



## LITERACY IN MAHARASHTRA (INDIA)

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**Abstract-** In this paper the present study reveals the district wise literacy rate in Maharashtra State during 1991-2011. Maharashtra is the third largest State regarding the geographical area and second largest State in respect of population in India. It has studied on the basis census of 1991-2011. Literacy plays an important role to develop any society. Literacy is defined as the ability to read and write with understanding if any language as per the census of India. According to the 2001 census the average literacy in Maharashtra State is 76.62 per cent the levels of literacy vary from district to district. The highest literacy rate is 90.90 per cent in Mumbai Suburban district. The lowest literacy rate is registered in 63.04 per cent in Nandurbar district during the year 2011. In 1991-2001 has been government declared "Literacy Decade". Literacy rate increased from 64.87 per cent in 1991 to 76.62 per cent in 2001 and 82.91 per cent in 2011. The pattern of literacy with spatio-temporal variation in the context of Maharashtra is analyzed to highest the relationship of different society, economic factors, with the help of the census data (1991-2011). In this paper discussed the literacy rate show the diagrams, graphs, maps and tables were interpreted in the light of literacy rate in Maharashtra.

**Key words-** Literacy Rate, Increased, Decreased, Variation, Large.

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### Introduction

Literacy is one of the important indicators of social development. Knowledge is linked with literacy and a formal education. Literacy is one of the important needs of life as well as future development human beings of the particular region. Literacy for all children above 6 years, youths and adults is still an ever moving target. In recent years goal of the universal literacy is more effective efforts but also renewed political will and for doing things differently at all levels locally, national and internationally. Literacy is human right a tool empowerment and means for social and human development. Literacy is the heart of basic education for all and essential for eradicating, poverty reducing child, mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development peace and democracy. International Literacy Day was celebrated by UNESCO on November 1965. The importance of the literacy to individuals, communities and societies of International Day each year.

The highest literacy in the world in Georgia 100 per cent, Cuba 99.9 percent, Russia 99.5 per cent, Australia 99 per cent, Japan 99 per cent China 95.9 and India only 75.04 per cent during the year 2011. The lowest rate in the Ethiopia 35.9 per cent, Mali 26.2 per cent has low developing countries in the world. The literacy rate of India is 75.04 per cent country in the world. India literacy is not good comparison to other develop country of the world. This is big problem to India and this is challenge for Indian government. The male literacy rate is 75.96 per cent and female literacy rate is 54.28 per cent. Kerala have a highest literate State of India. Kerala 96.1 per cent, Delhi 95.2 per cent, Mizoram 89.9 per cent, Goa 83.3 per cent, Himachal Pradesh 81.3 per cent and Maharashtra is good literacy rate recorded 82.62 per cent in 2011.

Maharashtra State is the highly concentrated urbanized, industrialized, areas, and areas of high agricultural productivity. As per the census data there is 82.91 per cent population which is lit-

erate in 2011. The same was 27.91 per cent in 1951 and increasing continuously in subsequent censuses. The male literacy rate increased from 85.97 per cent to 89.82 per cent and the female literacy rate increased from 67.03 per cent to 75.48 per cent during the period 2001-2011. Mumbai suburban with highest literacy rate of 90.9 per cent followed by Nagpur 89.52 per cent in census 2011. Nandurbar district having below 63.04 per cent registered in 2011.

**Study Area**

The State of Maharashtra extends from 150 45' North to 200 6' North latitude and 700 36' East to 800 54' East longitude with geographical area of 3,07,713 sq. km. is undertaken for the present study of growth of population change in Maharashtra. It is bounded by Arabian Sea in the west, the State of Gujarat in the northwest. Madhya Pradesh in the north, Chhattisgarh in the east, Andhra Pradesh in the southwest, Karnataka in the south and Goa in the southwest. The present study the attempt is made changes in literacy rate of population during the 1991-2011 of Maharashtra (Fig.1).

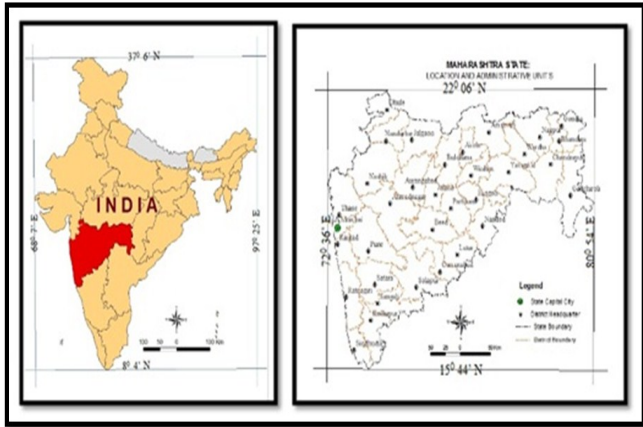


Fig. 1-

**Objectives**

The present study has been undertaken with the following specific objectives.

