

## **CHAPTER XVII**

### **OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES**

Before Independence, there was no regular Government Organization to look after the welfare of industrial workers and to settle industrial disputes and other connected labour problems. British paid little attention to social welfare and were mainly concerned with the maintenance of law and order, preservation of peace, and safety of the life and property of people. But after independence, the government introduced and implemented various measures for ameliorating the condition of the backward sections of the society, which were neglected or exploited and suffered from a number of disabilities for centuries together.

India, being a welfare State, endeavours to promote the general well-being of the people. The main objective of a welfare state is to bring social regeneration by raising the status and standard of economically backward or socially depressed communities. It is a type of remedial therapy. In its democratic and socialistic pattern, social services hold a unique position. Social services have now undertaken a new phases of public activities, which have been assuming greater significance day by day to fulfil the aims and objectives of a welfare state.

Social services are the activities designed or organized philanthropic assistance to promote social well-being and these are aimed at providing services for instant relief to the people, in general, and the poor and disabled, in particular, in the hour of their need. Social service organizations systematize their activities to serve the needs and welfare of the poor or homeless children and women, the handicapped, the mentally ill, victims of rape or domestic violence, immigrants, labour, drugs addicts, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, etc. The successive Five Year Plans have also provided fairly wide opportunities and scope for the further improvement and expansion of social services.

#### **LABOUR WELFARE**

Labour Welfare, in a wider term, means everything that contributes to the improvement of health, safety, general well-being and productive efficiency of the workers. A separate Labour Department was established in 1949 by the then Government of Punjab. The Labour Officer, Rohtak and

the Conciliation Officer, Bhiwani, represented the department for the areas forming Panipat District which was then a part of Karnal district. Many new welfare schemes were initiated in the State to mitigate the social and economic handicaps of the working class and to promote a steady growth in production. These labour welfare schemes guarantee minimum wages and other social security measures like State Insurance of Employees for security against privation in old age. Collective bargaining through the medium of recognized trade unions resulted in new social security measures for labour welfare. Regulated working hours, regulated wages, holidays, leaves, payment of bonus as incentive, minimum standards of lighting at place of work, ventilation, compensation for injuries, medical, maternity and child welfare facilities, canteen facilities, recreation, housing, holiday home etc. are matters covered by these new social security measures.

At the time of formation of Haryana in 1966, area of Panipat was under the jurisdiction of Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer posted at Karnal. As a result of subsequent changes in jurisdiction of Labour Officers-cum-Conciliation Officers in State in December, 1967, the area of Panipat tehsil was excluded from the jurisdiction of the Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, Karnal. Panipat tehsil remained under the jurisdiction of Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, Sonapat till September 16, 1968<sup>1</sup> when it was again included in the jurisdiction of the Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, Karnal.

The office of Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, Panipat was established in 1989 when Panipat was carved out of Karnal as a separate district. He looks after the work of proper and effective implementation of various labour laws in the district. He is assisted by three Labour Inspectors. As Conciliation Officer, he initiates conciliation proceedings for the settlement of industrial disputes under the provisions of Industrial Dispute Act, 1947 and promotes settlement of such industrial disputes by mediation and joint discussion. If he fails to settle the dispute, he submits his report to Government, which after scrutiny of the demands either rejects or refers the dispute to Labour Court/Industrial Tribunal for adjudication<sup>2</sup>.

**Labour Legislation.**— To tackle the social and economic problems of labour class, the labour legislation is necessary as the civil laws in general do not deal with the labour problems. Labour legislation is that body of legal enactments and judicial principles which deals with employment and non-employment, wages, working conditions, industrial relations, social security and welfare of

persons employed in industries. It is that part of State action by which the State intervenes in the conduct of industry and imposes statutory obligations, for the most part on the employers and to subsidiary degree on the workmen. Labour laws are motivated by humanitarian approach, as propounded by International Labour Organisation and are based mostly on the principle of social justice. Under the Constitution of India, Labour is a concurrent subject and as such both Central and State legislatures are empowered to make laws regarding it. Accordingly, State Government has also enacted certain labour legislations to suit the local needs.

The important labour laws in force in the Panipat District include, namely the Workman's Compensation Act, 1923; The Trade Unions Act, 1926; The Payment of Wages Act, 1936; The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946; The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; The Minimum Wages Act, 1948; The Factories Act, 1948; The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948; The Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955; The Industrial Housing Act, 1956; The Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958; The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961; The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961; The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965; The Punjab Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays, Casual and Sick Leave) Act, 1965; The Punjab Labour Welfare Act, 1965; The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970; The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972; The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976; The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976; The Sale Promotion Employees (Conditions of Service) Act, 1976; The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979; The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986; The Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996; The Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996; etc. A brief account of the important labour legislations can be seen in Table XLII of the Appendix.

However, the Factories Act, 1948 is the most important of all labour legislations. In Panipat, it is administered by Inspector of Factories, under the supervision of Chief Inspector of Factories and overall control of the Labour Commissioner, Haryana, Chandigarh. The Certifying Surgeon (Industrial Safety and Health) is also functioning as Inspector of Factories for enforcing the health provisions contained in the Factories Act, 1948. His duties include visits

to factories involving hazardous operations, to check the health of workers regularly, and to take remedial measures to forestall any deterioration.

**Industrial Relations.**—Industrial relations between the workers and employers are governed by the Industrial Dispute Act, 1947. The objective of this act is to maintain industrial harmony by proper adjustment of relations between the employers and employees. Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, Panipat is responsible for enforcing it. His efforts are directed towards promoting cordial relations between the management and workers by removing causes of friction and by timely redressal of the grievances of parties. Emphasis is laid on settlement of disputes through direct negotiations across the table or voluntary arbitrations rather than through compulsory adjudication.

