and provide sanitary community latrines.

Prohibition of insanitary latrines and employment and engagement of manual scavenger.

3. The provisions of this Act shall have effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993 or in any other law, or in any instrument having effect by 46 of 1993. virtue of any other law.

CHAPTER II

IDENTIFICATION OF INSANITARY LATRINES

4. (1) Every local authority shall, —

(a) carry out a survey of insanitary latrines existing within its jurisdiction, and publish a list of such insanitary latrines, in such manner as may be prescribed, within a period of two months from the date of commencement of this Act;

(b) give a notice to the occupier, within fifteen days from the date of publication of the list under clause (a), to either demolish the insanitary latrine or convert it into a sanitary latrine, within a period of six months from the date of commencement of this Act:

Provided that the local authority may for sufficient reasons to be recorded in writing extend the said period not exceeding three months;

(c) construct, within a period not exceeding nine months from the date of commencement of this Act, such number of sanitary community latrines as it considers necessary, in the areas where insanitary latrines have been found.

(2) Without prejudice to the provisions contained in sub-section (1), Municipalities, Cantonment Boards and railway authorities shall also construct adequate number of sanitary community latrines, within such period not exceeding three years from the date of commencement of this Act, as the appropriate Government may, by notification, specify, so as to eliminate the practice of open defecation in their jurisdiction.

(3) It shall be the responsibility of local authorities to construct community sanitary latrines as specified in sub-sections (1) and (2), and also to make arrangements for their hygienic upkeep at all times.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section, “community” in relation to railway authorities means passengers, staff and other authorised users of railways.

CHAPTER III

PROHIBITION OF INSANITARY LATRINES AND EMPLOYMENT AND ENGAGEMENT AS MANUAL SCAVENGER

5. (1) Notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993, no person, 46 of 1993. local authority or any agency shall, after the date of commencement of this Act,—

(a) construct an insanitary latrine; or

(b) engage or employ, either directly or indirectly, a manual scavenger, and every

person so engaged or employed shall stand discharged immediately from any obligation, express or implied, to do manual scavenging.

(2) Every insanitary latrine existing on the date of commencement of this Act, shall either be demolished or be converted into a sanitary latrine, by the occupier at his own cost, before the expiry of the period so specified in clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 4:

Provided that where there are several occupiers in relation to an insanitary latrine, the liability to demolish or convert it shall lie with,—

(a) the owner of the premises, in case one of the occupiers happens to be the owner; and

(b) all the occupiers, jointly and severally, in all other cases:

Provided that the State Government may give assistance for conversion of insanitary latrines into sanitary latrines to occupiers from such categories of persons and on such scale, as it may, by notification, specify:

Provided further that non-receipt of State assistance shall not be a valid ground to maintain or use an insanitary latrine, beyond the said period of nine months.

(3) If any occupier fails to demolish an insanitary latrine or convert it into a sanitary latrine within the period specified in sub-section (2), the local authority having jurisdiction over the area in which such insanitary latrine is situated, shall, after giving notice of not less than twenty one days to the occupier, either convert such latrine into a sanitary latrine, or demolish such insanitary latrine, and shall be entitled to recover the cost of such conversion or, as the case may be, of demolition, from such occupier in such manner as may be prescribed.

6. (1) Any contract, agreement or other instrument entered into or executed before the Contract, date of commencement of this Act, engaging or employing a person for the purpose of agreement etc., to be

manual scavenging shall, on the date of commencement of this Act, be terminated and such contract, agreement or other instrument shall be void and inoperative and no compensation shall be payable therefor.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), no person employed or engaged as a manual scavenger on a full-time basis shall be retrenched by his employer, but shall be retained, subject to his willingness, in employment on at least the same emoluments, and shall be assigned work other than manual scavenging.

7. No person, local authority or any agency shall, from such date as the State Prohibition of persons from

Government may notify, which shall not be later than one year from the date of commencement engagement or of this Act, engage or employ, either directly or indirectly, any person for hazardous cleaning employment of a sewer or a septic tank. for hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks.

8. Whoever contravenes the provisions of section 5 or section 6 shall for the first Penalty for contravention be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or contravention with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees or with both, and for any subsequent contravention with imprisonment which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees, or with both.

1 Whoever contravenes the provisions of section 7 shall for the first contravention be Penalty for punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which contravention may extend to two lakh rupees or with both, and for any subsequent contravention with of imprisonment which may extend to five years or with fine which may extend to five lakh rupees, or with both.

