



Post-constitutional visit of Babasaheb Dr. B. R Ambedkar to Punjab and it's impact on contemporary political movement: An analysis

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Abstract

“I want to inform you that we are putting up candidates for the coming elections through the Scheduled Castes Federation. The Scheduled Castes Federation is for all Backward Classes. Every Backward Class will be given representation. I want to request all men and women that they should leave aside everything on the day of polling and go to the polling booths and cast their votes. The day of polling is the day of life and death for the Scheduled Castes.”

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar ^[53]

From 27th October, 1951 to 29th October, 1951 Babasaheb Dr. B. R Ambedkar was on election campaign tour of Punjab to expedite the political movement in Punjab State. At that time the Punjab State was a big State of northwestern India which covered present Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, some area of Jammu and Kashmir and erstwhile PEPSU. During this tour of Punjab Babasaheb Dr. B. R Ambedkar addressed four public meetings to expedite political momentum in Punjab. Out of these four meetings *first* on 27th October, 1951 at Ramdaspur, Jalandhar, presently Ambedkar Bhawan, Nakhodar Road Jalandhar, Punjab and *second* meeting was at D.A.V. College, Jalandhar City (Punjab) on 28th October, 1951. *Third* meeting was at Ludhiana on 28th October, 1951 and *fourth* meeting was at Patiala on 29th October, 1951. In these public meetings Babasaheb Dr. B. R Ambedkar addressed the public gathering and urged to the people to cast their vote in favour of candidates set up by the Scheduled Castes Federation. This tour affected Punjab State strongly and resulted for better political momentum in Punjab in 1951 elections, in which Mihan Singh Gill won the election from Amloh Payal Constituency and became MLA on the ticket of Scheduled Castes Federation in PEPSU Legislative Assembly Election, 1951 and Ram Dass won the election from Solan Constituency and also became MLA on the ticket of Scheduled Castes Federation in Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Election, 1951. From this election Scheduled Castes Federation became National Party which was later on renamed as Republican Party of India on 30th September, 1956 in its Central Executive Council meeting at 26 Alipur Road, Delhi. This journey of successful results was sustained even after this visit of Punjab for a long time and resulted in Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly Election in 1957, Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Election in 1951, Haryana Legislative Assembly Election in 1957, 1967, 1968 & 2000, Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU) Legislative Assembly Election in 1951 and Punjab State Legislative Assembly Election in 1957 & 1967. In all these elections Scheduled Castes Federation/ Republican Party of India performed very well. Hence, in this research work we have to discuss and analyze the very purpose of Indian Ambedkarite Republican Movement in past, present as well as its future through Ambedkarite literature published by the Government of Maharashtra, Government of India and results of various Legislative Assemblies conducted by Election Commission of India.

Keywords: Democracy, to Expedite, Political Movement, Ambedkarite, Republican, PEPSU, Scheduled Castes Federation (SCF), Republican Party of India (RPI), Member Legislative Assembly and one Leader, one Party and one Programme etc.

Introduction

From 27th October, 1951 to 29th October, 1951 Babasaheb Dr. B. R Ambedkar was on election campaign in Punjab to expedite the political movement in Punjab State. At that time the Punjab State was a big State of northwestern India which covered present Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, some area of Jammu and Kashmir and erstwhile PEPSU. During this tour of Punjab Babasaheb Dr. B. R Ambedkar addressed four public meetings to expedite political momentum in Punjab. Out of these four meetings *first* on 27th October, 1951 at Ramdaspur, Jalandhar, presently Ambedkar Bhawan, Nakhodar Road Jalandhar, Punjab and *second* meeting was at D. A. V. College, Jalandhar on 28th October, 1951. *Third* meeting was at Ludhiana on 28th October, 1951 and *fourth* meeting was at Patiala on 29th October, 1951. In these public meetings Babasaheb addressed the public and urged to peoples to cast their vote

in favour of candidates set up by the Scheduled Castes Federation. This tour affected Punjab State strongly and resulted for better political momentum in Punjab in 1951 elections, in which Mihan Singh Gill won the election from Amloh Payal Constituency and became MLA on the ticket of Scheduled Castes Federation in PEPSU Legislative Assembly Election, 1951 and Ram Dass won the election from Solan Constituency and also became MLA on the ticket of Scheduled Castes Federation in Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Election, 1951. From this election Scheduled Castes Federation became National Party which was later on renamed as Republican Party of India on 30th September, 1956 in its Central Executive Council meeting at 26 Alipur Road, Delhi. This journey of successful results was sustained even after this visit of Punjab for a long time which may be traced from Election Commission of India results.

Concentrate your energy and resources on politics and education

Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar addressed a letter ^[1] dated 03-03-1934 from Bombay to Bhaurao Krishnaji Gaikwad known as Dadasaheb Gaikwad. In this letter Babasaheb advised that the Depressed Classes to concentrate their energy and resources on politics and education and I hope that they will realise the importance of both ^[2].

Our aim and aspiration is to be a governing community:

On 24th September, 1944 in a meeting of 'Untouchables' at Memorial Hall, Park Town, Madras Dr. Ambedkar said, "You should realise what our object is. Our aim and aspiration is to be a governing community. Let all of you bear that in mind and let all of you write it on the walls of your houses so that every day you should remember that the aspirations which we cherish, and the cause, which we are having is not a cause of a petty character. It is the biggest cause that we ever cherished in our hearts. That is to see that we are recognised as the Governing Community. If you realise that, you will recognize what tremendous effort we have to make in order to carry it into effect. Mere words will not count, mere resolutions will not count. We must build up our own strength. We must remove other causes. ^[3]"

Organize Under One Leader, One Party, One Programme

On 25th April, 1948 (Sunday) at Lucknow in Fifth Conference of SCF ^[4] Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar addressed the Conference and said ^[5],

"Political power is the key to all social progress and the Scheduled Castes can achieve their salvation if they captured this power by organising themselves into a third Party and holding the balance of power between the rival political parties—Congress and Socialists ^[6]."