The functions of Conciliation Officer are advisory and he has no direct power to make agreements or pass awards. When both parties agree to a settlement, a memorandum of settlement is signed before Conciliation Officer. In cases where parties to dispute do not reach any settlement, failure report is sent to the Government, which after examining the report of Conciliation Officer and also the merits of the case, either rejects the dispute or refers the dispute to the Labour Court or the Industrial Tribunal as the case may be. The court or the tribunal after hearing the parties concerned declare its award which is binding on the parties. If any party fails to implement the terms and conditions of either a settlement or an award, necessary action is taken in the matter to get it implemented. In some cases, if there is a contravention of the provisions of Industrial Disputes Act, even prosecution is also initiated against the defaulting parties. During 2010-11, 1053 disputes were handled by Conciliation Officers in the district. Out of these, 376 were settled, 423 were sent to adjudication, and 254 were withdrawn by the workers/unions.

**Work Committees.**—To promote cordial relations between the employers and the workmen, there is a provision in Industrial Disputes Act for setting up of Work Committees in industrial establishments employing 100 or more workmen. Such committees consist of representatives of the employers and workmen.

**Strikes.**—Panipat is an industrial hub. There is an industrial peace in the district but sometimes strikes do occur and result in loss in spite of measures to resolve difficulties and to harmonize industrial relations. In 2010-11, cases of strikes happened in two establishments i.e. 42 blankets units of Des Raj

Colony and M/s Nestle India, Samalkha in which 83,801 man days were lost and 9,025 workers were affected in the strike.

**Trade Unions.**—The trade unions movement has gained momentum since the attainment of independence. There is steady increase in number of registered trade unions. Trade unions developed on proper lines are beneficial to the employees, employers, the State and the public in general. In Panipat, 29 trade unions are working and facilitating the labour to settle their complaints and genuine demands with the employers from time to time. Most of the trade unions are affiliated to their Central Trade Union Federations i.e. I.N.T.U.C., B.M.S., A.I.T.U.C., C.I.T.U., I.F.T.U., A.I.U.T.U.C., etc. The particulars of trade unions registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 functioning in Panipat district are given in Table XIV of Appendix.

**The Factories Act, 1948.**— The Factories Act, 1948 is one of major central legislation designed to regulate the working conditions in factories. The Act covers all industrial establishments employing ten or more workers where power is used; or twenty or more workers where power is not used. It lays down all essential provisions relating to cleanliness, ventilation, lighting, sanitary arrangements, health, safety and welfare of the workers in the factories. Special provisions exist for women and young persons. Facilities for rendering first-aid, running canteens and crèches, making available drinking water etc. near the place of work are also provided under the Act. Thus, with extension of its various provisions for labour welfare, the Factories Act has assumed special importance. It also helped in changing the attitude of employer towards providing better work environment and amenities to labourers. The Labour Commissioner, Haryana is the Chief Inspector of Factories for administration of this Act. There is one Additional Chief Inspector of Factories designated as Additional Director (Industrial Safety and Health), 2 Joint Directors, 3 Deputy Directors, and 2 Assistant Directors to assist the Chief Inspector of Factories at the Headquarters. Assistant Director (Industrial Health) and Certifying Surgeon, Panipat conducts medical examination of workers who are engaged on such operations as are likely to contract occupational disease.

**Minimum Wages Act, 1948.**—This is a central legislation providing for fixation of minimum rates of wages in certain employments in which more than 1000 employees are employed in the whole State/Union Territory. This act *inter-alia* provides for fixation or revision of minimum rates of wages for the whole State/Union Territory or part thereof, the procedure for such

fixation, the normal working hours for a day, payment of overtime wages and payment of wages within stipulated time.

There are 7 major employments in the district during 2010-11, which have employed more than 1000 employees such as Thermal Power Station, IOCL, Sugar Mill, N.F.L. etc. Wages of industrial workers employed in these employments have been fixed by State Government under this Act, 1948. The State Government has classified the workers as Unskilled labourers, Semiskilled-A, Semiskilled-B, Skilled-A, Skilled-B, Highly Skilled etc. Their wages are fixed @ ₹4348, ₹4478, ₹4608, ₹4738, ₹4868 and ₹4998 per month respectively w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2010.

**Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952.**— The Employees' Provident Funds Organization is a statutory body of Government of India under Ministry of Labour and Employment. It administers a compulsory Contributory Provident Fund, pension and insurance scheme for workers. It is one of largest social security organizations in the world. The Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 was enacted by the Parliament as a part of series of legislative interventions made in this direction. Presently, the following three schemes are in operation under this Act:-

**a) Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952.**—This scheme was introduced on November 1, 1952. Initially, it was applicable to the factories employing fifty or more persons but the limit was lowered in December, 1960 and factories/establishments employing twenty or more persons were also brought under this scheme.

The Provident Fund Contribution was initially deducted at the rate of 6.25 percent from the monthly wages of employees subscribing to the fund and an equal amount was contributed by the employers under the scheme. The rate of contribution was enhanced from 6.25 percent to 8 percent in January, 1963 in respect of establishments / classes of establishments employing fifty or more persons. The rate of contribution has been enhanced a number of times and finally to 12 percent (except few selective establishments where the rate of contribution is ten percent) of the basic wages, dearness allowance and retaining allowance, if any, payable to the employees per month with effect from 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 1997. Both employees and employers contribute equally to the fund. The entire amount is deposited with State Bank of India in Employees' Provident Fund Account. The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner-I (Haryana) is responsible for the

implementation of the scheme in Haryana. The Fund vests with Central Board of Trustees having nominees of Central Government, the State Government, representatives of employers and employees. The Central Provident Fund Commissioner at New Delhi is Chief Executive Officer and a Regional Office at Karnal deals with cases of Panipat district.

The subscriber can withdraw money from their Provident Fund for certain approves like financing of member's LIC policies, for purchase of House/flat, for construction of dwelling house including acquisition of site/plot, for marriage of self/son/daughter/brother/sister, before retirement after attaining the age of 54 years within one year, for investment in Varishtha Pension Fund Yojana at the age of 55 years etc. Accumulations in fund are payable to the member on retirement after attaining the age of 55 years, on permanent and total incapacity for the work, or on migration from India for permanent settlement in abroad etc.

