



# ROLE OF LITERACY IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Before discussing a complicated concept like literacy when we take a look at sustainable development, which means **“development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”**. Ignoring sustainable development concept for some time when we consider development which means progress. Progress can only be seen in those areas where people have an exposure about their needs for their upgrade in life, many people are failing to uncover the realization about what they need exactly to get upgraded in their lives economically for which one of the reasons is being illiterate. When people know what they need then we see at least development if not sustainable development. Let's see how being an illiterate is affecting state and our country's sustainable development.

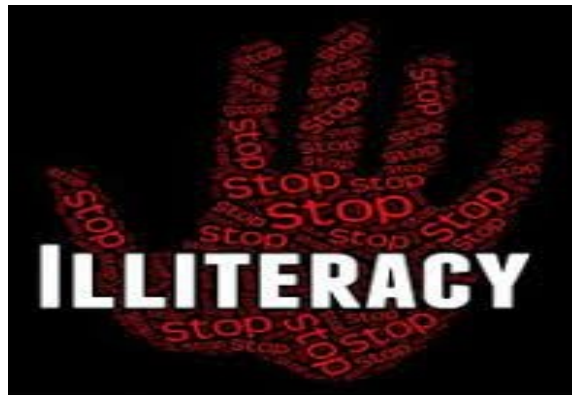
## WHAT IS LITERACY:

Literacy is not just taking admission in a school or college putting on uniform and carrying a load of books in a bag on your back.

Literacy is the ability to read, write and comprehend information in order to communicate effectively. From reading the newspaper to understanding road signs, literacy is the only tool that helps you make sense of your surroundings. It is empowering and fuels social and human development.

Illiteracy affects an individual in all areas of their life. An illiterate individual cannot read and write, and thus cannot join the workforce or may work as unskilled labour, lack awareness to make an informed decision which affects them and their community. Further, children of illiterate parents do not receive the same education as children of educated parents. Even if they go to the same school, children of illiterate parents lack the kind of awareness educated parents can give to their children. Hence, illiteracy becomes a vicious cycle affecting the social and economic development of India.

Illiteracy creates several hurdles in the development of a country and affects every person in that country.



# Facts on literacy and education in India

- 1. India is home to the largest population of 287 million illiterate adults in the world. This amounts to 37% of the global total.
- 2. 47.78% out of school children in India are girls. They will be calculated as illiterate women in the next census and this will have an impact on the education of their children.
- 3. Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh are amongst the bottom five states in terms of literacy of Dalits in India.
- 4. India's literacy rate has increased six times since Independence. Though the literacy rate has increased from 12% in 2001 to 74% in 2011 yet India has the world's largest population of illiterate adults.

5. The literacy rate of female Dalits in Bihar was 38.5% in 2011. It is far behind India's progress trend. It is still 30 years behind India's national literacy Rate which was 43.7 in 1981.

6.60 lakh children in India are still out-of-school.

7. 92% of government schools are yet to fully implement the RTE Act.

8. India is ranked at 123 out of 135 countries in female literacy rate.

9. India ranks fourth in the South Asian region behind Sri Lanka with a female-male ratio of 0.97 and Bangladesh with a female-male ratio of 0.85.

