Socio-Economic Status Scale

The SES scale is a combination of an individual’s caste, education, occupation and income. It is supplemented by an inventory of possession of consumer goods which has a significant correlation with SES.

The SES Criterion

High SES = High(Caste+Education+Occupation + Income)
Middle SES = Middle (Caste+Education+Occupation+ Income)
Low SES = Low (Caste + Education + Occupation + Income)

Caste

Hindu high caste = Brahmin, Lingayat
Hindu middle caste = Reddy, Maratha, Namadhari, Vaishya, Panchal, etc.
Hindu low caste = Scheduled caste, Scheduled tribe and other backward caste.

Note: There were difficulties in categorising the high, middle, and low castes prevailing in the local setup. Hence, a group of 20 judges selected heterogeneously were requested to classify the castes. This classification is used for the gradation of castes.

More emphasis is given to occupation, income and education of Muslims rather than the castes in that religion as these do not seem to be prominent among them.
Income

High SES = Rs.1501/- and above per month.
Middle SES = Rs.701/- to Rs.1500/- per month
Low SES = Rs 700/- or less per month

Education

High SES = Graduate/Equivalent or more
Middle SES = Upto Higher Secondary
Low SES = Primary and below

Occupation

High SES = High Status Occupations
Middle SES = Middle Status Occupations
Low SES = Low Status Occupations

Note: The inventory of classification of Occupation is given in the appendix.