Further he said, "The Scheduled Castes cannot capture political power by joining the Congress. It is a big organisation and if we enter the Congress we will be a mere drop in the ocean. Congressmen have great pride and we cannot raise ourselves by joining the organisation. We will only increase the strength of our enemies by joining the Congress. Congress is a burning house and we cannot be prosperous by entering in it. I shall not be surprised if it is ruined in a couple of years. Socialists have come out of the Congress. That will certainly weaken the Congress. We must organize ourselves into a third party so that in case the Socialists and the Congress do not command an absolute majority, they will come to our feet to beg for our votes and we can, then, hold the balance of power and dictate our own terms to them for giving our political support ^[7]."

Finally, he advised,

"You must organised yourself under one Leader, one Party and one Programme. You remove all caste distinctions and organize yourself under the aegis of the Federation. ^[8]"

The Scheduled Castes should give up political aloofness

On 12th June, 1951 at Bombay Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar delivered a speech and said, "The Scheduled Castes should give up their political aloofness and co-operate with other communities in strengthening our newly won freedom. But in such co-operation the separate entity of the Scheduled Castes Federation should be maintained. You must change your policies radically towards the Congress. Up to this time our relations with the Congress had been one

of opposition. On the political field we were enemies of each other. So far, we were rather narrow minded in our outlook, the only interest before us being that of our Community. Now that we have achieved our freedom, we should change our outlook entirely and co-operate with others, keeping in view the interest of our Community and help consolidate our newly won freedom ^[9].

Scheduled Castes' Emancipation -Draft Manifesto ^[10]

"An Executive Committee Meeting of All India Scheduled Castes Federation was held at the Residence of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar at New Delhi on 6th October, 1951 to decide the Election Manifesto ^[11]." In that meeting a decision was taken, not to have alliance with Congress, Hindu Maha Sabha, R.S.S., Communist Party and Jan Sangh. The power to have the alliance with other Politicat Parties was delegated to the adhoc committee comprising Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, N. Shivraj and Bapusaheb Rajbhoj. It was also decided that the *ad hoc* Committee would take the appropriate decisions. The emphasis was given to make the 'Samata Sainik Dal' of 'Scheduled Castes Federation' stronger and effective. The manifesto prepared by 'Scheduled Castes Federation' was approved unanimously. The press wrote columns after columns speculating about the proposed manifesto. Indians and Western Journals welcomed the manifesto released on 7th October, 1951 which was unique, unparalled and outspoken ^[12]."

I am like a rock which does not melt but turns the course of rivers

Babasaheb Dr. B.R Ambedkar on 27th October, 1951 delivered a historical speech at Ramdasapur, Jalandhar, presently Ambedkar Bhawan, Nakhodar Road Jalandhar, Punjab during Election Campaign for 1st Lok Sabha General Election in India. Babasaheb Dr. B.R Ambedkar said that, "A man should leave politics after the age of 55 years, because even Government gives notice to a Government servant after the age of 55 that he is unfit for service now and he should retire. But the politicians of the present age start their politics after the age of 55 years so that they may be able to earn their livelihood; does not matter whether they are able to serve the country or not. They have only one point in mind and that is to get something out of it for their own self. I have no selfish motives. I am not continuing in the politics simply for my own good; but I am doing so for the sake of my community ^[13]."

Further in this historical speech, Babasaheb Dr. B.R Ambedkar said, "In 1942, I joined the Government of India as a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council and kept High Court Judgeship aside because I got birth in *Achhut* community and will die for my community and the cause of my community is supreme to me. I did not join any party or body. I remained independent. While in the Congress Government, I remained true to my people. Many people thought that I had joined the Congress party as I had accepted the Cabinet Minister ship of the Congress Government. The critics pointed out that Dr. Ambedkar had joined Congress and why the Scheduled Castes people should continue to remain in the Scheduled Castes Federation. I explained about it at Lucknow that earth and stone are to different things and they can never mix together. Stone will remain the stone and the earth will remain the earth. I am like a rock (stone) which does not

melt but turns the course of rivers. Wherever I may be, in whatever company I may find myself, I would never lose my separate identity. If anybody asks my co-operation, I would gladly give it for a worthy cause. I co-operate with the Congress Government for four years with all my might, and with the sincerity in the service of my mother-land. But during all these years I did not allow myself to merge into the Congress organization ^{[14].}”

“Our people are in minority in the villages and they have always to live at the mercy of the Caste Hindus and other high caste people. Our people are put to all sorts of hardships and when they complain to police authorities, they are not heard. They are even abused when they complain. Under such circumstances, if we have achieved anything, it is only some political rights. If we unite under the banner of the Scheduled Castes Federation, we can realise those rights and pull our community out of chaos. But we can have one power and that is the political power. This power we must win. Armed with this power, we can protect the interest of our people. In 1932 when the Scheduled Castes people were given separate rights but Gandhi started fast unto death until this provision of Separate Electorates for the Scheduled Castes was repealed. At that time, an agreement was reached between us but what is happening today is quite different to what was agreed to and Gandhi promised at that time that no candidates on Congress tickets will be put against those of the Scheduled Castes Federation. We want to send our people for the reserved seats but Congress Party is interfering with it ^{[15].}”

