

C H A P T E R [V]

SPATIAL PATTERN OF LITERACY (1991)

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C H A P T E R [V]
SPATIAL PATTERN OF LITERACY (1991)

5.1.0 INTRODUCTION :

Literacy is a qualitative attribute of population which is fairly reliable index of the socio-economic development of an area¹. It is the key factor for the rapid development of a country. Education is not only the fruit of contemplation but an instrument of change also. Knowledge is linked with literacy and a formal education system. A low degree of literacy is an obstacle to economic growth. Literacy is a pre-requisite not only of economic progress, but for the larger and fuller life which are regarded as our common heritage².

Though education by itself does not generate socio-economic progress, the lack of it can certainly be an impediment in the development process. A certain minimum level of literacy is, therefore, a basic requirement for a people to get out of ignorance and backwardness³.

5.1.2 As a matter of convenience, literacy is defined as the ability to read and write one's name in one's own mother-tongue. In India⁴, "a person who can both read and write with understanding in any language is known as literate".

5.1.3 In this chapter an attempt has been made to study the growth of literacy by considering Maharashtra State as a whole and for this purpose the period 1951 - 1991 is selected. While for the analysis of spatial variation in

male - female literacy and in rural - urban literacy as well as for the identification of the spatial patterns of literacy in the State district is considered as a study unit by taking the data of 1991 Census.

5.2.0 GROWTH OF LITERACY IN MAHARASHTRA (1951-91)

The literate persons in the State was increased from 6688543 in 1951 to 42939491 in 1991. According to 1991 Census, out of total population of Maharashtra 54.5 percent is literate. While the share of male and female literacy is 64.59 percent and 43.77 percent respectively.

Table 5.1 shows the growth of literacy in Maharashtra since 1951. Percentage of literacy in 1951 in the State was only 20.9 percent. It was increased upto 29.8 percent in 1961. Further it was increased upto 39.2, 47.1 and 54.5 percent in 1971, 1981 and 1991 respectively.

TABLE No.5.1
GROWTH OF LITERACY IN MAHARASHTRA (1951-91)

Census year	Literacy in Percentage		
	Total	Male	Female
1951	20.9	34.4	9.8
1961	29.8	42.0	16.8
1971	39.2	51.0	26.4
1981	47.1	58.7	34.6
1991	54.5	64.6	43.8

SOURCE : i] Author

ii] Census of India, 1991, State

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Table 5.1 also reveals that in all the Census years male literacy was higher than the female literacy. However the growth rate of male literacy during 1951-91 was increased from 34.4 percent to 64.6 percent while growth rate of female literacy during the same period was increased from 9.8 percent to 43.8 percent.

Free and compulsory primary education and more attention on literacy improvement after independence has been helped the faster growth of literacy in the State.

5.3.0 MALE - FEMALE LITERACY (1991) :

Generally the percentage of literacy is calculated, taking into account, the whole population of the particular area, but it is simply impossible to have ability to read and write with understanding upto age seven. That's why for the real picture of literacy, effective literacy rate* must be worked out. But due to lack of age group data of all the districts for 1991, the general literacy rate** is calculated for the further analysis.

5.3.1 MALE LITERACY :

According to 1991 Census, percentage of male literacy in the State is 64.59. But there is wide variation in male literacy ranging from 78.12 percent in Gr.Bombay district to

$$* \text{ Effective Literacy Rate} = \frac{\text{Total literate persons}}{\text{Total population excluding below the age of 7 years.}} \times 100$$

$$** \text{ General Literacy Rate} = \frac{\text{Total literate persons}}{\text{Total population}} \times 100$$

TABLE NO. 5.2
THE MAHARASHTRA
MALE - FEMALE LITERACY (1991)

Sr No.	District/State	Literacy in Percentage	
		Male	Female
1	Gr.Bombay	78.12	65.79
2	Thane	66.30	50.27
3	Raigarh	63.56	44.18
4	Ratnagiri	63.58	44.75
5	Sindhudurg	75.74	59.80
6	Nashik	61.07	40.69
7	Dhule	52.21	31.72
8	Jalgaon	65.17	42.08
9	Ahmadnagar	62.22	37.83
10	Pune	69.45	50.58
11	Satara	67.14	45.42
12	Sangli	64.99	43.08
13	Solapur	58.71	34.63
14	Kolhapur	68.92	45.71
15	Aurangabad	69.55	32.03
16	Jalna	51.24	21.90
17	Parbhani	52.01	23.59
18	Beed	50.30	26.13
19	Nanded	51.83	24.79
20	Osmanabad	56.38	31.62

Sr No	District/State	Literacy in Percentage	
		Male	Female
21	Latur	57.39	32.32
22	Buldhana	62.43	37.27
23	Akola	64.57	43.78
24	Amravati	66.46	51.51
25	Yavatmal	58.94	36.84
26	Wardha	68.36	52.37
27	Nagpur	70.00	54.96
28	Bhandara	66.79	42.52
29	Chandrapur	60.61	39.11
30	Gadchiroli	46.81	23.71
	Maharashtra	64.49	43.77

SOURCE: 1) Census of India, Provisional Population of
Maharashtra, Paper 2 of 1991, Table - 1.

2) Author.

