Impact of Female Literacy Rate on Sex Ratio in Uttar Pradesh: A District wise Analysis

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ABSTRACT

Women face discrimination right from the childhood. In upbringing, males are fed first and better than females. The Indian tradition also needs that women eat last and least throughout their lives even when they are pregnant or in lactating situation. Malnourished women give birth to malnourished children. Women receive less healthcare facilities than men and consequently many women in rural areas die in childbirth due to easily preventable complications. Statistics reveal that in India, males significantly outnumber females and this imbalance has increased over time. According to 2011 census, report the Male Literacy Rate is 79.24 per cent whereas Female Literacy Rate is 59.26 per cent in Uttar Pradesh. Similarly, According to 2011 census, report the sex ratio in Uttar Pradesh stands at 908 per 1000 males. This huge difference between Male and Female Literacy as well as poor Sex Ratio are showing discrimination against women in Uttar Pradesh. In the present study, an attempt has been made to examine the Impact of Female Literacy Rate on Sex Ratio in Uttar Pradesh.

Key Words : Gender equity, Male literacy rate, Female literacy rate, Total literacy rate, Work participation rate, Sex ratio

INTRODUCTION

Across the globe, women are less educated than their male counterparts. Women face discrimination right from the childhood. According to 2011 census, report the Male Literacy Rate is 79.24 per cent whereas Female Literacy Rate is 59.26 per cent in Uttar Pradesh. Similarly, According to 2011 census, report the sex ratio in Uttar Pradesh stands at 908 per 1000 males. This huge difference between Male and Female Literacy as well as poor Sex Ratio are showing discrimination against women in Uttar Pradesh.

Review of Literature:

Barro and Lee (1994) use a panel data set of 138 countries to examine the empirical determinants of growth, including measures for both male and female schooling. In what they see as a "puzzling finding", female education is negatively correlated with growth. Barro and Lee attribute this to a sign of "backwardness" in the society, where gender differences are picking up on aspects of undeveloped countries that may not have been captured with an initial GDP variable. Therefore, such less developed countries may experience higher growth rates due to a convergence mechanism.

Psacharopoulos (1994) finds that returns to female education are positive and higher than, their male counterparts. This micro literature also points to indirect benefits from gender equality.

Quibria (1995) "Gender and Poverty: Issues and Policies with Special Reference to Asian Developing Countries." has studied and found that across the globe, women are less educated and receive worse healthcare than their male counterparts receive.

Bils and Klenow (1998) assert that it is not education that leads to growth, but growth that leads to education.

As has been shown in past studies, returns to education increase substantially as an economy becomes more developed.

Behrman *et al.* (1999) find that children of more literate mothers in India study nearly two more hours a night. In addition, gender inequality has been shown to influence a number of development related goals, such as lower fertility rates, higher education rates, and better child health.

Seguino (2000a; 2000b) has studied and found that in a sample of export-oriented Asian nations, higher rates of growth are actually correlated with higher rates of gender inequality. She attributes this to the ability of firms to pay female labor less than males without fear of backlash or revolution, thus spurring investment.

Sen Amartya (2001), in his essay "Many Faces of Gender Inequality", opined that there is need to take a plural view of gender inequality, which can have many different faces. The prominent faces of gender injustice can vary from one region to another, and also from one period to the next. He further described that the Gender inequality hurts the interests not only of girls and grown-up women, but also of boys and men, through biological connections (such as childhood undernourishment and cardiovascular diseases at later ages) and also through societal connections (including in politics and in economic and social life).

Quentin (2008), "The Effect of Gender Inequality on Growth: A Cross-Country Empirical Study" has studied and found that an under investment in women's education has a negative effect on growth.

Objectives of the study:
Followings are the main objectives of the study -
1. To highlight the status of Female Literacy Rate,
2. To find out Impact of Female Literacy Rate on Sex Ratio in Uttar Pradesh.

