



Impact of Education on Socio Economic Condition Of Women: A Study of Karaikal District of Puducherry

Dr. Md. Asaad Raza

Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Public Administration, Arignar Anna Govt. Arts & Science College, Karaikal – 609605 Puducherry)

ABSTRACT

This paper is the outcome of the UGC sponsored minor research project which is already submitted to the University Grants Commission in December 2016. This research was conducted to know socio economic condition of women in Karaikal district. With the literacy rate of more than seventy percent Karaikal is far ahead of national literacy rate. The researcher has also made an effort to know the condition of women and how education contributed to improve their condition. For the study researcher selected 200 respondents from all the five commune panchayats as well as Karaikal municipality. All these respondents were selected randomly by the researcher. This paper consists of the suggestions and findings of the UGC research project. The paper is concluded with the positive impact of education on socio economic condition of women and attitude of karaikal people towards education especially girls' education.

KEYWORDS

Literacy, empowerment, commune panchayat

PROFILE OF KARAİKAL

Puducherry, earlier known as Pondicherry, a very popular destination among tourists from India and abroad, has been touted as the French Riviera of the East.

The Union Territory of Pondicherry constituted out of the four erstwhile French establishments of Pondicherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam. Karaikal region is embedded in the Nagapattinam and Tiruvarur District of Tamil Nadu State.

The detail analysis of Population Census 2011 published by Govt. of India for Puducherry state reveal that population of Puducherry has increased by 28.08% in this decade compared (2001-2011) to past decade (1991-2001). The density of Puducherry state in the current decade is 6603 per sq mile.

Puducherry is a State of India with population of Approximate 12.48 Lakhs.

The population of Puducherry state is 1,247,953.

The density of Puducherry state is 2,547 per sq km.

Puducherry State is spread over 490 Sq Km.

An official Census 2011 detail of Karaikal (Karikal), a district of Puducherry has been released by Directorate of Census Operations in Puducherry. Enumeration of key persons was also done by census officials in Karaikal District of Puducherry.

In 2011, Karaikal had population of 200,222 of which male and female were 97,809 and 102,413 respectively. In 2001 census, Karaikal had a population of 170,791 of which males were 84,487 and remaining 86,304 were females. Karaikal District population constituted 16.04 percent of total Maharashtra population. In 2001 census, this figure for Karaikal District was at 17.53 percent of Maharashtra population.

There was change of 17.23 percent in the population compared to population as per 2001. In the previous census of India 2001, Karaikal District recorded increase of 17.22 percent to its population compared to 1991.

Description	2011	2001
Actual Population	200,222	170,791
Male	97,809	84,487

Female	102,413	86,304
Population Growth	17.23%	17.22%
Area Sq. Km	157	157
Density/km ²	1,275	1,067
Sex Ratio (Per 1000)	1047	1022
Average Literacy	87.05	81.94
Male Literacy	92.37	89.40
Female Literacy	82.02	74.68
Literates	154,916	122,453
Male Literates	79,903	65,890
Female Literates	75,013	56,563

Karaikal Religion-wise Data 2011

Description	Total	Percentage
Hindu	152,638	76.23 %
Muslims	28,835	14.40 %
Christian	18,391	9.19 %
Sikh	46	0.02 %
Buddhist	63	0.03 %
Jain	54	0.03 %
Others	14	0.01 %
Not Stated	181	0.09 %

Source: <http://www.census2011.co.in/census/district/484-karaikal.html>

AREA OF THE STUDY

The Union Territory of Pondicherry includes four enclaves located in three states of South India. It includes the coastal towns of Pondicherry and Karaikal in Tamil Nadu, Yanam in Andhra Pradesh and Mahe in Kerala. Pondicherry is 160 kms. South of Chennai. Karaikal is situated 150 kms. further down south from Pondicherry.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To study the opinion of Karaikal people about women education

- To study about the women empowerment through education
- To study about the hindrances for women education
- To study about the freedom to act for women
- To study about the adequacy of reservation for women.
- To study about the economic status of women in Karaikal

RESEARCH DESIGN

Research Design is always considered as the "Blueprint" of research. The researcher adopted descriptive type of design for the research. The descriptive design would describe in detail about the economic status of women in Karaikal, involvement in politics, impact of education on social life of women.

TOOLS OF DATA COLLECTION

The tool adopted for data collection is Interview Schedule. The reason is most of the respondents are not well versed in their education. Thus, the researcher has undergone data collection through interview method.

ACTUAL DATA COLLECTION

The researcher actually collected the data from 10th March 2015 to 21st March 2015. The researcher spent nearly 12 days for the data collection. The researcher collected the data from 200 respondents. Most of the respondents were co-operative and shared their views without any hesitation.

MODE OF ANALYSIS

The collected data were carefully analyzed through tables and diagrams.