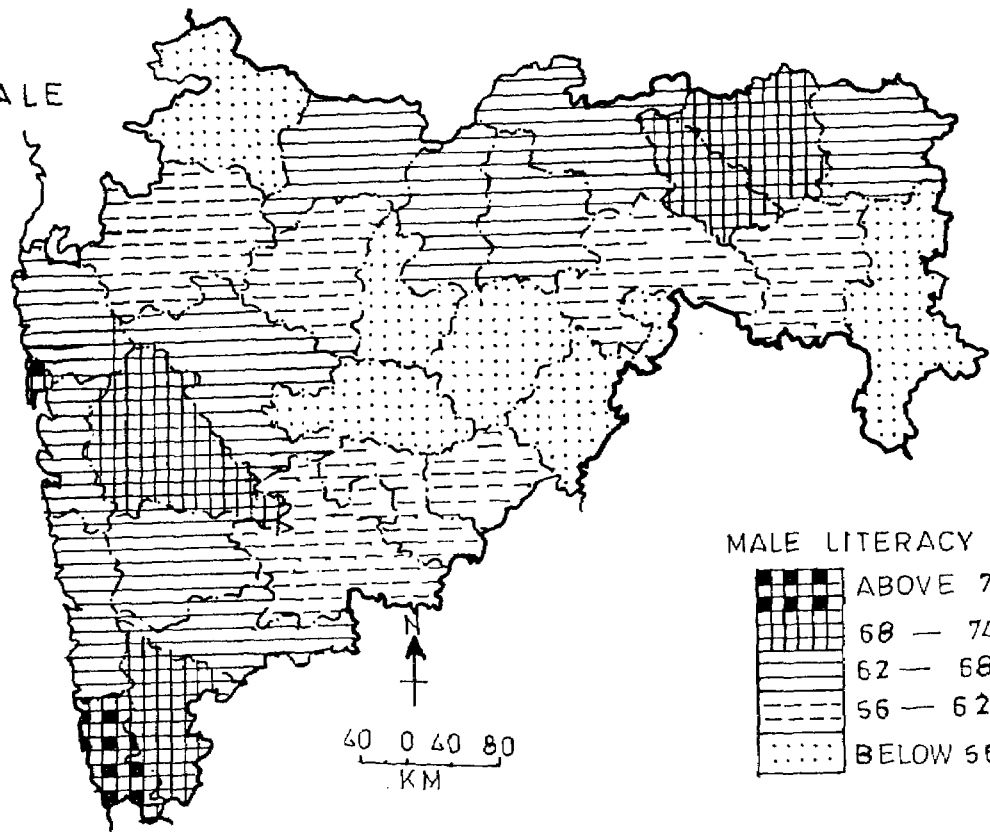
46.81 percent in Gadchiroli district.

It depicts from the table 5.2 and Fig. 5.1.A that Gr.Bombay and Sindhudurg districts have very high male literacy as compared to the States average male literacy.

High male literacy as compared to State's average is found in Nagpur, Wardha, Pune and Kolhapur districts. While low male literacy is found in Nashik, Chandrapur, Aurangabad,

THE MAHARASHTRA MALE-FEMALE LITERACY (1991)

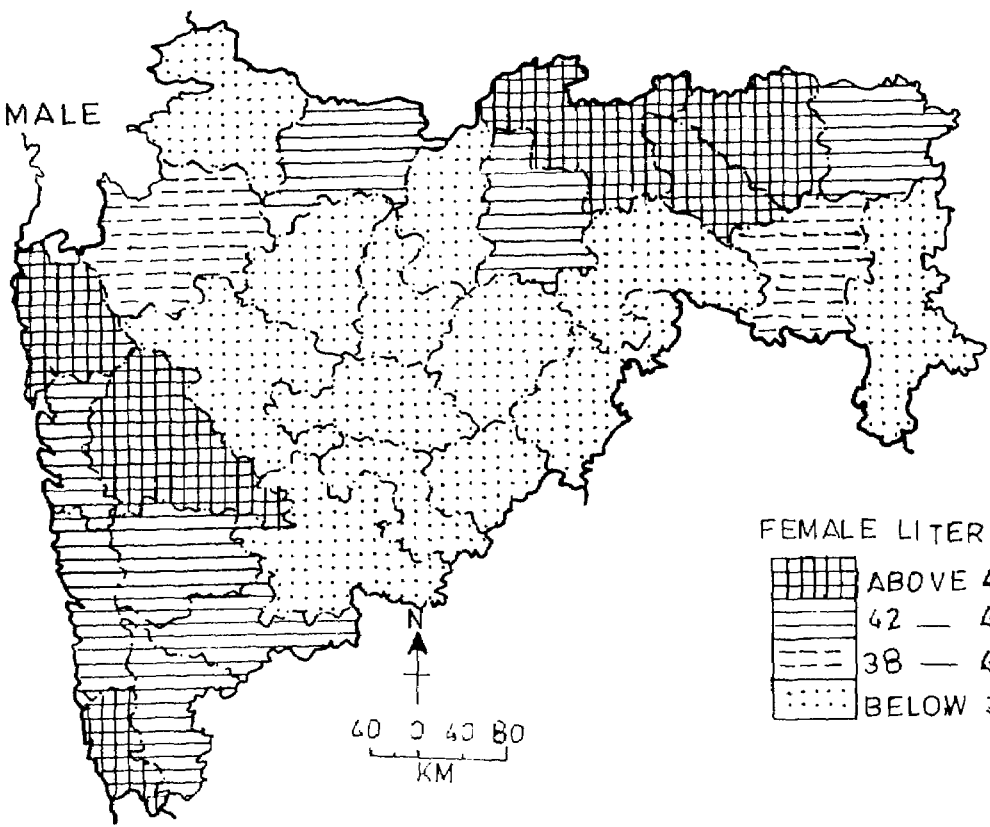
A
MALE



MALE LITERACY IN %

Checkered pattern	ABOVE 74
Grid pattern	68 — 74
Horizontal lines	62 — 68
Dotted pattern	BELOW 62

B
FEMALE



FEMALE LITERACY IN %

Checkered pattern	ABOVE 46
Grid pattern	42 — 46
Horizontal lines	38 — 42
Dotted pattern	BELOW 38

FIG-5.1

Yawatmal, Solapur, Latur and Osmanabad districts.

