

## **Role of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (Ssa) Towards Women Empowerment: A Study Of District Udhampur**

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**ABSTRACT:** Women empowerment has become a significant topic of discussion in development and economics. They play a very vital role in human progress and civilization having significant place in the society. It is widely said that the worth of a civilization is judged from the position that it gives to women. They are capable of sharing all the responsibilities of life. Women's economic empowerment refers to the ability for women to enjoy their rights to control and benefit from resources, assets, income and their own time, as well as the ability to manage risk and improve their economic status. The main objective of this paper is to discuss the significant role of SSA towards women empowerment in District Udhampur. The literacy rate of females in District Udhampur according to the census of 2001 is 45.08 whereas in census 2011, the literacy rate of females is 57.10. There is special provision of girl education in the project of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). It aims at bringing more and more girls under the roof of school and bridging gender gap. Hence, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has played a great role in women empowerment. Moreover, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru has rightly remarked, "Education of a boy is the education of one person, but education of a girl is the education of entire family".

**KEYWORDS:** Women empowerment, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Gender Gap, Civilization.

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### **I. INTRODUCTION**

In ancient time education was limited to men only. No provision for women education was made. Women had no right to come out of their house work. After independence, our national leaders made efforts to make education compulsory for women to uplift their status in the society. Women education is that type of education in which women participate in acquiring literacy, academic excellence, domestic and social education. It is only through women education that we can expect a happier family life, better hygienic conditions, greater reduction in fertility rate and economic prospects.

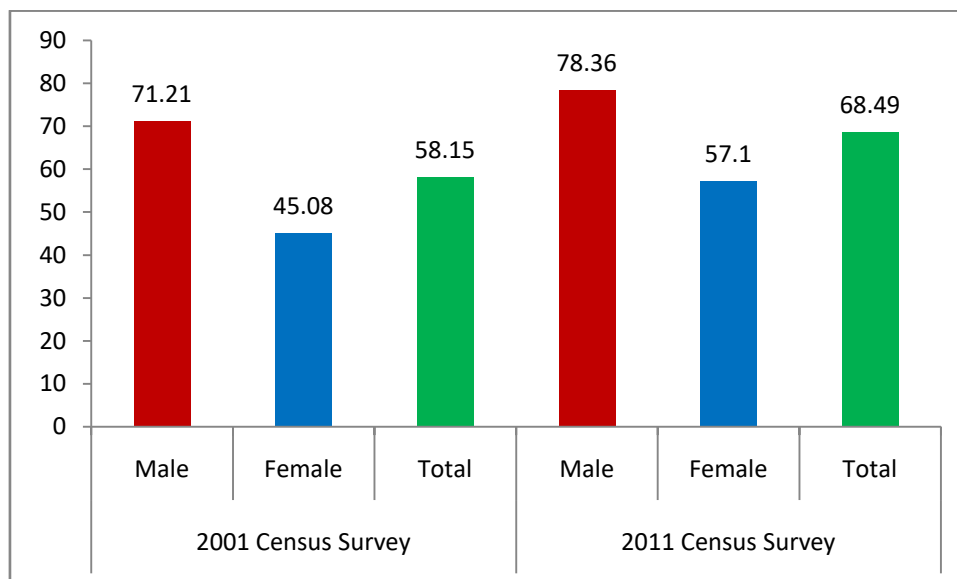
"Empowering women to participate fully in economic life across all sectors is essential to build stronger economics, achieve internationally agreed goals for development and sustainability, and improve the quality of life for women, men, families and communities".



**Women Empowerment**

**TABLE (1): LITERACY RATE OF DISTRICT UDHAMPUR ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS SURVEY OF 2001 AND 2011**

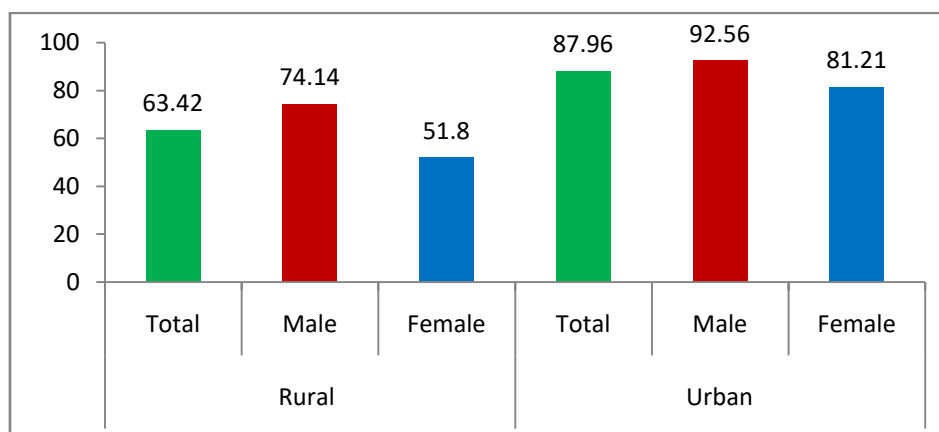
2001 Census Survey			2011 Census Survey		
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
71.21	45.08	58.15	78.36	57.10	68.49



