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Issues, Challenges and Approaches

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Spatial Patterns of Literacy Variation in Kolhapur District : A Geographical Study [M.S]

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Introduction :

Social geography can be defined as identification of different region of the earth surface according to association of social phenomenon relation to total environment .it is a study of pattern and process in understanding socially defined population in spatial setting ,it is a study of areal pattern and function relations of social group in the content of their social environment.

Education has long been recognized as vital to development,not only in fostering attitude conducive to economic and social change but also in meeting a basis need for all individual. Literacy levels may be a preferable guide to development as these purports to show the outcome of data educational process rather than just the inputs, but so far the availability of data presents serious limitation on these measures as a reliable indicator.

Keywords: Literacy, Education, etc.

Objective of the study:

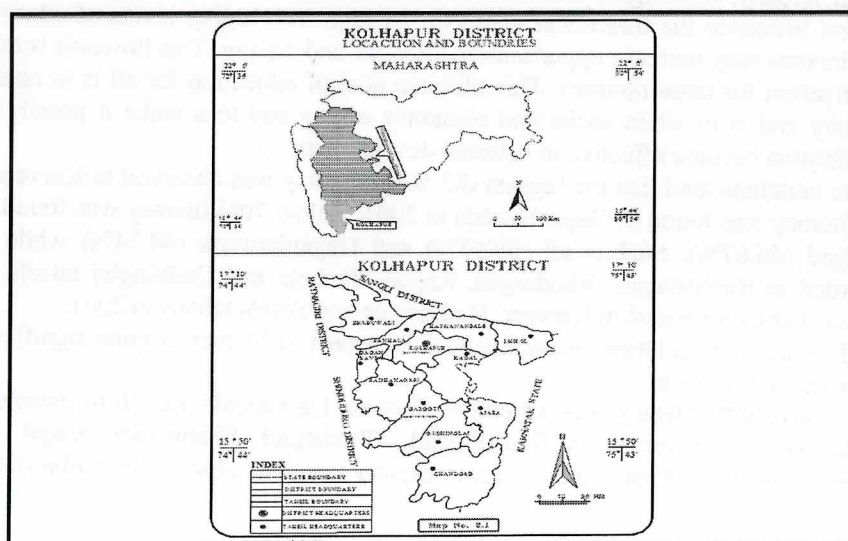
The main objective of the present paper is to find out and to measure variation among the literacy in Kolhapur region.

Database and Methodology:

The present paper is based on Secondary Source of data. The data is collected from various sources which includes both published and unpublished books, government publication and private publications. Secondary data has been obtained from Census of India, District gazetteers, district statistical department, socio economic review and district statistical abstract of Study region district. Collected data is processed and presented in the tabular and graphical forms.

Study Area:

Kolhapur district is situated in the Southern part of Maharashtra. It is located in between 15° 42' 30" to 17° 11' 25" North latitude and 73° 43' 10" to 74° 43' 45" East longitude. Kolhapur district is surrounded by Sangli district to the North, Karnataka State to the East and South, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts to the West. The Sahyadri ranges to the West and Varna River to the North form the natural boundaries. For the administrative purpose, the district is divided into 12 tahsils i.e. Shahuwadi, Panhala, Hatkanangale, Shirol, Karvir, Bavda, Radhanagari, Kagal, Bhudargad, Ajra, Gadhinglaj and Chandgad.



The total population of the district is 38, 76,001 persons, as per 2011 census, it constitutes 3.45 percent population to the state total. The geographical area of district is 7746.40 square kilometer, which constitutes 2.52 percent of state.

Result and Discussion :

Mass education, adult education, free female education, distance education, through media and vocational training are some of the measure undertaken by the central government, state government and zillha parishad in bringing about massawakening. Apart from literacy as an indicator of development, the level of educational attainment needs to be understood especially in terms of the proportion of technical graduates, professional graduates and others including scientists.

Literacy :

A person who both read and write with understanding in any language is to be taken as literate by the Indian census. A person who can merely read but cannot write is not literate. It is not necessary that a person who is literate should have received any formal education or should have passed any minimum educational standard.