Further, Babasaheb also explained the value of political power and said, “There are 21 seats reserved for Scheduled Castes in the Punjab Assembly out of 120 seats and three reserved in the Union Parliament. I want to ask one question from all those parties which want to put candidates of their choice to these reserved seats and to show sympathy with the Scheduled Castes why they put the candidates against the reserved seats only and why they do not put those candidates to general seats? If they are sincere, let them provide general seats for our people. All these parties want to take away from us what we have achieved after great hardships. I want to tell you that without political power we cannot exist in this world. We have secured reservation of seats in the Provincial Assemblies and the Union Parliament but this is only for 10 years and nobody can say what will happen after 10 years. If our true representatives are not sent to Assemblies and Parliament, all our efforts will be in vain but if they are sent something will come out of it. Otherwise, we cannot have voice in the Government and local bodies ^{[16].}”

Finally, Babasaheb Dr. B.R Ambedkar requested to all present there to vote for Scheduled Castes Federation and said, “If you vote for the Scheduled Castes Federation, then I assure you that our candidates will be successful in the coming general elections. There is no doubt about it, the only thing is that you should vote for our true representatives. On the day of voting all men and women should leave their business and go to polls. When the time came for the award of different symbols to different parties, our party, the Scheduled Castes Federation was also considered as an All India Party. Other parties gave their symbols as Oxen, Horses, Donkies etc., but for your

convenience I made our symbol, the “*Elephant*” so that people may not find difficulty in recognizing our party candidates. Elephant can be easily distinguished from other animals. When the time came for the award of different symbols to different parties, our party, the Scheduled Castes Federation was also considered as an All India Party. Other parties gave their symbols as Oxen, Horses, Donkies etc., but for your convenience I made our symbol, the “*Elephant*” so that people may not find difficulty in recognizing our party candidates. Elephant can be easily distinguished from other animals ^{[17].}”

At the end, Babasaheb Dr. B.R Ambedkar Requested to all present there to make Scheduled Castes Federation more powerful and said, “I want to inform you that there is only one party which can do something for the Scheduled Castes and that is the Scheduled Castes Federation. I have built the house for you and it is for up to you to maintain it in proper order. I have planted the tree, if you water it, you will enjoy the fruits and you will be able to enjoy its shade, if not, you will have to sit in the sun. Our community will be ruined. So every Scheduled Caste should come under the banner of the Scheduled Castes Federation and make it more powerful. Only if we unite, we can achieve something. United we stand and divided we fall ^{[18].}”

Failure of parliamentary democracy will result in rebellion, anarchy and communism:

On 28th October, 1951 Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar delivered a speech at D.A.V. College, Jalandhar City and lucidly explained the Parliamentary Democracy before students’ Parliament. At this juncture Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar said, “Parliamentary Democracy is unknown to us at present. But India, at one time had Parliamentary Institutions. India was far more advanced in ancient times. If you go through the ‘*Suktas*’ of *Mahaparibbana*, you will find ample evidence in support of my point. In these ‘*Suktas*’ it is stated that while Bhagwan Buddha was dying at Kusinara (Kusinagara) a message to the effect was sent to the Mallas who were sitting in session at that time. They were devoted to Parliamentary Institutions. When they received the message about Buddha, they decided that they shall not close the session, but would carry on with their work and will go to Kusinara after finishing of the business of the Parliament. There are innumerable references in our literature to prove that Parliamentary System of Government was not unknown to us. There are many rules about Parliamentary Procedure. May’s Parliamentary practice is generally followed. One rule that is invariably followed everywhere is that there can be no discussion without a motion. That is why there is no discussion on a question. This rule was also practised in our land in ancient times. The system of secret ballot now in vogue is also not new to us. It was followed in Buddhist *Sanghas*. They had the ballot papers which they called, ‘*Salapatraka Grahakas*’. Unfortunately, we have lost all this past heritage that was good. Historians of India must tackle this question as to why these Parliamentary Institutions disappeared from our land. But I find that they cannot or do not want to find out the reasons for it. Ancient India was the master of the World. There was such intellectual freedom in ancient India as was nowhere else to be found. Then why this ancient civilization went to dogs? Why was India subjected to autocratic

monarchies? We were familiar with Parliamentary Institutions. We know about votes, voting, committees and other things related to Parliamentary Institutions. Today, Parliamentary System of Government is alien to us^[19].”

Further, Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar warned, “If Parliamentary Democracy fails in this country and it is bound to fail for the reasons mentioned by me, the only result will be rebellion, anarchy and Communism. If the people in power do not realize that people will not tolerate hereditary authority, then this country is doomed, Either Communism will come, Russia having the sovereignty over our country, destroying individual liberty and our independence or the section of the people who are disgruntled for the failure of the party in power will start rebellion and anarchy will prevail. Gentlemen, I want you to take note of these eventual certainties and if you wish that Parliamentary System of Government and Parliamentary Democracy prevail in this country, if you are satisfied that we will be assured of our liberty of thought, speech and action, if we should preserve our independence, if we cherish the inherent right of individual liberty, then it is your duty as students, as intelligent community of our country, to strive your utmost to cherish this Parliamentary System of Government in its true spirit and work for it^[20].”

