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Gender Inequality in India and Utter Prades

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Abstract

In the field of development, gender issues are becoming increasingly important. Gender is a primary marker of social and economic stratification and, as a result, of exclusion. Regardless of one's socioeconomic class, there are systematic gender differences in material well-being, although the degree of inequality varies across countries and over time. This paper analyses issues related to the Gender inequality and recent trend in gender. Many personalities have worked for women empowerment which can be fill the gap between gender inequality and gender equality because with the help of women empowerment we can meet the target of complete gender equality. Education is crucial need for women empowerment Education not only helps in just development of human being yet it helps to face the challenges of society and empowers oneself. The different table discuss shows that female sex ratio and child sex ratio and literacy rate in India and Uttar Pradesh. Census of 2011 shows that the highest and lowest literacy level difference between male and female is also vast which shows that gender inequality. Many programs are running to overcome the issues but yet they are not enough so to achieve the vision 2020, more actions are to be taken to so that the desired result could be achieved.

Keywords: gender inequality, women empowerment, literacy rate, sex ratio

Introduction

Women are discriminated against men historically in terms of education, health and social justice. Education plays a crucial role in improving the possibilities for personal growth. Similarly, cultural norms, values, and customs are no less important in determining the women's life choices and physical and mental wellbeing. The linkages between the culture, women's education and health are important to improve the status of women in the society. Gender inequality is a characteristic of most societies, with males on average better positioned in social, economic, and political hierarchies. Such gender gap between men and women in socio-economic indicators has negative impact on the overall development of the country.

Gender

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA, 2009) provides the following definition of Gender:

"The term gender refers to the economic, social and cultural attributes and opportunities associated with being male or female. ... Gender attributes and characteristics, encompassing, inter alia, the roles that men and women play and the expectations placed upon them, vary widely among societies and change over time. But the fact that gender attributes are socially constructed means that they are also amenable to change in ways that can make a society more just and equitable."

Recent Trends in Gender

Gender inequality remains persistent around the world today, despite the significant economic and social progress of the last century. There is no region of the developing world Where women possess the same legal, economic and social rights as men. While the problems are felt most by women, the costs of gender inequality cut across all of society and the economy, and can ultimately harm everyone (World Bank, 2001). Economic and social development allows for various opportunities to increase gender equality in the long run, and there is significant literature to support this. However, economic growth alone cannot deliver

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there is significant literature to support this. However, economic growth alone cannot deliver perfect results. It is necessary to have an institutional environment which enables this change, and social policy measures must be taken to address persistent inequalities (World Bank, 2001). Gender inequality around the world in the four areas of health, education, economy and politics. Gender equality is globally now high in health and education, but the economic and political arenas are still lagging (World Economic Forum, 2009).

Gender inequality

Gender inequality is measured using a wide array of indicators and These are generally from an ‘opportunities’ or ‘outcomes’ perspective and some key areas of measurement are health, education, employment, representation, and legal rights. In fact, the gender indices used by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and World Bank are typically comprised of differences in life expectancy and education levels such as enrolments, and democratic representation such as the proportion of parliamentary seats occupied by females.

In a male dominated society like ours one has to accept that women are at the receiving end.

The women discrimination can be visualized on various angles

1. The sex ratio is unfavourable to women and it has declined overtime.
2. The literacy rates are low among women than men
3. The expectation of life is low for women in India up to the recent times.
4. The opportunities and access to decision-making institutions are not equal to both men and women.
5. There is clear division of labour among men and women, designating certain tasks exclusively to each and another. Mostly activities, which have low market value, are attached to women. Women mostly spend their time in household maintenance.
6. 25 percent female share of parliamentary seats is assigned a ratio of 25 (for women) to 75 (for men) or 0.333.

Gender equality

Gender equality means that women and men have the same rights, opportunities and obligations.

Gender equality can mean that women and men

- have the same opportunities for earning a living and for self-development and responsibility in working life
- have the same influence in democratic and political processes
- have the same wages for the same or equivalent work
- have the same opportunities for good health and good quality care
- obtain equivalent care and service in care of the elderly
- are able to dare to go out in the evenings as easily
- are treated and assessed on equal terms by the social services, refugee reception and in rehabilitation when on sick leave
- are able to choose and engage in leisure activities on equal terms
- can develop as individuals without restrictive gender norms
- Gender equality can also mean that gender shall not affect the risk of being exposed to violence at home.