The above table as well as graph shows that the female literacy rate in 2001 was 45.08 according to 2001 census and in 2011 it is 57.10. It indicates that there has been tremendous increase in literacy rate of women i.e. about 12.02%. It is all because of introducing and implementing the central sponsored scheme like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). It was established in 2000. When the SSA was launched in 2000, the literacy rate of women in Udhampur District was 45.08. But after completing the target period of SSA, the literacy rate of women in District Udhampur is 57.10 which has been increased. So, it is clear from the above table that this change in literacy rate has been done due to SSA. Hence, SSA has played a significant role in improving the enrollment of women at elementary level (6-14) age groups and hence lead to increase in literacy rate of women in District Udhampur.

**TABLE (2): LITERACY RATE (BY AREA AND SEX) IN UDHAMPUR DISTRICT**

Total	Rural		Urban		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
63.42	74.14	51.80	87.96	92.56	81.21



According to the above table and graph, the urban and rural female literacy rate of District Udhampur is 81.21 and 51.80. It is clear from the above table that women are more empowered and educated in urban areas as compare to rural areas of District Udhampur. Therefore, Govt. and other Stakeholders must launch

various schemes such as SSA,RMSA, MDM,RETs etc and various programmes through mass media in rural areas to change the attitude of orthodox parents of the girls. Moreover, Govt. should also start awareness programmes, campaigns, parents teacher meetings (PTM) etc. in rural areas as well as in far-flung areas in said District so that the proper empowerment of womens may take place. Thus, these steps will play a great role for developing the nation or country.

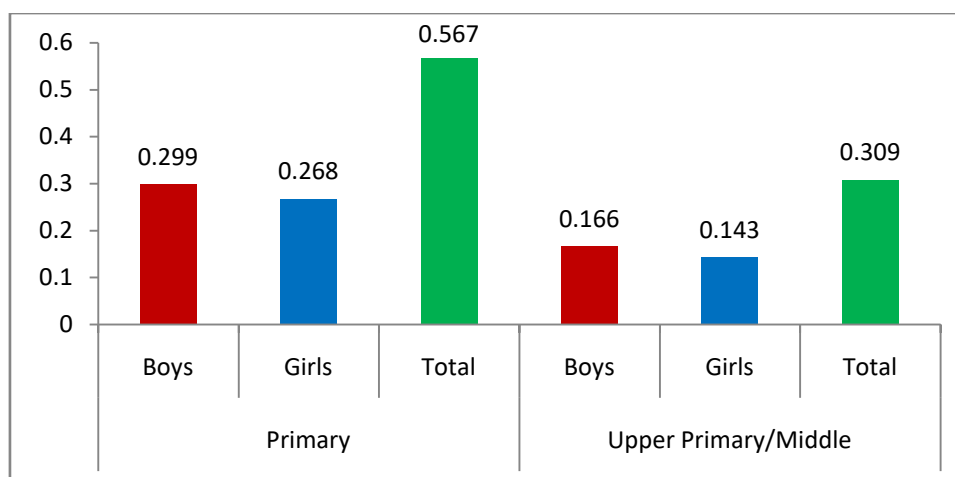
**TABLE (3): TABLE SHOWS POPULATION IN LACS AND LITERACY RATE ACCORDING TO 2011 CENSUS**

Jammu Division						Udhampur District					
Population			Literacy Rate			Population			Literacy Rate		
M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1970267	1333594	3303861	81.11	61.72	71.98	197543	124811	322354	78.36	57.10	68.49

According to this table, the literacy rate of womens in Jammu Division is 61.72 and literacy rate of womens in Udhampur District is 57.10. It indicates that the women literacy rate of District Udhampur is far behind as compare to women literacy rate in Jammu Division. As indicated in Table 1 there has been increase in women literacy rate, according to 2001 census report as compare to 2001 census report but as compare to Jammu Division the women literacy rate of District Udhampur is low. To fill the gap, Govt. & other stakeholders must take initiatives towards the empowerment of women in said District & proper implementation of various Govt. schemes, programmes such as SSA, MDM, RMSA and ‘Betı Bachao & Betı Padao’. In this way, Govt. must take initiatives & necessary steps in this direction.