If our true representatives are not elected, independence will be a farce

Babasaheb also delivered the speech on 28th October, 1951 at Ludhiana during Election campaign and urged to the people to cast their vote in favour of candidates set up by the Scheduled Castes Federation and said, “Dear brothers and sisters, this is the first time that I have visited Ludhiana to speak to our people. Many times before I proposed to visit this place but due to certain unavoidable circumstances, I could not do so. What an auspicious occasion it is that you all have gathered here! You know in two-three months elections are going to be held in which many parties are taking part. The Scheduled Castes Federation is also putting its candidates for the election. We will contest all the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes in the State Assemblies and the Union Parliament and also some general seats where we have sufficient number of votes. I hope that our candidates will be successful. Our candidates’ success depends mostly upon our own people. If all our people voted for our candidates, I am sure of our success, I would therefore urge that all the Scheduled Caste people should vote for the candidates put by the Scheduled Castes Federation, which is the only organisation of the Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes^[21].”

Babasaheb also urged the people gathered there to cast their vote in favour of the candidates set up by SCF^[22] for getting proper education for children and to remove poverty. Therefore, he said, “After so many years of struggle, we have secured some political powers. Now we can send our own representatives to the State Assemblies and the Union Parliament against the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes. There are many parties which are anxious to snatch away these rights. They are anxious to get our votes and send their own henchmen to the seats reserved for our people. You can very well understand their motives. They want that the Scheduled Castes should remain where they

are and should not come into power so that the menial jobs which our people are performing should not suffer. So you will have to be careful about your votes in the coming election. You should see that only our true representatives are elected with our votes and none else. Only then your rights which have been incorporated in the Constitution can be safeguarded. If our true representatives are not elected to the State Assemblies and the Union Parliament, then we cannot enjoy freedom. Independence will be a farce for our people. This will be independence of the High Caste people and not ours. But if our true representatives are in Parliament and State Assemblies, they can fight for our cause and get grievances redressed. Only then our children can get proper education; only then our poverty can be removed and only then we will be given equal share in all spheres of life. Although special privileges have been provided for the Scheduled Castes people in the Indian Constitution, the other parties specially the Congress are unnecessarily interfering with them. They are putting up their own henchmen for election to the seats reserved for Scheduled Castes. How can the people elected on Congress tickets safeguard our interests when they will have to go according to the wishes of their master? What can they do for us^[23]?”

Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar also explained about the party Manifesto and said, “Every political party has put forward its Manifesto. Every party promises that if it comes into power it will do this and that. Scheduled Castes Federation has also published a very voluminous Manifesto but when they came to understand that ordinary people would not follow it, they amended it and compressed into a small one. I hope by and by their Manifesto will become smaller and smaller and a day will come when there will be no Manifesto of the Congress. I want to tell you what should be in the Manifesto and what should not be. I challenge all the political parties to constitute a committee to find out which Manifesto is the best and I have no doubt in mind that our Manifesto will be the best of all. All the parties have promised many things in their Manifestoes to the people. To promise is easy but difficult to put it into practice. If you promise one thing you can promise one hundred. Manifesto should not be a list of promises only. It should deal with the problems facing the country and also how to solve these problems^[24].”

Further, Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar emphasized that the Scheduled Castes Federation is for all Backward Classes and said, “I want to inform you that we are putting up candidates for the coming elections through the Scheduled Castes Federation. The Scheduled Castes Federation is for all Backward Classes. Every Backward Class will be given representation. Nobody should be afraid of it. Chamars and Bhangis are all equal. We should be united and nobody should think himself separate from the other. I want to request all men and women that they should leave aside everything on the day of polling and go to the polling booths and cast their votes. Already our votes are not sufficient and if the voters do not cast their votes on that day, it would not be good for us. We will be unrepresented. The day of polling is the day of life and death for the Scheduled Castes^[25].”

At the end Babasaheb requested to all present there to contribute to construct a building which shall be the Head Office of the Scheduled Castes Federation and said, “I want to tell you that thousands of people come to Delhi from Punjab and U. P. and other distant places to put their grievances before me. Some complain that they have been beaten by the *Zamindars* and when they approached the authorities concerned, decisions were taken against them as the people in power also belong to high castes. So there are so many complaints that it is not possible for me to cope with these single handed. Many people return to their homes disappointed. So I have decided to construct a building in Delhi and to keep a pleader there who will scrutinize our people’s complaints and advise them in the matter. We have already purchased a piece of land in New Delhi for the purpose and on that site we want to construct a building which shall be the Head Office of the Federation. People from outside will be entertained there and their grievances heard. We do not have sufficient funds for the construction of this building, although it is absolutely essential. So I request that you all should contribute something according to your means. In this way we shall be able to achieve our purpose. Bawa Tula Dass will tour the whole Punjab for the collection of building Fund. I once again request you to contribute liberally for this noble cause ^[26].”

Poor people must unite separately to achieve their purpose

On 29th October, 1951, Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was not well during election campaign at Patiala, Punjab. Even though he addressed the gathering and said, “Dear brothers! As my friend Mr. Rajbhoj has told you I am not feeling well today. This is due to the fact that I had to travel a long journey by road. So I will not be able to speak for a long time but I will speak on some important topics. Everybody in India is busy with elections. There are many politicians and parties who have nothing else but elections with them. I very much appreciate the anxiety of the people about the coming elections and agree that we should think many times before we decide to vote for a party or an individual. The people elected now will continue in office for five long years. So, we must be very careful about it. This is the time of life and death of political parties as well as individuals. Every citizen and political party has got to take proper part in elections but for this, their very existence is in danger ^[27].”