Sex ratio in India

Sex ratio is used to describe the number of females per 1000 of males. Sex ratio is a important source for finding the population of women in India and what is the ratio of women to that of men in India. In the Population Census of 2011 it was exposed that the population ratio in India 2011 is 940 females per 1000 of males. The Sex Ratio 2011 shows an upward trend from the census 2001 data. Census 2001 exposed that there were 933 females to that of 1000 males. Since decades India has seen a decrease in the sex ratio 2011, but since the last two of the decades there has been in slight increase in the sex ratio. Since the last five decades the sex ratio has been moving around 930 of females to that of 1000 of males.

The major cause of the decrease of the female birth ratio in India is considered to be the aggressive treatments meted out to the girl child at the time of the birth. The Sex Ratio in India was almost normal during the phase of the years of independence, but thereafter it started showing gradually decrease

Table 1: Female Sex Ratio and Child Sex Ratio in India as Per 2011 Census and 2001 Census

Census 2001			census2011		
Sr No	State	Sex Ratio	Child sex ratio	Sex Ratio	Child sex ratio
	India	943	919	933	927
1	Kerala	1084	964	1058	965
2	Puducherry	1037	967	1001	913
3	Tamil Nadu	996	943	986	959
4	Andhra Pradesh	993	939	978	896
5	Manipur	992	936	978	975
6	Chhattisgarh	991	969	990	868
7	Meghalaya	989	970	975	932
8	Orissa	979	941	972	979
9	Mizoram	976	970	938	883
10	Goa	973	942	960	963
11	Karnataka	973	948	964	973
12	Himachal Pradesh	972	909	970	957
13	Uttarakhand	963	890	964	967
14	Tripura	960	957	950	960
15	Assam	958	962	932	845
16	West Bengal	950	956	934	957

17	Jharkhand	948	948	941	966
18	Lakshadweep	946	911	947	960
19	Arunachal Pradesh	938	972	901	798
20	Nagaland	931	943	909	926
21	Madhya Pradesh	931	918	920	965
22	Maharashtra	929	894	922	953
23	Rajasthan	928	888	922	946
24	Gujarat	919	890	921	964
25	Bihar	918	935	921	908
26	Uttar Pradesh	912	902	898	942
27	Punjab	895	846	874	961
28	Sikkim	890	957	875	938
29	Jammu and Kashmir	889	862	900	964
30	Haryana	879	834	861	964
31	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	876	968	846	941
32	Delhi	868	871	821	942
33	Chandigarh	818	880	773	819
34	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	774	926	811	909
35	Daman and Diu	618	904	709	916

Source: 1) Census info India 2011

<http://www.census2011.co.in/census/state/uttar+pradesh.html> 12rd sep 2014 4:10 p.m

Above table shown that one of the states which is showing a decreasing trend in the population of women 2011. The state of Haryana has the lowest rate of sex ratio in India and the figure shows a number of 879 of females to that of 1000 of males. There are also states such as Pondicherry and Kerala where the number of women is more than the number of men. Kerala have number of 1084 females to that of 1000 males. While Pondicherry and Kerala are the only two states where the number of female is more than the number of men, there are also states in India like that of Karnataka, Andhra

Pradesh and Maharashtra where the sex ratio 2011 is showing substantial signs of improvement. Some facts related to the Sex Ratio in India follows, the main cause of the decline of the sex ration in India is due to the biased attitude which is meted out to the women. The main cause of this gender bias is inadequate education. Pondicherry and Kerala have maximum number of female while the regions of Daman and Diu and Haryana have the lowest density of female population.