METHODOLOGY

This study is based on secondary data source. The data are collected from Census of India and Department of Statistics. The time series and cross sectional data are collected for 71 districts in Uttar Pradesh.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

District wise female literacy-rate in Uttar Pradesh:
Another way to understand gender discrimination is to analysis of female literacy rate. We have classified all the districts of Uttar Pradesh in three groups-high female literacy, medium literacy and low literacy. It can be observed from the Table 1 that highest female literacy is in Ghaziabad (81.42%) whereas lowest female literacy rate recorded in Shrawasti (37.07%). This is showing huge gap (44.35%) between the highest and lowest female literacy rate among the districts of Uttar Pradesh. Moreover, if we compare female literacy rate with the India and the other states, we found that in 2011 average female literacy rate in India was 65.46 per cent whereas it is 59.26 per cent for Uttar Pradesh.

It is also revealed from the table that female literacy rate, of 11 districts is above the national average. These districts are- Ghaziabad (81.42%), Kanpur Nagar (76.89%), Lucknow (73.88%), Gautam Budha Nagar (72.78%), Auraiya (71.97%), Etawah (71.16%) Kanpur Dehat (68.48%), Mainpuri (68.35%), Varanasi (68.2%), Meerut (65.69%) and Mau (65.59%).

District wise sex ratio in Uttar Pradesh (2011):
It is interesting to analyze sex ratio in different districts of Uttar Pradesh and compare it with not only each other but national average as well. Among the 71 district of the state, we arranged in three groups as high sex ratio, medium sex ratio and low sex ratio groups.

From the Table 2, it can be seen that sex ratio of 17 districts are higher than national average (936/1000male). Moreover, the contribution of these districts in population of Uttar Pradesh is 26.15 per cent (5.21 carors). Likewise, top five district of Uttar Pradesh, which have the highest sex ratio, are Jaunpur (1018), Azamgarh (1017), Deoria (1013), Pratapgarh (994) and Sultanpur (978). However, five districts that have the lowest sex ratio are Gautam Buddh Nagar (852), Kanpur Nagar (852), Hardoi (856), Mathura (858), and Bagpat (858).

Sex ratio of India in comparison to neighboring countries:
It would be quite useful when we compare sex ratio of Uttar Pradesh with neighboring countries. From the Table 3, it can be revealed that India and Uttar Pradesh are far behind their neighboring countries. India placed before only Bhutan (897) and Afghanistan (931) and remaining all neighboring countries- Myanmar (1,048), Sri Lanka (1,032), Nepal (1,014), and Bangladesh (978) are better positioned as far as sex ratio is concerned. Besides, India and Uttar Pradesh are placed rear as

Table 1 : District wise Female Literacy-Rate in Uttar Pradesh (2011)					
District wise Female Literacy-Rate in Uttar Pradesh (2011) (High, Medium, and Low) (In 2011 U.P's Average Female Literacy Rate : 59.26) (In 2011 India's Average Female Literacy Rate : 65.46)					
High Female Literacy Rate (61.72-81.42)		Medium Female Literacy Rate (54.95-61.54)		Low Female Literacy Rate (37.07-54.74)	
Ghaziabad	81.42	Gorakhpur	61.54	Kushi Nagar	54.74
Kanpur Nagar	76.89	Bijnor	61.45	Mahoba	54.65
Lucknow	73.88	Deoria	61.34	Sonbhadra	54.11
Gautam Budha Nagar	72.78	Baghpat	61.22	Barabanki	54.1
Auraiya	71.97	Pratapgarh	60.99	Chitrakoot	54.03
Etawah	71.16	Mahamaya Nagar	60.79	Jyotiba Phule Nagar	53.77
Kanpur Dehat	68.48	Faizabad	60.72	Sitapur	52.8
Mainpuri	68.35	Farrukhabad	60.51	Kheri	52.62
Varanasi	68.2	Sultanpur	60.17	Pilibhit	52.43
Meerut	65.69	Muzaffarnagar	60	Lalitpur	52.26
Mau	65.59	Hardoi	59.17	Shahjhapur	51.73
Jannsi	64.88	Agra	59.16	Kaushambi	50.76
Firozabad	64.8	Mathura	58.93	Bareilly	50.35
Ambedkar Nagar	64.62	Mirzapur	58.77	KashiramNagar	50.2
Knnauj	64.46	Unnao	58.54	Mahrajganj	50.14
Jalaun	63.88	Basti	58.35	Moradabad	49.63
Saharanpur	63.3	Rae Bareli	58.06	Siddharth Nagar	49.61
Chandauli	63.07	SantRavidasNagar	57.79	Gonda	49.13
Allahabad	62.67	Fatehpur	57.76	Rampur	46.19
Azamgarh	62.65	Aligarh	57.48	Budaun	41.76
Gazipur	62.29	Hamirpur	57.19	Balrampur	40.92
Etah	61.72	Sant Kabir Nagar	56.99	Bahraich	40.76
Ballia	61.72	Bulandshahar	56.6	Shrawasti	37.07
Jaunpur	61.7	Banda	54.95		

