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A study of inter taluk disparities in literacy- A case study of Bidar district

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Abstract

Literacy rate is one of the important demographic elements, which is a good measure of human progress towards modernization. Literacy is considered as an index of socio-economic and cultural development of the society. Indian Literacy is characterized with sharp differences in between the male and female, rural and urban areas and various population subgroups. In this paper aims to study the inter taluk disparities in literacy of Bidar District. The present study is based on Secondary source data; it has been collected from District Census Hand Book of Bidar District. The comparisons are summarized here for two period's i.e. 2001 and 2011. The collected information has been compiled and put in the form of maps, graphs and tables for further analysis. Maps are prepared using GIS software techniques. Data is analyzed through simple quantitative techniques like percentage. It has been observed that, in all taluks of bidar district experiences greater regional disparities in the literacy. We found that literacy rate in study area was 60.9 % in 2001 which is increased to 70.51% in 2011. And also found that the urban literacy is significantly greater than the rural literacy which is coexisting to the wider gender disparities from the rural to the urban population.

Keywords: Disparities; SocioEconomic development; GIS

Introduction

Literacy has been defined as the ability to read and write and understanding. Literacy is defined as the ability to read write and least a simple message in many languages (Hassan, 2005). According to chandan, a person as literate if he or she can both read and write in any language. In India, the literacy rate is calculated excluding 0-6 age group of population. Indian Literacy is characterized with sharp differences in between the male and female, rural and urban areas and various population subgroups. The Indian

Literacy rate are influenced by the factors of the cast based social structure, largely farm based economy, the prejudices against the females mobility and education, general low standard of living, high cost of education and growth of population which adds a large number of illiterate children to the country's population every year. These are some of the factors that are varying from one taluk to taluk in Bidar district. However, the spatial literacy distribution is uneven and the rural-urban, gender wise differential varied in the study area.

Objectives

1. To analyze the Taluk wise Disparities in Literacy of Bidar District during 2001 & 2011.
2. To analyze Gender wise Disparity in Literacy at Taluk Level in Bidar District
3. To analyze the disparity among rural and urban literacy rates in the study area

Database and Methodology

The present study is based on Secondary source data. The study was conducted taluk wise in Bidar district. Secondary source of information collected from District Census Hand Book of Bidar District. The comparisons are summarized here for two period's i.e. 2001 and 2011. The collected information has been compiled and put in the form of maps, graphs and tables for further analysis. The base Maps are prepared using Arc GIS software techniques. Data is analyzed through simple quantitative techniques like percentage.

Study Area

Bidar District is a top of hill city located on the Deccan Plateau, in the north-eastern part of Karnataka State in India. Bidar District lies between 17^0 to 35^1 N to 18^0 to 25^1 N Latitude and from 76^0 to 42^1 E to 77^0 to 39^1 E Longitudes. The District covering an area of 5448 sq.km and accounts for 2.84% of the state's total geographical area. It's bordered by Nanded and Osmanabad District of Maharashtra state on the Northern side, south by Gulbarga District of Karnataka state, Latur and Osmanabad Districts of Maharashtra state, on the western side and Nizamabad and Medak districts of Andhra Pradesh State on the eastern side. Totally, Bidar District consists of five taluks, such as, Aurad, Basavakalyan, Bhalki, Bidar and Humnabad with 30 hoblies, 175 Grama Panchayaths, 7 towns 6 Municipalities and Bidar being the head quarters of the district. District consists of 621 villages, out of which 599 inhabited and 22 uninhabited villages. As per 2011 census, the population of the Bidar district is 1,703,300 of which male and female were 870,665 and 832,635 respectively.

Results and Discussions

Taluk wise Disparity in Literacy Rate of Bidar District

The Bidar District consists of five taluks, such as, Aurad, Basavakalyan, Bhalki, Bidar and Humnabad with 30 hoblies, 175 Grama Panchayaths, 7 towns 6 Municipalities and Bidar being the head quarters of the district. Table 1 shows the Taluk wise Distribution of Literates and Literacy rate in percentage and growth Rate of Literacy in Bidar district. According to

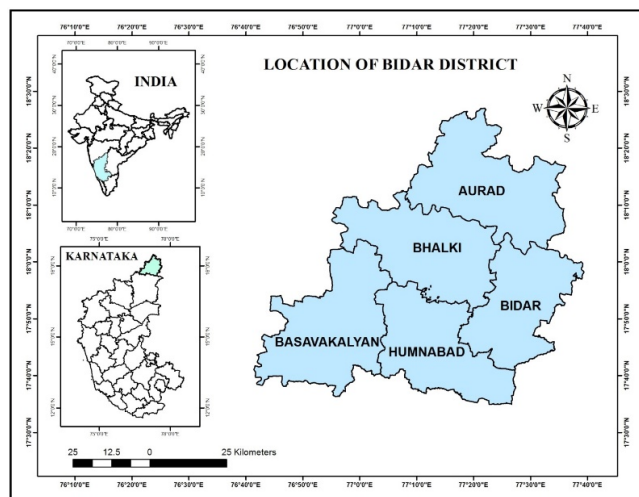


Fig. 1. Location Map of Bidar District

Census 2011 the literacy rate of Bidar district has increased from 60.94 % in 2001 to 70.51% in 2011 with an improvement of 9.57 %. Data also reveals that among the taluks, the highest literacy rate is 74.51% in Bidar Taluk, followed by Bhalki taluk is 71.56%. Whereas, Medium literacy rate found in Basavakalyan and Humnabad taluk with 68.98% and 68.15% respectively. The lowest literacy rate is found in Aurad Taluk with 67.34%.

