ANALYSIS LEVEL OF MALE FEMALE DISPARITY IN LITERACY OF SCHEDULED CASTE IN SATARA DISTRICT

Dr. Adinath D. Gade
Asst. Prof. Dept of Geography, D. R. Mane Mahavidyalaya,
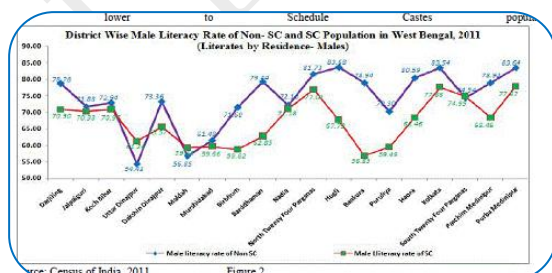**Kagal, Dist- Kolhapur, (M.S)**

ABSTRACT :

In the present study attempt has been made to study the male-female disparity in literacy of scheduled caste population of Satara District of Maharashtara State during 2001 to 2011. The present study based on the secondary data has been collected form district census hand book and Socio economic abstract of Satara district. The study of literacy focused wide sex disparities among the scheduled caste. Education is a key factor for the rapid development of a country. Disparity in literacy generates a number of social, economic and political problems which may threaten the very foundation of development. It is found that female literacy rate is lower than that of male population, among the scheduled caste due to the majority of woman engaged in primary activities, agricultural labour, lack of awareness of education and socio-economic backwardness. The present paper, intends to study the literacy level and male-female disparity in literacy rate of scheduled caste population in Satara District, which is one of the responsible factors for socio-economic change and has also made an effort to discuss about the new strategies and appropriate programmes which will hopefully result in bridging the gap between the privileged and un-privileged classes of the society.

KEYWORDS : Literacy, disparity, Scheduled caste and Male-Female disparity in literacy.

INTRODUCTION:

Literacy is as the ability to read and write at least a simple message in any language; illiteracy, conversely, refers to the lack or absence of the ability. According to Indian census, 'A person who can both read and write with understanding in any language is to be taken as literate' (Census 2001). Literacy and educational attainment level are considered as significant factors influencing the socio economic development of any society. The quality of human society can be judged through educational attainment level. Literacy reflects the socio- economic and cultural set-up of a nation, ethnic group or community. Today, the literacy is not only sticks its real meaning but also enhanced its level of understanding the society not only its present situations but also capable to assess the future generations through the proper education (Mulimani and Pujar, 2015). A level Literacy in population depends on the social, economic development and political power (Hassan, 2005). Literacy influences such attributes of population as fertility, mortality, mobility, occupations etc. India is a land of diverse race, religions, cultures, and social groups (Pallabi, 2016). In India have not only low literacy but also great disparity in literacy between Scheduled caste and Non Scheduled caste. It means Literacy is related to religion and caste. Disparity in literacy generates a number of social, economic and political problems which may threaten the very foundation of development (Singh and Chauhan, 2010).

Although scheduled castes are in a minority, they

District Wise Male Literacy Rate of Non- SC and SC Population in West Bengal, 2011 (Literates by Residence- Males)

Source: Census of India, 2011   Figure 2

constitute about 16.2 per cent of the total population of India (Census of India, 2011). The Scheduled castes throughout the country occupy the lowest rank in the caste hierarchy, and faced many problems, which are social, economic, political and educational in nature. According to 2011 census, the crude literacy rate of the scheduled castes of India was 66.07 per cent.   Approximately there are 35 scheduled castes prevailing in Satara district. The scheduled castes population is 323236, which constituted 10.76 per cent of the total population of Satara district. The total schedule caste literacy rate of Satara district was 70.62 per cent in 2011 which is lower than average literacy rate 79.66 per cent of Maharashtra.   Also the male literacy rate was 77.25 per cent and the female literacy rate was 63.99 per cent in Satara district. All these caste were found scattered all over the study region scheduled caste had suffered neglected in society and socially, economically and politically backward and less awakened. The literacy rate of Scheduled caste population is differing from region to region, as the region.

