

RURAL-URBAN SCENARIO OF GIRLS' EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF GOA

Sandesh Yadav^{1*} Haseena Hashia² Tariq Ahmad Ganaie¹

¹Research Scholar, ²Professor

Department of Geography, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, India

*Email: sandesh_official@yahoo.in

Abstract: *Girls' education is of utmost importance as educated girls can play a vital role in the development of the country. Girls' education serves as the base of women empowerment because it makes them aware regarding their rights, broadens their intellectual horizon and develops self-confidence to confront their traditional roles and change their life. Girls' education is the most powerful tool of change of position of women in society. Education also plays a role in reduction in inequalities and functions as a means of improving their status within the family. But girls' education is moving at a varying pace in the rural areas and the urban areas. The present research paper deals with the varying pace of girls' education and identifies the various causes of the existing variation in the status of girls' education in the rural areas and the urban areas in the taluks of the state of Goa. The findings of the present research paper are shocking and surprising and shows that rural areas are far ahead than their urban counterparts in terms education and the education related facilities. Further, girl's education has shown tremendous improvement during the period.*

Key words: Girls' Education, Educational Aspects, Literacy Rate, Enrollment.

Introduction

Education in the present scenario is experiencing the dual problem. Firstly, the problem of gender disparity in the educational institutions (both private and public educational institutions) and the second problem is the varying pace of education in the rural areas and the urban areas of the same region. Now if we talk about girls' education then we will realize that girls' education is suffering the most because firstly it is lagging behind at the institution level due to inappropriate representation of the girls and secondly, it is most affected by the varying pace of education in the rural areas and the urban areas of the same region. Thus, varying pace of education in the rural areas and the urban areas have added fuel to the fire and dragged girls' education behind and therefore, jeopardizing the future of girls' education in India. But, the State of Goa presents the entirely different picture where rural areas are far ahead than their urban counterparts in terms of education and the facilities related to education. And, if we talk about the girl's education in the State of Goa then the statistical figure shows tremendous improvement during the period 1971-2011 on a whole. Moreover, the scenario of girls' education is much far ahead in the rural areas than in the urban areas of different talukas in the State of Goa. And with such positive improvements in the girls' education it can be positively said that in a very near future the State of Goa will attain gender parity in the field of education both in rural areas and the urban areas.

The present research paper deals with the problem of varying pace of girls' education in the rural areas and the urban areas in the talukas of Goa. The present research study involves the assessment of infrastructural facilities, enrollment in the schools of the urban areas and the rural areas of talukas of Goa. Further, the research paper tries to find out the all possible reasons behind the differential pace of girl's education in the rural areas and the urban areas of talukas of Goa. In the end, recommendations and suggestions have been made to improve the pace of girls' education in the State of Goa.

Objective

The main objective of my research study is to carry out the comparative analysis of the girls' education scenario in the rural and the urban areas in the State of Goa.

Methodology

The present research study begins with the assessment of current scenario of education during the period 1971-2011 in the State of Goa. This step involves the analysis on the basis of literacy rate on a whole, male literacy rate and the female literacy rate both at the state level and at the taluka level.

The second step involves the comparative study of education scenario in the rural areas and the urban areas of different talukas of Goa. Here, the education scenario is being discussed in terms of infrastructural support (in terms of number of schools) and the enrollment of female students in the schools of the rural areas and the urban areas of different talukas of Goa. The criterion adopted for carrying out the assessment of infrastructural support and the enrollment of female students can be summed up as under:

- To carry out the assessment of infrastructural support the research study focuses on school education. In the State of Goa, the schools falls under the following category:
 1. Primary schools.
 2. Middle schools.
 3. High schools.
 4. Higher secondary schools.
- To carry out the assessment of enrollment of female students in the schools classes were grouped together in the following manner:
 1. I-IV.
 2. V-VII.
 3. VIII-X.

The present research study do not involves "Dropout Rates" because the available data of dropout rate is of state level and is inefficient in tracing out the educational scenario in the rural and the urban areas in the State of Goa.

