



# HIGHER EDUCATION IS INEVITABLE FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT WITH REFERENCE TO SELECT STATES & UNION TERRITORIES – AN ANALYSIS

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*Abstract:* Education is also one of the best foretastes of nation growth and also the ethics of an independent. It is one of the first agreement of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But it is commonly recognized in the public particularly to women to find the basic amenity of their people. At present education has accepted high level weightage in purview of planners and policy makers and it as a pivotal component in defining the pace of growth. 50 per cent of the country's human resources constitute by Women in India, and their donations are played important role for the nation's development. But the outcomes of illiteracy among women are uplifted. Only 62.12 per cent of women is educated as per 2017 data. However, the education system scattered very instantly, the gender gap in literacy leavings evidently by its existence especially in Tamilnadu. The Constitution of India reveals on women, equal rights and scopes in all fields. Subsequently, these women have not been capable to take full benefits of their rights and prospects in practice for various reasons. Hence, this paper made an attempt to highlight the women's education in India particularly in the state of Tamil nadu.

**Keywords:** Women, Education, Literacy factors, States, Union Territories.

## I. INTRODUCTION

According to statistical data 50 per cent of the country's human resources constitute by Women in India and their contributions are played essential part for the nation's progress. Women's progress is measured as vital progress to uplift the equal of productivity and to break the vicious circle of poverty, for which better health and education forms important. These factors are very helpful and also boost their productivity and capability to promote to the 'National Income'. Generally education is the best tool throughout the world for the development and growth of nation. In general literacy elements are associated with all aspects of the country. But the women are not able to take full benefits of their rights and opportunities to take their education. In India the literacy rate of the society is appreciable. On the other hand the proportions of illiteracy among women in India are not appreciable level. Based on the 2011 census only 57.16 per cent of women is literates and in Tamilnadu it is not attractive one. Hence, the researcher made an attempt to highlight the literacy rate of women in Tamilnadu and other select states and Union Territories.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To find out the male female literacy gap rates of women in Tamilnadu
2. To find out the selected State and Union Territories Gender Wise Literacy Rates in Rural/Urban Areas.
3. To know the percentage level of women's enrolment by various level during the study period.

## METHODOLOGY

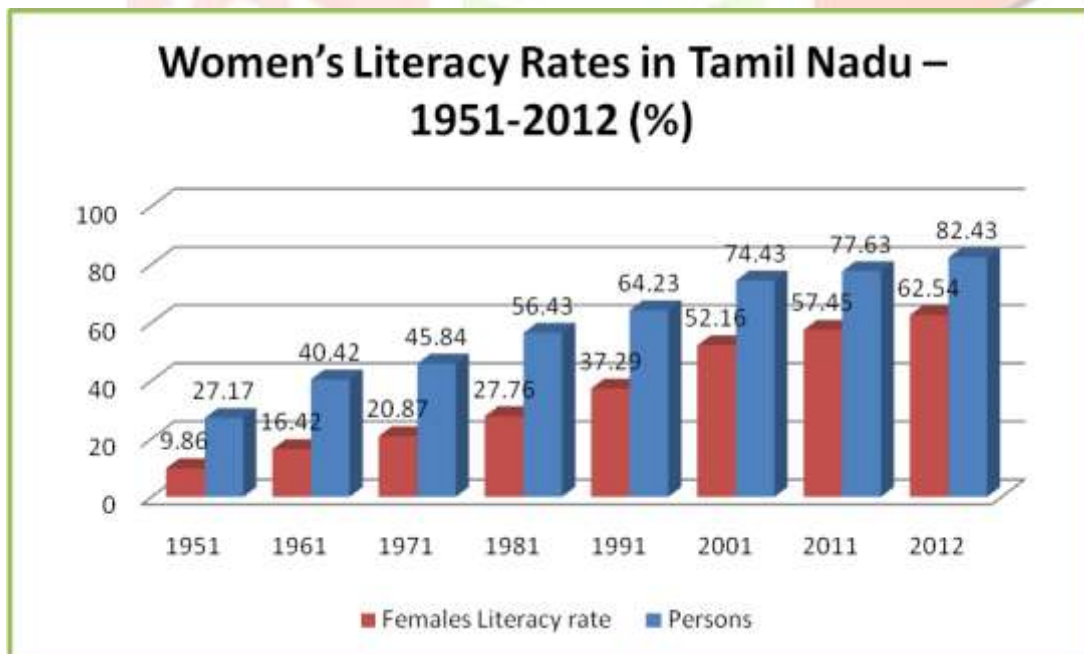
The researcher has been collected the sources and informations about the study in the form of secondary data and duly its accepted. The data of women's enrolment at different stages like primary, secondary, higher secondary and higher study were obtained through the reports of the University Grants Commission, selected educational Statistics, Published by the Statistics Division, Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi 2012.