Table 2: District Wise Female Sex Ratio in Uttar Pradesh as Per 2011 Census

District	Female per thousand male
Gautam Buddha Nagar	852
Kanpur Nagar	852
Hardoi	856
Baghpat	858
Mathura	858
Agra	859
Budaun	859
Hamirpur	860
Kanpur Dehat	862
Banda	863
Etah	863
Auraiya	864
Shahjahanpur	865
Jalaun	865
Firozabad	867
Etawah	867
Mahamaya Nagar	870
Farrukhabad	874
Shrawasti	875
Aligarh	876
Mainpuri	876
Ghaziabad	878
Sitapur	879
Kannauj	879
Chitrakoot	879
Kanshiram Nagar *	879
Mahoba	880
Bareilly	883
Meerut	885
Jhansi	885
Muzaffarnagar	886
Saharanpur	887

Kheri	887
Pilibhit	889
Bahraich	891
Bulandshahar	892
Fatehpur	900
Mirzapur	900
Unnao	901
Allahabad	902
Moradabad	903
Rampur	905
Lalitpur	905
Kaushambi	905
Lucknow	906
Jyotiba Phule Nagar	907
Barabanki	908
Varanasi	909
Bijnor	913
Chandauli	913
Sonbhadra	913
Balrampur	922
Gonda	922
Ballia	933
Mahrajganj	938
Rae Bareli	941
Gorakhpur	944
Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi)	950
Ghazipur	951
Kushinagar	955
Basti	959
Faizabad	961
Sant Kabir Nagar	969
Siddharthnagar	970
Ambedkar Nagar	976
Sultanpur	978
Mau	978
Pratapgarh	994
Deoria	1013
Azamgarh	1017
Jaunpur	1018

Literacy rate in India

In India literacy rate is calculated if the person is able to read and write but the actual scenario is totally different because literacy is not just reading and writing but one should be able to understand all perspectives. The literacy rate of India for

the year 2011 according to Census is 74.04 percent out of which 82.14 percent males and 65.46 percent females are literate. In Uttar Pradesh the literacy rate is 67.68 percent out of which 77.28 percent of male are literate as compared to female is 57.18 percent.

Table 3: Literacy Rate of Females in India As Compared To Females of Uttar Pradesh

Year	India	Uttar Pradesh
1901	0.7	NA
1911	1.1	NA
1921	1.8	NA
1931	2.9	NA
1941	7.3	NA
1951	7.3	4.1
1961	13.0	8.4
1971	18.7	11.2
1981	24.8	16.7
1991	39.2	24.4
2001	54.0	43.0
2011	65.46	57.2

Source: Different Sources

The above table shows that as before the difference between female literacy on overall basis is high as compared between India and Uttar Pradesh, as before 1951 no census was done for Uttar Pradesh as it was formed in 1950. Looking toward the difference it could be said that work on women

empowerment and female literacy are carried are but yet they are not sufficient. When a female will be educated then only she will work for her empowerment and will be able to understand right and wrong things the only come up with an entrepreneurship work.