10. The percentage of women to the total number of school teachers has gone up from 29.3% in 1991 to 47.16% in 2013-14.

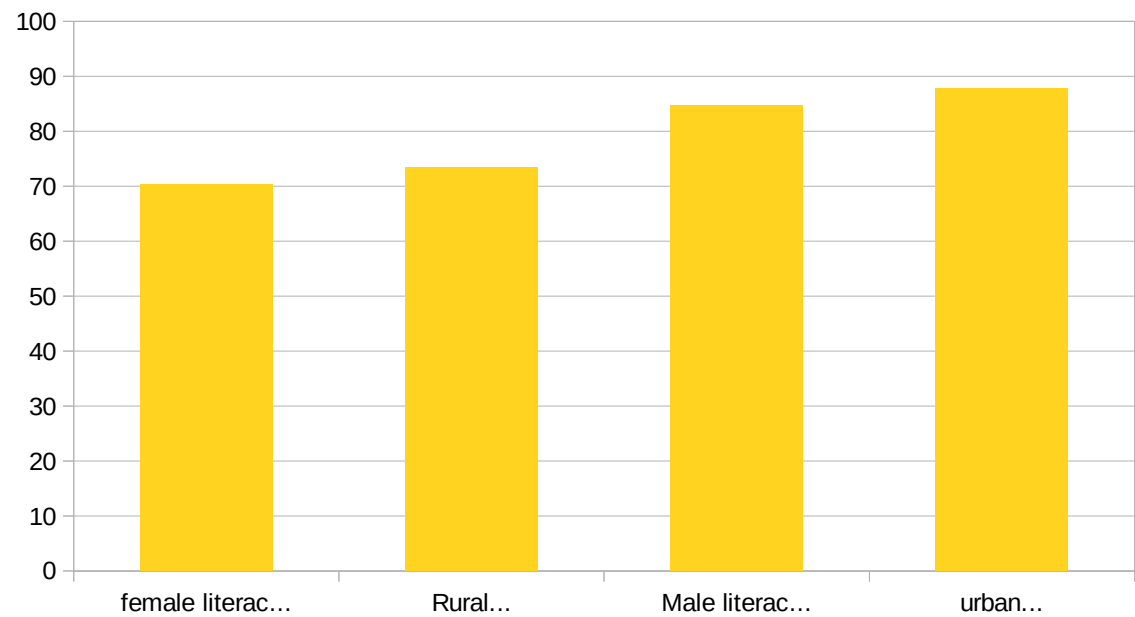
Recently, the report on 'Household Social Consumption: Education in India as part of 75 round of National Sample Survey - from July 2017 to June 2018' has been released.

It is based on the National Statistical Office (NSO) survey and provides for state-wise detail of literacy rate among the persons aged seven years and above.

The report comes before the International Literacy Day which is celebrated on 8 September every year.



# Data Analysis: India's Overall Literacy Rate is 77.7%.



## **Impact Of Illiteracy:**

**Health :** The report says that illiteracy significantly limits a person's ability to access understand and apply health- related information and messages. This results in poor household and personal health, hygiene and nutrition.

**Crime:** In various countries around the world, studies show that a majority of prison inmates have poor literacy skills. Also up to 85% juvenile delinquents are functionally illiterate.

**Welfare:** illeterate people are more likely to be on unemployment benefits having dropped out of school or being unable to find work. High school dropouts are more than three times likely to receive welfare than high school graduates. Low earning potential due to illeteracy also makes a high number of welfare dependents. Which puts a heavy burden on the social security system of any nation.

**Literacy and poverty:**

Education has been cited as the best means of overcoming poverty caused by illiteracy . This needs a two prolonged approach, according to the report encouraging families to place a higher value on education and getting illeterate adults into literacy programmes.



As established by the report, illiteracy cost in India is US\$ 53.56 billion. The cost of illiteracy to the global economy is estimated at US\$ 1.19 trillion 800 million people across the world lack the basic reading and writing skills illiterate people earn 30% - 40% less than their literate counterparts globally over 100 million children don't go to school each day.

### **Telangana literacy statistics:**

The male literacy rate currently in telangana is 74.95% and female literacy rate is 57.92% respectively.



Telangana, the newly formed 29th State of the country, stands just short of hitting the rock bottom of the literacy and employment pyramid, Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC)-2011 of the country revealed.

As per the detailed report released on July 3, Telangana stood fourth in the country's rural illiteracy chart, as 40.42 per cent of its rural population stood illiterate.

The State's illiteracy rate is notches higher than the national average of 35.73 per cent. The only States that stood ahead of Telangana in illiteracy were Rajasthan with 47.58 per cent, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar with 43.85 per cent.

Adding to poor literacy rate is the State's abysmal performance in the salaried (organised) sector. Telangana stood the sixth lowest in the salaried job category as just 7.64 per cent of its rural population had jobs in the organised sector. The national average in this sector was 9.68 per cent.

As per the census, the State's rural population remains highly dependent on manual casual labour as 49.58 per cent of the population is dependent on it.