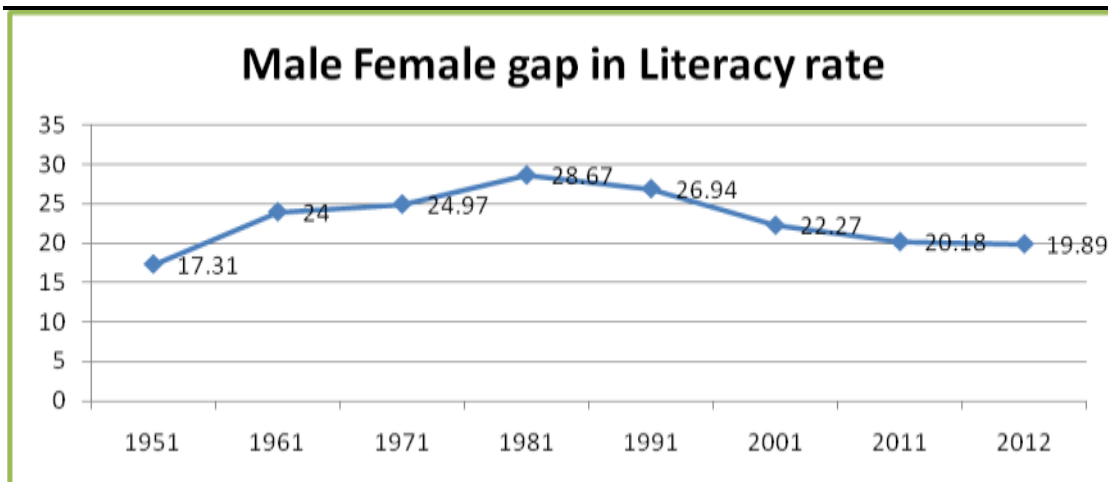
**Women's Right to Education:** Human Right Article 26 states that everyone have education particularly women. Based on this statement education should be free on the basic level. Then only they will move to next stage to improve their knowledge with the help of various stages of education. Through this education they promote tolerance, understanding and socio cultural aspects particularly for women's education. After independence education played vital role and the State and Central Government provides much assistance and create innovative policies and programs. Particularly, they formulated for women elementary and higher education to improve their economic development and social status. At present the education system extended to the optimum level and included new methodologies. On the other hand, the literacy rate of women remains in low level. The following Table - 1 reveals the numbers of male and female literacy rate in the form of percentage in Tamilnadu with the help of graph as well.

**Table 1: Women's Literacy Rates in Tamil nadu – 1951-2012 (%)**

Year	Males	Females	Male Female gap in Literacy rate
1951	27.17	9.86	17.31
1961	40.42	16.42	24.00
1971	45.84	20.87	24.97
1981	56.43	27.76	28.67
1991	64.23	37.29	26.94
2001	74.43	52.16	22.27
2011	77.63	57.45	20.18
2012	82.43	62.54	19.89

Source: Census India, Part III, NSS 61st Round Survey Report No.517, 2012.