The main aim of the present study is to level of disparity in literacy among the Scheduled caste population in Satara district.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the present study is to analyses the disparity of male, female literacy of scheduled caste in study area during 2001 and 2011.

The present study was conducted in Satara district of Maharashtra state. The criterion for the selection of the district was its progress in dairy performance. The present study is based on secondary data. Secondary data regarding milk production is obtained from District Milk development office Kolhapur and Socio-economic review of Kolhapur district, Kolhapur district census hand book etc. The period 2013-14 is considered for present investigation.

DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY

The present study is based on secondary data. Secondary data regarding literacy is obtained   from District Census handbook and Socio-Economic Abstract of Satara district. The collected data processed and presented through tables and maps.

Literacy rate has been calculated by using the following formula: For the measurement of male and female disparity in literacy, Sopher's Disparity Index (1974) modified by Kundu and Rao (1986) has been employed.

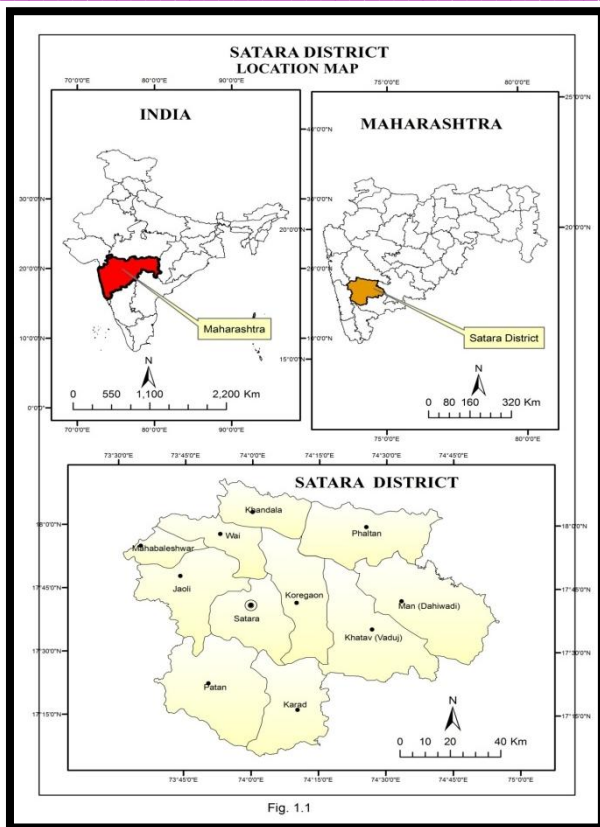**Disparity Index:** $Ds = \log(X2/X1) + \log[(200-X1)/(200-X2)]$

Where,
X2= Percentage of male literates
X1= percentage of female literates.

STUDY AREA:

Satara district is situated in western part of Maharashtra and lies between north latitudes17° 05' and 18° 11' and east longitude 73 ° 33' and 74° 54'. The geographical area of the district is 10480 sq. km. The district is bounded in the north by Pune district on the east by Solapur district, on the south by Sangli district and on the west by Ratnagiri district of Konkan region of state. Sahayadri hills of western ghat forms the western boundary, while Nira river forms the northern boundary of the district. The gross cultivable area is 7992 km2 whereas net area sown is 5576 sq.km. The region   receives   rainfall   mainly from southwest monsoon, ranging between 5000 mm to 200 mm. from west to east. The average annual rainfall of the district is 1426 mm, the temperature ranges from 11.6 ^{0}C to 37.5^{0}C. The total population of Satara district is 30,03741persons according to 2011 Census.   It has eleven talukas and 1547villages. Eleven tahsils are Satara, Wai, Khandala, Koregaon, Phaltan, Man, Khatav, Karad, Jaoli, M'shwar, Patan. The area under study is one of the drought-prone and low socioeconomic develop regions of the state of Maharashtra.

