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Impact of Government Welfare Schemes on SC Household Well-Being in Gorakhpur

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ABSTRACT

This study analyzes the impact of government welfare schemes on the overall well-being of Scheduled Caste (SC) households in the Gorakhpur region. Scheduled Caste communities have historically faced socio-economic disadvantages manifested in poverty, limited access to education, inadequate housing, and restricted livelihood opportunities. The research evaluates the effectiveness of key welfare interventions such as educational scholarships, housing schemes, employment generation programmes, health insurance initiatives, and social security pensions in improving living conditions and reducing vulnerability among SC households. The study is based on secondary data drawn from census reports, district statistical handbooks, and government records, supplemented by field-level observations to capture household-level outcomes. Indicators of well-being, including income stability, educational participation, housing quality, access to healthcare, and asset ownership, are examined to assess the reach and impact of these schemes. The findings reveal that welfare programmes have contributed positively to improvements in basic amenities, school enrollment, and income support, particularly among economically vulnerable households. However, disparities in awareness, implementation efficiency, and benefit accessibility continue to limit their overall effectiveness. Administrative gaps, exclusion errors, and delayed delivery of benefits emerge as significant challenges. The study concludes that while government welfare schemes play a crucial role in enhancing SC household well-being in Gorakhpur, strengthening implementation mechanisms, improving awareness, and ensuring inclusive coverage are essential for achieving sustainable and equitable socio-economic development.