

Marginalized Section of the Society: Covid-19 Perspective

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*"All men are not created equal, and that is the root of Social evil"—
Frank Herbert*

INTRODUCTION

No society is free from marginalized groups and weaker sections. However, the core bases of marginalization differ from society to society. While in most of the European and Western societies, skin color is one of the important bases of marginalization of blacks, in Indian society, division of population on the bases of birth as per the preambles of Varna system became core base of marginalization of significant segment of population who were placed outside for fold Varna system, who are today constitutionally known as Scheduled Castes. Irrespective of their achieved background, SCs are perceived as marginalized groups. STs are outside the Varna system. They are animist with distinct cultural heritage. It is claimed that they are the victim of geographical segregation and maternal exploitation by outsiders. It is claimed that with the passage of time, due to multiple reasons, their subjugation have become intense. They are another category of marginalized groups. Women as a category are perceived as marginalized because in the patriarchal framework, historically they have suffered denial and subjugation.

After becoming independent and adopting democratic form of governance, India made effort to enlarge space meant for marginalized groups. Today its boundary is more spacious and in broad comparison to situation few decades back. There are many groups and social categories which have been termed as marginalized or who are making effort to be declared as marginalized groups. Important among these groups are widows, war victims, persons with disability, destitute, lesbians, trans-

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