THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POVERTY AND ILLITERACY

Poverty and illiteracy tend to go hand-in-hand. Education is often less available in poverty-stricken areas. Moreover, even when education is available, a struggling family might need their children to work and earn money instead of going to school. Most of the countries with the lowest literacy are located in South Asia, West Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa—regions which also include most of the poorest countries in the world. There is also a gender gap in literacy: Of the roughly 781 million adults worldwide who cannot read or write, nearly two-thirds are female. This disparity is particularly noticeable in less-developed countries, in which women are often expected to stay at home and care for the house and children while the men go off to work. The developed nations of the world have much higher literacy rates with smaller gaps—if any—between the genders.

NEWS OF GENDER DISCRIMINATION IN LITERACY AROUND INDIA

AS of 2021, India recorded a higher nationwide literacy rate among men than women, at respectively 84.4 percent of male population and 71.5 percent of female population. The gender literacy gap was more evident in rural India, with only 66 percent of women aged between 15 and 49 years being literate, compared to over 81 percent of their male counterparts in the region. While male literacy is at 80.9 per cent, female literacy is only 64.6 per cent. Thus, there is a 16.3 per cent gender gap in the literacy rates of males and females. Looking closely, in rural areas, the literacy rate is lower than the national average as well as urban literacy rate (80.90 per cent). India's literacy rate is at 75%. Kerala has achieved a literacy rate of 93%. Bihar is the least literate state in India, with a literacy of 63.8

According to National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) 2019-21 male literacy at India level in 2021 stands at 84.4% & female literacy stands at 71.5%. Male Female gap at the all-India level is 12.9 percentage points with male literacy at 84.7% and female literacy at 70.3%. The gap between male and female literacy is the smallest in Kerala at just 2.2 percentage points. Andhra Pradesh's literacy rate of 66.4% is the lowest among all states in India, Kerala ranked highest in the list with 96.2%. Delhi stood second with 88.7%. According to National Statistical Office (NSO) data, As of the Year, 2021 India's average literacy rate is 77.70%. The male literacy at the India level in 2021 stands at 84.70% & female literacy stands at 70.30

THE DATA OF LITERACY RATE IN GLOBAL LEVEL TOP 10 LITERATE COUNTRY IN THE WORLD :-

1. Uzbekistan – 2022- 99.99%
2. 2. Ukraine - 2022 9- 99.97%
3. 3. san marino-2012- 99.92%
4. 4. Latvia – 2022- 99.89%
5. 5. Estonia – 2022- 99.89%
6. 6. Czech republic-2022- 99.83%
7. 7. lithuania-2022- 99.82%
8. 8. tajikstan-2022 – 99.80%
9. 9. Azerbaijan- 2022- 99.79%
10. 10. Kazakhstan-2022- 99.78%

Top 10 least literate country in the world :-

1. chad- 2022- 22.31%
2. guinea- 2022- 32.00%
3. south sudan-2022- 34.52%
4. niger-2022-35.476%
5. mali-2022- 35.05%
6. central African republic- 2022-37.40%
7. Burkina faso-2022- 41.22%
8. Benin-2022- 42.36%
9. afganisthan-2022- 43.02%
10. sierra leone

RESEARCH PAPER:- Gender disparity in districts level evidence from state of India

ABSTRACT:- India is a country with high gender disparity in literacy. As per Census 2011, overall literacy rate of India is 74.04% whereas the male and female literacy rate is 82.14% and 65.46% respectively. Among all states, Kerala is on the top, where as the state Bihar is on the bottom. In addition, the northern states especially Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan also show a clear picture of gender disparity in literacy. In Haryana, male literacy rate is 84.06% and female literacy rate is 65.94% respectively. In Punjab, male literacy rate is 80.44% and female literacy rate is 70.73% respectively. Further, in Rajasthan male literacy rate is 79.11% and female literacy is 52.12% respectively. This shows the high gender disparity in literacy among these states. Despite the number of efforts made at national and state level, the gender disparity in literacy still exist in Indian society. The present study is an attempt to find out the gender disparity in literacy at district level. The study is based upon Sopher's method to calculate disparity in literacy. The study found leading and laggard districts in terms of gender disparity in education and suggests policy implications for center and state government.

