

International Journal of Scientific Research and Reviews

Enrolment of females in higher education: a district wise study to show the continuity of females' education after senior secondary level in Haryana

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ABSTRACT

Education is a much more generalized term consisting of various stages from schooling or elementary education to development of specialized skill and competence. Specialized skill, knowledge and competence come through Higher Education. By attaining Higher Education the individual becomes efficient enough to combat social, economic, moral and cultural issues. In India "Right to Education" has become the rule of the land but still Higher Education is still to achieve a lot. The major glitch is the gender disparity with regards to individuals willing to attain Higher Education. The norms of the patriarchal society even during the 21st century debar women from making up for Higher Studies. The gender gap is truly evident from the Higher Education enrolment ratio for men and women. The stereotype in opting for faculties for Higher Studies also indicate that field of study has also become gender specific. This paper will therefore specifically focus on the enrolment aspect of females in senior secondary level and higher education level to show the continuity of female education and analyze the temporal trend prevalent with regards to gender disparity in Enrolment for Higher Education in Haryana district.

KEY WORDS : Gross enrolment ratio, senior secondary level, higher education level, temporal pattern in Haryana.

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INTRODUCTION

Educate your women first and leave them to themselves, then they will tell you what reforms are necessary for them. In matters concerning them, who are you? “BY Swami Vivekananda”

There is no chance of the welfare of the world unless the condition of the women is improved. It is not possible for a bird to fly on one wing. “BY Swami Vivekananda”

Since the Vedic period women education has been a major concern in India. Women were always denied access to education which further leads to decreased empowerment and the right to take decisions and power to lead. Major reason for all this was the social structure of the country where women were always treated as inferior to their counterparts. Post-independence the scenario changed and today we have reached a stage where the constitution of the country inhibits equal opportunity for both men and women with regards to education. The literacy Rate of women enrolment has been on a continuous increase.

But the important issue that needs to be addressed with regards to women education is “How important is Higher Education for Women?” It is not just Schooling or secondary education that solves the purpose of individual development. Higher Education leads to a growth in the socio-economic status of any person. Then in an Indian perspective why do Indian women attain Higher Education in lesser numbers as compared to men? Women constitute nearly 48% of the total population according to the census 2011 and therefore they constitute 48% of the total Human Resource of the country. If this proportion of the human resource is not nurtured properly and well in time the nation will lag behind in speeding up its developmental process. Various schemes are being launched by the Government and especially by UGC (apex body of Higher Education) to promote and ensure participation of women in good numbers. Higher Education which precedes Secondary Education leads towards development of specialized skills and knowledge. Individuals attaining Higher Education become competent enough to raise their socio-economic status and solve moral, social, economic and cultural problems. Despite of the necessity of attaining Higher Education it is generally observed that men and women in India do not attain Higher Education in the same numbers.

In this context, this paper would focus on the attainment of Higher Education by Women in Haryana after passing school education and thus would specifically concentrate on the enrolment figures. It would also focus on the temporal patterns of women enrolment in higher education in Haryana. This study is very much essential for the state of Haryana where the sex ratio is lowest in the country according to the census of India (2011).

LITERATURE REVIEW

Gender gap in Higher Education is a major concern and therefore has been taken up for research on various occasions. The regional disparity in enrolment in basic and elementary education³ and gets perpetuated in the realms of Higher education⁴.

Society at large both at the rural and the urban level will have to understand that today women constitute 48% of the total population and if this 48% is debarred from attaining specialized skill, knowledge and develop caliber to deliver their best, a huge amount of Human Resource will go waste and this will ultimately act as a major hurdle in the development of the nation. It is essential that every girl child is given complete school education and once that is through, she is enrolled timely for Higher Education as per her competence and interest⁵.

Access to education is a telling indicator of women's status in a given society. In seeking to explain the under-representation of women in higher education management we turn first to consider the equity in participation of girls or women in education, to reflect on the reasons for this phenomenon and to highlight its adverse consequences⁶.

