



Disparity in Urban Literacy Rate and Urban Sex Ratio in Solapur District

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Abstract: -

Literacy is one of the most significant indicators of social development. Literacy is the heart of basic education for all and important for eradicating poverty, reduction mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy. On the other side sex ratio is most critical issue in these days. Literacy is the ability to read, write, speak and listen in a way that lets us communicate effectively and make sense of the world. Literacy in its broadest sense describes particular ways of thinking, reading and writing with the purpose of understanding or expressing thoughts or ideas in written form in some specific context of use. In other words, humans in literate societies have sets of practices for producing and consuming writing, and they also have beliefs about these practices. Beliefs about reading and writing and its value for society and for the individual always influence the ways literacy is taught, learned and practiced over the lifespan.

A sex ratio is the ratio of males to females in a population. Sex ratio is significant social indicators of the status of women in any given society. There are many reasons behind it but the most important fact is the presence of a strong son preferences. The study shows the sex ratio challenges, emerging issues and also highlighted literacy rate in Solapur district. Second is to examine the correlation between Urban literacy rates and urban sex ratio in Solapur district. The study gives some suggestions for improvement of the socioeconomic and cultural fundamentals and which policy adopted by the government to save the child girls.

The present paper mainly focused on the Urban Literacy and Sex ratio in Solapur district. In the Solapur district Urban Literacy was 40.6 % and Urban Sex ratio 914 in the year 1961, while in the year 2011, the Urban Literacy was 83.10 and urban sex ratio 972. In the tehsil wise study, the highest urban literacy in percentage was seen in the Madha (87.68 %) tehsil, while lowest urban literacy seen in Akkalkot (73.36 %) tehsil. The highest urban sex ratio has been seen in the Akkalkot tehsil that is 987, while the lowest urban sex ratio seen in Sangola tehsil that is 937.

Keywords: Education, Literacy Rate, Social Development, Sex Ratio.

1. Introduction: -

Literacy is one of the most important indicators of social development. Literacy is the heart of basic education for all and essential for eradicating poverty, reduction mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy. On the other side sex ratio is most critical issue in these days. Literacy refers to the ability to read for knowledge, write coherently and think critically about the written word. Visual literacy includes in addition the ability to understand all forms of communications.

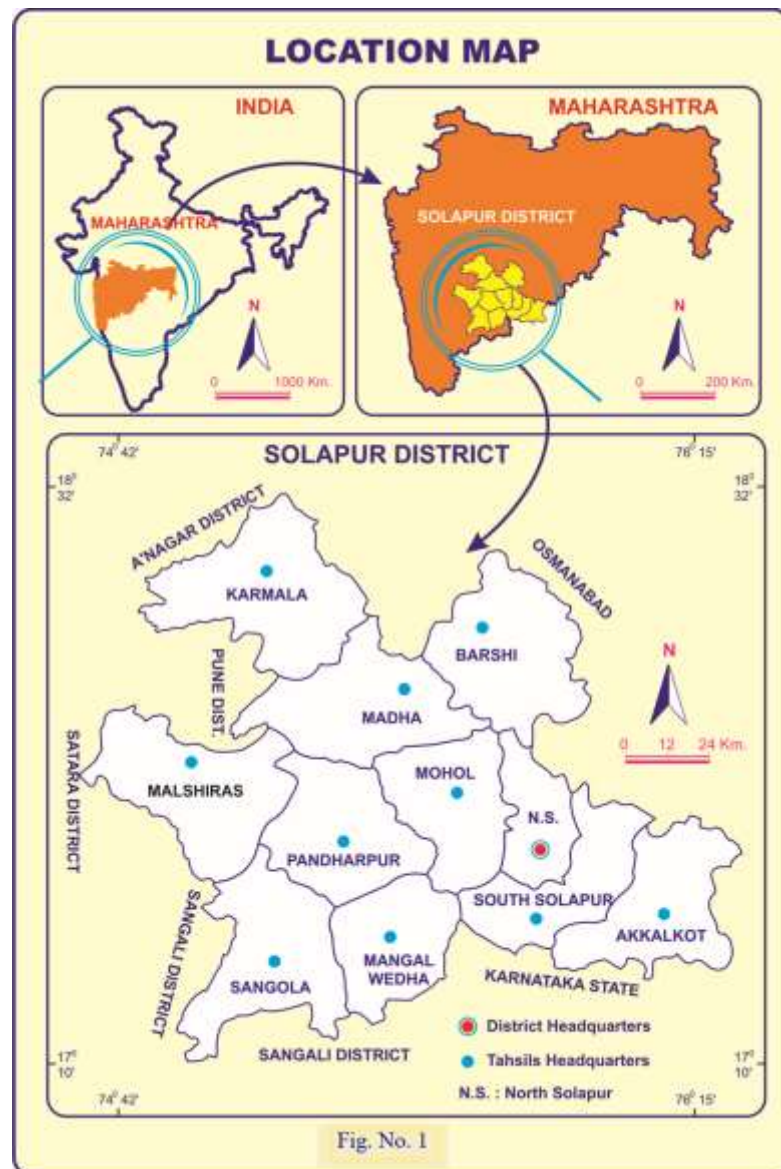
Literacy has been defined as the ability both to read and write with understanding in any language of children who are above six years of age. The Census of India currently defines the literacy rate as proportion of literates to total population in age group 7 years and above. Evolving definitions of literacy often include all the symbol systems relevant to a particular community. Literacy encompasses a complex set