Sources of Data

This study is completed best on secondary data which is obtained from different sources and surveys. The secondary data is mainly drawn from the following agencies:

- Directorate of Education, Government of Goa, Goa.
- Census of India, Government of India, India.
- Magazines, newspapers, books etc.

Study Area

Administratively, Goa is divided into North Goa district comprising of Tiswadi, Bardez, Pernem, Bicholim, Sattari and Ponda talukas and South Goa district comprising of Mormugao, Salcete, Canacona and Quepem talukas. Out of 11 talukas only four talukas (Salcete, Tiswadi, Bardez, Mormugao) share coastal location.

Current Scenario of Education in the State of Goa

The literacy rate of Goa shows rising trend during the period 1971-2011. The literacy rate increased tremendously from 45% (1971) to 87% (2011). If we talk about male literacy rate and female literacy rate then the statistical data shows that females (81.84%, 2011) are lagging behind the males (92.81%, 2011) but the existing gap between male literacy rate and female literacy rate is not too much and will be narrowed down in the near future. Apart from this, if we talk about urban and rural scenario then literacy rate in urban areas is 89.31% (2011) and literacy rate in rural areas is 84.26% (2011). This gap in literacy rate of rural areas and the urban areas shows that there are some factors due to which rural areas are lagging behind from their urban counterparts.

Table 1 Taluka-Wise Sex Based Literacy Rate in the State of Goa, 1971-2011, Goa

Taluka	1971		1981		1991		2001		2011	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pernem	53	25	68	44	87	64	90	72	93	80
Bardez	66	47	75	59	88	74	91	82	94	87
Bicholim	55	29	68	45	87	66	92	76	94	82
Sattari	36	17	51	27	78	53	87	67	91	75
Tiswadi	62	44	72	56	87	73	91	79	94	85
Ponda	52	31	69	46	86	66	91	76	94	83
Sanguem	40	21	55	34	75	55	84	66	90	73
Quepem	43	29	54	37	75	57	82	68	88	75
Canacona	42	26	53	38	76	57	81	54	89	77
Salcete	56	42	65	51	82	68	88	78	92	84
Mormugao	56	36	65	48	84	70	89	77	94	76

Source: Directorate of Education, Government of Goa, Goa

(M= Males F=Female)

Table.2 shows data related to taluka-wise study of literacy rate. During the year 1971 the female literacy rate in each taluka of Goa was about half of male literacy rate. With the passage of time this gap between the male literacy rate and the female literacy rate in each taluka of Goa narrowed down. In the present scenario, male literacy rate and the female literacy rate are about to achieve equilibrium.

Girl's Education Scenario in Rural and Urban Areas

The assessment of girl's education level in the rural areas and the urban areas of Goa is based on the following indicators:

- Number of schools.
- Enrollment of female students during the period 2001-2011.

Number of Schools

Here, the research study will focus on the number of schools belonging to the primary level, Middle level, High School Level and Higher Secondary Level in the rural areas and the urban areas of each taluka of Goa. The data collected regarding the number of schools reflects the infrastructural support, capacity to admit students, nature of efforts of government of that region/State. Table.3 shows data related to the number of schools in the rural areas and the urban areas of each taluka of Goa. Table shows that number of schools, at all the levels are surprisingly more in rural areas than in the urban areas. The data in the table shows that out of 1236 primary schools in Goa, 80.58% are in rural areas and 19.41% in urban areas; out of 446 middle schools, 71.76% are in rural areas and 28.25% in urban areas; out of 395 High schools, 71.64% are in rural areas and 28.35% in urban areas; out of 92 Higher Secondary schools, 56.52% are in rural areas and 43.47% in urban areas. Thus, it is clear from the analysis of data that number of schools is more in rural areas as compared to their urban counterparts. Further, the number of schools decreases both in rural areas and the urban areas as we move up in the levels of education i.e. from primary level to higher secondary level.