2 No court shall take cognizance of any offence punishable under this Act except Limitation of upon a complaint thereof is made by a person in this behalf within three months from the date prosecution. of the occurrence of the alleged commission of the offence.

CHAPTER IV

IDENTIFICATION OF MANUAL SCAVENGERS IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS AND THEIR REHABILITATION

11. (1) If any Municipality has reason to believe that some persons are engaged or Survey of employed in manual scavenging within its jurisdiction, the Chief Executive Officer of such manual Municipality shall cause a survey to be undertaken to identify such persons.

(2) The content and methodology of the survey referred to in

sub-section (1) shall be such as may be prescribed, and it shall be completed within a period of two months from its commencement in the case of Municipal Corporations, and within a period of one month in the case of other Municipalities.

(3) The Chief Executive Officer of the Municipality, in whose jurisdiction the survey is undertaken, shall be responsible for accurate and timely completion of the survey.

(4) After completion of the survey, the Chief Executive Officer shall cause to be drawn up a provisional list of persons found to be working as manual scavengers within the jurisdiction of his Municipality and fulfilling the eligibility conditions as may be prescribed, shall cause such provisional list to be published for general information in such manner, as may be prescribed, and shall invite objections to the list from the general public.

(5) Any person having any objection, either to the inclusion or exclusion of any name in the provisional list published in pursuance of sub-section (4), shall, within a period of fifteen days from such publication, file an objection, in such form as the Municipality may notify, to the Chief Executive Officer.

(6) All objections received in pursuance of sub-section (5), shall be enquired into, and thereafter a final list of persons found to be working as manual scavengers within the local limits of the municipality, shall be published by it in such manner, as may be prescribed.

(7) As soon as the final list of manual scavengers, referred to in sub-section (6) is published, the persons included in the said list shall, subject to the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 6, stand discharged from any obligation to work as manual scavengers.

Application 12. (1) Any person working as a manual scavenger in an urban area, may, either during the survey undertaken by the Municipality in pursuance of section 11, within whose manual jurisdiction he works, or at any time thereafter, apply, in such manner, as may be prescribed, scavenger for identification. to the

Chief Executive Officer of the Municipality, or to any other officer authorised by him in this behalf, for being identified as a manual scavenger.

(2) On receipt of an application under sub-section (1), the Chief Executive Officer shall cause it to be enquired into, either as part of the survey undertaken under section 11, or, when no such survey is in progress, within fifteen days of receipt of such application, to ascertain whether the applicant is a manual scavenger.

(3) If an application is received under sub-section (1) when a survey under section 11 is not in progress, and is found to be true after enquiry in accordance with sub-section (2), action shall be taken to add the name of such a person to the final list published under sub-section (6) of section 11, and the consequences mentioned in sub-section (7) thereof shall follow.

Rehabilita-13. (1) Any person included in the final list of manual scavengers published in pursuance of sub-section (6) of section 11 or added thereto in pursuance of sub-section (3) of section 12, persons shall be rehabilitated in the following manner, namely: – identified as

(a) he shall be given, within one month, – scavengers

(i) a photo identity card, containing, inter alia, details of all members of his family dependent on him, and

(ii) such initial, one time, cash assistance, as may be prescribed;

(b) his children shall be entitled to scholarship as per the relevant scheme of the Central Government or the State Government or the local authorities, as the case may be;

(c) he shall be allotted a residential plot and financial assistance for house construction, or a ready-built house, with financial assistance, subject to eligibility and willingness of the manual scavenger, and the provisions of the relevant scheme of the Central Government or the State Government or the concerned local authority;

(d) he, or at least one adult member of his family, shall be given, subject to eligibility and willingness, training in a livelihood skill, and shall be paid a monthly stipend of not less than three thousand rupees, during the period of such training;

(e) he, or at least one adult member of his family, shall be given, subject to eligibility and willingness, subsidy and concessional loan for taking up an alternative occupation on a sustainable basis, in such manner as may be stipulated in the relevant scheme of the Central Government or the State Government or the concerned local authority;

(f) he shall be provided such other legal and programmatic assistance, as the Central Government or State Government may notify in this behalf.

(2) The District Magistrate of the district concerned shall be responsible for rehabilitation of each manual scavenger in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (1) and the State Government or the District Magistrate concerned may, in addition, assign responsibilities in his behalf to officers subordinate to the District Magistrate and to officers of the concerned Municipality.