Table 1. Taluk Wise Distribution of Literate Population, Literacy Rate and Growth Rate in Bidar District (2001-2011)

Sl. No	Taluks	2001		2011		Growth rate
		TOT_ LIT	TOT_ LIT (%)	TOT_ LIT	TOT_ LIT (%)	
1	Aurad	119526	57.9	162496	67.34	9.44
2	Basava-kalyan	147816	59.1	206332	68.98	9.88
3	Bhalki	136188	62.4	173873	71.56	9.16
4	Bidar	221336	65.0	304634	74.51	9.51
5	Humna-bad	143492	58.5	195338	68.15	9.65
Total		768358	60.94	1042673	70.51	9.57

Source: Bidar District Census Handbooks 2001-2011 & Computed by Researcher

The literacy rate of Bidar district is 70.51 % in 2011, as compared to 60.94% in 2001. Table 2 shows the Gender wise Distribution of Literacy Rate in percent. According to the census 2011, the Literacy rate Male has increased from 72.5 % in 2001 to 79.09 % in 2011 with an improvement of 6.59% and on the other hand female Literacy rate has increased from 48.8% in 2001 to 61.55% in 2011 with an improvement of 12.75%. The Gender Gap in literacy rates in

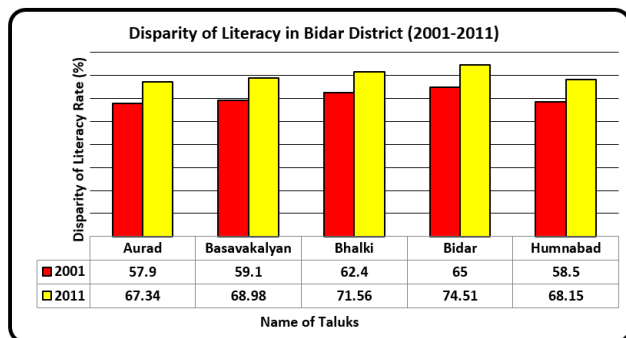


Fig. 2. Disparity of Literacy Rate in Bidar District (2001-2011)

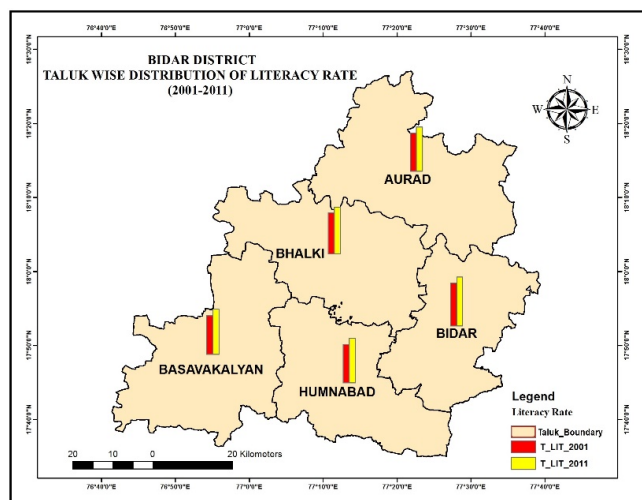


Fig. 3. Taluk Wise Distribution of Literacy Rate Gender wise Disparity in Literacy Rate

the district got declined by 6.16% over the period 2001-2011. The male Literacy is influenced by migration agriculture and industrialization and unfavorable physical situation. Among the male Literates bidar taluk is highest with 81.53% and Aurad taluk is the least i.e.76.79%. With respect to female population is concerned once again Bidar taluk has registered highest literacy rate with 67.12% followed by Bhalki Taluk with 61.80% and so on. However, Aurad taluk is the least literacy rate i.e., 57.47% respectively. The data clearly shows that female literacy rate is growing faster than the male literacy rate in almost all the taluks of Bidar District.