Very low male literacy is found in Beed, Jalna, Nanded, Parbhani, Dhule and Gadchiroli districts. Dhule, Parbhani and Gadchiroli districts have very low male literacy due to more tribal population while other districts have very low male literacy due to backward economy.

5.3.2 FEMALE LITERACY :

Comparatively female literacy is less than male literacy in all the districts of Maharashtra (Tab.5.2).

Very high female literacy as compared to State's average is found in Gr.Bombay, Pune, Sindhudurg, Thane, Nagpur, Wardha and Amravati districts.

Table 5.2 and Fig. 5.1.B shows moderate female literacy in eight districts. Due to the poverty of the people and the traditional prejudice among the rural folks against sending girls to schools, female literacy is very low in thirteen districts (Fig.5.1.B). It is found in the Maharashtra State that there is close relationship between economic development and level of female literacy.

5.3.3 DIFFERENTIAL IN MALE - FEMALE LITERACY :

It is clearly seen from the table 5.3, that total literacy is high where differential in male-female literacy is low. It has been found after using Pearson's coefficient of correlation and there is highly negative correlation between differential in male-female literacy and total literacy.

The differential in male-female literacy is high in Jalna, Parbhani, Aurangabad, Beed, Nanded, Osmanabad, Latur,

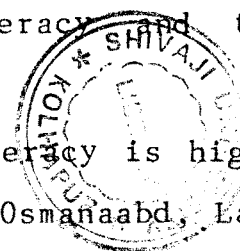


TABLE NO. 5.3
THE MAHARASHTRA
TOTAL LITERACY AND DIFFERENTIAL IN
MALE - FEMALE LITERACY (1991)

Sr No	District/State	Difference between Male-female literacy in %	Total literacy in %
1	Gr.Bombay	12.33	72.57
2	Thane	16.03	58.80
3	Raigarh	19.38	53.81
4	Ratnagiri	18.83	53.27
5	Sindhudurg	15.94	67.25
6	Nashik	20.38	51.19
7	Dhule	20.49	42.17
8	Jalgaon	23.09	53.97
9	Ahmednagar	24.39	50.33
10	Pune	18.87	60.33
11	Satara	21.72	56.09
12	Sangli	21.91	54.22
13	Solapur	24.08	47.06
14	Kolhapur	23.21	57.52
15	Aurangabad	27.52	46.33
16	Jalna	29.32	36.89
17	Parbhani	28.42	38.15
18	Beed	24.17	40.03
19	Nanded	27.04	38.68
20	Osmanabad	24.76	44.36

Sr No	District/State	Difference between Male-female literacy in %	Total literacy in %
21	Latur	25.07	45.21
22	Buldhana	25.16	50.14
23	Akola	20.79	54.50
24	Amravati	14.95	59.29
25	Yavatmal	22.10	48.18
26	Wardha	15.99	60.61
27	Nagpur	10.04	62.78
28	Bhandara	24.27	54.72
29	Chandrapur	21.50	50.15
30	Gadchiroli	23.10	35.40
	SOURCE: Author		

Yawatmal, Gadchiroli & Solapur Districts, while it is low in Gr.Bombay, Sindhudurg, Amravati, Wardha and Nagpur districts (Table 5.3).

5.4.0 RURAL LITERACY (1991)

5.4.1 TOTAL RURAL LITERACY :

As per 1991 Census 45.93 percent of the total rural population of the State is literate. Table 5.4 shows that total rural literacy in the State ranges from 66.3 percent in

TABLE NO.5.4
THE MAHARASHTRA
RURAL - URBAN LITERACY (1991)

Sr No	District/ State	Rural Literacy in percentage			Urban Literacy in percentage		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1	Gr.Bombay	72.57	78.12	65.79
2	Thane	41.83	51.85	31.33	68.04	73.71	61.30
3	Raigarh	50.63	60.93	40.71	68.44	74.91	61.30
4	Ratnagiri	51.29	61.89	42.72	73.36	78.79	67.82
5	Sindhudurg	66.30	75.04	58.73	78.77	83.72	73.80
6	Nashik	43.30	54.65	31.44	65.50	72.48	57.87
7	Dhule	36.48	46.97	25.67	64.22	71.90	55.84
8	Jalgaon	49.93	62.23	36.98	64.65	72.82	55.78
9	Ahmednagar	47.45	59.98	34.40	65.59	73.89	56.53
10	Pune	50.59	62.29	38.52	69.77	76.18	62.69
11	Satara	54.03	65.57	43.06	70.01	77.05	62.40
12	Sangli	51.04	62.51	39.30	64.97	73.17	56.17
13	Solapur	42.21	54.38	29.17	59.05	69.47	48.02
14	Kolhapur	53.38	66.08	40.48	69.04	76.56	60.83
15	Aurangabad	38.79	53.94	22.75	61.80	70.70	53.30
16	Jalana	33.43	48.72	17.57	53.91	63.40	43.70
17	Parbhani	33.62	48.40	18.25	53.72	64.23	42.35
18	Beed	36.15	49.92	27.75	57.73	67.82	46.65
19	Nanded	49.40	66.52	31.51	55.94	66.11	44.82
20	Osmanabad	41.77	54.10	28.80	58.80	68.81	47.75

