

Arunachal Pradesh

DATA HIGHLIGHTS: THE SCHEDULED TRIBES Census of India 2001

The total population of Arunachal Pradesh in 2001 Census has been 1,097,968. Of these 705,158 persons are Scheduled Tribes (STs), constituting 64.2 per cent of the total population. The state has registered a decadal growth of 28.1 per cent of ST population in 1991-2001 Census.

2.The list of STs in Arunachal Pradesh is open in nature. According to the *Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1956* and as inserted by Act 69 of 1986 states, the STs in the state are "All tribes of the State including: Abor, Aka, Apatani, Dafla, Galong, Khampti, Howa, Mishmi, Monpa, Momba, Any Naga tribes, Sherdukpen, Singpho". The notification gives only an illustration of a few STs. In 2001 Census, total of 100 STs have been enumerated. Twenty-five of them have returned 5,000 and above population (Statement-1).

Statement-1: Population of Major STs, 2001 Census

| SL. No | Name of the ST | Population returned in 2001 Census |
|--------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | All Scheduled Tribes | 705,158 |
| 2 | Abor | 19,927 |
| 3 | Adi | 32,582 |
| 4 | Adi Gallong | 48,126 |
| 5 | Adi Minyong | 33,984 |
| 6 | Adi Padam | 11,625 |
| 7 | Aka | 5,140 |
| 8 | Any Naga Tribes | 6,978 |
| 9 | Apatani | 27,576 |
| 10 | Bangni | 7,870 |
| 11 | Dafla | 45,276 |
| 12 | Deori | 5,693 |
| 13 | Galong | 27,239 |
| 14 | Idu/Chulikata Mishmi | 9,350 |
| 15 | Khampti | 12,890 |
| 16 | Miji | 5,721 |
| 17 | Mishing/Miri | 13,591 |
| 18 | Mishmi | 25,161 |
| 19 | Monpa | 41,983 |
| 20 | Nishang | 21,907 |
| 21 | Nissi | 87,656 |
| 22 | Nocte | 33,680 |
| 23 | Tagin | 39,091 |
| 24 | Tangsa | 20,962 |
| 25 | Tawang Monpa | 7,500 |
| 26 | Wancho | 47,788 |

Population: Size & Distribution

3. District wise, Lower Subansiri, Upper Subansiri, East Kameng, Tirap, and West Siang are predominantly ST districts with the proportion of ST population 80 per cent and above. These districts together share half of the total ST population of the state (Statement-2).

Statement-2: District wise distribution of ST population

| State/ District | Percentage of STs to total population of State/ District | Percentage of STs to total State's ST population |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Arunachal Pradesh | 64.2 | 100 |
| Changlang | 36.2 | 6.4 |
| Dibang Valley | 46.5 | 3.8 |
| East Kameng | 86.7 | 7.0 |
| East Siang | 69.1 | 8.6 |
| Lohit | 38.2 | 7.8 |
| Lower Subansiri | 90.1 | 12.6 |
| Papum Pare | 56.6 | 9.8 |
| Tawang | 75.0 | 4.1 |
| Tirap | 83.7 | 11.9 |
| Upper Siang | 78.2 | 3.7 |
| Upper Subansiri | 89.5 | 7.0 |
| West Kameng | 49.5 | 5.2 |
| West Siang | 81.7 | 12 |

4. The STs in Arunachal Pradesh are predominantly living in rural areas (86 per cent). Individual ST wise, Wanchos have returned 2.3 per cent urban population. The percentage of urban population is less than five per cent among several of the Tangsa tribes. However, Apatani has returned 51.4 per cent urban population.

Sex Ratio

5. Arunachal Pradesh has recorded more females in the population with sex ratio of 1003. In contrary to this overall situation, Any Naga Tribes have recorded a low sex ratio of 887.

6. The child sex ratio (0-6 years) of 976 for STs is higher than the aggregated national figure (973) for the same category. Deori have recorded a low sex ratio of 906. The child sex ratio of above 1000 has been recorded among Apatani, Bangni, Dafla, Tawang Monpa, Nissi, and Tangsa.

Literacy & Educational Level

7. Among STs, 49.6 per cent of the population has been returned as literate, which is just below the national average (47.1 per cent). As many as thirteen STs have overall literacy level below 50 per cent. While male literacy is at 58.8 per cent, female literacy is only 40.6 per cent. The female literacy is depressed as seventeen STs have recorded literacy below 50 per cent. At the individual level, Deori, Khampti, and Apatani have recorded literacy rate of 70 per cent and above, while for Wancho it is low at 25.4 per cent. The lowest literacy level for both male and female have been noted among the Wancho with male and female literacy rate of 35.9 per cent and 14.6 per cent respectively (Statement-3).