In Panipat district 3,852 factories/establishments were covered under the scheme from 1989-90 to 2010-11 and 1,03,742 subscribers out of a total of 3,49,346 accounts subscribed to the scheme. The rate of interest is fixed by Central Government in consultation with Central Board of trustees, Employees Provident Fund every year during March/April. In the district 14,524 claims of Provident Funds were settled during 2010-11 under F-19, 20, 13, 14 and F-31 under EPF Scheme, 1952 and ₹ 25.27 crore were paid to the claimants.

**b) Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976.**— This scheme came into force on August 1, 1976 under the Employee's Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 to provide an insurance cover to the family members of the Employees' Provident Fund who die during the employment. Under this scheme as amended with effect from 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2000 the insurance benefit is equal to the average balance to the credit of deceased employee in the Provident Fund during the last 12 months, provided that where such balance exceeds ₹35,000 insurance cover would be equal to ₹35,000 plus 25 percent of amount in excess of ₹35,000 subject to a maximum of ₹60,000. Thus, if the length of service is not adequate or the salary is low, the average balance may be substantially less and such the benefit to the employee's family is either inadequate or non-existent<sup>3</sup>. The contribution @0.50 per cent of each employee's salary is payable by the employer to the Provident Fund Authorities. In the district 57 relief cases are settled and an amount of ₹10,39,618 are paid under this scheme during 2010-11.

**c) Employers Pension Scheme, 1995.**— It has been conceived as a benefit

defined Social Insurance Scheme formulated following actuarial principles for ensuring long term financial sustenance. The new Employees' Pension Scheme-95, repealed and replaced the erstwhile Family Pension Scheme, 1971. The scheme on its introduction has been applied on compulsory basis to all the new members of Provident Fund and the existing members who were contributory to the Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971. The existing members (as on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 1995) of Provident Fund who did not opt for joining erstwhile Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971 and the beneficiaries under the erstwhile Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971 in case of death or exit occurring between April,1993 and November,1995 could also join the new scheme.

The new Pension Scheme, alike the old Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971 derives its financial resource by partial diversion from the Provident Fund Contribution, the rate being 8.33 percent in lieu of 2.33 percent against the odd ceased Family Pension Scheme, 1971. The Central Government continues contributing at the rate of 1.16 percent as before, on wages at the end of year. Main benefits provided under Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 are: superannuation pension; retirement pension; total and permanent disablement pension; monthly pension payable to family of the member; widow/widower pension, children pension; orphan pension and nominee pension.

In the district, 255 pension cases have been settled during 2010-11 under EPS scheme, 1995. Under this scheme, 10,787 claims have been settled and an amount of nearly ₹7.5 crore has been disbursed.

**Labour Welfare Board.**—The Haryana Labour Welfare Board was constituted in 1970 under section 4 of the Punjab Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1965 for the Welfare of Industrial Workers. The Labour Welfare Department, Haryana oversees various welfare schemes run by this board. The Labour Commissioner, Haryana is the ex-officio Welfare Commissioner of the board. Various schemes for welfare of workers and their children are run by the board in the district. Under these welfare schemes the board, in Panipat, undertakes following activities:-

- (i) It provides financial assistance to the children of industrial workers by way of scholarship of ₹4,000 to ₹15,000 if they have secured 60 percent marks in 9<sup>th</sup> class onward up to Graduation Degree and Diploma examinations. Under this scheme ₹13.01 lakh have been disbursed to 294 beneficiaries during 2010-11.



- (ii) It runs 11 Labour Welfare Centres in various industrial towns where free training of tailoring, embroidery, making of pickles, jams and candles is imparted.
- (iii) It extends financial assistance to the workers for purchase of new bicycle. An amount of ₹16.57 lakh has been disbursed to 737 workers during 2010-11 under this scheme.
- (iv) It gives cash awards amounting to ₹1,000 and ₹2,000 to those children of workers, who have secured 75 percent and 60 percent marks up to pre-university and post-graduation levels respectively.
- (v) It provides financial help depending upon disablement to those workers who meet with an accident in the industrial establishment in which they work.
- (vi) It extends financial assistance for purchase of spectacles and for dental care/full denture. Two workers under each of these schemes have been benefited during 2010-11.
- (vii) It provides immediate relief of ₹10,000 as ex-gratia financial help to widows/dependents of the deceased industrial workers. Under this scheme ₹14.30 lakh have been disbursed to 26 beneficiaries during 2010-11.
- (viii) It extends opportunity to the workers & their family members to visit places of industrial/historical & religious importance in the country through Excursion-cum-study tours. Under this scheme two beneficiaries have availed the facility of tour during 2010-11.
- (ix) It arranges reimbursement of the fees for BCA/MCA/BE or other professional courses in computer education in respect of worker's children.
- (x) It grants financial help amounting to ₹5,100 as *Kanyadan* to the workers on the occasion of marriage of their daughters. Under this scheme an amount of ₹5.88 lakh has been disbursed to 28 beneficiaries during 2010-11.
- (xi) It bestows cash awards of ₹20,000 to ₹1,00,000 to highly efficient, disciplined workers such as *Mukhya Mantri Shram Devi*, *Shram Veer*, *Shram Bhushan*, *Shram Rattan* etc. to motivate the industrial workers. Under Mukhya Mantri Shram Puraskar scheme, three awards amounting to a total of ₹60,000 have been given to workers during 2009-10.