Sr No	District/ State	Rural Literacy in percentage			Urban Literacy in percentage		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
21	Latur	41.77	54.40	28.55	58.65	68.67	47.48
22	Buldhana	47.00	60.18	33.27	62.22	70.94	52.82
23	Akola	50.50	62.11	38.22	64.42	70.60	57.75
24	Amravati	54.43	62.58	17.97	68.97	74.32	63.25
25	Yavatmal	44.44	55.83	32.50	66.16	73.65	58.06
26	Wardha	56.19	64.52	47.38	72.79	78.88	66.25
27	Nagpur	51.51	60.53	42.70	69.74	75.80	63.13
28	Bhandara	53.34	64.94	39.67	70.48	78.70	61.84
29	Chandrapur	44.74	56.07	33.04	64.00	71.85	55.28
30	Gadchiroli	32.95	44.42	21.27	61.10	70.92	50.32
	Maharashtra	45.93	57.74	33.83	68.12	74.87	60.41

SOURCE : Census of India, 1991, Paper 2, Table 1.



Sindhudurg district to 32.95 percent in Gadchiroli district.

Very high rural literacy is found in Sindhudurg, Wardha, Amravati, Satara, Bhandara and Kolhapur districts while there are eight districts in which rural literacy is high (Fig. 5.2.A). Low rural literacy is found in Nashik, Solapur, Thane, Osmanabad and Latur districts.

In Aurangabad, Dhule, Beed, Parbhani, Jalna and Gadchiroli districts rural literacy is very low as compared to the State's total rural literacy (Fig. 5.2.A).

5.4.2 RURAL MALE LITERACY :

According to 1991 Census, Maharashtra State has 57.74 percent of rural male literacy. But rural male literacy rate in the State varies from district to district (Table 5.4).

Highest rural male literacy is found in Sindhudurg (75.04 percent) district followed by Nanded (66.52 percent) and Kolhapur (66.08 percent) districts. High rural male literacy is found in Bhandara, Wardha, Satara, Buldhana, Amravati, Sangli, Pune, Jalgaon, Akola, Ratnagiri, Raigarh and Nagpur districts (Fig. 5.2.B).

Low rural male literacy is found in Aurangabad, Thane, and Beed districts. Gadchiroli district has the lowest (44.42 percent) rural male literacy. Very low rural male literacy is found in Jalna, Parbhani and Dhule districts.

5.4.3 RURAL FEMALE LITERACY :

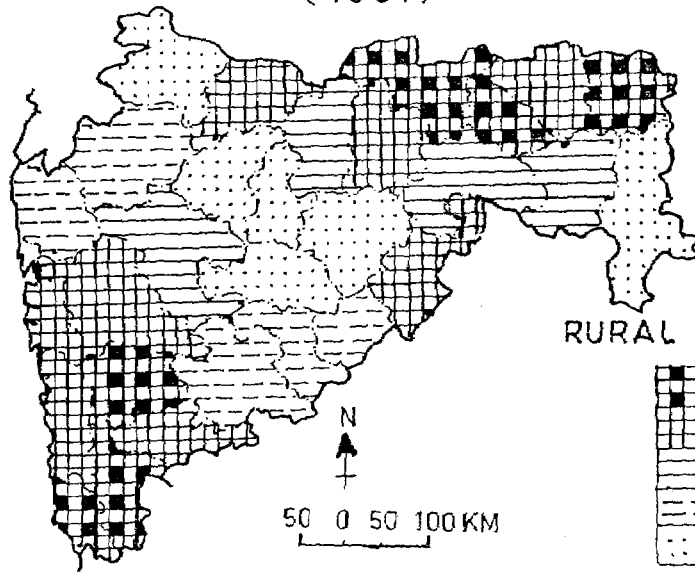
As per 1991 Census rural female literacy in Maharashtra is 33.83 percent.

It has been observed from the Table 5.4 that Sindhudurg district has the highest rural female literacy

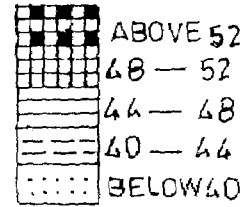
THE MAHARASHTRA

RURAL LITERACY
(1991)