According to a report published in 'The Times of India' dated Jan, 8, 2018 under the title 'Gender gap narrowing in higher education : HRD Survey, Gender gap in India's institutes of higher education has reduced by nine lakhs in the last five years with girl students outnumbering men in eight disciplines in the academic session 2016-17 according to a survey of HRD ministry.

It's often assumed in India that the purposes of a university education are far narrower than those of primary and secondary education. The education on offer is typically much more narrowly focused than secondary education, and its connection to future employment tighter⁷.

There are also significant differences in women's specific status across regions, caste and class, communities and religions. Status of women is also determined by the developmental status of the area⁸.

STUDY AREA

Study area comprises of Haryana with its districts (fig.1). Figure 1 shows the Haryana state which is located between the 27° 39' N to 30° 55' N latitudes and 74° 28' E to 77° 36' E longitudes in the north western part of India. Situated in North India with less than 1.4% (44,212 km² (17,070 sq mi)) of India's land area, it is ranked 22nd in terms of area. Chandigarh is the state capital, Faridabad in National Capital Region is the most populous city of the state and Gurugram is a leading financial hub of NCR with major Fortune 500 companies located in it. Haryana has 6 administrative divisions, 22 districts, 72 sub-divisions, 93 revenue tehsils, 50 sub-tehsils, 140 community development blocks, 154 cities and towns, 6,848 villages and 6222 villages panchayats. Literacy rate in Haryana has seen an upward trend and is 76.64 percent as per 2011 population census. Male literacy stands at 85.38

percent, while female literacy is at 66.67 percent. Total population of Haryana comprises of 25351462 million, male population comprises of 13494374 million and female population comprises of 11856728 million.