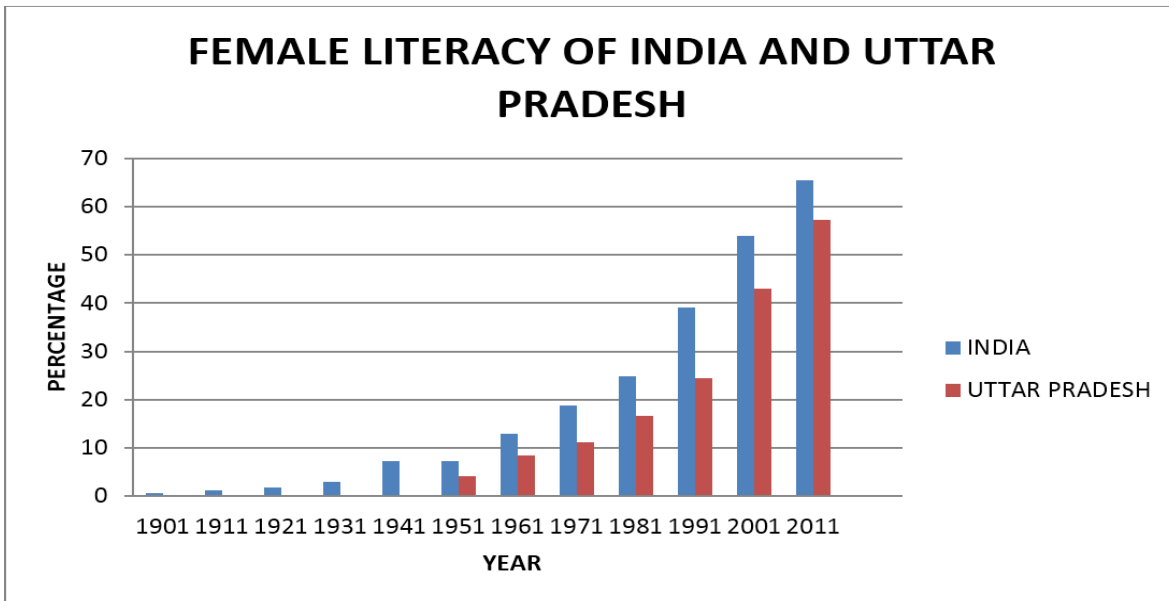


Table 4: Literacy Rate of Uttar Pradesh (Percentage-Wise)

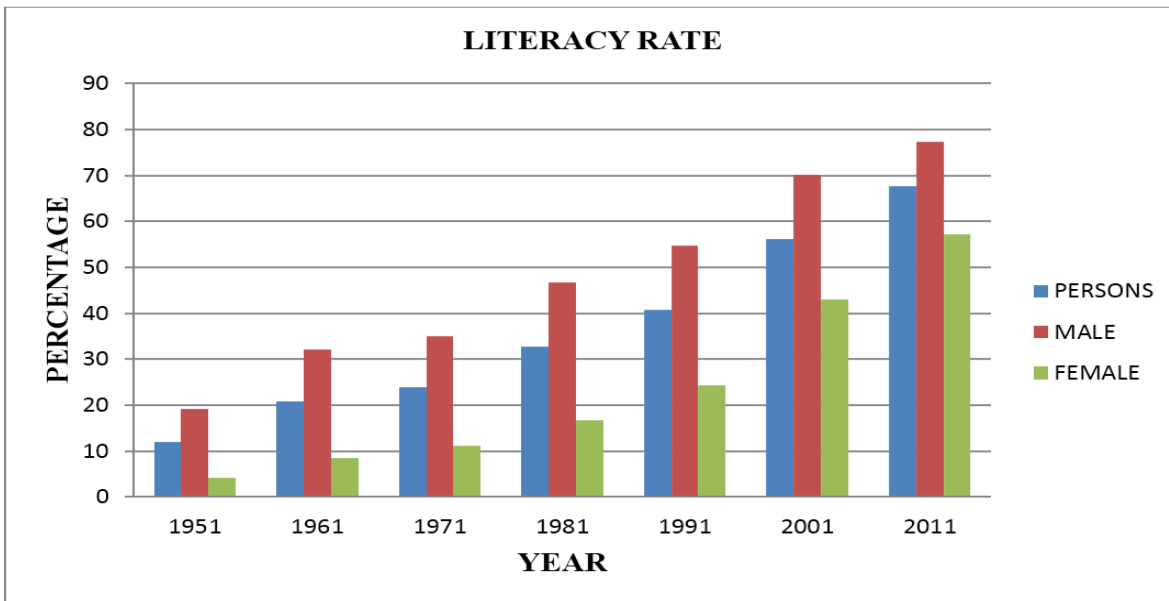
Year	Persons	Male	Female
1951	12.02	19.2	4.1
1961	20.87	32.1	8.4
1971	23.99	35.0	11.2
1981	32.65	46.7	16.7
1991	40.71	54.8	24.4
2001	56.27	70.2	43.0
2011	67.68	77.3	57.2

Source: 1) Census info India 2011
 2) <http://www.mapsofindia.com/india-demographics.html> dated: 12nd Aug 2014 at 3:34 A.M
 3) <http://www.census2011.co.in/census/state/uttar-pradesh.html> 14rd sep 2014 4:10 p.m

Note: The literacy rate for year 1951, 1961 and 1971 was calculated

for aged 5 year and above and from 1981 to 2011 it was calculated for 7 year and above.

The above Table shows that how the literacy rate had been increased from 12.2 percent to 56.27 percent which is nearly 5 times increment but yet it is not up to the mark. The increase in male percentage is just 4 times which as compared to female is low because female percentage has risen from 4 to 57 which is a good sign but yet its below male percentage. This shows that still many females are unable to go to school i.e. the thought of gender inequality is there. So education of women should be promoted so that they should be empowered. If women in empowered then only she would become an entrepreneur.