Rural-Urban Disparity in Literacy Rate

According to the Table 3 in the year 2001 rural area of bidar district had a literacy rate of 56.6 % and in the year 2011 it has gone upto 66.73 %, and we can see that there was hike of 10.13 %. The table also reveals that during 2001, Urban areas of bidar district had a literacy rate of 75.1% and its has slightly improved to 81.81%. According to Census,

Table 2. Gender wise Distribution of Literacy Rate (in Percent)

Sl. No	Taluks	2001	2011	Growth Rate	2001	2011	Growth Rate
		Male			Female		
1	Aurad	69.9	76.79	6.89	45.2	57.47	12.27
2	Basavakalyan	71.6	78.05	6.45	46.2	59.57	13.37
3	Bhalki	75.3	80.96	5.66	48.8	61.80	13
4	Bidar	74.5	81.53	7.03	54.8	67.12	12.32
5	Humnabad	70.2	77.01	6.81	46.2	58.95	12.75
Total		72.5	79.09	6.59	48.8	61.55	12.75

Source: Bidar District Census Handbooks 2001-2011 & Computed by Researcher

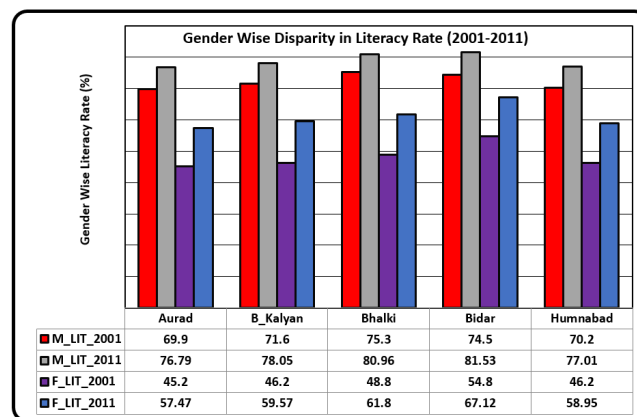


Fig. 4. Gender wise Disparity in Literacy Rate

during 2001 the rural-urban gap in the literacy rate was 18.5% and it reduced to 15.08% during 2011 and we can see an improvement of 3.42%. During 2011, the rural-urban gap in literacy rate across taluks has reduced to some extent, as in the year 2011 the highest rural-urban gap was recorded in bidar taluk with 21.01%, followed by Humnabad taluk with 12.42% while the lowest rural-urban gap was seen in Aurad taluk with 10.18% respectively.

Conclusion

As above discussions clearly reveals that in Bidar district, the level of literacy has been improved over the period of time. The Urban and rural gap in literacy has been narrowed while male-female literacy gap has broadened over the period of time. Furthermore, gender disparities by literacy have still exists in all over Bidar district. Rural areas of Taluks as well as females by gender are still vulnerable in the area of literacy. Especially, literacy among the rural females is very low compared to urban females. Bidar taluk is ranked top in total literacy with 74.51% while the lowest literacy rate is found in Aurad Taluk with 67.34% in the whole district. There is wide gap from the male to female population in Bidar District. The male literacy was higher than female literacy

Table 3. Taluk Wise Rural and Urban Disparity in Literacy Rate (in Percent)

Sl No.	Taluks	2001			2011			Reduction In Gap	Improvement In Rural Literacy
		Rural	Urban	Gap	Rural	Urban	Gap		
1	Aurad	57.3	65.9	8.6	66.57	76.75	10.18	1.58	9.27
2	B_kalyan	60.5	67.1	6.6	66.87	77.46	10.59	3.99	6.37
3	Bhalki	53.5	74.7	21.2	70.07	80.34	10.27	10.93	16.57
4	Bidar	55.1	79.9	24.8	64.80	85.81	21.01	3.79	9.7
5	Humnabad	56.7	71.6	14.9	65.54	77.96	12.42	2.48	8.84
Total		56.6	75.1	18.5	66.73	81.81	15.08	3.42	10.13

Source: Bidar District Census Handbooks 2001-2011 & Computed by Researcher

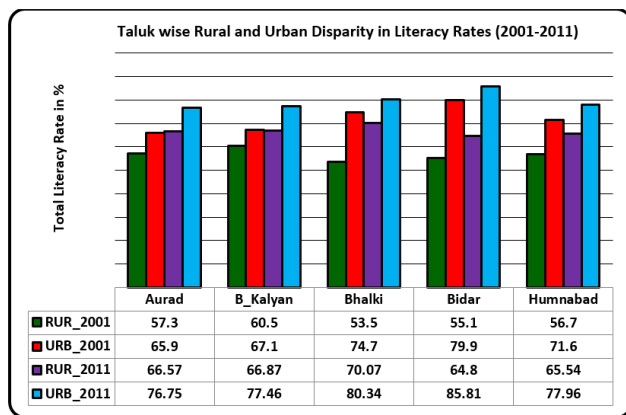


Fig. 5. Rural and Urban Disparity in Literacy Rates of Bidar District

in the district. The Literacy rate Male has increased from 72.5 % in 2001 to 79.09 % in 2011 with an improvement of 6.59% and on the other hand female Literacy rate has increased from 48.8% in 2001 to 61.55% in 2011 with an improvement of 12.75% respectively. Karnataka government started many programs and policies for improvement of

primary education, such as Nali-Kali, Baa Baale Shaalege, Beediyinda shallege, Chinnara Angala, campaign, Cooliyinda shalege, Akshara Dasoha, Vidya Vikasa Sceme etc., Which are seeing the significant increase in the attendance in the schools. Hopefully in the near future we will see the fruit of these schemes in increasing the literacy rate in Bidar District.

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