14. If any Panchayat has reason to believe that some persons are engaged in manual scavenging within its jurisdiction, the Chief Executive Officer of such Panchayat shall cause scavengers in a survey of such manual scavengers to be undertaken, mutatis mutandis, in accordance with the provisions of section 11 and section 12, to identify such person. Panchayats.

15. (1) Any person working as a manual scavenger, in a rural area, may, either during the survey undertaken by the Panchayat within whose jurisdiction he works, in pursuance of section 14 or at any time thereafter, apply, in such manner, as may be prescribed, to the Chief Executive Officer of the concerned Panchayat, or to any other officer authorised by him in this behalf, for being identified as a manual scavenger.

(2) On receipt of an application under sub-section (1), the Chief

Executive Officer shall cause it to be enquired into, either as part of the survey undertaken under section 14 or when no such survey is in progress, within fifteen days of receipt of such application, so as to ascertain whether the applicant is a manual scavenger.

16. Any person included in the final list of manual scavengers, published in pursuance Rehabilitation of section 14 or added thereto in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 15 shall be^{ns} rehabilitated, mutatis mutandis, in the manner laid down for urban manual scavengers in manual section 13. scavengers by a Panchayat.

CHAPTER V

IMPLEMENTING AUTHORITIES

17. Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, it Responsibility shall be the responsibility of every local authority to ensure, through awareness campaign authorities to

or in such other manner that after the expiry of a period of nine months, from the date of commencement of this Act, –
elimination of insanitary

(i) no insanitary latrine is constructed, maintained or used within its jurisdiction; and

(ii) in case of contravention of clause (i), action is taken against the occupier under sub-section (3) of section 5.

18. The appropriate Government may confer such powers and impose such duties on Authorities local authority and District Magistrate as may be necessary to ensure that the provisions of specified for

this Act are properly carried out, and a local authority and the District Magistrate may, specify the subordinate officers, who shall exercise all or any of the powers, and perform all provisions of or any of the duties, so conferred or imposed, and the local limits within which such powers this Act. or duties shall be carried

out by the officer or officers so specified.

19. The District Magistrate and the authority authorised under section 18 or any other Duty of subordinate officers specified by them under that section shall ensure that, after the expiry^t of such period as specified for the purpose of this Act,— and authorised

(a) no person is engaged or employed as manual scavenger within their^s jurisdiction;

Appointment of inspectors and their powers.

(b) no one constructs, maintains, uses or makes available for use, an insanitary latrine;

(c) manual scavengers identified under this Act are rehabilitated in accordance with section 13, or as the case may be, section 16;

(d) persons contravening the provisions of section 5 or section 6 or section 7 are investigated and prosecuted under the provisions of this Act; and

(e) all provisions of this Act applicable within his jurisdiction are duly complied with.

20. (1) The appropriate Government may, by notification, appoint such persons as it thinks fit to be inspectors for the purposes of this Act, and define the local limits within which they shall exercise their powers under this Act.

(2) Subject to any rules made in this behalf, an inspector may, within the local limits of his jurisdiction, enter, at all reasonable times, with such assistance as he considers necessary, any premises or place for the purpose of,—

(a) examining and testing any latrine, open drain or pit or for conducting an inspection of any premises or place, where he has reason to believe that an offence under this Act has been or is being or is about to be committed, and to prevent employment of any person as manual scavenger;

(b) examine any person whom he finds in such premises or place and who, he has reasonable cause to believe, is employed as

a manual scavenger therein, or is otherwise in a position to furnish information about compliance or non-compliance with the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder;

(c) require any person whom he finds on such premises, to give information which is in his power to give, with respect to the names and addresses of persons employed on such premises as manual scavenger and of the persons or agency or contractor employing or engaging them;

(d) seize or take copies of such registers, record of wages or notices or portions thereof as he may consider relevant in respect of an offence under this Act which he has reason to believe has been committed by the principal employer or agency; and

(e) exercise such other powers as may be prescribed.

(3) Any person required to produce any document or thing or to give any information required by an inspector under sub-section (2) shall be deemed to be legally bound to do so within the meaning of section 175 and section 176 of the Indian Penal Code.

(4) The provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, shall, so far as may be, apply to any such search or seizure under sub-section (2) as they apply to such search or seizure made under the authority of a warrant issued under section 94 of the said Code.

