CHAPTER – 2

OBJECTIVE OF THE RESEARCH
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2.1 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Caste, economic status and gender discrimination may exclude Scheduled caste women from educational opportunities. As a marginalized group, Scheduled caste women have first-hand experience of how this discrimination makes them vulnerable in Indian society.

What needs to be documented more clearly is how discrimination against Scheduled caste women affects their educational opportunities. By documenting their stories of discrimination, we will be better able to understand how and if education helps girls overcome oppression. Rather than looking at Scheduled caste education with a deficit lens of what is not in place or what needs to be fixed, this study considers what is being done in the society to help Scheduled caste women overcome discrimination.

2.2 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

This study seeks to address the highlights following questions:-

1. How do caste, economic status and gender interrelate?
2. What do Scheduled caste women have to say about discrimination against them?
3. To what extent do Scheduled caste women see education as helping them to overcome discrimination?

Second question considers what stories of discrimination tell us about backward class’s social reality. The third question seeks to document how educational opportunities may or may not help Scheduled caste women ls to overcome discrimination. This study considers Scheduled caste women perspectives in order to show that their voice has value in backward classes education studies and backward advocacy initiatives.
2.3 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Girls' education in its own right is important to address because it can enhance human and economic development and it has been shown to lower fertility and mortality rates (Chopra & Jeffery, 2005, P. 19). This is not meant to imply that boys' education is not important; Scheduled caste women and boys share many challenges in terms of educational opportunities. Focusing specifically on Scheduled caste women, however, will hopefully bring greater awareness to Scheduled caste women educational studies.

AIM OF THE PRESENT WORK

The present work is set forth to understand the following:

1. Overall the Socio-economic position of educated scheduled caste women in the studied area.
2. What is the progress of education of scheduled caste women where the parental and married background is both illiterate and barely literate.
3. How education is (formal or non-formal) being utilized in respect to Bread earning or to educate their children or to administer business or to perform Household activities
4. To estimate the difference between their contribution to the society and average expenditure incurred during their educational period by the state. The cost difference measured is given in page 112.
5. To ascertain whether employed or working scheduled caste woman is directly utilizing their educational acquired through education at their working place, also about their job satisfaction.
6. To trace the main motives of the working scheduled caste women to take up job and problems they are facing in adjusting with their dual role in the family and at the place of work.
7. To find out the attitude of the father-in-laws, parents, neighbors towards the scheduled caste working women married and unmarried.
8. To find out how family profile of a working scheduled caste woman differs from that of non-working scheduled caste woman or those who are housewives.
9. To investigate what kind of household works do the housewives of both sc working
and sc non-working.

10. Comparison between working and non-working scheduled caste woman respect in regard to participation in important decisions of the family.

2.4 DEFINITION:

Key definitions of key words used in this thesis are below:

CASTE- A birth-ascribed system of socially stratifying groups on the varna system of Hindu ideology.

SCHEDULED CASTE- Which caste and sub caste are included at the Indian constitutional system they are called Scheduled Caste.

EQUITY - Fairness of educational opportunities and systems.

GENDER - gender is defined both as a biological, ascribed status, as well as a social concept that is created and recreated in the interactions between women and men that determine gender relations(World Bank).

JATI – A sub- caste or closed social group into which one is born and within which one must marry (Kinsley,1993,p.188).

SATI— Burning of widow with her deceased husband

SOCIAL EXCLUSION- Social exclusion refers to how exclusion from relationship an —exacerbate People's experiences of inequality, poverty, and capability deprivation(choptra&Jeffrey,2005,p.62)

STRATIFICATION- The structuring of society on the basis of differential social status of various groups (srirama, 2007, p.48) Varna-Indian term of Vedic times for the four main castes: Brahmin, Kshatriya, vaishya and Shudra.