



**Dalit Children's Right to quality  
education:  
Asserting and realizing their rights**



**Report by VNSS (Vasuthi Nilaygala Sudharna Samiti)**

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## ***People's Speak:***

“The major demand of VNSS is to establish hostels for our children in every cluster/hobli to meet our demand of *one-hostel for one hobli!*” **Mr. Danappa, (Dalit Rights Activist) Raichur, Karnataka, India**

“There is an absence of political will-the ‘heart’-to implement this scheme effectively. Once this is there the whole situation of the hostels would improve drastically. The Guru Prasad Committee’s report recommended constituting a Commission; this should be established to improve the access and quality of education for our children in these hostels. A framework for monitoring and review also needs to be established” **Mr. J.B. Raju (Convenor, VNSS, Karnataka, India)**

“The Madiga children face a lot of abuse and discrimination in the villages. These are the children whose dreams for a better future can only be realised if they are able to access quality education in these hostels. For this there is an urgent need to implement the recommendations of the Guru Prasad Committee and establish these hostels as centres of learning and development.” **Mr. Parthasarathy (Madiga Rights Activist), Tumkur, Karnataka, India**

“The hotel situation has improved over the last few years, but there is still a lot left to be done to improve the quality of hostels; books and reading rooms should be available for all children in hostels, the quality of Hostels can be at par with *Navodaya* schools (premier state sponsored residential boarding schools in India)”. **Mr. Hanumantha Mang, Bagalkote (Karnataka, India)**

“There should be an increase in the number of hostels for girls to ensure quality education and more devadasi girls should be able to access these hostels to secure their future and escape the risk of exploitation and abuse.” **Ms. Irawathi Mang, MASS, Belgaum, Karnataka, India**

“Community based Organisations should focus on ensuring that the Madiga children are aware of the hostels and should lobby with the local government to implement the hostel scheme effectively.” **Mr. Ranjith Bonaventure, FENCE, Bellary, Karnataka, India**

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## Introduction:

The establishment of the hostels for the dalit students and students from the tribal belts at the district level was towards fulfillment of a vision to see the hostels as centres of developmental and educational learning for students who would otherwise not be able to overcome the barriers of caste, gender, religion and regional disparities and come to the cities to pursue higher education and develop their talent and social skills. The hostels facilitated debates and discussions and an increased understanding of the dalit students of their socio-cultural and political environment.

The main players within the raging discourse on the need of quality hostels closer to the dalit communities were people from the dalit rights movement, Dalit Sangharsh Samiti and Hostels Development and Improvement Committee comprising of prominent dalit leaders with a vision for quality education for dalit children. These were people who had firsthand experience of living in the hostels and had ever since been challenging and agitating for the improvement of the situation of the hostels. The regional disparities and the socio-cultural-political-economic context within which the Madiga and Devadasi children were marginalized and discriminated compelled these leaders to challenge the positive discrimination policies of the government. Most of the policies specifically focusing on dalit issues were inadequately implemented and the health and education indicators showed that there was an urgent need of a political and social revolution for assertion of dalit communities' rights to quality education, health and livelihood. Around early 90s this process of introspection and analysis of the situation of the Madiga children and community gained momentum. The need for more schools and hostels was expressed by the children and families from the dalit communities. The Guruprasad Committee report, 1986 (discussed later in the report) had been released on the situation of the hostels and the state had till then taken no/little action on the recommendations which mainly focused on the improvement of the quality of amenities provided in the hostels. A lot of anger was building up and there seemed no respite. This led to demonstrations and charter of demands periodically presented to the state and the district administration for effective implementation of the SC/ST Hostels scheme. Despite the fact that the central government has implemented a 100% grant scheme (Centrally Sponsored scheme) for the construction of girls' hostels for the Scheduled Castes, SC girl's hostels are still more neglected in Karnataka than SC boy's hostels. Overall there is a need for the effective implementation of the Special Component plan for the overall development of the dalit community.

The period from early 90s and early 2000 saw the rise of the Madiga Movement which amongst other things prioritized Madiga children's right to quality education and how this right was linked to their community's cultural and political transformation and Madiga children's right to livelihood and overall development. Ever since the movement has gained credibility and has been the main force for visibilising issue of the Madiga children and community. Following the ideology of B.R.Ambedkar and demanding the assertion, reclaiming and building of positive dalit identities, the movement has been successful in highlighting the large scale dalit rights violations and state's apathy to dalit issues. A call for state accountability for effective governance and dalit liberation has been the driving force which led to the state wide campaign focusing on the Dalit hostels.

In this scenario it becomes important to address this issue of hostels for dalit children for ensuring higher education for them. In fact if the hostel conditions are improved they can become centers of learning which enables students to have a meaningful future without taking them away from their families or community based care. The campaigners envisage improved quality of education to students living in the hostels by focusing on the provision of tuition facilities and libraries as a part of the

infrastructure of these hostels. The campaign is steadily supported by activists from the people's movements and the Madiga and devadasi community.

There have been several consultations with stakeholders and demonstrations to demand from state the effective functioning of this scheme. The main demands of the hostel campaign are as following: increase the number of Hostels at Block level/Hobli level so that it is closer to their communities and ensures that parents can visit their children and provide them with support and care periodically; enhance the quality of care and living conditions in the hostels; increase the number of Madiga/Devadasi students applying for the hostels.

Towards this process, in April 2009 the hostel activist group got together and a questionnaire was designed to collect and consolidate data on hostels- focusing on number of hostels and quality of hostels and shared with the group. The group decided to collect and analyze the data and prepare a consolidated report. The questionnaire focused on collecting basic information on the existing number of hostels in 8 districts: Bagalkote, Belgaum, Bellary, Bijapur, Davangere, Gadag, Koppal and Raichur of North Karnataka. Some level of information was also collected in terms of quality of the hostels. The data was collected by visiting the hostels in the district, speaking to the students living in the Hostels, speaking to the Hostel Management, Social Welfare Department and other individuals who had information on the situation of the hostels.

The data collection was completed in July 2009. There were several meetings to share, consolidate and analyse the data. The meetings also invited other organizations/groups who had been agitating on the issue and had more insightful details of the hostels. The data was consolidated and analysed. The first draft was shared and discussed with the data collection/campaigner groups and their suggestions and feedback was incorporated in the analysis.

Hence, the present version of the report has been a result of several meetings and consultations with the hostel activist group and other key dalit rights leaders who have been campaigning on this issue for several years. This report, hopefully would pave a way towards increased demands for a secure future for our children.

***G.Sriramappa***

*(Country Director)*

*EveryChild India*

# Chapter 1: Legal Framework, Context of the Hostel Scheme in Karnataka, and Status of SCs

## Context of India

Throughout the world, it has been a common tenet that education is the principal force that has the absolute potential to bring about social change in society. In the state of Karnataka, the hostel scheme is the government's attempt to bring social change to the Scheduled Castes (SCs) through greater access to education. The Scheduled Castes are composed of social groups in India who are recognized by the Indian Constitution to have been depressed. The untouchables, or Dalits, compose a large portion of the Scheduled Castes, and despite the fact that the Indian Constitution abolished the caste system in 1950 through Article 17, overwhelming prejudice and discrimination against this group is still widespread and unchecked.

## **Constitutional Framework and Guarantees**

### Constitutional Influences

The current legal framework that governs education in India has its roots in the Constitution and places the burden of the creation of educational schemes for the Scheduled Castes on the government.

Article 16 of the Constitution is the principal mechanism that allows the government to establish affirmative action provisions for the Scheduled Caste<sup>1</sup>. It is what enables the Central government to develop special policies, such as the hostel scheme, for the socio-economic development of the scheduled caste.

Article 17 of the Constitution abolishes the practice of "Untouchability" that used to govern the Scheduled Caste roles in society. It states in relevant part that "'Untouchability' is abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden<sup>2</sup>." Nevertheless, echoes of the caste system continue to permeate many aspects of Indian society.

Article 21 A was the 86<sup>th</sup> amendment to the Constitution and states in relevant part: "The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the state may, by law, determine." This amendment essentially made children's right to education a Fundamental Right and not simply a directive principle of state policy. Since the state may determine in what manner to distribute this right, it is the only Fundamental Right to have been given conditionally<sup>3</sup>. Essentially this amendment has worked to strip children below the age of 6 of their Fundamental Right to Education.

Article 45 is a Directive Principle of State Policy. It ensures that all children be provided free and compulsory education until the age of fourteen. However, it has faced great criticism since its

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<sup>1</sup> The Constitution of India, Article 16

<sup>2</sup> The Constitution of India, Article 17 "Abolishment of Untouchability."

<sup>3</sup> Common School System and the Future of India—Anil Sad opal

enactment. For instance, among all the Directive Principles in Part IV of the Constitution, it was the only article that had indicated a time frame for its fulfillment within ten years of the commencement of the Constitution. Nevertheless, Free and Compulsory education was not enacted as legislation until 2009, nearly sixty years after the enactment of the Constitution<sup>4</sup>. Secondly, Article 45 includes children below the age of six. However, the current legislation does not give effect to the constitutional guarantee of free and compulsory education afforded to children below the age of six<sup>5</sup>. Therefore, the Article has not protected the rights of children below the age of six. Third, Article 45 should have been written in conjunction with Article 46 since Article 46 directs the State to give special attention to the education of the Scheduled Castes<sup>6</sup>.

### Supreme Court Cases

The 1993 *Unnikrishnaan v. State of Andhra Pradesh* judgment is the principal case that links the right to education to a Fundamental Right that flows from Article 21 A. In this case, the Supreme Court instructed that Article 45, a directive principle of state policy, should be read in “harmonious construction” with Article 21, which is a Fundamental Right<sup>7</sup>. As a result, the Supreme Court made the right to free and compulsory education until age fourteen a Fundamental Right<sup>8</sup>.

What is of major concern, however, is that the Fundamental Right to education was afforded to *all* children below the age of fourteen. Yet, the current legislation on the issue, the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act of 2009, does not extend this Fundamental Right to children below the age of six years. Therefore, while children below the age of six have a Fundamental and Constitutional right to free and compulsory education, in practice the current legislation does not respect this right.