_____
Journal for all Subjects : www.lbp.world

2

Fig. 1.1

Spatial Distribution of Scheduled Caste population in Satara District

According to the Census 2011 there are 35 castes notified under the scheduled castes and population is 323236, which constituted 10.76 per cent of the total population of Satara district. In Satara district heaving five major scheduled caste i.e Mang, Mahar, Holar, Chambhar and Dhor scattered all over the study region. The literacy rate of Scheduled caste population is differing from region to region, as the region. The main reason for lower proportion of literates among the Scheduled Caste is that they are deprived of educational facilities for generations (Sawant and Athawale, 1994).

Table 1:   Scheduled Caste population in Satara District, 2011

Sr.No	Name of Tehsils	Total population	SC Male	SC Female	Total scheduled caste population	Percentage of scheduled caste population to total population
1	Mahabaleshwar	72840	4116	4102	8218 (2.54)	11.28
2	Wai	200741	9061	9183	18244(5.64)	9.11
3	Khandala	137450	6557	6418	12975(4.01)	9.44
4	Phaltan	342696	25206	24380	49586(15.34)	14.47
5	Man	225193	14326	14031	28357(8.77)	12.57
6	Khatav	275099	12786	13102	25888(8.00)	9.40
7	Koregaon	257327	11175	11168	22343(6.91)	8.68
8	Satara	501670	27983	27644	55627(17.20)	11.06
9	Jaoli	107890	3697	3827	7524 (2.32)	7.06
10	Patan	299634	12568	13467	26035 (8.05)	8.69
11	Karad	583360	34228	34211	68439 (21.17)	11.73
	Total	3003741	161703	161533	323236	10.76

Source: District socio-economic survey Satara 2013.

_____
Journal for all Subjects : www.lbp.world

3

_____

Table 1 depict that the tahsil wise distribution of schedule caste population of Satara district in 2011. Satara district have 10.76 per cent of scheduled caste population to total population. It is observed that 323236 total scheduled caste population in Satara district in which 161703 is male population and 161533 female population. Karad tahsil have highest (21.17 per cent) scheduled caste population of Satara district. Followed by Satara (17.20 per cent), Phaltan (15.34 per cent) Man (8.77 per cent), Patan (8.05 per cent), Khatav (8.00 per cent), Koregaon (6.91per cent), and Wai (5.64 per cent), Khandala (4.01 per cent), Mahabaleshwar (2.54 per cent) and Jaoli (2.32 per cent) tahsils. By observing the table.1 distribution of scheduled caste population is higher in economically developed, river basin region and central part of Satara district due to availability of educational facilities and highest degrees to urbanization than other area of region.

Tahsil Wise Male-Female Disparity in Literacy of Scheduled Caste Population (2001-2011)

A sharp contrast in literacy is observed between one part of the district to another, between males and females, between religious groups, between castes and between rural and urban population (Rajawat, 2005). Disparity in literacy between the Scheduled Caste and total population witnessed wide sex disparity. The Indian society is mainly characterized by male chauvinism; the females are not only degraded but also deprived of the right of study (Romotara, 1988). According to 2011 census, the crude literacy rate of the scheduled castes of Satara district was 70.62 per cent. Of the total 323236 scheduled caste, literates the male and female literacy rate was 77.25 and 63.99 per cent, respectively.

