

## **A spatial analysis of relationship between literacy and urbanization in Haryana**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This paper tries to understand the relationship if any, between literacy rate and urbanization in Haryana. It also aims to analyse the spatial pattern of literacy in the light of evolving pattern of urbanization in the state. The study is based on secondary data collected from the census of India 2011. It was found that the pattern of literacy was generally associated with the pattern of urbanization in the study area as the district recorded higher degree of urbanization also recorded comparatively high rate of literacy. Based on findings, it is suggested that the government should take initiatives to cope with growing urban population.

**Key Words :** Education, Urbanization, Relationship

### **INTRODUCTION**

Education is one of the most important qualitative aspect of modern human life and literacy is the most basic of it. Level of literacy in any society can be controlled and guided by many factors, urbanization is one of them. Many studies have found that urban areas record higher level of literacy compared to the rural areas.

In technical term literacy can be defined as the ability to read and write. As per census of India, a person aged seven years and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language is literate. Urbanization is the process by which more and more people leave the countryside to live in cities. It is the process of shifting of people from undeveloped rural areas to developed urban areas. In this background present study has made an attempt to analyse the relationship between level of literacy and urbanization.

### **METHODOLOGY**

The study attempts to find the relationship between literacy rate and urbanization in the state of Haryana. It also aims to highlight the spatial pattern of literacy and urbanization in study area. The study is based on the secondary data obtained from census of India, 2011. To analyse the spatial pattern, district has been selected as a unit of study. District level data is obtained from district census handbook of the respective districts. Spearman's rank correlation coefficient was used to find the direction and magnitude of the relationship between literacy rate and urbanization.

**Study area :**

The state of Haryana lies between 27°39' to 30°55' N latitude and 74°28' to 77°36' E longitude and located in the northern part of the India bounded by Uttar Pradesh in the East, Punjab in the West, Himachal Pradesh in the North and Rajasthan in the South. The National Capital Region of Delhi juts into it in the East. According to census 2011, total population of the state was recorded 25351462, out of which, 34.88 per cent were domiciled of urban areas. Overall literacy rate of the state in 2011 was 75.55 per cent while male and female literacy rate were 82.65 per cent and 65.04 per cent, respectively.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION****Urbanization :**

It is evident from the Table 1 that as per census 2011, 34.88 per cent population of the state of Haryana resides in urban areas against 31.16 per cent of national average. At district level, urban population in the state varied from a maximum 79.51 per cent in Faridabad to a minimum of 11.39 per cent in Mewat. To comprehend the spatial pattern of urbanization in the state of Haryana, districts have been classified into following three categories on the basis of level of urbanization:

1. Highly urbanized districts (urban population > 50 %)
2. Moderately urbanized districts (urban population between 25-50 %)

**Table 1 : Haryana: Level of urbanization and literacy, 2011**

Sr. No.	District	Urban population (in %)	Literate persons (in %)
1.	Ambala	44.38	81.75
2.	Bhiwani	19.66	75.21
3.	Faridabad	79.51	81.70
4.	Fatehabad	19.06	67.92
5.	Gurugram	68.82	84.70
6.	Hisar	31.74	72.89
7.	Jhajjar	25.39	80.65
8.	Jind	22.90	71.44
9.	Kaithal	21.97	69.15
10.	Karnal	30.21	74.73
11.	Kurukshetra	28.95	76.37
12.	MahenderGarh	14.41	77.72
13.	Mewat	11.39	54.08
14.	Palwal	22.69	69.72
15.	Panchkula	55.81	81.88
16.	Panipat	46.05	75.94
17.	Rewari	25.93	80.99
18.	Rohtak	42.04	80.22
19.	Sirsa	24.65	68.82
20.	Sonapat	31.27	79.12
21.	Yamunanagar	38.94	77.99
	Haryana	34.88	75.55
	India	31.16	74.04

Source: Census of India 2011 PCA

### 3. Low urbanized districts (urban population<25 %)

#### Highly urbanized districts :

Table 1 shows that out of 21 districts of the state, only Faridabad, Gurugram neighboring National Capital Region and Panchkula located in the northern part of the state were highly urbanized.

#### Moderately urbanized districts :

It is evident from Table 1 that out of total, there were ten districts namely Panipat, Ambala, Rohtak, Yamunanagar, Hisar, Sonapat, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Rewari, and Jhajjar recorded urban population between 25 to 50 per cent. Majority of these districts were disseminated mainly in northern and central part of the state apart from Rewari that located in southern Haryana.

#### Low urbanized districts :

Districts namely Sirsa, Jind, Palwal, Kaithal, Bhiwani, Fatehabad, Mahendergarh, and Mewat recorded urban population below 25 per cent. These districts are distributed mainly in eastern and southern part of the state (Fig. 1a).