“Telangana has been witnessing rapid ‘casualisation’ of labour where people get thrown out of their land and end up doing odd jobs that offer no security,” said C Ramachandraiah, social scientist, Centre for Economics and Social Sciences (CESS), Hyderabad, adding government’s literacy programmes failed to reach rural households



## **How this problem can be addressed:**

Education should not only be permitted to adults. Education is something that everybody should have access to it. Every single person should at least have a basic education with which he or she can at least fulfill his or her basic needs like filling bank forms and taking care of their family expenses and reading news papers understanding basic rules and regulations.

This seems simple but when this theory of explanation turns into a practical reality then the pace of the walk towards sustainable development will speed up.

In this modern age each state in India is competing to provide good quality education to the children with free of cost or very less fee sometimes but somewhere still we are all failing to achieve 100 percent literacy rate in India. This is because of dropping out in the middle few still or not even taking steps to at least provide basic education to their kids though it is free and few more people they are not letting their girl children to get educated with some blind beliefs and few others are becoming drop outs losing interest in studies are due to family or financial problems. All these problems can't be solved just by government we all should work together in this we should take an initiation and an extra effort to spread awareness on how important education is for a person to live a decent life and how education can give a better life to their children than what they are living now. This may not turn our country a 100 percent literate nation but it can change mindset of the many parents.

About sending their kids to school and providing education at low cost or it would better if the quality education is provided at free of cost then there is high no. of chance witnessing a large percentage of children completing at least their primary education if not higher. In this way we can convert most of the adults into school and college students. But just by doing this will not turn out nation into a 100 percent literate nation still the marks of illiteracy will left behind in the form of uneducated parents, uneducated daily wage labours, many other uneducated people in different professions this problem can also be addressed with Night schools solution with this solution we can turn a help less poor father into a strong back bone for his family and a home maker into a self confident women , an insecured old man into an independent who can live life on your own.

In this night there is no necessity of teaching geometry or anything about world world war or arthimetic calcutions, in this night schools basic education should be provided like recognising letters in english to reading news papers to knowing basic rules and regulations and filling basic forms and also nutrition( what kind of food should be consumed and what kind of foods should be avoided) and about physical health(common diseases and how they should be addressed and how to be fit and healthy and also everything about sanitization) and also how to use natural resources and to preserve them for future generations and importance of education for country development and how to be financially independent and

How to generate wealth . All this knowledge can help them to get an basic expouser about the different things which are the roots for a common life this can help turning most of the people into literates which can make them idependent and self confident and also this can also take their fear of lossing job because of uneqipped skills. And also setting up a small library which have all the information in local languages in which most of the people can read and write about the topics I have discussed above will be much more efficient way to adress illiteracy.



## Conclusion:

As we have already seen how illiteracy is becoming a big barrier at least for a country's development if not sustainable development.

Let me sum up all the points in a short note those we have already covered in this report. Illiteracy is one of the root cause for slow development or under development of countries and states.

Illiteracy rate is affecting the rising graph points of development of countries and states indirectly.

Already we have seen how illiteracy in India even in Telangana causing effect to the overall development.

As the illiteracy rate of the states and nations grows the development rate will fall because of poverty, ill health and also for many other reasons.

Development is neither just planting trees nor just stopping deforestation or not atleast digging pits to store rain water for our future generations .

“Development includes from being financially stable to physically healthy and also educated this is applicable to each and every person in a country.

When people get educated there will be equal no. of job providers and equally qualified workers when people start working in which they are capable enough to work they will be get paid enough which can help a lead a decent life without poverty and being a literate can help you to realise the importance of health and nutrition it can teach us about what to consume and what to avoid this can lead to very less no. of ill health conditions and final point last but not least people will realise the value of nature and natural resources. High percentage of literacy rate can lead to advancements in tech and medical fields. Education has an ability to make us realise what we need to live a good life and how can we get it.

**“If the roots of a country is education the tree of generation will give fruits of development.”**





LET'S EXPLORE THE WORLD OF FREEDOM WITH THE EYES OF EDUCATION



An open book with a red bookmark is shown in a dark, moody setting. The background is blurred, showing warm, golden light, possibly from a window or a lamp. The text is overlaid on the book's pages.

***Literacy is most  
basic currency of the  
knowledge economy.***

Barack Obama

Deatils of team members:

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Video link of this report:

<https://www.mediafire.com/file/jupy1tyi6aarjrg/IIIliteracy+report.mp4/file>

**THANK YOU**