### **At the National Level**

The right to education that is being withheld from children is having devastating effects, especially among the most marginalized segments of society. Illiteracy amongst the Scheduled Castes that is halting the social change that needs to come about in India. The SCs are arguably the most marginalized members of Indian society today. According to the 2001 Census, the literacy rate among the Scheduled Caste was 54.8% overall, with males having a literacy rate of 44.9% and females having a literacy rate of 65.38%<sup>9</sup>. On the other hand, when comparing national literacy rates to the state of Karnataka, the literacy rates among the Scheduled Castes in Karnataka is 52.9% overall, with males having a literacy rate of 63.8% and females having a literacy rate of 41.7%<sup>10</sup>. It is noteworthy that the female literacy rate in Karnataka is much lower than the national average, while the male literacy rate in Karnataka is higher than the national average.

The 1991 Census estimated that there were 138,200,000 people from the Scheduled Castes in India resulting in about 16.5% of the total population<sup>11</sup>. The 2001 Census reveals that the Scheduled Castes population had risen in number to 166,635,700 people or about 16.2% of the country’s total

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<sup>4</sup> Common School System and the Future of India—Anil Sadgopal

<sup>5</sup> Common School System and the Future of India—Anil Sadgopal

<sup>6</sup> Common School System and the Future of India—Anil Sadgopal

<sup>7</sup> Common School System and the Future of India—Anil Sadgopal

<sup>8</sup> Common School System and the Future of India—Anil Sadgopal

<sup>9</sup> Understanding Special Component Plan and how to Access it, page 7.

<sup>10</sup> Karnataka Development Report: Planning commission, Government of India.

<sup>11</sup> The Dalit Situation in India Today by John C. B. Webster, International Journal of Frontier Missions, Page 15.

[http://www.ijfm.org/PDFs\\_IJFM/18\\_1\\_PDFs/jw\\_dalit\\_situation.pdf](http://www.ijfm.org/PDFs_IJFM/18_1_PDFs/jw_dalit_situation.pdf).

population<sup>12</sup>. The Census also determined that, at a national level, 79.8% of the Scheduled Castes lives in rural areas and only 20.2% live in urban areas<sup>13</sup>. In Karnataka, in comparison, 74% of the Scheduled Caste lives in rural areas and 25.1% are living in urban areas respectively<sup>14</sup>. Thus, compared to the national average, there are more Scheduled Castes living in urban areas than in rural areas in Karnataka.

At a national level, the Central Government has implemented several strategies to educate the Scheduled Castes. For instance, the central government has introduced the Special Component Plan to help the Scheduled Castes develop at a faster rate. The primary objective of this plan is so that the central government can ensure that there are sufficient funds that would benefit the Scheduled Castes. Additionally, with the 86<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution, the central government developed Article 21A which made free and compulsory education of children a fundamental right. Furthermore, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act was enacted in 2009. This legislation makes education mandatory for children aged 6-14.

This paper, however, will more specifically look to the situation of the Scheduled Caste in Karnataka and will examine their access to education and hostels in the state.

## **In Karnataka**

### *Karnataka State*

In order to understand the plight of the Scheduled Castes in Karnataka, it is important to have a grasp of the state's landscape and composition first. In terms of area, Karnataka is the eighth largest state in India. Population-wise, Karnataka is the ninth largest state in India. Karnataka is divided into 30 districts and nine agro-climatic zones, namely: North-Eastern Transitional Zone, North-Eastern Dry Zone, Northern Dry Zone, Central Dry Zone, South-Eastern Dry Zone, Southern Dry Zone, South Central Dry Zone, Northern Transitional Zone, and Coastal Zone.

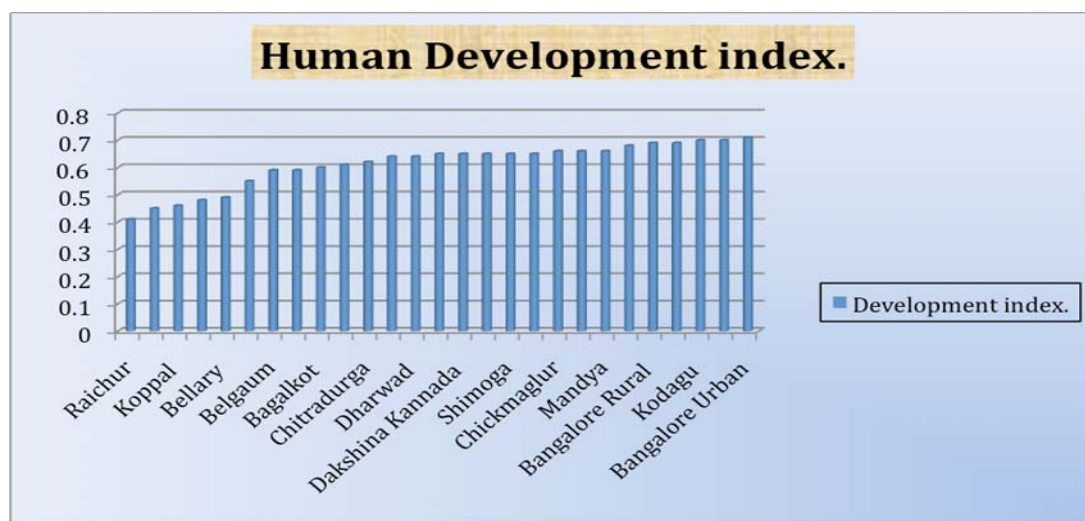
As a result of the many development initiatives undertaken only in and around the more urban areas of Bangalore and Mysore, most of Northern Karnataka has remained underdeveloped. The result has been the migration of the rural population from Northern Karnataka to these urban areas and to adjoining states in search of better livelihood. In 2002, S.M. Krishna commissioned the Nanjundappa Committee to study and recommend a comprehensive development program to remove regional imbalances in the Northern Karnataka districts. The report was presented to the government and called for the investment of an additional Rs. 15,000 crore over a seven-year period to achieve the goal. However, to date, because of a lack of political will towards the development of these regions, the state government has not followed through on these recommendations and the conditions in Northern Karnataka have largely remained unchanged.

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<sup>12</sup> "Who are the Dalit?" <http://www.nacdor.org/TEXT%20FILES/Dalit.htm>.

<sup>13</sup> "Who are the Dalit?" <http://www.nacdor.org/TEXT%20FILES/Dalit.htm>.

<sup>14</sup> Karnataka Data Highlights: The Scheduled Castes, [http://censusindia.gov.in/Tables\\_Published/SCST/dh\\_sc\\_karnataka.pdf](http://censusindia.gov.in/Tables_Published/SCST/dh_sc_karnataka.pdf).



### Context of the State and Current Status of the Scheduled Caste

In Karnataka, there are 3,478 villages with 40% or more Scheduled Castes population<sup>15</sup>. There are also 2,150 villages with 50% or more Scheduled Caste population<sup>16</sup>. The Scheduled Castes constitute approximately 16.38% of the total population in Karnataka<sup>17</sup>.

When considering education levels among the Scheduled Castes, it is important to remember that the Department of Public Instruction estimated in 2005, that the highest percentage of out-of-school children in the age group 7-14 in Karnataka were among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe<sup>18</sup>. The literacy rate in Karnataka for the Scheduled Castes in rural areas for males is 58.71%<sup>19</sup>. For females in rural areas in Karnataka it is strikingly low at 35.56%<sup>20</sup>. Overall, this results in a literacy rate of 47.25% for the Scheduled Caste in rural areas<sup>21</sup>.

There are great disparities in the livelihoods of the Scheduled Castes who live in the rural areas when compared to the SCs who live in urban areas. Especially when one considers that the 74.93% of the Scheduled Castes live in rural areas and 25.07% of the Scheduled Castes live in urban areas according to the 2001 Census<sup>22</sup>. The literacy rate in Karnataka for the Scheduled Castes in urban areas for males is 78.32%<sup>23</sup>. For females in urban areas in Karnataka it is 59.88%<sup>24</sup>. Overall, this results in a literacy rate of 69.27% for the Scheduled Castes in urban areas<sup>25</sup>.

The state-wise dropout rates for the Scheduled Castes are also quite dire in Karnataka. In Karnataka, from Classes I-X, 64.72% of Scheduled Caste boys drop out of school<sup>26</sup>. From Classes I-

<sup>15</sup> Karnataka Development Report, 2007

<sup>16</sup> Karnataka Development Report, 2007

<sup>17</sup> Government Responsibility to Dalit People—MC Raj

<sup>18</sup> Karnataka Human Development Report, 2005

<sup>19</sup> Karnataka Development Report, 2007

<sup>20</sup> Karnataka Development Report, 2007

<sup>21</sup> Karnataka Development Report, 2007

<sup>22</sup> Government Responsibility to Dalit People—MC Raj

<sup>23</sup> Karnataka Development Report, 2007

<sup>24</sup> Karnataka Development Report, 2007

<sup>25</sup> Karnataka Development Report, 2007

<sup>26</sup> Karnataka Development report, 2007, (data from 2005-2006)

X, 67.17 of Scheduled Caste girls drop out of school in Karnataka<sup>27</sup>. Overall, that results in 65.87% Scheduled Castes dropout rates in Karnataka<sup>28</sup>.

### Livelihood and Employment

In addition to literacy rates, land ownership is a vital indicator for the status of the Scheduled Castes' livelihoods. In Karnataka, the most vital livelihood option for the majority of the rural population is agriculture. Despite the fact that the situation varies slightly from village to village, there is a decreasing trend in the number of village artisans. This is largely due to the influence of new market forces and the invasion of factory-made goods, which have infiltrated the villages. Additionally, because the range of livelihood options depends largely on a person's level of education, in the villages where access to education, information, and infrastructure is limited, these villagers do not have many livelihood choices.

The 2005 enactment of the Central Government's National Rural Employment Guarantee Act guaranteed 100 days of employment to the rural population. The twin objectives of the scheme—rural development and employment—are still not wholly fulfilled nationally. The situation has been implemented shabbily in Karnataka as well. The poorest rural districts of Northern Karnataka have not been able to reap the benefits of the scheme. Lack of livelihood and shoddy implementation have forced rural workers to migrate to other districts and even to other states, while leaving behind their very young children in the care of extended family. Often, the older children will enter the child labor market by migrating with their families. The most devastating consequence is that education for these children becomes a secondary priority and their dreams of going to school remain only as dreams.