Education Equality

Beside there is huge difference in overall percentage of persons literate in Uttar Pradesh yet the difference between men and female is decreasing fast which proves that the education campaign are helping females to go to school. It is

a good symptom and this will lead to better societal setup as more females going to school so society will be developed soon and the National Planning commission parameters will be achieved fast.

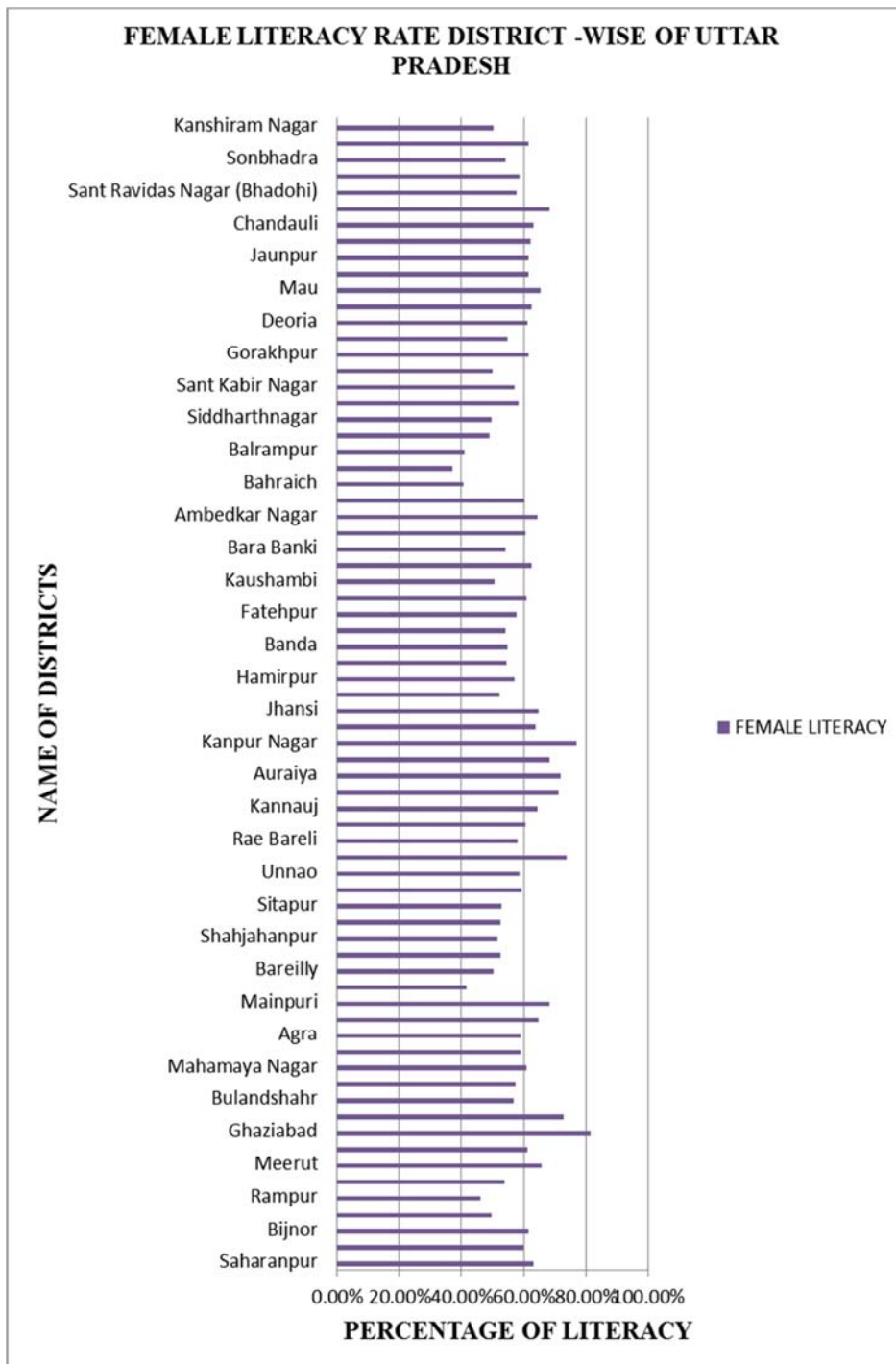
Table 5: District Wise Female Literacy in Uttar Pradesh as Per 2011 Census

