

**Status of Female Literacy in Haryana: A Spatio-Temporal Analysis (1971 to 2011)**<sup>1</sup>Ravinder, <sup>2</sup> Madhu and <sup>3</sup> Krishan Kumar<sup>1</sup>Student, Distance Education in Political Science of Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak (Haryana)<sup>2</sup>Department of Political Science, Singhania University, Pachheri Badi, Jhunjhunu-333515, Rajasthan (India)<sup>3</sup>Student, Department of Commerce, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra (Haryana)<sup>2</sup>Email: [madhuindora@yahoo.com](mailto:madhuindora@yahoo.com)

**Abstract:** In this paper present of the Tehsil-wise trend of female literacy rate in Haryana from 1971 to 2011. Which female literacy in Haryana has increased from 14.88 percent in 1971 to 65.97 percent in 2011 (Census of India). Despite also here is not suitable female literacy rate for human development in Haryana. It nearly is noted that 9.24 percent rural and 41.48 percent urban in 1971 and 60.05 percent rural and 76.91 percent urban in 2011 female are literate meaning thereby a large gap in literacy. Urban women literacy rates higher compared to rural areas in overall tehsils.

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**Keywords:** rural female literacy rate, urban female literacy rate.

**Introduction:**

Literacy is not merely about basic skills of reading and writing; it is considered as a stepping stone in the foundation of human resource development and is critical in enhancing the general quality of life of the people. The commonly accepted that gains of development cannot reach the general population until basic education and literacy are provided to all. It is the literature suggested that the education of women is particularly valuable as a strategic investment in human resources, it is well accepted that the education of women and girls has a tremendous impact not only on their own development, But also on that of their families and communities. It act as a catalyst in virtually every dimension of development with outcomes such as reduced fertility, (TFR) reduced infant mortality, (IMR) increased education attainment, better family health, higher productivity and general improvement in the nation's economic situation. It is shocking to trend that, the Asia-Pacific region is home to three-quarter of the world's illiterate population (ESCAP). The statistics also highlight that out of one billion illiterates in the world, 66 percent are women. In case India, which is second largest population country in the world has effective literacy rate 74 percent. It nearly be noted that 82.14 percent men and 65.46 percent female are literate meaning thereby a large gender gap in literacy. Within India, there are state and region which have large variation in male-female literacy rate and level of economic development.

Generally, it is considered that illiteracy is both a cause and consequence of poverty, deprivation and underdevelopment. In this context, the present study aims

to study the female literacy in state of Haryana which is one the developed state of India.

**Objectives**

- To study the Tehsil-wise spatial variation in female literacy in Haryana from 1971 to 2011.
- To analyze the rural and urban differential in female literacy, 1971 to 2011.

**Study Area:** Haryana state that has been taken as study area is situated in the north western part of India. The state of Haryana was carved out of the composite state of Punjab on the 1<sup>st</sup> November, 1966. The state is lying between 27° 39'N to 30° 55'51" N latitudes and 74° 28'80" E to 77 ° 36'05" E longitudes. The total area of state is 44212sq. km. It form 1.3 percent of total area of the country and occupied the seventeenth position in area as compared with other state and union territories. The Haryana plain is part of the Indo-Gangetic plain; formed by alluvial deposits of the Himalayan Rivers. It is bounded by Himachal Pradesh in the north, uttar Pradesh and Delhi in the east, Punjab and Chandigarh on north-west and Rajasthan in the south and south-west.

**Database and Methodology**

The present study is mainly based on secondary data, which is collected from Census of India, Primary Census Abstract in Haryana by Directorate of Census Operations in Chandigarh. The period selected for study purpose is 1971 to 2011. In the Indian census a person is recorded as literate if he or she is able to read and write a simple message with understanding in any language. From 1971 to 1981 censuses, all children below the age of 5 years were regarded as illiterate. In the 1991 census, however, all children below the age of 7 years were considered as illiterate. Also, to

compute refined literacy rate the base population was changed from the total to “population aged 7 years and above. An attempt has been made to tabulate process, categorization, analyze and interpret the data and

cartographic techniques. Tehsil-wise spatial variation in female literacy rates has been shown on maps by using choropleth method.