## SOCIAL WELFARE

The Government has the responsibility to uplift and rehabilitate the poor or needy or economically deprived sections of the society. Keeping this objective in view many schemes have been launched, a few of which are described below:-

**Old Age Pension.**— The protective umbrella of social security in the form of old age pension was provided to the old, destitute and disabled persons in 1964 for the first time. The pension amount was fixed at ₹15 per month. The old, destitute or disabled persons who were in the age group of 65 years or above and in the case of women of 60 years or above who were without subsistence or support were made eligible for the pension. However, relaxation of 10 years from the prescribed age limit was allowed to the permanent disabled persons. The scheme was scrapped in 1967 but was revived in April, 1969 and the pension amount was enhanced to ₹25 per month. The quantum of pension was enhanced to ₹50 per month in April 1977. In October, 1981, the age limit was lowered by 5 years both for men and women and the amount of pension was enhanced to ₹100 per month. The scheme was discontinued in 1999 and replaced by a new scheme of old age pension which was also discontinued in 2005 with the introduction of Old Age Samman Allowance Scheme, 2005.

**Old Age Samman Allowance Scheme, 2005.**— The scheme aims to provide social security to old persons who are unable to sustain themselves from their own resources. A person is eligible for the grant of Old Age Samman Allowance, if, the person is of age 60 years or more; and is domiciled and resident of Haryana State; and his/her income from all sources together with that of his/her spouse does not exceed ₹50,000 per annum. Both husband and wife can avail this benefit separately. The beneficiaries are provided pension per month at varying rates of ₹500, ₹550 and ₹700 as per the existing terms and conditions. The number of beneficiaries under this scheme during 2007-08 to 2010-11 is given below:-

Year	Beneficiaries
2007-08	34921
2008-09	35078
2009-10	39713
2010-11	45729

**Pension to Widows and Destitute Women.**—Pension scheme for the benefit

of widows and Destitute Women is in existence in the State from 1979-80 which is implemented in the district with all the amendments carried out by the State from time to time. A woman of age 18 years and above is eligible for grant of pension under the Scheme if she is domicile of Haryana and her own income from all sources is below ₹30,000 per annum or she is widow, destitute without husband, parents and son(s) or destitute due to desertion or physical/mental incapacity of, husband in case of married woman; or parents in case of other women. Financial assistance has been raised from time to time and has been fixed at ₹750 per month w.e.f. August, 2009. The number of beneficiaries under this scheme during 2007-08 to 2010-11 is given below:-

Year	Beneficiaries
2007-08	18072
2008-09	18102
2009-10	16279
2010-11	17756

**Pension to Physically Disabled Persons.**—The scheme for pension to physically disabled persons was started during 1981-82 and amended from time to time. The disability pension aims at providing social security to disabled with a minimum of 70 percent disability including the blind, deaf & dumb, mentally retarded, etc. Under this scheme, Haryana domiciled physically disabled persons who have no means of subsistence or cannot do any work to earn their livelihood are eligible for pension. These persons having disability of 70 percent or more are eligible for grant of pension at the rate of ₹500 per month to ₹750 per month w.e.f March, 2009. The number of beneficiaries under this scheme during 2007-08 to 2010-11 is given below:-

Year	Beneficiaries
2007-08	4168
2008-09	4053
2009-10	4298
2010-11	4609

**Ladli Social Security Pension.**— In the patriarchal society and recognized Indian family pattern parents prefer to live with their sons in their old age as a matter of right and the girl children are often seen as a liability (*Parya Dhan*). The primary reason for this preference is usually the old age protection followed by almost virtual absence of social security and old age support

system. The birth of a son is seen as insurance to all the problems related to old age especially, the economic security. In order to raise the status of the girl child in the family and in the society and to change the mind-sets of the people for proper rearing of the girl children and providing them the right to birth and right to survival, to aid to the improvement in the sex ratio in the society, Ladli Social Security Pension scheme on the pattern of old age pension scheme for the families having only girl child/children was started on January 1, 2006. Under this scheme a sum of ₹500 per month per family is given. Any family, with less than the annual income of less than ₹2 lakhs, where biological single parent/parents are domicile of Haryana or working for Government of Haryana and having no son biological or adopted but having only daughter /daughters are eligible to get benefit under this scheme. The eligible couple is entitled to receive benefit under this Scheme for a period of 15 years from the date either of them completes 45 years of age. The scheme is open to all sections of society irrespective of their caste, race, creed and religion. The number of beneficiaries under the scheme in the District has risen from 453 in 2008-09 to 964 in 2010-11.

**Scholarship to Physically Handicapped Persons.**—Under this scheme physically handicapped students having forty percent or more disability and studying in various Government / Recognized institutions are provided scholarships varying from ₹100 to ₹750 per month according to class level. No scholarship is admissible if the combined monthly income of parents/ guardian of the candidate is more than ₹6,000 per month. The number of beneficiaries under this scheme in the district during 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 was 78, 93 and 88 respectively.

**Unemployment Allowance to Educated Handicapped Persons.**—Employment of the handicapped, like elsewhere, is very meagre in Haryana and the employers show reluctance to employ them even if the handicapped person possess requisite qualifications. In order to mitigate the economic difficulties faced by the handicapped, all educated unemployed applicants who are physically handicapped, having 70 percent and more disability, and are registered in the Employment Exchange and are given the unemployment allowance. The allowance varies from ₹200 to ₹2000 per month according to qualifications of the beneficiaries. This financial assistance is given for a period of six years from the date of application or registration in Employment Exchange, whichever is later. The number of physically handicapped unemployed beneficiaries under this scheme in the district during 2007-08 to

2010-11 is given below:-

Year	Beneficiaries
2007-08	7
2008-09	19
2009-10	23
2010-11	24

**Financial Assistance to Destitute Children.**—This scheme was started during 1978-79. A child under twenty-one years of age if he/she is domicile of Haryana and is residing in Haryana State and has been deprived of parental support or care by reason of death, or imprisonment of father/mother for a period not less than one year, or physical/mental incapacity of a parent and whose parents/guardians' income from all sources do not exceed 30,000 per annum is eligible for financial assistance under this scheme. Eligible children are given financial assistance at the rate of ₹200 per child per mensem; the financial assistance can be extended only up to two children in a family. The number of beneficiaries in the district during 2007-08 to 2010-11 is given below:-

Year	Beneficiaries
2008-09	2273
2009-10	2960
2010-11	3359

**Rajiv Gandhi Pariwar Bima Yojna.**— This scheme was implemented in 2004 by the State Government and is completely free and no premium or consideration of any kind is collected from anyone. Under this scheme compensation is given to the eligible beneficiaries in case of death/permanent disability/disability due to accidents. Domiciles of the State of Haryana in age group of 18 to 60 years, who are not income tax payee, are covered under this scheme. The benefit is admissible for only one member of the family. Family includes spouse, children and parents of the deceased. However, in cases where more than one member die or are injured in the same accident benefit can be extended with respect to all the dead or injured in that accident. Benefit of the scheme for death or permanent disability resulting from accident occurring even outside Haryana has been extended under the provisions of this scheme. Homeless people, if fulfilling other conditions, are covered under this scheme.

