Research Paper Geography

Spatial Patterns of Male-Female Differentials in Literacy of Haryana, 2011

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ABSTRACT

Based on districtwise Census data, the present study attempts to explain spatial patterns of male-female differentials in literacy in the state of Haryana. The male-female differentials in literacy in Haryana are largely due to social structure and male dominated society. It mainly addresses the following aspects: (i) Changes in the pattern of male -female literacy, 1971-2011, (ii) Pattern of Literacy and Decadal Change in Literacy Rate (2001-2011) Haryana (iii) Male -female literacy ratio, 1971-2011, (iv) District wise spatial patterns of male-female differentials in literacy.

KEYWORDS

Introduction

Literacy is an effective instrument for social and economic development and national integration. Literacy is one of the important indicators of status of society in an area. Davis (1955, pp. 263-315) observed that if the rate of literacy transition was low, the economic development slowed down, while the economic development was rapid if the literacy transition was fast. The literacy rates in any area were determined largely by a variety of historical, social and economic factors. The Male- Female differentials in the literacy rates of Indian population spring from the differences in the type of economy, social life and migratory pattern. The unusually large disparity in literacy among men and women was the result of a long continued prejudice against the education of women, and also against their employment outside the home (Kingsley Davis, 1951, p. 152). However these prejudices have been disappearing rather rapidly in recent years, though much remains to be desired (Gosal, 1964, p. 266). According to Census of India, the person (7+) who can read, write & understand in any language is called literate. The literacy differences also reflect effectively the economic condition of both Sexes.

The Study Area

The study area is the state of Haryana, which is no doubt economically developed but is often observed to lack somewhat so far as the social development is concerned. To measure social development literacy is one of the parameters. Haryana has all the three types of districts showcasing the different stages of development. Developed districts like Panchkula, Ambala, Faridabad, developing districts like Hissar, Gurgaon, Kaithal and underdeveloped districts like Rewari, Jind, Mahendragarh. The total population of study area is 2.53 crore as per 2011 Census out of which the rural population is 1.65 crore and urban amounts to 88 lakhs.

Objective of the Study

No doubt literacy rate in Haryana has witnessed a steady increase; females have less literacy have less literacy in comparison to Males. The basic objective of the present study is to make a detailed analysis of Male - Female differential in literacy of different districts of Haryana.

Hypotheses

1. Males have higher literacy in comparison to Females.
2. Male and Female differential in literacy is still present.

Methodology

For calculating Male - Female differentials in literacy, the secondary sources of data have been taken from Census of India.

Table 1
Changes in the pattern of Male - Female Differentials in Literacy, 1971 -2011

Haryana					India			
Census Year	Total	Male	Female	M-F Differential	Total	Male	Female	M-F Differential
1971	25.71	29.20	9.20	-20	34.45	45.96	21.97	-23.99
1981	43.88	58.51	26.93	-31.58	43.57	56.38	29.76	-26.62
1991	55.85	69.10	40.47	-28.63	52.21	64.13	39.29	-24.84
2001	67.91	78.49	55.73	-22.76	65.20	75.85	54.16	-21.69
2011	75.60	83.93	65.69	-18.24	72.98	80.88	64.63	-16.25

Source: Primary Census Abstract of Haryana and India, 2011.

Changes in Literacy, 1971 -2011

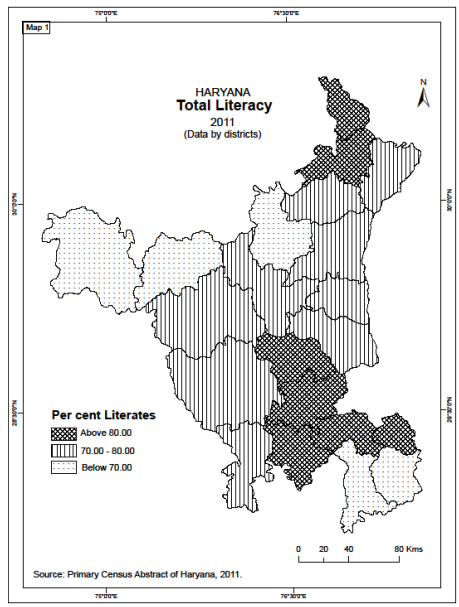
The literacy rate in Haryana has increased from 25. 71 to 75.60 per cent, this shows an almost threefold in four decades. The male literacy increased from 29.20 % in 1971 to 83.93 % in 2011. On the other hand, the female literacy increased a lot from 9.20 to 65.69 % in the same period.

