

A study of Correlation between Literacy Rate and Sex Ratio in Haryana: Trend and Emerging Issues

Ruchi

Research Scholar, Department of Economics, M.D. University Rohtak

Email – ruchi4527@gmail.com

“Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenges of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance.”

- Kofi Annan

Abstract

Sex ratio is significant social indicators of the status of women in any given society. Haryana is one of the few states in the country where number of males are greater than females. Evidences from majority of the districts shows females birth is as burden on family may it be financial, social, emotions and mental. The results show that lowest child sex ratio in the age group 0-6 has been reported by the 2001 and 2011 census. Haryana is one of those states which is highly affected with declining and imbalance of child sex ratio. There are many reasons behind it but the most important fact is the presence of a strong son preferences. The study shows the child sex ratio challenges, emerging issues and also highlighted literacy rate in Haryana. Second

is to examine the correlation between literacy rates and sex ratio in Haryana district. Third is to examine the government initiatives or policies in improving the sex ratio in Haryana. The study gives the some suggestions for improvement of the socio-economic and cultural fundamentals and which policy adopted by the government to save the child girls.

Key words: *Child sex ratio, Literacy rate, Census of India, Population, Infant mortality rate, Spearman's Rank Correlation.*

Introduction:-

Haryana emerged as a separate state of north India on November 1st, 1966. The capital of the Haryana is Chandigarh. The state has an area of 44212 sq. km. covering 1.34 per cent of total geographic area in the country. For

administrative purposes the state is divided into 6 Divisions, 22 districts, 71 sub-divisions, 93 tahsils, 49 sub-tahsils, 140 development blocks, 154 towns and 6841 inhabited villages. There are 90 Legislative Assembly seats and 10 Parliamentary seats and there is no Legislative Council in Haryana (Statistical Abstract of Haryana 2015-16).

Haryana is one of the few states in the country where number of males are greater than females. Over the past 110 years, sex ratio in Haryana has been as low as 835 in 1911 and as high as 877 in 2011. As per 2001 census the sex ratio per thousand males which shows 861. The census of 2011 shows an increase of 16 females per 1000 males. Which shows Haryana is highly affected with declining and imbalance of child sex ratio as compared to other states of India. Economic survey 2017-18 focused on the gender issues against backdrop of development and to extend the support to the movements for women's right. For the concern of violence being faced by young girls the government launched "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" Campaign on January 22, 2015; which means "Save the Daughter, Educate the Daughter", it targeted the declining sex ratio in India. Through this

campaign, government wants to improve the role and status of women and create awareness and build social norms (Economic Survey of India 2017-18). Sex ratio is defined as the number of females per thousand males in the population and is significant social indicators to measure the extent of existing equity between males and females in any given society and literacy rate is defined as any person above the age of 7 years, who can read and write in any language, is treated as literate. Infant mortality rate defined as the number of deaths of infants under age 1 per 1000 live births in a given year.

Objectives of study: -

- To analysis the trends of sex ratio in India and Haryana (1901 to 2011).
- To examine the correlation between literacy rates and sex ratio in Haryana district.
- To study the comparative sex ratio, challenges, emerging issues and literacy rate in Haryana.
- To examine the government initiatives or policies in improving the sex ratio in Haryana.