Families having gross annual income from all sources exceeding ₹2 lakhs and 50 thousands, employees of Government and its Public Sector Undertakings, Cooperative Institutions, Universities, Government Aided Institutions etc. as they are already covered under Group Insurance Scheme are excluded from this Scheme. Compensation of rupees one lakh is paid in case of death or permanent disability; rupees fifty thousand in case of loss of two limbs or two eyes or one limb and one eye; and rupees twenty five thousand in case of loss of one eye or one limb. Cases of mishaps including rail/road/air accidents; riot, strike and terrorism; snake bite, drowning; poisoning, electrocution; falling from height, collapse of house/building; fire, explosion, implosion; murder; attack by animals; stampede and suffocations, frost bite, sun burn (*loo*), lightning; burn injuries; hunger/starvation (death only); maternal mortality during child delivery (death only) and due to occupational hazards like threshing machine/industrial machines etc. are covered under this scheme. The benefit is paid firstly to the surviving spouse, secondly to the children, thirdly to the parents or lastly to the siblings strictly in order. In case of more than one claimant in the same hierarchy, the claim is equally divisible amongst them. The number of beneficiaries during 2007-08 to 2010-11 is given below:-

Year	Beneficiaries
2008-09	101
2009-10	89
2010-11	116

**National Family Benefit Scheme.**— The scheme was implemented in 2002. Under this scheme, a lump sum family benefit of ₹10,000 is given to the bereaved household in case of death of the primary bread winner irrespective of the cause of death. This scheme is applicable to all the eligible persons in the age group of 18-64 years. The scheme is completely free and no premium or consideration of any kind is collected from the eligible beneficiaries. Under this scheme, 292, 270 and 300 persons have been benefited during 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively.

### **ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES**

The people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes were subjected to many social and economic disabilities prior to Independence. In earlier times, the different professions were adopted by

these classes/castes such as agricultural labour, sweeping and scavenging, *Chhaj* and *sirki* making, basket and rope-making, leather tanning, shoe-making, pigs and sheep rearing, hair cutting, washing, dyeing and ironing clothes, etc. Generally, they used to live in small thatched huts on the periphery of the villages. However, these classes and castes are still engage in the traditional works to some extent.

After Independence, the Central Government; under successive five year plans, and the State Government, have undertaken a series of ameliorative measures for the welfare of these classes and castes. The list of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes<sup>4</sup> residing in the district is as under:-

Scheduled Castes	Backward Classes
Balmiki, Chura, Bhangi, Bazigar, Chamar, Jatia-Chamar, Deha, Dhaya, Dhanak, Dumna, Doom, Mahasha, Kabirpanthi, Julaha, Khatik, Kori, Koli, Marija, Marecha, Mazhabi, Mazhabi Sikh, Megh, Nat, Badi, Od, Sansi, Bhedkut, Manesh, Sapela, Sapera, Sikligar, Bariya.	Aheria, Aheri, Heri, Naik Thori or Turi, Baragi, Bairgai, Bharbhunja, Bharbhuja, Chimba, Chhipi, Chimpa, Darzi, Rohilla, Dhobis, Dhimar, Mallah, Kashyap-Rajput, Faquir, Gadaria, Pal, Baghel, Hajjam, Nai, Nais, Sain, Jangra Brahman, Khati, Kumhar, Lohar, Panchal, Mochi, Mirasi, Raigar, Sunar, Zargar, Soni, Teli, Weaver (Jullaha), Badi/Baddon, Gujjar, Saini, Shakya, Maurya, Gosai/ Gosain/ Goswami, and Kushwaha/ Koeri.

The Constitution of India provides special safeguards and protective measures for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes. Under the division of powers, welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes was made the responsibility of the States. The State Government took lead in enacting legislation for the abolition of untouchability and removal of the hardships confronted by them. Under Article 330 and 332 of the Constitution, provision has been made for the reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in the Parliament as also in the State Legislatures on population basis. In order to provide employment to the educated persons of these classes, 20 per cent posts have been reserved for the Scheduled Castes in all services under the Government and for the Backward Classes, 27 per cent posts have been reserved in Group C and D services and 10 percent posts have been reserved in Group A and B services in all departments and establishments under the Government.

The District Social Welfare Officer, Panipat is responsible for the implementation of welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in the district. The following table shows total persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and their percentage in the district during 2001 and 2011:-

Year	Males	Females	Total	Percent- age	Rural		Urban	
					Male	Female	Male	Female
2001	82,415	70,388	1,52,803	15.8	59,368	50,997	23,047	19,391
2011	1,09,695	96,518	2,06,213	17.11	69,446	60,766	40,249	35,752

The state government has initiated many schemes either on its own or with the aid of central sponsorship for welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in the district since Panipat became an independent district in 1991. These schemes are explained in the succeeding paragraphs.

