



| Geography | SPATIO-TEMPORAL CHANGES IN LITERACY PATTERN IN SOLAPUR DISTRICT | |
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ABSTRACT:

The quantity and quality is a significant element of population. Quality of population is depends on social status and Literacy is one of key socio-economic progress meter of modern society and important aspect of Indian society. Literacy has been described as the ability to read for knowledge and write coherently and think critically about the written word. Literacy can also include the ability to understand all forms of communication, be it body language, pictures, video & sound (reading, speaking, listening and viewing). Hence the present paper, intends to study, literacy rate and literacy ratio of population in Solapur district. . The present study is based on secondary sources of data mainly collected from census of India district census handbooks of Solapur district. Simple literacy rate, the male- female literacy ratio and rural-urban literacy ratio have been calculated. In the year 1971, only 33.90 percent literate were recorded, while in rural areas 28.20 and urban areas 49.10 percent respectively. It is increased up to 71.25 percent that is due to the availability of educational facilities where as in urban area 77.51 and in rural area 68.26 percent in the year 2001.

INTRODUCTION:

Literacy is many times considered as a fairly relevant index of the socio-economic development of a region. The variations in literacy, many times indicate, the place of which a society is getting transform. A level of literacy influences to a significant extent, the socio economic development of a region. Literacy also influences fertility, mortality, and economic composition of the population of a region. Without, an analysis of literacy pattern, therefore, a study of the population geography of a region is not complete.

Definitions of literacy vary from country to country. In India, all those persons who can read as well write in any language of the world are classified as literate. Levels of literacy vary enormously from one country to other. Even with the same country, the levels of literacy vary between

urban and rural areas, among males and females and also different occupational and social groups. A large numbers of socio economic factors, such as nature of economy, levels of urbanization, standard of living, place of females in society, educational opportunities and levels of technological development influence the literacy pattern.

STUDY REGION:

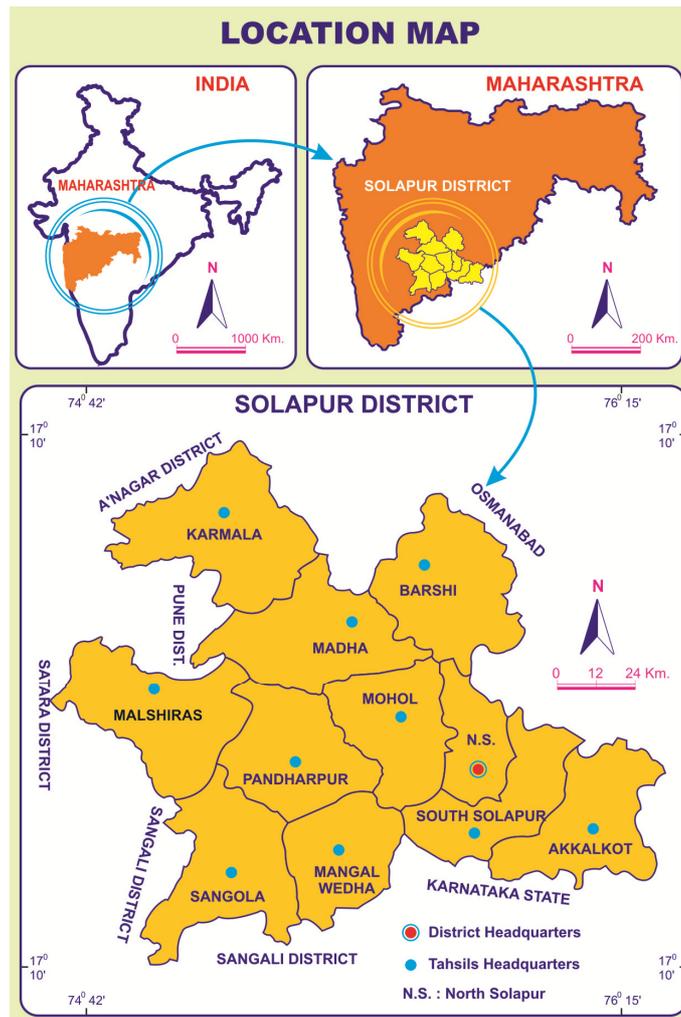
The district of Solapur is one, of the most important districts of Maharashtra state, both in terms of area and population. It lies entirely in the Bhima basin. The district of Solapur is located between 17^o 10 North to 18^o 32 North latitudes and 74^o 42 East to 76^o 15 East longitudes. The East-West length of the district is about 200 Kilometer and North-South width is about 150 Kilometer. The total geographical area of the Solapur district is about 14895 sq Kilometer with a population of 3855383 according to 2001 census. Within the region under study Karmala is the largest tahsil in area and the smallest is North Solapur tahsil. The Solapur district tentatively constitutes 4.88 percent area and 4.51 percent population of the Maharashtra state. In other words, the region under study ranks fourth in terms of area and seventh in term of population among the districts of Maharashtra.

OBJECTIVES:

- 1) To understand temporal Changes (Decade wise) of Literacy rate in Solapur district.
- 2) To analysis Spatial Changes (Tahsil wise) of Literacy rate in Solapur district.

DATABASE & METHODOLOGY:

For the present investigation secondary data is used. Secondary data is collected from district census handbook of Solapur district. The decade wise and Tahsil wise Percentage of literate population to total population is calculate to find out the spatio-temporal changes of literacy in the study region and for that sample percentage method is used.