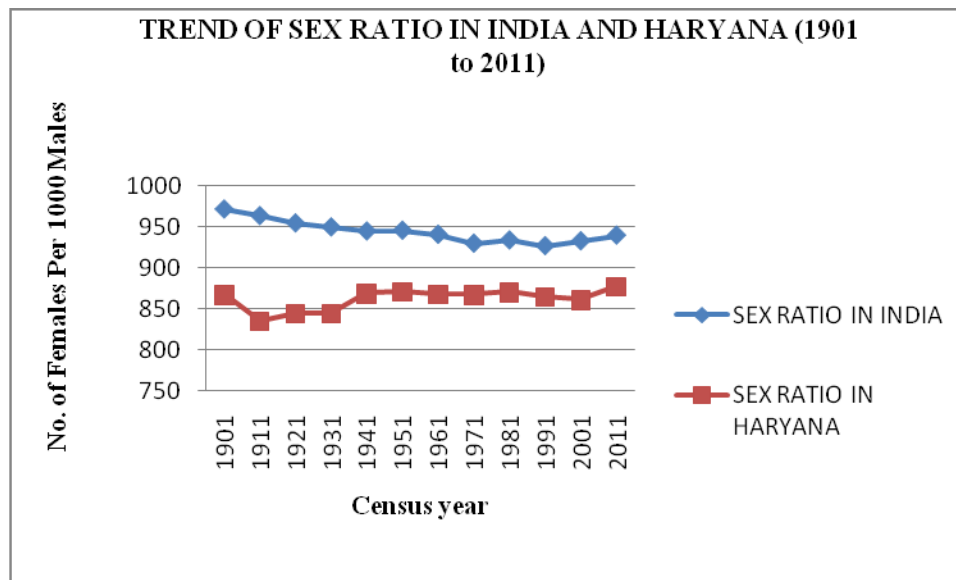
Data and Research Methodology: -

The study used secondary data and the relevant data have been taken from mainly Census of India 2011, Haryana Statistical Abstract (2015-16), Haryana Development Report, and Report of National Commission for Women. Spearman’s Rank Correlation

method has been used to analyze the data. This method is used in calculating the correlation between the two variables; which are literacy and sex ratio among Haryana districts in this case. This method is useful to the calculation of the correlation between literacy and sex ratio in Haryana district.

Result and Discussion:-

Figure-1 Trend of Sex Ratio in India and Haryana (1901 to 2011)



Source: Census of India and Report of National Commission for Women

Sex ratio of India and Haryana during last 12 decades is presented in figure 1. And it shows the sex ratio India and Haryana depict the fluctuating trend over the study period. According to 1901 census, India sex ratio was 972 females to 1000 males while the sex ratio of Haryana was 867 females to 1000 males. The sex ratio of Haryana decreased drastically between the year 1901

and 1911. After 1901 the India sex ratio declined from 964 in 1911 to 940 females out of the 1000 males in 2011. In Haryana the sex ratio also decline after 1901 but it improved from 869 females in 1941 to 877/1000 in 2011. But comparative to all states of India Haryana shows the minimum sex ratio.

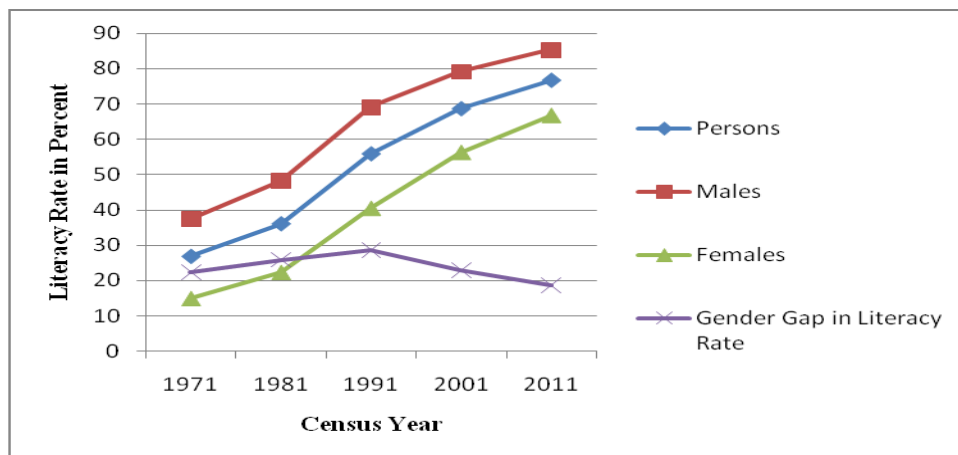
Result of comparative sex ratio, child sex ratio and literacy rate in Haryana districts

The study shows the comparative sex ratio, child sex ratio and literacy rate of Haryana districts. As per the 2001 census the sex ratio of Haryana was 861. The maximum sex ratio was recorded in Mahendragarh district which was 918 and the minimum sex ratio was recorded in Panchkula which was 823. During 2011 census, the sex ratio in Haryana was 877, which shows the sex ratio increases by 16 females per 1000 males. In Haryana, Mewat is the only district, where the number of females is more than that of the males. In that district sex ratio is 906 females to 1000 males. And the minimum sex ratio is recorded in Sonipat district which is 853.