### Caste System in Karnataka

The ongoing acceptance of remnants of the caste system in Karnataka also hinders the rapid development of the Scheduled Castes. Society in Karnataka today continues to maintain a caste system, which has kept the Scheduled Castes in separate colonies. Among the different groups within the Scheduled Castes, Madigas are the poorest, most exploited, and most marginalized. They are often maliciously exploited and treated as untouchables by others. It is estimated that there are about 7-8 million Madigas living in Karnataka. High caste Hindus look to Madigas with arrogance and ill feeling and often see them as a servicing caste. Madigas live in abject poverty and depend both socially and economically on the higher castes for their livelihood. They are caught in a vicious cycle of unemployment, low wages, lack of income, lack of education, illiteracy, unskilled labor, and low status. Additionally, their extreme poverty levels encourage child labor and therefore result in high dropout rates from school. They often take loans from landlords at high interest rates and are pushed into bonded labor from these debt traps. It is estimated that 50% of the Scheduled Castes have lost their land due to indebtedness to their landlords.

### Sex Ratio

Overall in Karnataka, the sex ratio indicates a lower female birth rate in comparison to a high male birth rate. The 2001 National Census estimated that the total population of Karnataka is 52,850,562,

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<sup>27</sup> Karnataka Development Report, 2007, (data from 2005-2006)

<sup>28</sup> Karnataka Development Report, 2007, (data from 2005-2006)

of which 26,898,918, or 50.89%, are male and 25,951,644, or 49.11% are female. In other words, for every 1000 males there are 964 females.

The situation in Karnataka is quite grave, particularly in the northern districts where indicators for girls and women are nearly the worst in the country.

### Child Population

Furthermore, as the overall population increases, the child population has also increased to a rough estimate of 44% of the total population. According to the 2001 Census, the total population of children aged 0-6 in the state of Karnataka is 6,826,168<sup>29</sup>. There are over 48,000 government sponsored educational institutions that cater to elementary education.

An NCERT study found that in Karnataka, 87% of the children of the children in the fourth standard could not read Kannada and 90% had not mastered basic numeracy skills.

62.4% of the total child population in Karnataka, aged between 6-14 years, attend schools while the rest are at work or loitering, resulting in 3.8 million out of school children or “invisible” children.

According to the 2006 survey conducted by *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyana*, there are more than 75,000 out-of-school children in Karnataka. The lack of political will to universalize elementary education and the ignorance of the bureaucracy has contributed to an increase in the number of child laborers.

Child labor is one of the major hurdles for implementing the universalization of elementary education. Whatever the work may be, these children cannot spare the time to attend a day school.

### Hostel Scheme Within the Context of Education in Karnataka

In Karnataka, it is speculated that 50% of Indian children aged 6-18 do not attend school<sup>30</sup>. Furthermore, of the ten million students who attended primary school in Karnataka, it is estimated that by the time they reached secondary school, over seven million students drop out, resulting in a student population of 2,300,000 in secondary school. According to the Karnataka Development Report, the Scheduled Castes compose 16.2% of the total population in Karnataka<sup>31</sup>. Furthermore, according to the 1996 state of Karnataka’s Socio-economic Survey of the Scheduled Caste, 93.53% of families were reported to be below the Poverty Line<sup>32</sup>. Finally, the 2001 Census reports that the Scheduled Caste population is 8,560,000<sup>33</sup>.

According to the 2001 Census, the literacy rate in Karnataka is 66.6%. However, most districts in Northern Karnataka still have the lowest literacy rates in the state. For instance Raichur’s literacy rate is 48.8%, Koppal’s literacy rate is 54.1%, Bellary’s literacy rate is 57.4%, and Bagalkote’s literacy rate is 57.4%. A large portion of children, however, lives below the poverty line and do not go to school.

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<sup>29</sup> Infochange Population, <http://infochangeindia.org/200210025882/Population/Statistics/Child-population-0-to-6-years-sex-ratio.html>,

<sup>30</sup> State Level Consultation on Status of Education in Karnataka Conference, June 6, 2010 in Bangalore, Speech by Professor Chandrashekar.

<sup>31</sup> Karnataka Development Report: Planning Commission, Government of India.

<sup>32</sup> Government Responsibility to Dalit People—by MC Raj

<sup>33</sup> Health Indicators of Karnataka, <http://mohfw.nic.in/NRHM/State%20Files/karnataka.htm#sp>

The educational situation is so grave that the majority of government-sponsored “zero-pass” Pre-University colleges that recorded zero-pass student pass rates were located in North Karnataka. Of the 28 Government Pre-University colleges that recorded zero-pass percentages in Karnataka, 25 were located in northern Karnataka<sup>34</sup>.

It is found that children from Madiga communities hardly complete their 5<sup>th</sup> standard schooling and that a majority of the girls have not seen what a school looks like. Ultimately, the problem is that the government schools do not provide an atmosphere for learning.

There are currently several schemes through the central and state governments working towards the elevation of the Scheduled Castes. The central government has enacted the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) and recently, the state of Karnataka has pioneered the Special Component Plan in an effort to strategically uplift the Scheduled Castes through the establishment of government-sponsored hostels<sup>35</sup>. Additionally, the state of Karnataka has established 282 Post-Matriculation hostels for the Scheduled Castes in order to encourage these children to pursue higher education<sup>36</sup>.

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<sup>34</sup>Majority of ‘zero-pass’ PU colleges are in North Karnataka, <http://www.thehindu.com/2009/05/19/stories/2009051954140500.htm>.

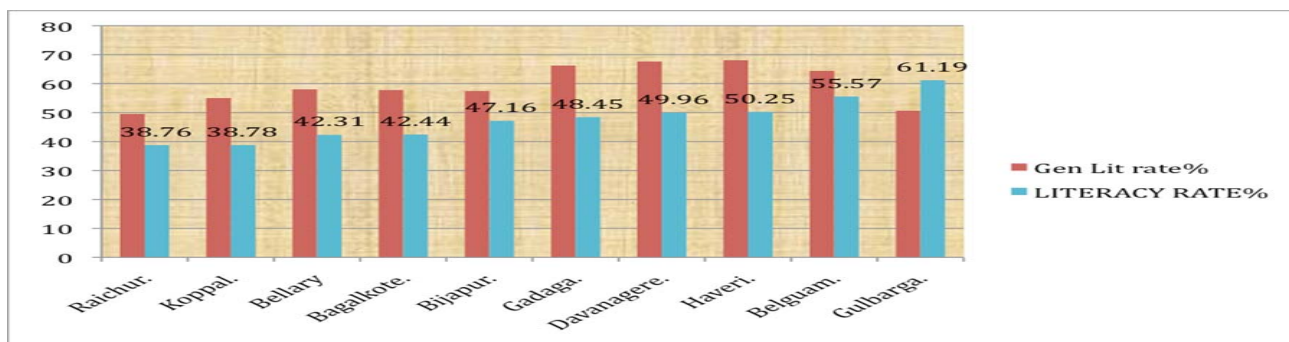
<sup>35</sup> Karnataka Development Report: Planning Commission, Government of India (part 2)

<sup>36</sup> Directorate of Social Welfare: Education Schemes and Post-Matric Hostels

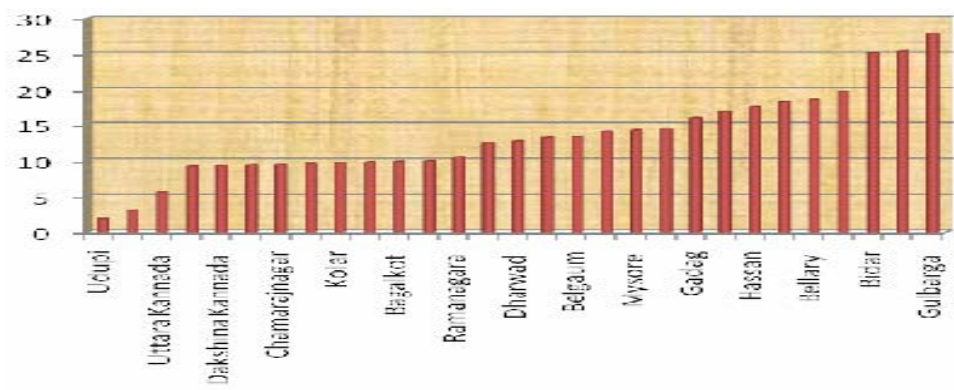
**Literacy rate of the general population as opposed to Literacy rate of SC Population:  
According to the 2001 Census**

SI NO	Districts.	GEN POPULATION,	Gen Lit rate%	Total SC POPULATION	% SC population	LITERACY RATE%
1	Raichur	1669762	49.54	317276	19.00127084	38.76
2	Koppal	1196089	55.02	183209	15.31733843	38.78
3	Bellary	2027140	58.04	374218	18.46039247	42.31
4	Bagalkote	1651892	57.81	250604	15.17072545	42.44
5	Bijapur	1806918	57.46	334254	18.49857049	47.16
6	Gadag	971835	66.27	137414	14.13964305	48.45
7	Davangere	1790952	67.67	333227	18.60613796	49.96
8	Haveri.	1439116	68.09	175360	12.18525817	50.25
9	Belgaum	4214505	64.42	462020	10.96261601	55.57
10	Gulbarga.	3130922	50.65	717595	22.91960643	61.19

There is a huge gap between the General Population's literacy rates as opposed to the literacy rates of the SC Population. This shows the regional and the caste disparities.



**Dropout rate of children in primary school**



## Chapter 2: History of the campaign and Hostel Survey Data

### Historical Background

Scholars presume that the *sanskritization* of education is the principal reason why the Scheduled Castes have been held back academically in relation to the rest of the Indian castes. The *sanskritization* of education refers to the period of time when the caste system was only available to the upper class, such as the Brahmans, and was not readily accessible by the Scheduled Castes<sup>37</sup>. In the *sanskritization* model, Brahmans did not share their education with others and therefore the lowest castes, primarily the Scheduled Castes, have been able to upwardly mobilize. Today, it is arguable that information sharing has not unequivocally taken place. Despite the fact that SCs are inside of the social development discussion today, the Brahmanical framework that is certainly still in place has not allowed much change to take place<sup>38</sup>.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century theorist, Phule, published a book in 1885 called Guluagiri in which he claimed that the Aryan theory of superior race was the reason why the Scheduled Castes faced such great exploitation<sup>39</sup>. In his book, he sought to unite the non-Brahmans, or shudras and the SCs, or the atishudras, by reasoning that the Aryans were conquering the non-Aryans with religion as a tool to subordinate them<sup>40</sup>.

