

A Socio – Economic study of Ager Community in Ankola Taluk of North Kanara District

UGC- Minor Research Project Submitted

By

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Executive Summary

Information regarding the Ager's origin, ancestors and development is collected. Ager's population from census year 1961 to 2011 and there by the decadal growth of the community is obtained. Family structure, sex ratio, status of women, practice of untouchability, impact of government policies on the community and participation of the people in political bodies is discussed. Literacy rates (both male and female) and education levels also obtained . Information like Occupation, income and expenditure, savings and loan are collected. Discussion about the Ager colonies, Housing conditions, water, electric, bath room and lavatory facilities is made. Impact of family plaanning measures is also discussed. In the survey it is observed that Agers in North Kanara are settled in Karwar, Ankola, Kumta and Yellapur Taluks. Population as per 2011 census is around 6400 and the sex ratio is 968.Size of the family is 3. Literacy rate is 82.12 % of which Male literacy rate is 92.58 % and that of female is 70.65 %. 19 % of the community is benefitted by the government policies meant for scheduled castes. Agers do not have any family profession of their own and women also work to earn. 76 % of the Ager families are below poverty line and the income is not sufficient to meet the expenditure. This community people reside in separate colonies called Ager colony. Many of them have constructed their own house by using the housing schemes provided by state and central governments. The community

utilized the family planning methods effectively. The details in project may be useful for the Ager community people to know their position in the society. It is useful for the researchers to study more about the Ager community and a comparative study with other scheduled castes in the country and Norhh Kanara in particular.The information collected from the project may be useful for the government and NGO's to adopt the suitable policies so as to improve the community.