The sex ratio in Haryana in the age group 0-6 has increased from 819 in 2001 to 830 in 2011. During 2001 maximum child sex ratio was recorded in Mewat district was 893 and the minimum sex ratio was recorded in Kurukshetra which was 771. In 2011 the child sex ratio of Haryana Jhajjar district recorded the minimum sex ratio which is 774. And again the Mewat district is on the top with 903 child sex ratio.

The decadal (2001-2011) growth rate in Haryana is 19.90 per cent. The highest decadal (2001-2011) growth rate recorded in Gurgaon district which is 73.93 per cent. And the lowest decadal growth rate in Jhajjar district which is 8.73 per cent.

Figure-2 Literacy rate in Haryana (1971-2011)

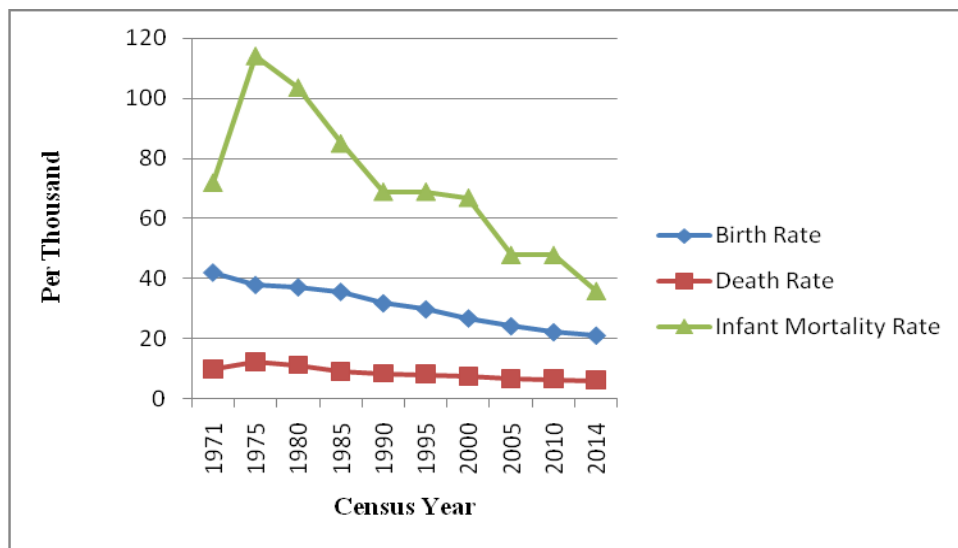


Source: Various Census Reports, Haryana

Figure 2 presents the comparative literacy rate of Haryana. According to this figure the literacy rate of male increased from 37.3 per cent in 1971 to 85.4 per cent in 2011 but female literacy rate also shows an impressive growth from a lowly 14.9 per

cent in 1971 to a remarkable 66.8 per cent in 2011. The gap between male-female literacy rates was declined from 22.4 per cent in 1971 to 18.6 per cent in 2011 which indicate positive attitude in favor of female.

Figure-3 Birth rate, Death rate & Infant Mortality rate in Haryana



Source: Haryana Statistical Abstract (2015-16)

Figure 3 shows that birth rate has declined from 42.1 in 1971 to 21.2 in 2014 as well as death rate also declined from 9.9 in 1971 to 6.1 in 2014. Infant mortality rate in Haryana

during the time period from 1971 to 2014 continuously declined but not much as birth rate and death rate. The situation has so far remained less than satisfactory.

Table-1 Correlation between Literacy Rate and Sex Ratio 2011

DISTRICT	LITERACY RATE	RANK	SEX RATIO	RANK	D	D ²
Ambala	82.9	4	882	9	-5	25
Panchkula	83.4	2	870	15	-13	169
Yamunanagar	78.9	9	877	12	-3	9
Kurukshetra	76.7	12	889	6	6	36

Kaithal	70.6	17	880	10	7	49
Karnal	76.4	14	886	7	7	49
Panipat	77.5	11	861	18	-7	49
Sonipat	80.8	6	853	20	-14	196
Rohtak	80.4	8	868	17	-9	81
Jhajjar	80.8	7	861	19	-12	144
Faridabad	83.0	3	871	14	-11	121
Palwal	70.3	19	879	11	8	64
Gurgaon	84.4	1	853	21	-20	400
Mewat	56.1	21	906	1	20	400
Rewari	82.2	5	898	3	2	4
Mahendragarh	78.9	10	894	5	5	25
Bhiwani	76.7	13	884	8	5	25
Jind	72.7	16	870	16	0	0
Hisar	73.2	15	871	13	2	4
Fatehabad	69.1	20	903	2	18	324
Sirsa	70.4	18	896	4	14	196