The subsequent mobilization of the repressed and exploited groups of Indian society occurred predominantly throughout the 1920s and 1930s and they began to protest in terms of Aryan and Brahmanical exploitation of the Scheduled Caste through a religious framework<sup>41</sup>.

From the 1930's through the 1950s, Dr. Ambedkar—a thinker, political leader, jurist, and the principal architect of the Indian Constitution—began a longer-term strategy to break up the notion of a caste system through dissolving the Aryan religion of “Hinduism.”<sup>42</sup>

After Dr. Ambedkar's death, the 1970s were filled with a fresh round of lower-caste uprisings that impacted the political landscape. They were halted however, in the 1980s, once the “Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization” (LPG) process began at the recommendation of the World Bank. The Indian government, as the result of a World Bank study in 1986 that stressed that educated people were bound to be prone to the market, adopted the LPG process and consequently began to neglect the Scheduled Caste empowerment initiative. The World Bank's theory was that productive people in India would expand the market and would allow India to transition to developed status. This theory, however, neglected the ever-present problems on the ground that continued to plague such a great portion of the Indian population.

It is also arguable that the system of modern education that is in existence today is in large part a consequence of the British rule in India<sup>43</sup>. The British only sought to produce a small, educated workforce that would always remain subordinate to their leadership<sup>44</sup>.

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<sup>37</sup> Analysis of Policies and Budget for Education by Shivasundar—Speech

<sup>38</sup> Analysis of Policies and Budget for Education by Shivasundar—Speech

<sup>39</sup> Dalit Visions (chapter 3)

<sup>40</sup> Dalit Visions (chapter 3)

<sup>41</sup> Dalit Visions (chapter 3)

<sup>42</sup> Dalit Visions (Chapter 3)

As a result of this elitist British practice, Dr. Ambedkar urged the placement of Article 45 as a Directive Principle of the State's Educational Policy into the Constitution<sup>45</sup>. Article 45 states in relevant part that "the State shall endeavor to provide within a period of 10 years from the commencement of the Constitution, free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of 14 years<sup>46</sup>."

Ambedkar (who was from the untouchable community) advocated the placement Article 45 as a Directive Principle of the State's Educational Policy. It said that the state should provide "within a period of 10 years from the commencement of the Constitution, free and compulsory education for all children until the complete the age of 14 years." Ultimately, both the central and state governments recognized that the only way to further this goal was to provide the basic infrastructure needed to ensure that all children had access to education. Therefore, when education is not easily accessible in every village, this goal can only be achieved with government-sponsored hostel facilities.

Today, the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, enacted in 2009, is the governing law on education in India. It states in relevant part "Every child of the age of six to fourteen years shall have a right to free and compulsory education in a neighborhood school till completion of elementary education<sup>47</sup>."

### **History of the Right to Education/Timeline of Important Events<sup>48</sup>**

**1950:** Constitution of India contained Article 45, as one of the directive principles of State policy, which states that: "The State shall endeavor to provide within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution, for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years."

**1968:** First National Commission for education under Dr. Kothari submits its reports. It introduced several far-reaching changes as uniform curriculum for boys and girls, mathematics and science as compulsory subjects etc. It also proposed a Common School System.

**1976:** Constitution amendment making education a concurrent subject (responsibility of both state and center) was passed

**1986:** National policy on Education (NPE) endorsing Common School System (CSS) was formulated. Subsequent NPE's endorsed CSS but it has never been implemented

**1993:** The Supreme Court in the case *Unnikrishnaa v. State of Andhra Pradesh* ruled that the right to education is a fundamental right that flows from the Right to life in Article 21 of the Constitution

**1997:** Constitution Amendment making Education a Fundamental Right was introduced

**2002:** 86th Constitution Amendment added Article 21A stating that "The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age six to fourteen years in such as a way as the State may, by law, determine." The 86th Amendment also modified Article 45 which reads as "The state shall endeavor to provide early childhood care and

<sup>43</sup> Gurupasad Committee Report—31

<sup>44</sup> Gurupasad Committee Report—31

<sup>45</sup> Gurupasad Committee Report—31

<sup>46</sup> Gurupasad Committee Report-- 31

<sup>47</sup> Free and Compulsory Education Act , 2009 Chapter Two, 3 (1).

<sup>48</sup> <http://www.ashanet.org/campaigns/rte/HistoryOfRightToEducation.html>

education for all children until they complete the age of 6 years”

**2005:** CABE committee report constituted to draft the Right to Education Bill submits its report

**September 2009:** Right of Children to Free and compulsory Education Act is enacted by the Parliament

## **Education as Livelihood—Why the need for Hostels**

The Social Welfare Department of Karnataka is implementing economic, social, and economic schemes to reach its goal of the development of the Scheduled Castes.

Under the educational category, one scheme that is being implemented is the provision of hostel facilities for children from the Scheduled Caste/Schedules Tribe communities for Pre-Matriculation and college education. The purpose of this scheme was to educate SC/ST students at the district level and to enable them to overcome social, economic, and educational barriers. The scheme also aims to promote the overall cultural and political transformation that is needed to help vulnerable Scheduled Caste children destroy the barriers that prevent them from moving upwards in society.

Children from villages where there is no schooling beyond the primary level must study in schools at the block level in other villages. Since these schools are often remote from the villages, the children can only attend these schools by living in hostels in order to pursue their higher education.

Currently, the hostels that have been implemented for SC students are in a deficient state. The children from the SC communities face large hurdles to avail primary education such that they are unable to reach a stage where they cannot usually explore opportunities for higher education. And once they reach this stage, the children tend to dropout of schools because the badly maintained hostels that they are expected to live in. Ultimately, many of these children enter into the child labor market or remain unemployment.

Even though the SC student population has increased manifold, the allocation of funds has remained stagnant. Also, hostels across Karnataka are in a pathetic condition due to widespread mismanagement and corruption.

## **State Policies**

### **Central Government's Role**

The central government has enacted the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), which aims to construct hostels for Scheduled Caste boys and girls. The scheme initially began in 1963 to give an impetus to Scheduled Caste girl's education<sup>49</sup>. In 1990, however, the scheme was extended to SC boys as well<sup>50</sup>. The principle purpose of this scheme is to provide free hostels to lodge Schedule Caste boys and girls who are in school studying<sup>51</sup>.

The central government has several guidelines in order to determine when hostels should be built for the Scheduled Caste Boys and Girls. They are: 1) high concentration of SC population and low

<sup>49</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India—April 2009, slide 19/76

<sup>50</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India—April 2009, slide 19/76

<sup>51</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India—April 2009, slide 19/76

literacy rates among the SCs in the area, 2) inadequate hostel facilities in the area, 3) availability of school attending children, 4) an adequate number of educational institutions, and 5) suitable location considering the connectivity aspect, safety, and security of SC students in particular<sup>52</sup>.

The central government also has guidelines that determine the *number* of hostels to be built. They are: 1) the hostels should be located in large villages with a large Scheduled Caste population, 2) these large villages should meet a satisfactory standard of education based on examinations, 3) the existing hostel facilities in the proposed place should be inadequate and only with the construction of more hostels can a good standard of education be met, and 4) the hostels for girls should be opened in important educational centers having a separate high school for girls and adequate security arrangements<sup>53</sup>.

Therefore, the overall outcome of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme depends largely on the number of hostels that are constructed and whether the Scheduled Caste community is deriving the majority of the benefits<sup>54</sup>.

### **Centrally Sponsored Scheme and Budget**

The central government's hostel scheme, which builds hostels for Scheduled Caste Boys and Girls, has recently been renamed "Babu Jagjiban Ram Chhatrawas Yojana." Today, the scheme provides central assistance to the states on a 50-50% matching share basis for the construction of SC hostels for boys and 100% grants from the central government to the States for the construction of SC hostels for girls<sup>55</sup>. The increase of central funding for the SC girls hostels increased from 50% to 100% on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 in order to focus on areas with SC concentration and low female literacy<sup>56</sup>.

However, despite the fact that the central government has implemented a 100% grant scheme for the construction of girls' hostels for the Scheduled Castes, SC girl's hostels are still more neglected in Karnataka than SC boy's hostels. For instance, in the 2006-2007 fiscal year, central assistance to Karnataka for Boys hostels for the Scheduled Caste totaled 408 lakhs<sup>57</sup>. In comparison, in the 2006-2007 fiscal year, central assistance to Karnataka for girls' hostels for the Scheduled Castes totaled 222 lakhs<sup>58</sup>. There was a slight improvement during the 2009-2010, but not much. In the 2009-2010 fiscal year, the national allocation for SC girls' hostels in Karnataka totaled 233 lakhs<sup>59</sup>. In the 2009-2010 fiscal year, the national allocation for SC boys hostels in Karnataka dropped significantly to 169 lakhs<sup>60</sup>. Therefore, the overall lack of attention to the education of SC girls is still very prevalent.

Official estimates indicate that the portion of the overall budget dedicated to children in the 2003-2004 fiscal year was 2.33%<sup>61</sup>. Official estimates also indicate that the portion of the overall budget dedicated to children in the 2006-2007 fiscal year rose to 4.91%<sup>62</sup>. Today, it is estimated that merely

<sup>52</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India—April 2009, slide 19/76

<sup>53</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India—April 2009, slide 27/76

<sup>54</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India—April 2009, slide 68/76

<sup>55</sup> Annual Report 2007-2008—Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment: Government of India

<sup>56</sup> Annual Report 2007-2008—Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment: Government of India

<sup>57</sup> Central Assistance to States under the Scheme of Boys Hostels during X plan period in Karnataka

<sup>58</sup> Central Assistance to States under the Scheme of Girls Hostels during X plan period in Karnataka

<sup>59</sup> National Allocation to the States 2009-2010 (Karnataka Statistics)

<sup>60</sup> National Allocation to the States 2009-2010 (Karnataka Statistics)

<sup>61</sup> Infochange India, UNCRC

<sup>62</sup> Infochange India, UNCRC

4.29% of the overall budget is dedicated to children despite the fact that they constitute 44% of the Indian population<sup>63</sup>.

In Karnataka, from 2007-2010, 25 hostels were sanctioned for the Scheduled Castes students and 16 were sanctioned for the Scheduled Tribes students<sup>64</sup>. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 163 hostels for the Scheduled Castes have been built to date<sup>65</sup>.

It is therefore evident that there remains a large gap between the funding required to fulfill the rights of the Scheduled Castes and the money promised through budgets.