Table 2: Male and female Disparity in Literacy of scheduled Caste (2001-2011)

Sr.No	Name of Tehsils	Percentage of Literature						Male and female Disparity Index	
		2001			2011			2001	2011
		Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female		
1	Mahabaleshwar	71.87	78.61	65.13	76.25	82.38	70.11	0.124	0.109
2	Wai	66.41	76.26	56.57	73.84	79.57	68.20	0.187	0.101
3	Khandala	68.15	77.05	59.25	75.55	81.07	69.71	0.170	0.109
4	Phaltan	59.41	70.11	48.72	68.25	74.68	61.61	0.215	0.124
5	Man	58.59	68.75	48.43	63.91	71.69	55.96	0.209	0.156
6	Khatav	64.00	73.36	54.65	69.00	76.28	61.89	0.187	0.142
7	Koregaon	63.09	72.83	53.36	71.78	78.10	65.47	0.194	0.116
8	Satara	65.03	73.29	56.77	74.84	80.14	69.47	0.163	0.094
9	Jaoli	65.12	74.69	55.56	74.16	81.17	67.38	0.184	0.124
10	Patan	59.83	70.81	48.85	68.03	77.33	59.35	0.226	0.170
11	Karad	60.26	70.26	50.08	70.08	76.79	63.36	0.149	0.124
	Total	63.78	73.27	54.30	70.62	77.25	63.99	0.184	0.120

Source: Census of India, District Census Handbook of Satara District (2001-2011).
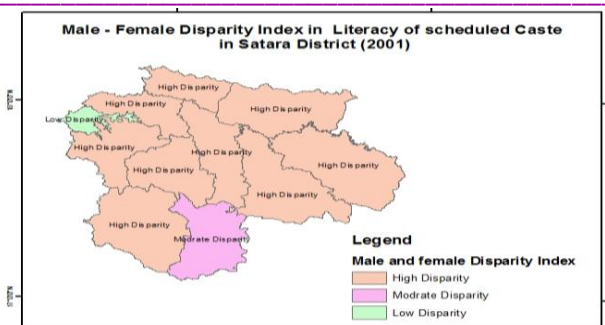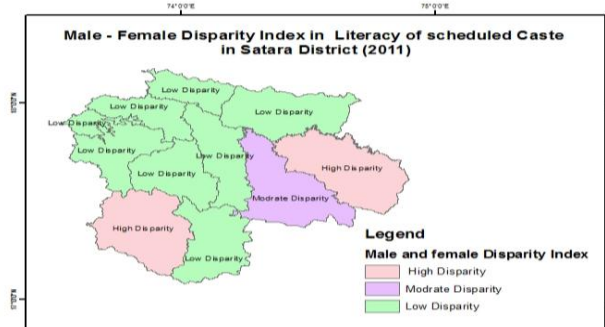
_____

_____

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

So, the gender gap in literacy rate of scheduled castes was 13.26 per cent in the district. It is indicate that literacy rate among female population is lower than male population.

Table No. 2 shows that high disparity in male-female literacy among the Scheduled Caste population in Satara district during 2001 and 2011. The disparity of male-female literacy rate may be grouped into three categories. i.e. high, moderate and low disparity index.

High Male-Female Disparity index in Literacy   (Above 0.150 Disparity Index)

As per 2001 census, Satara district observed 0.184 scheduled caste literacy male and female disparity. By observing the table no 2 highest male female literacy disparity among the scheduled caste in Patan (0.226) tahsil followed by Phaltan (0.215), Man (0.209), Koregaon (0.194), Wai (0.187), Khatav (0.187), Jaoli (0.184), Khandala (0.170) and Satara (0.163) tahsils. Because of literacy rate of scheduled caste female is (54.30 per cent) less than Male (73.27 per cent) literacy. As the female literacy rate is found lower which ultimately results in higher disparity index. During 2011, high level of male-female disparity index in literacy is not observed in Phaltan, Koregaon, Wai, Khatav Jaoli, Khandala, and Satara tahsils. It is great sign of improving in gender literacy rate of the district. During 2011 only Patan and Man tahsils remained their position into this category. High male- female disparity in literacy in these areas may be recognized to very low female literacy due to discrimination against female education, economic backwardness and low level of urbanization and low status of woman.