Statement-3: Literacy Rate among Selected STs

| SL. No | Name of the Scheduled Tribe | Literacy Rate (7 years and above) | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|--------|
| | | Total | Male | Female |
| 1 | All Scheduled Tribes | 49.6 | 58.8 | 40.6 |
| 2 | Abor | 57.0 | 66.2 | 48.3 |
| 3 | Adi | 58.9 | 66.3 | 51.5 |
| 4 | Adi Gallong | 60.7 | 66.8 | 54.6 |
| 5 | Adi Minyong | 56.8 | 63.1 | 50.5 |
| 6 | Adi Padam | 63.3 | 71.0 | 55.7 |
| 7 | Aka | 48.0 | 58.1 | 38.6 |
| 8 | Any Naga Tribes | 46.9 | 57.0 | 35.2 |
| 9 | Apatani | 70.6 | 78.4 | 63.2 |
| 10 | Bangni | 41.0 | 54.4 | 27.5 |
| 11 | Dafila | 37.6 | 48.4 | 27.5 |
| 12 | Deori | 76.9 | 84.8 | 68.7 |
| 13 | Galong | 63.1 | 69.2 | 57.2 |
| 14 | Idu/Chulikata Mishmi | 55.2 | 65.7 | 45.0 |
| 15 | Khampti | 72.8 | 81.2 | 63.9 |
| 16 | Miji | 38.8 | 47.6 | 29.5 |
| 17 | Mishing/Miri | 53.4 | 66.7 | 39.5 |
| 18 | Mishmi | 39.6 | 51.4 | 27.9 |
| 19 | Monpa | 42.6 | 51.0 | 34.5 |
| 20 | Nishang | 37.3 | 46.2 | 28.7 |
| 21 | Nissi | 46.2 | 55.7 | 36.8 |
| 22 | Nocte | 47.2 | 60.0 | 34.6 |
| 23 | Tagin | 47.4 | 57.2 | 37.8 |
| 24 | Tangsa | 55.6 | 66.3 | 44.8 |
| 25 | Tawang Monpa | 32.3 | 41.8 | 23.8 |
| 26 | Wancho | 25.4 | 35.9 | 14.6 |

8. Among STs, 56.4 per cent of the children in the age group 5-14 years are attending schools or any other educational institutions. Apatani have recorded a high of 86.1 per cent and Wancho a low of only 31.2 per cent of their population of this age

group attending educational institutions. Besides Apatani, the Deori, Khampti, and Adi Padam have recorded student population of 70 per cent and above of this stipulated age category.

9. Among ST literates, 3.5 per cent are having educational level graduation and above. The Abor, Adi, Apatani, and Adi Padam have recorded more than 5 per cent of their literates having this status. Wancho, Aka, Bangni, Miji, and Nocte are quite lagging behind in higher education having the percentage of the total literates having educational level graduation and above of just around one per cent.

Work Participation Rate (WPR)

10. The percentage of workers to total population (WPR) among the STs is 43 per cent. The female WPR at 41.2 per cent is just lower than male (44.8 per cent). Of the total workers, the main and marginal workers are 84.4 per cent and 15.6 per cent respectively. Like male workers (88.8 per cent), a large proportion of females (79.7 per cent) have also been returned as main workers (Statement-4).

Statement-4: Distribution of Total, Main & Marginal Workers among STs

| T/M/F | Percentage of Workers | | |
|--------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | Total Workers | Main Workers | Marginal Workers |
| Total | 303,111 (43.0%) | 255,875 (84.4%) | 47,236 (15.6%) |
| Male | 157,674 (44.8%) | 139,997 (88.8%) | 17,677 (11.2%) |
| Female | 145,437 (41.2%) | 115,878 (79.7%) | 29,559 (20.3%) |

Category of Workers

11. An overwhelming 75.1 per cent of the ST main workers have been registered as cultivators and merely 1.1 per cent as agricultural labourers.

12. Individual ST wise, Wancho (91.3 per cent), Mishmi (87.1 per cent), Nocte (83.7 per cent), Dafla (83.4 per cent), Miji (82.3 per cent), Tangsa (82.1 per cent), and Adi Minyong (80.2 per cent) have recorded more than 80 per cent of their main workers as cultivators. It is, however, interesting that Apatani – the famous terrace cultivators of Arunachal Pradesh – have registered only 39.1 per cent cultivators.

Marital Status

13. As regards marital status, 58.4 per cent of the ST population is never married, 37.3 per cent currently married, 3.8 per cent widowed, and 0.5 per cent divorced & separated.

14. Among STs, 1.5 per cent of the females below 18 years – the minimum legal age for marriage - have been registered as ever married. The highest 2.5 per cent ever

married females of this stipulated age have been registered among Nishang. This percentage is low among Nocte (0.6 per cent), Wancho (0.5 per cent), Khampti (0.7 per cent), Idu/Chulikata Mishmi (0.8 per cent), Tangsa (0.9 per cent), and Mishmi (0.8 per cent).

15.The ever married males below 21 years – the minimum legal age for their marriage – constitute 1.8 per cent. The ever married males of this stipulated age among Nishang constitute a high of three per cent, which is higher than the state average for all STs.

Religion

16.Of the total ST population, 47.2 per cent has been returned under the category of “Other Religion Followers”. Besides, 26.5 per cent of the STs are Christians, 13.1 per cent Hindus, and 11.7 per cent Budhists. In Arunachal Pradesh, unlike Nagaland, Mizoram, and Manipur, considerable ST population are still adhering to original tribal faith. Individual ST wise, Khampti, Monpa, Momba, Sherdukpen, and Singpho are mostly the followers of Buddhism, while quite sizeable population among Adi, Nishi, Nocte, and Wancho have been converted to Christianity.