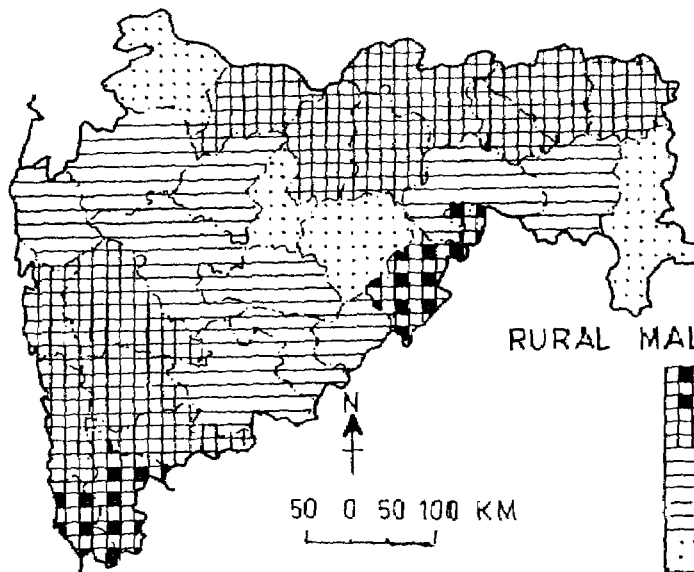
A
TOTAL



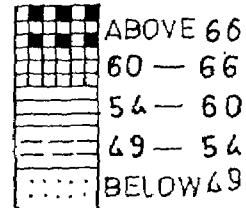
RURAL LITERACY IN %



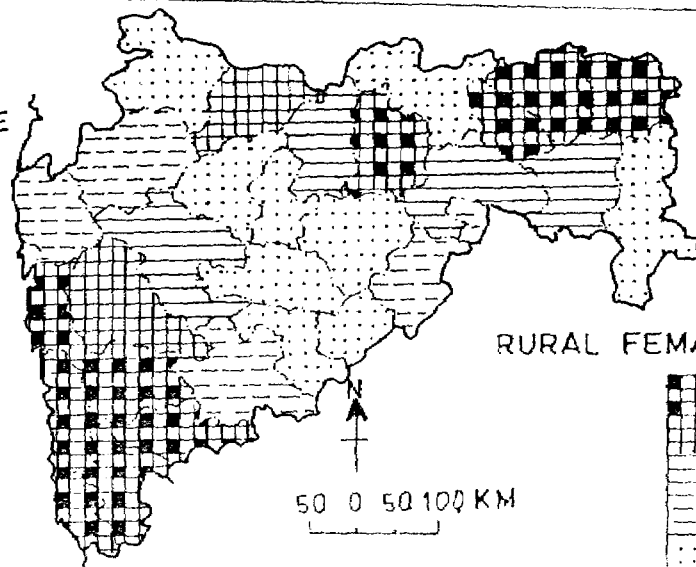
B
MALE



RURAL MALE LITERACY IN %



C
FEMALE



RURAL FEMALE LITERACY IN %

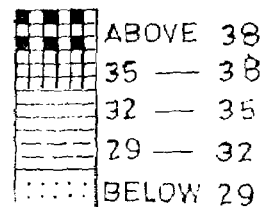


FIG-52

(58.73 percent) followed by Wardha (47.38 percent), Satara (43.06 percent), Ratnagiri (42.72 percent), Nagpur (42.70 percent), Raigarh (40.71 percent), Kolhapur (40.48 percent), Bhandara (39.57 percent), Sangli (39.30 percent) and Akola (38.22 percent) districts. In Pune and Jalgaon districts rural female literacy is high (Fig. 5.2.C).

Low rural female literacy is found in Nanded, Nashik, Thane, Solapur districts. The lowest rural female literacy is found in Jalna district (17.57 percent). Very low rural female literacy is found in Latur, Beed, Dhule, Aurangabad, Gadchiroli, Parbhani, Osmanabad and Amravati districts.

5.4.4 DIFFERENTIAL IN RURAL MALE - FEMALE LITERACY (1991):

The differential in rural male - female literacy is the highest in Amravati (M* - 62.58% F** - 17.97%), district followed by Nanded (M - 66.52% F - 31.51%), Parbhani (M - 48.40% F - 18.25%), Jalna (M - 48.72% F - 17.57%) and Aurangabad (M - 53.94% F - 22.75%) districts, while in Ratnagiri (M - 61.89% F - 42.72%) and Sindhudurg (M - 75.04% F - 58.73%) districts differential in rural male - female literacy is comparatively low. But taking into consideration, the differential in rural male - female literacy as a whole there is wide gap in it (Table No. 5.4). This shows that the prejudice against the education of women is still continuing in many districts of the State.

M* denotes male literacy.

F** denotes female literacy.

5.5.0 URBAN LITERACY (1991) :

5.5.1 TOTAL URBAN LITERACY :

As per 1991 Census 68.12 percent of the total urban population in the State is literate. It is clear from the table 5.4 that total urban literacy is the highest in Sindhudurg district (78.77 percent) followed by Gr.Bombay (72.57 percent), Ratnagiri (73.36 percent) and Wardha (72.79 percent) districts.

Low urban literacy is found in Akola, Dhule, Chandrapur, Buldhana, Aurangabad, Gadchiroli, Sangli, Jalgaon and Solapur districts. The lowest urban literacy is found in Parbhani district (53.72 percent), while very low urban literacy is found in Beed, Nanded, Osmanabad, Latur and Jalna districts where half of their urban population is literate (Fig. 5.3.A).

Urbanisation is associated with the raising of literacy rates and the lowering of the disparities therein. It has been found after using Pearson's coefficient of correlation that there is positive correlation (+0.55) between the literacy and urbanisation in Maharashtra.

5.5.2 URBAN MALE LITERACY :

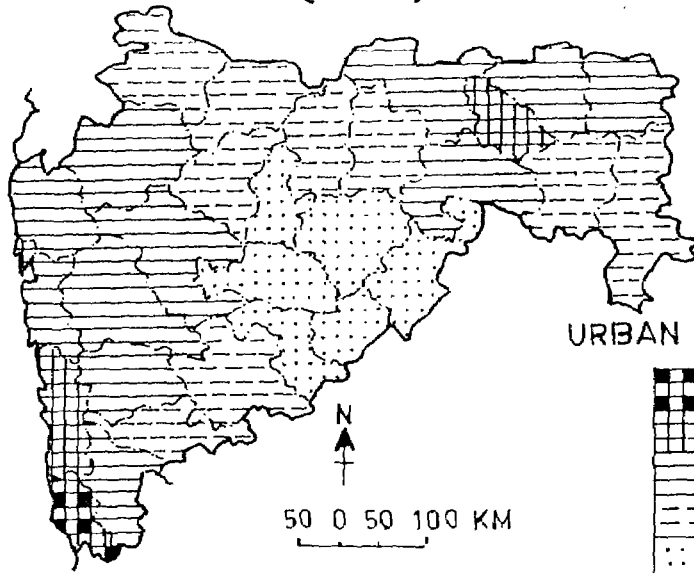
According to 1991 Census percentage of urban male literacy in the State is 74.87. However, there is districtwise variation in urban male literacy. Sindhudurg district with 83.72 percent urban male literacy, is on top among all the districts of the Maharashtra. High urban male literacy is found in Wardha, Ratnagiri, Bhandara and Gr.Bombay districts (Fig.5.3.B).

