



A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY ON EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF SOUTHERN MOUZAS OF RIGID, PURULIA, WEST BENGAL

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ABSTRACT

Education has been observed as the very crucial development tool throughout the World. The education system in India has become a great movement, both in terms of resources allocated and the number of persons involved, these include, teachers, students and the administrators in all aspects. Since the post-independence period, there was noticed huge rate of expansion in education in India at all levels but till now light of education can't reach at all corner in our country. Especially most of the backward state in India facing lots of problem about elementary education. Purulia is the most backward state in West Bengal, here literacy rate is too poor than other regions. Here I selected Rigid Gram Panchayet (GP) for study purpose which is one of the extreme backward GP in respect to education. According to 2011 Indian Census Report 44.1% people are literate under which only 14.2% women are educated which highlighted the poor condition of education in Rigid. Higher education of that region also facing great threaten due to socio economic backwardness and lack of awareness. That's why here try to analyse the reasons behind the educational backwardness and how can we manage total circumstances. Objectives of the study are to find out the problems faced by the students in Schools, to analyse education condition of women, to interlink education and economic condition. If the government schools are not properly maintained and develop then there would be no development in the society as well as in the Country.

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INTRODUCTION

Education has been observed as the important development tool. The educational system in India has become a great achievement, both in terms of resources invention and the number of persons involved, these include, students, teachers and the administrators. Since post-independence period, there was expansion in education in India as well as in West Bengal at all levels. India being a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-linguistic country, people belonging to various custom, religious, faiths live side by side which is an important indicator of educational development. Every country or state is composed of material and a huge number of human resources. Development of a country depends on the proper utilization of material sources by human and gradual improvement of human resources. Proper development of unique human resources is primarily indicated through their educational status in all aspects.

Thus, education act as fourth necessity for man after food, clothing and shelter, in present competitive world. Education is representing as a powerful tool to campaign the thug competition that man is faced with at every perspective in life. The importance of education in India is gradually rising with passing time. Though India has always been a great source of learning since ancient time, but it still needs to improve not just on the quality of education or value of education but also on the number of people being educated properly. It is an ethical process of human enlightenment and empowerment for the achievement of higher and higher quality of life. Education helps women "In lightening the burden of tradition of ignorance and strict seclusion within the home, in equipping them with the expertise and knowledge required to play modern roles, in widening their horizons and in raising their general status in the society" (Akhtar 1992). Gender inequality and caste wise discrimination in education is extreme in India. Various studies (Sharma 2002, Hassan, Menon 2004, Rana *et al.*, 2005, Sandhya Rani 2010) have represent that education has made a significant contribution in improving the status of women in our society. Education of women is the most effective way to reducing the inequalities between women and men which ensuring the maximum participation of women in the social

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development process. Girls are less likely to access school, to remain in school or to achieve in education. Education helps men and women demands their rights and realize their affectivity in the economic, political as well as social areas. It is also the most effective way to lift people out of poverty and social discrimination. Education plays a particularly important role as a foundation for girls' development towards adult life and protected themselves from peripheral circumstances. It should be an inherent part of any strategy to address the gender-dependent discrimination against women and girls that remains dominant in many societies. The welfare and progress of a nation depends on the better quality of education prevailing in the country. In a democratic set up, the role of education plays an important role since democracy can function effectively only if there is an active involvement by the people and this participation comes only through education. Primary education is the backbone of educational pattern of a nation. Any system of education can never be successful so long as it does not have a sound primary education system, primary education influences the deep foundation of the special scheme for the development of the child coequal with his growing age. It is a stout factor for the development of a child's personality.