compared to world average (984). From the above explanation, it can be concluded that condition of sex ratio in Uttar Pradesh is unjust.

District wise sex ratio and female literacy rate:

In the following Table 4, we arrange sex ratio and female literacy rate in high (H), medium (M), and low (L) in all the 71 district of Uttar Pradesh. Then put together the two-way data representing (HH), (HM), (HL), (MH), (MM), (ML), (LH), (LM) and (LL) their attributes of sex ratio and female literacy rate in all districts.

From the Table 4, it is revealed that 9 districts (12.67% of total districts) are having both sex ratio and female literacy rate on the high place (HH) whereas, 12 districts (16.9% of total districts) are showing high sex ratio with medium literacy rate (HM). However, only 6

districts (8.45% of total districts) are explaining high sex ratio along with low literacy rate (HL).

It is also divulged from the table that districts which have moderate sex ratio with high female literacy rate (MH) are 6 (8.45% of total districts), whereas districts which have moderate sex ratio with moderate female literacy rate (MM) are 5(7.04% of total districts). However, districts that have moderate sex ratio with low female literacy rate (ML) are 4 (5.63% of total districts).

From this research it is found that districts which have low sex ratio along with high female literacy rate (LH) are 10 (14.08% of total districts), while districts that have low sex ratio along with medium female literacy rate (LM) are 9 (12.67% of total districts). However, districts that have low sex ratio along with low female literacy rate (LL) are 4 (5.63% of total districts).

In this research, we find out co-relation between

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Table 2 : District wise Sex Ratio in U.P. - 2011

District wise Sex-Ratio in Uttar Pradesh - 2011
(High, Medium, and Low)
(In 2011 U.P's Average Sex-Ratio : 908)
(In 2011 India's Average Sex-Ratio : 936)

High Sex Ratio (24 District) (909-1018)		Medium Sex Ratio (24 District) (879-908)		Low Sex Ratio (23 District) (852-879)	
Jaunpur	1018	Barabanki	908	Kashiram Nagar	879
Azamgarh	1017	Jyotiba Phule Nagar	907	Ghaziabad	878
Deoria	1013	Lucknow	906	Aligarh	876
Pratapgarh	994	Kaushambi	905	Mainpuri	876
Sultanpur	978	Lalitpur	905	Shrawasti	875
Mau	978	Rampur	905	Farrukhabad	874
Ambedkar Nagar	976	Moradabad	903	Mahamaya Nagar	870
Siddharth Nagar	970	Allahabad	902	Firozabad	867
Sant Kabir Nagar	969	Unnao	901	Etawah	867
Faizabad	961	Mirzapur	900	Jalaun	865
Basti	959	Fatehpur	900	Shahjahapur	865
Kushi Nagar	955	Bulandshahar	892	Auraiya	864
Ghazipur	951	Bahraich	891	Etah	863
Sant Ravidas Nagar	950	Pilibhit	889	Banda	863
Gorakhpur	944	Kheri	887	Kanpur Dehat	862
Rae Bareli	941	Sharanpur	887	Hamirpur	860
Mahrajgang	938	Muzaffar Nagar	886	Agra	859
Ballia	933	Jhansi	885	Budaun	859
Balrampur	922	Meerut	885	Bagpat	858
Gonda	922	Bareilly	883	Mathura	858
Sonbhadra	913	Mahoba	880	Hardoi	856
Chandauli	913	Sitapur	879	Kanpur Nagar	852
Bijnor	913	Chitrakoot	879	Gautam Buddh Nagar	852
Varanasi	909	Kaunnauj	879		