### **Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS)**

The ICDS scheme was launched in October 1975 and remains one of the world's largest and most comprehensive early childhood development schemes<sup>66</sup>. ICDS is India's primary response to providing pre-school or pre-elementary education that is owed to children below the age of 6. This scheme stems from the constitutional guarantee provided in Article 45 of the Indian Constitution. It states in relevant part, "The State shall endeavor to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years<sup>67</sup>."

This scheme was implemented to achieve the following objectives: 1) to improve the nutritional and health status of children below the age of six, 2) to lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical, and social development of the child, 3) to reduce infant mortality and malnutrition, and 4) to enhance the mother's capacity to look after the nutritional needs of her child<sup>68</sup>.

This national level scheme is implemented by the state and the nutritional services are established in the villages in centers called "Kendras." It is estimated that the government is spending nearly 700 crores for children under the age of six under the ICDS program. Spending is typically on immunization, health check-ups, supplementary nutrition, referral services, pre-school and non-formal education, and health education<sup>69</sup>.

### **Free and Compulsory Education Act**

This legislation has its roots in the drafting of the Constitution at the time of independence. Dr. Ambedkar wanted to ensure that the right to free and compulsory education would remain at the very least a Directive Principle of State Policy through Article 45. More recently, however, it is tied to the 86<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment that made the right to free and compulsory education a Fundamental Right through the addition of Article 21A in the Constitution. The Free and Compulsory Education Act was passed in 2009 and it states in relevant part, "Every child of the age of six to fourteen years shall have a right to free and compulsory education in a neighborhood school till completion of elementary education<sup>70</sup>." Essentially, the act ensures that children aged 6-14 have education as a Fundamental Right and that the education they receive meets a certain minimum standard.

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<sup>63</sup> HLRN Conference: A workshop on the realization of child rights, in Bangalore, 07/01/2010, Speech by Praveen Shivshankar

<sup>64</sup> Hostels for SC/ST students in India—05/05/2010

<sup>65</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India—April 2009, slide 21/76

<sup>66</sup> Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, <http://wcd.nic.in/icds.htm>.

<sup>67</sup> The Constitution of India, Article 45 "Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years.

<sup>68</sup> Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, <http://wcd.nic.in/icds.htm>.

<sup>69</sup> Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, <http://wcd.nic.in/icds.htm>.

<sup>70</sup> Ministry of Law and Justice: "The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act," 2009, Chapter II 3(1).

The Act makes it impossible to expel students who are still receiving elementary education<sup>71</sup>.

Despite the government's attempt to provide free and compulsory education to a large portion of the population, the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act has many flaws and has faced a considerable amount of criticism.

First off, this law is a violent injustice to children aged 0-6 and 14-18. Article 21A made it a Fundamental Right to provide children aged 0-6 with free and compulsory education and this law strips these children of their Constitutional guarantee.

Secondly, in terms of the international framework, this law is a violation of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of Child (UNCRC). India ratified the UNCRC on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 1992—almost eighteen years ago. By ratifying the UNCRC, India is required to submit reports on its progress<sup>72</sup>. Article 28 of the UNCRC states in relevant part that “States Parties recognize the right of the child to education, and with a view to achieving this right progressively and on the basis of equal opportunity they shall, in particular (a) Make primary education compulsory and available free to all<sup>73</sup>.” The Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act therefore violates this particular UNCRC provision because it has not ensured primary education to “all.” Rather it has only provided it to children from 6-14. As a result, the Central Government has not fully complied with the UNCRC provisions that it has sworn to respect and implement.

### **Special Component Plan**

The Special Component Plan (SCP) is a scheme that the central government introduced in 1979 to encourage the states to participate in order to develop the Scheduled Castes socio-economically. Essentially, the SCP is an instrument for SC development that demands that special funds should be set-aside for them based on the percentage of the population<sup>74</sup>. With these funds, the scheme hopes that the gap between the Scheduled Castes and the rest of society would be reduced and that they could integrate with the mainstream at a faster rate<sup>75</sup>.

Nevertheless, in practice, the Special Component Plan is not being implemented wholeheartedly across the country, despite Karnataka being a pioneer of the SCP in its own right. There is large failure of state policy with their budget allocation since nearly 15,000 crores are being denied to the Special Component Plan each year<sup>76</sup>. So, the state's response to the failures faced by the SCP is the primary obstacle. For instance, there have been reports that certain funds have been diverted from the SCP budget in order to meet private needs<sup>77</sup>.

There are certain steps that the state governments could take in order to comprehensively and effectively implement the Special Component Plan. First, they should ensure that they allocate funds to the SCP based on the percentage of Scheduled Caste in their population<sup>78</sup>. Second, funds that are allocated to the Special Component Plan should not be diverted from their original

<sup>71</sup> Ministry of Law and Justice: “The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act,” 2009, Chapter IV 16

<sup>72</sup> National Convention on the Rights of Child, <http://ncrcindia.org/pgp/ProgressTowardsUNCRC.html>.

<sup>73</sup> UNCRC, Article 28 (1)(a), Entry into force: 2 Sept 1990

<sup>74</sup> Understanding Special Component Plan and How to Access it by the National Dalit Forum

<sup>75</sup> Understanding Special Component Plan and How to Access It by the National Dalit Forum

<sup>76</sup> Understanding Special Component Plan and How to Access It by the National Dalit Forum

<sup>77</sup> Understanding Special Component Plan and How to Access It by the National Dalit Forum quoting “The Hindu,” page 28.

<sup>78</sup> Understanding Special Component Plan and How to Access It by the National Dalit Forum

destination<sup>79</sup>. Finally, if there are any unspent provisions, they should be automatically credit to a revolving fund so that they can be recycled and reused during the next fiscal year<sup>80</sup>.

### **Gurupasad Committee Formation**

The Gurupasad Committee was formed in 1986 to look into the existing conditions of the Scheduled Caste hostels and to suggest measures to improve them<sup>81</sup>.

The committee found that most hostels at the time were being rented and so repairs were not taking place and electricity was not provided to the inmates<sup>82</sup>. Furthermore, the committee noted that most hostels did not have dining halls, the water supply was inadequate and contaminated, the toilets were poorly maintained, and the kitchens were not conducive to eating<sup>83</sup>.

Many of the committee's observations still ring true about many SC hostels in Karnataka today. For instance, the committee noted that the rooms were small and that there wasn't enough room for the students<sup>84</sup>. The same can be said about hostels in Karnataka today where 6 children are expected to share two twin size beds. Also, the committee remarked that dining halls did not exist in most hostels and if there were dining halls, then they lacked adequate furniture<sup>85</sup>. In many hostels in Karnataka in 2010, while there are designated dining rooms, they do not have any furniture and children are expected to sit and eat on the floor where stray animals and rodents have been crawling just moments before. Therefore, it is quite clear that many of the observations made by the Gurupasad Committee in 1986 are still applicable to the Scheduled Caste hostels in Karnataka today.

### **Current Status of the Hostels**

According to the Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls, in Karnataka, admissions of SC students into the hostels was more than the sanctioned capacity of inmates<sup>86</sup>. The main problem faced by the Supervisors of the hostels in Karnataka was that advance funds were not released in time<sup>87</sup>.

Furthermore, in Karnataka, out of the 42 hostels that were studied, 33 were found functional, 2 were found non-functional and 6 were still under construction<sup>88</sup>. The study found that cleanliness was a major factor in the SC hostels in Karnataka since there was water accumulation around the toilets<sup>89</sup>.

Additionally, a majority of the supervisors from the SC hostels in Karnataka noted that they had not received any guidelines for the construction of the hostels<sup>90</sup>. The committee also remarked that hostels in Karnataka were overcrowded and the average occupancy per room exceeded 10 and even reached up to 30<sup>91</sup>.

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<sup>79</sup> Understanding Special Component Plan and How to Access It by the National Dalit Forum

<sup>80</sup> Understanding Special Component Plan and How to Access It by the National Dalit Forum, page 33.

<sup>81</sup> Gurupasad Committee Report, 1986.

<sup>82</sup> Gurupasad Committee Report, 1986.

<sup>83</sup> Gurupasad Committee Report, 1986

<sup>84</sup> Gurupasad Committee Report, 1986

<sup>85</sup> Gurupasad Committee Report, 1986

<sup>86</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India Report—April 2009

<sup>87</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India Report—April 2009

<sup>88</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India Report—April 2009, slide 47/76

<sup>89</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India Report—April 2009

<sup>90</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India Report—April 2009

<sup>91</sup> Evaluation Study on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India Report—April 2009



**Agitation/Dharnas by Dalit rights activists and hostel students for improving the condition of Hostels, Karnataka**

### **Current Status of Land**

Land is a fundamental resource that ensures the livelihood rights of all people, including the Scheduled Castes<sup>92</sup>. What is so tragic, however, is that 90% of the Scheduled Castes are either landless or marginal landowners in India<sup>93</sup>.

While land has remained the backbone of the rural Indian economy, the state has made unsatisfactory and inconsequential efforts at restoring land to the Scheduled Castes<sup>94</sup>.

In 2000, only 8.75% of the land in Karnataka belonged to the Scheduled Castes despite the fact that the 2001 Census estimated that they comprised 16.21% of the total population in the state<sup>95</sup>.

Therefore, there is unequal land distribution that the state should be working to equalize.

### **Data collection, consolidation, and analysis on the Hostels in 8 districts of North Karnataka: Number of Hostels and need for more:**

In order to prepare for this study, a questionnaire was designed to collect and consolidate data on hostels in April 2009. The group decided to collect and analyze the data and prepare a consolidated report. The questionnaire was shared with the group and it focused on the number and quality of the hostels. The questionnaire focused on collecting basic information on the existing number of hostels in 8 districts. These districts are: Bagalkote, Belgaum, Bellary, Bijapur, Davangere, Gadag, Koppal, and Raichur. Some degree of information was also collected in terms of the quality of the hostels. The data was collected by visiting the hostels in the districts, speaking to the students living in the hostels, speaking to the managers of the hostels, speaking to the social welfare department, and speaking to other individuals who had information on the current status of the hostels.

Data collection was completed in July 2009. There were several meetings where members of our team shared, consolidated and analyzed the data. The meetings also invited other organizations and groups that had been vocal on the issue and who could contribute critical expertise on the report. Ms. Prem Jytohi, a committed Dalit rights activist from Dalit Arthik Adhikar Andolan (Karnataka Chapter), was committed to the cause of the SC students and was a crucial resource when it came to consolidating and analyzing the data with EveryChild. The first draft was shared and discussed with the data collector and campaigning groups and their subsequent suggestions were incorporated into the analysis.

