



## A CRITICAL STUDY OF RURAL LITERACY IN DHULE DISTRICT (2011)

P. Y. Magare

### **Abstract: -**

*The concept of literacy generally refers to the minimum level of literate skill. A person aged 7 years and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language is termed as literate. Dhule is a tribal district in Maharashtra state. Average literacy rate of Dhule in 2011 were 72.80 compared to 71.65 of 2001. If things are looked out at gender wise, male and female literacy were 79.50 and 65.77 respectively. For 2001 census, same figures stood at 81.40 and 61.39 in Dhule District. But the maximum tribal villages are below 50% literacy rate. Out of 681 total villages 206 villages are the below 50% literacy. This proportion is 30% of total Dhule district villages as per 2011 census. Sakri and Shirpurtahasilare two major tribal tahsil in Dhule District. Below 500 populations 39 villages are the average literacy of that village are 38.75%. These are near about equally distributed in district. It means major measures are require to increases literacy rate in rural as well as tribal population in Dhule District.*

Key Word:-Literacy, Rural, Tribal, Equal distribution.

### **Introduction:**

In international practice, literacy is defined as the ability to read and write at least a simple message in any language; illiteracy, on the other hand refers to the lack or absence of his ability. The proportion of literate persons in a population is termed as literacy level. The population commission of United State considers the ability to both read and write a simple message with understanding in any language a sufficient basis for classifying a person as literate.

A person aged seven years and above who can both read and write a simple message with understanding in any language as taken as literate. (2001) It is not necessary for a person to received any formal education or passed any minimum qualification standard for being treated as literate. In any geographical or administrative region literacy rate is influenced by many geographical, historical, social and economical factors. i. e. cost of education, political background, , types of economy, standard of living, transportation and communication, religious background, medium of instruction, status of woman in the society, prejudices against females mortality and education, availability of educational institution, general value system and public policies (Chandna 2007, Sunil Thakare, Jyotiram More 2016). Out of these economical factors is very important. Parental income and literacy are highly correlated to each other. Higher is the parental income, higher the children literacy.

Literacy is essential for the eradicating poverty, and mental isolation, for cultivation peaceful and friendly international relation for free pay of democratic processes. Literacy provides dignity to person. Literacy influences the age of marriage that reflect in birthrate lower down, economical status increases, and upgrade standard of living as well as decline maternal mortality rate in female. It reduces backwardness among the people. Literacy helps the awareness about democratic right and duties. Therefore attempt is made here to analyze literacy at micro level.

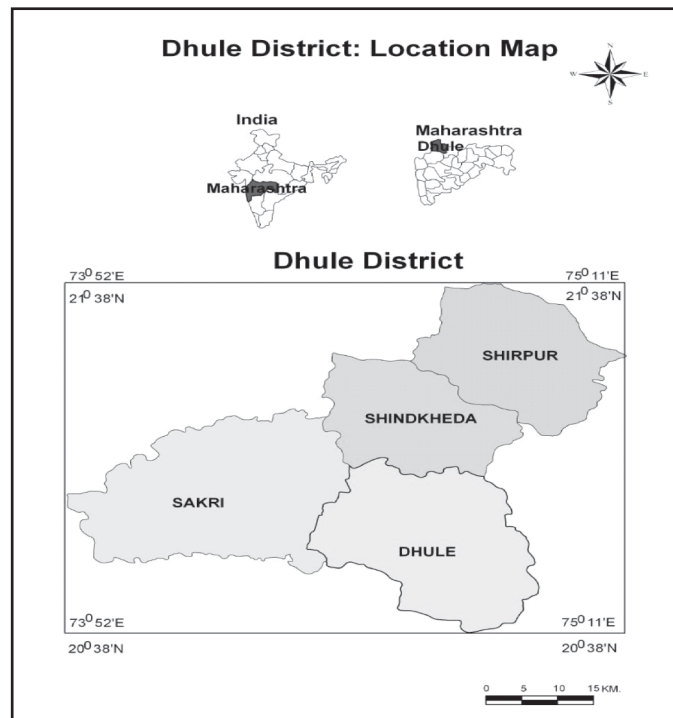
### **Study Area:**

Dhule district formerly known as west Khandesh is located in northern part of Maharashtra state. Its geographical location is 20°38' to 21°38' north latitude and 73°05' to 75°11' east longitude. The district bounded by Nandurbar district in northwest, Nashik in the south and Jalgaon district in the east. The district head quarter is Dhule town. Shirpur, Shindkeda, Sakri and Dhule are the four tahsil for administrative convenience. The geographical area of the district is 2088 out of it 8061 sq.km. area

under the forest. The main occupation of population is agriculture. The northern part of Shirpur and most of Sakritahshil are tribal and Shindkheda is rural tahshil. The tribal population is 25.99 %. Tapi River is major source of water for the district.

**Key Word:-** Literacy, Rural, Tribal, Equal distribution

**Objective:-** The main objective of present paper is to assess the impact of population size of village on the literacy rate.