CHAPTER VI

PROCEDURE FOR TRIAL

21. (1) The State Government may confer, on an Executive Magistrate, the powers of a Judicial Magistrate of the first class for the trial of offences under this Act; and, on such conferment of powers, the Executive Magistrate, on whom the powers are so conferred, shall be deemed, for the purposes of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, to be a Judicial Magistrate of the first class.

(2) An offence under this Act may be tried summarily.

22. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, every offence under this Act shall be cognizable and non-bailable.

23. (1) Where an offence under this Act has been committed by a company, every
Offences by person who, at the time the offence was committed, was in charge of, and was responsible to, companies. the company for the conduct of the business of the company, as well as the company, shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where any offence under this Act has been committed by a company and it is proved that offence has been committed with the consent or connivance of, or is attributable to, any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other officer of the company, such director, manager, secretary
or other officer shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Explanation. — For the purposes of this section, —

(a) “company” means any body corporate and includes a firm or other association of individuals; and

(b) “director” in relation to a firm, means a partner in the firm.

CHAPTER VII

VIGILANCE COMMITTEES

24. (1) Every State Government shall, by notification, constitute a Vigilance Committee for each district and each Sub-Division. Committees.

(2) Each Vigilance Committee constituted for a district shall consist of the following members, namely: —

(a) the District Magistrate – Chairperson, ex officio;

(b) all members of the State Legislature belonging to the Scheduled Castes elected from the district – members:

Provided that if a district has no member of the State Legislature belonging to the Scheduled Castes, the State Government may nominate such number of other members of the State Legislature from the district, not exceeding two, as it may deem appropriate.

(c) the district Superintendent of Police – member, ex officio;

(d) the Chief Executive Officer of, –

(i) the Panchayat at the district level – member, ex officio;

(ii) the Municipality of the district headquarters – member, ex officio;

(iii) any other Municipal Corporation constituted in the district – member, ex officio;

(iv) Cantonment Board, if any, situated in the district – member,

(e) one representative be nominated by the railway authority located in the district;

(f) not more than four social workers belonging to organisation working for the prohibition of manual scavenging and rehabilitation of manual scavengers, or, representing the scavenger community, resident in the district, to be nominated by the District Magistrate, two of whom shall be women;

(g) one person to represent the financial and credit institutions in the district, to be nominated by the District Magistrate;

(h) the district-level officer in-charge of the Scheduled Castes Welfare –

Functions of Vigilance Committee.

(i) district-level officers of Departments and agencies who, in the opinion of the District Magistrate, subject to general orders, if any, of the State Government, have a significant role to play in the implementation of this Act.

(3) Each Vigilance Committee, constituted for a Sub-Division, shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) the Sub-Divisional Magistrate—Chairperson, ex officio;

(b) the Chairpersons and the Chief Executive Officers of Panchayats at intermediate level of the Sub-Division, and where Panchayats at intermediate level, do not exist, Chairpersons from two Panchayats at Village level to be nominated by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate—member, ex officio;

(c) the Sub-Divisional Officer of Police—member, ex officio;

(d) Chief Executive Officer of—

(i) the Municipality of the Sub-Divisional headquarters—member, ex officio; and

(ii) Cantonment Board, if any, situated in the Sub-Division—member, ex officio;

(e) one representative to be nominated by the railway authority located in the Sub-Division—member, ex officio;

(f) two social workers belonging to the organisation working for the prohibition of manual scavenging and rehabilitation of the manual scavengers, or representing the scavenger community resident in the Sub-Division, to be nominated by the District Magistrate, one of whom shall be a woman;

(g) one person to represent the financial and credit institutions in the Sub-Division, to be nominated by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate;

(h) the Sub-Divisional level officer in-charge of Scheduled Castes welfare— Member-Secretary, ex officio;

(i) Sub-Divisional level officers of Department and agencies who in the opinion of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, subject to any general orders of the State Government or the District Magistrate, have a significant role to play in the implementation of this Act—member, ex officio.

(4) Each Vigilance Committee constituted at district and Sub-Divisional level shall meet at least once in every three months.

(5) No proceeding of a Vigilance Committees shall be invalid merely by reason of any defect in its constitution.

25. The functions of Vigilance Committee shall be—

(a) to advise the District Magistrate or, as the case may be, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, on the action which needs to be taken, to ensure that the provisions of this Act or of any rule made thereunder are properly implemented;

(b) to oversee the economic and social rehabilitation of manual scavengers;

(c) to co-ordinate the functions of all concerned agencies with a view to channelise adequate credit for the rehabilitation of manual scavengers;

(d) to monitor the registration of offences under this Act and their investigation and prosecution.