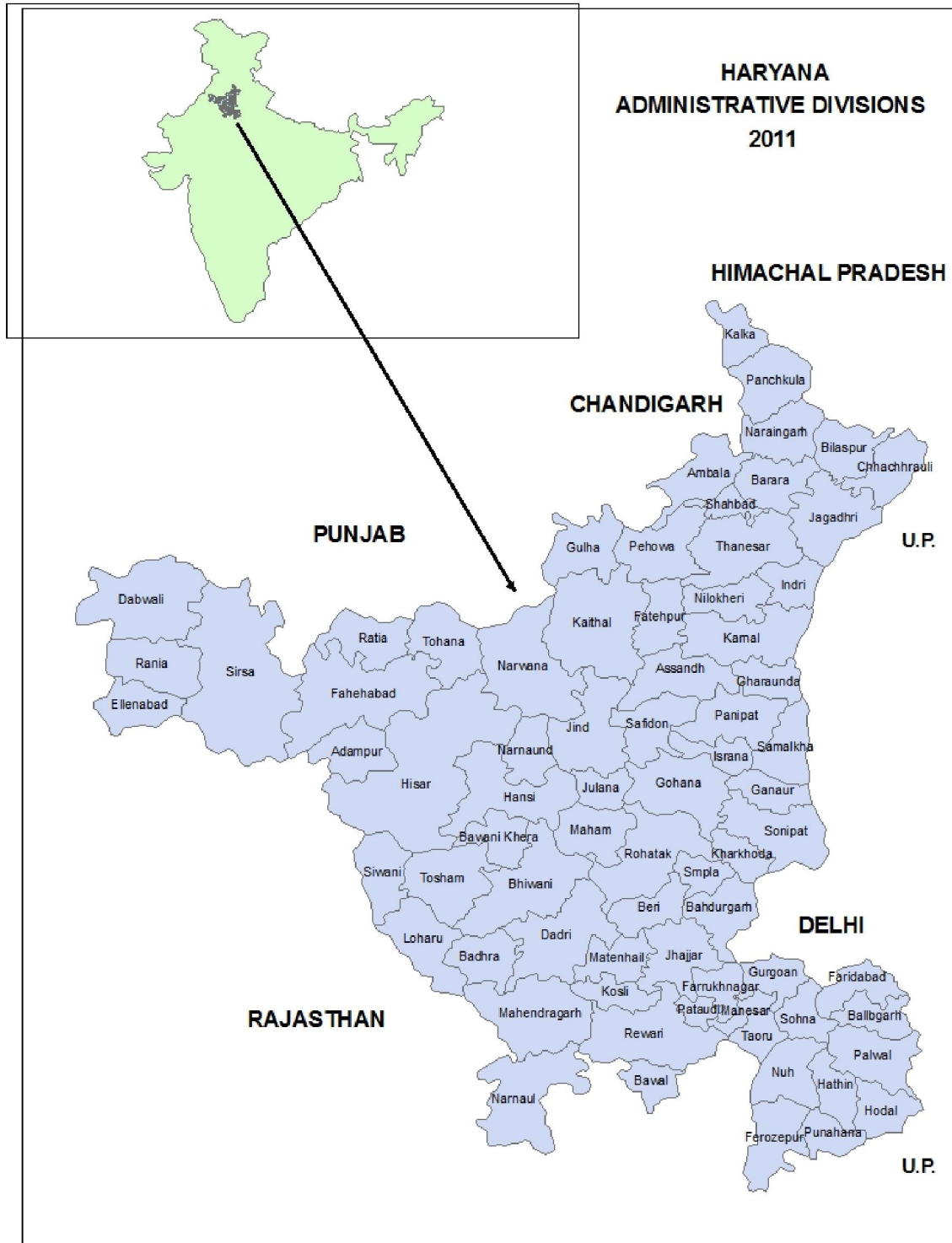


Fig. 1.1

**Table 1 Total Female Literacy Rate in Haryana: 1971-2011**

Literacy Rate (Percent)	No. of Tehsil (1971)	No. of Tehsil (1981)	No. of Tehsil (1991)	No. of Tehsil (2001)	No. of Tehsil (2011)
<15	23(71.88)	8(20.51)	2(3.77)	-	-
15.01-25.00	7(21.87)	19(48.72)	3(5.66)	3(4.06)	-
25.01-35.00	2(6.25)	10(25.64)	18(33.96)	1(1.35)	2(2.70)
35.01-45.00	-	2(5.13)	16(31.19)	6(8.11)	2(2.70)
45.01-55.00	-	-	10(18.87)	32(43.24)	2(2.70)
55.01-65.00	-	-	4(7.55)	25(33.78)	34(45.95)
65.01-75.00	-	-	-	7(9.46)	29(39.19)
>75	-	-	-	-	5(6.76)
Total	32(100)	39(100)	53(100)	74(100)	74(100)