Table 3 : Sex Ratio of India in Comparison to Neighboring Countries

Sex Ratio of India in Comparison to Neighboring Countries[#]
(In 2010 World Average: 984)
(In 2011 U.P's Average Sex-Ratio : 908)
(In 2011 India's Average Sex-Ratio : 936)

Sr. No.	Country	Sex Ratio
1.	Myanmar	1,048
2.	Sri Lanka	1,032
3.	Nepal	1,014
4.	Bangladesh	978
5.	Pakistan	942
6.	Afghanistan	931
7.	Bhutan	897

degree of positive co-relation (r = +0.34) between sex ratio and difference of male and female literacy rate.

Conclusion:

It is revealed from the above discussion that, top five district of Uttar Pradesh, which have the highest sex ratio, are Jaunpur (1018), Azamgarh (1017), Deoria (1013), Pratapgarh (994) and Sultanpur (978). However, five districts that have the lowest sex ratio are Gautam Buddh Nagar (852), Kanpur Nagar (852), Hardoi (856), Mathura (858), and Bagpat (858). However, five districts that have the lowest sex ratio are Gautam Buddh Nagar (852), Kanpur Nagar (852), Hardoi (856), Mathura (858), and Bagpat (858). It is clearly evident that As far as sex ratio is concerned India (936) and Uttar Pradesh (908) are placed rear as compared to world average (984).

In this research, we also find out very low degree of negative co-relation (r is -0.025) between female literacy rate and sex ratio.

sex ratio and female literacy rate in the entire districts and find out that there is very low degree of negative co-relation (value of r is -0.025) between sex ratio and female literacy rate in 2011. We have also applied co-relation coefficient (r) between difference of male and female literacy rate and sex ratio in 2011 and found there is low

Table 4 : District Wise Sex Ratio and Female Literacy Rate in Uttar Pradesh (2011)

Districtwise Litercy-Rate 2011 (Female)	District Wise Sex Ratio and Female Literacy Rate in Uttar Pradesh (2011): (r is -0.025 between sex ratio and female literacy rate in 2011) (r is +0.34 between difference of male and female literacy rate & sex ratio in 2011)		
	High (909-1018)	Medium (879-908)	Low (852-879)
High (61.7% -81.42%)	Jaunpur, Azamgarh, Mau, Ambedkar Nagar, Gazipur, Ballia, Chandauli and Varanasi	Lucknow, Allahabad, Saharanpur, Jannsi, Meerut and Knnauj	Ghaziabad, Mainpuri, Firozabad, Etawah, Jalaun, Auraiya, Etah, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar and Gautam Budha Nagar
Medium (54.95%-61.54%)	Deoria, Pratapgarh, Sultanpur, Sant Kabir Nagar, Faizabad, Basti, Sant Ravidas Nagar, Gorakhpur, Rae Bareli and Bijnor	Unnao, Mirzapur, Fatehpur, Bulandshahar and Muzaffarnagar	Aligarh, Farrukhabad, Mahamaya Nagar, Banda, Hamirpur, Agra, Baghpat, Mathura and Hardoi
Low (37.%-54.74%)	Siddharth Nagar, Kushi Nagar, Mahrajganj, Balrampur,Gonda and Sonbhadra.	Barabanki, Jyotiba phule Nagar, Kaushambi,Lalitpur, Rampur, Moradabad, Bahraich, Pilibhit, Kheri, Bareilly, Mahoba, Chitrakoot and Sitapur	Kashiram Nagar, Shrawasti, Shahjhapur and Budaun

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