#### OBSERVATION AND DATA ANALYSIS

From the Table - I the percentages of literacy rates as per 2012 reveals the data of males and females in Tamilnadu. The gender gap percentage shows fluctuations during the study period between male and female in Tamilnadu. The gender gap was 17.31 percentages in 1951 and it was increased to 28.67 per cent in 1981. During the period education is freely opened for male and it is restricted to female throughout the country. It is very difficult to come over from the obstacles. After that only many reforms brought by the various institutions, NGO's, personalities and government to develop the literacy rates of women education. During the study period 1991-2012 there was a great progress in women education. The society came forward to know the importance of women education. This result brought appreciable increase in percentage of women education. They are also competed with male in education and achieved in huge level. As a result of this in 1991 the literacy gap percentage was 26.94 and the literacy gap was reduced gradually and it reaches 19.89 in 2012. Due to the intervention of government and other organizations the literacy gap rate was reduced as much as possible and it shows the good sign. From the above Table -1 the following conclusion was derived. During the study period (1951-1981) the literacy gap was huge on the other hand (1991-2012) the women literacy gap was reduced as much as possible.

**Table 2: Selected State and Union Territories Gender Wise Literacy Rates in Rural/Urban Areas**

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Rural		Urban		Average Literacy Rate	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1	Tamil Nadu	76.36	54.89	88.97	75.99	82.66	65.44
2	Kerala	93.46	85.49	95.94	90.62	94.7	88.05
3	Lakshadweep	90.47	78.36	93.77	83.13	92.12	80.745
4	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	63.48	30.64	90.84	74.54	77.16	52.59

Source: Primary Census Abstract: Census of India 2011.