THE MAHARASHTRA

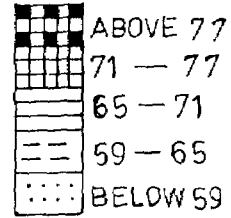
URBAN LITERACY (1991)

A

TOTAL

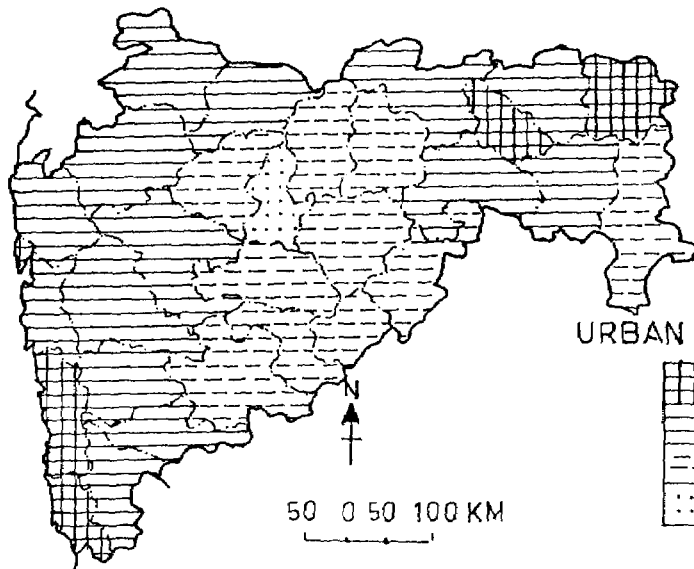


URBAN LITERACY IN %

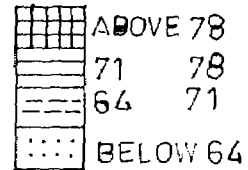


B

MALE

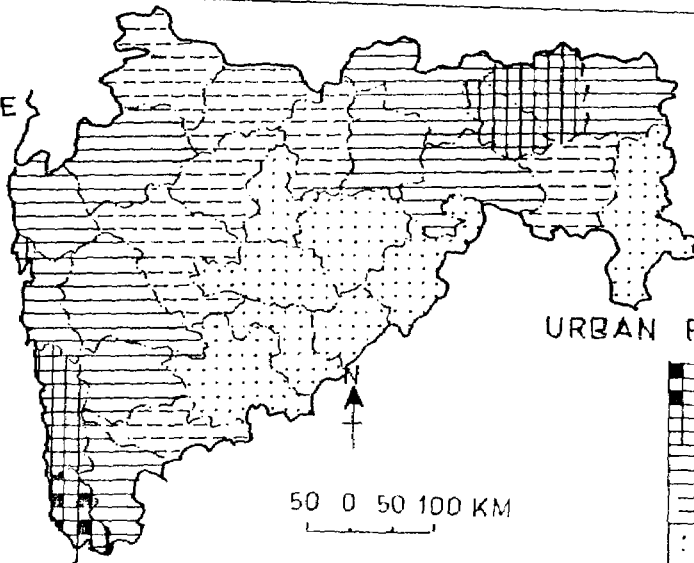


URBAN MALE LITERACY IN %



C

FEMALE



URBAN FEMALE LITERACY IN %

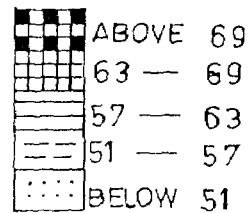


FIG-5.3

Fourteen districts have urban male literacy equal to State's urban male literacy (i.e.74.87 percent)while in nine districts, namely Gadchiroli, Aurangabad, Akola, Solapur, Osmanabad, Latur, Beed, Nanded and Parbhani, urban male literacy is found low and in Jalna district it is very low (63.40 percent) as compared to the State's average.

5.5.3 URBAN FEMALE LITERACY :

According to 1991 Census percentage of urban female literacy in the State is 60.41. Sindhudurg district has recorded highest (73.80 percent) urban female literacy followed by Ratnagiri (67.87 percent), Gr.Bombay (67.79 percent), Wardha (66.25 percent) and Nagpur (63.13 percent) districts. Fifteen districts have recorded urban female literacy below the State's average (Table 5.4. & Fig.5.3.C).

5.5.4 DIFFERENTIAL IN URBAN MALE - FEMALE LITERACY (1991):

The differential in urban male - female literacy is not as wide than that in rural male - female literacy. However, there is districtwise variation in urban male - female literacy. It is observed from the table 5.4 that the lowest differential in urban male - female literacy is found in Sindhudurg district while the highest differential in urban male - female literacy is found in Parbhani district. Wide range between urban male - female literacy is found in Solapur, Nanded, Parbhani, Osmanaabd, Latur and Gadchiroli districts. Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Pune, Nagpur and Wardha districts have low differential in urban male - female literacy. It shows the considerable progress in female

literacy in above districts. More gap in urban male - female literacy shows the poor progress in female literacy.

