

# Descriptive Analysis of Literacy in Doda District: A Gender Base Case Study

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## ABSTRACT

The present study exposes that the total literacy rate male and female is below the national standard literacy rate level. In the rural areas the literacy rate is lower where as in the urban areas higher. There is a good disparity in literacy rate of the rural and urban areas.

There a considerable rate of gap between male and female literacy rates in Doda. But this current difference in literacy rate has a serious impact on economic development. The points to support this line are as follow: Increase in income of male: The gap in literacy rate has a direct impact on the increase income of male as organizations prefer to select employees who are competent enough to work. The male literacy rate is very high as comparative to female. This led to gap in income of males and females. There is a dramatic difference in the female literacy rate based on various tehsils in Doda. Female literacy rate in urban areas is higher as compared to rural Doda. Low female literacy rate means an overall sluggish growth of Doda, as it impacts every arena of the development. But if females are illiterate, then this has a direct and negative impact on these initiatives. Lack of education means lack of awareness. Illiterate women are not aware of their rights. They know nothing about initiatives taken by the government and other NGOs for their welfare. Illiterate women keep on struggling hard and bear harshness of life, low income family and even their husbands. Better education facilities for male is leading our country towards male dominance in productive skill and ultimately organization also pay more to people who are skilled i.e. males Women will be low in building of self-esteem: Illiteracy leads female to feel low in their self esteem level. Male will receive increased status in the family. The analysis also clearly indicates that there is a wide range of variations in rural-urban differential in literacy among the tehsils.

**Keywords:** Education, Literacy, transport facilities, women, gender gap, rural-urban, Doda , j & k, population, disparities

## INTRODUCTION

### LITERACY

Literacy is one of the biggest and the most difficult issues that people in the developing countries are facing . The developing countries of the world , of which India is a part , are characterized not only by low literacy rates but also by a great disparity in the literacy rates between urban and rural , between males and females and between young and the aged , the disparity in consonance with differences in necessity , prosperity and opportunity to become literate . Equally striking are the regional disparities in literacy and literacy differentials itself. Literacy is one of the important demographic elements , which is

good measure of human process towards modernization. It is an important indicator of the socio-economic development of an area .

### Defining a Literate person

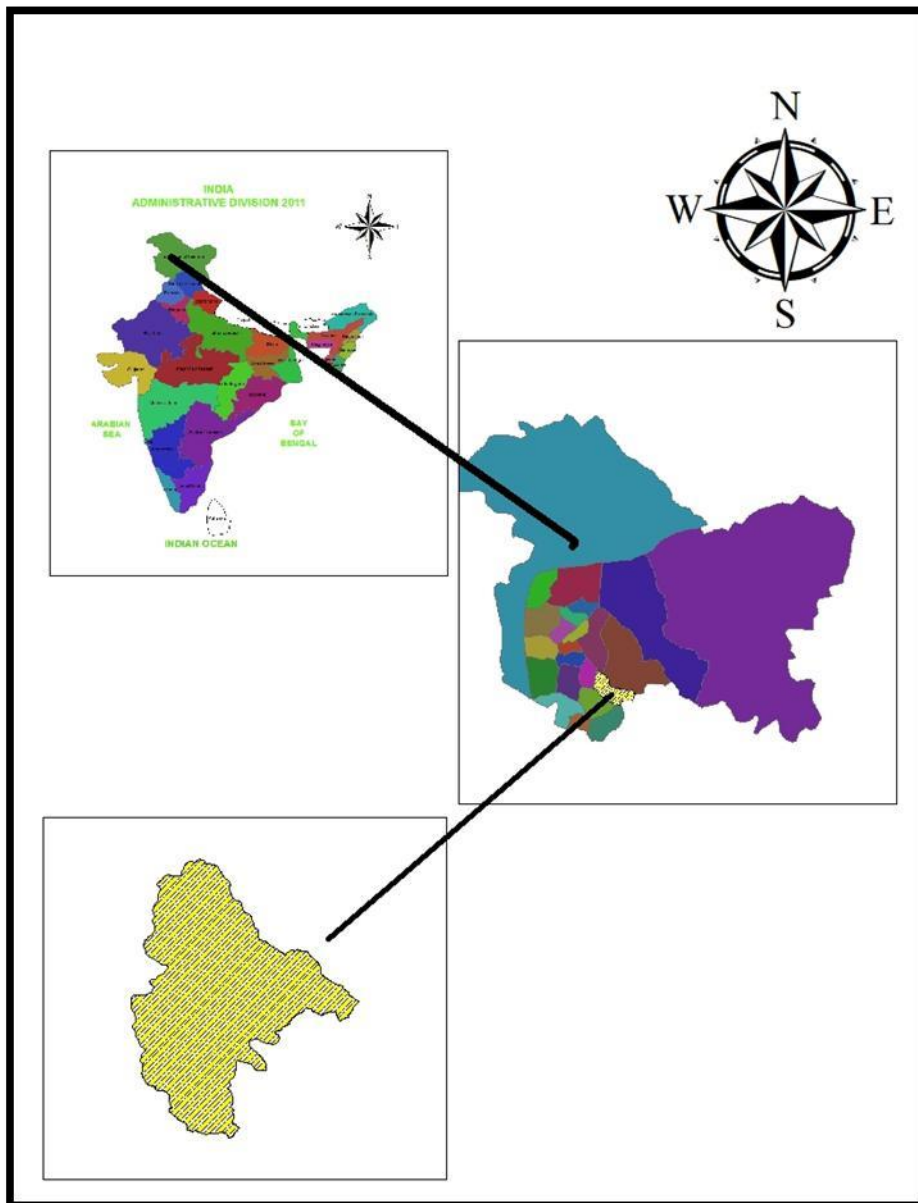
In its earliest uses, the term literacy referred solely to the ability to read and write; one either could or could not. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) define literacy as the "Ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate compute and use printed and written materials associated with varying contexts. Literacy involves a continuum of Learning in enabling individuals to achieve their goals to develop their knowledge and potential, and to participate fully in their community and wider society." For the purpose of census a person aged seven and above, who can both read and write with understanding in any languages, is treated as literate. A person, who can only read but cannot write, they are not literate. In the census prior to 1991, children below five years of age were necessarily treated as illiterates.