LITERACY PATTERN IN SOLAPUR DISTRICT:

1. Temporal Changes in Literacy of Solapur District (1971-2001):-

The temporal changes is reveals that the changes in time of span. Here for assessing temporal changes in literacy is calculating decade wise i.e. from 1971 to 2001. The percentages of literates to the total population for the year 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2001 have been calculated.

Table No 1: Percentage of literates from Rural and Urban areas in Solapur District (1971 - 2001)

| Sr. No | Year | Rural Areas | Urban Areas | Solapur District |
|--------|------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| 1. | 1971 | 28.20 | 49.10 | 33.90 |
| 2. | 1981 | 34.90 | 54.60 | 40.69 |
| 3. | 1991 | 51.15 | 69.00 | 56.39 |
| 4. | 2001 | 68.26 | 77.51 | 71.25 |

Source: District census handbook of Solapur District 1971 - 2001

In the year 1971, only 33.90 percent literate were recorded in solapur district whereas urban areas and rural areas having 49.10 percent and 28.20 percent literate population respectively. Similarly, in the year 1981, when the 40.69 percent for the total literacy of the Solapur district. While for urban areas, it was 54.60 percent, and for rural areas, it was 34.90 percent. It must be noted that for all the concerned decades the total literacy, have been increasing consistently and became of the order of 56.39 percent and 71.25 percent for the 1991 and 2001, respectively. While for urban areas, the literacy pattern was of the order of 69.00 and 77.51 percent respectively and for rural areas of Solapur district, though, it was higher than the previous decades but was lower than total and urban literacy for 1991 and 2001. It is expected, that due to the availability of educational facilities in the urban areas, the proportions of literate are higher, while for the rural areas, due to lack of educational facilities, the percentage of literate was low.

2. Spatial Changes of Literacy in Solapur District:

A spatial change refers to the tahsil wise variation in Literate population of solapur district. For assessing the spatial changes in literacy tahsil wise percentage of literacy was calculated for the last four decades.

Table No. 2 - Tahsil wise Percentage of literates to total population of Solapur District (1971-2001)

| Sr. No. | Tahsil | Percentage of literates | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 |
| 1. | Karmala | 29.23 | 36.32 | 52.24 | 68.66 |
| 2. | Madha | 30.86 | 40.58 | 57.02 | 70.14 |
| 3. | Barshi | 35.47 | 44.19 | 61.67 | 74.09 |
| 4. | North Solapur | 45.32 | 50.43 | 65.64 | 76.09 |
| 5. | Mohol | 35.18 | 37.09 | 52.06 | 69.54 |
| 6. | Pandharpur | 35.85 | 39.39 | 54.70 | 69.54 |
| 7. | Malshiras | 28.39 | 36.49 | 54.09 | 71.67 |
| 8. | Sangola | 25.85 | 33.52 | 49.73 | 66.28 |
| 9. | Mangalwedha | 24.63 | 32.54 | 51.04 | 66.67 |
| 10. | South Solapur | 28.77 | 33.61 | 49.45 | 67.37 |
| 11. | Akkalkot | 28.78 | 35.00 | 46.39 | 67.74 |
| | District Total | 33.90 | 40.69 | 56.39 | 71.25 |

Source: District census handbook of Solapur District 1971 - 2001

The average literacy for the region was 33.90 percent for the 1971, being highest for the North Solapur tahsil, while lowest was for Mangalwedha tahsil. There are only four tahsils that show higher percentage of literates than the region average, these are in order of

importance, North Solapur, Pandharpur, Barshi and Mohol. Rest of other tahsils represents low percentage of literates than the region average in the year 1971.

For the year 1981, the total literacy for the district was 40.69 percent. North Solapur Tahsil again retained the first position as regard to percentage of literates, while lowest again for the Mongalwedha tahsil. In this year, there were only two tahsils namely North Solapur and Barshi which were above the region average for the literacy, while rest other tahsils represented much lower percentage of literates below the average for the region.

In the year 1991, the district total percentage for literates was estimated 56.39 percent; North Solapur has occupied the first position as far as the total literacy within the various tahsils concerned. In the year 1991, Akkalkot tahsil lagged behind than other tahsils of the district. There are only two tahsils in the year 1991 which having the higher proportion of literates than the region average and rest other tahsils were found below the region average.

In 2001 the district as a whole, the percentage of literate was observed 71.25 percent, being highest for the North Solapur tahsil while lowest for the Sangola tahsil. The Brashi, northern Solapur tahsil and Malshiras depict higher percentage than the region average.

CONCLUSION:

The literacy rate in solapur district is continuous increasing decade by dacade which is clearly indicated that the positive temporal changes in literacy of the study region. But as compare to the urban region, rural region is toward the back in literacy in all the study period. There are wide variations in the percentage of literates within the district of Sholapur in relation to the spatial changes in literacy pattern. The Urbanized tahsils which is having high-quality education facilities those are comprise high literacy rate as compare to other tahsils.

In the most recent decade for 2001, due to social awareness among the people, remarkable percentages of literate were recorded in the year 2001. One more point to note that due to social awareness among the people, most of the tahsils of Solapur district have recorded very amazing percentage of literate in most of the tahsils and as a result of this, there are not so wide variations in the literacy rate within the different tahsils of the Solapur district. It may be state that the primary education facilities are being made compulsory by the Government in order to improve the standard of living of the people. This has also been observed that now a

day, parents living in the rural areas are taking increasing interest to teach their children without making distinction between male and female child.

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