**House Grants.**— In order to solve the housing problem of Scheduled Castes and Denotified Tribes/*Vimukt Jatis* “Housing scheme for Scheduled Castes and Denotified Tribes” is being implemented by the Welfare of Scheduled Caste & Backward Classes Department, Haryana. From 2006, the amount has been enhanced from ₹10,000 to ₹50,000 and a provision of ₹10,000 is also made for repair of the house. Under this scheme, any eligible beneficiary of Scheduled Caste/ Denotified Tribes who is a resident of Haryana; whose name appears in the BPL list of the department; and have a plot of 50 sq. yard in village and 35 sq. yard in urban areas can avail grant of ₹50,000 for construction of *Pucca* house consisting of a room, verandah, kitchen and courtyard. Year-wise details of grant availed under this scheme from 1990-91 to 2010-11 are given in the Table XLIII of the Appendix.

**Legal Aid.**—Under this scheme, the persons of Scheduled Castes and Denotified tribes are provided free legal aid for defending cases relating to cruelties by landlords, ejection from land, abduction etc. registered under the Civil Rights Protection Act, 1955. With the advent of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 all citizens who cannot access justice due to economic and other disabilities have been brought under the umbrella of free legal aid. The implementation of the scheme is under the charge of Deputy Commissioner who is assisted in this work by District Welfare Officer. Four beneficiaries have availed free legal aid during 2010-11 in the district.

**Financial Assistance Scheme for marriage of daughters.**— The “Financial Assistance Scheme for the marriage of daughters of widows and destitute



women belonging to Schedule Castes/Denotified Tribes/Tapriwas Communities” was initiated by the Government in 1988 to provide financial assistance on the marriage of daughter of a widow of Scheduled Castes/*Vimukt* Caste. *Kanyadaan* scheme granting a financial benefit of ₹5,100 was launched in 1999 for the benefit of those parents who are living below poverty line on the occasion of marriage of their daughters. These schemes have been replaced in 2006 by “Indira Gandhi Priya Darshini Viwah Shagun” Scheme under which financial assistance of ₹31,000 is given to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and persons living below the poverty line on the occasion of the marriage of their daughters. The people of other sections of society living below the poverty line are given ₹11,000 on the occasion on the marriage of their daughters. This facility has also been extended to a woman who became widow or divorcee and wants remarriage provided she is otherwise eligible for the grant and has not availed of this grant earlier for her own marriage. Year-wise details of grant availed in the district under this scheme during 2000-01 to 2010-11 are as follows:-

Year	Amount (₹)	No. of beneficiaries
2000-01	5,55,900	109
2001-02	6,12,000	120
2002-03	8,87,400	174
2003-04	13,77,000	210
2004-05	20,34,000	369
2005-06	62,28,700	671
2006-07	74,99,900	737
2007-08	99,97,800	916
2008-09	79,64,000	725
2009-10	97,22,900	864
2010-11	1,15,00,000	720

**Monetary Relief to Victims of Atrocities by the persons of Non-Scheduled Caste on the members of Scheduled Castes.**— This scheme was introduced in 1983-84. Under this scheme, financial help is provided to the persons of Scheduled Castes on whom atrocities, of different kind, are committed by the persons of Non-Scheduled Castes, and of which first information report (FIR) is registered. A relief amount of ₹40,000 up to ₹5,00,000 is admissible under various provisions of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Scheduled Castes and the

Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995 framed there under. The details of benefits extended under this scheme during 1996-97 to 2010-11 can be seen at Table XLIV of the Appendix.

**Dr. Ambedkar Medhavi Chhattar Yojna.**— To encourage the meritorious Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes students “ Dr. Ambedkar Madhavi Chhattar Yojna” was launched in 2005-06 for giving scholarship to the students of 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> classes. This scholarship covered those Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes’ students who studied in recognized government and non-government schools. The scheme was amended in 2009-10 as “Dr. Ambedkar Sanshodhit Medhavi Chhattar Yojna” whereby the scope of this scheme was extended to cover students from 9<sup>th</sup> class up to Post-Graduate classes of government and non-government colleges and institutions. Under this scheme, scholarship ranging from ₹4,000 to ₹12,000 per annum is given to the students. This minimum percentage of marks required under the scheme a various levels is as follows:-

Class in which scholarship is admissible	Eligibility Exam	Percentage of marks required in eligibility exam					
		Scheduled Castes		Backward Classes-A		Backward Classes-B	
		Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
9th	Middle	75	70	Scholarship is provided only to 10 <sup>th</sup> class.			
10+1	Matric	75	70	80	75	90	85
10+2	10+1	75	70	Scholarship is provided only to 10+1 and first year of all Diploma / Certificate Courses.			
Graduation	10+2	65	60				

Since its launch, the number of beneficiaries is rising every year. The year-wise details of progress of the scheme in the district are as follows:-

Year	No. of beneficiaries	Amount (₹) disbursed
2005-06	46	4,60,000
2006-07	110	11,00,000
2007-08	372	37,20,000
2008-09	458	45,80,000
2009-10	320	28,58,000
2010-11	452	33,18,000

**Scheme for the Encouragement of Inter Caste Marriage.**— This scheme was

introduced in 1984-85 for diminishing caste consciousness among the people and to encourage inter-caste marriages among the people. This is a 50:50 sharing basis scheme of Government of India/State Government. Under this scheme, both the spouses should be citizen of India and one of the spouses should be of Scheduled Caste and he/she should be permanent resident of Haryana State and he/she has not taken any benefit under similar scheme. On performance of marriage by a boy or girl of Scheduled Castes with a girl or boy of Non-Scheduled Castes, every couple is given ₹ 50,000 as an incentive amount where INR 20000 in cash and remaining amount of INR 30000 will be deposited in the joint account for the period of six years (fixed deposit) to the married couple out of INR 50,000). The beneficiary can apply for incentive within one year from the date of marriage. The year-wise details of amount disbursed under the scheme in the district and its beneficiaries from 2005-06 to 2010-11 are as under:-

Year	Amount (₹)	No. of beneficiaries
2005-06	50,000	02
2006-07	50,000	01
2007-08	1,50,000	03
2008-09	2,00,000	04
2009-10	2,00,000	04
2010-11	2,00,000	04

**Panchayat Incentive Scheme.**—This scheme was introduced in 1981-82. Under this scheme, village Panchayats for outstanding work done for the welfare of Scheduled Castes; for providing better sanitary facilities in their *bastis*; getting admissions of their children in schools and removing casteism etc. are given incentives. The incentive amount has been revised from time to time. From 2007-08, the panchayats are given ₹50,000 as an incentive amount. Year-wise details of incentive disbursed in the district under this scheme from 1994-95 to 2010-11 are given in the Table XLV of the Appendix.

