

SYS 457 Sociology of Backward Classes

Objectives:

This course helps the student

1. To focus on the segments of the population who are identified as backward classes and have not received adequate attention.
2. To understand the significance of sociological study of backward classes.
3. To analyse the welfare programmes carved out for the backward classes.
4. To identify the backward classes among all communities in India.
5. To understand the socio-economic problems of the OBCs.
6. To study different OBC commissions and their views and policy implications.
7. To focus on groups and communities which have suffered backwardness, deprivation and discrimination over a period of time.

Course Outcome:

- CO1. Understand Other Backward Classes.
- CO2. Sociological study of Other Backward Classes in India.
- CO3. Understand Other Backward Classes in other communities in India.
- CO4. Learn policy implications of Other Backward Class Commissions.
- CO5. Assess the nature of social exclusion in India.
- CO6. Analyse positive discrimination and welfare measures for OBC.

Course Content:

Unit. I Introduction

Hrs - 12

- a. Other Backward Classes (OBC) in India; Meaning and Characteristics
- b. Criteria of Backwardness
- c. Backward Classes in the Pre-Independent and Post Independent India

Unit. II Backward Class Commissions in India

Hrs - 14

- a. Account of Backward Class Commissions in India and in Karnataka
- b. Appraisal on reports of Kalelkar and Mandal Commissions
- c. National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)

Unit. III Backward Classes among Minorities

Hrs - 14

- a. Backward Classes among Muslims
- b. Backward Classes among Christians
- c. Backward Classes among Sikhs and other communities

Unit. IV Status Issues of Backward Classes

Hrs - 12

- a. Identity and Definitional Problems
- b. Educational, Economic and Social Backwardness
- c. Political Participation and Representation

Unit. V Welfare and Policy Measures

Hrs - 12

- a. Reservation and Welfare Schemes for Backward Classes
- b. Backward Class Movements (Self Respect Movement, SNDP Yagam) and Social Justice
- c. Rise of Backward Classes in Indian Politics

Reference Books

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