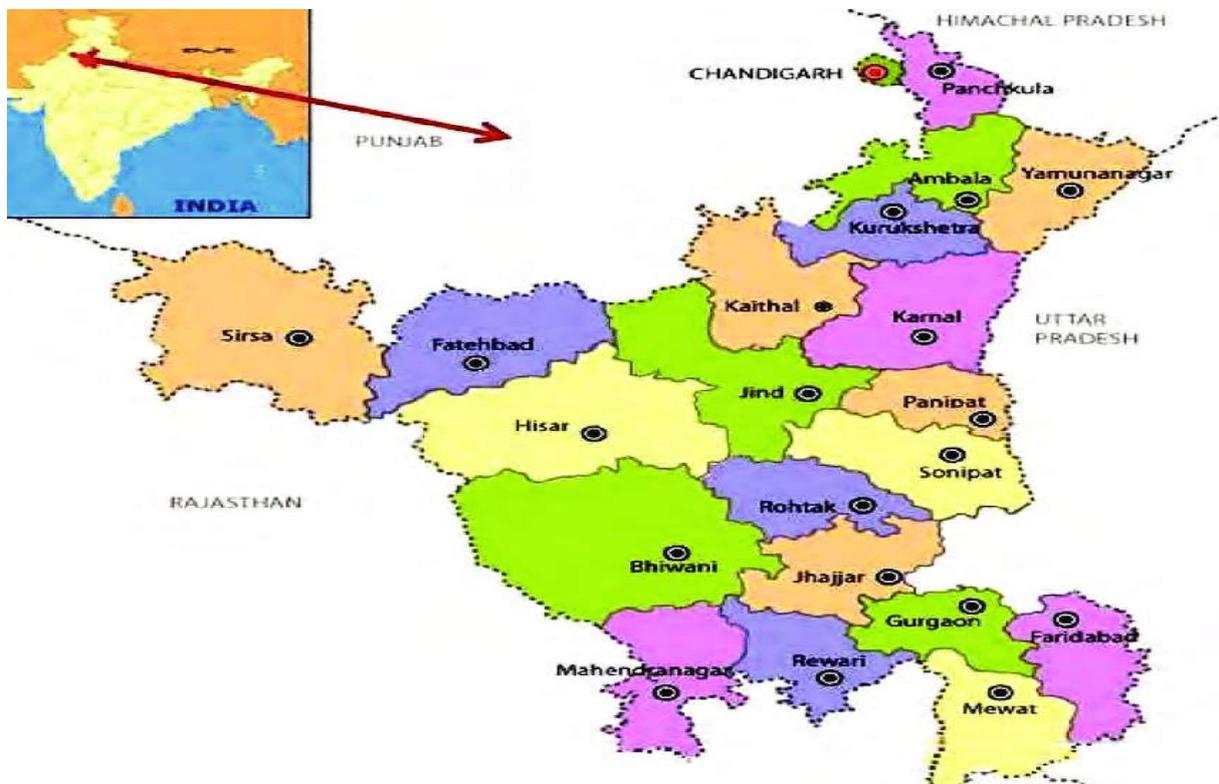


Figure:1 map of Haryana

OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

1. To conduct a temporal study of women enrolment in Higher Education in Haryana
2. To find out the district wise enrolment of women in senior secondary schooling.
3. to analyze the district wise enrolment of women in higher education to determine the continuity in the attainment of education after senior secondary level.

DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY

Research Methodology is a systematic way for solving any research problem. It is a science of studying research is done scientifically .

Present study has been completed through secondary data obtained from various published sources. Data from All India Survey on Higher Education(2016-17) has been used to show Gross Enrolment rate of female in higher education in Haryana state from the decade of 2010-2011 to 2017-2018. Data for district wise enrolment in senior secondary level and at higher education level has been harnessed from statistical abstract of Haryana, Year 2016-17, issued by Department of Economics and Statistical Analysis, Haryana. Percent of female enrolment has been calculated from the following formula:-

Total female enrolled at senior secondary level or higher education level divided by total students enrolled at senior secondary level or higher education level $\times 100$

Data has been analyzed using districts as the units of observation. Requisite graphs have been drawn by using Microsoft excel, for example, bar graphs to show the enrolment at senior secondary level(table 2) and at higher education level(table 3), multiple bar graph has been created to show the difference in enrolment at senior secondary level and at higher education level and line graph has been made to show decadal wise variation in enrolment rate at state level (table 1).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Temporal Patterns Of Women Enrolment In Higher Education in Haryana In The Age Group Of 18-23 Years

Table 1 gives information regarding the temporal patterns of women enrolment in higher education in Haryana starting from the decade of 2010-11 to 2017-18.

Table 1: percent of female enrolment in higher education in Haryana (18-23)

Decades	Percent
2010-11	20.7
2011-12	27.3
2012-13	26.6
2013-14	25.9
2014-15	27.5
2015-16	26.4
2016-17	29.7
2017-18	30.7

Source: All India survey on higher education(2016-17)