Sl. No	District	Female Literacy
1	Saharanpur	63.30%
2	Muzaffarnagar	60.00%
3	Bijnor	61.45%
4	Moradabad	49.63%
5	Rampur	46.19%
6	Jyotiba Phule Nagar	53.77%
7	Meerut	65.69%
8	Baghpat	61.22%
9	Ghaziabad	81.42%
10	Gautam Buddha Nagar	72.78%
11	Bulandshahr	56.60%
12	Aligarh	57.48%
13	Mahamaya Nagar	60.79%
14	Mathura	58.93%
15	Agra	59.16%
16	Firozabad	64.80%
17	Mainpuri	68.35%
18	Budaun	41.76%
19	Bareilly	50.35%
20	Pilibhit	52.43%
21	Shahjahanpur	51.73%
22	Kheri	52.62%
23	Sitapur	52.80%
24	Hardoi	59.17%
25	Unnao	58.54%
26	Lucknow	73.88%
27	Rae Bareli	58.06%
28	Farrukhabad	60.51%
29	Kannauj	64.46%
30	Etawah	71.16%
31	Auraiya	71.97%
32	Kanpur Dehat	68.48%
33	Kanpur Nagar	76.89%
34	Jalaun	63.88%
35	Jhansi	64.88%
36	Lalitpur	52.26%
37	Hamirpur	57.19%
38	Mahoba	54.65%
39	Banda	54.95%
40	Chitrakoot	54.03%
41	Fatehpur	57.76%
42	Pratapgarh	60.99%
43	Kaushambi	50.76%
44	Allahabad	62.67%
45	Bara Banki	54.10%
46	Faizabad	60.72%
47	Ambedkar Nagar	64.62%
48	Sultanpur	60.17%
49	Bahraich	40.76%
50	Shrawasti	37.07%
51	Balrampur	40.92%
52	Gonda	49.13%
53	Siddharthnagar	49.61%
54	Basti	58.35%
55	Sant Kabir Nagar	56.99%
56	Mahrajganj	50.14%
57	Gorakhpur	61.54%
58	Kushinagar	54.74%
59	Deoria	61.34%
60	Azamgarh	62.65%
61	Mau	65.59%
62	Ballia	61.72%
63	Jaunpur	61.70%
64	Ghazipur	62.29%
65	Chandauli	63.07%
66	Varanasi	68.20%
67	Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi)	57.79%
68	Mirzapur	58.77%
69	Sonbhadra	54.11%
70	Etah	61.72%
71	Kanshiram Nagar	50.20%

Source: <http://updateox.com/india/district-wise-male-female-literacy-rate-in-india-2011-census/> 12nd Aug 2014
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According to the Table-3 the female literacy rate of each and every district of Uttar Pradesh is shown clearly and the table shows that Ghaziabad district has the highest female literacy rate i.e. 81.42 percent and the lowest female literacy rate is noticed in Shrawasti district with 37.02 percent. The change in female literacy from 43.0 percent to 57.2 percent i.e. 14.2

percent increase which is appreciable yet it is the lowest according to the National Planning Commission. To increase female literacy yet many programs are running in state and proper look up should be there because as many females would be literate a better society could be made and female could work out for their empowerment



Conclusion

Even the most advanced economies have progressed gender equality of opportunities to a Point where it is often favourable now to be a female, and still cannot remove gender inequality from the system. Gender inequality around the world in the four areas of health, education, economy and politics. Gender equality is globally now high in health and

education, but the economic and political arenas are still lagging somewhat, especially the latter. In this paper we explained issues related to the gender inequality and explain sex ratio and child sex ratio and female literacy rate in India and Uttar Pradesh. Gender equality is important for empowerment of the women. According to the Country Report of the Government of India, "Empowerment means

moving from a weak position to execute a power.” Education is the important tool for the development of females in society and if females are literate they will bring up an educated society because they are responsible for the development of whole family.

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