5.6.0 DIFFERENTIAL IN RURAL - URBAN LITERACY (1991) :

68.12 percent of the urban population of the State is literate while 45.93 percent of State's total rural population is literate. As per 1991 Census highest urban literacy (78.77 percent) is recorded in Sindhudurg district and lowest (53.72 percent) in Parbhani district. Correlation between literacy rate and difference between rural - urban literacy is tested in the present study and is found that there is negative correlation. Literacy is fairly high among both males and females in the urban areas as compared to their rural counterparts. It also clear from the table 5.4 that differential in male - female literacy among rural areas is far greater than that in male - female literacy among urban areas.

However, in recent years, people have started realizing the necessity of giving education to their children especially in rural areas. The landholdings are now too small to provide work to all available hands in the villages. Under these circumstances, the farmers' attitude is changing. Thus, in recent years, the progress in education has been greater in rural areas than in urban places, reducing the rural - urban disparity in literacy to a notable extent. But the fact remains that the gap between the two is yet very wide.

5.7.0 SPATIAL PATTERN OF LITERACY (1991) :

5.7.1 On the basis of total literacy in 1991, the Maharashtra State has been divided into the five distinguishable literacy patterns (Fig. 5.4) viz :

- 1] Very high literacy (LQ* above 1.150)
- 2] High literacy (LQ. 1.051 to 1.150)
- 3] Moderate literacy (LQ. 0.951 to 1.050)
- 4] Low literacy (LQ. 0.851 to 0.950), and
- 5] Very low literacy (LQ. Below 0.850)

[1] VERY HIGH LITERACY :

Districts which have above 1.150 location quotients are included in this category. Gr. Bombay, Sindhudurg and Nagpur districts show very high literacy.

Gr. Bombay is being entirely urbanized, highly industrialized, economically and socially advanced, international trade and transport centre and economic capital of India, pulls literate persons towards it for the sake of job from throughout the country which have directly impact on its higher literacy. Early start of education and a great deal of awareness among the people are responsible for comparatively very high literacy in Gr. Bombay district.

Even having only 7.6 percent urban population, Sindhudurg district has comparatively very high literacy next

LQ* denotes location quotient scores.

TABLE NO.5.5

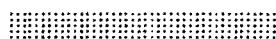
LITERACY IN MAHARASHTRA (1991)

Sr No	District	Total Literacy in percentage	Location Quotient
1	Gr.Bombay	72.57	1.330
2	Thane	58.80	1.078
3	Raigarh	53.81	0.986
4	Ratnagiri	53.27	0.976
5	Sindhudurg	67.25	1.233
6	Nashik	51.19	0.938
7	Dhule	42.17	0.773
8	Jalgaon	53.97	0.989
9	Ahmednagar	50.33	0.922
10	Pune	60.33	1.106
11	Satara	56.09	1.028
12	Sangli	54.22	0.994
13	Solapur	47.06	0.863
14	Kolhapur	57.52	1.054
15	Aurangabad	46.33	0.849
16	Jalna	36.89	0.676
17	Parbhani	38.15	0.699
18	Beed	40.03	0.734
19	Nanded	38.68	0.709
20	Osmanabad	44.36	0.813

Sr No	District	Total Literacy in percentage	Location Quotient
21	Latur	45.21	0.829
22	Buldhana	50.14	0.919
23	Akola	54.50	0.999
24	Amravati	59.29	1.087
25	Yavatmal	48.18	0.883
26	Wardha	60.61	1.111
27	Nagpur	62.78	1.151
28	Bhandara	54.72	1.003
29	Chandrapur	50.15	0.919
30	Gadchiroli	35.40	0.649
	Maharashtra	54.53	1.000

SOURCE : 1) Census of India 1991 (Provisional)

2) Author



THE MAHARASHTRA
LITERACY PATTERNS
(1991)