**Interest Free Loan Scheme (Students) .**— This scheme was initiated for providing Interest Free Loans to the students of Scheduled Castes for purchasing books and stationery. Under this scheme, the students can take interest free loan every year, till he continues his studies. The Interest Free Loan is admissible to the tune of ₹800 to the post Matric students, and ₹2,000 to the post graduate degree student, and students of Medical, Engineering and

Veterinary degree etc. It is recoverable in 20 half-yearly installments and is governed by the Backward Classes (Grant of Loans) Act, 1957 and the rules framed there under. The facility of Interest free loan is also provided to the students of regular/full-time technical education courses the annual income of whose parents, from all sources, is more than Rs 1 lakh and less than ₹2.4 lakh per annum. The amount of loan given to such students is ₹40,000 for degree and PG courses and ₹20,000 for diploma courses<sup>5</sup>. The year-wise details of beneficiaries and amount given to them are given in Table XLVI of the Appendix.

**Students Safety Insurance Policy.**—The Secondary Education Department in association with “The Oriental Insurance Company” has introduced an insurance policy for the students of government schools at a small premium amount of 90 paise per student per year. Under this scheme, the students are entitled to the following benefits:-

Risk Detail	Sum Assured (₹)
1. In case of death	30,000
2. Complete disability Two limbs (Eyes, Hands and Legs)	60,000
3. On disability of one limb (Eyes, Hand and Legs)	30,000
4. Medical Expenses (in case of accident)	2,500
5. Loss of books (in accident)	500

**Free Text Books to Scheduled Castes Students.**—Under this scheme, Haryana Government provides free text books to all students belonging to Scheduled Castes studying in classes 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. Budget under this scheme for providing free text books was released to concerned District Education Officer only once during 2007-08. In 2008-09, this scheme was merged with the scheme of One Time Allowance to SC students; for purchase of schools bags, uniform and stationery articles like geometry box, colour pencils etc. The rate of allowance admissible according to classes is ₹740 for class I, ₹750 for class II, ₹960 for class III, ₹970 for class IV, ₹980 for class V, ₹1250 for classes VI to VIII, and ₹1450 for classes IX to XII. Details of benefits extended in the district during last three years under this scheme are as follows:-

Year	Beneficiaries	(₹ in lakh)
		Amount
2008-09	35342	35.92
2009-10	36829	39.08
2010-11	42198	45.89

**Monthly Stipend to Scheduled Castes and BPL/BC-A Students.**— A monthly stipend of ₹100 to Scheduled Castes boys and ₹150 to SC girls is given to students studying in classes 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> in Government Schools. Students of classes 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> are provided with stipend at the rate of ₹150 per month to SC boys and ₹200 per month to SC girls. For classes 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, the rates of stipend are ₹200 for SC boys and ₹300 for SC girls, however, in science stream, in classes 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, ₹300 and ₹400 per month are given to SC boy and SC girl students respectively. The Government also provides a monthly stipend to the students belonging to BPL/BC-A category studying in Government Schools in classes 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, the rates of which are as follows:-

(Stipend in ₹)		
Class	BPL/BC-A	
	Boys	Girls
1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup>	75	150
6 <sup>th</sup> to 8 <sup>th</sup>	100	200
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup>	150	300
11 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> (Science)	200	400

Details of benefits extended in the district during last three years under this scheme are as follows:-

Year	SC	Amount	Beneficiaries			
			BCA	Amount	BPL	Amount
2008-09	35342	62.81	-	-	-	-
2009-10	36829	68.63	32488	56.12	8449	14.76
2010-11	42198	81.86	38639	68.30	9423	16.79

**Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana.**— The scheme of construction of hostels is one of the means to enable and encourage students belonging to scheduled castes to attain quality education. The scheme for construction of hostels for girls is in operation from 3<sup>rd</sup> Five Year Plan (1961-66), while for boys, the same was started during 7<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan (1985-90). The earlier centrally sponsored scheme of hostels for SC boys and girls has been revised and is renamed as “Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojna” with effect from January, 2008. Government of India provides 50 percent grant for expansion of existing hostels for Scheduled Castes boys studying in different classes. The remaining 50 percent funds are being provided by the State Government.

In these hostels, Scheduled Castes students are provided free boarding facilities. In addition to the admissible central assistance under the Scheme, one-time grant of ₹2500 per student would also be provided for making provisions of a cot, a table and a chair for each student.

**Monthly Scholarship to Scheduled Castes Girl Students.**— Girl students belonging to Scheduled Castes studying in classes 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, who get first ten positions in the district, are given a monthly scholarship. The amount of money given per month in different classes is ₹80 for class 9<sup>th</sup>, ₹100 for class 10<sup>th</sup>, ₹120 for class 11<sup>th</sup> and ₹140 for 12<sup>th</sup> class.

**Loan advanced by Haryana Backward Classes and Economically Weaker Sections Kalyan Nigam (HBCKN) .**— The Haryana Backward Classes and Economically Weaker Section Kalyan Nigam was established in 1980 under the Companies Act, 1956. It is a Public Sector Undertaking of Government of Haryana. It has been established for the socio-economic upliftment of the people belonging to Backward Classes, Minority Communities and Physically Handicapped persons. The Nigam provides financial assistance to weaker section for agriculture and allied activities, small business/artisans and traditional occupation, service sector, transport sector.

