

Status of girl education in urban India: A district and union territory wise analysis

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Abstract

India, the second-most populous country with over 1.2 billion people, is a country in South Asia. It is the seventh-largest country by area, with a total area of 3,287,263 square kilometres. India has 29 states, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, West Bengal and Telangana with 7 Union Territories (UTs) viz. A & N Islands, Chandigarh, D & N Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry.

The data in this study is taken from Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and census 2011. Data is reproduced for making it worth for study. After analysis the data, results were computed and discussion was made.

Keywords: Girl Education, India, Urban Area, States, Union Territories.

1. Introduction

India's Current literacy rate is 74.04 % (Census, 2011) with a wide gender disparity in the literacy rate in India. Effective literacy rates (age 7 and above) in 2011 reported were 82.14% for men and 65.46% for women (UNFPA, 2009). Whereas census provided a positive indication that growth in female literacy rates (11.8%) was substantially faster than in male literacy rates (6.9%) in the 2001–2011 decadal period, indicating gender gap appearing narrower (National Literacy Mission, 2009) Kerala is the most literate state in India, with 93.91% literacy, followed by Lakshadweep at 92.28%. Bihar is the least literate state in India, with a literacy of 63.82% (Census, 2011).

According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO, 1995) report, 62.8% of the world's 877 million adult illiterates were women in 1980 and the proportion of total illiterates women was found increased to 63.8% in 1995. The male-female literacy gender gap was also observed narrowed from 15.35% in 1980 to 12.4% in 1995 (Rajika Bhandari and Frank J. Smith, 1997) [6].

According Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, literacy rate among age group of seven years and above in the country was 75 per cent. In rural areas, it was 71 per cent compared to 86 per cent in urban areas (Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation).

The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for girls at secondary and higher secondary level is found around 5 percentile points lower than for boys (FHI 360, 2013; Shaline Priya) [4]

The data considered in this study is taken from survey on 'Social Consumption: Education' during the National Sample Survey (NSS) 71st Round, January to June 2014, conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and reproduced to make it worth for the study.

The survey covered entire country with samples taken from 36,479 households in rural areas and 29,447 in urban areas from 4,577 villages and 3,720 urban blocks (census2011).

2. Results

2.1. Scenario of different states of urban India

As far as primary education level is in urban India is concerned, Mizoram, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Gujarat were on the top positions with 25.95%, 25.40%, 21.07%, 19.05% and 15.70% girl children respectively. Minimum numbers of girls were found in Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Tripura and Bihar resulting 1.26%, 3.39%, 3.98%, 4.89% and 5.34% respectively.

In case of upper primary level of education, Tamil Nadu, Goa Mizoram, Madhya and West Bengal were reported showing a figure of 35.5%, 34.35%, 32%, 24.83% and 24.28% respectively. Minimum number of girl children were found in Sikkim (3.90%), Himachal Pradesh (7.48%), Assam (7.75%), Orissa (8.69%) and Tripura (11.05%) respectively.

If we consider secondary level of education the maximum percentage highlighted the values 44.18, 38.20, 37.49, 35.50 and 33.25 in Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Uttar Pradesh respectively. Under the same level Sikkim, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Assam and Tripura were found at bottom having the respective percentages 6.71, 9.32, 11.81, 11.89 and 14.93.

If we talk about the higher secondary level, number of girls was found maximum in Mizoram which was 693.16%. In Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Nagaland, and Goa these percentages were 64.14, 53.48, 53.32 and 50.51 with the lowest numbers in Sikkim (7.44%), Orissa (13.65%), Himachal Pradesh (16.25%), Assam (21.11%) and Uttaranchal (23.0%). Graph1 is depicting the same results including all the stats under one canvas.

3. Scenario of different UTs of urban India

If we put our concentration on UTs, Delhi, Chandigarh and Pondicherry were found stood with 73.10%, 65.34% and 40.93% respectively whereas lowest percentage was observed in D & N Haveli, 6.18%. A & N Island and Lakshadweep were reported with 8.67% and 27.68% of girls having education at primary level.

The girls under the head upper primary education, Delhi was found at its peak with 74.23% whereas in Chandigarh and Pondicherry these percentages were found to be 67.35 and 45.77. These percentages were found at bottom in D & N Haveli, A & N Island and Daman & Diu representing the figure 11.78, 15.88 and 28.0

Delhi Chandigarh and Pondicherry were again reported having higher number of girls at secondary level of education with 74.21%, 69.18% and 52.66%. Girls having secondary education were reported lesser in A & N Island, D & N Haveli and Lakshadweep showing 20.64%, 24.34% and 32.0% respectively.