**Table No.1 :DhuleDistrict:Literacy rate in village (2011)**

Sr.No.	Literacy Rate Tahsil	No. and Percentage of Villages as per Literacy Rate					Total
		<50%	51-60	61-70	71-80	Above 80	
01	Shirpur	66	30	40	10	01	147
		45.00	20.00	27.40	7.00	0.60	100
02	Shindkheda	10	33	67	31	00	141
		7.00	23.50	47.50	22.00	00.00	100
03	Sakri	106	67	47	09	00	229
		46.00	28.00	22.00	4.00	00	100
04	Dhule	25	45	78	16	00	164
		15.00	27.00	48.00	7.00	00	100
05	Total	207	175	232	66	1	681
		30.39	25.69	34.00	9.69	0.6	100

**I) The Village with low literacy Rate:-**

This category of literacy rate ranges 51 to 60 in 2011. It is seen that 175 (25.69%) villages are included in this category. In this category Sakri has highest no. of villages 67 villages with 28%. Total numbers of 409 villages are below 2000 total population. It means here again the region for low literacy rate are smallness in size and inaccessibility of the villages i.e. Budkivihir 24.64 (Shirpur)

**II) Villages with Moderate Literacy Rate:-**

Moderate literacy rate in the Dhule district is 61 to 70 percent. In this group there are 232 of 681 villages. The percentage of moderately literate villages is 24.06, this is much less than number of village in low literacy rate. Dhule is the dominating tahshil in this category, because Dhule is the administrative tahshil and accessibility is more in compare to other tahshil. One thing is that Dhule tahshil is less tribal and less mountainous. Dhule tahshil has 78 (48%) villages are in this category. Shirpur and Sakri tahshil has only 40 (27%) and 47 (22%) villages in this category respectively. These tahshils are more hilly, tribal population and size of villages small. Shindkheda is maximum rural tahshil but, it has 47% villages have moderately literate.

**III) Villages with High Literacy Rate:-**

The category comprises 71 to 80 percent literacy rates. In this category there only 66 villages from whole district and its percentage only 9.69. Maximum villages are from Shindkheda tahshil, minimum from Sakri tahshil it is 09. The maximum percentage is only 22 of Shindkheda tahshil rural population is highly literate according to 2011 census. Sakri and Shirpur tahshil are very low percentage of highly literate rural population (4 & 7%) due to small village size and remotely area with hilly terrain.

**V) Villages with Very High Literacy Rate:-**

Where the literacy rate is more than 81%, these villages are included in this category. Table No. 1 shows only one village that is Nanthe from Shirpur tahshil has 85.96% people are literate. The total population of this village is 643 and 552 with 291 (86.86%) male and 262 (85.06%) female are literate. This village is highest literate village in Dhule district.

**Population Size of the Villages and Literacy Rate:-**

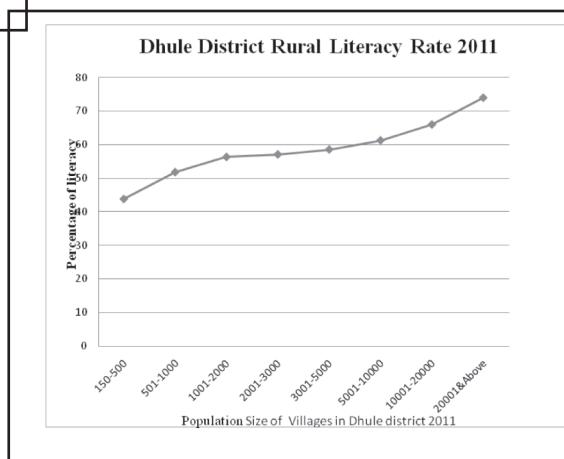
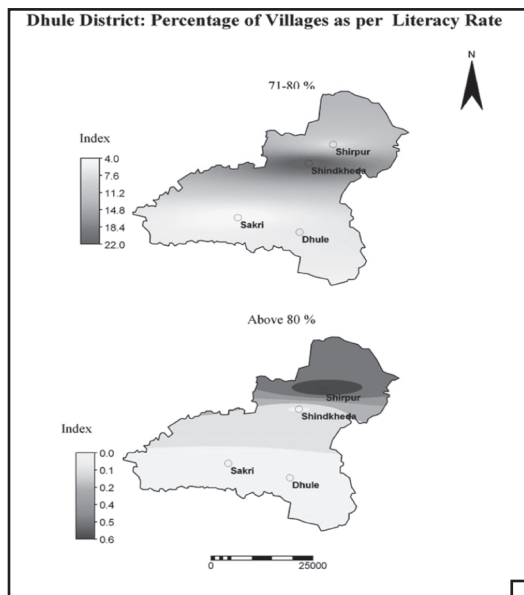
**Table No.2**

Sr.No.	Population size of Village	Numbers of villages	Average Size	Literacy in %
1	150-500	39	341	43.82
2	501-1000	127	779	51.83
3	1001-2000	243	1433	56.33
4	2001-3000	124	2393	57.09
5	3001-5000	98	3734	58.55
6	5001-10000	35	6717	61.26
7	10001-20000	9	13657	65.98
8	20001 & Above	6	127673	73.94
Correlation Between village size % literacy Rate + 0.74 ( $r^2 = 0.54$ )				

**Population Size of the Villages and LiteracyRate:-**

Attempt is made here to assess the impact of population size of villages on literacy rate of villages by using the statistical techniques i.e. pearson's co-efficient of correlation and coefficient of determinant.