THE CURRENT STATUS OF LITERACY IN INDIA

Literacy is also major concern for India. In India, as per Census 2011, overall literacy rate is 74.04% whereas the male and female literacy rate is 82.14% and 65.46% respectively. Amongst all states, Kerala is on the top in overall literacy with 93.91%, whereas a male and female literacy rate is 96.11% and 92.02% respectively. In Kerala rural male and rural female literacy is 95.35% and 98.73% respectively. On the other hand urban male and female literacy is 96.95% and 102.99% respectively. This is quite impressive. In addition, the literacy rate among "Northern States of India" like Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Bihar is very low. Bihar is on the bottom with overall literacy rate of 63.82%. Haryana overall literacy rate is 75.55% with male literacy and female literacy rate is 84.06% and 65.94% respectively. Punjab overall literacy rate is 75.84%, male literacy and female literacy rate is 80.44% and 70.73% respectively. Further the state of Rajasthan overall literacy rate is 66.11%, male literacy rate is 79.11% and female literacy is 52.12% respectively. In addition, a huge gap of "gender disparity in literacy in rural and urban area" also exists. In Haryana, overall "rural literacy" rate is 71.42%, rural male and female literacy rate is 81.55% and 51.96% respectively. The state of Punjab having overall "rural literacy" is. 71.42% whereas rural male and female literacy is 76.62% and 58.99% respectively.

AREA OF STUDY IN GENDER DISPARITY IN LITERACY

It is evident from the above discussion that gender disparity in literacy is major problem for India. Unit level analysis is important for policy formulation and implementation. Thus, the present study investigates the gender disparity in literacy at district level in rural as well as urban areas of selected northern states namely Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan. This study is unique in the scenes that it considers both rural as well as urban areas of three major northern states and tries to find out rural urban gender disparity gap at district level. The study helps in finding the leading and laggard districts in literacy index in Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan.

METHODOLOGY STUDY:- In the present study, Sopher's method (1974) was applied for finding the district level rural-urban gender disparity in literacy index for northern states namely Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan. According to Sopher's method, If X1 and X2 signify the respective percentage value of variables of groups 1 and 2, then the disparity index (D) can be calculated by the following formula: Disparity Index (DI) = log (X2/X1) + Log [(Q-X1)/ (Q-X2)] Where X2 > or = X1 and Q= 100 This method reveals that the higher the value of Disparity Index (DI), the higher the extent of disparity and the lower the value of DI, the lower the extent of disparity. In case there is no disparity (perfect equality), the value of DI will be 0

THE DISCUSSION OF EDUCATIONAL DISPARITY
IN INDIA

In India, High gender disparity in literacy is the main concern in 21st century. According to IAEA Newsletter (2014) a large gap exists between the male and female population if you inspect their levels of literacy. As per Census 2011, the male female literacy gap is approximately 16%. The problem of illiteracy, in particular among women, is a huge area of concern not only in India but also across the world and it directly impacts development efforts (Katiyar, 2016). There are huge disparities in the economic, social, cultural and schooling opportunities available to men and women in India. Gender disparities begin early in life, with female infants having a lower chance of continued existence than male infants, owing largely to parental ignore of female infants. The prejudice against the female continues as the child grows older –first in the form of smaller supplies of food and nutrition and later in the form of fewer schooling opportunities relative to boys (Sharma et al., 2015). Literacy disparity matters for a number of reasons. A skewed allocation of education implies a huge social welfare losses resulting from underutilization of potential human capital (Thomas et al., 2001)

CONCLUSION

The article presents empirical analysis of gender disparity in literacy among Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan. It observes that these states are facing problem of gender disparity in literacy. The result of OGDLIV of this study highlights that, in Haryana, the district Mahendergarh is on the bottom, followed by Rewari, Mewat, Palwal, Jhajjar and Bhiwani respectively. In Punjab, the district Rupnagar is ranked last followed by Shahid Bhagat Singh Nagar and Hoshiarpur respectively. In Rajasthan, the district Madhopur ranked last followed by Karauli Sawai, Dausa, Bharatpur, Jhunjhunun, Sikar, Tonk respectively. The result of UDLIV shows that, in Haryana, the district Mahendragarh is on the bottom, followed by districts Rewari and Mewat respectively. In Punjab, the district Gurdaspur ranked last, followed by Bhatinda, Mohali and Rupnagar respectively. In Rajasthan, the district Madhopur ranked last followed by Karauli Sawai, Dausa, Bharatpur, Jhunjhunun, Sikar, Tonk respectively. The result of UDLIV shows that, in Haryana, the district Mahendragarh is on the bottom, followed by districts Rewari and Mewat respectively. In Punjab, the district Gurdaspur ranked last, followed by Bhatinda, Mohali and Rupnagar respective.

AREA OF GENDER DISCRIMINATION IN HEALTH

GLOBAL NEWS

• The World Health Organization the United Nations Special Programme HRP and the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health in partnership with the British Medical Journal have adopted special series of papers on "Women's Health and Gender Inequalities."