### 5 Review Literature

- **Education Commission (1966)** recommended for effective programme on adult education in India which should provide for the rapid elimination of illiteracy by means of mass education and attention towards women, industrial workers, and other special groups, programs of correspondence studies. It emphasized on the education in particular, basic social, civic and economic education which required broad support and public commitment, full exploitation of mass media and audiovisual aids, trained personnel, through provisions for experience of new literates, and effective planning and administration with due regard to local conditions and requirements.
- **Madhu R. Sekhar (2001)** viewed that social development depends on good education. Female education has an impact on health and other social issues like sex ratio, birth rate, infant and mortality rate etc. Sex ratio was very low in almost all states where female literacy rates are low. She feels that the windows and doors of education are to be opened widely, so that girls and women get the bright light of knowledge in abundance. A literate mother can do wonders in building up a healthy society and a bright future for our nation. She further highlighted the importance of girls' education and various initiatives to promote literacy especially for the girls by the government found that they were still denied access in education. So, the author feels the need of educating girls should be given priority as women can do wonders in building healthy society and bright future for the nation. In the last the author suggests that the NGOs and the Media can come forward to create awareness among the Tribal population.

### STUDY AREA:

Doda is one of the four hilly districts of Jammu division in union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, India. The district lies between  $32^{\circ} 50' N$  to  $33^{\circ} 23' N$  latitude and  $75^{\circ} 20' E$  to  $76^{\circ} 13' E$  longitude and has a total area of 8,912  $\text{km}^2$  (Figure 1). According to 2011 census, district has a total population of around 4,10,000 with sex ratio of 919 females per 1000 males (District Census Handbook: Doda 2017). People in the region are agriculturists and are dependent on forests for their livelihood.



### Research Methodology

The present paper aims to analysis the disparity of literacy of the male-female as well as rural and urban areas of the Doda district according to the secondary data collected from District Census Hand Book where Literacy rate has been computed for the population above 6 year.

The present study is based on Primary Census Abstract, Census of JK, 2011. An attempt has been made to tabulate process, analyze and interpret the data by applying suitable statistical and cartographic techniques. Literacy rate has been calculated by using the following formula, the technique of correlation is also applied to know the relationship between sex ratio and female literacy.

$$\text{Literacy in \%} = \frac{\text{Number of literates (above 6 years)} \times 100}{\text{Total Population}}$$

**Literacy in % = Number of literates (above 6 years) x 100/ Total Population**

**Objective**

- To describe the spatial patterns of literacy in the districts of Doda
- To examine the male-female and urban-rural differentials in literacy
- To examine the relationship between literacy rate and sexratio.