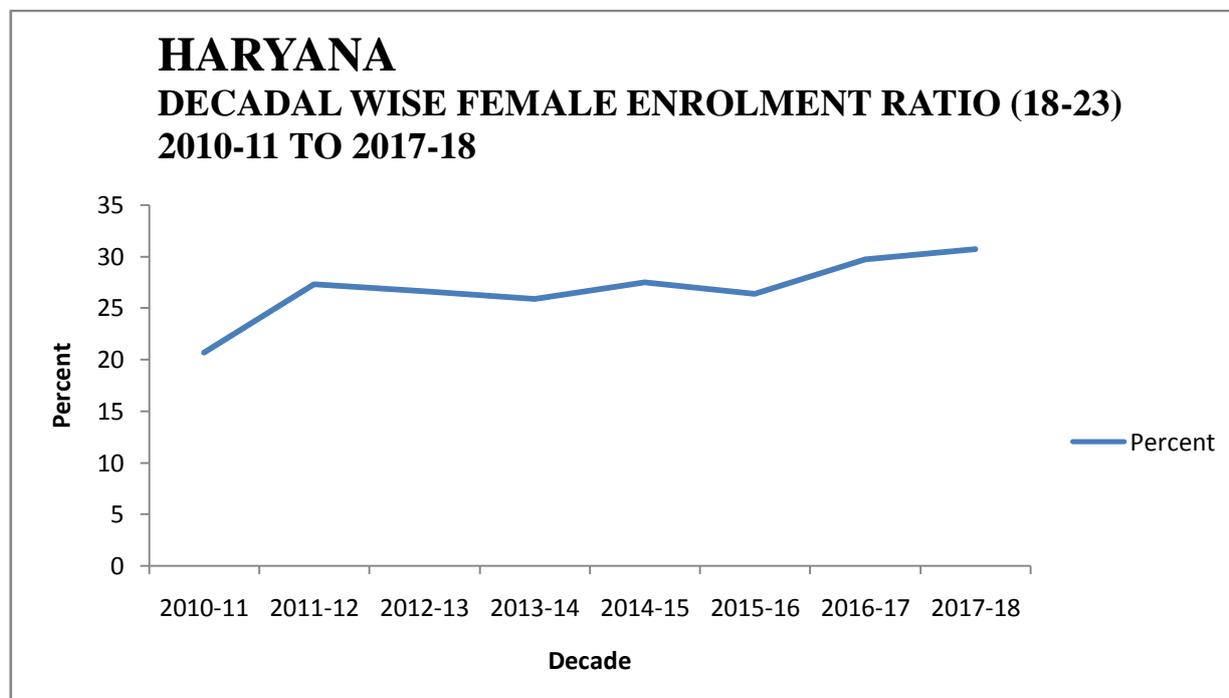


Figure:2 decadal wise female enrolment ratio

The following line graph shows the temporal patterns of female enrolment at higher education in Haryana in the decades of 2010-11 to 2017-18. Female enrolment is lowest in the decade of 2010-11. This enrolment is highest in the decade of 2017-18. This enrolment has remained in the frequency band of 20-30. It has many fluctuations over the decades as it has pointed at 20.7 percent in the decade 2010-11 and marked at 27.3 in the decade of 2011-12 and so on.

District Wise Enrolment Of Females At Senior Secondary Level In The Year 2016-17

Table 2: district wise enrolment of females at senior secondary level in Haryana (2016-17)

DISTRICT	FEMALE ENROLLED	BOYS ENROLLED	TOTAL ENROLLED	PERCENT
Ambala	28552	35226	63778	44.72
Panchkula	12676	15191	27867	45.48
Yamunanagar	29303	36884	66187	44.27
Kurukshtra	24163	32411	56574	42.71
Kaithal	30089	36269	66358	45.34
Karnal	38255	47586	85841	44.56
Panipat	30050	38666	68716	43.73
Sonipat	41794	55879	97673	42.78
Rohtak	29722	34903	64625	45.99
Jhajjar	26405	33816	60221	43.84
Faridabad	50197	65371	115568	43.43
Palwal	27588	39973	67561	40.83
Gurugram	41327	52129	93456	44.22
Nuh	8928	22155	31083	28.72
Rewari	25272	32293	57565	43.90
Mahendargarh	27046	36028	63074	42.87
Bhiwani	49256	57899	107155	45.96
Jind	39892	46120	86012	46.37
Hisar	49091	57091	106182	46.23
Fatehabad	23156	28253	51409	45.04
Sirsa	31008	38162	69170	44.82
Charkha dadri	0		0	0

Source: Statistical Abstract of Haryana (2016-17)

Table 2 shows the enrolment of females in Haryana at senior secondary level. The following bar graph is the graphical representation of this table. The enrolment is in the frequency band of 40-50 percent except Nuh which was previously named as Mewat. Highest enrolment is seen in jind which is followed by Hisar. Rohtak is at third place. The above data clearly shows that almost half of the total enrolments are females. The above data clearly highlights the significance of female education in Haryana. Position of females is almost in the same pace in Haryana as compared to males.