**TABLE (4): ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS AT ELEMENTARY LEVEL IN LACS IN DISTRICT UDHAMPUR**

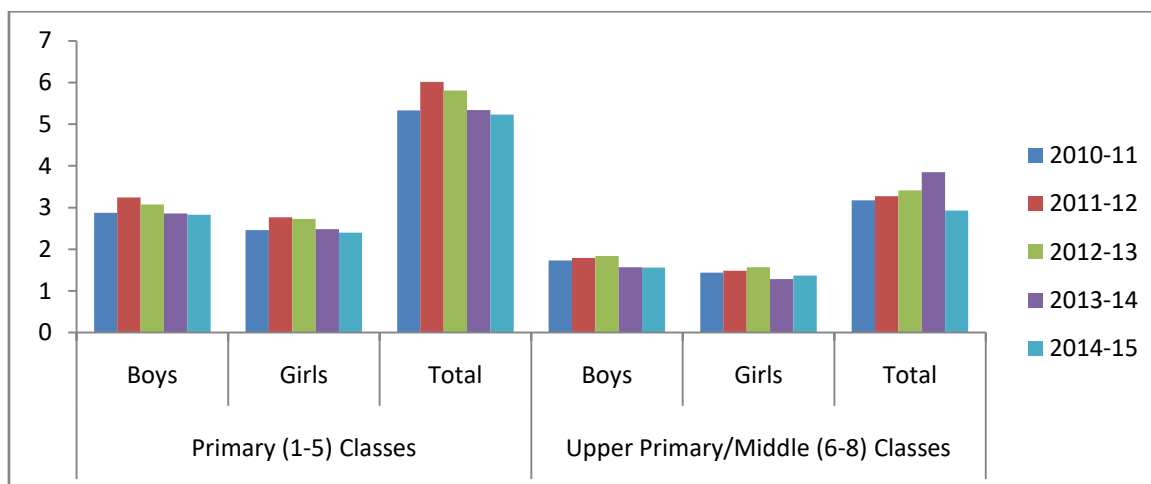
Primary			Upper Primary/Middle		
Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
0.299	0.268	0.567	0.166	0.143	0.309



Above said table and graph shows the enrollment of male and female students at elementary level in lacs in District Udhampur according to the regional digest of statistics Jammu division 2015-16

**TABLE (5): ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS AT ELEMENTARY LEVEL IN LACS IN JAMMU DIVISION**

Year	Primary (1-5) Classes			Upper Primary/Middle (6-8) Classes		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
2010-11	2.87	2.46	5.33	1.73	1.44	3.17
2011-12	3.24	2.77	6.02	1.79	1.48	3.27
2012-13	3.07	2.73	5.81	1.84	1.57	3.41
2013-14	2.86	2.48	5.34	1.57	1.28	3.85
2014-15	2.83	2.40	5.23	1.56	1.37	2.93



The above table as well as graph shows the enrollment of students at elementary stage (6-14) years in lacs in Jammu Division from 2010-11 to 2014-15 according to the regional digest of statistics Jammu division 2015-16.

#### **Six women empowerment programs taken up by the art of living:**

- 1) Economic Independence
- 2) Girl Child Education
- 3) HIV / AIDs
- 4) Prison Program
- 5) Leadership
- 6) Social Empowerment.

Women empowerment means emancipation of women from the vicious grips of social economical, political, caste and gender – based discrimination. It means granting women the freedom to make life choice. It also means social rights, political rights, economic stability, judicial strength and all other rights should be also equal to women. There should be no discrimination between men and women.

#### **Some key points of womens empowerment:**

- There should be respect and dignity towards women.
- Have total independence for their own life and lifestyle inside the home and also outside at their work.
- They should make their decision by their own choice.
- They should have a high social respect in society.
- They should have equal rights in society and other judicial works.
- They should not be discriminated while providing any type of education.
- They should select their own economic and financial choices by their own.
- There should not be any discrimination between women and man while giving jobs and employment.
- They should have safe secured working location with proper privacy.