of abilities to understand and use the dominant symbol systems of a culture for personal and community development. In a technological society, the concept of literacy is expanding to include the media and electronic texts in addition to alphabetic and number systems. These abilities vary in different social and cultural contexts according to need and demand.

The human sex ratio is of particular interest to anthropologists and demographers. In human societies, however, sex ratios at birth may be considerably skewed by factors such as the age of mother at birth and by sex-selective abortion and infanticide. The large cohorts of “surplus” males now reaching adulthood are predominantly of low socioeconomic class and concerns have been expressed that their lack of marriage ability and consequent marginalization in society, may lead to antisocial behaviour and violence, threatening societal stability and security.

2. Study Area: -

Solapur district is one of the important districts in Maharashtra. It lies entirely in the Bhima-Sina-Man basins. The district of Solapur is located between $17^{\circ} 10'$ North and $18^{\circ} 32'$



North latitudes and $74^{\circ} 42'$ East and $76^{\circ} 15'$ 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 square

kilometer and population is 43,17,756 according to 2011 census. In term of area, Karmala is the largest tehsil and the lowest is North Solapur tehsil in the Solapur district. Solapur district plays significant role in the fields of agriculture, economics, industrial and social fields. (Fig. No.1)

3. Objective: -

The important objective of the present research paper is as follows

- To study the growth of urban literacy rate and urban sex ratio in Solapur district.
- To study the disparity of urban literacy rate and urban sex ratio in Solapur district.

4. Database and Methodology: -

The present paper depends on the secondary data. It has been collected through District Census Handbook, Social Economic Review and other materials used. The study has been concentrated in the Disparity in Urban Literacy and Urban Sex Ratio in Solapur District. Some other sources of information are used for the present research, like unpublished material.

The collected information from the different sources is processed and percentage calculated. Final results are presented in the form of tables with help of these tables different diagrams, graphs are made and analyzed.

5. Growth of Urban Literacy and Urban Sex Ratio in Solapur District: -

The proportion of the adult population aged 15 years and over which is literate, expressed as a percentage of the corresponding population. The sex ratio at birth is not equal in every country birth are male-biased. There are biological reasons, why there are slightly more boys born every year than girls.