Table 2 Number of Schools (Taluka-wise), 2011, Goa

Taluka's Name	Primary schools		Middle schools		High schools		Higher secondary schools	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Pernem	97	6	27	4	30	3	3	1
Bardez	127	24	54	13	47	11	9	2
Bicholim	84	21	25	7	22	7	4	2
Sattari	107	12	23	6	16	6	1	2
Tiswadi	71	31	32	18	28	18	7	10
Ponda	158	9	40	7	39	6	11	2
Sanguem	113	6	21	2	19	2	2	1
Quepem	54	28	15	6	12	6	1	3
Canacona	71	12	17	6	14	4	1	2
Salcete	86	56	48	28	43	24	10	9
Marmugao	28	35	18	29	13	25	3	6
TOTAL	996	240	320	126	283	112	52	40

Source: Directorate of Education, Government of Goa, Goa.

Table 3 Number of Schools in the Rural Areas and the Urban Areas of Goa, 2011, Goa

	Primary Schools		Middle Schools		High Schools		Higher Secondary Schools	
	No. of Schools	%age of No. of Schools	No. of Schools	%age of No. of Schools	No. of Schools	%age of No. of Schools	No. of Schools	%age of No. of Schools
Rural	996	80.58%	320	71.74%	283	71.64%	52	56.52%
Urban	240	19.42%	126	28.26%	112	28.36%	40	43.47%
Total	1236		446		395		92	

Source: Self Calculated by the Scholar from the Table 2

Enrollment of Female Students

The data available for the enrollment of students in the rural areas and the urban areas of Goa is grouped in the following manner:-

- Students enrolled in classes I-IV
- Students enrolled in classes V-VII
- Students enrolled in classes VIII-X

Table.4 shows the data related to enrollment of students in the rural areas and the urban areas of Goa, out of total 98973 students enrolled in classes I-IV, 57.91% are in rural areas and 41.09% in urban areas; out of total 72529 students enrolled in classes V-VII, 57.37% are in rural areas and 43.63% in urban areas; out of total 76629 students enrolled in classes VII-X, 59.17% in rural areas and 40.83% in urban areas.

Table 4 Enrollment of Students in the Rural Areas and the Urban Areas of Goa, 2011, Goa

	I-IV		V-VII		VIII-X	
	Students Enrolled	%age of Student Enrolled	Students Enrolled	%age of Student Enrolled	Students Enrolled	%age of Student Enrolled
Rural	57310	57.91%	41610	57.37%	45344	59.17%
Urban	41663	42.09%	30919	42.63%	31285	40.83%
Total	98973		72529		76629	

Source: Directorate of Education, Government of Goa, Goa

Table.5 and Table.6 shows the sex based enrollment of students in the rural areas and the urban areas of Goa. Out of 49630 males enrolled in the class I-IV, 58.86% in rural areas and 41.14% in urban areas while out of 49343 females enrolled for the same classes, 56.93% in rural areas and 43.07% in urban areas. Out of 37943 males enrolled in the class V-VII, 57.84% are in rural areas and 41.96% in urban areas while out of 34659 females enrolled for the same classes, 56.73% in rural areas and 43.27% in urban areas. Out of 39278 males enrolled in the classes VIII-X, 50% in rural areas and 42% in urban areas while out of 37351 females enrolled for the same classes, 60.40% in rural areas and 39.60% in urban areas.

Table 5 Sex Based Enrollment of Students in Rural and Urban Areas of Goa, 2011

	I-IV		V-VII		VIII-X	
	'M' enrolled	'F' enrolled	'M' enrolled	'F' enrolled	'M' enrolled	'F' enrolled
Rural	29217	28093	21947	19663	22782	22562
Urban	20413	21250	15923	14996	16496	14789
Total	49630	49343	37943	34659	39278	37351

Source: Directorate of Education of Goa, Goa

(M= males F= females)

Table 6 Sex Based Enrollment of Students in Rural and Urban Areas of Goa, 2011

	I-IV		V-VII		VIII-X	
	%age of 'M' enrolled	%age of 'F' enrolled	%age of 'M' enrolled	%age of 'F' enrolled	%age of 'M' enrolled	%age of 'F' enrolled
Rural	58.86%	56.93%	57.84%	56.73%	58.00%	60.40%
Urban	41.14%	43.07%	41.96%	43.27%	42.00%	39.60%