Source: Census of India, Primary Census Abstract in Haryana by Directorate of Census Operations in Chandigarh (1971 to 2011).

**Table 2 Rural Female Literacy Rate in Haryana: 1971-2011**

Literacy Rate (Percent)	No. of Tehsil (1971)	No. of Tehsil (1981)	No. of Tehsil (1991)	No. of Tehsil (2001)	No. of Tehsil (2011)
<5	5(15.62)	1(2.56)	-	-	-
5.01-15.00	25(78.13)	21(53.85)	1(1.89)	-	-
15.01-25.00	2(6.25)	14(35.90)	12(22.64)	4(5.41)	-
25.01-35.00	-	3(7.69)	18(33.96)	1(1.35)	2(2.70)
35.01-45.00	-	-	19(35.85)	14(18.92)	1(1.35)
45.01-55.00	-	-	3(5.66)	33(44.59)	5(6.76)
55.01-65.00	-	-	-	21(28.38)	43(58.11)
>65	-	-	-	1(1.35)	23(31.08)
Total	32(100)	39(100)	53(100)	74(100)	74(100)

Source: Census of India, Primary Census Abstract in Haryana by Directorate of Census Operations in Chandigarh (1971 to 2011).

## Result and Discussion

Table 1, Fig. 2.1 shows the tehsil-wise trend of female literacy rate in Haryana and from 1971 to 2011. Total female literacy improved from twenty three tehsils (less than 15 percent) and two tehsils (more than 25 percent) in 1971 to two tehsils (less than 35 percent) and five tehsils (more than 75 percent) in 2011. It is impact highest and lowest literacy by administrative Centre, service, industrialization, agricultural activities, casual labor, and capital region in Haryana. The literacy shows wide variation in Haryana. It is high literacy region north, east and south-east region and low literacy south, west, south-west in Haryana.

In 1971, there are thirty two tehsils, out of which, Twenty three tehsils have lowest category total female literacy (less than 15 percent), seven tehsils (15 to 25 percent) and two tehsils (more than 25 percent) covering 71.88 percent, 21.87 percent and 6.25 percent area of the state respectively (Table 1, Fig. 2.1).

In 1981, there are thirty nine tehsils, out of which, twenty seven tehsils have lowest category total female literacy (less than 25 percent), ten tehsils (25 to 35 percent) and two tehsils (more than 35 percent), covering 69.23 percent, 25.64 percent and 5.13 percent area of the state respectively (Table 1 Fig. 2.1).

In 1991, there are fifty three tehsils, out of which, twenty three tehsils have lowest category total female literacy (less than 35 percent), twenty six tehsils (35 to 55 percent) and highest category four tehsils (more than 55 percent), covering 43.39 percent, 49.06

percent and 7.55 percent area of the state respectively. The most important reason behind the increase in literacy is the new definition and concept of literacy in the census which excludes the population in the age-group of 0 to 6 years from the total population. In this way, the 1991 census uses the term 'literacy rate' in relation to the age-group of seven years and above (Table 1, Fig. 2.1).

In 2001, there are seventy four tehsils, out of which, ten tehsils having lowest category total female literacy (less than 45 percent), fifty seven tehsils (45 to 65 percent) and highest category seven tehsils (more than 65 percent) covering 13.51 percent 77.02 percent and 9.46 percent area of the state respectively (Table 1, Fig. 2.1).