Disparity between urban literacy and urban sex ratio has been in the Solapur district. In the year 1960-60, urban literacy rate was 40.6 percent. While in the year 2010-11, the urban literacy rate was 83.10 percent has been seen. It has been concluded that the urban literacy rate was increased in the study period, because of government effort as well as NGO's initiatives. It is also observed that the urban literacy is more as compared to rural area, because of better education facility in the urban areas. Most of the primary to higher educational facilities mainly concentrated in the urban areas, so urban area higher literacy rate has been observed.

Table No.1

Growth Urban Literacy and Urban Sex Ratio in Solapur District

Sr. No.	Year	Urban Literacy Rate	Urban Sex Ratio
1.	1960-61	40.6	914
2.	1970-71	49.1	914
3.	1980-81	54.6	931
4.	1990-91	54.36	945
5.	2000-01	66.96	957
6.	2010-11	83.10	972
R Value		0.94	
R² Value		0.89	

Source: Socio-Economic Abstract of Solapur District, 2013

Urban Sex ratio is another important factor for population study. In the study period urban sex ratio has been seen fluctuated. In the year 1960-61 the urban sex ratio was 914, while in the year 2010-11 the urban sex ratio was 972 has been seen. It has

been observed that the urban sex ratio has been increased in the study period. Because of various government efforts sex ratio has been increased. It is positive symbol for the social development.

6. Impact of Urban Literacy Rate on the Urban Sex Ratio in Solapur District

The table no. 1 indicates that the high positive relationship in between literacy rate (X) and urban sex ratio (Y) has been observed in the Solapur district. The coefficient of correlation in this regard is at $r = +0.94$. It indicates that there is a good positive relation in between these variable 'X' and 'Y'. The degree of linear association between these two variable obtained by using the coefficient of determination is found to be at 0.8849, which reveals that the independent variable (X) i.e. change in urban literacy rate is explaining 88.49 per cent of the total variations in dependent variable (Y) i.e. urban sex ratio in the study area. It is a good explanation because 88.49 per cent of variation in 'Y' i.e. indices of urban sex ratio to be influenced by the variable 'X' i.e. change in urban literacy rate and about 11.51 percent of variation is left to be influenced by other variables. The functional form of linear relationship of 'Y' on 'X' found to be at $y = 852.85 + 1.479x$, the line of best fits shown in fig. 2.