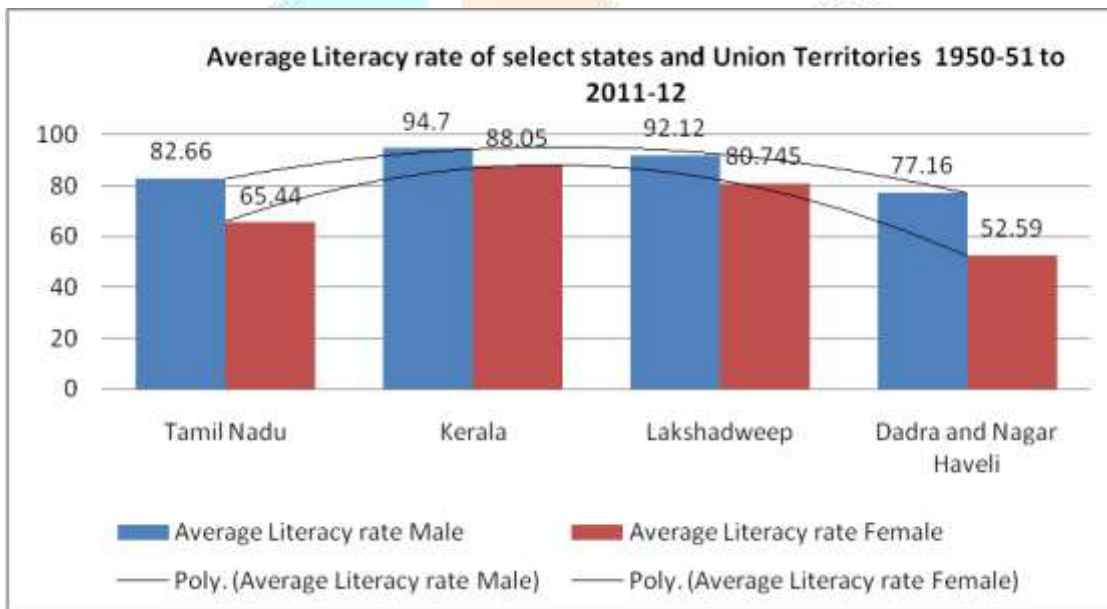
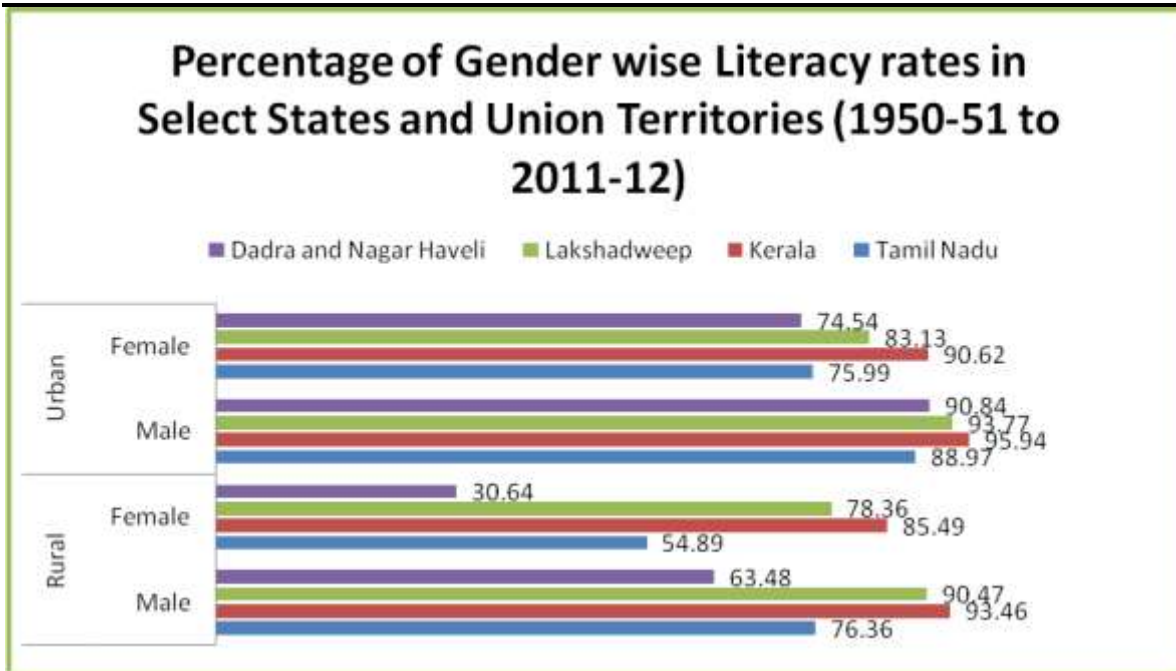
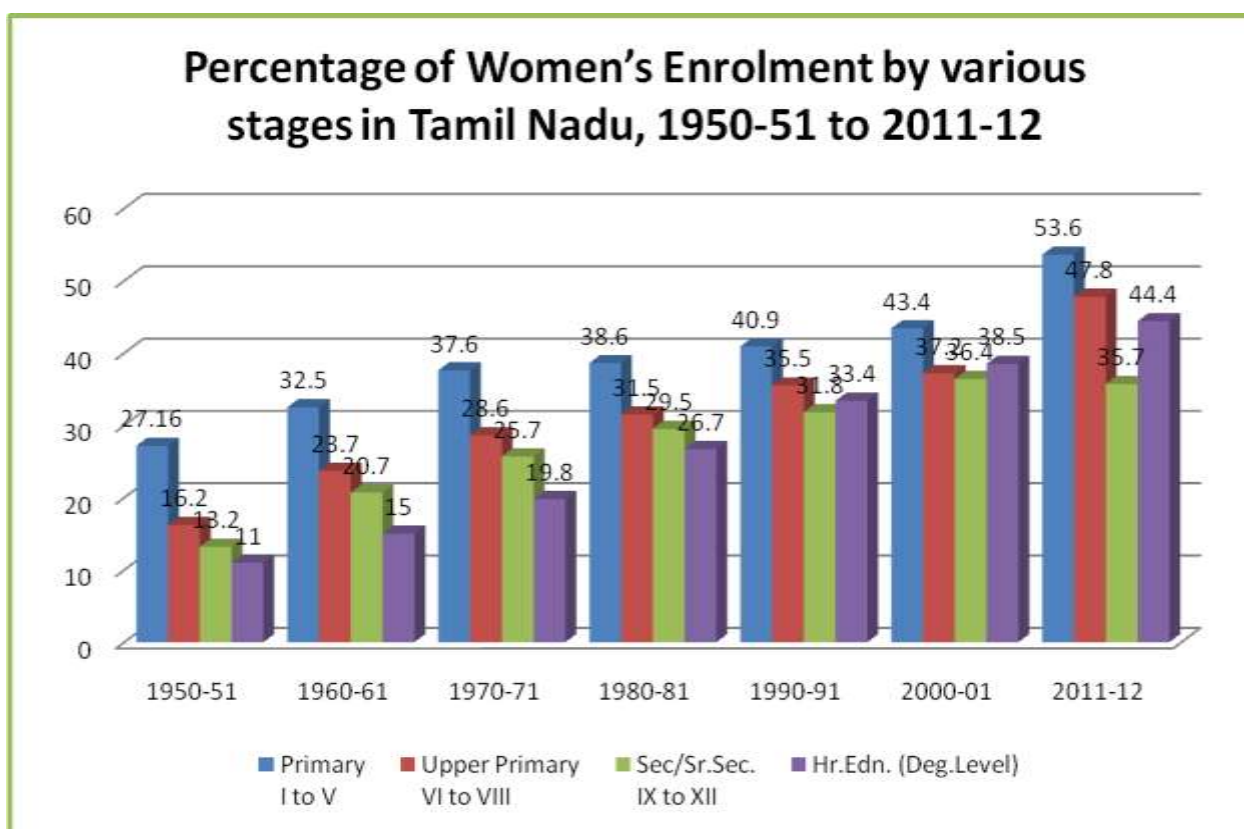