26. (1) Every State Government shall, by notification, constitute a State Monitoring State Committee, consisting of the following members, namely:—

(a) the Chief Minister of State or a Minister nominated by him—Chairperson, ex officio;

(b) the Minister-in-charge of the Scheduled Castes Welfare, and such other Department, as the State Government may notify;

(c) Chairperson of the State Commissions for Safai Karamcharis, and Scheduled Castes, if any— member, ex officio;

(d) representatives of the National Commission for Scheduled

Castes, and SafaiKaramcharis – member, ex officio;

(e) not less than two members of the State Legislature belonging to the Scheduled

Castes, nominated by the State Government:

Provided that if any State Legislature has no member belonging to the Scheduled Castes, the State Government may nominate the members belonging to the Scheduled Tribes;

(f) the Director-General of Police – member, ex officio;

(g) Secretaries to the State Government in the Departments of Home, Panchayati Raj, Urban Local Bodies, and such other Departments, as the State Government may notify;

(h) Chief Executive Officer of at least one Municipal Corporation, Panchayat at the district-level, Cantonment Board and railway authority as the State Government may notify;

(i) not more than four social workers belonging to organisation working for the prohibition of manual scavenging and rehabilitation of manual scavengers, or, representing the scavenger community, resident in the State, to be nominated by the State Government, two of whom shall be women;

(j) State-level head of the convener Bank of the State Level Bankers' Committee – member, ex officio;

(k) Secretary of the Department of the State Government dealing with development of the Scheduled Castes – Member-Secretary, ex officio;

(l) such other representative of Departments of the State Government and such other agencies which, in the opinion of the State Government, are concerned with the implementation of this Act.

(2) The State Monitoring Committee shall meet at least once in every six months and shall observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at its meetings as may be

prescribed.

27. The functions of the State Monitoring Committee shall be –
Functions of the State

(a) to monitor and advise the State Government and local authorities for effective Monitoring implementation of this Act; Committee.

(b) to co-ordinate the functions of all concerned agencies;

(c) to look into any other matter incidental thereto or connected therewith for implementation of this Act.

28. Every State or Union territory Government and Union territory administration shall Duty of send such periodic reports to the Central Government about progress of implementation of^s this Act, as the Central Government may require.

29. (1) The Central Government shall, by notification, constitute a Central Monitoring Central Committee in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Functions of the Central Monitoring Committee.

(2) The Central Monitoring Committee shall consist of the following members, namely: –

(a) The Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment – Chairperson, ex officio;

(b) Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes – member, ex officio;

(c) Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment – member, ex officio;

(d) Chairperson, National Commission for Safai Karamcharis – member, ex officio;

(e) the Member of the Planning Commission dealing with development of the Scheduled Castes – member, ex officio;

(f) three elected members of Parliament belonging to Scheduled Castes, two from the Lok Sabha and one from the Rajya Sabha;

(g) Secretaries of the Ministries of, –

(i) Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment;

(ii) Urban Development;

(iii) Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation;

(iv) Drinking Water and Sanitation;

(v) Panchayati Raj;

(vi) Finance, Department of Financial Services; and

(vii) Defence, members, ex officio;

(h) Chairman, Railway Board – member, ex officio;

(i) Director-General, Defence Estates – member, ex officio;

(j) representatives of not less than six State Governments and one Union territory, as the Central Government may, notify;

(k) not more than six social workers belonging to organisation working for the prohibition of manual scavenging and rehabilitation of manual scavengers, or, representing the scavenger community, resident in the country, to be nominated by the Chairperson, two of whom shall be women;

(l) Joint Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, looking after development of Scheduled Castes – Member-Secretary, ex officio;

(m) such other representatives of Central Ministries or Departments and agencies which, in the opinion of the Chairperson, are concerned with the implementation of this Act.

(3) The Central Monitoring Committee shall meet at least once in every six months.

30. The functions of the Central Monitoring Committee shall be, —

(a) to monitor and advise the Central Government and State Government for effective implementation of this Act and related laws and programmes;

(b) to co-ordinate the functions of all concerned agencies;

(c) to look into any other matter incidental to or connected with implementation of this Act.

31. (1) The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis shall perform the following Functions of functions, namely: —

(a) to monitor the implementation of this Act; for Safai Karamcharis.