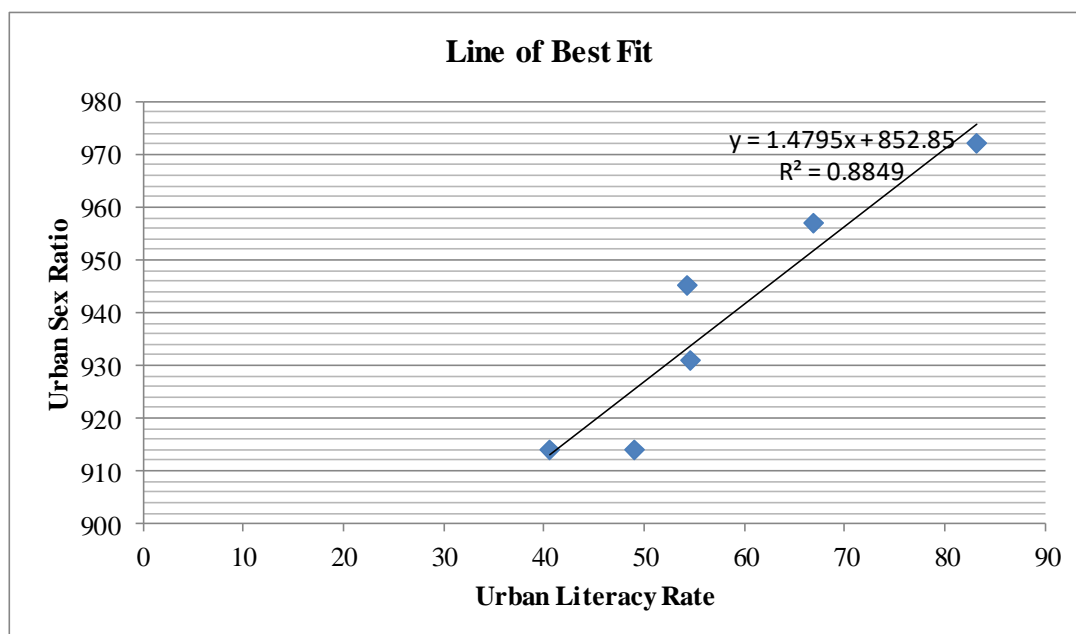


Fig. No. 2

7. Disparity in Urban Literacy and Urban Sex Ratio in Solapur District: -

The below listed table is prepared in order to find the relationship between urban sex ratio and urban literacy rate in urban area in Solapur district. Urban literacy rate and urban sex ratio is very important for socio-economic status for a particular region.

The table no. 2 shows disparity of urban literacy rate and urban sex ratio in Solapur district at tehsil levels. It has been observed that the highest urban literacy rate seen in the tehsil of Madha that is 87.68 percent, while the lowest urban literacy rate seen in the tehsil of Akkalkot that is 73.36 percent. The overall Solapur district urban literacy rate was seen in 83.10 percent. It has been concluded that the highest literacy observed in the urban areas, because of better educational facilities.

When we see about the urban sex ratio the height urban sex ratio found in the tehsil of Akkalkot tehsil that is 987, while the lowest urban sex ratio has been seen in the tehsils of Sangola tehsils that is 937. The Solapur district overall urban sex ratio has been 972. It has been concluded that the backward region higher urban sex ratio observed, because of government effort and social awareness. While the developed

region urban sex ratio slightly low, because to migration in search of employment opportunity.

Table -2

Disparity in Urban Literacy and Urban Sex Ratio in Solapur District, 2010-2011

Sr. No	Name of Tahsil	Urban Literacy Rate	Urban Sex Ratio
1.	Karmala	86.96	949
2.	Madha	87.68	956
3.	Barshi	85.77	953
4.	North Solapur	82.80	978
5.	Mohol	--	--
6.	Pandharpur	86.65	953
7.	Malshiras	84.08	967
8.	Sangola	83.00	937
9.	Mangalvedha	81.79	965
10.	South Solapur	--	--
11.	Akkalkot	73.36	987
	District Total	83.10	972

Source: Socio-Economic Abstract of Solapur District, 2013

Conclusion: -

The literacy rate of Solapur district is increased but there is still a gap between urban and rural literacy rate. Urban literacy rate was very poor before independence but it is improved after the independence. During the post-independence period urban literacy rates have shown a substantial growth in general. It has been concluded that the urban literacy rate was increased in the study period because of government effort as well as NGO's initiatives. It is also observed that the urban literacy is more as compared to rural area, because of better education facility in the urban areas. Most of the primary to higher educational facilities mainly concentrated in the urban areas, so urban area higher literacy rate has been observed.

Urban sex ratio is increased from 1960-61 to 2010-11 but in first three decades slightly increased. It has been observed that the sex ratio has been increased in the study period. Because of various government efforts sex ratio has been increased. It is positive symbol for the social development. The table 1 indicates that the high positive relationship in between literacy rate (X) and urban sex ratio (Y) has been observed in the Solapur district. The coefficient of correlation in this regard is at $r = +0.94$. It indicates that there is a good positive relation in between these variable 'X and 'Y'.

In the tehsil level study concluded that the overall Solapur district urban literacy rate was seen in 83.10 percent. It has been concluded that the highest literacy observed in the urban areas, because of better educational facilities. It has been concluded that the backward region higher urban sex ratio observed, because of government effort and social awareness. While the developed region urban sex ratio slightly low, because of migration in search of employment opportunity.

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