Source: Haryana Development Report and Census of India

Spearman's Rank Correlation method has been used to analyze the data. This method is used in calculating the correlation between the two variables; which are literacy and sex ratio among Haryana districts in this case. It is observed that there is a moderate and negative correlation between literacy and sex ratio i.e. $r = -0.54$. It shows that as literacy increases, the tendency of sex ratio decreases and vice-versa.

CAUSES OF DECLINE THE SEX RATIO:-

- Dowry is one of the main reasons behind decline the sex ratio. And domestic violence against the women also increases rapidly.
- In Haryana there is most important fact is declining the sex ratio is the presence of a strong son preferences.
- Due to busy scheduled of their lives many young couples do not go for a second child if the first child happens to be a male.
- Problem of security of girls is also a main problem of parents because crimes against women increase rapidly.

- Many people said that females birth is as burden on family may it be financial, social, emotions and mental.
- A large number of Indian people live below poverty line. Due to the reason of poverty their living standard is low and they do not get nutrition food and adequate medical treatment.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION:-

According to 2011 census, the sex ratio in Haryana was 877, which shows the sex ratio increases by 16 females per 1000 males. In Haryana, Mewat is the only district, where the number of females is more than that of the males. In that district sex ratio is 906 females to 1000 males. And the minimum sex ratio is recorded in Sonipat district which is 853. The sex ratio in Haryana in the age group 0-6 has increased from 819 in 2001 to 830 in 2011. Result of the study shows that moderate and negative correlation between literacy and sex ratio i.e. $r = -0.54$.

The main reason of low sex ratio is low status of education but according to the result of study education is not only the

main cause behind it because as literacy increases, the tendency of sex ratio decreases. In Haryana there is most important fact is declining the sex ratio is the presence of a strong son preferences. Here there is need to understand the son and the daughter have equal in the society, so stop the son preferences and save the child girl. The Dowry Prohibition Act also should be implemented strictly and effectively. To improve the sex ratio there is need to provide the equal chances for women achieving job. And government has taken the various steps and makes the policy to improve the sex ratio like “Sukanya Samridhi Yojana” and “Beti Bachao Beti Padhao” Campaign launched January 22, 2015 in Haryana only by honorable Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi. At the state level many schemes announced to make this sex ratio better like; “Aapki Beti Hamari Beti, Rs. 100 crore Haryana Kanya Kosh and “Haryana Kuposhan Mission”. A new scheme by the name “Ladli” was launched on August 20th, 2005 so as to promote the girl child and improve sex ratio. The efforts from government in the past few years are applaudable; but strict

implementation of laws against female foeticide is yet to happen.

Bibliography:-

- **Government of Haryana:** *Economic Survey of Haryana* (2016-17), Planning Department.
- _____: *Statistical Abstract of Haryana*, Various Issues, Department of Economic & Statistical Analysis, Haryana.
- **Government of India (2017-18):** *Economic Survey of India*, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.
- _____: *Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner*, Ministry of Home Affairs, India.
- _____ (2014-15): *National Commission for Women*, Ministry of Women & Child Development, New Delhi, India. <http://www.ncw.nic.in>.
- _____: *Haryana Development Report*, Various Issues, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
- **Kamal and Kumar, A. (2014):** “Declining in Child Sex Ratio: Challenges, Causes and Emerging Issues in Haryana”, *International Journal on Art, Management and Humanities*, Vol. 3(1), 44-48.
- **Phule, B.R. and Maske, S.S. (2013):** “A Study of Sex Composition in Osmanabad District (MS)”, *Research Directions*, Vol. 1, Issue 1, July, pp. 1-5.
- **Som, K.S. and Mishra, R.P. (2014):** “Gender Imbalance: Trends, Pattern and its Impact on West Bengal”, *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publication*, ISSN: 2250-3153, Vol. 4, Issue 7, July, pp. 1-10.