(b) to enquire into complaints regarding contravention of the provisions of this

Act, and to convey its findings to the concerned authorities with recommendations requiring further action; and

(c) to advise the Central and the State Governments for effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

(d) to take suo motu notice of matter relating to non-implementation of this Act.

(2) In the discharge of its functions under sub-section (1), the National Commission shall have the power to call for information with respect to any matter specified in that sub-section from any Government or local or other authority.

32. (1) The State Government may, by notification, designate a State Commission for Power of Safai Karamcharis or a State Commission for the Scheduled Castes or such other statutory or^s other authority, as it deems fit, to perform, within the State, mutatis mutandis, the functions specified in sub-section (1) of section 31. an appropri-ate authority

(2) An authority designated under sub-section (1) shall, within the State, have, *mutatis mutandis*, the powers of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis as specified in sub-section (2) of section 31. this Act.

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS

33. (1) It shall be the duty of every local authority and other agency to use appropriate Duty of local technological appliances for cleaning of sewers, septic tanks and other spaces within their authorities control with a view to eliminating the need for the manual handling of excreta in the process of their cleaning.^a

(2) It shall be the duty of the appropriate Government to promote, through financial assistance, incentives and otherwise, the use of modern technology, as mentioned in sub-section of sewers, etc.

1 No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against an appropriate Protection of Government or any officer of the appropriate Government or any member of the Committee for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act.

2 No civil court shall have jurisdiction in respect of any matter to which any provision Jurisdiction of of this Act applies and no injunction shall be granted by any civil court in respect of anything, civil courts which is done or intended to be done, by or under this Act.

3 (1) The appropriate Government shall, by notification, make rules for carrying out Power of the provisions of this Act, within a period not exceeding three months from the date of appropriate commencement of this Act.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—

(a) the obligation of an employer, under clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 2;

(b) the manner in which the excreta fully decomposes under clauses (e) and (g) of sub-section (1) of section 2;

(c) the manner of carrying out survey of insanitary latrine and publishing list thereof under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 4;

(d) procedure of giving notice and recovering cost of demolition of an insanitary latrine under sub-section (3) of section 5;

(e) content and methodology of the survey under sub-section (2) of section 11;

(f) the eligibility conditions for identification of manual scavengers and publication of provisional list of persons found to be working as manual scavengers under sub-section (4) of section 11;

(g) publication of final list of persons found to be working as manual scavengers under sub-section (6) of section 11;

(h) manner of application to be made to the Chief Executive Officer of the municipality, or to an officer authorised by him in this behalf, under sub-section (1) of section 12 or, as the case may be, sub-section (1) of section 15;

(i) provision of initial, one time, cash assistance under sub-clause (ii) of clause

(a) of sub-section (1) of section 13;

(j) such other powers of Inspectors under clause (e) of sub-section (2) of section 20; and

(k) any other matter which is required to be, or may be, prescribed.

(3) Every rule made under this Act by the Central Government shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty

days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

(4) Every rule made under this Act by the State Government shall, as soon as may be after it is made, be laid before each House of State Legislature, where there are two Houses and where there is one House of State Legislature, before that House.

37. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 36 of this Act:—

(a) the Central Government shall, by notification, publish model rules for the guidance and use of State Governments; and

(b) in case the State Government fails to notify the rules under section 36 of this Act within the period of three months specified therein, then the model rules as notified by the Central Government shall be deemed to have come into effect, *mutatis mutandis*, in such State, till such time as the State Government notifies its rules.

(2) The model rules made by the Central Government under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after they are made, before each House of Parliament while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses make any modification in the rule, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form; so, however, that any such modification shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

38. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as may appear to it to be necessary or expedient for the removal of the difficulty:

Provided that no such order shall be made in relation to a State after the expiration of three years from the commencement of this Act in that State.

(2) Every order made under this section shall, as soon as may be after it is made, be laid before each House of Parliament.

39. (1) The appropriate Government may, by a general or special order published in the Power to Official Gazette, for reasons to be recorded, and subject to such conditions as it may impose, exempt any area, category of buildings or class of persons from any provisions of this Act or from any specified requirement contained in this Act or any rule, order, notification, bye-laws or scheme made thereunder or dispense with the observance of any such requirement in a class or classes of cases, for a period not exceeding six months at a time.

(2) Every general or special order made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament or each House of State Legislature, where there are two Houses and where there is one House of State Legislature, before that House.

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P.K. MALHOTRA,

Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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