• The Women's Health and Gender Inequalities series articulates a forward-looking agenda towards:*Bodily autonomy — enabling women and girls to make informed sexual, reproductive, and healthcare decisions—a human right for all.

• Women make up 70% of the health workforce but only 25% hold senior roles.

• gender norms and stereotypes of jobs can affect the roles that women occupy.stereotyping is a significant contributor to the gender pay gap.

• United Nations global report found that close to 90% of all people have some form of gender bias against women.

INDIAN NEWS

- A lot left to do, yet Maharashtra a beacon in gender sensitivity in medical education

- Civil Society welcomes PM's assertion on 'gender equality', demands measures to bridge inequalities

- Gender Discrimination Prevents Women In India From Accessing Health Care, Study Says

- India ranks 135th in gender parity; worst for health and survival

RESEARCH PAPER

RESEARCH PAPER ON GENDER DISCRIMINATION IN HEALTHCARE SPENDING IN THE HOUSEHOLD AND WOMEN'S ACCESS TO RESOURCES:

Abstract • :This paper aims to estimate whether there is gender biasness in health care spending for children within the household of Bangladesh. The prime subject matter of the research is gender discrimination. It is a multidimensional issue which is deeply embedded in the improvised and traditional cultural settings in Bangladesh, and it is considered as a major constraint towards the development process in the country. We, therefore, also have made an attempt to determine the root causes of pervasive gender gap persists in the society in Bangladesh. Data from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES)-2010 of Bangladesh has been used in order to estimate gender biasness in health care spending for children of age ten and below ten years of old (age<=10) at household level. To conduct the research, linear regression model has been chosen as model specification where the expenditure on healthcare for individual children is considered as dependent variable and the variable of interest is gender. The study reveal that the health care spending for female is significantly lower than that of male children. It is evidenced that socio-cultural norms, religious beliefs, patriarchal family setting and dominance of male counterparts of women contribute to the regular forms of discrimination against women.

Aim and Objectives of the research:

Gender situation in Bangladesh has been changing over last two decades due to considerable economic transition and social change. Although progress has been made in many spheres of social life of women, they still receive less investment for health care, education and intellectual development (unicef, 2010). Low literacy rate among the women of age group (15-49) enhance the ratio of child marriage and adolescent motherhood. In the long run, it is found that high maternal mortality ratio in the country is attributed to early marriage, women's malnutrition, lacking of access to and use of medical services and lacking of knowledge and information. There is a huge impact of socio-cultural settings of Bangladesh on gender disparity. Bangladesh is a densely populated country of the world. According to the housing and population census 2001, the size of the population is still quite high, it is approximately 142 million and the natural growth rate is 1.4 percent. Approximately 90 percent of the total population is Muslims, 9 percent are Hindus and the others constitute about one percent. It is, therefore, mention worthy that multi dimensional religious norms exist in the society of Bangladesh which affects the gender relation in different way. Moreover, the half of the population consists of women as the sex ratio is 103.8. Another important finding of the census-2001 is that the life expectancy for female is 64.5 and for male it is 64.0.

DATA AND METHODOLOGY :

The research on "gender discrimination in healthcare spending within the household" has been conducted using data from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES)-2010 of Bangladesh. Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES)-2010 is a national level survey conducted by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics in collaboration with the World Bank in 2010. It is a household based sample survey. A two stage stratified random sampling technique was followed in drawing sample of HIES-2010. The primary sampling unit, PSU (PSU is basically an enumeration area for HIES-2010) was defined by taking contiguous two or more enumeration areas (EAs) used in Population and Housing Census 2001. Each PSU comprised of around 200 households. Integrated Multipurpose Sample (IMPS) sample design consists of 1000 PSUs where 640 rural and 360 urban PSUs, was developed on the basis of the sampling frame based on the Population and Housing Census 2001. Stage-1: A sub sample consists of 612 PSUs was drawn for HIES-2010 from Integrated Multipurpose Sample (IMPS) sample design which consists of 1000 PSUs. These PSUs were selected from 16 different strata. There were 6 rural, 6 urban and 4 Statistical Metropolitan Area (SMA) strata. Stage-2: Using random sampling method, 20 households were selected from each of the rural, urban and SMAs primary sampling unit (PSU). Thus, the sample of HIES is a sub-set of IMPS. In HIES-2010, 12240 households were selected where 7840 from rural area and 4400 from urban area. According to the sample design, the survey had been completed in one complete year (1st February, 2010 to 31st January, 2011) and the data was collected through the year round by 18 terms.