There are various facts of women empowerment which are given as under:

- 1) Human rights or individual rights.
- 2) Social women empowerment
- 3) Educational women empowerment
- 4) Economic and occupational women empowerment
- 5) Legal women empowerment
- 6) Political women empowerment

#### **Role of Education for Women Empowerment:**

Various commissions and committees appointed by Govt. of India have suggested various measures for empowering women through education. The major programmes for women empowerment are:

- 1) Mahila Samakhya
- 2) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
- 3) Operation Blackboard (OBB)
- 4) District Primary Education Programme (DPEP)
- 5) Non-Formal Education

- 6) National Literacy Mission (NLM)
- 7) Navodya Vidyalas Scheme
- 8) Vocational Education Scheme
- 9) Hostel Facilities for Girls Students Scheme

**Role of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) towards Women Empowerment:**

**Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan :** In ancient time education was limited to men only. No provision for women education was made. Women had no right to come out of their house work. After independents, our national leaders made efforts to make education compulsory for women to uplift their status in the society. Moreover, with help of the central sponsored scheme i.e SSA, the education of the girls has become more improved. Because this scheme emphasised the education of girls by providing free education, free books, free uniforms, free mid-day meals scheme etc. SSA is an effort to universalize elementary education by community ownership of the school system. It was launched in 2000-2001. It is one of India's major flagship programme for universalization of elementary education. Its overall goals include universal access and retention, bridging of gender and social category gaps in elementary education and achieving significant enhancement in learning and level of children. It is a response to the demand for quality basic education all over the country. It is also an attempt to provide an opportunity for improving human capabilities to all children through provision of community ownership to provide quality basic education in a mission mode.



**Midday Meals Scheme (MDM) 1995:** With a view to enhancing enrollment, retention and attendance of girls at elementary level and simultaneously improving nutritional levels among children, the National Programme of Nutritional Support to primary education (NP-NSPE) was launched as a centrally sponsored scheme on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 1995, initially in 2408 blocks in the country. Later in 1997-1998, it was introduced in all blocks of the country.

**Characteristics of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA):**

Some of the characteristics of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) are:

- 1) A programme with a clear time frame for universal elementary education.
- 2) A response to the demand for quality basic education all over the country.
- 3) An opportunity for promotion social justice through basic education.
- 4) An effort at effectively involving the Panchayati Raj Institutions, School Management Committees, Village & Urban Slum Level Education Committees, Parents Teachers Associations, Mother Teacher Associations, Tribal Autonomous Councils and others grass root level structures in the Management of Elementary School.
- 5) An expression of political will for universal Elementary Education across the country.
- 6) A partnership between the Central, State and Local Government.
- 7) An opportunity states to develop their own vision of Elementary Education.

**Objectives of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA):**

- 1) All children in schools, Education Guarantee Centre, Alternate School back to school camp by 2003.
- 2) All children complete five years of primary schooling by 2007.
- 3) All children complete eight years of elementary schooling by 2010.
- 4) Focus on elementary education of satisfactory quality with emphasis on education for life.
- 5) Bridge all gender and social category gaps at primary stage by 2007 and at elementary education level by 2010.
- 6) Universal retention by 2010.

**Strategies of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA):**

- 1) Institutional Reforms
- 2) Sustainable Financing
- 3) Community Ownership
- 4) Institutional Capacity Building
- 5) Community Based Monitoring
- 6) Habitation as a Unit of Planning
- 7) Accountability to Community
- 8) Priority of Education of Girls.
- 9) Focus on Special Groups
- 10) Thrust as Quality
- 11) Role of Teachers
- 12) Non-Formal Education (NFE)
- 13) DPEP
- 14) Mahila Samakhya
- 15) Lok Jumbish Project
- 16) National Programme of Nutritional Support for Primary Education

**II. CONCLUSION**

Provision of Right to Education Act are being implemented through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), accordingly norms have been revised / modified to align them with the requirement of RTE Act, 2009. Central Government has approved on outlay of Rs.231233/- crore for implementation of the combined RTE – SSA programme for the five years period of 2010-2011 to 2014-2015. Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), India has not only been able to improve access to 99% of primary level, but has also been able to reduce out of school children to 3-4% of age of 6-14 years. Under this programme, special focus is on girls children belonging to Scheduled Castes / Schedule Tribes Communities, other weaker sections, minorities and under deprived children of rural people in general. Hence, Govt. must launch various schemes and programmes like SSA for the welfare of the individuals as well as for the Nation or Country.

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