Further, speaking on the interests of the Depressed Classes Babasaheb also said, “To safeguard the interests of the Depressed Classes, we have formed our own political party called the Scheduled Castes Federation. Through our efforts we have secured certain privileges which have been incorporated in the Constitution itself. Certain seats have been reserved for the Scheduled Castes in the State Assemblies and the Union Parliament. Only Scheduled Castes people can be elected to those seats. But if our true representatives are not elected to the Assemblies and the Congress nominees are elected to the reserved seats, then our rights cannot be safeguarded. Our people elected on the Congress tickets will be tools in the hands of the Congress and they will serve their own selves. Just take the case of the

two Scheduled Castes Deputy Ministers who are in the PEPSU Ministry. They were elected on the Congress tickets. What have they done for you? Our children are uneducated. We are as poor as before. We have not got any lands. We are not treated like human beings in the villages. Have they done anything in this regard? I have come to know that as soon as they came to know that I am visiting Patiala, they started anti-propaganda. They asked the Scheduled Castes people to boycott the Conference. Now you can judge what the people elected on the Congress tickets can do for us. Those who seek Congress tickets are selfish and selfish people can never think of other. You cannot expect anything from them ^[28].”

At the end of the meeting, Babasaheb said, “I tell you that you should be very cautious now and unite under the banner of the Scheduled Castes Federation. It is your duty to give your votes to the Federation candidates who will die for your cause ^[29]. I once again want to request you to vote for the candidate who is fighting on the Scheduled Castes Federation ticket. Federation candidates will be your true representatives, who will do everything for the welfare of our community. They will not be selfish. They will serve their community to the last.” ^[30]

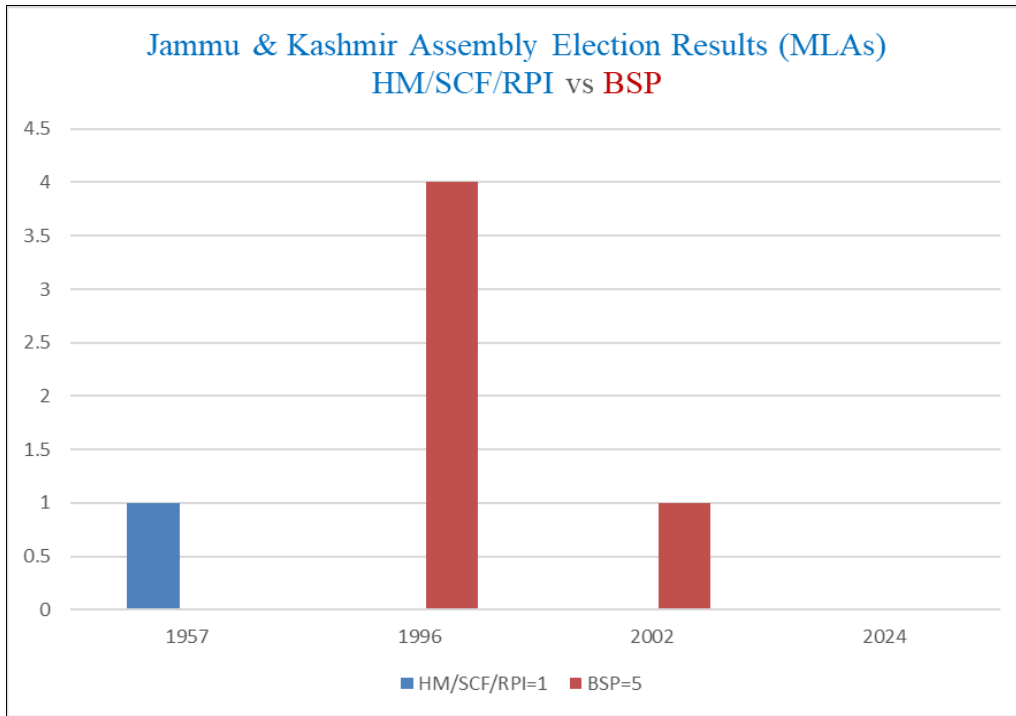
Elected Members Legislative Assembly (MLAs) of Scheduled Castes Federation/ Republican Party of India in Punjab region

Followings are the Members Legislative Assembly (MLAs) from different regions of Punjab (present Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, some area of Jammu and Kashmir and erstwhile PEPSU) from SCF ^[31] and RPI ^[32] in Punjab region and they were winner in election by the visit of Babasaheb Dr. B. R Ambedkar from 27th October, 1951 to 29th October, 1951 to expedite the political movement in Punjab region:

In Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly Election, 1957

The Harijan Mandal (HM) was political party in State of Jammu & Kashmir headed by Advocate Babu Milkhi Ram which was an Ambedkarite politician in Jammu and Kashmir and his political party Harijan Mandal was founded in 1951 modelled on SCF after consultation with Babasaheb Dr. B. R Ambedkar. In 1957 the Harijan Mandal again contested in Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly Election, 1957 and Advocate Babu Milkhi Ram won the election from Jammu Constituency ^[33] and became MLA on the ticket of the Harijan Mandal. Later on Advocate Babu Milkhi Ram’s the Harijan Mandal (HM) was dissolved in 1970 and Advocate Babu Milkhi Ram joined the Republican Party of India. In 1984, after formation of Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), the Jammu unit of the Republican Party of India (RPI) merged into BSP under Kanshi Ram. In 1996, BSP ^[34] won four seats and in 2002, BSP ^[35] one seat by misleading entire republican movement in Jammu & Kashmir.

HM/SCF/RPI	BSP
1	5



Source: Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly election, 1957, 1996 & 2002.