The details of loans advanced by Nigam to the members of Backward Classes, Minority Communities and Physically Handicapped Persons in Panipat during 2003-04 to 2010-11 are as under<sup>6,7</sup>

Year	(₹ in lakh)							
	Backward Classes		Minority Communities		Handicapped Persons		Total	
	Persons	Loan	Persons	Loan	Persons	Loan	Persons	Loan
2003-04	58	14.50	13	5.50	0	0.00	71	20.00
2004-05	29	7.25	21	10.00	4	2.00	54	19.25
2005-06	45	10.80	29	13.00	25	13.85	99	37.65
2006-07	97	24.75	114	45.00	26	12.85	237	82.60
2007-08	37	15.50	36	16.50	20	9.95	93	41.95
2008-09	74	34.54	59	26.25	21	10.50	154	71.29
2009-10	44	25.54	00	0.00	26	20.00	70	45.54
2010-11	38	24.99	100	48.50	00	0.00	138	73.49

**Loan advance by Haryana Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation.**— Haryana Scheduled Castes Finance and Development

Corporation is a Company registered under the Company Act, 1956 and working for the socio-economic upliftment of Scheduled Castes since 1971. It is a wholly Government owned Corporation with 51 percent share of Haryana State Government and 49 percent share of Government of India.

The corporation has assisted 9970 beneficiaries up to 2010-11 by providing them financial assistance of ₹2424.07 lakhs for various income generating schemes in the district. Details of scheme-wise and year-wise achievements of Nigam in respect of Panipat district are shown in Table XLVII of the Appendix.

### **PROHIBITION**

A programme of partial prohibition of observing two dry days i.e. Monday and Tuesday in a week besides three closed days (i.e. Independence Day-15<sup>th</sup> August, Acharaya Vinoba Bhave's birthday-11<sup>th</sup> September and Mahatma Gandhi's birthday-2<sup>nd</sup> October), was introduced on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1969 in the whole of State including areas of Panipat district. The maximum limit of keeping only one bottle of country liquor in an individual possession was also introduced. The intention was to increase the number of dry days gradually in each successive year and thus achieve complete prohibition within three or four years. The policy of two dry days in a week did not deliver the desired result. The people have either been stocking liquor for consumption during the dry days or purchasing their requirements from bootleggers. It also encouraged illicit distillation. The licensees also sometimes indulged in mal-practice of selling liquor on prohibited/dry days. However, in order to put a check on the labour class against purchasing liquor on the day when they get their pay packets, a policy of observing every 7<sup>th</sup> day of a month as a closed day was imposed in April 1973. Further, no liquor shop was to be opened within a distance of 50 metres from any educational institutions or bus-stand or a place of worship or public entertainment and within 100 metres of a school or a college for women. Complete prohibition on sale of liquor was imposed in the district, like in the entire State, in July, 1996 which was lifted by the State Government in April 1998. However, 26<sup>th</sup> January (Republic day), 15<sup>th</sup> August (Independence day) and 2<sup>nd</sup> October (Birthday of Mahatma Gandhi) are observed as dry days. Besides, liquor vends are closed in the area during the election for three days.

The maximum limit of keeping six bottles of country liquor and IMFL in an individual possession has been fixed from 2000-01. The details

regarding the country liquor vends and Indian made foreign liquor vends and consumption of excisable articles in the district from 2003-04 to 2010-11 are as follows:-

Year	Vends		Quantity (in Proof Litre)	
	Country liquor	Indian made foreign liquor	Country liquor	Indian made foreign liquor
2003-04	44	20	30,39,000	-
2004-05	44	20	21,00,000	9,35,000
2005-06	44	20	21,50,000	9,75,000
2006-07	95	54	28,40,861	19,32,654
2007-08	142	57	37,36,800	23,38,414
2008-09	107	60	33,06,163	17,09,264
2009-10	104	59	38,25,935	18,93,591
2010-11	104	59	40,93,257	18,33,540

The above figures show a continuous increasing trend in the consumption of country liquor and Indian made foreign liquor except for the significant decrease in 2008-09. In the past, illicit distillation was rampant in the villages in the absence of licensed liquor vend. To curb this illegal, undesirable and harmful tendency, more and more liquor vends were allowed to be opened in the district which resulted in a more than two folds increase in number of vends in 2010-11 as compared to 2003-04. The suppression of illicit distillation, opening of new vends, improved financial position of the people in the rural and urban areas has brought about a great spurt in the sale of liquor. Details of cases detected under Excise Act from 2003-04 to 2010-11 are given below:-

Year	Number of cases detected
2003-04	94
2004-05	16
2005-06	25
2006-07	13
2007-08	19
2008-09	06
2009-10	15
2010-11	103

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## Notes and References

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<sup>1</sup> Karnal District Gazetteer, 1976, p.438

<sup>2</sup> There is National Tribunal also to which reference is made by Central Government to cover such cases as are of National importance or those in which establishments in more than one state may be affected

<sup>3</sup> According to the EDLI (Amendment) Scheme, 2011, the family will get 20 times of the average wages of the last 12 months of member, Maximum benefits under the scheme will now be ₹1,30,000 as the wage ceiling up to which contribution can be paid under the scheme is ₹6500.

<sup>4</sup> The expression 'Scheduled Castes' have been defined in Article 341 of the Constitution of India. Other Backward Classes include backward classes other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, recognized as such by the State Government on the basis of educational and economic backwardness coupled with some social stigma akin to untouchability.

<sup>5</sup> Haryana Review, Vol. 24, October 2010, p.12

<sup>6</sup> The Nigam launched Housing Loan Scheme for the Backward Classes and Minority Communities, under which ₹1.00 lakh @ 3 percent interest is provided to eligible beneficiaries for Dwelling-cum-Working Shed Unit. Up to 31.3.2011, in Panipat, ₹24 lakhs were disbursed in 24 Housing Loan Cases (22 Backward Classes Beneficiaries advanced ₹22 lakhs and 2 Minority Community Beneficiaries advanced ₹2 lakhs).