In 2011, there are seventy four tehsils, out of which, six tehsils having lowest category total female literacy (less than 55 percent), sixty three tehsils (55 to 75 percent), and highest category five tehsils (more than 75 percent) covering 8.1 percent, 85.14 percent and 6.76 percent of the state respectively (Table 1, Fig. 2.1). The female literacy is very low in Haryana, only five tehsil has more than 75 percent female literacy in 2011. Literacy influences other such attributes of population as fertility, mortality, mobility, occupations etc. which, the socio-economic transformation of a society is taking place. Thus the analysis of literacy patterns and trends therein is of immense significance for a population geographer.

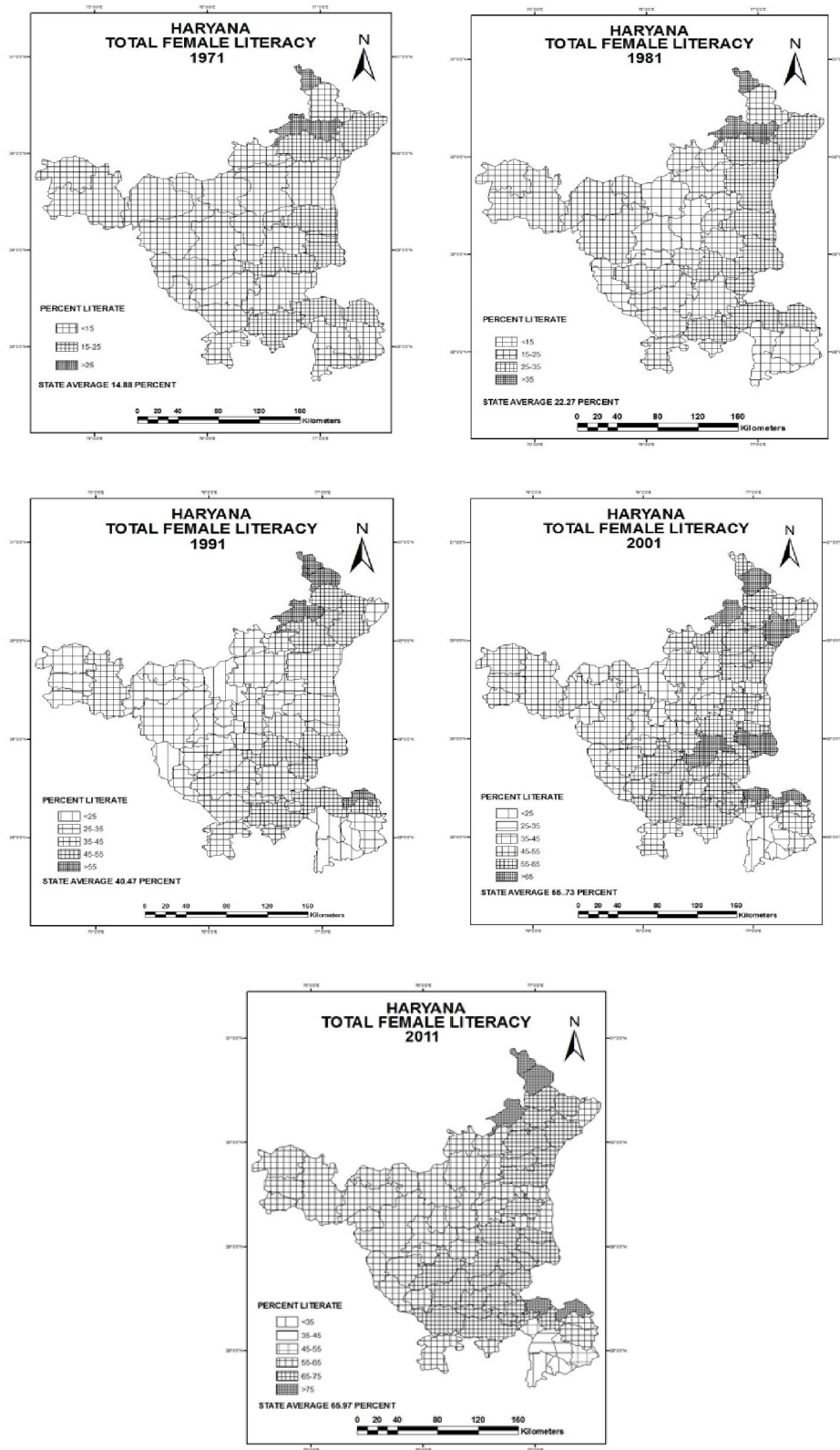


Fig. 2.1

Table 2, Fig. 3.1 shows the tehsil-wise trend of female literacy rate in Haryana from 1971 to 2011. It is very low rural female literacy rate in Haryana. The literacy rate improved from five tehsils (less than 5 percent) and only two tehsils (more than 15 percent) in 1971 to two tehsils (less than 35 percent) and twenty three tehsils (more than 65 percent) in 2011. The rural female literacy is mainly affected of social-economic factor in Haryana. The rural female literacy is very poor condition of the state. It is impact religious, castes, traditional rules, son preference, poverty, women status, and women participation etc. Thus, it is very low literacy in the south, south-west, west part of the state.

In 1971, there are thirty two tehsils, out of which, five tehsils having lowest category rural female literacy (less than 5 percent), twenty five tehsils (5 to 15 percent) and highest category only two tehsils (more than 15 percent) covering 15.62 percent, 78.13 percent and 6.25 percent area of the state respectively (Table 2, Fig. 3.1).

In 1981, there are thirty nine tehsils, out of which, twenty two tehsils having lowest category rural female literacy (less than 15 percent), fourteen tehsils (15 to 25 percent) and highest category three tehsils (more than 25 percent) covering 56.41 percent, 35.90 percent and 7.69 percent area of the state respectively (Table 2, Fig. 3.1).