**Tehsil-wise Literacy**

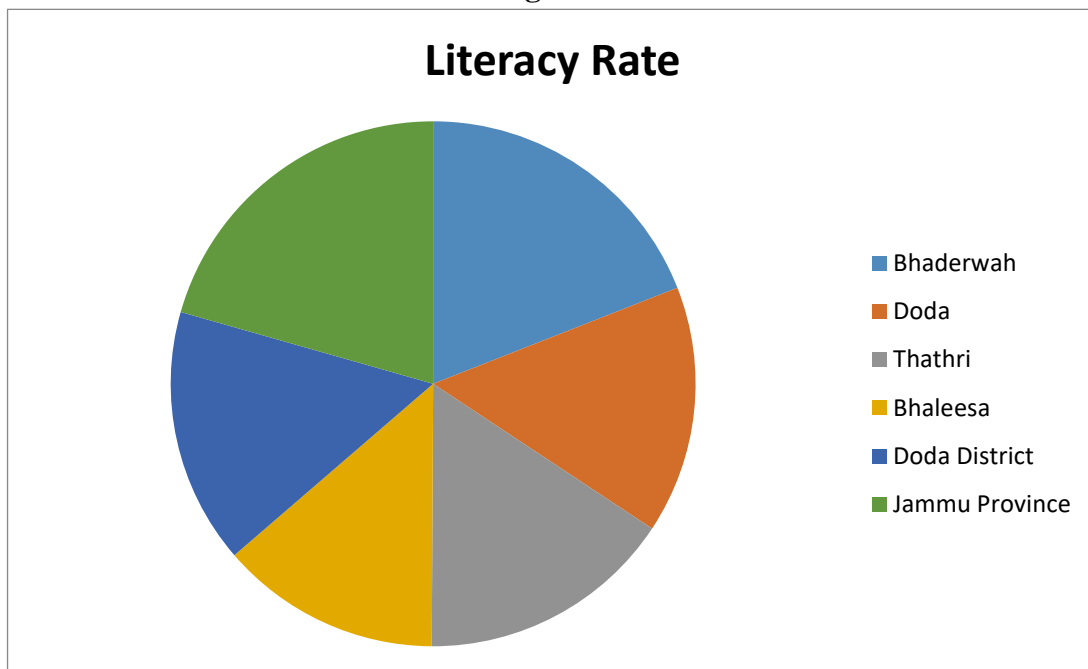
As per census, a person aged seven and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language, is treated as literate. A person, who can only read but cannot write is not literate. Male and female literacy is defined as the ratio of literate women to men aged 15-24 years (literacy gender parity index) is the ratio of the female literacy rate to the male literacy rate for the age group 15-24.

**Table: Total Literacy Rate, 2011**

Tehsils	Literacy Rate
Bhaderwah	64.65
Doda	51.81
Thathri	53.60
Bhaleesa	46.15
Doda District	53.44
Jammu Province	69.91

Source: Calculated on the basis of DCH, Doda, 2011.

**Figure 1**



**INTERPRETATION:** As per the census 2011, there are some Tehsils of Dist. Doda in which we saw the literacy rate of some Tehsils which include Bhaderwah, Doda .Thathri, and Bhalleesa. The literacy rate of Bhaderwah is 64.6 % and Doda has a literacy rate of about 51.81%, similarly Thathri has a

literacy rate of about 53.60% and Bhalessa has a literacy rate of 46.15%. Thus we can conclude that Jammu province has a highest literacy rate as compared to Tehsils of dist, Doda.