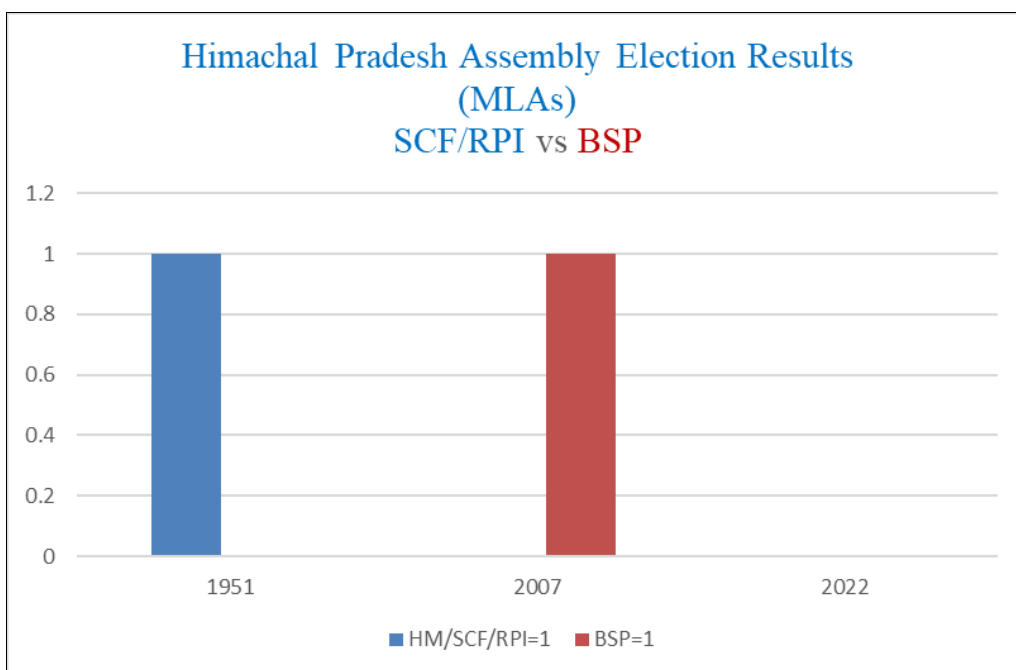
In Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Election, 1951

Himachal Pradesh formed in 1948 from 30 princely states transitioned through various administrative forms including a Chief Commissioner's province. In 1950, with the enforcement of the Indian Constitution, the Himachal Pradesh became a Part C state. In 1954, the Bilaspur another former Indian state was merged with Himachal Pradesh. In 1956, Himachal Pradesh became a Union Territory despite the recommendation of the States Reorganization Commission for its merger with Punjab. In 1966, Kangra and other hill areas of Punjab were merged with Himachal Pradesh for expanding its territory. In 1970, the Parliament of India passed the State of Himachal Pradesh Act paving the way for its statehood and finally in 1971 Himachal

Pradesh became the 18th state of the Indian Union on 25th January, 1971.

In this Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly general election, 1951 SCF - All India Scheduled Caste Federation (National Party) contested on 09 seats and won 01 seat by securing 10352 valid votes with 5.77% of total polled valid votes and with 17.89% polled valid votes against contested seats. On this one seat, Ram Dass won the election from Solan Constituency and became MLA on the ticket of SCF as National Party [36]. In 2007, BSP [37] won one seat by misleading entire republican movement in Himachal Pradesh.

SCF/RPI	BSP
1	1



Source: Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly election, 1951 & 2007.

In Punjab State Legislative Assembly Election, 1957 and in Haryana Legislative Assembly Election, 1967, 1968 & 2000

In Haryana erstwhile Punjab Legislative Assembly general election, 1957 SCF - All India Scheduled Caste Federation (State Party) contested on 24 seats and won 05 (five) seats (04 from Haryana region and 01 from Punjab region) by securing 410364 valid votes with 5.40% of total polled valid votes and with 19.46% polled valid votes against contested seats. On these 04 (four) seats, Bhag Singh Ror won the election from Pundri Constituency, Baru Ram Dhanda won the election from Rajaund Constituency, Inder Singh Sheokand won the election from Jind (UR) Constituency, and Bhale Ram Mathur won the election from Jind (SC) Constituency and all these 04 (four) became MLAs on the ticket of SCF as State Party [38].

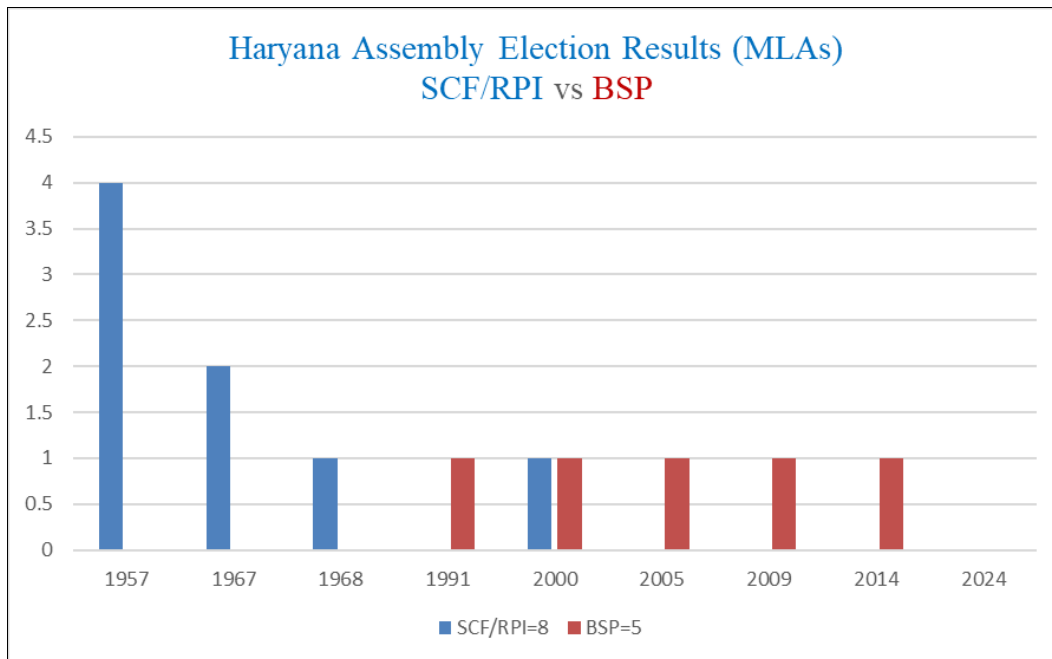
In Haryana Legislative Assembly general election, 1967 RPI - Republican Party of India (National Party) contested on 24 seats and won 02 (two) seats by securing 87861 valid votes with 2.90% of total polled valid votes and with 9.74% polled valid votes against contested seats. On these 02 (two) seats, Shamsher Singh Surjewala won the election from Narwana Constituency and Ram Prasad won the election