FINDINGS

This chapter dealt with the research findings. The findings are listed below:

1. Nearly 32% of the respondents are in the age groups of 31 – 40 years.
2. 49% of the respondents are in primary level of education.
3. 77% of the respondents are housewife.
4. Majority of the respondents are house wife, so they are not earning any income to their family.
5. 68% of the respondents are married.
6. Majority (56%) of the respondent have 4-6 dependents.
7. 39% of the respondents father/husband is employed in cultivation activity.
8. 53% of the respondents family income is below rs.6000/-.
9. 86% of the respondent are having own house.
10. Most of the respondents are residing in concrete house.
11. 42% of them expressed that 33% reservation of seats allocated to the women members.
12. 50% of them are not to be a member in any political party.
13. 78% of PR members are in SHG as the member.
14. 74% are not interested to contest election in Panchayat.
15. 76% of them responded that they are not contested in the panchayat elections.
16. Nearly half of the respondents are opined that SHG is very helpful to contest in panchayat raj.
17. 84% of the respondent agrees about SHG may empower the women community.
18. 75% of them expressed that reservation is much required to putforth their grievances in the panchayat body.
19. Majority of them expressed that the women members are working good in panchayat.
20. 65% of the respondents expressed that the women members are performing well when compare to the male members.
21. 29% of the respondents expressed that they are acting independently.
22. More than 50% of the respondents opined that they are working at satisfactory level.
23. 30% of them expressed that they had provided lighting facilities to their commune.
24. Majority of them told that public only initiated to do work for corruption.
25. Most of the respondents expressed that they may access the elected representatives at average level.
26. 64% of the respondents are expressed that they never implemented their promises.
27. 62% of the respondents are expressed that they don't

have any idea about the reservation for women is useful or useless.

28. Equal percentage of the respondents responded that reservation policy empowered very much and same percentage told that no effect in their empowerment.
29. 55% half of the respondents are not aware about any remuneration to be paid to the elected representatives.
30. 57% of respondents told that after the panchayat body their locality were improved.
31. Nearly 2/3rd of the respondents responded that they want to increase the reservation of women.
32. Majority (79%) of them wants to increase 50% of reservation for women.
33. Majority (74%) of them opined that there is no need for caste wise reservation among women.
34. 83% of them are not aware about the reservations bill is pending in the parliament.
35. Most of the respondents are accepted to provide salary for the members, it may avoid corruption.

SUGGESTIONS

The researcher wish to suggest to improve socio economic condition of women. Few suggestions are listed out below:

It is evident that men's attitude towards women's entry into politics has begun to change from that of total rejection to limited encouragement and in some cases even to active encouragement. This trend needs to be strengthened through orientation courses and training programmes for officials and elected representatives, both men and women. Besides there is a need to train the women leaders at regular intervals to enable them to manage the responsibilities assigned to them in the Panchayats at all the levels.

Another important effort required for real empowerment of rural women is to bring about an attitudinal change in both men and women. The feeling that women are meant for household activities and rearing children needs to be transformed into a feeling of equal partnership of women and men.

Studies on women in politics have emphasized that contact with outside world makes women more alert and also active in the political process. There could be two ways of doing it. Firstly, interaction between enlightened rural women and illiterate elected one's should be encouraged. Secondly, these women could be taken out to the urban areas and their interaction with educated urban elected women representatives be arranged.

The women should also be encouraged to organize themselves. The Self help groups in the village can be effectively used as instruments to mobilize them for this purpose. Some successful women's organisations can also act as catalytic agents for encouraging the women's participation in social and political activities.

Incentives play a vital role in ensuring the participation of elected representatives in decision-making. It has been noticed that there are certain very active and enlightened women leaders at all the levels of Panchayats, who have been successfully implementing the developmental schemes and have ensured overall development of their constituencies.

The media both print as well as electronic can play an important role in creating awareness in the rural society. It can act as an agent of political socialization for inculcating the values of gender equality and gender justice.

The Government of India should take adequate steps to pass the reservation bill for women not only in panchayats but also in Parliament. It really empowers the women to involve in active politics without depending the male community.

CONCLUSION

India has a rich history of measuring political participation of

women since its independence. The decentralization of governance which is taking place for last two decades has increased the importance of measuring participation of women in decision making. Proper gender budgeting has already been worked out for inclusive growth of women & girls by ear-marking one third budget for the women in all the schemes. The Indian Government has a lot of emphasis on utilizing real time data for measuring different social indicators and using them for policy intervention. With more responsive data on women participation, better gender budget initiatives aim to move the country towards a gender equal society.

In Indian Constitution, there are provisions for equal rights for all citizens irrespective of their social and economic status. However such provisions exist only in pen and paper for millions of economically and socially disadvantage people in India especially SC's, ST's and Women. In India women are in much worst position than men not only in terms of sex ratio, literacy rate, work force participation, life expectancy, but also in terms of their access to power structure which controls and guides the development programmes of a society. Since access to political opportunities and participation in political decision making process are important components of capability and autonomy, discrimination in this respect leads to wastage of women's talent and efficiency which are necessary for all round development of the country.

REFERENCES

1. Census Report 2011
2. <http://www.mapsofindia.com/pondicherry>
3. District Information Karaikal
4. Puducherry Govt. Official Website www.py.gov.in