Table No.2 indicates the positive correlation between population size of villages (X) and literacy rate (Y) has been observed in the village of Dhule district. The coefficient correlation in the regard is at  $r= +0.74$ . It indicates that there is a good positive relation between the variable 'X' and 'Y'. The degree of leaner association between the two variable obtained by the coefficient of determinant ( $r^2$ ) is found to be at 0.54, which reveals that the independent variables 'X' population size of villages are clearing up and 'Y' 43.13 percent of the total variations in depended variable (Y) i.e. literacy rate in the village of Dhule district. As increases Population increases the literacy rate in rural area in Dhule district. Villages has more than five thousand population there literacy is above 61 percentage. The villages above 20000 populations have above 73percent literacy.



**Data Collection:-**

The present paper is based on secondary data. This data is collected from census 2011. With the help of that data meet the objective. Data calculated with help of excel sheet.

**Illustration:-**

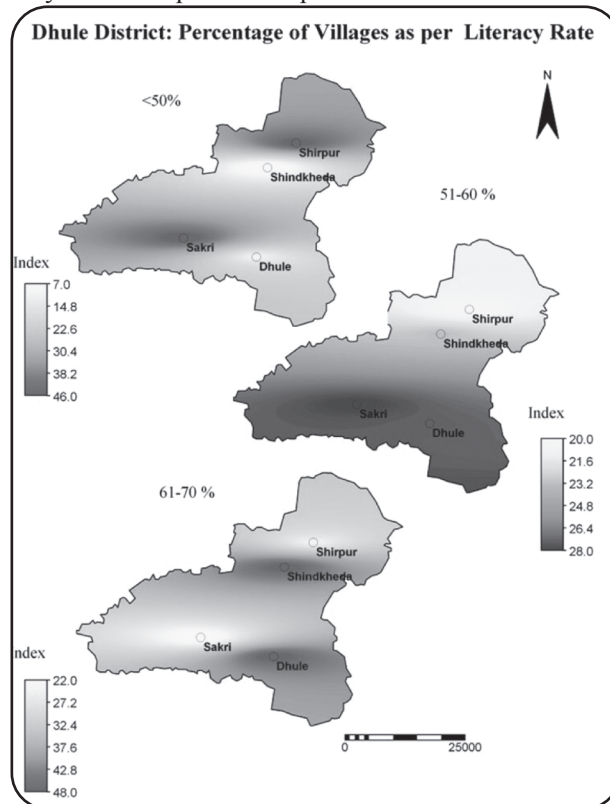
**Literacy in Dhule District:-**

Maharashtra has 54.77 people living in the 43711 vilages.Dhule district has 681 inhabited villeges caring 14,79826(72.15percent ) rural people (census 2011). The rural population has lower literacy rate than urban population. The rural people don't get sufficient opportunity to get themselves educated in normal way government facility as provide to educate them. There is positive correlation between degree of economic progress and degree of literacy. There is also a high degree of positive correlation not only between the economic diversification and the pattern of literacy in a society but also between the proportion of workers engaged in agriculture and literacy pattern.

The villege wise literacy is computed in five categories for showing rural literacy variation in the study area.

**I) The Village with very low literacy Rate:-**

In 2011 villeges with very low literacy rate are those that have less than 50 percent literacy rate Table No.1 indicates that the district as a whole has 207(30%) villeges of the low literacy rate. Maximum no. of villeges is found in i.e.106 Sakritahshil. This is mainly because of smallness of villeges and also due to inaccessibility of the villege. In this tahshil 257 villeges below 2000 population. The most illiterate villege is Gurhalpani in ShirpurTahshil with population2298.Whose literacy rate is 9.18 percent (5% male and 4% femaleare literate.). The affected villege is located extreme north western hilly area in Satpuraof Shirpurtahshil.



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**Conclusion:-**

Dhule district is tribal as well as has hilly terrain, its rural population is spread all over hilly area. That's why the 39 villages not reach up to 50 percent literacy rate. 56 percent village are below 60 percent literacy This analysis shows the highest number of villages of very low literacy are confined to Sakritahshil mainly or account of smallness in village size and due to inaccessibility of the villages which is a result of adverse topography and low as well as uncertainty of rainfall. This tahsil has maximum no. of herder of the district. This herder is nomads cannot stay one place for whole year that's why the literacy rate of the small village is very low.

This study reveals that there is high positive correlation between population size of villages and literacy rate in Dhule district. Population factors are more effective to influence literacy. There for it is to be state that the increase in the size of villages is the helpful to improve literacy rate.

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