Table-2
Pattern of Literacy and Decadal Change in Literacy Rate (2001-2011) In Haryana

Districts	Percentage of literates		
	2011	2001	Percentage Change in Literates
Ambala	82.89	75.31	7.58
Panchkula	83.44	74.00	9.44
Yamunanagar	78.93	71.63	7.3
Kurukshetra	76.70	69.88	6.82
Kaithal	70.56	59.02	11.54
Karnal	76.44	67.74	8.7
Panipat	77.46	69.17	8.29
Sonipat	80.83	72.79	8.04
Rohtak	80.37	73.72	6.65
Jhajjar	80.83	72.38	7.45
Faridabad	83.04	76.29	6.75
Palwal	70.32	59.19	11.13
Gurgaon	84.44	78.51	5.93
Mewat	56.14	43.51	12.63
Rewari	82.23	75.25	6.98
Mahendragarh	78.87	69.89	8.98
Bhiwani	76.74	67.45	9.29
Jind	72.73	62.12	10.61
Hisar	73.24	64.83	8.41
Fatehabad	69.13	57.98	11.15
Sirsa	70.35	60.55	9.8
Haryana	76.60	67.91	8.69

Source: Primary Census Abstract of Haryana, 2011.

The above table -2 presents an overall picture of literacy rate and district-wise percentage change in literacy between 2001 and 2011 in the state. The percentage of literates to total population in the state has gone up from 67.91 in 2001 to 76.64 % in 2011. Fig. 1 and fig. 2 give a visual impression of inter-districts variations in literacy rate in the state. The lowest literacy rate in 2001 as well as in 2011 has recorded in Mewat district 43.51 percent and 56.14 percent respectively. It is because of pre-dominance of backward Muslims population in the districts which give less attention towards education. In 2001 and 2011 highest literacy rate is found in Gurgaon district, due to National Capital Region. High literacy rate is observed in the districts of Panchkula, Gurgaon, Fridabad, Ambala and Rewari in 2001 as well as in 2011. Literacy rate is comparatively low in the districts of Palwal, Mewat, Kaithal, Fatehabad and Sirsa. Highest percentage change in literacy rate (12.63 %) is observed in Mewat district between 2001 to 2011 Kaithal, Palwal, Jind, and Fatehabad also have experienced high percentage change in literacy rate above 10 percent.



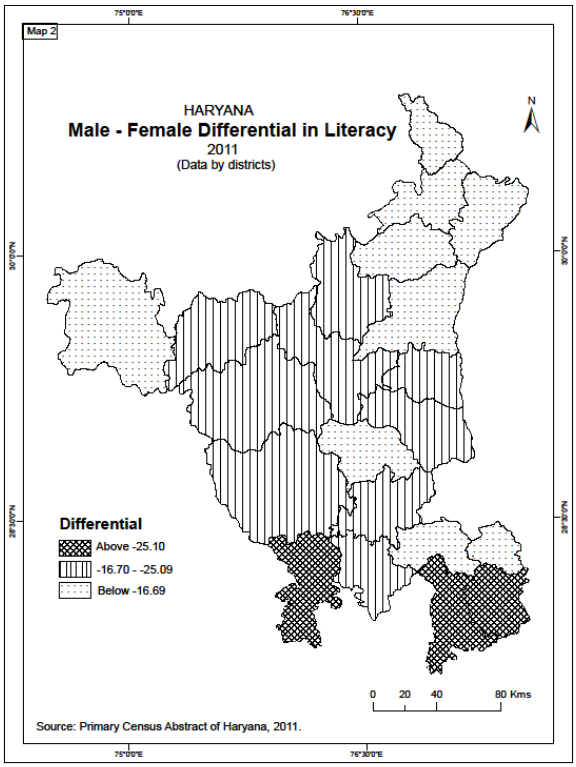
Male - Female differentials in Literacy 1971 -2011