**Gender Disparity in Literacy**

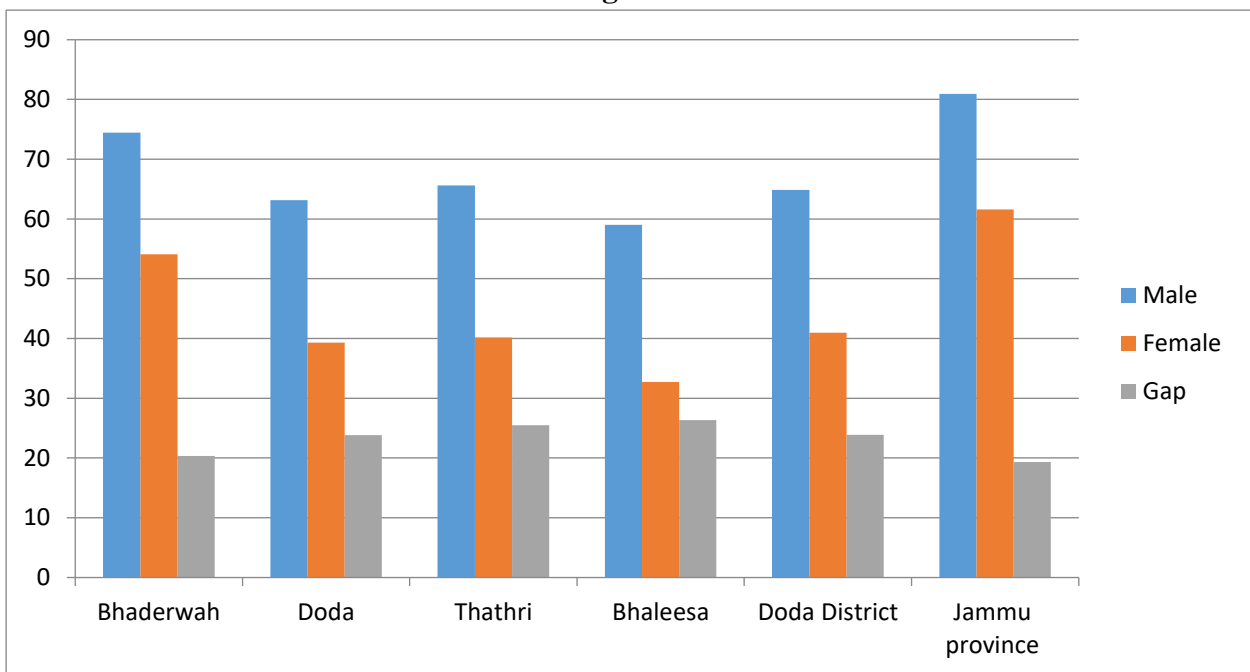
Gender Disparity is defined as the differences in women’s and men’s access to resources, status and well-being, which usually favor men and are often institutionalized through law, justice and social norms

**Table: Gender Disparity in Literacy**

Tehsils	Male	Female	Gap
<b>Bhaderwah</b>	74.46	54.10	20.36
<b>Doda</b>	63.16	39.32	23.84
<b>Thathri</b>	65.64	40.15	25.49
<b>Bhaleesa</b>	59.05	32.71	26.34
<b>Doda District</b>	64.88	40.99	23.89
<b>Jammu province</b>	<b>80.92</b>	<b>61.62</b>	<b>19.3</b>

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Jammu and Kashmir, 2011.

**Figure 2**



**GENDER DISPARITY IN LITERACY**

**INTERPRETATION:** As per the census 2011, we saw the gender disparity in literacy of some Tehsils of Dist. Doda in which Bhaderwah Tehsil has a male literacy rate of 74.46 and female literacy rate is 54.10 in which the gender gap in literacy is 20.36%. Similarly the gender disparity in literacy of dist, Doda is 23.84% and Thathri Tehsil have a gender gap of about 25.49% similarly bhaleesa has a gender gap of 26.42%. If we compare the gender gap of Jammu province to dist Doda we saw that the dist. Doda has a highest gender gap in literacy.

Women education in India plays a very important role in the overall growth of the country. It not only helps in the development of half of the human capital, but in improving the standard of living. Educated

women not only tend to promote education of their girl children, but also can provide better guidance to all their children and their future. Moreover educated women can also help in the reduction of poverty and unemployment by supporting their families' thoroughly.

**literacy of Rural – Urban population 2011**

**Rural urban literacy is defined as the density of population at least 400 per sq.km.... and having at least 75 percent of male working population engaged in non-agricultural activity were considered. An area is considered 'Rural' if it is not classified as 'Urban' as per the above definition.**

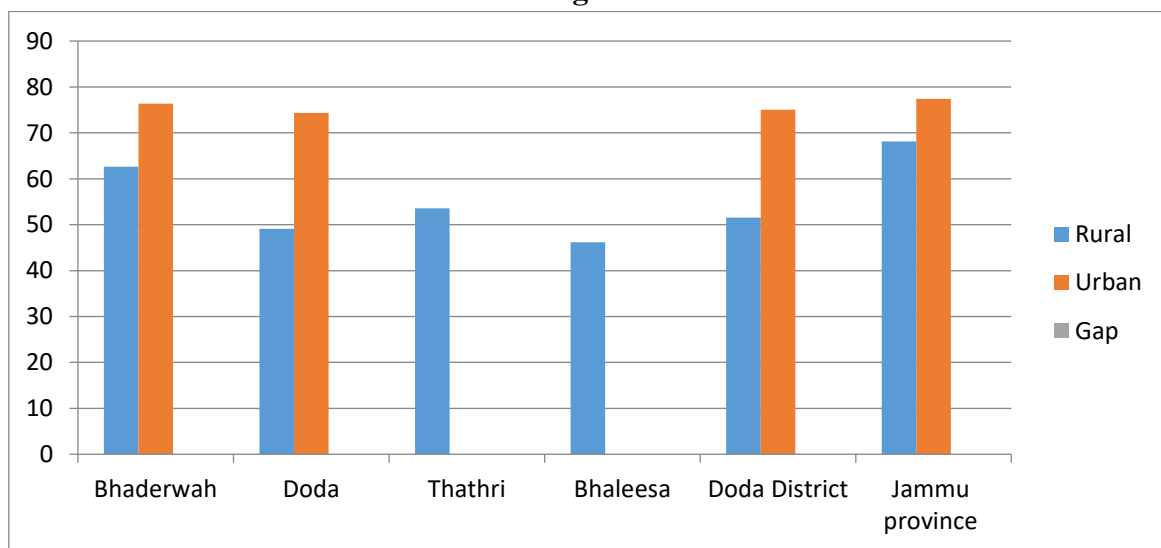
The rural urban disparities in literacy pattern are essentially a function of the different rates of change taking place in villages and towns. The pace of the process depends on the intensity of interaction between the two elements i.e. gender and literacy or locality and literacy. Spread and diffusion of literacy is positively associated with the essential traits of today's civilization such as, modernization, industrialization, **urbanization**, communication, trade and commerce. Literacy is one of the important demographic elements, which is a good measure of human process towards modernization. It is also the social characteristics and forms a significant input in the overall development of individuals enabling them to comprehend their economic, social, political and cultural environment better and respond to it properly.