Educational Status in India: As per the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2012, 96.5% of all rural children between the ages of 6-14 were enrolled in school. This is the fourth annual survey to report enrolment above 96%. 83% of all rural 15-16-year-olds were enrolled in school. However, going forward, India will need to focus more on quality. According to 'Education Status Report of India' the number of literates in India is 763.5 million in census 2011, which represent 74.04% depends on overall population. Under the total literate persons 482.7 million literates are in rural areas and 280.8 million literates in urban areas. During the decade 2001-2011 202.8 million literates are increased, rural areas accounted for 120.8 million and urban areas 82.0 million. Uttar Pradesh (85.3 million) demarcated as the highest number of rural literates and Maharashtra (40.1 million) has recorded the highest number of literates in urban areas. But till now rate of enrolment in Primary (95%), Secondary (69%), Post-secondary (25%) is very poor in India. Different governmental project of India like National Literacy Mission (NLM, 1988), Operation Blackboard(1987), District Primary Education Programme (DPEP, 1994), National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE,1995), Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS,2001), Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA,2009), Girl education at elementary level, National Program for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL), Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV), Mahila Samakhya Scheme, National Policy of Education etc. plays important role for the development of education.

Table. Literacy Rate in India

Year	Literacy Rate (%)			Gap in Literacy
	Total	Male	Female	
1981	43.6	56.4	29.8	26.6
1991	52.2	64.1	39.3	24.8
2001	64.8	75.3	53.7	21.6
2011	74.0	82.1	65.5	16.6

Source: Census of India

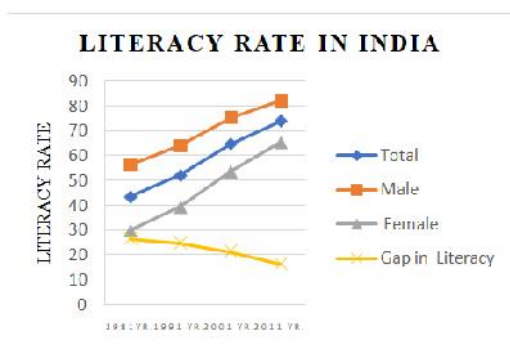


Figure 1. Literacy Rate of India

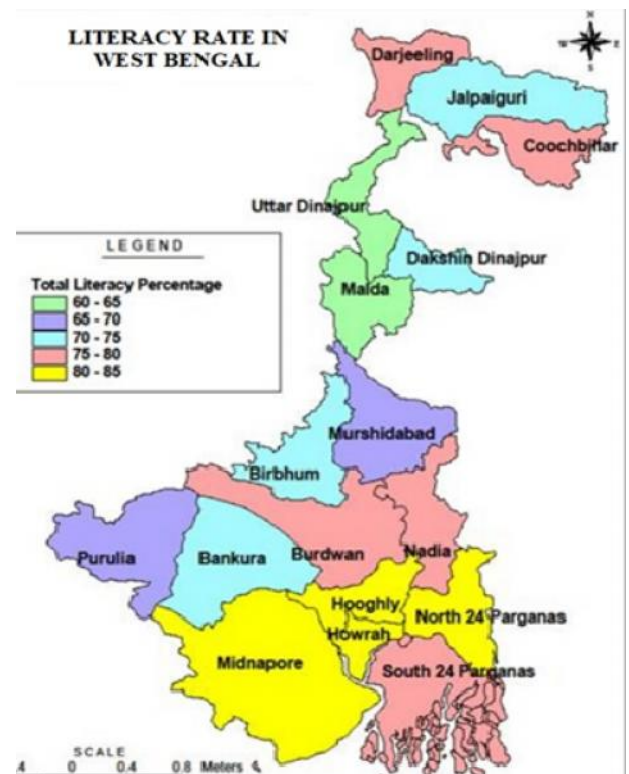


Figure 2. Literacy Rate in West Bengal (Census of India, 2011)