In 1991, there are fifty three tehsils, out of which, thirteen tehsils having lowest category rural female literacy (less than 25 percent), thirty seven tehsils (25 to 45 percent) and highest category three tehsils (more than 45 percent) covering 24.53 percent, 69.81 percent and 5.66 percent area of the state respectively. It is wide changing in the literacy by changing definition since, 1991 census (Table 2, Fig. 3.1).

In 2001, there are seventy four tehsils, out of which, five tehsils having lowest category rural female literacy (less than 35 percent), forty seven tehsils (35

to 55percent), twenty one tehsils (55 to 65 percent) and highest category only one tehsils (more than 65 percent) covering 6.76 percent, 63.51 percent, 28.38 percent and 1.35 percent area of the state respectively (Table 2, Fig. 3.1).

In 2011, there are seventy four tehsils, out of which, three tehsils having lowest category rural female literacy (less than 45 percent), forty eight tehsils (45 to 65 percent) and highest category twenty three tehsils (more than 65 percent) covering 4.05 percent, 64.87 percent and 31.08 percent area of the state respectively (Table 2, Fig. 3.1).

Table 3, Fig. 4.1 shows the tehsil-wise trend of female literacy rate in Haryana from 1971 to 2011. In Haryana according to total areas and rural areas female literacy rate is better in the urban areas. The literacy rate improved from three tehsils (less than 25 percent) and seven tehsils (more than 45 percent) in 1971 to two tehsils (less than 45 percent) and only one tehsils (more than 85 percent) in 2011. Thus, rural-urban differential in female literacy rates from the differences in the type of economy, degree of concentration of education institutions, status granted to the females, and migratory patterns of the two areas.

In 1971, there are thirty two tehsils, out of which, three tehsils having lowest category urban female literacy (less than 25 percent), twenty two tehsils (25 to 45 percent) and highest category seven tehsils (more than 45 percent) covering 9.38 percent, 68.75 percent and 21.87 percent area of the state respectively (Table 3, Fig. 4.1).

In 1981, there are thirty nine tehsils, out of which, seven tehsils having lowest category urban female literacy (less than 35 percent), twenty nine tehsils (35 to 55 percent), only two tehsils (more than 55 percent) and highest category one tehsils (no urban population) covering 17.95 percent, 76.32 percent, 5.12 percent and 2.54 percent area of the state respectively (Table 3, Fig. 4.1).