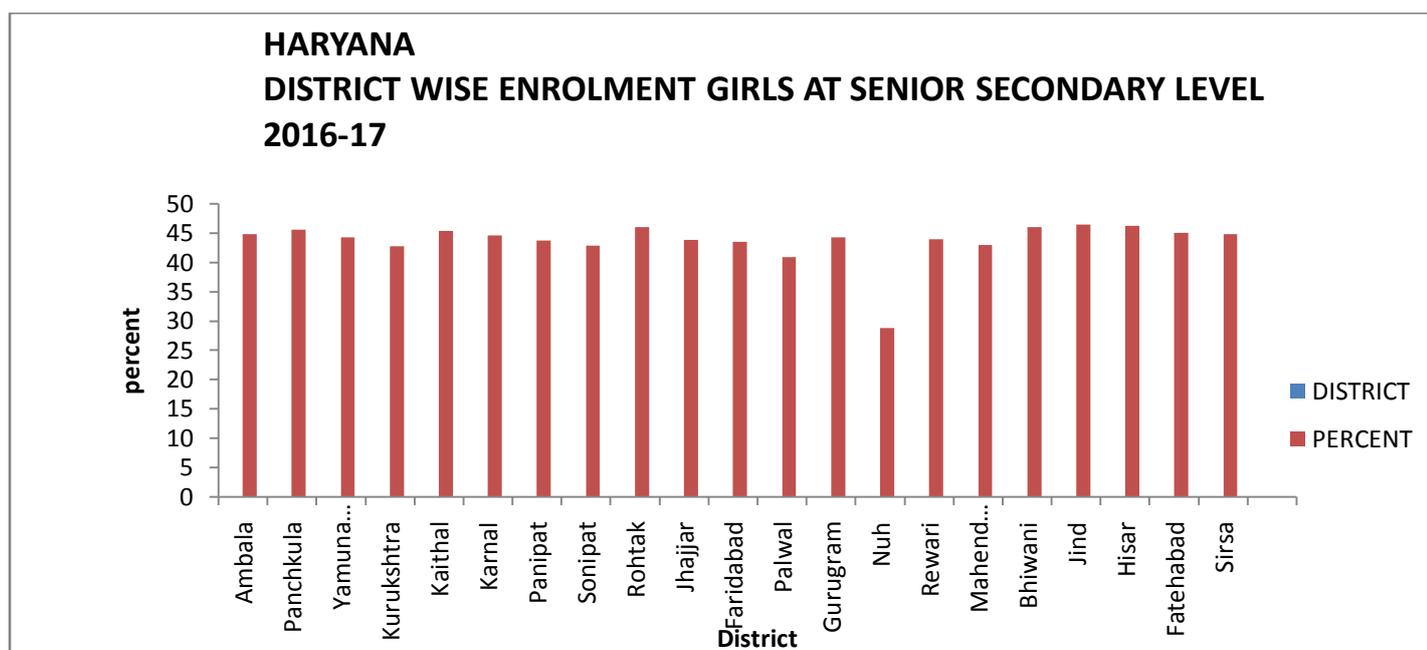


figure 3: district wise enrolment at senior secondary level

District Wise Enrolment Of Females In Higher Education In Haryana In The Year 2016-17

DISTRICT	FEMALE ENROLLED	BOYS ENROLLED	TOTAL ENROLLED	PERCENT OF FEMALE ENROLLED
Ambala	10357	8686	19043	54.38
Panchkula	4176	3047	7223	57.81
Yamunanagar	12743	6778	19521	65.27
Kurukshetra	6890	5580	12470	55.25
Kaithal	9826	5463	15289	64.26
Karnal	10689	9773	20462	52.23
Panipat	9654	8337	17991	53.66
Sonipat	11454	6724	18178	63.01
Rohtak	17482	19803	37285	46.88
Jhajjar	6304	4773	11077	56.91
Faridabad	11435	10852	22287	51.30
Palwal	3984	2469	6453	61.73
Gurugram	11516	9359	20875	55.16
Nuh	756	2046	2802	26.9
Rewari	10033	6881	16914	59.31
Mahendragarh	11979	11400	23379	51.23
Bhiwani	13869	9445	23314	59.48
Jind	9706	6871	16577	58.5
Hisar	15793	15744	31537	50.07
Fatehabad	5461	5201	10662	51.21
Sirsa	5594	5941	11535	48.49

