

ISSN—0046-9017

# INDIAN JOURNAL OF REGIONAL SCIENCE

REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION, INDIA

VOLUME XLVII

NUMBER 1

2015

Regional Vitalities of India	GOPAL KRISHAN	1
Working Condition of Houseless Population in Kanpur City	SHAMSHAD	6
Investment Opportunities and Challenges for the Real Estate Industry in India: A Case of Delhi NCR	AHMAD TAHSIN RUDRA P. PRADHAN	17
An Assessment of Malarial Prone Area and Incidence in Mangalore City, Karnataka: A Geographical Study	D. P. ANGADI	27
Efficiency and Productivity Changes in the Indian Food Processing Industry: A Firm Level Analysis	NAVREET KAUR KULDIP KAUR	33
Rural Urban Migration in India: A Threat to Socio-Economic Sustainability	KUNTAL KANTI CHATTORAJ	43
Spatial Analysis of Health Infrastructure in Government Health Centers in Jaipur	JAMSHED NASIR MARYAM KIRMANI	49
Child Marriage of Girls: A Violation to Health In Malda District, West Bengal	KRISHNENDU GUPTA HASAN ASKARI	57
Inflation in South Asia: Trend and Macro Economic Linkages	SUDHAKAR PATRA	65
Quality of Life: A Review	SWASTI VARDHAN MISHRA	73
Quality of Living Among the Elderly in Slums of Kolkata	DIPENDRA NATH DAS SWETA BHUSAN	81
Evaluation of Special Township Policy—Case Study of Pune Metropolitan Region	SNEHA S. SHARMA GANESH R. DIWAN ARATI S. PETKAR	95
Change in Land Use and Land Cover and Environment of Hubli-Dharwad Twin Cities in the Wake of Urbanization—Using Geospatial Techniques	L. T. NAYAK MOHD AKHTER ALI	107
Inequality and Correlation between Literacy and Sex Ratio in India: A Geographical Analysis	R. P. PAKHARE	120
Assessment of Variations of Literacy Profile in 24 Parganas, West Bengal	BIRAJ KANTI MONDAL	125
Peoples' Participation in Integrated Watershed Management Planning: A Case from Kumaun Himalaya	ASHUTOSH SINGH S. B. SINGH	129
Residential Environment and Related Health Problems in Cold Desert Ladakh—A Regional Analysis	G. M. RATHER ROUF A. DAR M. S. BHAT	135
Impact of Behavioural Changes of Water Supply in Kalighat and Adjoining Areas	DEEPSHIKHA MUTSUDDI	145



# ASSESSMENT OF VARIATIONS OF LITERACY PROFILE IN 24 PARGANAS, WEST BENGAL

Biraj Kanti Mondal\*

*The present paper focuses on the variations of literacy profile in the North and South 24 Parganas Districts, West Bengal.*

## INTRODUCTION

Literacy is the ability to read, write and communicate. Education is the most important indicator of the overall development of any region. In spite of having relatively high literacy rate, gender gap in literacy in West Bengal is very large. The present paper focuses on the North and South 24 Parganas Districts of West Bengal to understand its educational status and its spatial variations.

## STUDY AREA AND ITS BACKGROUND

According to 2011 census there are 19 districts, 347 CD blocks, 909 towns and 40,203 villages in West Bengal. The State has high population density of 1029 persons per sq. km. About 72% of the population resides in rural areas whereas 28% resides in urban areas of the State.

On 1st March 1986, two districts—North 24 Parganas (24 PGS N) and South 24 Parganas (24 PGS S) were created. North 24 Parganas is West Bengal's most populous district. The district has the population density of 2959 inhabitants per sq. km., and has the highest literacy rate of 87.66%. The sex ratio of 982 females for every 1000 males with a population growth rate of 24.64% over the decade 2001–2011. The South 24 Parganas district has a population density of 819 inhabitants per sq. km. Its population growth rate over the decade 2001–2011 was 18.05%. Its sex ratio is 949 females, and a literacy rate of 78.57%.

The Sundarban is most backward and perhaps one of the most deprived and poor region of West Bengal. The region contains 120 islands of which only 54 islands are inhabited by almost 4 million people in about 4493.6 sq. km. area out of total 19 developmental blocks. The Sundarban of India covers an area of 9630 sq. km. (covering parts of North and South 24 Parganas of West Bengal). A total 19 blocks (six blocks from North 24 Parganas and thirteen blocks from South 24 Parganas) constitute the Sundarbans.

## OBJECTIVES

To observe minutely the variations of literacy rate between rural-urban and male-female in North and South 24 Parganas districts.

To measure the micro level literacy gaps at the inter-block and intra-block level particularly in the Sundarbans.

\*Assistant Professor, Netaji Subhas Open University.