**Table: Literacy of Rural-Urban Population, 2011**

Tehsils	Rural	Urban	Gap
<b>Bhaderwah</b>	62.63	76.39	NA
<b>Doda</b>	49.12	74.36	NA
<b>Thathri</b>	53.6	NA	NA
<b>Bhaleesa</b>	46.17	NA	NA
<b>Doda District</b>	51.57	75.05	NA
<b>Jammu province</b>	68.13	77.45	NA

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Jammu and Kashmir, 2011.

**Figure**



## LITERACY OF RURAL-URBAN POPULATION

**INTERPRETATION :**From the above table we saw that the literacy of rural –urban population according to 2011 census, in which Tehsil Bhaderwah has a rural population of 62.63% and urban population is 76.39%and the gap between them is NA, similarly we saw that the literacy of rural population of Dist. Doda which is 49.12%and the urban population is74.36% . In Tehsil Thathri we have 56.3% of literacy of rural population.Thus we can conclude that the Jammu province has the highest literacy of rural – urban population as compare to dist,Doda.

## Conclusion and Recommendations

In conclusion we can say that over the years, female have been able to oppose any move which would violate their power and there have been positives in the literacy growth story of Doda. Schemes such as Sarva Siksha Abhiyan and National Literacy Mission have a help in a lot of development across the government schools in Doda. The mid-day meal scheme has been a support to drive the school enrollments up. Thus the states which have to address the problem of school education have to address the challenges of educating the girl students. This in turn requires for the appropriate measures being taken to improve the state of government schools, which will then automatically increase the number of girl students attending these schools. Until these measures are effectively taken, the problem of the sluggish growth rate of literacy level will persist and the gap will remain same and will hinder the economy and status of women in Society.

Disparities in literacy by sex have to be narrowed down. Financial assistance should be granted to the weaker sections of the society in order to raise their socio-economic conditions especially in the country sides. The local bodies, NGOs and voluntary organizations have to be invited in this regard. It should not be the task of government only but each and every section of the society should be involved in such programme.

Literacy is a strong weapon which cannot root out the social issues like dowry, corruption and child labor. Literate population can contribute manifolds in the economic and social development of a nation. If India wants to be a developed and powerful nation, the literacy is the key. The govt. should introduce new schemes and policies and should allocate special funds to promote literacy.

Students need to be able to learn visually .They need to be able to interpret what a picture actually represents. Visually Literacy usually comes natural for more students. Students also need to be able to create their own visual media in order to explain their thoughts to others. Visual literacy is needed in the classroom because students learn and retain more information if they see the picture.

Students need literacy in order to engage with the written word in everyday life, being able to keep up with current events, communicate effectively, and understand the issues that are shaping our world.

Change requires teachers to become part of a professional learning community that places maximum importance on recognizing skills and responding to inquiries. Smart schools : The days of carrying huge bags, textbooks should be done away with by recording school work and school record etc. online. This will attract more and more students towards education .This will also improve access to information. Literacy for girls is a crucial input for developing /preserving human resource development, which in the ultimate analysis is a national asset. As far the individual recipient girl, literacy/education equips her to enjoy the fruits of social justice, social culture and of social, political and economic rights.

“Adult literacy is the stepping stone to a better future for literacy of children and has far reaching implications for our society”.

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