#### Literacy :

Table 1 reveals that 75.55 per cent of total population of state was literate against 74.04 per cent of national average. At district level, literacy rate in the state of Haryana varied from a maximum of 84.7 per cent in Gurugram to a minimum of 54.04 per cent in Mewat. To understand the spatial pattern of the literacy, districts of the state have been classified into following three categories :

1. High Literacy Districts (>80 %)
2. Moderate Literacy Districts (Literacy between 70-80 %)
3. Low Literacy Districts (<70 %)

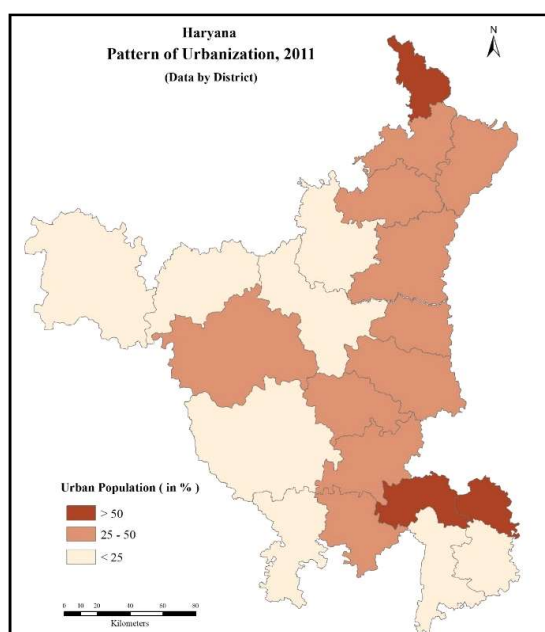


Fig. 1 : Pattern of urbanization, 2011

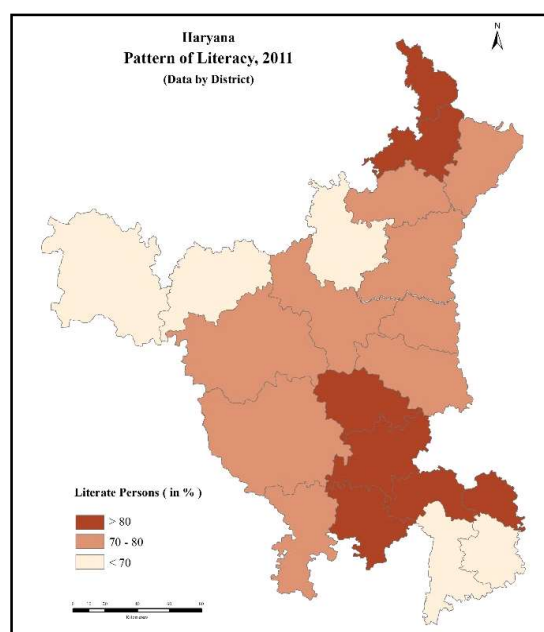


Fig. 2 : Pattern of literacy, 2011

**High literacy districts :**

Table 1 reveals that out of 21 districts, six districts namely Gurugram, Panchkula, Ambala, Faridabad, Rewari, Jhajjar, and Rohtak recorded high literacy rate. Fig. 1b shows that majority of districts are distributed mainly in South and south eastern part of the state excepting Panchkula located in northern part of the state.

**Moderate literacy districts :**

Out of total, nine districts in the state namely Sonapat, Yamunanagar, Mahendergarh, Kurukshetra, Panipat, Bhiwani, Karnal, Hisar, and Jind recorded literacy rate between 70 to 80 per cent. As Fig. 1b reflects, majority of the districts are disseminating in the central part of the study area.

**Low literacy districts :**

Districts Mewat, Palwal, Kaithal, Sirsa, and Fatehabad documented low literacy rate. Fig. 1b shows that these districts are distributed in two pockets, one is in the south eastern part and second in the western part of the state.

The study found that out of 21 districts, seven districts recorded urban population above state average and nine above the national average. While, on the other hand out of total, 12 districts documented literacy rate above the state average and 14 districts above the national average.

**Correlation between literacy and urbanization:**

The Spearman's rank correlation coefficient impart that there was a strong positive relationship (+0.739) between literacy and urbanization in the study area. In other words, areas that recorded higher level of urbanization also recorded high rate of literacy.

**Conclusion :**

The study revealed that Haryana state as a whole recorded higher urbanization and literacy compared to the national average in census year 2011. In the study area, eastern part recorded comparatively higher level of urbanization as well as literacy rate compared to the western part of the state. Concentration of districts recorded relatively high urbanization and literacy were mainly distributed along the NCR and UT of Chandigarh in southern and northern part of the state. The study found that there was strong positive relationship between literacy rate and urbanization in the state.

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