Table-2 depicts the women literacy rates in select two states and two Union Territories respectively of rural and urban women. Among the two states the percentage of literacy rate of male and female in Kerala is always the best compare with Tamilnadu. In Tamilnadu the literacy rate of women shows 54.89% from rural and 75% of women from urban area respectively. On the other hand Kerala the percentage of literacy rate is 85.49% from rural and 90.62% from urban respectively. Among the two Union Territories, the literacy rate of women in Lakshadweep occupies the first place with 78.36% from rural and 83.13% in urban. The graphs and diagrams reveal the status of literacy rate in the select States and Union Territories.

**Table 3: Percentage of Women's Enrolment by various stages in Tamilnadu, 1950-51 to 2011-12**

YEAR	Primary I to V	Upper Primary VI to VIII	Sec/Sr.Sec. IX to XII	Hr.Edn. (Deg.Level)
1950-51	27.16	16.2	13.2	11.0
1960-61	32.5	23.7	20.7	15.0
1970-71	37.6	28.6	25.7	19.8
1980-81	38.6	31.5	29.5	26.7
1990-91	40.9	35.5	31.8	33.4
2000-01	43.4	37.2	36.4	38.5
2011-12	53.6	47.8	35.7	44.4

Source: Govt. of India, Selected Educational Statistics, 2011-12, Ministry of Human Resources



The Table No-3 depicts the participation of women in all stages of education i.e primary level to higher study level. The participation of women in all level of education has been growing continuously during the study period. Since 1950-51 the participation of women in education are appreciable and the literacy rates have been increased many paths. The literacy level in Primary level the percentage of literacy has been increased from 28.1% (1950-51) to 52.7% in (2011-12). In primary & upper level the literacy percentage is 16.2% in (1950-51) and it is increased to 47.8% in (2011-12). In Senior Secondary level the percentage increased from 13.2% in (1950-51) to 32.7% in (2011-12). In case of higher education level the literacy rate is 11.0% in (1950-51) and it increased to 44.4% in (2011-12). The entire result shows the participation of women in literacy is still below. Though the literacy rate is increased in whole but in case of women participation is not that much appreciable. There are so many factors behind in it. They are inequality in the gender, discrimination in economic status. Low Enrollment of girls in educational institutions, frequency of dropout etc. The factors took part for low level of women in literacy all over India particularly in Tamilnadu. Compare with other states in northern part of India Tamil nadu is far better in literacy level. The above data in table shows the real picture of literacy level. Now a day's laws created for women education, huge number of awareness program related to education and number of new education policy implemented by government. As a result of many innovative programmes the literacy level of women has increased in Tamilnadu.

**CONCLUSION**

According to Human Rights education is an individual right. But it is refused and neglected in society. But the people particularly women has realized that education is only the way to achieve and developed their status by an economic wise. UN strongly influenced the girl and women education is the most powerful instrument to empower the women. The government continuously put their efforts to bring more women in to education. In spite of all efforts the wide gap in female literacy level in India. In future many innovative and new adoptions of methodology in education definitely show the way to reduce the gap of illiteracy of women.

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