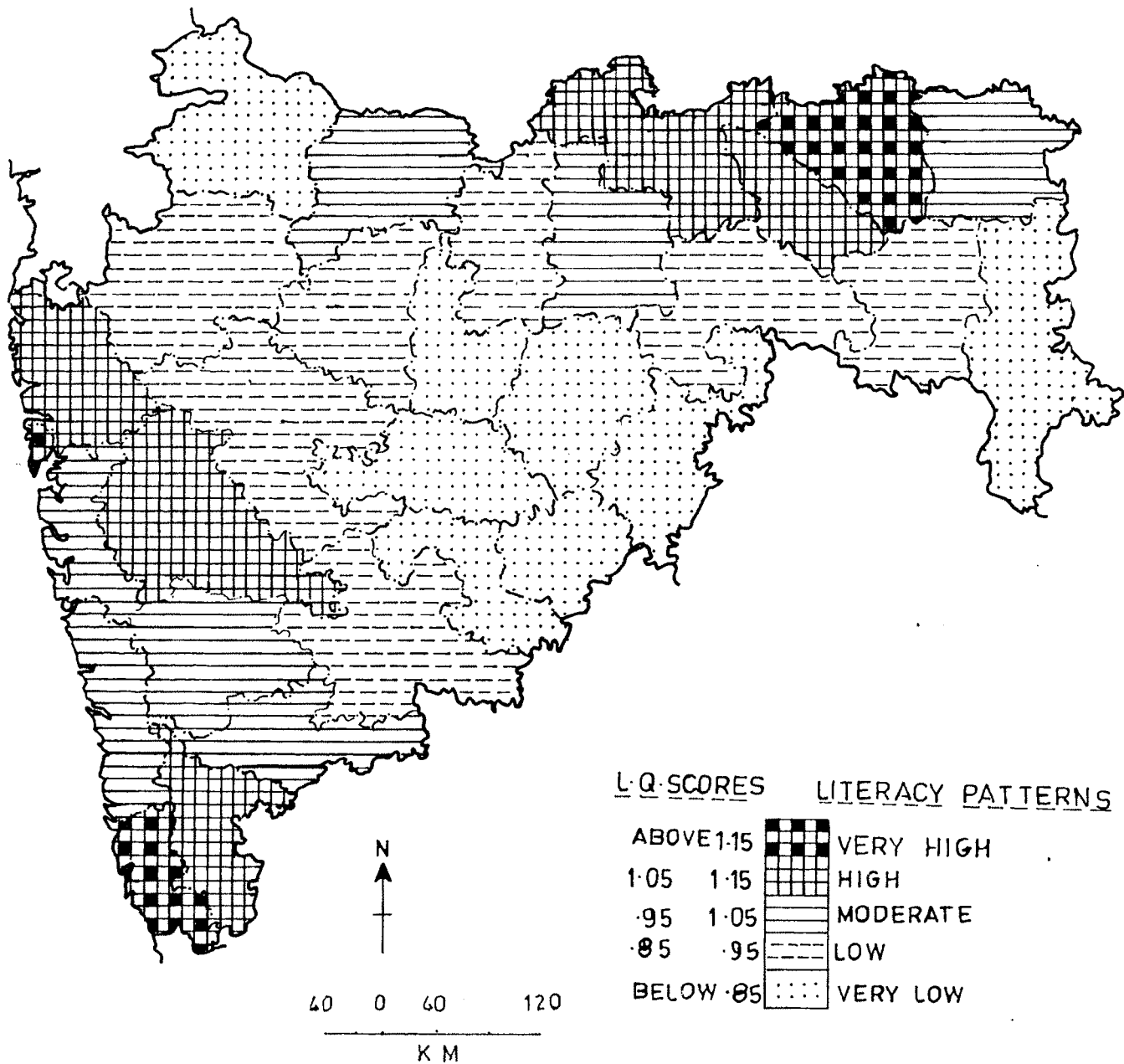


FIG. 5.4

to Gr.Bombay in the State due to shadow effect of Gr.Bombay and Christian society of Goa. Majority of male population from Sindhudurg district has migrated to Bombay for getting job and they are aware about their children's literacy. Consequently very high literacy is found in Sindhudurg district.

Due to fairly urbanized, industrial development and concentration of tertiary activities, literacy is found very high in Nagpur district.

[2] HIGH LITERACY :

Districts having location quotients in between 1.051 and 1.150 are included in this literacy pattern. High literacy is found in Pune, Amravati, Thane, Kolhapur and Wardha districts.

Long tradition of educational centre, high urbanisation industrial development and agricultural prosperity lead to high literacy in Pune district while high urbanisation, industrialization, development of tertiary activities and shadow effect of Gr.Bombay are responsible for high literacy rate in Thane district. High literacy in Kolhapur district is associated with urbanisation, agricultural and industrial development while due to development of few industries and tertiary activities (related to mineral resources) and adequate educational facilities Wardha district has high literacy.

[3] MODERATE LITERACY :

Districts having location quotients in between 0.951

to 1.050 are included in this category. In Satara, Bhandara, Akola, Sangli, Jalgaon, Raigarh and Ratnagiri districts literacy is moderate. All above districts except Raigarh and Ratnagiri, are agriculturally prosperous, industrially developing. Educational progress has been quite significance in Satara and Sangli districts. Some educational sansthas have provided wide educational facilities even before the independance. Jalgaon and Bhandara districts are fairly urbanised, agriculturally and industrially prosperous due to which moderate literacy is found in these districts.

Due to development of small scale industries and shadow effect of Gr.Bombay, Kolhapur and Satara districts, moderate literacy is found in Raigarh and Ratnagiri districts.

[4] LOW LITERACY :

Districts having location quotients between 0.851 and 0.950 are included in this category. Seven districts namely Nashik, Ahmednagar, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Yawatmal, Solapur and Aurangabad have low literacy.

Except Chandrapur district, all above districts are semi-arid, less urbanised and less industrially developed. Majority of the people in these districts are living under below poverty line and are engaged in primary activities. These are the causes of low literacy in above districts. In Chandrapur district literacy is low due to large share of tribal population and inadequate industrial development.



[5] VERY LOW LITERACY :

Districts which have location quotients less than 0.851 are included in this category. Latur, Osmanabad, Dhule, Beed, Nanded, Parbhani, Jalna and Gadchiroli districts have very low literacy.

Economically backward, less urbanisation, large share of scheduled caste and scheduled tribes, high percentage of agricultural workers, less awareness about education are the main causes for very low literacy in above districts.

5.8.0 CONCLUDING REMARK :

As there is difference in socio-economic and other characteristics in the State, uneven picture is seen regarding the level of literacy also. High rate of literacy is found in those districts which are highly urbanized, industrially developed and agriculturally prosperous. High literacy is found where differential in male - female and urban - rural literacy is less.

Districts, which are characterised by higher ratio of workers in primary activities, less urbanisation, wide range in male - female literacy and lack of economic development, have low rate of literacy.

There is a strong inverse correlation between general literacy and differential in male - female literacy.

The rural - urban disparity in literacy is very wide, showing that efforts towards modernization have as yet met only marginal success.

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