from Mullana Constituency and both became MLAs on the ticket of RPI as National Party [39].

In Haryana Legislative Assembly general election, 1968 RPI - Republican Party of India (State Party) contested on 18 seats and won 01 (one) seat by securing 40597 valid votes with 1.60% of total polled valid votes and with 7.13% polled valid votes against contested seats. On this seat, Banwari Ram won the election from Jundla Constituency and he became MLA on the ticket of RPI as State Party [40].

In Haryana Legislative Assembly general election, 2000 RPI - Republican Party of India (State Party) contested on 05 seats and won 01 (one) seat by securing 47091 valid votes with 0.62% of total polled valid votes and with 11.09% polled valid votes against contested seats. On this seat, Karan Singh Dalal won the election from Palwal Constituency and he became MLA on the ticket of RPI as State Party [41]. The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) was formed by Kanshi Ram in 1984 and won 01 (one) seat [42] in 1991, 01 (one) seat [43] in 2000, 01 (one) seat [44] in 2005, 01 (one) seat [45] in 2009 and 01 (one) seat [46] in 2014 by misleading entire republican movement in Punjab.

SCF/RPI	BSP
8	5



Source: Punjab Legislative Assembly election, 1957 and Haryana Legislative Assembly election, 1967, 1968, 1991, 2000, 2005, 2009 & 2014.

In Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU) Legislative Assembly Election, 1951 and in Punjab State Legislative Assembly Election, 1957, 1967, 1992, 1997 & 2022:

As far as the success of SCF and RPI in Punjab and PEPSU (PEPSU-Punjab) is concerned, the then Punjab and PEPSU (PEPSU-Punjab) till the year 1967 total 05 (five) MLAs have been elected from SCF and RPI. During this period, One Deputy Speaker as well as Finance Minister, Minister of Labor and Social Welfare & Minister of State for Revenue and Rehabilitation served in Punjab.

In Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU) Legislative Assembly general election, 1951 SCF - All India Scheduled Caste Federation (National Party) contested on 07 seats and won 01 (one) seats by securing 47216 valid

votes with 3.49% of total polled valid votes and with 18.89% polled valid votes against contested seats. On this seat, Mihan Singh Gill (Mazhabi Sikh) won the election from Amloh Payal Constituency and became MLA on SCF as National Party [47].

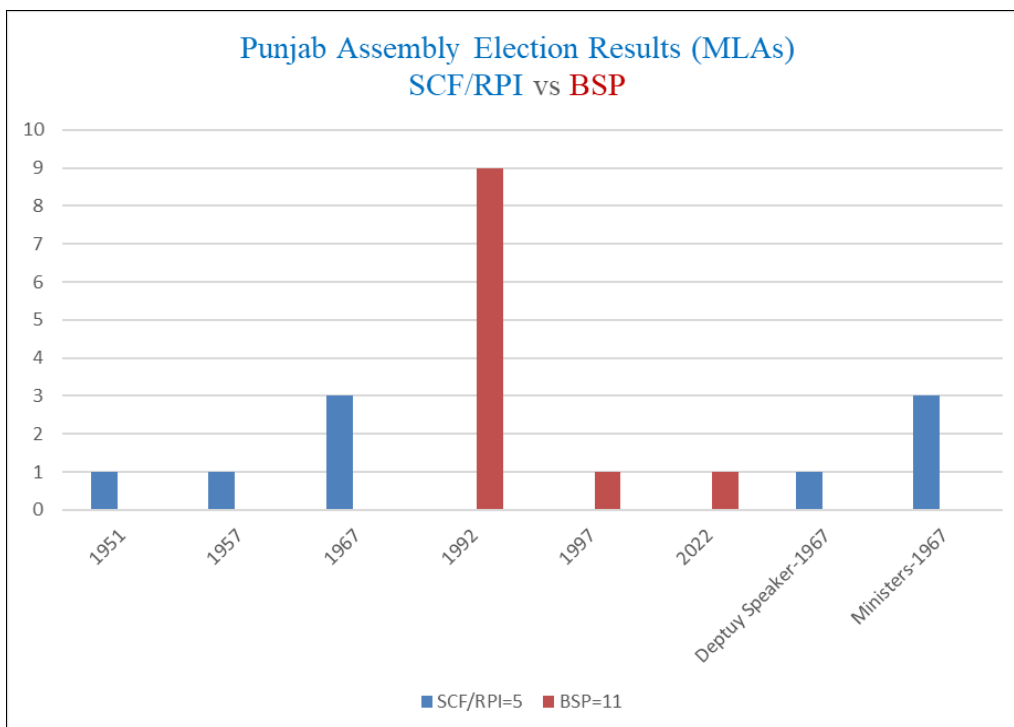
In Punjab Legislative Assembly general election, 1957 SCF - All India Scheduled Caste Federation (State Party) contested on 24 seats and won 05 (five) seats (01 from Punjab region and 04 from Haryana region) by securing 410364 valid votes with 5.40% of total polled valid votes and with 19.46% polled valid votes against contested seats. On this seat, Karam Chand won the election from Hoshiarpur (ST) Constituency and became MLA on the ticket of SCF as State Party [48].