**Table 3. Urban Female Literacy Rate in Haryana: 1971-2011**

Literacy Rate (percent)	No. of Tehsil (1971)	No. of Tehsil (1981)	No. of Tehsil (1991)	No. of Tehsil (2001)	No. of Tehsil (2011)
<25	3(9.38)	2(5.13)	-	-	-
25.01-35.00	10(31.25)	5(12.81)	-	-	-
35.01-45.00	12(37.5)	16(41.03)	5(9.43)	-	-
45.01-55.00	7(21.87)	13(33.33)	13(24.52)	7(6.76)	2(2.70)
55.01-65.00	-	2(5.13)	17(32.08)	18(24.32)	9(12.16)
65.01-75.00	-	-	13(24.54)	33(44.60)	33(44.60)
75.01-85.00	-	-	2(3.77)	7(9.46)	26(35.14)
>85	-	-	-	-	1(1.35)
No Urban Population	-	1(2.57)	3(5.66)	9(12.16)	3(4.05)
<b>Total</b>	<b>32(100)</b>	<b>39(100)</b>	<b>53(100)</b>	<b>74(100)</b>	<b>74(100)</b>

**Source: Census of India, Primary Census Abstract in Haryana by Directorate of Census Operations in Chandigarh (1971 to 2011).**



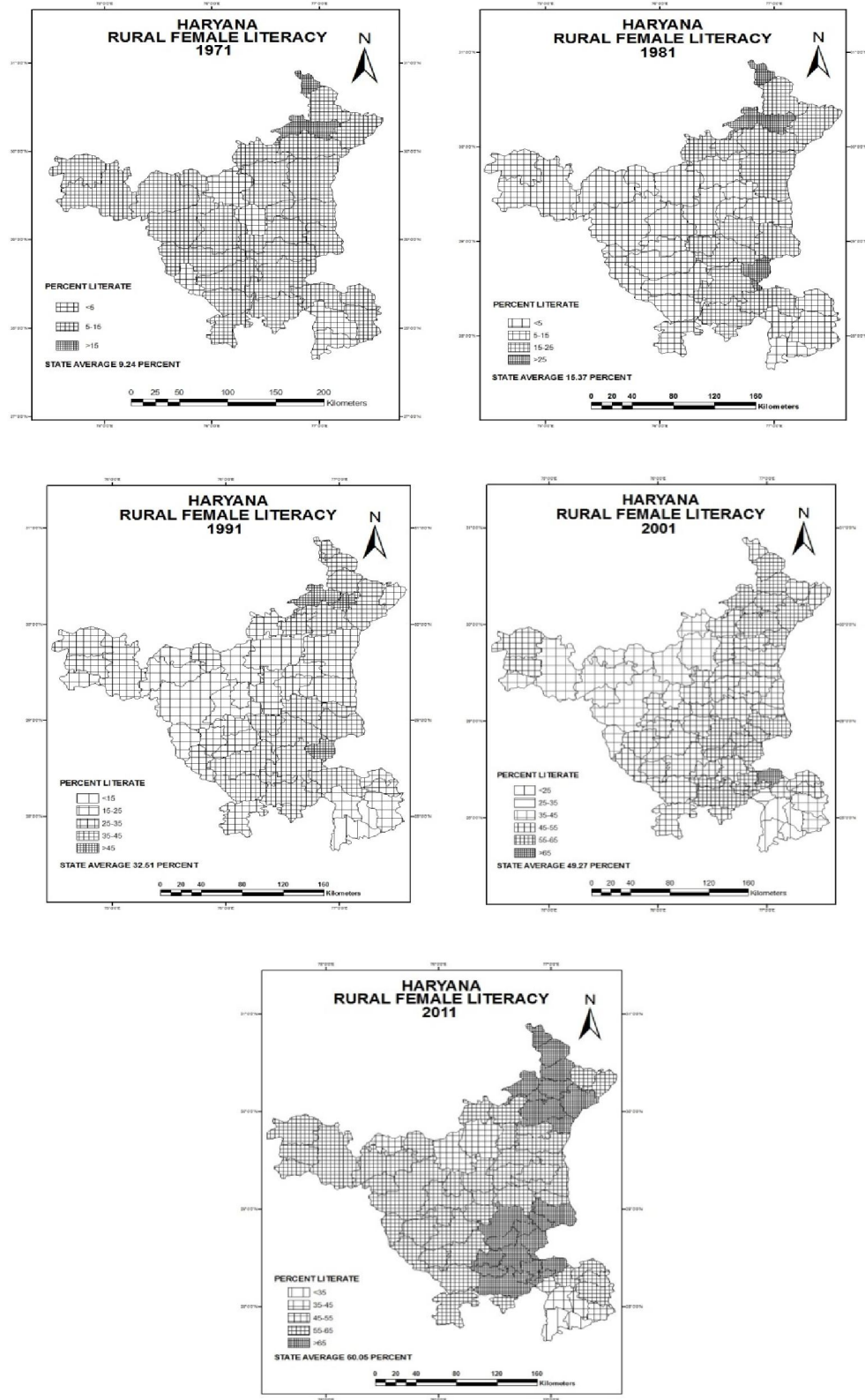


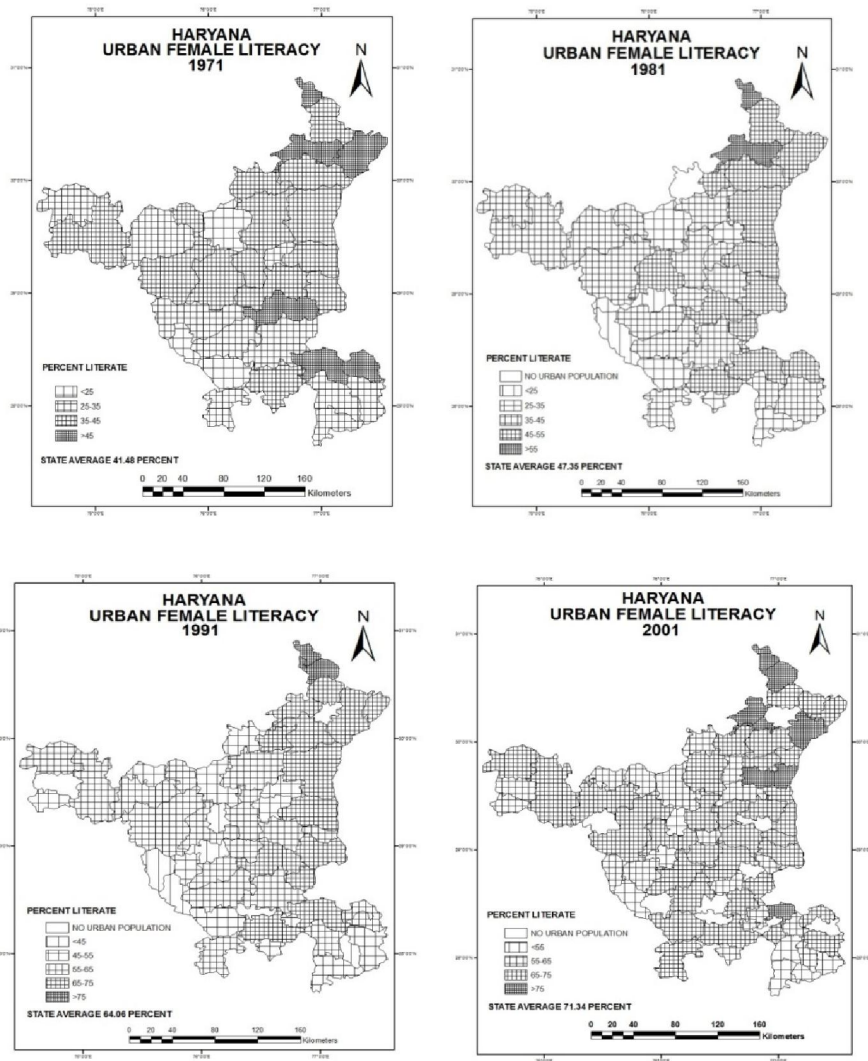
Fig. 3.1

In 1991, there are fifty three tehsils, out of which, five tehsils having lowest category urban female literacy (less than 45 percent), twenty nine tehsils (45 to 65 percent) and highest category fifteen tehsils (65 more than percent) and three tehsils (no urban population) covering 9.43 percent, 54.72 percent, 30.19 percent and 5.66 percent area of the state respectively. The most important reason behind the increase in urban female literacy is the new definition and concept of literacy in the census of 1991 (Table 3, Fig. 4.1).