**Table No.1. Tahsilwise Change in Literacy Percentage in Kolhapur District:
 (2001 To 2011)**

Sr. No.	Tahsils	Literacy Percentage		Vol. of Change in %
		2001	2011	
1	Karveer	83.16	86.64	3.48
2	Radhanagari	71.33	77.59	6.26
3	Gaganbawada	60.74	70.00	9.26
4	Bhudargad	72.92	77.71	4.79
5	Shahuwadi	66.93	72.68	5.75
6	Hatkangale	80.25	84.37	4.19
7	Shirol	80.15	83.44	3.29
8	Kagal	73.58	78.65	5.07
9	Ajara	69.37	73.93	4.56
10	Chandgad	66.67	72.94	6.27
11	Panhala	74.16	79.27	5.11
12	Gadhinglaj	71.81	76.62	4.81
District Total		76.93	81.51	4.58

Source: Census of Kolhapur District, 2001 & 2011.

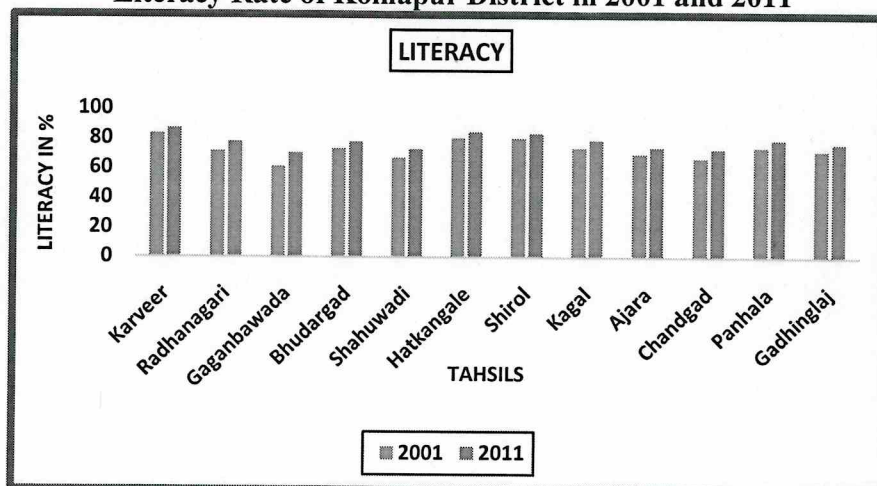
There are several studies which highlight the possibility of rising levels of education resulting into lower fertility. At a higher level of education, the process of attaining that certain level delays marriage and influence the traditional views on fertility. The higher levels of education and associated higher income may increase opportunities for work and leisure. This however brings about decline in the motivation for large families. This ultimate goal of education for all is to attain social and economic equity and is to attain social and economic equity and to make it possible that an individual's participation become effective in national development.

The above table indicated that the highest (83.16%) literacy was observed in Karveer and the lowest (60.74%) literacy was found in Gaganbawada in 2001. Below 70% literacy was found in Ajara (69.37%), Chandgad (66.67%), Shahuwadi (66.93%) and Gaganbawada (60.74%) while 70-80% literacy was recorded in Radhanagari, Bhudargad, Kagad, Panhala and Gadhinglaj tahsils in 2001. Above 70% literacy was experienced in Karveer, Hatkangale and Shirol tahsils in 2001.

Among the various population characteristics, the aspect of literacy is quite significant in the contest of the development process.

In 2011, Above 80% literacy was noticed in Karveer, Hatkangale and Shirol tahsils whereas 70% to 80% literacy was observed in Radhanagari, Bhudargad, Shahuwadi, Kagal, found in Gaganbawada tahsil. About 9.26% positive change in literacy was took place in Gaganbawada tahsil.

Literacy Rate of Kolhapur District in 2001 and 2011



Conclusions:

- 1) The above study concluded that literacy of Kolhapur district was increased during the period of 2001 – 2011.
- 2) In 2011, Above 80% literacy was noticed in Kolhapur, Hatkangale and Shirol tahsil whereas 70% to 80% literacy was observed in Radhanagari, Bhudargad, Shahuwadi, Kagal, Ajara, Chandgad, Panhala and Gaganbawada tahsil of the study region.
- 3) Below 70% literacy is found in Gaganbawada tahsil. About 9.26% positive change in literacy was took place in Gaganbawada tahsil in study region.

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