- 1) To study the arithmetic literacy rate of population in study region.
- 2) To find out the changing pattern of population literacy rate during 1991-2011.

**Data base and Methodology**

The present study is primarily based on secondary data collected from decennial census Reports of Government of India. Covering literacy rate of thirty five districts in Maharashtra. The data have been analyzed for literacy rate is computed in percentage. Literacy rate is computed literate population divided by total population in study region. The literacy rate is measured given the following formula.

Formula =

$$\text{Literacy Rate} = \frac{\text{Literate Population}}{\text{Total Population above 6 age}} \times 100$$

To make the comparative analysis the literacy rate of changes has also been computed. It can give better understanding regarding the literacy rate in Maharashtra State.

**Spatio-Temporal Variation in Population Literacy Rate in Maharashtra**

Table No 1 and Fig 2 below shows that the male and female literacy rate in this Maharashtra State are 89.82 per cent and 75.48 per cent and overall literacy in 82.91 per cent in the State during the year 2011. According to the official instructions in India, a person is to be considered literate if she or he can both read and write with understanding in any language, while the improvement of literacy in Maharashtra the decade 1991-2001 has been termed as the Literacy Decade. The lowest literacy rate is 1951 in 27.91 per cent, 1961 in 35.08 per cent and 1971 faster the growth of literacy as increased 45.77 per cent. The pre-reform period was a phase of low income levels and slow economic growth and the transformation of educational levels during the period was less. In 1981 educational improvement, and there has been success private school and public school facilities especially in the growing rural areas literacy rate was increased 57.24 per cent. The achievement of the literacy rate has increased in Maharashtra. The economic growths have led to many social achievement of major importance including massive reduction in poverty. In education health and related fields however, it is likely that even more could have been achieved had rapid economic growth. Although these figures reveal the persistence of a substantial gender gap, they also indicate that Maharashtra was rapidly moving, at that time, towards universal literacy in the younger age group. This feature of the Maharashtra experience sharply contrasts with the educational situation in the district wise, where the eradication of literacy remains an elusive goal to this day, even for the younger age group. Even the more educationally progressive slates of Maharashtra, such as Nandurbar district are the lowest literacy rate.

Table 1-Percentage decadal Variation in Literacy Rate in Maharashtra (1951-2011)

Sr. No	Year	Decadal Literacy Rate
1	1951	27.91
2	1961	35.08
3	1971	45.77
4	1981	57.24
5	1991	64.87
6	2001	76.62
7	2011	82.91

Source- Census of India (Maharashtra) H.R.D. Report, 2002

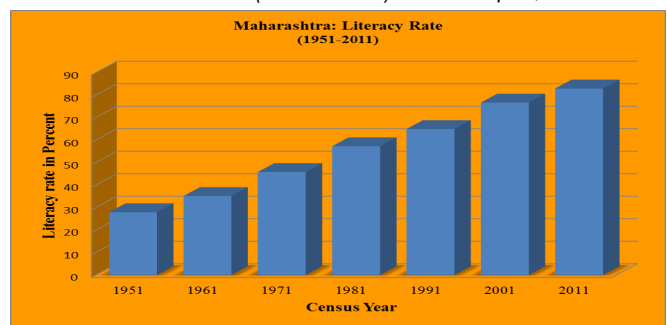


Fig. 2-

Table 2- Maharashtra: Literacy Rate (1991-2011)