Source: Statistical Abstract of Haryana (2016-17)

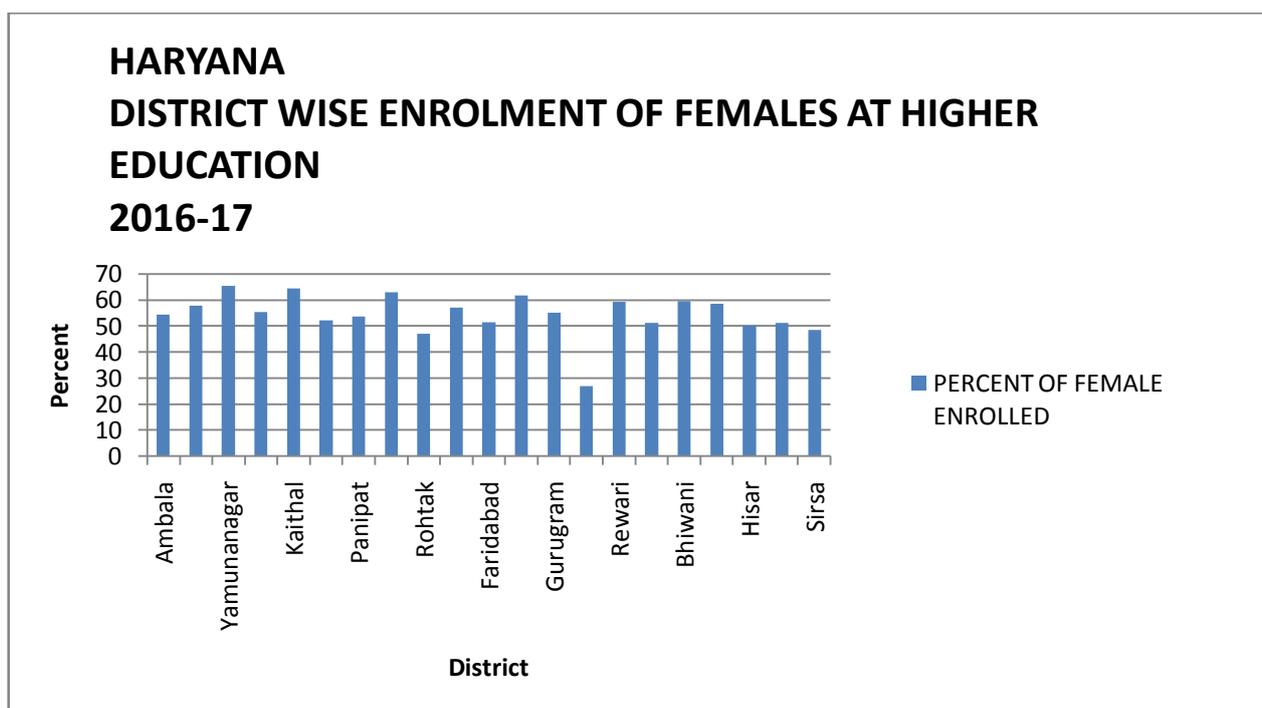


figure 4: district wise enrolment of females at higher education

The above bar graph shows the district wise enrolment of females at higher education. Highest enrolment is observed in Yamunanagar which is followed by Kaithal. Lowest enrolment is observed in Nuh.

CONCLUSION

Female enrolment in Haryana at senior secondary level and at higher education level is at much better position. At least 40% of total enrolled students at senior secondary level are females with minor exceptions. At least 50% of total enrolled students are females at higher education level except Nuh. It clearly shows the continuity of females education in Haryana. The study has come to a very positive result which shows a very brightening future for females in Haryana.

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