Therefore, the present version of the report has been a result of several meetings and consultations with the convergence groups and other key Dalit rights leaders who have been campaigning on this issue for several years.

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<sup>92</sup> Government Responsibility to Dalit People—By MC Raj

<sup>93</sup> Government Responsibility to Dalit People—By MC Raj

<sup>94</sup> Government Responsibility to Dalit People—By MC Raj

<sup>95</sup> Human Development Report in Karnataka, 2005.



**No Toilets or store rooms: Hostels in the state: Pre Matric Hostel, Gunjalli, Karnataka**

## Chapter 3: Conclusion: Implementation of the Education Scheme for SC children in North Karnataka

### Part 1: The scheme as on record

#### SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT: ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008:

#### Detail of Institutions:

Institutions	No. of Institutions			Sanctioned Strength			Rate of facility per student
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	
Per - Matric Hostels	955	308	1263	65695	21675	87370	Rs. 450/ Month
Post – Matric Hostel	223	82	305	21263	5485	26748	Rs. 500 / to Rs. 750/ Month
Residential Schools			90			11250	Rs. 360/ Month
<b>Total</b>	<b>1178</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>1658</b>	<b>86958</b>	<b>27160</b>	<b>125368</b>	

#### Details of Buildings:

Institutions	Total	Own Buildings			Rented Buildings			Building under construction		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Per - Metric Hostels	1263	763	262	1025	192	46	238	69	20	89
Post – Metric Hostel	305	126	43	169	97	39	136	39	12	51
Residential Schools	90	-	-	69	-	-	21	-	-	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1658</b>	<b>1178</b>	<b>390</b>		<b>289</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>149</b>

#### Student Benefits: Pre Matric (5th to 10th standard)

Items	Cost in Rupees / per student	Revised on 30.7.2008
Uniform-2 pairs / Annual	350	---no change---
Text books and Stationary / Annual	250	---no change---
Bed and bed sheets / once in 3 years	350	---no change---
Other expenses / Per Month	40	---no change---
Hair cutting / Annual	60	---no change---
Food	450/month	600/month

Items	Cost in Rupees	Revised cost from 19.9.2008
3 Teachers / Hostel	500 / Teacher per month	1000/ Teacher per month
Newspaper / Magazine / Annual	1000/ Annual	---no change---
Medical expenses	1000/ Annual	---no change---
Miscellaneous/kitchen	600	---no change---
Water and electricity	1000/ Annual	---no change---
Rent for the rented hostel	12,000/ Annual	---no change---
Sports Materials	1000/ Annual	---no change---

### **Student Benefits: Post Matric**

Items	Cost	Revised cost from 19.9.2008
Food	500/ month	650/ month
No other benefits in hostels, library and other benefits provided in colleges		

### **Part 2: What the situation is:**

#### **Bagalkote:**

Bagalkote is situated in the North Central Karnataka on the Deccan plateau. It comes under the administrative unit of Belgaum. It is the second largest district in Karnataka comprising of 6 taluks namely -Bagalkot, Badami, Hungund, Mudhol, Jamkhandi and Bilgi and 18 hoblies and 627 villages. The rivers Krishna, Ghataprabha and Malaprabha flow through the region but they are non-perennial. Bagalokot remains warm and dry most time of the year and receives very little rainfall. It in fact receives the lowest rainfall annually in Karnataka. The dry climate makes the region susceptible to drought and crop failure.

#### **Population:**

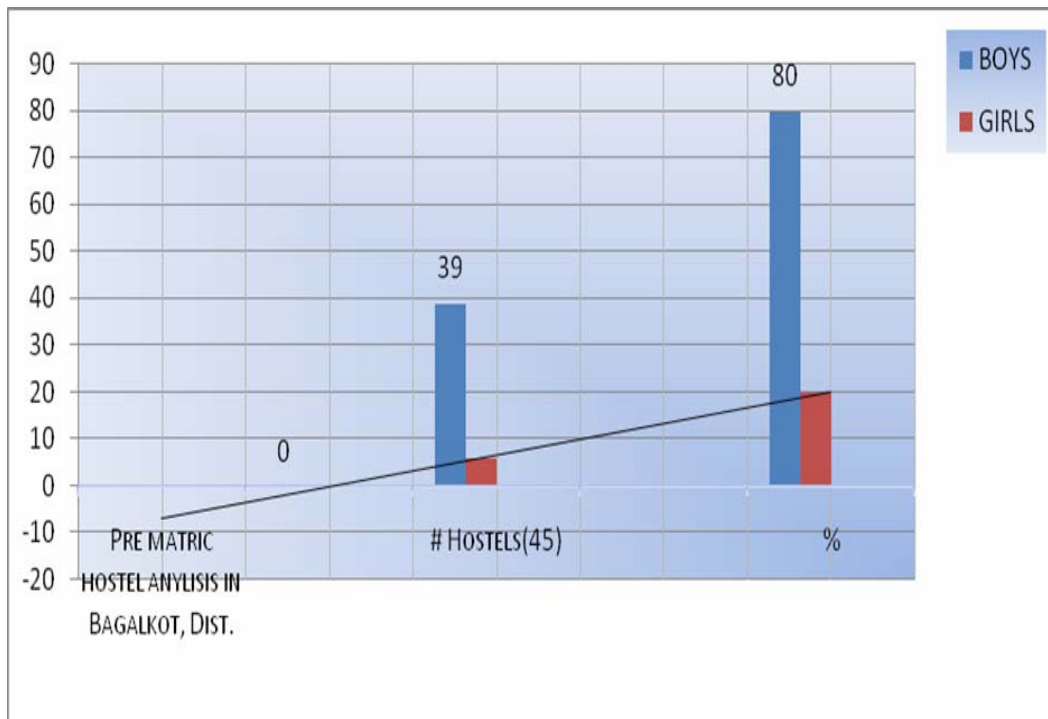
As of 2001 India census, Bagalkot district had a general population of 16, 51,892 and 2, 50,604 scheduled caste persons. The population density of Bagalkot is approximately 251 persons per square kilometer. Housing conditions in the district were identified as above average, per India's 2001 national census. The sex ratio of the district is 980 females per 1000 males, considerably higher than the national average- 927 females per 1000 males. Over 86% of the population in the district is Hindu, while 11% of the population is Muslim. Jains account for a little over 1% of the population, while Christians account for 0.17%. Scheduled Castes and Tribes constitute about 17% of the total population.

### Literacy:

According to the 2001 Census the literacy rate of the district is 57.3%, higher than national level (52%) but lower than the mean literacy rate of the state (66.6%).

### Key Findings: Pre Matric Hostels

- Total number of Hostels for Boys: 42
- Total number of Hostels for Girls: 9
- Total number of Girls in Pre Matric Hostels: 610 (20% of Total children in Pre Matric Hostels)
- Total number of Boys in Pre Matric Hostels: 2976 (60% of Total children in Pre Matric Hostels)
- Total number of children in Pre Matric Hostels is 3586
- Out of 2473 children in Pre Matric Hostels only 716 children were admitted in Post Matric Hostels



### Key Findings: Post Matric Hostels

- Total number of Hostel for Boys: 10
- Total number of Hostel for Girls: 4
- Hence the ratio of Boys Hostel to Girls Hostel is 3:1
- Total number of children in Post Matric Hostels: 870
- Total number of Boys: 645
- Total number of Girls: 225
- Total number of Applications received for admission in Hostels in 2008-09 were 1222; Out of which 709 selected; 513 are on the waiting list for admission

- Most number of applications came from Jhamkhandi Taluk (378 applications out of which 129 students were selected)
- 234 Applications came from Mudhole Taluk out of which 130 were selected
- The least number of applications came from Hunugonda Taluk – 109 applications out of which 100 students were selected
- Almost 75% children dropped out from after passing out from Pre Matric hostels to Post Matric Hostels
- 50% of the Pre Matric and Post Matric Hostels were functioning without wardens. The wardens were appointed for only 27 hostels out of the total 51 Pre Matric and Post Matric hostels
- The basic amenities data is unavailable

### **Recommendations:**

- There is an overall need for additional Post Matric Hostels in Bagalkote district. More specifically additional Post Matric hostels are required in Jhamkhandi, Mudhole, Hunugonda and Bilagi Taluks.
- There is a need for additional Pre Matric and Post Matric Hostels specifically for Girls.
- There is a need for effective and good quality administration for the hostels which includes adequate security measures taken to provide for the safety of all children especially girl children, the vacancies for the post of wardens needed to be filled in all the Hostels.

### **Belgaum:**

The district has an area of 12,000 square kilometers, and is bounded on the west and north by Maharashtra state, on the northeast by Bijapur District, on the east by Bagalkote District, on the southeast by Gadag District, on the south by Dharwad District and Uttara Kannada districts, and on the southwest by the state of Goa. Kittur in Belgaum district is a place of historical importance. Rani Chennamma of Kittur (1778-1829) is known for her resistance to British rule; another person in the history of Belgaum known for his resistance to British rule is Sangolli Rayanna. Administration of Belgaum District has been divided into 10 Taluks. Chikkodi Taluk is the largest with an area of 1,995.70 square kilometer and Raibagh Taluk is the smallest with an area of 958.8 km<sup>2</sup>. Visveswaraiiah Technological University is located in Belgaum. All technical and engineering colleges in the Karnataka State come under this University. Belgaum is also known for the Airmen Training School, an Indian Air Force training centre located at Sambra. It comprises of 11 Taluks and therefore one of the biggest districts of Karnataka.

### **Population:**

By the 2001 Census of India, it had a population of 4,214,505 of which 24.03% were urban. The scheduled caste persons are 4, 62,020 which is 10.9 % of the total district's population.

### **Literacy:**

Literacy rate among the scheduled caste is 55.5 % and the general population is 64.2% as per the 2001 census.

### **Key Findings: Pre Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Pre Matric Hostels is 81
- Total number of Hostels for Boys: 64 (75% of Hostels for Boys)
- Total number of Hostels for Girls: 17 (25 % of Hostels for girls)
- Ratio of Boys: Girls Hostels is 5:1
- Total number of Boys in Hostels: 3934
- Total number of Girls in Hostels : 1567
- Total number of children in Pre Matric Hostels- 5501
- Private Pre Matric Hostels for Girls were more than government run Pre Matric Hostels
- Total number of Applications for admission in Pre Matric Hostels in 2008-09 were 3150; Out of which 2393 Boys and 857 girls had applied for admission in hostels
- Total number of children who were selected for admission in Hostels is 2484; Out of which 1830 Boys and 654 Girls were selected for admission in Hostels
- Remaining 800 Applications for admission by children were not selected for admission. This means almost 20% children were living outside the hostels for pursuing their Pre Matriculations studies.