Sr. No.	District	1991	2001	Changes of Literacy rate	2001	2011	Changes of Literacy rate
1	A. nagar	61.03	75.3	14.27	75.3	80.22	4.92
2	Akola	65.83	81.42	15.59	81.42	87.55	6.13
3	Amaravati	70.06	82.54	12.48	82.54	88.23	5.69
4	Aurangabad	58.98	72.91	13.93	72.91	80.4	7.49
5	Beed	49.82	67.99	18.17	67.99	73.53	5.54
6	Bhandara	64.69	78.47	13.78	78.47	85.14	6.67
7	Buldhana	61.69	75.78	14.09	75.78	82.09	6.31
8	Chandrapur	59.41	73.17	13.76	73.17	81.35	8.18
9	Dhule	51.22	71.65	20.43	71.65	74.61	2.96
10	Gadchiroli	42.89	60.1	17.21	60.1	70.55	10.45
11	Gondiya	-	78.52	-	78.52	85.41	6.89
12	Hingoli	-	66.25	-	66.25	76.04	9.79
13	Jalgaon	64.3	75.43	11.23	75.43	79.73	4.3
14	Jalna	46.25	64.42	18.17	64.42	73.61	9.19
15	Kolhapur	66.94	76.93	9.99	76.93	82.9	5.97
16	Latur	55.57	71.54	15.97	71.54	79.03	7.49
17	Mumbai City	82.5	86.4	3.9	86.4	88.48	2.08
18	Mumbai Suburban	-	86.89	-	86.89	90.9	4.01
19	Nagpur	73.64	84.03	10.39	84.03	89.52	5.49
20	Nanded	48.17	67.77	19.60	67.77	76.94	9.17
21	Nandurbar	-	55.78	-	55.78	63.04	7.26
22	Nashik	62.33	74.36	12.03	74.36	80.96	6.60
23	Osmanabad	54.27	69.02	14.75	69.02	76.33	7.31
24	Parbhani	47.58	66.07	18.49	66.07	75.22	9.15
25	Pune	71.05	80.45	9.4	80.45	87.19	6.74
26	Raigarh	63.95	77.03	13.08	77.03	83.89	6.86
27	Ratanagiri	62.7	75.05	12.35	75.05	82.43	7.38
28	Sangli	62.61	76.62	14.01	76.62	82.62	6.00
29	Satara	66.67	78.22	11.55	78.22	84.2	6.00
30	Sindhudurg	75.81	80.3	4.49	80.3	86.54	6.24
31	Solapur	56.39	71.25	14.86	71.25	77.72	6.47
32	Thane	69.54	80.66	11.12	80.66	86.18	5.52
33	Wardha	69.95	80.06	10.11	80.06	87.22	7.16
34	Washim	-	73.36	-	73.36	81.7	8.34
35	Yavatmal	57.96	73.62	15.66	73.62	80.7	7.08
	Maharashtra	64.87	76.62	11.75	76.62	82.91	6.29

Source- Census of India 2011

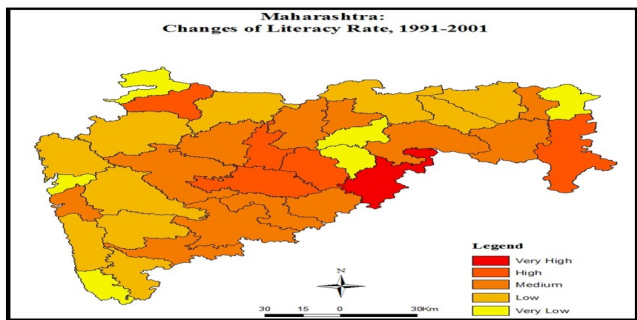


Fig. 3-

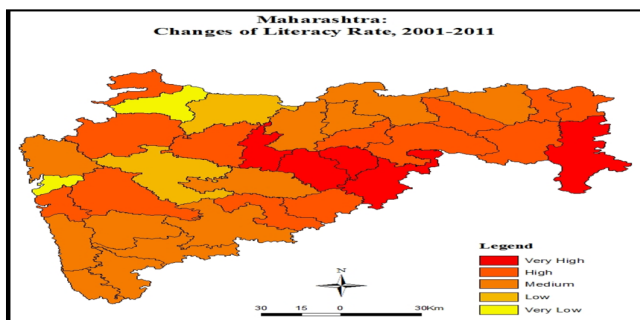


Fig. 4-

Literacy is one of the important indicators of socio-economic development of population which gives information on human development, it higher level of literacy in a society means higher level of development and vice versa. Table No 2 and Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 shows that the as per census 2001-2011 in Maharashtra. The above map shows that the 1991-2001 and 2001-2011 wide variation of literacy rate in the State. There are five categories Very high, high, medium, low and very low represented in the form of cartographic technique and show choropleth map. There are 82.91 per cent are male and 75.48 per cent are females. The literacy rate change having 6.29 per cent in 2011, compared to 2001 in 11.75 per cent. The highest numbers of literates are found in Mumbai Suburban 90.90 per cent, Nagpur 89.52 per cent, and Mumbai City 88.48 per cent and Amravati district 88.23 per cent change in 4.01%, 5.49%, 2.08% and 5.69% respectively. In 1991-2001 compared to changes of literacy rate Mumbai City 3.90%, Nagpur 10.39% and Amravati district 12.48%, followed by Pune district registered 87.19 per cent literacy arte changes having 6.74 per cent during 2001-2011, compared to 1991-2001 in 80.45 per cent changes are literacy rate 9.40 per cent. The lowest literacy arte is Nandurbar district the only district having it is 63.04 per cent.

**Conclusion**

The literacy rate of Maharashtra is drastically changing. The literacy rate changes represent in Maharashtra improve the economic development, development of educational facilities, agricultural development, industrial development, and the standard of living during the study period. It is clear that changes in literacy rate will be increasingly affecting our society. In these paper top districts are Nanded, Dhule and Jalna district changing the literacy rate during the 1991-2001 and Chandrapur and Gadchiroli districts are highest change the literacy rate. This paper attempt the one decade changes the literacy rate.

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