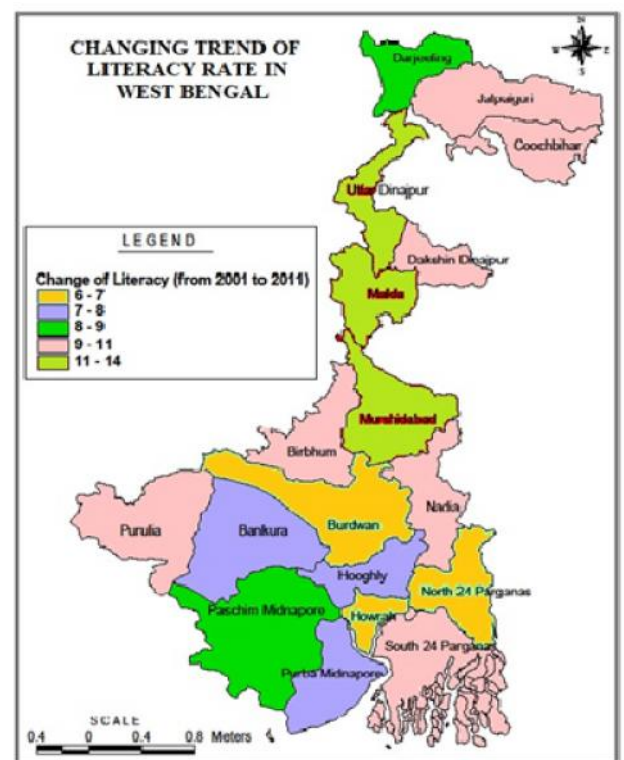


Figure 3. Changing Trend of Literacy Rate in West Bengal (Census of India, 2011)

Educational Status in West Bengal: West Bengal has a literacy rate of 77.08% according to the latest census report. Education in West Bengal has always played an important role in the development of education infrastructure of the country. But till now found so much disparity Figure 2: Literacy Rate in West Bengal (Census of India, 2011) of literacy rate in different districts of West Bengal. Different districts like Purba Medinipur, Kolkata, Hooghly remarked as high level of literacy rate and Uttar Dinajpur, Purulia, Malda, Murshidabad facing low rate of population.

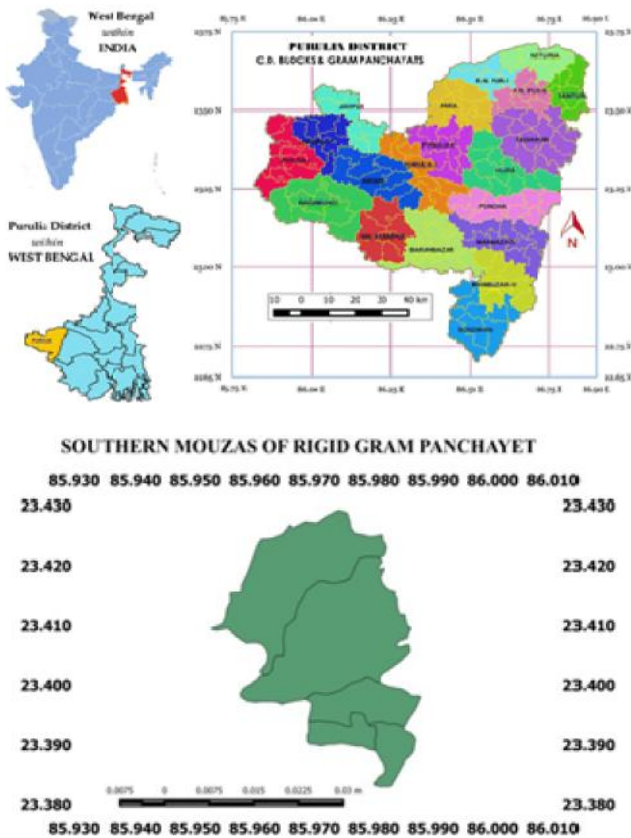


Figure 4. Study Area

Educational Status in Purulia: According to the 2011 census Purulia district has a population of 2,930,115. Literacy percentage of this district is 64.48%. The male literacy percentage is 77.86% and female literacy percentage is 50.52%. If we measure it excluding 0-6 year's population then literacy percentage of this district is 56.14%. The male literacy percentage is 74.18% and female literacy percentage is 37.15% which indicate excessive educational backwardness of that district. In rural and urban areas, the literacy are 53.82% and 75.96% respectively. The male literacy has been increased from 62.17% in 1991 to 74.18% in 2001. The female literacy has been increased from 23.24% in 1991 to 37.15% in 2001. In case of rural areas female literacy has been increased to 14.34% over 1991 and in urban areas it is 7.36% over 1991 but till now it is not a proper indication of development.