In 2001, there are seventy four tehsils, out of which, seven tehsils having lowest category urban female literacy (less than 55 percent), fifty tehsils (55 to 75 percent) and highest category eight tehsils (75 more than percent) and nine tehsils (no urban population) covering 9.46 percent, 69.92 percent, 9.46

percent and 12.16 percent area of the state respectively (Table 3, Fig. 4.1).

In 2011, there are seventy four tehsils, out of which, eleven tehsils having lowest category urban female literacy (less than 65 percent), fifty nine tehsils (65 to 85 percent), and highest category one tehsils (more than 85 percent) and three tehsils (no urban population) covering 14.86 percent, 79.74 percent, 1.35 percent and 4.05 percent area of the state respectively (Table 3, Fig. 4.1). Degree of urbanization has often been referred to as another determinant of literacy. There is a positive correlation between literacy rate and degree of development. Thus, the most urbanized societies have very high or even universal literacy rates while the rural societies usually display low level of literacy rates.



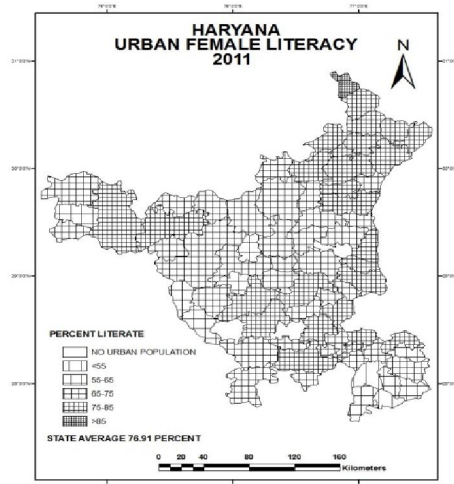


Fig.4.1

### Trends of Rural and Urban Differential in Female Literacy, 1971 to 2011

The analysis is female literacy differential by rural-urban areas. Table 2 and 3 reveals the female literacy rate improved from 1971 to 2011. Where, five tehsil (less than 5 percent) and two tehsil (more than 15 percent) is very low rural female literacy in 1971 and eight tehsil (less than 55 percent), and twenty three tehsil (more than 65 percent) rural female literacy in 2011. While, three tehsil (less than 25 percent) and seven tehsil (more than 45 percent) is very low urban female literacy in 1971 and eleven tehsil (less than 55 percent) and only one tehsil (more than 85 percent) urban female literacy in 2011. It is continue increase in the female literacy from rural and urban areas of Haryana.

A considerable growth has taken place in literacy 20<sup>th</sup> century, but it has not been satisfactory. It is however; well know that this progress is mainly concentrated in the urban areas, while the vast rural areas are far behind. There Tehsils having very high differential in the female literacy. The reasons for these differentials are low urbanization, primarily traditional agricultural economy, and high concentration of socio-economically backward sections of the society, inadequate educational infrastructure and late start of education in rural areas. There Tehsils are found to be grouped into a number of regions of which north, north-east, east and south-east of the state.

The general picture emerged from this discussion is that there is a gradual increase in rural-urban low differential from north in the capital of Haryana and south-east industrialization, near to Delhi.

### Conclusion

The above discussion reveals that there is overall significant increasing recorded in female literacy rates in the state. That is increased from 14.88 percent to 65.97 percent between the years 1971 to 2011. If also we say that here is not suitable female literacy basis human development and economically developed state of India. There is a major difference found in female literacy rates between rural and urban areas on Tehsils level. Urban female literacy rates are substantially higher as compared to rural areas in whole Tehsils of the Haryana. However, in rural areas, female literacy rates disparity is higher than the corresponding female literacy rate as compared to urban areas. It is relatively higher rate of increase of rural female literacy than urban areas. It is backward state in the female literacy. But economic base developed state, while social tradition is very hard. So there is establishing low female literacy in the state. In the south region of the state has display the lowest female literacy rate. In north and west region of the state has display the highest female literacy rate. Hence, the literacy of rural-urban found higher deference in the study area so primary requirements should be concern to the female literacy in the development planning. Female literacy rateis a wholeneed to be increase as to bring overall development.

### Corresponding author:

Dr. Madhu

Department of Political Science,  
Singhania University, Pachari Badi, Jhunjhunu-  
333515, Rajasthan (India)

Mob. +91-9813479142

E-mail:madhuindora@yahoo.com



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