Source: Directorate of Education of Goa, Goa

(M= males F= females)

Key Findings

The key findings of the present research study can be summed up as under:

- The literacy rate of Goa increased tremendously from 45% (Census, 1971) to 87% (Census, 2011). In the State of Goa, females (81.84%, 2011) are lagging behind the males (92.81%, 2011).
- The literacy rate in urban areas is 89.31% (Census, 2011) while in rural areas, it is 84.26% (Census, 2011).
- During the year 1971, the female literacy rate in each taluka of Goa was about half of male literacy rate and with the passage of time this gap between the male literacy rate and the female literacy rate in each taluka narrowed down.
- Number of schools, at all levels, are surprisingly more in rural areas than in the urban areas in Goa.
- In total, there are 1236 primary schools (80.58% in rural areas and 19.41% in urban areas); 446 middle schools (71.76% in rural areas and 28.25% in urban areas); 395 High schools (71.64% in rural areas and 28.35% in urban areas) and 92 Higher Secondary schools (56.52% in rural areas and 43.47% in urban areas).
- Number of schools decreases both in rural areas and the urban areas as we move up in the levels of education i.e. from primary level to higher secondary level.
- In total, there are 98973 students (57.91% in rural areas & 41.09% in urban areas) enrolled in classes' I-IV; 72529 students (57.37% in rural areas and 42.63% in urban areas) enrolled in classes V-VII and 76629 students (59.17% in rural areas and 40.83% in urban areas) enrolled in classes VIII-X.
- In total, there are 49630 males (58.86% in rural areas and 41.14% in urban areas) enrolled in classes' I-IV; 37943 males (57.84% in rural areas and 41.96% in urban areas) enrolled in classes V-VII and 39278 males (58% in rural areas and 42% in urban areas) enrolled in classes VIII-X.
- In total, there are 49343 females (56.93% in rural areas and 43.07% in urban areas) enrolled in classes' I-IV; 34659 females (56.73% in rural areas and 43.27% in urban areas) enrolled in classes V-VII and 37351 females (60.40% in rural areas and 39.60% in urban areas) enrolled in classes VIII-X.

Conclusion

The research study conducted above shows that rural areas are far ahead in terms of infrastructural support in terms of number of institutions/schools as compared to their urban counterparts. Further, rural areas are occupying major share in total enrollment (both male and female), enrollment of male student and enrollment of female students than the urban areas. The research study, further, shows that the State of Goa will attain gender parity in the field of education both in rural areas and the urban areas.

Acknowledgment

I would like to acknowledge, Prof. Manzoor Ahmad, Editor-in-Chief, Jan Madhyam, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh for his guidance and comprehensive understanding related to various aspects of education system in Goa.

I would also like to acknowledge, Prof. Mohd. Ishtiaque, Honorable Vice-Chancellor, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya, Bihar, for his unending motivation and encouragement during the completion of this research article

References

1. *Census of India* (2001). Government of India, India.
2. *Census of India* (2011). Government of India, India.
3. Ernst & Young (2011). *40 Million by 2020: Preparing for a New Paradigm in Indian Higher Education*.
4. Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, (2007). *Chapter on Elementary Education (SSA & Girls Education) for the XIth Plan Working Group Report*
5. Planning Commission of India (2012). *Data for use of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission* available at http://planningcommission.nic.in/data/datatable/1705/databook_dch_160511.pdf
6. Planning Commission of India, (2011). *Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012), Social Sector, Vol.II*
7. Vimal, Ramchandran (1998). *Girls'and Womens' Education*

Web Links

1. http://www.unevoc.unesco.org/up/India_Country_Paper.pdf
2. <http://www.indiaedu.com/haryana/>
3. <http://censusindia.gov.in/>
4. <http://www.asercentre.org/>