### **Key Findings: Post Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Post Matric Hostels: 21
- Total number of Hostels for Boys: 15
- Total number of Hostels for Girls: 6
- Total number of children in Post Matric Hostels : 1136
- Total number of Girls in Hostels: 325
- Total number of Boys in Hostels: 811
- Out of the 5501 children in Pre Matric Hostels only 1136 children were in Post Matric Hostels. This means that almost 80% children dropped out after passing out from the Pre Matric Hostels to Post Matric Hostels.

### **Recommendations:**

- The gap between the Pre Matric Hostels and Post Matric Hostels show that there is a need for additional Post Matric Hostels in the district.

### **Bellary:**

Bellary district is situated on the eastern side of Karnataka state. Bellary comes under the administrative control of Gulbarga division. It has 2 revenue sub divisions, Bellary subdivision and Hospet subdivision, which in all have seven taluks. The Bellary subdivision has 3 taluks, while there are four taluks in Hospet subdivision. There are 27 hoblies, 542 revenue villages and 436 thandas/habitations.

The major occupation of this district is agriculture and 75% total labor force is dependent on agriculture for its livelihood. The main source of irrigation is the Tungabhadra Dam. The Canal

network accounts for 64% of irrigated area. The important rivers are Tungabhadra, Hagari and Chikkahagari. The western taluks of the district are dogged with scarcity conditions with the failure of rains during successive years.

### Population:

As per the 2001 Census the population of the district is 2,245,000. The density of population is 196 persons per square kilometer, which is much lower than the state average of 235 persons per square kilometer. The scheduled caste/scheduled tribe population constitutes 28% of the total population at 3,74,218. The sex ratio was 965, which is slightly higher than the state average of 960.

### Literacy:

The literacy rate of the general population according to the 2001 census was 58.04% and 42.31 % for scheduled castes.

### **Key Findings: Pre Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Pre Matric hostels: 55
- Total number of Hostels for Boys: 41
- Total number of Hostels for Girls:14
- Total number of children in Hostels: 5000
- Total number of Boys in hostels: 3920
- Total number of Girls in Hostels: 1080
- The Ratio of Boys: Girls in Hostels is 4:1
- 210 children's are in the residential schools
- Least number of Hostels in Siruguppa and Sandoor Taluks- 6 and 5 respectively

### **Key Findings: Post Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Post Matric Hostels-12
- Total number of Hostels for Boys: 10
- Total number of Hostels for Girls: 2
- Ratio of Hostel for Boys :Hostels for Girls is 5:1
- Total number of children in Hostels: 760
- Total number of Boys in Hostels: 640
- Total number of Girls in Hostels: 120
- Ratio of Number of Boys: Number of Girls in Hostels is 6:1
- There are 6 residential schools
- There is a huge gap between the number of students at Pre Matric Hostels entering the Post Matric Hostels- from 5000 to only 760
- There are no Post Matric Hostels in Hadagali Taluk
- In the case of Girls, it was found that most parents are unwilling to send their girl children from Pre Matric to Post Matric Hostels since there is inadequate security provided in the Post Matric Girls Hostels with more than half of the Hostels not even having a warden

### **Recommendations:**

- There is a need for additional Pre and Post Matric Hostels in Siruguppa, Sandoor and Hadagali.
- There is a need for additional Pre and Post Matric Hostels for Girls in the district particularly in Siruguppa and Sandoor Taluks.

### **Bijapur**

Bijapur District lies in the tract of the Deccan Plateau and is bounded on the east by Gulbarga district, on the south by Bagalkote District, on the west by Belgaum District and by Sholapur of Maharashtra state on the North. Bijapur is divided into six Taluks for administrative management. Bijapur is rich in historical architecture. It is known for its temples, structural monuments, art and architectural heritages, archaeological sites and cave temples. The famous Gol Gumbaz monument built in the 17th century is in Bijapur. It is the second largest dome ever built.

Farming and agriculture related business is the main occupation for many people in the district. There is a slight shift towards commercial crops like cotton and sugarcane over the last few years. Many small-scale industries are working in the district however no large-scale industry can be found in the district.

### **Population:**

As per the 2001 Census the population of the district is 1,806,918. The density of population is 171 persons per square kilometer, which is much lower than the state average of 235 persons per square kilometer. As per the 2001 census 3,34,254 people belong to the Scheduled Castes and 30,051 to the Scheduled Tribes. The sex ratio was 948/1000 (F:M), which is lower than the state average of 960.

### **Literacy:**

Of late Bijapur is emerging as a hub for professional education. The Karnataka State Women's University, Bijapur, established in August 2003 is the only university in the state of Karnataka, which is devoted exclusively for women's education. The literacy rate of the general population according to the 2001 census was 57.01% and 47.16 % for scheduled castes.

### **Key Findings: Pre Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Pre Matric Hostels: 56
- Total number of Hostels for Boys: 45
- Total number Hostels for Girls: 11
- Total number of students in Hostels:
- Total number of Boys in Hostels: 2425
- Total number of Girls in Hostels: 575
- Total number of children in residential schools:1125

### **Key Findings: Post Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Post Matric Hostels: 5
- Total number of Hostels for Boys: 3
- Total number Hostels for Girls: 2
- Total number of students in Hostels: 350
- Total number of Boys in Hostels: 250
- Total number of Girls in Hostels: 100
- Bijapur and Sindhagi Taluks have no Hostels for Girls. Bijapur has two Hostels and Sindhagi has only one Hostels for Boys
- Muddebihal, Basavanbhagewadi and Indi Taluks have no Post Matric Hostels.

### **Recommendations:**

- There is a need for additional Hostels both Pre and Post Matric in the district
- Girls Hostels for Pre and Post Matric should be increased especially in Muddebihal, Basavanabhagewadi and Indi Taluks, which have no hostels for girls.
- There is a need for vocational training centers at the district level

### **Davangere**

Davangere District lies in the *Maidan* region on the Deccan Plateau. Davangere is an administrative district of Karnataka state. The city of Davangere is the district headquarters. This district was carved out of Chitradurga district in 1997. The district lies above the historic Chitradurga. The prominent cities/towns in this district are Harihara, Honnali and Channagiri.

#### **Population:**

It has a population of 1,790,952 of which 30.32% was urban as of 2001. The scheduled caste persons are 3,33,227 which is 18% of the total district's population.

#### **Literacy:**

Literacy rate among the scheduled caste is 49.9 % and the general population is 67.6 % as per the 2001 census.

### **Key Findings: Pre Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Pre Matric Hostels: 44
- Total number of Hostels for Boys: 34
- Total number of Hostels for Girls: 10
- Total number of children in Pre Matric Hostels: 3024, Out of which 2295 are Boys and 729 are girls
- As per the number of 34 Pre Matric Hostels for 2295 Boys, it means that there are almost 70 boys residing per hostel

- As per the number of 10 Pre Matric Girls Hostels for 729 girls, it means that there are almost 75 girls residing per hostel.
- 50% of the Pre Matric students were residing in private hostels
- There were 18 privately run Pre Matric hostels housing 1500 children
- Data is not available on number of applications for the Pre Matric hostels and the number of students who got admission in the hostels.
- The data pertaining to basic amenities in the hostels is unavailable

### **Key Findings: Post Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Post Matric Hostels: 11
- Total number of Hostels for Boys: 8
- Total number of Hostels for Girls: 3
- Total number of students in Hostels: 1282
- Total number of Boys in Hostels: 1092
- Total number of Girls in Hostels: 190
- Ratio of Boys : Girls in Post Matric Hostels is 6:1
- Davangere, Harpanhalli and Harihara Taluks are the only Taluks having Post Matric Hostels for Girls

### **Recommendations:**

- There is a need for additional Pre and Post Matric Hostels for Girls
- There is a need for more Pre and Post Matric hostels managed and maintained by state than managed by private agencies

### **Gadag:**

Gadag is located in the western part of North Karnataka. Gadag district has five Taluks namely Gadag-Betgeri, Ron (city), Shirhatti, Nargund and Mundargi. Kanaginahal village in Gadag District is the birthplace of the first Cooperative movement in Asia.

### **Population:**

This district ranks twenty-sixth in terms of population in the state. According to the 2001 census the population of the district is 9, 71,955 and 1, 37,414 scheduled caste persons. There were 4,93, 795 males and 4,78,160 females according to the 2001 census. The overall density of population in the district is 209 per sq. km as compared to the state average of 275 per sq. km as per the 2001 Census. The population has increased in all the five Taluks at considerably different rates.

### **Literacy:**

In Gadag district, the literacy rate has risen from 55.88 percent in 1991 to 66.27 percent of the total population in 2001. During the past many years there has been a steady substantial increase in the proportion of literates in the population of the district.

### **Key Findings: Pre Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Pre Matric Hostels are-32
- Government run Pre Matric Hostels are 27
- Residential schools are 12
- Aided Pre Matric Hostels are 14
- Total number of Hostels for Boys:27
- Total number of Hostels for Girls : 5
- Total number of children in Hostels: 2641
- Total number of Boys in Hostels: 2116
- Total number of Girls in Hostels 525

### **Key Findings: Post- Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Hostels are 12
- Additionally there are 4 vocational training Residential Centers for Women
- There are also 6 Women Welfare Centers which are residential
- Total number of Hostels for Boys:8
- Total number of Hostels for Girls :4
- Total number of children in Hostels: 920
- Total number of Boys in Hostels: 720
- Total number of Girls in Hostels:200
- The figures show huge gaps in the boys and Girls hostels as also the in the number of students in the hostels

### **Recommendations:**

- There is a need for additional Pre and Post Matric Hostels for Girls and Boys which are specifically run by Government in the District
- There is a need for additional Pre Matric Hostels for Girls in Mundargi and Sirahatti Taluks
- Naragunda and Sirahatti Taluks requires more Post Matric Hostels for Boys and Girls

### **Koppal**

Koppal is an administrative district in the state of Karnataka in India. In the past Koppal was referred to as 'Kopana Nagara'. Hampi, a World heritage center, covers some areas of Koppal District. The Koppal district was formed after split of Raichur district. Koppal district has four talukas namely- Koppal, Gangavahti, Yalburgi, and Kushtagi.