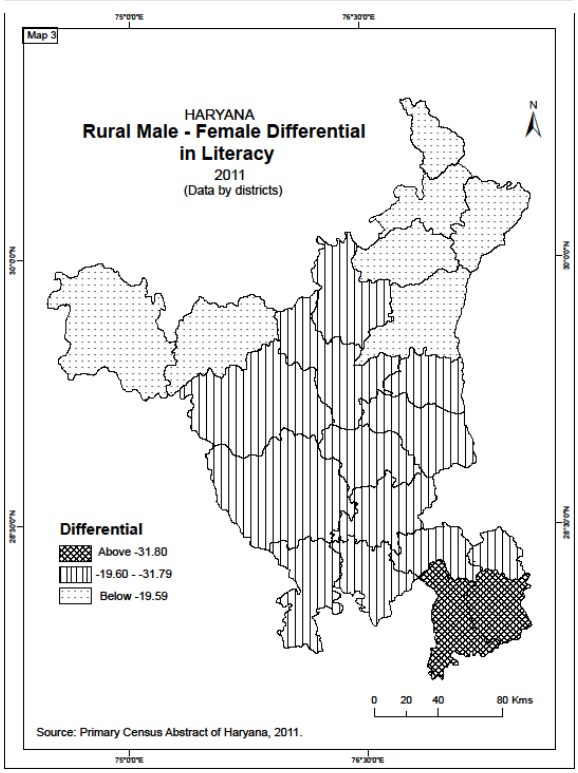
The Male - Female literacy gap has increased from "-20" in 1971 to "-18.24" in 2011. It shows that the males as well as female literacy are increasing but still the male -female literacy differential is there. When we compare the literacy differential of Haryana to India during 1971 -2011, then we find it neck to neck. The male literacy in Haryana has increased more than Indian male literacy but in female literacy it is almost the same.

Table 3
Male - Female Differentials in Literacy, 2011

S.N	District	Total Male	Total Female	Differential	Rural Male	Rural Female	Differential
1	Panchkula	87	76	-11	82.7	67.5	-15.2
2	Ambala	87.3	75.5	-11.8	84.2	69.4	-14.8
3	Yamunanagar	83.8	71.4	-12.4	80.8	65.9	-14.9
4	Kurukshetra	83	68.8	-14.2	80.8	64.6	-16.2
5	Kaithal	78	59.2	-18.8	76	56.1	-19.9
6	Karnal	81.8	66.8	-15	79.5	62.3	-17.2
7	Panipat	83.7	67	-16.7	81.8	61.7	-20.1
8	Sonipat	87.2	69.8	-17.4	86	66.4	-19.6
9	Jind	80.8	60.8	-20	78.9	57.3	-21.6
10	Fatehabad	76.1	58.9	-17.2	74.5	55.6	-18.9
11	Sirsa	76.4	60.4	-16	73.8	56.1	-17.7
12	Hisar	82.2	62.3	-19.9	79.4	56.6	-22.8
13	Bhiwani	85.6	63.5	-22.1	85	61	-24
14	Rohtak	87.7	71.7	-16	86	66.1	-19.9
15	Jhajjar	89.3	70.7	-18.6	88.9	68.5	-20.4
16	Mahendragarh	89.7	64.6	-25.1	89.6	63	-26.6
17	Rewari	91.4	69.6	-21.8	91.4	67	-24.4
18	Gurgaon	90.5	78	-12.5	89.9	69.1	-20.8
19	Mewat	69.9	36.6	-33.3	68.6	33.7	-34.9
20	Faridabad	88.6	73.8	-14.8	84.7	60.1	-24.6
21	Palwal	82.7	54.2	-28.5	81.6	49.8	-31.8

Source: Primary Census Abstract of Haryana, 2011.





Male -Female Differential in Literacy, 2011

Male -Female differences in literacy was -18.24 in 2011 because of less educational facilities to females as compared to the facilities given to the males. This is because of many reasons including the male domination in traditional Indian society. The table - 2 shows that in all the 19 districts in Haryana, male literacy percentage is more than female literacy percentage. Mahendragarh, one of the underdeveloped districts, has the highest male -female differential. Faridabad & Gurgaon, two of the more developed districts in Haryana have the highest male -female literacy differential. It shows that these two districts , which are more developed urban centers, are only economically developed but in social terms they stands with the districts of Bhiwani and Jind which are less developed economically as well as socially . But Yamunanagar, Panchkula and Ambala have lowest differential. When we go through the table of rural male & female literacy then we find that in rural areas female are less literate in comparison to urban areas. Rural areas have more differential as comparison to urban areas.

Conclusion

1. The literacy differential of Haryana was -18.24 % according to 2011 Census which is more than Indian literacy differential. But the gap is still present in male -female literacy in India as well as in Haryana.
2. Highest male -female literacy differential is found in those districts which are termed as underdeveloped districts in Haryana.
3. Lowest male -female literacy differential is found in developed district like Ambala, Yamunanagar & Panchkula.
4. Gurgaon & Faridabad the overall differential as well as the rural male -female differential is very - very high.

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