In Punjab Legislative Assembly general election, 1967 RPI - Republican Party of India (National Party) contested on 17 seats and won 03 (three) seats by securing 76089 valid votes with 1.79% of total polled valid votes and with 11.05% polled valid votes against contested seats. On these 03 (three) seats, Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan (Saini) won the election from Tanda Constituency, Pyara Ram Dhanwali won the election from Kartarpur (SC) Constituency and Dr. Gurcharan Singh won the election from Khanna (SC) Constituency and all these 03 (three) became MLAs on the ticket of RPI as National Party and also served as Deputy Speaker as well as Finance Minister, Minister of Labor and Social Welfare & Minister of State for Revenue and Rehabilitation in Punjab.^[49]

Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan served as Deputy Speaker with Chief Minister Justice Gurnam Singh from 27-03-1967 to

27-11-1967 and as Finance Minister in the cabinet of Chief Minister Lachhman Singh Gill from 25-11-1967 to 22-08-1968. Piara Ram Dhanwali served as Minister of Labor and Social Welfare in the cabinet of Chief Minister Justice Gurnam Singh and Chief Minister Lachhman Singh Gill from 08-03-1967 to 23-08-1968. Dr. Gurcharan Singh also served as Minister of State for Revenue and Rehabilitation from 08-03-1967 to 23-08-1968 under both the Chief Ministers Justice Gurnam Singh and Lachhman Singh Gill. Thereafter, Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) was formed by Kanshi Ram in 1984 and won 09 (nine) seats^[50] in 1992, 01 (one) seat^[51] in 1997 and 01 (one) seat^[52] in 2022 by misleading entire republican movement in Punjab.

SCF/RPI	BSP
5	11



Source: Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU) Legislative Assembly Election, 1951 And Punjab Legislative Assembly election, 1957, 1967, 1992, 1997, & 2022.

Conclusion and Suggestions

From Bombay by Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar written a letter on 03-03-1934 to Bhaurao Krishnaji Gaikwad known as Dadasaheb Gaikwad and through this letter Babasaheb advised to concentrate their energy and resources on politics and education. Further, in Memorial Hall, Park Town, Madras on 24th September, 1944 Babasaheb cleared the aim and aspiration is to be a governing community and directed that all of you write it on the walls of your houses. Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on 24th and 25th April, 1948 at Lucknow said that political power is the key to all social progress and the Scheduled Castes can achieve this power by organising themselves under one Leader, one Party and one Programme that means under the aegis of the SCF which was latter on renamed as Republican Party of India i.e. RPI. Further, on 12th June, 1951 at Bombay Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar said that we should give up their political aloofness. The Executive Committee Meeting of All India Scheduled Castes Federation under the chairmanship of Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, finalized the Election

Manifesto on 6th October, 1951 at 26 Alipur Road, New Delhi and a decision was taken not to have alliance with Congress, Hindu Maha Sabha, R.S.S., Communist Party and Jan Sangh but to have the alliance with other Politicat Parties as be decided by the committee comprising Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, N. Shivraj and Bapusaheb Rajbhoj. Although Babasaheb’s approach towards congress was miled during that period. Babasaheb delivered a historical speech on 27th October, 1951 at Ramdaspur, Jalandhar, presently Ambedkar Bhawan, Nakhodar Road Jalandhar, Punjab during Election Campaign for 1st Lok Sabha General Election in India and said that I am like a rock (stone) which does not melt but turns the course of rivers and urged to vote for Scheduled Castes Federation’s symbol i.e. *Elephant*. Next day at Ludhiana on 28th October, 1951 Babasaheb said that the day of polling is the day of life and death for the Scheduled Castes and finally on 29th October, 1951 speaking at Patiala on the interests of the Depressed Classes Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar said that poor people must unite themselves to achieve their goal to

safeguard their interests under the banner of the Scheduled Castes Federation which was later on renamed as the Republican Party of India i.e. RPI on 30th September, 1956. Therefore, the candidates from Scheduled Castes Federation/ Republican Party of India won the elections and became MLAs in Punjab region such as; Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly Election in 1957, Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Election in 1951, Haryana Legislative Assembly Election in 1957, 1967, 1968 & 2000, Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU) Legislative Assembly Election in 1951 and Punjab State Legislative Assembly Election in 1957 & 1967. After splitting from Republican Party of India, Kanshi Ram formed Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in 1984 and misled the entire republican movement in Punjab region as well as North India. Beyond doubt, it is well established fact that the Ambedkarite Republican Movement is purely in favour of Women, Backward Classes of citizen including Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Minorities, as well as citizens with rationality in India. So, it is suggested to the people having faith and confidence in Ambedkarite Republican Movement to promote persistently under the aegis of the Republican Party of India erstwhile Scheduled Castes Federation as directed by our revered Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar on 25th April, 1948 at Lucknow in fifth conference of Scheduled Castes Federation. Further, Ambedkarite Republicans through India should be very conscious in future from such touts who are misleading the innocent peoples and enchasing all the benefits in their own corner on the name of Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

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