Relevance of the study: In West Bengal Purulia is one of the backward state, here literacy rate is too poor than other areas of India. Only 14.2% women are educated in Rigid Gram Panchayet of Jhalda-II C.D. Block which highlighted the poor condition of education in Rigid. Higher level of education of that region also facing great threaten. Physical, socio-cultural, economic and political challenges of that region increased its problem greatly. That's why I try to analyse the reasons in behind the educational backwardness and probable management procedure.

Objectives:

Following objectives are earmarked for the present study:

-) To find out the problems faced by the students in Schools.
-) To analyze education condition of women.
-) To interlink education and economic condition.

Study Area: Geographically Purulia is located at the west side of West Bengal. The district of Purulia has three Sub-divisions namely (a) Purulia Sadar (East) (b) Purulia Sadar (West) and (c) Raghunathpur. The district is divided into 20 Community Development (C.D.) Blocks. Purulia Sadar (East) Sub-division consists of 7 C.D.

Blocks namely Bandowan, Hura, Manbazar-I, Manbazar-II, Pancha, Purulia-I and Purulia-II. Purulia Sadar (West) Sub-Division consists of 7 C.D. Blocks namely Arsha, Baghmundi, Balarampur, Barabazar, Jaypur, Jhalda-I and Jhalda-II. Raghunathpur Sub-division consists of 6 C.D. Blocks namely. Kashipur, Neturia, Para, Raghunathpur-I, Raghunathpur-II and Santuri. Rigid is a Village in Jhalda-II Block in Purulia District of West Bengal State, India. It belongs to Burdwan Division. It is located 49 KM towards west from District headquarters of Purulia. 4 KM from Jhalda-I. 307 KM from State capital Kolkata. Extension of Jhalda-II through Northward 23°27'18.62" N, 85°57'22.55"E; Southward 23°23'03.95" N, 85°59'07.01"E; Westward 23°24'12.99" N, 85°55'11.90"E; Eastward 23°23'57.77" N, 85°59'48.04"E. Local Language of Rigid is Bengali. Total population of Rigid Village is 2312 and number of houses are 476. Female Population is 48.1%. Village literacy rate is 44.1% and the Female Literacy rate is 14.2% which is remarkably low in India as well as World. On the southern portion of Rigid village located different mouzas i.e., Rigid, Dimu, Beldih, Miridi and Lupungdi different Mouzas are located. That region of Rigid is mostly underdeveloped in all aspects.

Dataset and Methodology: The study followed descriptive method and both the quantitative and qualitative approach. The entire study is completed depends on primary and secondary data based. Relevant data is taken from different census reports, "Primary Census Abstract (PCA) of West Bengal", data from "Backward Caste Welfare" (BCW) department, Govt. of West Bengal, and publication from "Bureau of applied economics and statistics" are used as and when necessary. Some usual maps and data are also collected from Rigid Gram Panchayet Office (G.P.O.) and Jhalda-II Block Office. Maps are analysing through GIS, Q-GIS Maps software. Total 100 samples are collected depends on primary house hold survey. Which is maintained through stratified random sampling.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The development of the society, community and the nation area necessary concern; human resources can work towards the development of the community and nation, when they possess the awareness, knowledge and the skills, hence, the inception of knowledge, awareness and the development of skills will be applicable only through education.

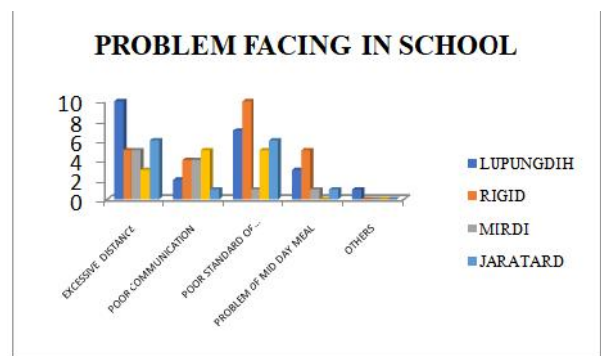


Figure 5. Problem Facing in School

Due to backwardness of maximum areas in facing very poor educational scenario which also noticed in the southern Mouzas of Rigid Gram Panchayet. Here mainly correlate in between different parameters like as excessive distance, poor communication, poor standard of education, problem of Mid-Day Meal etc. After the compression in between different Mouzas Lupungdi facing problem about the excessive distance in between school and locality. On the other hand, Rigid was facing poor standard of education as well as Mid-Day Meal problem. Economic condition of a region controlled the educational system a lot. Due to economic backwardness people of that region can not avail better educational facility. Here found maximum people are belong with BPL group. That's why they are not interested about education.