Most frequent number of girls those had higher secondary education were observed with 74.92%, 74.26% and 60.25% in Delhi, Chandigarh and Pondicherry respectively. Minimum number of girls in higher secondary was reported in A & N Island, D & N Haveli and Daman & Diu with 26.6%, 35.55% and 40.0% respectively. Graph2 is representing percentage of girl education in UTs of urban India. Table1, given below is showing descriptive statistics e.g. Mean, Standard Deviation (SD) and Coefficient of Variation (CV).

4. Discussion

Around 1955% more girls are found in Mizoram as compared to Sikkim in case of primary education. In consideration of upper primary level 808% increment is observed in Tamil Nadu as compared to Sikkim. The girls under the head secondary education are computed 558% more in Tamil Nadu, when a comparison is made with Sikkim. An increment of 832% girls in higher secondary is also calculated in Mizoram as compared to Sikkim.

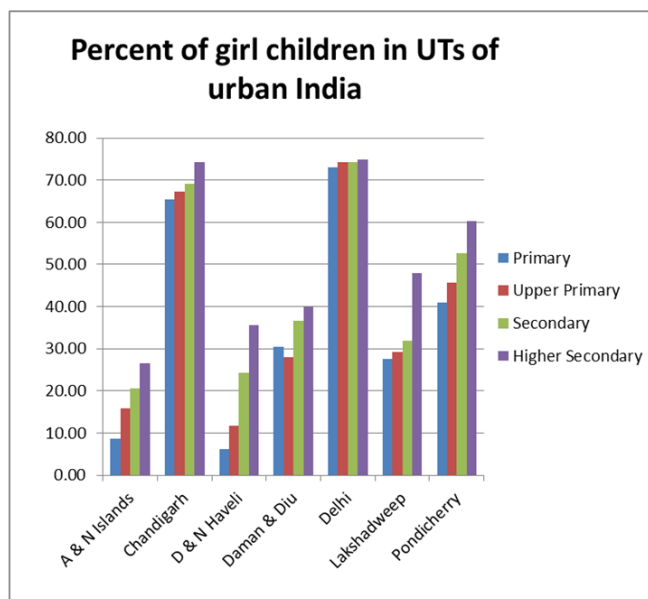
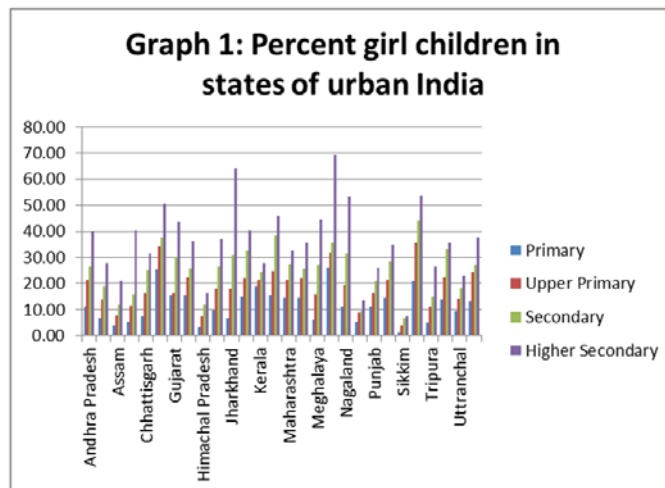
If we talk about UTs, in Delhi 1083% more girls are found as compared to D&N Haveli when primary level of education is concerned. As far as upper primary education in UTs is considered, 530% increment is observed in Delhi as compared to D&N Haveli. In case of secondary education, when a comparison is made with A & N Island, 260% increased girls are found in Delhi. 182% additional number of girls is observed in Delhi than A&N Island.

When all the education levels are seen together, Mizoram is found at top in all the states considered whereas Sikkim is found at the lowest level. Under the same consideration made above, Delhi is observed at its height in all the UTs and D & P Haveli is found at the worst level.

The data considered and analyzed tends us to find different modalities that can make parents more aware about girl education in urban India but its need is seem more in rural India as rural is always more backward than urban areas.

Table1: Descriptive statistics for states and union territories of urban India

Education Level	States			Union Territories		
	Mean	SD	CV	Mean	SD	CV
Primary	11.72	6.36	54.30	36.06	25.80	71.56
Upper Primary	18.67	7.68	41.14	38.90	24.42	62.79
Secondary	25.25	9.18	36.37	44.24	21.41	48.41
Higher Secondary	36.28	14.21	39.17	51.37	18.97	36.93



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