### **Population:**

The district had a population of 1,196,089, of which 16.58% were urban as of 2001. The district has a density of population of 166 persons per square kilometer. The scheduled caste population amounts to 1,83,209 persons which is 15% of the total district population.

### Literacy:

The literacy rate of the general population according to the 2001 census was 55.02 % and 38.78 % for scheduled castes.

### **Key Findings: Pre Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Pre Matric Hostels: 40
- Total number of Pre Matric Hostels for Boys: 31
- Total number of Pre Matric Hostels for Girls: 9
- Total number of Boys in Pre Matric Hostels: 2340
- Total number of Girls in Pre Matric Hostels: 630
- The ratio of Boys: Girls in Pre Matric Hostels is 4:1
- Total number of students who applied for admission in the Pre Matric Hostels are: 1460
- Total number of students who were selected for admission in the Pre Matric Hostels are: 431, which means that only 30% of students who applied for admission were selected
- Thus there are almost 70% students in need of Pre Matric Hostels

### **Key Findings: Post Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Post Matric Hostels: 9
- Total number of Post Matric Hostels for Boys: 6
- Total number of Post Matric Hostels for Girls: 3
- Total number of students in Post Matric Hostels is 675 out of which 425 are Boys and 250 are Girls
- Total number of students who applied for admission in the Post Matric Hostels are: 537
- Total number of students who were selected for admission in the Post Matric Hostels are: 188 which means that only 35% of students who applied for admission were selected
- Thus there are almost 65% students in need of Post Matric Hostels
- There were 3 private hostels run by the Ashrams, which accommodate 375 children, which means that there are around 125 students per hostel.
- There were 5 residential schools in the district.

### **Recommendations:**

- There is a need for additional Pre Matric hostels to accommodate the 70% children in need from the district.

### **Raichur**

Raichur lies in the Northeast part of the Karnataka. The district is surrounded by the Krishna River to the north and the Tungabhadra River to the south. The wedge of land between the rivers is known as the Raichur Doab, after the city of Raichur. Raichur District has five taluks namely- Raichur, Devadurga, Sindhanur, Manvi and Lingsugur. There is a high prevalence of migration of the families from this region to Andhra Pradesh and Bangalore in search of livelihood. The Raichur Thermal Power Station at Shaktinagar in this district provides a large portion of the electricity consumption in

Karnataka. Raichur District is one of few places in India where gold resources are present. All the five talukas mentioned above are very well irrigated, with water from the Tungabhadra Dam on the Tungabhadra River, and Narayanpura dam on the Krishna River. Raichur is known for its paddy fields and its rice is of extremely superior quality.

### Population:

The population of the district, by the 2001 Census, was 1,669,762 of which 25.20% were urban. The scheduled caste population is at 3, 17,276 which is 19% of the total district's population. The district has a density of population of 244 persons per square kilometer.

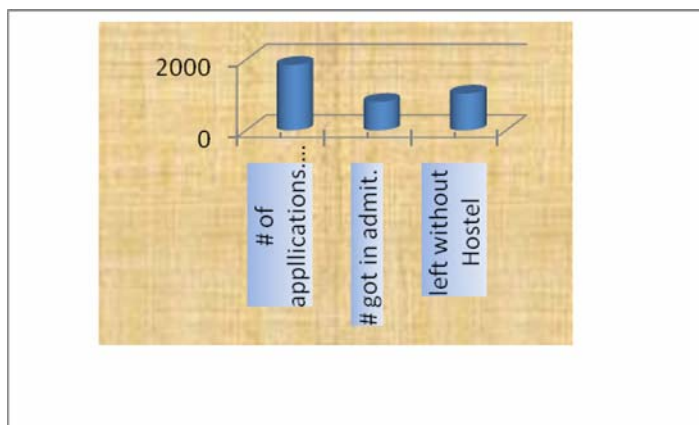
### Literacy:

Literacy rate among the scheduled caste is 38% and the general population is 60% as per the 2001 census.

### **Key Findings: Pre Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Pre Matric Hostels: 46
- Total number of Pre Matric Hostels for Boys: 35
- Total number of Pre Matric Hostels for Girls: 11
- Total number of Boys in Pre Matric Hostels: 2600
- Total number of Girls in Pre Matric Hostels: 705
- Total number of students who applied for admission in the Pre Matric Hostels are: 1853
- Total number of students who were selected for admission in the Pre Matric Hostels are: 807, which means that only 40% of students who applied for admission were selected
- Thus there are almost 60% students in need of Pre Matric Hostels

Number of application for Pre Matric Hostels for the year 2008 & 2009 was 1853 out of which 807 were selected:



### **Key Findings: Post Matric Hostels**

- Total number of Post Matric Hostels: 10
- Total number of Post Matric Hostels for Boys: 7
- Total number of Post Matric Hostels for Girls: 3
- Total number of students in Post Matric Hostels is 817 out of which 622 are Boys and 195 are Girls
- Total number of Hostels buildings owned by the government were 49
- Total number of rented building for Hostels were 23
- 65% of sanctioned posts for Hostel administration were still vacant in the Social Welfare Department
- Most of the buildings for the Pre Matric Hostels were owned by the government, however 90% of the Post Matric Hostels were run in the rented buildings
- The basic amenities were not provided to students in the hostels, the toilets and bathrooms were less in number, and there were hardly any reading rooms and even a dining hall in the hostels.

### **Recommendations:**

- There is a need for increase in the number of hostels- Pre and Post Matric in the district. There is a need for additional Pre Matric Hostels at Hobli level and for additional Post Matric Hostels at Taluk level for the benefit of all children in the district
- The Pre Matric hostel should be located in such a place in the villages and hobli so that it is accessible for young children and their parents.

### **Proposal of What Can Be Done**

#### **Gurupasad Committee**

The Gurupasad Committee suggested that there be a creation of a “Directorate of Hostels” who would look after the welfare of the student community and who would imagine the organizational structure of the hostel<sup>96</sup>.

#### **Evaluation on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys and Girls:**

This study recommends that regular drinking water in the hostels must be ensured<sup>97</sup>. Furthermore, the study indicates that there should be a budget provision in each hostel allocated for repairs and the maintenance of the hostels<sup>98</sup>. Finally, the report indicates that the dining hall facilities should be strengthened and that free food should be provided to all students<sup>99</sup>.

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<sup>96</sup> Gurupasad Committee Report, 1986

<sup>97</sup> Evaluation on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India Report—April 2009, slide 74/76

<sup>98</sup> Evaluation on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India Report—April 2009, slide 75/76

<sup>99</sup> Evaluation on the Construction of Hostels for SC Boys & Girls: All India Report—April 2009, slide 76/76



**Presentations of charter of demands by Dalit rights activists to district administration, Karnataka**



Mr. J.B. Raju addressing children and media on quality education through SC/ST hostels

## Recommendations:

- Increase the number of Pre and Post Matric Hostels at Hobli and Block level as per the budgetary allocation for the year 2010-2011 so that it is accessible to the Madiga and Devadasi children and communities.
  - Pre and Post Matric Hostels in the 8 districts should be managed and maintained by the state government than by the private agencies.
  - There should be no privatization of the Pre and Post Matric Hostels.
  - Reduce the number of Madiga and Devadasi children dropouts from Pre Matric to Post Matric Hostels in 8 districts by ensuring the number of Madiga and Devadasi students applying for admission are guaranteed admission in hostels
  - Increase the number of Hostels both Pre and Post Matric Hostels for Madiga and Devadasi Girls in the 8 districts as per the budgetary allocation for 2010-2011.
  - All vacancies in the administration of Hostels—Pre and Post—in the 8 districts should be filled immediately and adequate staff for maintaining the security of the hostels should be provided on a permanent basis.
  - Allocation of adequate funds for conducting periodical training of the hostel management staff for effective functioning of the Hostels and to address the concerns and issues of children residing in the Hostels
  - Adequate rules and procedures are drafted to ensure that Madiga and Devadasi parents can visit their children in the hostels and provide them with support and care.
  - Enhance the quality of care and living conditions in the Pre and Post Matric hostels in the 8 districts
  - Publicize and promote through village meetings an increase in the number of Madiga and Devadasi applicants for the hostels in the 8 districts
  - Increase the number of vocational training centers for Post Matric Madiga and Devadasi students in the 8 districts
  - Constitute a fact-finding team to visit and make an assessment of the situation of the Pre and Post Matric hostels in Northern Karnataka districts.
  - Ensure that the hostel facilities provided for Pre Matric and Post Matric are close to the villages where the students reside since this is a key indicator why children choose to dropout of school.
-

**EveryChild** is an international development charity fighting to protect some of the world's most vulnerable *children without parental care or in inadequate care*. It works in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, South America and the Caribbean. EveryChild believes that all children have the right to grow up in a safe and loving family environment, with a secure future. More than 24 million children grow up without parental care, their survival often threatened by greater risk of malnutrition, violence and exploitation; their future lost by missing out on school, and their childhood. Working with local partners across countries, EveryChild keep children safe when they are alone and at risk. EveryChild protects children in danger of ending up on their own by keeping families together and get children back to a safe and caring family, wherever it is possible.

**Vision:**

EveryChild believe that every child:

- has the right to grow up in a safe and caring family
- has the right to go to school
- has the right to be heard
- deserves the chance to play
- deserves the opportunity to fulfil their potential
- deserves the chance of a childhood

**Mission:**

To enable children to grow up in families with parental care by:

- keeping families together
- keeping children safe
- getting children back into families
- making sure children are heard
- learning, to do better
- influencing and inspiring change

In India, EveryChild has been supporting programmes and partners based in **Karnataka** and **Tamil Nadu** on the issues of children at risk of losing parental care or *children without parental care*. The target groups are:

**EveryChild India Target groups:**

- Children at risk of losing parental care:
  - Most marginalised dalit children including children of Arundhatiyar and Madiga community
  - Children of Devadasis
  - Children living with disabilities or children in difficult circumstances
  - Children working on the streets
  
- Children without parental care:
  - Children in kinship care, alternative family based care
  - Children in child only households
  - Children living and working on the streets without their parents
  - Children living and working with employers
  - Children in residential care

**Vasuthi Nilaygala Sudharna Samiti (VNSS)**

&

**EveryChild.**