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**AN ANALYTICAL STUDY OF SOCIO ECONOMIC  
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KUMAUN DISTRICT**

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# An Analytical Study of Socio Economic Upliftment of SC and ST Youth of Kumaun District

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**Abstract – In this paper we present about critically examines the reality of socio economic uplifting children belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities who have been in history barred from recognized tutoring the former due to their domination under caste feudal civilization and the latter due to their spatial segregation and educational dissimilarity and ensuing marginalization by overriding society.**

**Keywords: Economic, Employment, Social, Kumaon**

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## INTRODUCTION

The district of Nainital lies in the Kumaun division of Uttarakhand. To its north is Almora district and to its south lies the Udham Singh Nagar district. Champawat district flanks it in the east and district of Pauri Gahwal is in the west. It is located approximately in between 80°14' and 78 ° 80' east longitudes and 29°00' and 29°05' north latitude. On the northern side lies the Himalayan ranges while on the southern side lies the plains making the resultant climate of the district enjoyable one.

In the vicinity of the spectacular Kumaon lies the district of Udham Singh Nagar, which was a part of district Nainital before it gained the identity of a separate district in October 1995. Special state institutions were set up for the advancement of SC/ST and various legislations, social policies and programmes were drafted which were geared to their economic and political development and achievement of equal social status. It has been difficult however, to identify these categories in terms of criteria laid down by the state.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Bisht (2006) argues that the state has to sustain forestry and agriculture for the survival of the people who largely live in rural and hilly areas. A study by Kar (2007) highlights the importance of equitable growth focusing on GDP growth and distribution of growth to all sections of the population and geographical regions

of the country. The study shows that the higher growth rate of the state in the initial years has helped the state to transform itself, but most of the growth has been restricted to the plains, while the hill areas have grown slowly due to structural problems. The state's vision is to include both human and economic development (Dewan and Bahadur, 2005), and economic development should be supported with environmental conservation. Crucial for social development is the development of women, youth and children of the society. Sekhar (2007) found that women's participation in the rural economy is significant. In Uttarakhand, young men generally migrate to the plains in search of employment, whereas women are left behind to cultivate the land and take care of the children and the older generation. One option to reduce the drudgery of women in agriculture is to identify alternative economic activities that are viable given the economic, social, and institutional constraints. Malhotra (2005) shows that forests play an important role in the state economy while Timber and fuel form the major produce group, while bamboo, drugs, grasses, gum, resins, etc. constitute the minor produce group. Forests are the major source of raw materials for industries, buildings, railways and other tertiary sectors, but the increased pressure on forests for fuel, fodder and timber requirements has increased the exploitation of forests.

Though co-educational primary schools are available in all of the villages, yet primary schools for girls are not available in any of the villages and they have to travel on an average more than 6 kms to attend

school. Co-educational middle schools are available in one-half of the villages. It is ironical that none of the sample villages have a high/higher secondary school exclusively for girls; however, one-half of the villages have co-educational high/higher secondary schools. In case of girls, they have to travel more than 6 km to reach a high/higher secondary school exclusively meant for them. Besides, none of the sample villages have polytechnics and other training schools, which are located at mean distances of 12 kms and 5 kms respectively. Inter-college and ITI facility is available in 16.67 percent and 3.33 percent of the sample villages. Religious schools and non-formal educational institutions are available in 16.67 percent and 13.33 of the villages respectively.

### ECONOMIC PROFILE:

The state of Uttarakhand encompasses a geographical area of 53,483 sq. km which accounts for only 1.63 per cent of India's area. The state contains about 4.53 per cent of India's forest area and about 3.1 per cent of India's agricultural area (Table 1). 43.6 per cent of the agricultural area is under irrigation as against the national average of 40.3 per cent and average rainfall is also above the national average. The ratio of irrigated area in the hills and plains is 10.2: 88.8 in Uttarakhand (Ref: DACNET)

Indicators	India	Uttarakhand
Total Geographical area (sq. km.)	3287240	53483 (1.63%)
Area under forest (sq. km.)	765210	34651 (4.53%)
Area under agriculture (ha)	183016000	5671704 (3.10%)
Area under irrigation (%)	40.3	43.6
Average annual rainfall (mm)	1432	1547

Sources: Indiastat ([www.indiastat.com](http://www.indiastat.com)) and Uttarakhand at a Glance, 2006-07 (Govt. of Uttarakhand)

### CONCLUSION:

In this paper we found that The 'problem' of the scheduled tribes has been a vexed one, given the various levels of social and cultural distance and varying degrees of voluntary or forced assimilation exploitation and/or displacement. In fact, it has been pointed out by Galanter that just where the line between Scheduled Tribes and non-Scheduled Tribes is to be drawn has not been clear. There are problems of overlap with caste and controversy whether a specific group is more appropriately classified as a ST or SC (ibid, 1984). Policy however treats the SC and ST groups homogenously. Moreover it rests largely on the assumption that mainstreaming is progress, while paying lip service to preserve distinctive cultures, especially of tribals who are coerced into assimilation.

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