From the childhood they are directly engaged with different types of economical purpose like as wage labour, cultivator, business etc. for helping their family.

Due to lack of awareness among the common people they are not interested about education purpose. Educational infrastructure also very poor in that region which play great obstacle for educational backwardness.

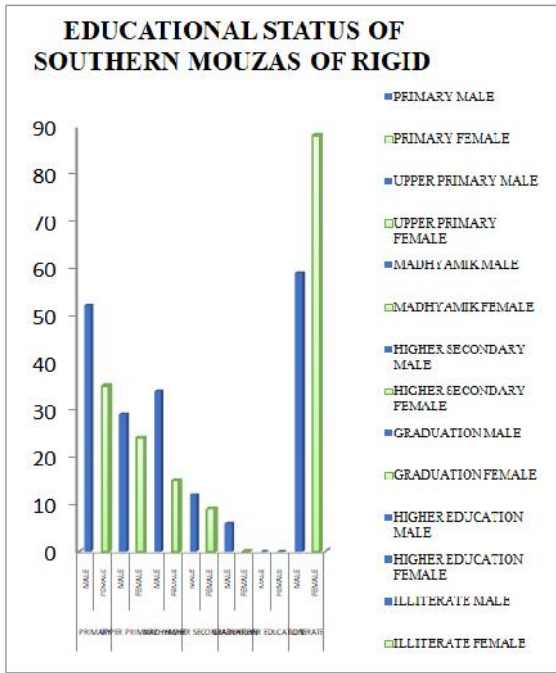


Figure 6. Educational Status of Rigid

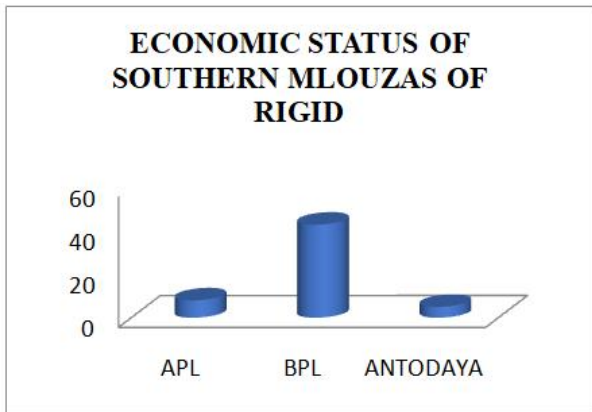


Figure 7. Economic Status of Rigid

Near about 56% people are belongs from illiterate group. That’s why superstition, black magic, totem etc. found in their blood. Here students are not interested about higher education. Maximum students of southern mouzas of Rigid Gram Panchayet mainly interested up to Madhyamika education.

Conclusion

Women’s education in India plays a very important role in the overall development of the country. If we strengthen women literacy condition it will be key indicator of developed nation. It not only helps in the development of the human resources, but in progressing the quality of life at home and outside. Education helps women’s self-esteem and status in the society.

Educated women of a society not only tend to promote the education of their girl children, but also provide better guidance to all their family members. Moreover, educated women can also help in their education of infant mortality rate and growth of the population and improving social awareness. Elementary education is the bases of the formal system of education. If a child has a proper or deep-rooted foundation then, half work of a child is done. It is the oncoming of education. If the government schools are not duly maintained and develop, then many poor children will not get proper education because their parents cannot grant private school. If there is no proper education for each and every child, then there would be no development in the society as well as in the Nation. That is why government must take initiative steps for the development and planting proper functions of elementary education in the Southern Mouzas of Rigid GP of Purulia District, West Bengal.

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