Moderate Male-Female Disparity index in Literacy (0.125- 0.150 Disparity Index)

In 2001 moderate level of Male-Female disparity index in literacy of scheduled caste population is found in Karad tahsil. During 2011, the tahsils of Khatav (0.142) has also acquired moderate disparity index, while the tahsil of Karad has improved its position by lowering the male (76.79 per cent) and female (63.36 per cent) disparity index and thus has moved on to low category.

Low Male-Female Disparity index in Literacy (Below 0.125 Disparity Index)

In 2001, the only one tahsil of Mahableshwar (0.124) have reported low level of gender disparity in literacy rate for the scheduled caste population. In 2011, the tahsils of Satara (0.094), Wai (0.101), Khandala,

_____

Mahableshwar (0.109), Koregaon (0.116) and Jaoli, Phaltan, Karad (0.124) were added to this category. In 2011, the situation has improved and the gender disparity among the scheduled population has declined. Low disparity index indicates that improvement in female literacy level among the Scheduled Caste population, during 2011. Due to socio economic development, improvement of female literacy, developed infrastructural facilities, awareness of education, easy accessibility and availability of educational institutions and beginning of urbanization seems to have been moving along with in India.

CONCLUSION

It may be conclude that scheduled caste male-female disparity in literacy is depends on the status of women in the society. The schedule castes are comparatively backward in occupational, educational, social, cultural, religious and political sector.   Scheduled Castes still live in rural areas and half of the population lives under the poverty line, and majority are illiterate. Also they are deprived from the employment opportunities. The scheduled caste literacy in the study area has increased from 63.78 in 2001 to 70.62 per cent in 2011. In fact, though the male-female disparity has declined from 0.184 in 2001 to 0.120 in 2011. The male-female disparity in literacy ranges from a minimum of 0.101 in Wai tahsil to a maximum of 0.170 in Patan tahsil in 2011. It is observed that, in all tahsils of study area, the scheduled caste male literacy was much higher than the female literacy. The scheduled caste female literacy is one of the most important indicators of woman empowerment and overall development of society. So that the Government need to special attention grows the development facility in these areas that's helps to growing effect on literacy.

REFERENCES

1. Ahire, R .C and Chaudhari, S. R., (216): Levels of disparity in literacy of scheduled tribes of Nandurbar district: A spatial analysis, International Journal of Applied Research, ISSN Print: 2394-7500, ISSN Online: 2394-5869, 2(2), Pp-236-240.
2. Census of India, Satara District CD, 2001and 2011.
3. Hassan, M. I. (2005): Population Geography, Rawat Publication, Jaipur.
4. Kundu and Rao (1986): Inequity in educational development: Issues in measurement, changing structure and its socio-economic correlated with special reference to India, Educational planning: A long term perspective, Pp- 435-466.
5. Mulimani, A. and Pujar, L. M. (2015): Spatial Disparity of Rural-Urban Literacy In Haveri District, International Multidisciplinary Research Journal, Vol. 3, Issue. 6, Pp-1-10.
6. Pallabi, Deka, (2016) : A Study on Literacy Pattern among the Scheduled Caste Population in Goalpara District, Assam, International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications, Vol. 6, Issue .1, ISSN 2250-3153, Pp-19-21.
7. Romatra, K. C. (1988): Scheduled Caste Literacy in North Western India: A Spatial Perspective, National Geographer, Vol. 23, No. 2, Pp-148.
8. Rajawat, M. (2005): Dalits Role of Education. Anmol Publications Private Ltd. New Delhi Pp.60-64.
9. Sopher, D. E. (1974). A Measure of Disparity. The Professional Geographer, 26 (4), Pp-389-392.
10. Sawant, S. B. and Athawale, A. S. (1991): Population Geography, Mehta Publishing House, Pune, Pp-118-119.
11. Singh and Chauhan. (2010): Levels of Literacy in Rajasthan, the Deccan Geographer, Vol. 48, No.2, Pp-51-65.

Dr. Adinath D Gade
Asst. Prof. Dept of Geography, D. R. Mane Mahavidyalaya, Kagal, Dist- Kolhapur, (M.S)